

# DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

[www.bnspcatholic.org](http://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.

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 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](mailto: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](mailto:dheusel@diosteub.org)

*Mrs. Tonya Grimm, Secretary*  
(740) 676-0051

Email: [stjohns3745@comcast.net](mailto:stjohns3745@comcast.net)

St. Mary Central Grade School, Martins Ferry  
(740) 633-5424

*Mrs. Theresa Young, Principal*



**We use Flocknote to connect with you!**

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



[www.fb.me/stjohn.bellaire.neffs](http://www.fb.me/stjohn.bellaire.neffs)  
[www.fb.me/stmary.shadyside.powhatan](http://www.fb.me/stmary.shadyside.powhatan)



## 5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER

"I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit." - Jn 15:1-2

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

## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

*Collect of 5th Sunday of Easter*

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA ROSARY PROCESSION

Join faithful from throughout the area in a Rosary Procession on the Memorial of Our Lady of Fatima – Monday, May 13 at 7pm. The procession will begin at St. Alphonsus Church, 2111 Market Street, Wheeling, and end at the Cathedral of St. Joseph, 1300 Eoff Street, Wheeling. A brief prayer service will occur upon arrival at the Cathedral including Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. For those who are unable or would prefer not to walk in the 0.6 mile procession, the rosary will be prayed at the Cathedral, awaiting the arrival of those in the procession. An optional shuttle bus from the Cathedral to St. Alphonsus will be available from 6:15pm to 6:50pm to allow participants to park at the Cathedral where the procession will end.

## HONORING OUR GRADUATING HS SENIORS

We would like to honor all our graduating high school seniors at the masses on Sunday, May 19th, 2024. If you have a graduating senior please ask them to take a "Senior Bio" form at the church entrance and return by Wed. May 15th, 2024



**Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week**

**Saturday, April 27th, 5th Sunday of Easter**

4:00p.m. (SM) + Jack Klug (Paula Phillips)  
5:30p.m. (SJ) + Rose & Joe Piloseno, Joe & Mary Marcovich & Mary Marcovich (Ed & Taeko Marcovich)

**Sunday, April 28th, 5th Sunday of Easter**

9:30a.m. (SJ) Kevin & Keith Sechrest & Families for God's Healing Graces for Mind, Body & Soul (Mom)  
11:00a.m. (SM) For the People of St. Mary's & St. John's

**Monday, April 29th, St. Catherine of Siena**

6:00p.m.(SJ) + Joseph "JoJo" Paulette (Sister, Brother & Families)

**Tuesday, April 30th, St. Pius V**

8:00a.m. (SM) + Nickey Fodale birthday deceased (Mom & Dad)

**Wednesday, May 1st, St. Joseph the Worker**

8:00a.m. (SJ) + James Paulette (Sister, Brother & Families)

**Thursday, May 2nd, St. Athanasius**

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Dec. Curtis & Kahl Families (Michael & Mary Ellen)

**Friday, Mary 3rd, Sts. Phillip & James**

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Bill & "Murph" Bithday deceased (Family)

**Saturday May 4th, 6th Sunday of Easter**

4:00p.m. (SM) + Dom & Clara Presutti (Terriann & Fam)  
5:30p.m. (SJ) + Joe Ronevich Jr. (Ernie & Mary Ann)

**Sunday, May 5th, 6th Sunday of Easter**

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Richard Nowak Birthday deceased (Sister Linda & Nieces)  
11:00a.m.(SM) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

**Offertory Collection**

**For the Weekend of April 20/21**

**St. Mary's:** Adults (50env) \$1,227, Loose \$235, Catholic Home Missions (4env) \$35, Building Fund (7env) \$163, Food Pantry (1env) \$50, Grade School (1env) \$20

**St. John's:** Adults (101) \$ 3,606, Loose \$355.50, Easter (3env) \$260, Holy Thursday (1env) \$5, Good Friday (2env) \$55, Catholic Home Missions (2env) \$15, St. Vincent de Paul (5env) \$62, Grade School (2env) \$30, Building Fund (6env) \$1,070, Candles \$59.50

**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, Baby Everett Sommers, Steve Kiss Jr., Lucy Kowalski, John Bires Jr., Shannon Koher, Paul Heagy, Pat Tedeschi, Ed and Rose Grammar, Irene Lloyd, Susan Gray, Jackie (Donahue) Woods, Bryan Grimm, Sydney Battistelli, Dr. Matt Sokus, Joe Boston Jr., Camden Brown, Peggy Kotson, Sandy Fijalkowski, Ted Corder, Tom Galinski, Barney Wiley, Susan Vasey, Gilbert Patt, Bob, Bill & Tom, Julie Sharpe, Sally Shopper, Judith Weckbacher, "Chic" & Debbie Henderson, Kay Bambeck, Sally Traversa, Mary Kay Hanasky, Ann Hodges, Eric Allen, Herk Sparachane, Zachary Oboy, Tom & Margie Merryman, Craig Blacker, Patrick Strain and granddaughter, Halen, James Jeter, Jim Garczyk, Natalie McFeley, Dan Busack, John Hanasky, Beverly Kolenich Beau Boston, Mary De Genova , Sharon Leonard, Rosalind Fitch, Susy Sands, Laine Castello, Theresa Baker, Kevin West, Gwen Brown, Jack Selmon, Brody Beckett, Jeff Stolz, Kay Bambek, Peg Stipetich, Becky Marsh, Mike & Barbara Marling

**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 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 Beveridge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook



**WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

**Ministers for the Weekend of May 4/5**

**St. John's:**

May 4th **EM:** K. Ball **Lector:** D. Respole  
May 5th **EM:** M. A. Young **Lector:** A. Busic

**St. Mary's :**

May 4th **EM:** Volunteer **Lector:** E. Kalinowski  
May 5th **EM:** T. Mowery **Lector:** M. Brown

**\*Lectors we will recite the Rosary before mass in May**



**MEMORIAL MASS FOR BABIES WHO DIED BEFORE BIRTH**

The FertilityCare™ Center of the Upper Ohio Valley, Inc. and the Weirton Catholic Pro-Life Group will be sponsoring a Memorial Mass for babies who died before birth (by miscarriage, abortion, ectopic (tubal pregnancy) at any time in the past. The Mass will be celebrated on Friday, May 17, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 200 Preston Avenue, Weirton, WV. Confession will be available at 5:30 p.m.

So that we may best honor your child please call 304-723-0478 or 304-748-0688 to RSVP. If you do not want your child/grandchild acknowledged in the program, you do not need to RSVP. All family members and friends are welcome.

**This Week**

**Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter  
 9:30a.m.—10:45am Parish School of Religion (SM)  
 12:15pm—2:00pm Annual Spring Assembly (SM)  
 6-7:15pm Confirmation Prep Session 3 (St. Mary Sartori Hall)

**Tuesday:** 9:00am-5:00pm - Eucharistic Adoration (SM)  
 6:30p.m. SJ Finance Council Mgt. (SJH)

**Wednesday:** 8:00pm Zoom Bible Study—Acts of the Apostles—to get link to the Zoom mtg sign up for Flocknote

**Thursday:** National Day of Prayer  
 12:00pm National Day of Prayer Service (Bellaire Park)  
 5:30pm Holy Hour of Reparation (SJ)



**Read Acts of the Apostles for Easter...**

*Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of Your faithful and kindle in them the fire of Your love. Send forth Your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth. Amen*

**Week 5 - Acts 15:36-18:22**

“What therefore you unknowingly worship, I proclaim to you.” Acts 17:23

Our readings this week take us through what is commonly referred to as Paul’s 2nd missionary journey (50-53 AD).

**Reflection Questions:**

1. Which place that Paul visited on his 2nd missionary journey struck you the most? Explain.
2. Which person that Paul met/encountered on his 2nd missionary journey struck you the most? Explain.
3. How do you think Paul and Silas’ actions (witness) during their imprisonment in Philippi (Acts 16:19-30) prompted the jailer to ask “What must I do to be saved” (Acts 16:30)? Can you think of a time when someone’s witness prompted you or someone you know to change?
4. One day Paul was speaking to those in Athens and said “I see that in every respect you are very religious” (Acts 17:22). Today we might use the word spiritual instead of religious. Do you know someone who describes themselves as spiritual, perhaps seeking God but doesn’t accept Jesus as their savior? Have you ever asked them specifics about what they believe?
5. One night in a dream God said to Paul “Do not be afraid. Go on speaking, and do not be silent, for I am with you” (Acts 18:9-10). What reaction do you have to this statement? Is there someone in particular God might be pointing you to talk to?



**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

My friend and fellow pastor, Father Paul, noticed unsightly, overgrown trees near his parish church. He asked the maintenance crew to cut back the growth, which they happily did, telling him the trees would be much healthier and even fuller after a good pruning. A few days later, Father Paul received a letter from an irate man in the neighborhood who wrote, “Jesus would never prune trees like that. He loves trees, unlike you.”

I suspect that the neighbor was not familiar with this week’s Gospel in which Jesus says of his Father, **“He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit”** (John 15:2) I don’t mean to pick too much on that fellow. He was perhaps ignorant of arboriculture. But I’d wager his main confusion was the pruning and removing quality of God’s love. That confusion afflicts us all to some degree, doesn’t it? It is just so darn easy to react negatively when God cuts something out of our lives and assume it’s not his work at all. In the moment, all we see is the loss, and not the loving desire for future flourishing.

The cross is the great pruning of Christ’s body. Jesus’ rising is the brand-new growth. It is God’s promise to us that all the painful pruning in life is leading us somewhere beautiful. What has been cut back or out in your life? A friend, an opportunity, a sense of certainty, a job, health, a relationship? This week, offer those dry branches to the one who lovingly prunes us in order to make our lives burst with verdant growth. — *Father John Muir* ©LPi



**CARING CRAFTERS NEWS**

We are collecting white cotton crew socks for the veterans at the VA Outpatient Clinic in St. Clairsville. Place donations in the bins at the church entrances. Our next meeting is May 8th. No special talent is needed. Come and joins us!



**REST IN PEACE**

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Patricia Padyjasek & Maria Soledad Magyar.** 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.*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY BAPTIZED**



**Justin David Baldrige**

April 20th, 2024 ~ St. John’s Church

**PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS**

We are looking to identify potential candidates for our pastoral council. Please prayerfully consider parishioners whom we should consider for the pastoral council selection process and submit their names on the nomination forms at the church entrances by Monday, April 29th. Thank you!

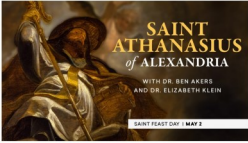
THIS WEEK ON  
**FORMED**

Week of April 28, 2024



**Who is St. Catherine of Siena?**

In light of St. Catherine of Siena's feast day, join Dr. Tim Gray and Dr. Elizabeth Klein, as they celebrate this holy woman: a nurse and mystic with papal influence who became a doctor of the Church.



**Saint Athanasius of Alexandria | Catholic Saints**

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein as they discuss the early Church Father, St. Athanasius. A bishop and Doctor of the Church, St. Athanasius is remembered as the great defender of the Nicene Creed. He was exiled five times from his own diocese under four different emperors. A great teacher, his writings are accessible to both beginners and experts in theology, writing works that serve different needs in the Church.



**Guard What Has Been Entrusted To You - A Sermon for the Feast of St. Joseph**

Guard What Has Been Entrusted To You A Sermon for the Feast of St. Joseph by Bishop Jacques-Bénigne Bossuet.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription.  
Visit [signup.formed.org](http://signup.formed.org) and select our parish name.

**NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS AND THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter / May 5, 2024

**First Reading:** The circumcised believers who had accompanied Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit should have been poured out on the Gentiles also, for they could hear them speaking in tongues and glorifying God. (Acts 10:45-46)

**Psalm:** The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power. (Ps 98)

**Second Reading:** Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love. (1 Jn 4:8)

**Gospel:** "No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends." (Jn 15:13)

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

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CCC 2746-2751: Christ's prayer at the Last Supper  
CCC 214, 218-221, 231, 257, 733, 2331, 2577: God is love  
CCC 1789, 1822-1829, 2067, 2069: love of God and neighbor fulfills the Commandments  
CCC 2347, 2709: friendship with Christ



**PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY**  
**Prayer of Fruitfulness**

God in Heaven,  
Your grace surrounds us every day as we seek to live and move and grow in You. Prune the spaces in our lives that distract us from You! Plant Your word more deeply within us! Amen. ©LPi

**Readings for the week of April 28, 2024**

**Sunday:** Acts 9:26-31/Ps 22:26-27, 28, 30, 31-32 (26a)/1 Jn 3:18-24/Jn 15:1-8

**Monday:** Acts 14:5-18/Ps 115:1-2, 3-4, 15-16/Jn 14:21-26

**Tuesday:** Acts 14:19-28/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13ab, 21/Jn 14:27-31a

**Wednesday:** Acts 15:1-6/Ps 122: 1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Jn 15:1-8

**Thursday:** Acts 15:7-21/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 10/Jn 15:9-11

**Friday:** 1 Cor 15:1-8/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Jn 14:6-14

**Saturday:** Acts 16:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 5/Jn 15:18-21

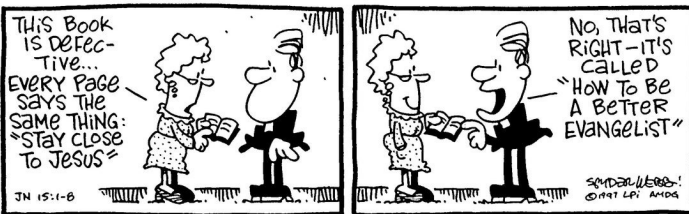
**Next Sunday:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 (see 2b)/1 Jn 4:7-10/Jn 15:9-17



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5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER



**MASSTIMES.ORG**

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



To speak of the Blessed Sacrament is to speak of what is most sacred.

- ST. EUPHRASIA





**SAINT OF THE WEEK –  
EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH**

**St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes**

St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes (1900-1920) was born Juana Enriqueta Josefina of the Sacred Hearts Fernandez Solar. Her family and friends nicknamed her Juanita. As a youth she read a biography of St. Thérèse of Lisieux that inspired her to grow in her faith and choose a path in life that led toward a religious vocation. By the age of 14 she knew she wanted to consecrate herself as a religious Carmelite nun.

At the age of 19, she began her novitiate with Carmelites and took the name “Teresa of Jesus.” She was particularly drawn to the religious life with the Carmelites because she enjoyed the simple life offered in the convent, the companionship of the other sisters living and serving Jesus alongside her. She also found joy in her proximity to the Blessed Sacrament where she would often be found in prayer.

During her short time with the Carmelites before her death, she wrote many letters to friends, family, and other community members. She considered these letters her apostolate and shared her thoughts as well as spiritual encouragement with those with whom she corresponded. Her writings frequently focused on her experiences of and thoughts on living a fulfilling spiritual life.

After a particularly violent attack of typhus, she was permitted to take her vows early because it was feared she would die. After her vows and receiving her last rites, she succumbed to the disease just three months before her twentieth birthday.

St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes’s short yet faith-filled life stands as a lasting testament to believers everywhere that one’s life doesn’t have to be long and filled with lofty accomplishments to be an amazing example of faith and Christ’s love. St. Teresa, pray for us! ©LPi

**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD  
IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

**Branching Out Isn’t Always What It’s Cracked Up to Be**

“That’s a really beautiful tree branch. Man, would you look at the bark on that thing? The others are real duds, but that low-hanging branch has really got it all together.”

I’ve never heard anyone say this. Maybe I just need to hang out with more arborists, but I can’t recall ever hearing someone admire the particular beauty of a single branch. When someone comments on a tree, it’s usually the whole tree — perhaps a visual element of it, like the color of the leaves or its height. But people don’t usually zero in on one branch.

Maybe that’s because usually, if one branch is looking a little weak, chances are every other branch is, too.

The Bible tells us that when we bear fruit as good everyday stewards, it is for the Father’s glory. We are the branch on His magnificent tree. What we have is from Him, and what we do likewise points back to Him. We also tend to reflect how well the other branches around us are incorporating the nutrients coming their way. That’s all fine and good in theory. In practice, it can be an arduous exercise in humility.

When I do something virtuous or charitable or kind, there is a part of me that wants to stand out for it. I think that’s true for all of us. We’ve given of ourselves in some way or overcome some human temptation to accomplish a little bit of good in this world, and even though we know God sees us, we’d really love for everyone else to see it, too.

It’s a struggle, for sure. But we need to remember that our fruit belongs to the whole tree.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



**ST. JOHN'S AND ST. MARY'S  
DISCOVERY TOOL**

POWERED BY MINISTRY ARCHITECTS  
VOLUNTEER ACCELERATOR

We offer to all our parishioners a short but powerful survey— what are calling our Discovery Tool! In just a few minutes, you'll have your results and a better sense of how your interests and gifts align with the service opportunities and ministries of our church. When we understand more about our God-given talents and what brings us joy and a sense of purpose, we are better equipped to walk in love -- serving God, our parish, and our community as Jesus calls us to do. Scan the QR code to find the link to the survey, or on our website - [bnspcatholic.org](http://bnspcatholic.org)



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

**First Reading:** The disciples were unwilling to trust that Saul (Paul) was a true believer until Barnabas offered support for Saul. *How easily do you trust people you don’t know well?*

**Second Reading:** John speaks of the importance of knowing in your heart that you believe in Jesus and truly love others. *How does anyone know what is in their heart?*

**Gospel:** Using the metaphor of a vine and branches, Jesus speaks of the importance of staying connected to him and the Father. *When do you feel close to Jesus?* ©LPi

**(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

**Love in Deed**

*It's a Wonderful Life* is one of my favorite Christmas movies. It only occurred to me recently, though, that this film, for all its yuletide aesthetic, is actually more of an Easter story.

I love this movie because it's a very Catholic film — not overtly, although we do see the main character, George Bailey, going to Mass. No, it's the themes that are Catholic, not the set dressing. It's a story about the choices we make — to love, or not to love? To sacrifice, or not to sacrifice? To put oneself first, or to put oneself last? It's a story about what the consequences of those choices look like here in the world, and what they look like in heaven.

In the film, we meet a young George Bailey who dreams of growing up to do amazing, impressive things. Over the years, he makes a choice here and he makes a choice there ... and when all is said and done, the adult George Bailey is a tired, overworked husband and father with no worldly attributes that anyone would envy.

But he's a man who has loved in deed, not just in word, and who has reaped the spiritual rewards of those choices.

The season of Easter is about rejoicing in true redemption, not in worldly triumph. The Word of God is not a bedtime story. It's a pruning shear. To hear it is to be changed, to be shaped. To live it is to lose some things, so that you might bloom in unexpected ways. To welcome the Word is to be willing to look different, to feel different.

Anyone can say, "I love you, I accept you, I want to help you." But what does it actually look like, to love in deed and not just in word? It looks like giving something up: free time, wealth, comfort, worldly approval. It looks, to the casual observer, like pain.

To someone who has no concept of how plants grow and thrive, a gardener's pruning shears look like an executioner's sword. To someone who has no concept of how souls grow and thrive, a tomb barred by a stone looks like the end of a story, when in fact it's just the beginning.

*"Children, let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth."* — 1 John 3:18 ©LPi

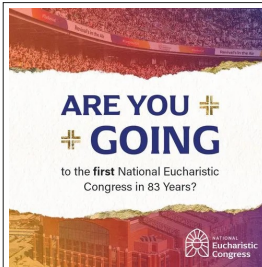
**WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Canonized Saints**

**Question:** *How does a person become a canonized saint?*

**Answer:** It is important to remember that all the saints are people, real people who lived just as we do! The first saints of the Church were martyrs or theologians known for a holy life. Over time, the Church has established a set process to investigate the causes of saints.

After a holy person's death, the bishop of their diocese initiates the canonization process with the Vatican. Typically, they must wait five years to ensure any false enthusiasm has lessened. With Vatican approval, the process begins and the person receives the title "Servant of God." The first phase involves collecting information about the person's life and scrutinizing it carefully. One person has the specific role of raising doubts — this is the origin of the phrase "devil's advocate!" When it is clear the person truly lived a heroically holy life according to Church teaching, they are declared "Venerable."

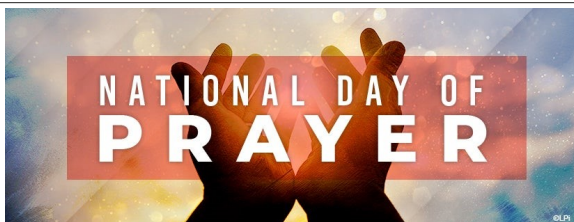
If the person is a martyr for the faith, they will also be declared "Blessed." If the person is not a martyr, they must be credited with a miracle. This is also closely examined for authenticity. Once the miracle is authenticated as truly a miracle performed by God through the person or through their intercession, they are beatified. An additional authenticated miracle is required before canonization, and we can call them "Saint." ©LPi



**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!



**Thursday, May 2 : 12:00pm Bellaire Village Park**

**5th SUNDAY OF EASTER**



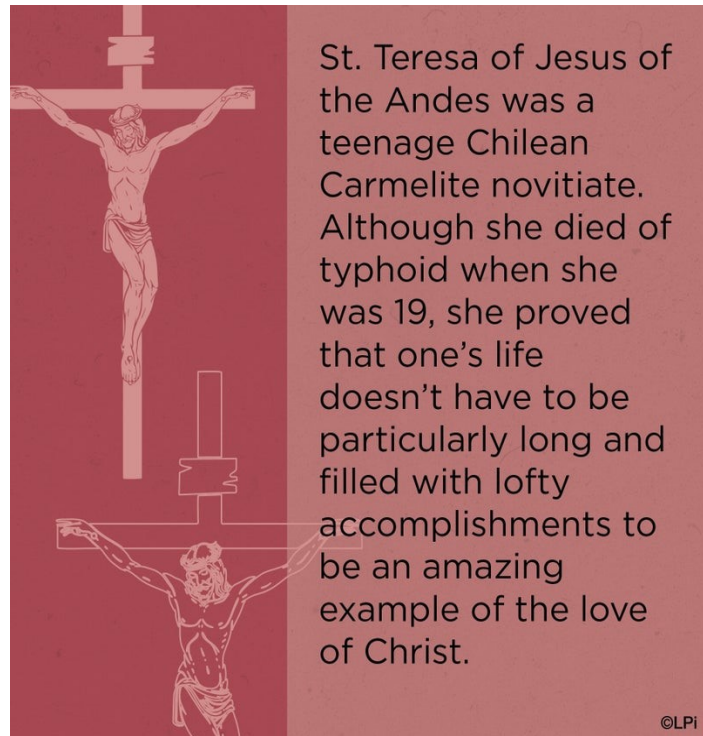
**EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**

**Do Others See God in You**

When I was a teenager, I had an experience that truly changed my life and helped me to give Jesus all of myself. I had been baptized Catholic and always had faith, but it took a specific event to really shake me out of the comfort of my life and set me on a path devoted to God. I didn't get knocked off a horse or find an open tomb, but for me it was powerful enough to make a huge impact.

Testimonies of how people came to live as intentional disciples have great power. Often the stories do not include singular events or people; instead they speak of a gradual unfolding of faith. It is often the culmination of several events and the work of more than one person that brings a person to the point of real decision.

Living as good stewards, we can help move people forward in their journey with God. Giving of ourselves freely can move human hearts like few other forces. God working through us can bring others to see that simply saying that Jesus is the Savior of the world does not mean we live our lives differently. It takes more thought and reflection on our part to move past words to intentional acts with intentional results. I don't know if all those involved in that event when I was a teenager knew what an effect their good stewardship would have on me, but I am so thankful they provided a way for God to touch me. I have spent my entire life trying to pay them back by allowing God to touch others through me. Just what person might God touch through you today? -Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



St. Teresa of Jesus of the Andes was a teenage Chilean Carmelite novitiate. Although she died of typhoid when she was 19, she proved that one's life doesn't have to be particularly long and filled with lofty accomplishments to be an amazing example of the love of Christ.

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**CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN**

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**Question:** What is the name of the small container used to transport the Eucharist to those sick and homebound? **Answer:** Pyx. ©LPi

**“What is a Catholic’s favorite chess piece?”**



the FAITHFUL FUNNIES

**“The bishop.”**

**FUN FACT!**

To Catholics, bishops are ordained clergy who serve the Church by caring, guiding, and teaching. Bishops visit parishes for Confirmations and other special events.

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**BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE**  
*The meaning of choosing to receive the Holy Eucharist: The Church has taught consistently for 2000 years that those who receive the Eucharist are publicly professing their Catholic*

faith and are seriously striving to live by the moral teachings of the Church. Those who reject the teaching of the Church on the sanctity of human life and those who do not seek to live in accordance with that teaching place themselves in contradiction to the communion of the Church, and so should not receive the sacrament of that communion, the Holy Eucharist. We all fall short in various ways, but there is a great difference between struggling to live according to the teachings of the Church and rejecting those teachings. - *Before I Formed You in the Womb I Knew You*, A Pastoral Letter on the Human Dignity of the Unborn, Holy Communion, and Catholics in Public Life by the Most Reverend Salvatore Joseph Cordileone, Archbishop of San Francisco, May 2021. Read the complete statement at <https://sfarch.org/inthewomb/>



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*By Sunny & Anita Smigill*

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Cervelli, Masarik & Petronek Fam  
*By the Cervelli Family*

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

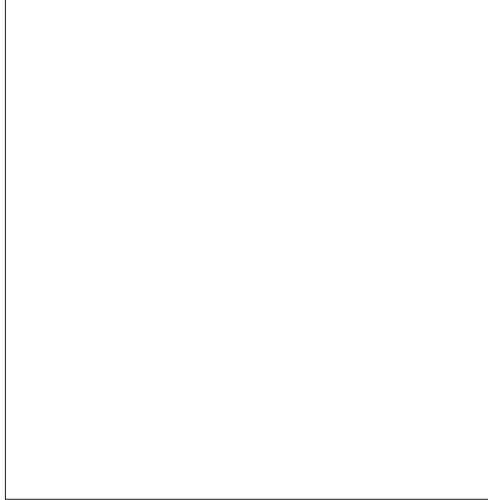
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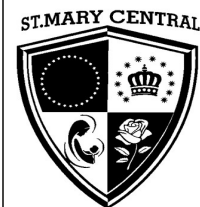
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