

DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

www.bnspcatholic.org

Mission Statement : Inspired by the Holy Spirit and our Lord Jesus Christ,
we strive to grow in faith, love and service to God and our neighbors.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JANUARY 28TH, 2024

St John Church (SJ) - 415 37th St, Bellaire, OH 43906

St. Mary Church (SM) - 240 E 40th St, Shadyside, OH 43947

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday 4:00 PM - SM Saturday 5:30 PM - SJ

Sunday 11:00 AM - SM Sunday 9:30 AM - SJ

WEEKDAY MASS

6:00 p.m. (Mon.) SJ 8:00 a.m. (Wed. & Fri.) – SJ 8:00 a.m. (Tues. & Thurs.) - SM 8:00 a.m.



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday: 3:00 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. - SM

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. - SJ

Monday: 5:00p.m. - 5:45p.m. - SJ

Tuesday & Thursday: 7:30 -7:45a.m. - SM

Wednesday & Friday: 7:30 a.m. - 7:45a.m. - SJ

CENTRAL OFFICE

3745 Tallman Ave., Bellaire, OH 43906

Phone - 676-0051 - Fax - 671-9776

Email: stjohns3745@comcast.net

Office Hours: M,W,F -

8:00am- 12:00pm / 1:00pm-4:00pm

Fr. Daniel Heusel, Pastor (SJ), Pastor (SM)

Cell: (740) 298-4158

Email: dheusel@diosteub.org

Mrs. Tonya Grimm, Secretary

(740) 676-0051

Email: stjohns3745@comcast.net

St. Mary Central Grade School, Martins Ferry

(740) 633-5424

Mrs. Theresa Young, Principal

We use Flocknote to connect with parishioners!

1. Text MISSION2LOVE to 84576 or
2. Go to StJohnandStMaryparishes.flocknote.com and sign up there! Receive updates, including the weekly bulletin, via email and text message!



www.fb.me/stjohn.bellaire.neffs

www.fb.me/stmary.shadyside.powhatan



4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In their synagogue was a man with an unclean spirit; he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" Jesus rebuked him and said, "Quiet! Come out of him!" - Mk 1:23-25

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. OLPI



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PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Grant us, Lord, our God, that we may honor you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Collect of The 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time



TURN IN LAST YEAR'S PALMS

We are asking that our parishioners bring in their palms so we can have them ready to be burned for Ash Wednesday. You may leave them on the altar rails to be collected. Thank You!



NEW MESSAGE SERIES

Grow Through What You Go Through

We are continuing a four-week message series "Grow Through What You Go Through." It taps into our parishes' mission statement (we strive to grow), and our hopes for a better life in this new year. It also recognizes that the hardships that we face can actually help us grow. This invitation to growth comes through our Lord and Savior, Jesus, as we encounter him, over these next four weeks, in the first chapter of the Gospel of Mark.

This week: Listening to only one voice. Adherence to the Lord without distraction removes obstacles to growth.

Scripture: Mark 1:22 He taught as one having authority

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, January 27th, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:00p.m. (SM) Jackie (Donahue) Woods ~ God's Healing Graces (Donahue Aunts & Uncles)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Phyllis Teasdale (Sue Skrabak, Shannon Wagner & Tonila Freeman)

Sunday, January 28th, 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Eddie Klempa (Mike & Tom Gorshe)

11:00a.m. (SM) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

Monday, January 29th

6:00p.m. (SJ) + Paul Paolucci (Mom, Dad & Sister)

Tuesday, January 30th

8:00a.m. (SM) + Greg Forbes (Elizabeth Shultz)

Wednesday, January 31st, St. John Bosco

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Mary Yurkovitch (George & Pat Gantzer)

Thursday, February 1st

8:00a.m. (SM) + James Kovalo (David De Genova)

Friday, February 2nd, The Presentation of the Lord

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Dolly Krajnyak (Irene Haudel & Don Chillog)

Saturday, February 3rd, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Dawn (Hitchcock) White (Cheryl & Paula)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Deceased members of the Bernard J. Gerdau Family (Gerald Gerdau & Cindy (Gerdau) Edwards)

Sunday, February 4th, 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Linda Strussion (Gary & Cindy Ufferman)

11:00a.m. (SM) + For the People of St. Mary's & St. John's



Lord, bless and protect those serving our

country, especially: Lt. Col. Brian Zeno, Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzell, Lance Corporal Zachary Knowlton, Staff Sgt. Wm. Kayne Melko,

HTF Kory Melko, Sgt. Joshua Hall, Staff Sgt. Aaron Loeffler, Tech Sgt. Craig DeBeni, Major Trey Vasey, Capt. Tom Dyer, Staff Sgt. Josh Pempek, Mitchell Rataiczak, Master Sgt. Chris Dipold, Sgt. Ryan James, Sgt. Dylan Frizzi, Sgt. Jake Foster and Pvt. Zachary Popovich, Lance Cpl. John Morgan, Jr., Pvt William Clegg , Petty Officer Alex Rader, Pvt. Colton T. Selmon, 1st Lt. DJ Olexa, Staff Sgt. Kelsey (Ryncarz) Turner, Corporal Vincent J. Kolenich II, Senior Airman Cameron Opic, Sgt. Evangeline Kotson, PFC D'eondre Burney, Petty Officer Jared Keiser, Petty Officer Brody P. Halenar, Major Alex Beverdidge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook



HOUSE BLESSINGS

Fr. Dan is scheduling annual house blessings. If you would like to have your house blessed please sign up at the church entrances and Fr. Dan will schedule a time to come and bless your home and family.

CARING CRAFTERS MEETING THIS WEEK

Wednesday January 31 at 5:30 pm. St. Johns Hall. We're starting new projects, new members always welcome!

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of January

St. Mary's: Adults (39env) \$1,044, Loose \$105, St. Vincent de Paul (2env) \$30, Grade School (2env) \$40, Building Fund (5env) \$125, Candles \$45

St. John's: Adult (70env) \$2,062, Loose \$239, Steubenville Register (1env) \$10, St. Vincent de Paul (6env) \$85, Grade School (1env) \$50, Catholic Woman's Club dues (4env) \$20, Candles \$116



PRAYER LIST

Please Note: *This prayer list is an important part of our love for our brothers and sisters in need. Names will be included on this list for four weeks at a time. After four weeks a person's name will be removed but can be added again the next week simply by calling the office. Please pray for the following:* Vicky Oboy, Lindy & Don Freed, Jax McCort, , Dominic Alexander,

Lou Ann Kinder, Fr. Sam Saprano, Dorothy Kresak, Jeff & Mandy Fahey, Quentin Scott Coyne, Magan Nichole Sechrest, Jeremy Chirpas, Tyce Hughes, Isaac Salva, Lawrence Lotz, Baby Everett Sommers, Steve Kiss Jr., Lucy Kowalski, John Bires Jr., Shannon Koher, Paul Heagy, Courtney Kosky Johns, Pat Tedeschi, Natalie Zimmerman, Ed and Rose Grammar, Irene Lloyd, Susan Gray, Matthew McMahon, Jackie (Donahue) Woods, Bryan Grimm, Sydney Battistelli, Dr. Matt Sokus, Christian White, Joe Boston Jr., Camden Brown, Peggy Kotson, Sandy Fijalkowski, Ted Corder, Tom Galinski, Barney Wiley, Susan Vasey, Gilbert Patt, Bob, Bill & Tom, Julie Sharpe, Brie Griffen, Chris Adams, Ferdinand Creutz, Adolph Knackstedt, Hart Brader, Rev. Sergey Loktionov OFM, Rev. Dave Burrell CSC, Rev. Temesgen Petros SDB, Rev. Aziz Halaweh, Sally Shopper, Judith Weckbacher, Debbie Respole, "Chic" & Debbie Henderson, Kay Bambeck, Sally Traversa, Steve Sorvalis , Mary Kay Hanasky, Ann Hodges, Eric Allen, Herk Sparachane, Zachary Oboy, Tom & Margie Merryman, Margaret Biernot, Craig Blacker, Patrick Strain and granddaughter, Halen, James Jeter, Jim Garczyk, Natalie McFeley, Dan Busack, John Hanasky, Anna Johnson



Ministers for the Weekend of February 3/4

St. John's

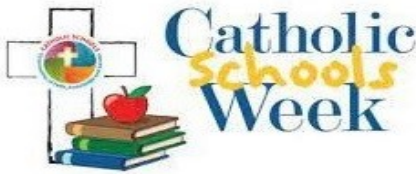
February 3rd **EM:** J. Coup **Lector:** S. Stewart

February 4th **EM:** B. Wallner **Lector:** C. Flowers

St. Mary's

February 3rd **EM:** J. Ferrelli **Lector:** P. Beveridge

February 4th **EM:** T. Mowery **Lector:** M. Kernik



This week is **National Catholic Schools Week** (January 28-February 2). The students, faculty, and staff of St. Mary's Central in Martins

Ferry want to thank you for your support and encouragement in their Catholic education. We have lots of fun activities planned to celebrate our Catholic School and Catholic Faith. Please be sure to take one of the cards, that were made by our students, home with you and please continue to keep our Catholic schools in your prayers.



A LENTEN DAY OF SPIRITUALITY FOR CATHOLIC WOMEN

A Lenten Day of Spirituality for all Woman of the diocese will be held on Saturday, March 16th, 2024 at the Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Marietta. The theme will be Eucharistic Revival. The fee of \$25 is payable in advance, which covers lunch and refreshments. Make reservations through the parish office. See the brochure at the church entrances.



MEN'S DAY OF RENEWAL

The Diocese of Steubenville is hosting its annual Men's Day of Renewal on Saturday, March 9th at St. Stephen Church in Caldwell, Ohio. Doors open for registration at 8:00a.m. The days consists of a Holy Hour, two presenters, a penance service, lunch, and concludes with Mass celebrated by Bishop Paul Bradley at 2:30p.m. The speaker this year is Dr. Alan Schreck, Professor Emeritus of Theology at Franciscan University, and the theme is: *Living in the Power of the Holy Spirit*. Registration forms are at the church entrances. Cost to register is \$25. Children 18 and under are free.



ST MARY'S FISH FRY

St. Mary's Parish, Shadyside, will be having a fish fry every Friday beginning February 9th running through March 22nd from 11:00a.m. to 6:00p.m. Anyone willing to help there will be a sign-up sheet located on the kitchen door in the church basement or you can call the parish office, 740-676-0051. We are accepting donations of soft drinks, in cans, bottled water, paper towels, napkins and zip type sandwich bags. To place an order please call 740-340-5061. Thank You!



SPIRITUAL ADOPTION PROGRAM

We have begun our Spiritual Adoption Program to pray every day over the next nine months for a baby that is in danger of abortion and his/her parents. Sign up with your name and your adopted baby's name on the sheets at the church entrances and take a copy of the daily prayer.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

I love movies about exorcisms. Apparently, so do many others. The 2023 movie "Nefarious" features a possibly possessed inmate on death row. Critics were not impressed, but audiences scored it at 97% on the website Rotten Tomatoes. Most people have an appreciation for the

demonic realm, even if cultural elites are generally embarrassed about it. As is standard in exorcism movies, the afflicted person (in this case, a man named Edward Brady) thinks and acts like *multiple* persons. He is someone besides himself. We know what that is like. We feel *fake* sometimes, not ourselves.

The same dynamic is on dramatic display this week in the Gospel. Jesus the Exorcist approaches a possessed man who utters, "**What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?**" Notice the plural, *us*. The basic effect of the demonic is division. The man's identity is fractured, divided, and thus many. Jesus powerfully expels the spirit by saying, "**Quiet! Come out of him!**" Jesus' word has the power to restore the man's singularity — *him* — and indeed it does.

All this helps us to dismiss childish images of demons sporting red goat tails. Equally, it overcomes the cultured aloofness that dreams demons are mere metaphors for evil. We see instead that fallen angels are conscious and intelligent beings who orient their agency toward division. They bring about schism where there should be unity, e.g., in persons, families, communities, politics, and so on. Thankfully, Jesus commands demons to flee from all these places to restore wholeness and peace. What if we made room for his word where we need it?

— Father John Muir

©LPi

TOURNAMENT



K of C Euchre Tournament

The Knights of Columbus, Bellaire, will hold a euchre tournament on Saturday, Feb. 3rd at 5:30p.m. Proceeds benefit Charitable organizations Contact Charles Flowers to sign up at 740-579-1894.

REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Lawrence Lotz** and **Marjory Waligura**. We offer our prayers also for the comfort of their loved ones. *If you have a family member that dies but was not buried from our parishes please call the parish office, we would like to include them here in this space.*

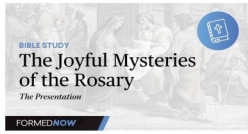


EUCHARIST MINISTERS AND LECTORS NEEDED

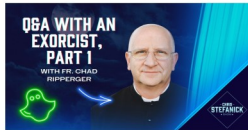
If anyone is interested in becoming a lector or Eucharist Minister for St. John's or St. Mary's Parishes please call the parish office at 740-676-0051 or email Tonya at stjohns3745@comcast.net

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of January 28, 2024



A Bible Study on the Joyful Mysteries: The Presentation
What is the importance of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple? Join Dr. James Prothro and Dr. Ben Akers as they unpack this great mystery and how it can apply to your spiritual life.



Exorcisms: What Catholics Need to Know | Chris Stefanick Show
Scripture says, "Be sober and alert. Your opponent the devil is prowling like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. Resist him, solid in your faith." In other words, the Christian life involves spiritual combat. But a lot of Catholics aren't really familiar with this idea. So to start unpacking it, we're talking to Fr. Chad Ripberger, an exorcist priest.



Saint John Bosco: Mission to Love
Flavio Insinna gives a winning performance as John Bosco, the great priest and educator of youth. Beautifully filmed in Italy, this epic movie dramatizes the many challenges that he had to overcome from his childhood all the way to founding his religious order.

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An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and SPECIAL PRISON

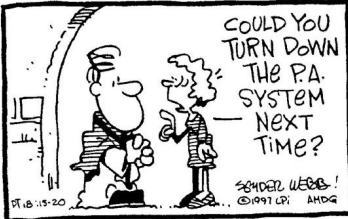
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4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



MASSTIMES.ORG

Travelling? Never miss a weekend mass by finding mass times near your destination. Just go to masstimes.org and enter the city, state or zip code of the place you'll be visiting. And bring Fr. Dan back a bulletin!

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS AND THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time / February 4, 2024

First Reading:

I am filled with restlessness until the dawn. (Jb 7:4)

Psalm:

Praise the Lord, who heals the brokenhearted. (Ps 147)

Second Reading:

If I preach the gospel, this is no reason for me to boast, for an obligation has been imposed on me, and woe to me if I do not preach it! (1 Cor 9:16)

Gospel:

He cured many who were sick with various diseases, and he drove out many demons. (Mk 1:34)

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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CCC 547-550: healing as a sign of messianic times

CCC 1502-1505: Christ the Healer

CCC 875, 1122: the urgency of preaching



**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK -
REFLECT AND RESPOND TO
SCRIPTURE**

First Reading: Moses taught the Israelites that God would raise up a

prophet like him to teach them the Lord's commands. But he also forewarned about false prophets. *How can we avoid listening to false prophetic voices?*

Second Reading: Paul expresses his desire for the Corinthian believers to be free of anxiety so they can focus their attention and energies on Jesus. *What distracts you from the Lord?*

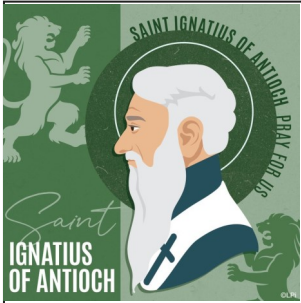
Gospel: Mark informs us that early in Jesus's public ministry his "fame spread" quickly throughout Galilee because of his powerful deeds, such as the healing of the demon-possessed man in today's reading. *Is there something or someone in your life that you pray Jesus would heal?*
©LPi

**ADORATION
OF THE EUCHARIST**



Every Tuesday, 9:00am-5:00pm, St. Mary Church

Would you consider signing up for an hour or signing up to be a substitute, to fill in when regular adorers can't be there? Please call the parish office today!



SAINT OF THE WEEK – EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH St. Ignatius of Antioch

St. Ignatius of Antioch (35-108) was a bishop of Antioch in the first century which, at the time, was the capital of Syria. One of the earliest bishops, he was a disciple of the apostle John and was a prolific writer and teacher of the early faith.

Throughout his ministry, he emphasized the importance of the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine, considering the Eucharist as the "medicine of immortality" and "the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ." His writings, particularly his seven epistles, passionately affirmed the significance of partaking in the Eucharistic celebration as a means to unite with Christ and fellow believers. He urged the faithful to hold fast to the teachings of the apostles and the sacraments passed down through the generations.

During the reign of Roman Emperor Trajan, St. Ignatius was arrested for his faith and condemned to be taken to Rome for execution. While in chains making the long journey with Roman soldiers from Syria to Rome, St. Ignatius was allowed to meet with many of the faithful and to write letters to neighboring Christian congregations. His seven epistles from this time and his conviction in the face of martyrdom served as an inspiration to many. His writings live on today as important teachings of the early Church, shedding a light into early Christian theology.

St. Ignatius was martyred in Rome's Colosseum when he was thrown to the lions and devoured. He's remembered as the patron saint of Church unity, and the Eucharist. St. Ignatius of Antioch, pray for us! © LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Embracing Change in Christ

It's officially one month since we popped the champagne, toasted 2024 and wrote down a list of resolutions. This is usually the time when we start to take a good, hard look in the mirror to assess what we have done — or have not done — with the first month of this brand-new year.

New years can be scary, can't they? Full of promise, sure, but also full of room for failure. Full of space for our old baggage, old fears and the continuation of old mistakes.

The same can be said of Christ, and the new life he offers us, if we are brave enough to accept it. Opportunities like that can be intimidating. In that moment, we might find ourselves like the man with the unclean spirit crying out: "What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?"

Jesus is a comforter of the afflicted; he is a consoling figure, but he is also a challenging one. Sometimes we have grown attached to our afflictions. The idea of correcting bad habits or forming new ones is frankly terrifying to us. We have a voice deep inside who sees Christ and his invitation to repentance, and it cries out in fear: "I know who you are!"

When we live in the present, disavowing the baggage of the past or fear of the future, we submit ourselves to the promise of redemption. Let us be brave everyday stewards and invite Christ's healing power into our lives. We won't regret it — I'm sure the demoniac never did.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

WE LOVE HAVING YOU AS a part of our Flock!



Keep in touch with us via email and text!

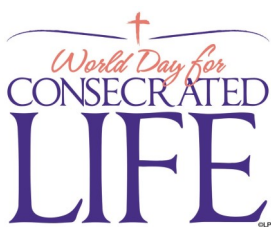


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MISSION2LOVE
TO 84576



OR CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:
stjohnandstmaryparishes.flocknote.com
Sign up and receive our parish bulletin, daily bible verse, monthly calendar, updates and alerts on schedule changes, and more, sent to your cell phone and email address.

Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at [Flocknote.com/txt](https://flocknote.com/txt). Have questions? Need help signing up? Call the parish office!



**World Day for Consecrated Life
Feast of the Presentation of the
Lord—February 2**

Prayer

God of all goodness,
you have called people to follow
you faithfully.

Humans have heard that call and many choose to follow your call
in varied and faith-filled lives.

Some follow your call in private, silent lives as hermits;
some choose to follow you with lives lived as virgins and widows;
while others choose public lives of vowed men and women as religious brothers and sisters.

Abundantly give to these men and women the courage to follow their call as witnesses to your gifts and faith and service to the world.

We ask this in faith
In the name of Jesus our Savior.
Amen.

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

What Have You to Do with Me, Jesus of Nazareth?

Inevitably, when we read the story of the Garden of Eden, my children try to imagine what life would be like if Adam and Eve had not sinned against God.

"Would we have to go to school?" they ask me. "Would we get sick? Could we eat whatever we want? Would we get older?"

I tell them the only thing I know for sure about a world without sin is that we would be happier. I can see confusion in their faces — *Why? How?* — but I have none of the concrete answers they want. I don't know how to describe a happiness untouched by sin.

The moment sin entered the world, a chasm erupted between God and mankind. There is now a space between humanity and the divine, a cavernous and seemingly impassable void into which God calls for us, unendingly. And because we are lost in the dark, and miserable, instead of following his voice when we hear it, instead we reply: "What do you want?"

"What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth?"

Did the unclean spirit know, when he cried out all those thousands of years ago in Capernaum, that he was giving voice to a question which defined the human condition? They are the words of a demon, yes, but they are also my words. Far, far more often than I care to admit, when God is reaching for me, I look upon His hand with contempt and confusion. When I am grappling with a problem or a sin which overwhelms me, again and again I forget that I already know the solution.

The tragedy of original sin is not that we live in a world where we cannot eat what we want, where we age, and where we become sick and die. The tragedy of sin is that we have forgotten how to be happy. We look at happiness and we think: "What do you want with me?"

"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts." — Psalm 95:7 ©LPi

4th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

With one swift command, Jesus freed a man from the possession of evil spirits. He has that same power to banish the shadow of sin from our own lives. Let's invite him into our hearts, asking him to cleanse the darkness he finds there. ©LPi

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Communion & Mortal Sin

Question: *I have a friend who receives communion, but who I know for a fact is in a state of mortal sin. Should I tell our priest? Is it my responsibility to say something?*

Answer: While we may always want to do what is best for our friends and family members, we have a responsibility to respect their privacy and their conscience. In its reflections on the Eighth Commandment ("You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor"), the Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "Respect for the reputation of persons forbids every attitude and word likely to cause them unjust injury. [One] becomes guilty of rash judgment who, even tacitly, assumes as true, without sufficient foundation, the moral fault of a neighbor; -of detraction who, without an objectively valid reason, discloses another's faults and failings to persons who do not know them; of calumny who, by remarks contrary to the truth, harms the reputation of others and gives occasion for false judgments concerning them" (no. 2477).

We will never truly know what is in a person's mind, heart, and soul; only God knows those things. We should, of course, take our concerns to God and entrust the person about whom we are concerned to God's grace and mercy. If we have concerns about the spiritual wellbeing of someone with whom we are close, we should go to the person themselves and talk about our fears and concerns. Unless it is a case of abuse or endangerment (which we have a moral and even legal responsibility to report to the appropriate authorities), we ultimately do not have the freedom to share another's persons faults or sins, however good we think our intentions might be. ©LPi

I ENCOURAGE YOU,
DEAR STUDENTS,
TO MAKE
YOUR TIME
OF FORMATION
AN UNREMITTING
QUEST FOR GOD

St. John Paul II | Catholic Schools Week



An open letter to Catholic School Students:

Do you know why you are going to a Catholic school?
Permit me to give you a little bit of background.

Your parents and grandparents are the ones who built the Catholic school educational system in your city, state, and nation. Your parents and grandparents saw the importance of a great education and saw the connection between their faith in God and his Church and education to assist the greater community in becoming more than just an average citizen of society and believer in Christ.

A Catholic school education is now more expensive than it used to be. In previous decades, religious sisters and brothers who worked for next to nothing staffed our Catholic schools. They spent long hours to make sure the teachings of the Church and the education of the next generation was excellent. Now our teachers are mostly laywomen and men. And they deserve a living wage and to provide for their own families.

As we celebrate Catholic Schools Week, let us remember where our Catholic schools were, and where they are going.

Let us pray...

*God of knowledge and faith,
thank you for the opportunity to go to a Catholic school.
When I go to Mass, I hear that knowledge is so important.
Thank you for my parents and grandparents
who have built our school and supported it throughout the
years.*

*Help me to be a good student
and to become a good supporter of my parish, city, and
country.*

*Please bless all those men and women
who have spent their lives teaching in our Catholic schools.
Please bless my friends and teachers I learn with every day.
I ask for all these blessings in the name of God's Son, Jesus.*

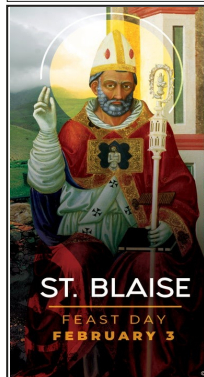
Amen.



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

From the Catechism...

“Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person -- among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you” (Jer 1:5; cf Job 10:8-12; Ps 22:10-11). “My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately wrought in the depths of the earth” (Ps. 139:15). Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable.” -- Catechism of the Catholic Church, n. 2270-2271



St. Blaise | February 3

You may be familiar with the annual “blessing of throats” that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise’s command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

*Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr,
may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from
every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.* ©LPi

**WHERE THE
ROSARY IS
RECITED
THERE WILL
BE DAYS OF
PEACE AND
TRANQUILITY.**

—ST. JOHN BOSCO

**St. Vincent de Paul Society**

Our parishes have a conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and our patron is St. Martin de Porres. We are called the “St. Martin de Porres Conference”. A “conference” is the basic unit of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul on the parish level and is made

up of parishioners of St. John’s and St. Mary’s parishes.

We meet twice a month, on the second and fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00pm in the St. John’s Church basement. We respond to requests for assistance that come to the parish office.

Do you or someone you know need assistance? You can reach someone from the St. Vincent de Paul society by calling or texting 740-340-8540. Would you like to learn more about our conference? Call the number for more information or come to one of our meetings. We don’t pressure anyone to join but you might find a group of fellow parishioners that find a blessing in serving their neighbors. Come check it out!

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS***Leading Others to Christ***

When I reflect on the many years of my life, there are many people who were influential on my development as a person, a student, and a Christian. Through their graciousness and generosity, I was able to work through challenges and difficulties, becoming stronger in the end. They pushed me to become better than I was at the time and helped me to see what I could eventually become. Without them giving of themselves to me I am unsure where I would be today.

Because others were good stewards of the gifts and talents God gave them, I now strive to use wisely what I have been given as well. Yes, I spend much of my time on the road speaking in churches about stewardship and I write books and articles about this way of life, but my real desire is to impact the most those around me. I want my children to see how I am growing in this life and be an example to them. I want me and my wife to grow in generosity together. My hope is that my friends see a light in me and inquire about how and why it is there. Above all, I want to live with a graciousness and hospitality that others find welcoming.

I believe that through our kindness and grace-filled existence God can touch others, heal others, and embrace others. We are the hands and feet of Christ. May we, today and every day we hear his voice, harden not our hearts.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

RESPECT Life**BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE**

The Gospel and First Reading for this Sunday raise the issue of the authority of those who speak the Word of God. Jesus taught with authority because he is the Word of God. The prophets taught with authority because God put his own words into their mouths. The Church today teaches with authority because, as the Body of Christ, she continues his teaching mission or, to be more precise, Christ himself continues teaching through his Church. Each member of the Church, by virtue of baptism and confirmation, has a prophetic role, and echoes the Word of God himself, both by words and example.

These themes are important in the battle between the Culture of Life and the Culture of Death, because our opponents ask why we are “imposing our morality on everyone else.” In reality, however, we are not imposing anything. We are speaking a truth which is not our own, and which simply reflects the reality of how we are made and what the moral law is. If anything is “imposed,” it has already been imposed by God. We are witnesses to him. We have no authority of our own; we simply proclaim his Word. By that fact, moreover, we are equally bound by what we proclaim as are those to whom we proclaim it.

This is why the proclamation of the pro-life message does not imply some kind of moral superiority on the part of those who proclaim it. Rather, it implies solidarity, and a common acknowledgement of the God of life, who is Lord of those who preach and those who hear.

—From Priestsforlife.org

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH / ST MARY PARISH : BELLAIRE, NEFFS, SHADYSIDE, POWHATAN

Readings for the week of January 28, 2024

Sunday: Dt 18:15-20/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 7-9 (8)/1 Cor 7:32-35/
Mk 1:21-28
Monday: 2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13/Ps 3:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk
5:1-20
Tuesday: 2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30—19:3/Ps 86:1-2, 3
-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday: 2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6
Thursday: 1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab, 11d-12a,
12bcd/Mk 6:7-13
Friday: Mal 3:1-4/Heb 2:14-18/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Lk 2:22-
40 or 2:22-32
Saturday: 1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/Mk
6:30-34
Next Sunday: Jb 7:1-4, 6-7/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 (see 3a)/1
Cor 9:16-19, 22-23/Mk 1:29-39

*If today you hear his voice, harden
not your hearts. Psalm 95:7-8*

This Week

Sunday: 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
National Catholic Schools Week begins

9:30-10:45am PSR (SM)

Tuesday: 9:00am-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration (SM)

Wednesday: 5:30p.m. Caring Crafters

Thursday: 5:30pm Holy Hour of Reparation (SJ)

7:00pm OCIA (SJH)

Next Sunday: 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30-10:45am PSR (SM)

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By Sunny & Anita Smigill

In Loving Memory of
Bill Kahl *by Wife Karen*
George, Bud, Murph & Jerry Snider
By Sister & Family

In Loving Memory of
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By the Cervelli Family

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By Bruce & Mary Ann

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Bellaire Council



#1246

Sons of Italy



Pasta Night
Every Thursday
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Dinner Includes: Pasta, your choice
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bread.



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