

DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

www.bnsopathic.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.

6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 5TH, 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 you!

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



6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

"If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." - Jn 15:10

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Grant, almighty God, that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these days of joy, which we keep in honor of the risen Lord, and that what we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in what we do. 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 6th Sunday of Easter



St. John Central Academy will hold their annual May Procession this coming Friday, May 10th, at 1:00p.m. in St. John Church. Everyone is invited to attend. If you would like to donate flowers for the altar, you can place them on the altar railing on Friday morning. Come and join us in giving honor to Our Blessed Mother and our earthly mothers.

First Holy Communion

Congratulations to our children receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend!

St. John's

Charlee Baldrige

Briella Bell

Taryn Dodds

Evelyn Doyle

Roman Doyle

Charles Maguire

Matthew Mamie

Carmine Menough

Sophia Menough

Maddie Perko

Armoni Ray

St Mary's

Bo Kernik

Karli Kernik

Ella Ogden

Nate Ogden

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, May 4th, 6th Sunday of Easter
 4:00p.m. (SM) + Dom & Clara Presutti (Terriann & Family)
 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. Mary's & St. John's
Monday, May 6th
 6:00p.m.(SJ) + Barb Francis & Nute (Niece)
Tuesday, May 7th
 8:00a.m. (SM) + Tullio Ciancone (Goddaughter)
Wednesday, May 8th
 8:00a.m. (SJ) + Elmer De Blasis 22 year anniversary deceased (Grandsons)
Thursday, May 9th
 8:00a.m. (SM) + Mary F. & Ron Bricco (Family)
Friday, May 10th, St. John of Avila
 8:00a.m. (SJ) + Jim Phalen (Rodney & Brenda Wallner)
Saturday May 11th, The Ascension of the Lord
 4:00p.m. (SM) + Jeri Boston 8 year anniversary deceased (Husband ~ Mike)
 5:30p.m. (SJ) + Tom Bonfini (Terriann & Family)
Sunday, May 12th, The Ascension of the Lord
 9:30a.m. (SJ) + Our Mothers (John & Cathy Traylinek)
 11:00a.m.(SM) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of April 27/28

St. Mary's: Adults (53env) \$1,452, Loose \$137, Catholic Home Missions (6env) \$ 75, Building Fund (8env) \$ 150, Food Pantry (3env) \$25, Candles \$79

St. John's: Adults (81env) \$2,531, Loose \$474, Catholic Home Missions (6env) \$80, Steubenville Register (1env) \$10, St. Vincent de Paul (2env) \$ 25, Grade School (2env) \$40, Building Fund (11env) \$215, Candles \$99

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 , David Sechrest, Elaine Patt, Chuck Taylor, Rebecca Brown

Lord, bless and protect those serving our country,



especially: Lt. Col. Brian Zeno, Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzal, 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 11/12

St. John's:

May 11th **EM:** S. Gibson **Lector:** M. Kosky
 May 12th **EM:** T. Young **Lector:** J. Hindman

St. Mary's :

May 11th **EM:** L. Gates **Lector:** I. Louda
 May 12th **EM:** L. Kernik **Lector:** M. Kernik

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

Readings for the week of May 05, 2024

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

Monday: Acts 16:11-15/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b/Jn 15:26—16:4a

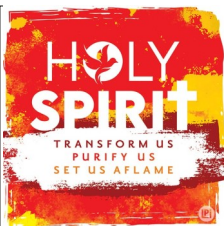
Tuesday: Acts 16:22-34/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 7c-8/Jn 16:5-11

Wednesday: Acts 17:15, 22—18:1/Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14/Jn 16:12-15

Thursday: Acts 18:1-8/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Jn 16:16-20
Friday: Acts 18:9-18/Ps 47:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Jn 16:20-23

Saturday: Acts 18:23-28/Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10/Jn 16:23b-28

Next Sunday: *Ascension:* Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Eph 4:1-13 or 4:1-7, 11-13/Mk 16:15-20



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 6 - Acts 18:23-23:35

“Yet I consider life of no importance to me, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to bear witness to the gospel of God’s grace.”
Acts 20:24

Our readings this week take us through what is commonly referred to as Paul’s 3rd missionary journey (54-58 AD). This journey ends in Jerusalem with Paul’s arrest and the beginning of his various trials before the Jews and Romans.

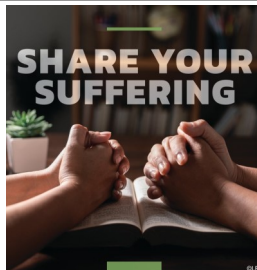
Reflection Questions:

1. Which place that Paul visited on his 3rd missionary journey struck you the most? Explain.
2. Which person that Paul met/encountered on his 3rd missionary journey struck you the most? Explain.
3. Throughout Paul’s journeys, he leads the community by gathering them to break bread, preach the gospel, and pray. Who in your life has helped lead you closer to God? Who in your life have you helped lead closer to God?
4. In Paul’s farewell speech to the leaders in Ephesus (Acts 20:17-36), he speaks about the trials that will encounter as they continue to preach the gospel. For him, the most important thing is to “finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus”. How often do you reflect on the “course or ministry” that you have received from God? Does your life “bear witness to the gospel of God’s grace”? If so, in what ways? If not, what actions could you take to start including the gospel in your daily life?
5. Once in Jerusalem, Paul defends his actions by retelling his encounter with Jesus (Acts 22:6-16). Have you had an encounter with Jesus that changed your life? Not all conversion stories are so dramatic, but we are called to continuing conversion all our life. In what small ways have you grown and continue to grow closer to Christ?



St. Mary Central School in Martins Ferry is looking for a middle school Language Arts and Social Studies Teacher for grades 6-8. Proper licensure to teach in the state of Ohio or the willingness to obtain licensure is required. Salary is based on experience. Health insurance and retirement benefits available. Please send your resume to Principal Theresa Young at :

theresa.young@smcmartinsferry.com
by June 2, 2024 or contact the school at 740-633-5424 for more information.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Once a man came to the Vatican and asked to see Pope John Paul II, claiming that they had been friends in Poland. When told of the man, the Pope said, “He is mistaken about our friendship. I don’t recall ever having suffered with him.” As it turned out, the man had never known the Pope.

Now, I’m not sure if the story is totally factual. But doesn’t the juxtaposition of *suffering* with *friendship* sound exactly like JP II? He understood that the deepest and most lasting friendships are forged in the fires of shared suffering. No suffering, no friendship. Amazing.

This week we hear Jesus say to the apostles and to us, “**You are my friends if you do what I command you**” (John 15:14). In Jesus’ life, death, and resurrection, God entered the world of human suffering and transformed it into an avenue of friendship with Himself. Following His command — to love, to lay down our lives for others — will always entail suffering. But this suffering only deepens our friendship with Him. His suffering is ours; ours is His. We have become friends of God.

This week, how might you share your suffering with the Risen Jesus? How might he be sharing his suffering with you, in the lives of those around you? Be attentive to that, and you’ll find that you are indeed a friend of God, because you’ve suffered together a great deal.

— *Father John Muir*

©LPi

This Week

Sunday: 6th Sunday of Easter 1st Holy Communion
6:00p.m. Confirmation Prep (SH)

Monday: 10:00a.m. Shadyside Fellowship of Churches
Mtg (Shadyside Nazarine)
7:00p.m. K of C

Tuesday: 9:00am-5:00pm - Eucharistic Adoration (SM)
11:15a.m. Bellaire Fellowship of Churches Mtg
(Community Coffee and Tea, Bellaire)
1:00p.m. Mass (Shadyside Care Center)
7:00p.m. COMMUNITY Prayer Service (South
Bellaire Methodist)

Wednesday: 5:30p.m. Caring Crafters
8:00p.m Zoom Bible Study

Thursday: 7:00p.m. OCIA (SJH)

Friday: 1:00pm May Crowning (SJ)
Pentecost Novena Day 1

Saturday: Pentecost Novena Day 2

Next Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord/ Pentecost
Novena Day 3 / Mother’s Day

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

* Caring Crafters collecting white cotton crew socks the veterans at VA Clinic in St. C. Bins at church entrances.

* Mass honoring our graduating HS seniors on May 19th. Senior bios due by May 15. See church entrances

THIS WEEK ON
FORMED

Week of May 05, 2024



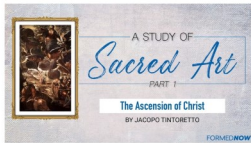
Saint John Paul II | Lukas Storyteller

Lukas, tired of seeing the same bored look on his friends' faces, decides to tell them a captivating story. Not just any story, but a tale of a young Karol Wojtyla, who would one day become Pope John Paul II! The kids wouldn't believe the adventures young Karol had, and how they would inspire them to create their own unforgettable day.



The Fountain of Salvation | The Bible and Baptism | Episode 1

Dr. John Sehorn, Academic Dean of the Augustine Institute Graduate School of Theology, sits down with Fr. Isaac Morales, OP, a Dominican friar of the Province of Saint Joseph and Associate Professor of Theology at Providence College, to discuss Fr. Isaac's book *The Bible and Baptism: The Fountain of Salvation* (Baker Academic). This episode dives into how Baptism is the fountain of salvation for the Christian.



The Ascension | Sacred Art

Join Dr. Ben Akers and Taylor Kemp to expand your knowledge of sacred art. In this episode on FORMED, they discuss *The Ascension of Christ* by Jacopo Tintoretto.

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

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE and SPIRITUAL PROCESS

FORMED
THE CATHOLIC FAITH.
ON DEMAND.

ENJOY FREE
ACCESS TO
FORMED.ORG

Please enjoy a free subscription to Formed.org, where you can stream hundreds of hours of inspiring movies and video series, read bestselling Catholic eBooks, and listen to audio presentations from the Church's most compelling speakers! All available from virtually any device...anytime, anywhere. Go to **Formed.org**, click "Sign Up", then "Sign Up as a parishioner" then find us by entering the zip code "43906" in the search box. Click on "St. John the Evangelist/St. Mary", click on "Next", enter your name and email address and then click on the "Sign up" button.

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

The Ascension of the Lord / May 12, 2024

First Reading: When he had said this, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him from their sight. (Acts 1:9)

Psalm: God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord. (Ps 47)

Second Reading: But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. (Eph 4:7)

Gospel: So then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. (Mk 16:19)

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 659-672, 697, 792, 965, 2795: the Ascension



PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY Prayer of Love

God the Father, You created me in love. Jesus, your love for me compelled you to come to earth to die for me. Holy Spirit, love between God and Jesus, now you surround me with the love of the Father and the Son. Help me to live out this reality, today and always. Amen. ©LPi

The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is coming our way!

Beginning Friday June 21, 2024, join Steubenville's NEP Kick Off "SING-SPIRATION" (6-7 p.m.) at Historic Fort Steuben's Berkman Amphitheater, preparing to welcome the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage (St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Eastern Route) with arrival at 7 p.m. A Eucharistic procession will take place down Fourth Street at 7 p.m. Then, at 7:30 p.m., prayer and Benediction will take place at St. Peter Church, Steubenville.

This will conclude on Sunday, June 23, 2024 - Bishop Paul J. Bradley will celebrate a 10 a.m. Mass at Holy Rosary Church, Steubenville. A procession will take place after Mass to the float, followed by a motorcade to the Steubenville marina. The Sternwheeler and boater-cade will then move down the Ohio River to Bellaire.

We will meet Our Eucharistic Lord with the National Eucharistic Pilgrims at 4:00pm at the Bellaire Marina and escort Our Lord with a walking procession led by parishioners to St. John Church, for a Holy Hour, 4:30pm-5:30pm, followed by a dinner and a chance to meet the pilgrims.



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

St. Cyril of Jerusalem

St. Cyril of Jerusalem (c.315-386) was born and raised in Jerusalem. He was educated in the Faith and had a love of Scripture at an early age that guided him toward the priesthood.

After he was ordained a priest by the bishop of Jerusalem, he went on to serve as a catechist for those newly baptized in his congregations. The writings he produced during the early years of his priesthood have gone on to help give the modern Church a clear example of how the Church of the East did things during those first few centuries of Christianity. They included teachings on the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist, prerequisites for Baptism, the Eucharistic liturgy, and more.

During the fourth century the Arian heresy, which denied the divinity of Christ, was threatening to tear the young Church apart. It was during this time that Cyril was ordained Bishop of Jerusalem and accused by his contemporaries of Arianism. They exiled him from his homeland on three different occasions, but he was ultimately acquitted of the accusations both in his own time and a thousand years later when he was named a Doctor of the Church in 1822.

Once back in Jerusalem, he and a bishop named Gregory, who would become St. Gregory, attended the Council of Constantinople, where the Nicene Creed was officially adopted. During this time, he publicly accepted and promoted the word “consubstantial,” the word the Council of Nicaea chose to describe Christ’s divinity and the relationship between God the Father and the Son.

His life reminds us that even a prominent theologian of the Church can suffer pain from controversy. Despite this, he never gave up and went on to be recognized as a Doctor of the Church. St. Cyril, pray for us! © LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

Choosing to Love One Another

Love one another. The greatest commandment, the simplest commandment — and if you’ve ever loved anyone, you know it’s also the hardest.

I’m man enough to admit it. I’ve seen one or two of those cheesy Hallmark movies that are especially popular around the holidays. Boy meets Girl. Boy and Girl encounter a catastrophic roadblock to their relationship — they’re coaches of rival high school volleyball teams, or he runs a dog kennel and she works at a feline rescue, so it could never, ever work out, right? But sprinkle a little movie magic over the whole situation and Boy and Girl find what Hallmark tells us is true love.

I could make a list of all the things that are inaccurate about these movies, and something I would put right near the top — maybe even above the sometimes-unbelievable storylines — is the idea that love is a feeling.

See, I’m not sure if it’s accurate to call these movies love stories. Attraction stories, sure. But if you’ve ever forgiven someone who’s hurt you, nursed a dying parent, gotten up for an infant’s night feeding or let your kid have the last piece of cake, you know that real love is a verb. It’s something you do. And it is almost always a choice.

Love one another. How often do we hear this? How often do we think about what it really means? How often do we take a moment to consider the action Jesus is asking us to take and the choice he is asking us to make?

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



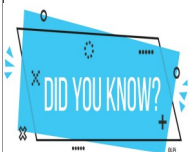
**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK -
REFLECT AND RESPOND TO
SCRIPTURE**

First Reading: The Jewish believers who accompanied Peter to the house of Cornelius were “astonished” that

Gentiles who had faith in Jesus also received the gift of the Holy Spirit. *Have you ever been surprised by what God has done in your life?*

Second Reading: John teaches us that the essence of God is love and we are called to love one another. *Who might you work on loving this week?*

Gospel: Jesus taught his disciples that loving him and loving each other brings “complete joy.” *What brings you joy in your life?* ©LPi



Question: Praying for the interests of others is referred to by what name?

Answer: Intercession. ©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

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

As I Love You

This week my children were learning about energy. We set up an experiment with toy cars — one was placed in front of another, and a third was pushed into the two stationary ones.

The forward motion caused the front car to move, but not much. “Most of the energy goes into the car in the middle, not the car on the end,” my daughter concluded.

I asked her why she seems to have so much energy, and I seem to have so little.

“Because you’re old,” she replied confidently.

Most days I feel like that first car, barreling at life with all my energy and love and good intentions, only to have it almost entirely absorbed by the proverbial middle car. It’s so easy to be discouraged. The devil so badly wants us to feel discouraged.

But the law of love is not unlike the law of conservation of energy. Love is neither created nor destroyed. It is only transferred from one form to another. And yes, sometimes it certainly seems like it disappears. It appears to get lost between my hands and the plate of dinner that goes uneaten or evaporates off of my lips as words I fear are never heard. It is spat upon as a commandment the world would prefer I do not keep.

But we are not called to simply love one another — to love when it seems effective and productive and appreciated. We are called to love as Christ loved: recklessly, selflessly, and yes, even without logic. We are called to love with a love that doesn’t give up and is never withdrawn. A love that doesn’t fear death or the world’s hatred. A love that stands willing to argue, to be reviled, to be dismissed.

We are called to be that first car, hurtling ourselves against a world that isn’t ready to accept or understand us. And we trust that, even when we can’t see how, the love that seems to disappear simply changes forms.

“This is my commandment: love one another as I love you.” — John 15:12 ©LPi

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Catholic Faith

Question: *My neighbor is just beginning to explore the Catholic faith but was raised agnostic. I grew up believing in God, praying, and attending Mass. How does one start from scratch as an adult to develop a relationship with God?*

Answer: Start on a personal level! How did you and your neighbor become friends? How did you begin to discuss such a personal topic as faith? Communication, spending time together, and getting to know each other are essential to forming the bonds of a relationship. Personal prayer is essential to our relationship with God. We can’t be close to someone we don’t know! Invite your friend to explore the stories of Jesus in the Bible. Introduce them to the lives of the saints, especially ones you think they might be interested in.

Your neighbor might also have questions about the Catholic faith that you don’t know how to answer. If your friend hasn’t yet enrolled in RCIA classes, invite them to Mass at your parish. Introduce your friend to the faith formation director to make a connection. Personal support can be helpful as well, especially if few of your neighbor’s current friends are practicing their faith. Connect your neighbor to other people in your parish living their faith well. The good examples of other faithful people could help your neighbor to feel welcomed and supported. Our Church is vibrant and alive!
©LPi

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 5:30p.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.

LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK



Christ’s love for us is radical — it changed the whole world. It will not be easy to love as Christ loved, but this is the mission for which we have been chosen

by God. So let us love one another. Let us change the world. ©LPi

6th SUNDAY OF EASTER



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

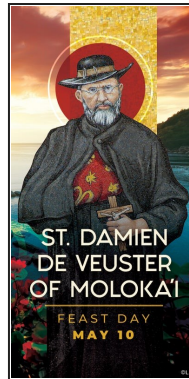
Share Love Freely

"Get Together" was a popular song in 1967 by the Youngbloods. I was not alive when the song was released, but it was a song I played frequently learning how to play guitar when I was younger. The song called for all of us to come together and "try to love one another right now." It was a song that came out in the Vietnam War era and during somewhat of a hippie revolution, but perhaps the words belong to no real moment in time. They are simply the commands of Jesus.

Sometimes we minimize the power of love by cute pop songs and slogans that mean little without action. However, we can never underestimate the power of love. Love can tear down barriers between people, change tears to laughter, and mend relationships torn apart by sin.

No option exists for disciples of Jesus Christ to not love others. Not only are we commanded to do so, but love is a gift we must pass on freely. If we give of our time, talent, and treasure, but choose not to love, we cannot claim to be truly committed disciples and good stewards. As this Easter season draws ever closer to an end, we must allow our love to bear witness to the source of all love, the Risen Jesus. This is our calling until, as the words of the Youngbloods' song states, "the one who left us here returns for us at last."

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



SAINT OF THE WEEK – EXAMPLES OF OUR FAITH

St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i | May 10

People may be familiar with leprosy from Biblical times, but not so much in the 1800s. However, St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i (January 3, 1840 – April 15, 1889) would eventually shed a light on the effects of this devastating disease and allow people to see those afflicted with it with more compassion and love.

Born Joseph de Veuster in Tremelo, Belgium, he quit school at 13 so he could work on the family farm. Feeling called for more, however, he entered the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary six years later, where he took the name of a fourth-century physician and martyr. His brother, a priest from the same congregation, fell ill and was unable to go to his assigned location. Damien quickly volunteered in his place and found himself on the Hawaiian Islands in 1864. Two months after arriving, he was ordained a priest of Honolulu and assigned to the Island of Hawaii.

In 1873, he visited the Hawaiian government's leper colony on the island of Moloka'i, where he petitioned to stay permanently to care for their physical, medical, and spiritual needs. After years of working to improve their location and those who lived there, he contracted Hansen's disease and died of its complications. He found strength to endure isolation and disease in Eucharistic adoration and the celebration of the Mass. St. Damien was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009. St. Damien de Veuster of Moloka'i, pray for us! © LPi



**BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE
A Prayer for Those Afraid of their
Motherhood**

Lord God, we thank you, the Source of Life, for all those who have welcomed and nurtured our lives. In particular, we thank you for our mothers, who with trust in you and self-sacrifice beyond description, have made it possible for us to live and praise you today. Give them the reward of their labors.

Today, Lord, we also pray for mothers who are afraid of being mothers. We pray especially for those carrying a child within them, but afraid to bring that child to birth. Look with favor on these, your daughters, and give them trust and strength. Enable them to give themselves to their children, as you give yourself to us, and to experience the joys of motherhood. Enable us to do our part to encourage them and provide for their needs. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

For more prayers, see www.PrayerCampaign.org.

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



**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.

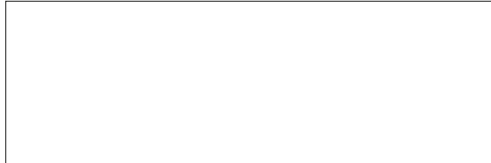


Real People, Real Service, Real Answers: Since 1987

**Is Your Nest Egg a Little Scrambled?
Are Low Fees and Expenses Important? Let's Talk**
(803) 329-0609 - SJC Graduate - www.SinclairFS.com



@Sinclair Financial Solutions is independently owned and operated by Donn J. Sinclair, MBA. Investment Advisory Services thru Prosperity Wealth Management, Inc., 2333 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, Suite #200 - San Ramon, CA 94583. Securities thru Fortune Financial Services, Inc., 3582 Brodhead Road, Suite #202 - Monaca, PA



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

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

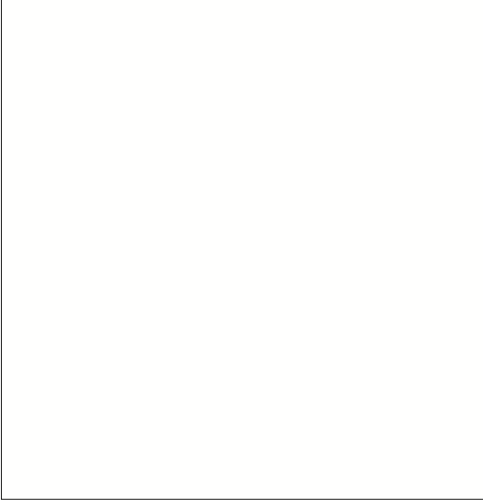
*In Loving Memory of
Bill Kahl by Wife Karen
George, Bud, Murph & Jerry Snider
By Sister & Family*

Sons of Italy




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

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




*In Loving Memory of
Robert & Linda Ball
By Katie Ball*




Compassion, right next door... **Bellaire**
441 37th Street
740.676.1611

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.



HILARY BEARY
F&L Funeral Services
740.633.5475
Hilary@hba.com
www.bauknechtaltmeier.com



Scan this QR Code to schedule an appointment with Hilary to pre-plan.

Shadyside
3900 Central Ave
(740) 676-4310

Powhatan Point
186 Main St.
(740) 795-5451



**Country Club
Rehabilitation Campus
at Bellaire**
A Senior Health Care Community

*Apartments • Assisted Living
Rehabilitation & Therapy
Skilled Nursing*

(740) 676-2300
55801 Conno-Mara Dr. Bellaire, OH 43906
countryclubretirementcampus.com



ST. MARY CENTRAL

St. Mary Central School
24 North 4th Street
Martins Ferry, OH 43935
740-633-5424

Serving Students in
grades preschool to 8th

All Ohio Residents are now eligible for some tuition assistance from the EdChoice Scholarship Program. Call 740-633-5424 for information on how your child can attend our Catholic School at a reduced rate, maybe even for free!

At SMC, we educate the whole student
Spirit, Mind & Body