

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MARCH 17TH, 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



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God, may we walk eagerly in that same charity with which, out of love for the world, your Son handed himself over to death. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

Collect of 5th Sunday of Lent

CONFIRMATION
REGISTRATION

CONFIRMATION 2024

We look forward to celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation with Bishop Bradley on Monday, June 3rd at the 6:00pm Mass at St. John's. All Catholics, Grade 5 and up, are invited to sing-up for preparation. There will be five sessions that will begin on Sunday, April 7 at 6:00pm in the St. Mary's Church Sartori Hall. There will be an information session for candidates and parents this Sunday, March 17 at 6:00pm in St. Mary's Sartori Hall. Please complete a registration form available at the church entrances.



Build and Center Your Marriage on Christ

Whether you've been married one year or fifty, Catholic therapist Greg Schutte will guide you from over 30 years of experience. *You don't just have to survive in marriage—you can thrive!* We are excited to offer **"Building a Eucharistic Marriage"**, seven sessions on Wednesdays, from 6-8pm at St. Mary's Church Sartori Hall, beginning Wednesday, April 3. These fun and informative sessions are for all married or engaged couples and are designed to support couples in renewing their understanding of what it means to have a Sacramental Marriage and to rediscover the one they fell in love with many years ago! *Space is limited to the first 12 couples so please call soon to make your reservations.* Text or call (740) 298-4158 or visit our website bnspcatholic.org

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, March 16th, 5th Sunday of Lent

4:00p.m. (SM) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Richard Cope (Wife & Family)

Sunday, March 17th, 5th Sunday of Lent

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Christopher Lyden (Mom & Family)

11:00a.m. (SM) + Ed & Irene Snyder (Family)

Monday, March 18th, St. Cyril

*12:05p.m. (SJ) Casey & Anna Anastasia ~ God's

Blessings (Mom)

Tuesday, March 19th, St. Joseph Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:00a.m. (SM) + Ron Gibas (Dorothy Kresak)

Wednesday, March 20th

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Tom Finan (Bob & Lou Ann Bennett)

Thursday, March 21st

*7:00p.m. (SM) + Joseph Francis Hores Jr. (Steve & Mary Kay Beltrando)

Friday, March 22nd

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Maureen Flowers (Ellen Oboy)

Saturday, March 23rd, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

4:00p.m. (SM) + Jerry, James, Angela & Infant Angela Amato (Jim & Kelly Amato)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Eddie Oboy (Family)

Sunday, March 24th, Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Jon (Mom & Dad)

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

* *Please note the times changes for Mass on Mon. & Thurs.*



Lord, bless and protect those serving our

country, especially: Lt. Col. Brian Zeno, Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzels, 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 Pv89env) \$3974Pvt 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, PFC D'eondre Burney, Petty Officer Jared Keiser, Petty Officer Brody P. Halenar, Major Alex Beverdidge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook



PALM SUNDAY BAKE SALE & 50/50

The Caring Crafters would like to thank those who donated to, or kept the homeless in their prayers. We were able to buy requested items needed: tents, tarps, pillows, underwear, and wound care supplies. We will be having a bake sale Palm Sunday after each Sunday mass and 50/50 drawing after the 11:00am Mass. Tickets are in the pews and can be put in the collection. God Bless!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

This Friday at 6:30pm at St. John's

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of March 9/10

St. Mary's: Adult (44env) \$1,150, Loose \$239, Easter Flowers (5env) \$110, Holy Thursday (1env) \$20, Good Friday (1env) \$20, Building Fund (2env) \$40, St. Vincent de Paul (2env) \$20, Grade School (2env) \$45, Easter (1env) \$20, Candles \$24

St. John's: Adult (89env) \$3,974, Loose \$244, Easter Flowers (22env) \$420, Catholic Relief Services (5env) \$60, St. Vincent de Paul (3env) \$21, Grade School (2env) \$55, Candles \$98



REMEMBER
in your prayers

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, 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, Beverly, Beau Boston, Mary De Genova, Sharon Leonard, Rosalind Fitch, Susy Sands, Laine Castello, Sandy Grimm, Theresa Baker



SJC ACADEMY PAINT & SIP

The St. John Central Academy PTO is hosting a Paint and Sip from 1 to 4pm on Sunday, March 24th at Vino de Piccin in Bridgeport. Cost is \$40 dollars per person and includes canvas, painting supplies, snacks, one glass of wine and a door prize entry. There will also be a Chinese Auction. There are limited spots available, so please call or text 740-381-4202 to RSVP today!

SJC Academy will have Stations of the Cross on Wednesday this week @ 1:40p.m. at St. John's Church.



40 Hours and Penance Services
We have a little different daily mass schedule this week due to penance services and the beginning of our 40 Hours devotion this week. We have a few hours that we need to fill for the 40 hours so

please sign up today!

Building a Eucharistic Marriage

I hope you can take advantage of this free marriage enrichment course—make Wednesdays a date night! If you want a sneak peek go to eucharisticmarriage.org

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Lost in the Crowd

I write my phone number on my kids' arms when we go into large crowds at summer festivals, in case we get separated. If you think this makes me sound like a neurotic person with an overactive imagination who watches too many true crime documentaries, you would be correct. I am all of those things.

However, I am also practical, and I've endured moments of panic after looking up and briefly not being able to locate a child who has wandered off or lagged behind. The phone number, scrawled across their sunscreen-streaked skin, is a safeguard, however insignificant. It's something they can hold up to show an adult, something they can point to and say, "This is where I need to be. Help me get here."

When I reflect on my own life, it occurs to me that I was born lost. We all were. It was only in Eden that a human being ever knew what it was to be at home. In Eden, I would imagine, the feeling of safety was so natural that it was only noticed after it was gone. But original sin came like a noisy crowd to bear us away from the place we needed to be, and since that time, our human lives have played out against a backdrop of insecurity and unfamiliarity. We are cold and alone and confused. And God, our heartbroken parent, never stops seeking us, never stops calling our names.

Baptism, the etching of God's law onto our heart and soul, is not a phone number written on our arms. It's something far better — it's a homing signal, planted deep within. And it will lead us back to where we need to be.

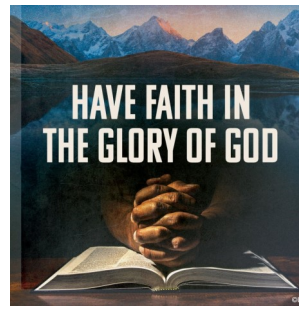
"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people." — Jeremiah 31:33

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REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Connie Mayeres** and **Bruce Stolz**. We offer our prayers also for the comfort of their loved ones. May they rest in the peace of Christ!



GOSPEL MEDITATION

A middle-aged woman sat on the couch in my parish office and recounted to me a shocking list of terrible calamities in her life: addictions, terminal illnesses, financial loss, broken relationships, and so on. She smiled as she did so. "Please forgive me," I asked, "but you seem to be smiling as you share this." She said, "Father John, I am totally overwhelmed. But I'm smiling because I just can't wait to see what good things God does with this mess." She expected God would manifest His glory when she most needed it.

This week in the Gospel, God speaks from heaven for the third and final time in Jesus' earthly ministry. It's at a tough moment. Gentiles seek Jesus, who announces his terrible suffering, and then boldly prays, "**Father, glorify your name!**" John then writes: **Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it and will glorify it again."** Was the task of drawing the whole non-Jewish world to himself overwhelming? Or was it the terrible specter of crucifixion? Whatever it was, the crushing weight triggers his turning to the Father with an unshakeable *expectation* of divine glory to burst through. And indeed, it did on Easter Sunday. In our burdens, our greatest strength is to turn to God and boldly ask Him for His glory.

Lenten challenge: This week, I invite you to list out everything which is a burden to you. Write it down. Then add these words: "Father, glorify Your name in all these things!" Put that paper in your pocket or purse when you come to Holy Week liturgies next week. You might smile at the most unlikely times.

— Father John Muir

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This Week

Sunday: 5th Sunday of Lent/Happy St. Patrick's Day
9:30-10:45a.m. PSR (SM)

4-6pm Jesus and the Eucharist Study (SM Sartori Hall)

6:00pm Confirmation Meeting (SM Sartori Hall)

Monday: 12:05pm Dail Mass (SJ)

1-3pm Jesus and the Eucharist Study (SJH)

6:30pm Penance Service (St. Mary, St. Clairsville)

Tuesday: 9:00a.m.-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration (SM)

Wednesday: 6:30p.m. Penance Service (St. Joseph, Tiltonsville)

7:00p.m. Cantors Meeting (SJH)

Thursday: 6:00p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Meeting (SJH)

7:00pm Daily Mass (SM)

40 Hours of Eucharistic Adoration Begins After Mass (SM)

Friday: 11:00am-6:00pm Fish Fry (SM)

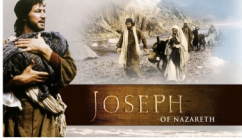
6:30p.m. Stations of the Cross (SJ)

Saturday: 4:00p.m. 40 Hours of Eucharist Adoration Ends (SM)

Next Sunday is Palm Sunday!

THIS WEEK ON FORMED

Week of March 17, 2024

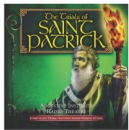


Joseph of Nazareth: The Story of the Man Closest to Christ
Celebrate the feast of Christ's foster father with even more joy and respect this year by watching a movie about him! Enter into the life of this great saint through the movie Joseph of Nazareth!



An Encounter with Mercy

We are not defined by our mistakes. In Confession, Jesus invites us to encounter his mercy and be healed by his love. When he tells us "Go and sin no more," he also gives us the grace to do so.



The Trials of Saint Patrick

The Trials of Saint Patrick, a powerful journey through hardship, loss, mercy, and forgiveness. With skilled actors and cinematic elements, this captivating story comes to life, stirring the imagination and sparking inspiration.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.
Visit signup.formed.org and select our parish name.

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and graces press

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

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord / March 24, 2024

First Reading:

I have set my face like flint,
knowing that I shall not be put to shame. (Is 50:7)

Psalm:

My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Ps 22)

Second Reading:

He humbled himself,
becoming obedient to the point of death,
even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him. (Phil 2:8-9)

Gospel:

They brought him to the place of Golgotha
—which is translated Place of the Skull—. (Mk 15:22)

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

The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

CCC 557-560: Christ's entry into Jerusalem

CCC 602-618: the Passion of Christ

CCC 2816: Christ's kingship gained through his death and Resurrection

CCC 654, 1067-1068, 1085, 1362: the Paschal Mystery and the liturgy



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

Wisdom of the Ages...

Tertullian, a Christian writer who died in the third century, wrote the following: "Thus, you read the word of

God, spoken to Jeremias: "Before I formed thee in the womb, I knew thee." If God forms us in the womb, He also breathes on us as He did in the beginning: "And God formed man and breathed into him the breath of life." Nor could God have known man in the womb unless he were a whole man. "And before thou camest forth from the womb, I sanctified thee." Was it, then, a dead body at that stage? Surely it was not, for "God is the God of the living and not the dead." - De Anima 26.5

Readings for the week of March 17, 2024

Sunday: Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33

Monday: Dn 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30, 33-62 or 13:41c-62/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Jn 8:1-11

Tuesday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27 and 29/Rom 4:13, 16-18, 22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a

Wednesday: Dn 3:14-20, 91-92, 95/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56/Jn 8:31-42

Thursday: Gn 17:3-9/Ps 105:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 8:51-59

Friday: Jer 20:10-13/Ps 18:2-3a, 3bc-4, 5-6, 7/Jn 10:31-42

Saturday: Ez 37:21-28/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13/Jn 11:45-56

Next Sunday: Mk 11:1-10 or Jn 12:12-16/Is 50:4-7/Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24 (2a)/Phil 2:6-11/Mk 14:1—15:47 or 15:1-39

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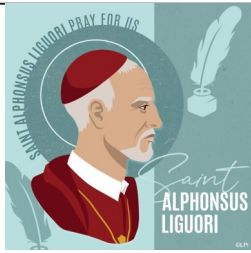
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MASSTIMES.ORG

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!





SAINT OF THE WEEK – EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Alphonsus Liguori

St. Alphonsus Liguori, (1696-1787) was born in Marianella, near Naples, in Italy. When he was young, he displayed exceptional intelligence and piety, earning a doctorate in civil and canon law by the age of 16. Feeling a calling to dedicate his life to God and the service of others, however, he abandoned his legal career and pursued ordination to the priesthood. He was ordained at the age of 30 in 1726.

Throughout his priestly ministry, Liguori focused on preaching missions and retreats, seeking to renew people's faith and draw them closer to the Eucharist. He frequently preached on the real presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and encouraged frequent reception of Holy Communion as a source of spiritual nourishment and grace.

In 1732, Liguori founded the Redemptorists, a religious congregation dedicated to promoting devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. The Redemptorists' charism also revolved around reaching out to the most abandoned, including the poor and marginalized, and offering them hope through God's love and mercy.

As a prolific writer, Liguori authored numerous works on moral theology, spirituality, and Eucharistic devotion. His most famous work, "The Glories of Mary," remains a classic in Marian theology and devotion. He is remembered for his practical and merciful counsel, always seeking to lead souls to reconciliation, and union with God.

St. Alphonsus was canonized as a saint in 1839 and declared a Doctor of the Church in 1871. His spiritual writings, particularly on the Eucharist, continue to inspire and guide the faithful worldwide. As the patron saint of moral theologians, his example reminds believers of the profound love and presence of Christ in the Eucharist and the enduring mercy of God. St. Alphonsus Liguori, pray for us!
© LPi



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Through the prophet Jeremiah, God promised Israel "a new covenant": the Lord's law will be written in our hearts and known by all who believe. *Do you know people who seem to have a heart-felt faith?*

Second Reading: Hebrews teaches us that Jesus struggled with his own impending suffering and death. *During this Lenten season, what has been a struggle for you?*

Gospel: Jesus taught that through his own suffering and death, he would drive out the "ruler of this world" (Satan) and draw everyone to himself. *In what ways are you drawn to Christ?*
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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

When Our Own Hour Comes

We parents know that it's tricky, tackling the topic of fear with our kids. We want them to know that it's okay to be scared, that it's something we all feel from time to time. We want them to understand that bravery isn't the absence of fear, but the choices we make in persevering despite that feeling.

Most of all, we want to model the right kind of behavior for our kids. Whatever our scary situation is — illness, a job loss, life changes — we want them to see us make a choice to face that fear head-on.

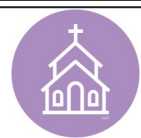
Jesus seems to be the parent who is gently broaching the topic of fear with his children. A great sense of foreboding hangs over these readings. Jesus knew what was coming. He knew it was going to be hard, both for him and for his followers, who did not have his courage. Even he admits to being "troubled" and he speaks of "the time of judgment." There is the dramatic raising of Lazarus, the talk of how a grain of wheat must die in order to bear fruit, the depiction of Christ as an obedient student of his own suffering.

"Yet what should I say?" he asks them. "Father, save me from this hour?" But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour."

This week, Christ gives us a very parental gift: He shows us his fear, and he shows us how to conquer it. He challenges us to embrace the purpose for which we came to this hour — whatever that hour may hold.

— 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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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.

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5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

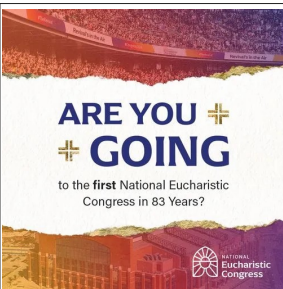
Prayer of Bold Ask

God in heaven,
Hear me as I call to you! Pour new life into me! Renew my heart in Your word! Help me to know You! Help me to glorify You, worship You, and trust You. Amen.

©LPi

LIVE THE LITURGY—INSPIRATION FOR THE

WEEK: Jesus reminds us that the grain of wheat can never realize its potential without sacrifice. God has a plan for each one of us. May He give you strength to become who you were born to be. ©LPi



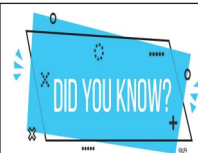
Diocese of Steubenville
presents

Pilgrimage to the National Eucharistic Congress

July 17-21, 2024...5 days

Come make history with us in Indianapolis at the 10th National Eucharistic Congress, where we will gather at the feet of Jesus for the first time in nearly a century, boldly anticipating a new Pentecost. Your life—and our Church—will never be the same. The trip includes bus transportation with Steubenville and Cambridge departure points, lodging, daily transfers between hotel and event locations, and breakfast daily. Price is \$799.00 per person double occupancy (triple, quad & single rates available). For more information and to register call Wendt Touring at 740-282-5790.

See brochure on church bulletin boards for more info!



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Which play, made into a television show, was written by Pope John Paul II in 1960?

Answer: *The Jeweler's Shop*

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WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Location of the Blessed Sacrament

Question: *Why do parishes have the Blessed Sacrament in a separate room?*

Answer: While many Catholics of a certain age have memories of the Blessed Sacrament being housed in the tabernacle on the high altar of the church, many parishes in the decades since the Second Vatican Council have chosen to build a separate space — a reservation chapel — where the Blessed Sacrament is kept. Although this practice is not universal, it is in keeping with the guidance offered by the US Bishops in their document *Built of Living Stones* (see nos 77-78). The goal is to create a space that is separated from the nave and sanctuary, but which is “integrally connected with the church” which can foster “reverence and can provide the quiet and focus needed for personal prayer.” This can be especially important for communities that have continuous eucharistic adoration, allowing people to come and pray in a space separate from the normal activities of parish life.

The practice of reserving the Eucharist in a separate space — or in a dignified location away from the altar where Mass is celebrated — is that it emphasizes the importance of the liturgy itself, which is the “source and summit” of the life of the Church.

As with many things in the Church, the practice of placing the tabernacle in the sanctuary or in a separate chapel is not universal (as can be seen in visits to historic churches in Rome and other places). The important thing is that as communities question where to place the tabernacle, they listen to the voice of the Church, explore the ancient and varied liturgical tradition of the Church, consider the needs and life of the community, and also take into account the architecture and limits of the spaces they might already have.

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Are you asleep? - The raising of Lazarus

Jesus is called to the grave of a dear friend who had recently died. Martha cries out that if Jesus were closer, her brother Lazarus would not have died.

Remember from the First Sunday in Lent that death and sin are connected and that life is seen as living a faith-filled life? That is what is happening in this Gospel. Living as a disciple of Christ can give us the ability for a life everlasting in the presence of God.

What in our lives needs to be uncovered, as Lazarus is unwrapped of his burial clothes and returned to live with his loved ones?

As we move closer to Easter Sunday, let us ask God to unwrap or unbind that which needs to be healed so that we may live a life that is pleasing to God. ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Draw Closer To God

During the Lenten season we observe certain practices of sacrifice and self-denial as an offering to God and as good spiritual training for this race we are engaged in called life. These things are good for us but they should not remain only in Lent. In fact, we should always be about working towards a complete surrender of ourselves to the will of God.

Jesus taught that unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it cannot bear fruit. It will remain the same always and will not lead to any type of growth. We are the grains of wheat that need to die to ourselves in order to be born again. However, many of us are the same today as last Lent and the many Lents before that. We have not moved forward to a more mature faith that makes it possible for us to be transformed.

Surrender is not easy. But we need to see our observance of Lent as a way to move forward. No athlete lifts the same weight forever. No dieter finds satisfaction in losing the same 5 pounds year after year. We must work to always be moving toward holiness. This is the commitment of an everyday steward. We are called to pray today than yesterday. We are called to give more today than yesterday. We are called to love more today than yesterday. Standing still is not an option. Our God is calling us to grow in our discipleship and stewardship for the benefit of our souls and the health of the Body of Christ. May this Lent be a time of moving forward and may we all draw ever closer to our God who calls us to leave it all behind and follow Him.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
©LPi

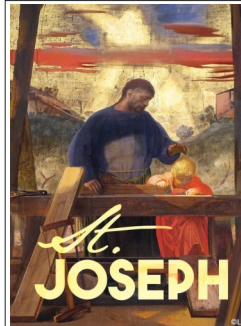
Eucharistic CONGRESS

July 17–21, 2024

Lucas Oil Stadium INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Would your family like to attend this momentous event in the life of our Church here in the United States? The parishes may be able to pay for your registration so that you can attend - make it a family vacation! Please contact Fr. Dan if interested ASAP.

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT



The Solemnity of St. Joseph

On March 19th, we celebrate the holiness in the midst of unpredictable fatherhood. We first meet Joseph when he discovers his betrothed is pregnant...and not by him! St. Joseph does not know who the father is (yet), but he knows the punishment for adultery is death. He decides to divorce Mary quietly, and thus save her life. When an angel appears to reveal that Mary is pregnant by the Holy Spirit, St. Joseph trusts his dream and marries her. As a new foster father, Joseph must help his wife give birth in a stable. Later, he needs to escape the threats to his son's life by immigrating with his family to a foreign land. We know that St. Joseph is faithful, brave, and willing to sacrifice for those he loves. On the solemnity of St. Joseph, we don't merely celebrate a carpenter. We celebrate a hero! ©LPi



St. Cyril of Jerusalem

PENANCE SERVICES THIS WEEK

Monday, March 18: 6:30pm St. Mary Church, St. Clairsville

Wednesday, March 20: 6:30pm St. Joseph Church, Tiltonsville

ANCIENT ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

In the name of St. Patrick, the Glorious Apostle of Ireland, the members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, Div. 1, Wheeling, WV wish you a Happy St. Patrick's Day and Irish-American Heritage Month! Men: celebrate and be proud of your Irish-Catholic heritage all year long by joining the AOH! Info at www.aoh.com , facebook.com/roadbowling or Tom Connelly: 304-280-4350.



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. neighbors. Come check it out!

ST. MARY CENTRAL ANNUAL FLOWER SALE



St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry, is having its annual flower sale. Flowers are sold by flats, hanging baskets and ferns. These beautiful flowers are also the perfect Mother's Day gift.

Order forms are available in the back of the church. To place an order, fill out the order form, include your payment, and drop in the collection basket. You may also place an order through any St. Mary's student. The last date to order is Tuesday, April 9, 2024.

Flowers will be available for pick up on Wednesday, May 8, 2024, from the hours of 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. at St. Mary's parking lot.

If you have any questions, you may call the school office at 633-5424.

Thanks for your support of our fundraisers!

"Why couldn't the grandma find her prayer book?"



THE FAITHFUL FUNNIES

"She forgot it was Lent."



The 40 days before Easter are also known as "Lent," where we focus on praying, fasting, and giving alms. One could also lend books during the 40 days, though.

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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.

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

We have Adoration of the Blessed sacrament 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!





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Italian Cooking Class — 7 Course Meal

Sons of Italy
3348 Belmont St., Bellaire
April 14th, 2024
2:00-5:30

Tickets are available at the
Sons of Italy Lodge
Please call for more information and
tickets (During regular business hours)
740-676-3178



In Loving Memory of
The Masciarelli & Smigill Families
By Sunny & Anita Smigill

In Loving Memory of
Cervelli, Masarik & Petronek Fam
By the Cervelli Family

In Loving Memory of
John, Rose & Cathy Magistro
By Bruce & Mary Ann

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

In Loving Memory of
Jeri Boston & Emily Richmond
By Husband and Dad

In Loving Memory of the
Dec. Joyce & Nixon families
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Sons of Italy



**Pasta Night
Every Thursday
4:00pm - 7:00pm**

Dinner Includes: Pasta, your choice
of meatball or sausage, salad &
bread.



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A Catholic funeral provides hope at what is
often one of the bleakest times. It is an act
of thanksgiving to God for the gift of the
life of the person who has died. It also
offers hope and consolation to those left
behind. Our funeral professionals can help.



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St. Mary Central School
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