

# 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.

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD**

**JUNE 1ST, 2025**

**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

5:15 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: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00p.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 - (740) 676-0051 - Fax - (740) 671-9776

Email: [office@bnspcatholic.org](mailto:office@bnspcatholic.org)

**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*



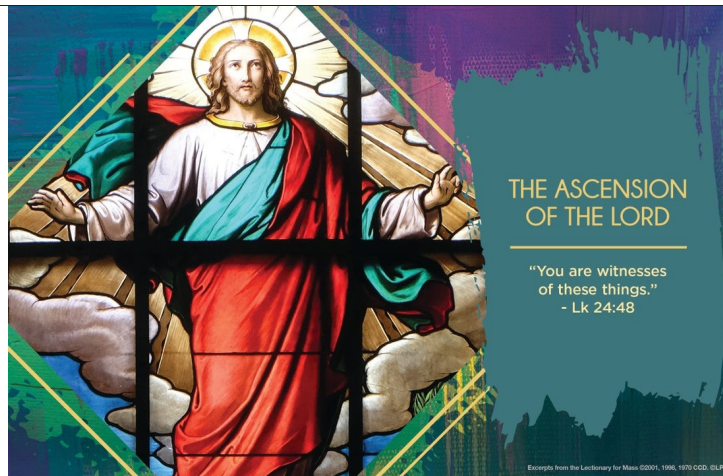
**We use Flocknote to connect with you!**

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)



## PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Savior of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever.

*Collect of the Ascension of the Lord*



## MESSAGE SERIES

The job of St. John's and St. Mary's is to be local outposts of the one, holy, catholic and apostolic church, and we cannot neglect the needs of others. Our primary

WORSHIP focus is the weekend experience, and at the same time we are called to go outside of our church walls to serve those in need. Our Missions strategy (how we fulfill the essential element of SERVICE) is to serve through partnerships—locally, nationally and even internationally! Serving with our mission partners is the work of restoration and we all have a role to play.

**Week Two: Mission Field**

**Scripture: Luke 24:48**

We are all called to be missionaries in our own lives. Each parish is given a geographical area as a mission field. Your home, neighborhood, office, classroom, etc. is your mission field. We have to understand what God has done for us and share that with others. Missions is more than just making a commitment to go on a trip or serve a meal once a month, it's viewing our lives as a mission to spread God's love to everyone we encounter. Pray for opportunities to reach people in your mission field and influence them for Christ this week.

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

**Saturday, May 31st, The Ascension of the Lord**

4:00 p.m. (SM) + Michael "Bo" Olack (Cheryl Boston)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Nick Nicola (Joan L. Rose)

**Sunday, June 1st, The Ascension of the Lord**

9:30a.m. (SJ) + John Benedetta 6 years deceased Lindy, Jack & Family)

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

**Monday, St. Marcellinus & Peter**

5:15pm (SJ) + Paul Paloucci

**Tuesday, St. Charles Lwanga & Companions**

8:00a.m.(SM) + Barbara Warnock (Jerry & Linda Gretchen)

**Wednesday, June 4th**

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Rev. Charles Moren (KofC #1246)

**Thursday, June 5th, St. Boniface**

8:00a.m. (SM) + Dan Busack (Mike Kotson)

**Friday, June 6th, St. Norbert**

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Don Johnson birthday dec. (John & Wanda Vasey)

**Saturday, June 7th, Pentecost Sunday**

4:00p.m. (SM) + Marlene Seita (Family)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's

**Sunday, June 8th, Pentecost Sunday**

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Jim Wenkoski (Close Friend)

11:00a.m.(SM) + Helen Kish birthday dec. (Scott, Linda & Family)



**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, SSG Kayne Melko, HTF Kory Melko, Sgt. Joshua Hall, SSG Aaron Loeffler,

Tech Sgt. Craig DeBeni, Major Trey Vasey, Capt. Tom Dyer, SSG Josh Pempek, Mitchell Rataiczak, MSG Chris Dipold, Sgt. Ryan James, Sgt. Dylan Frizzi, Sgt. Jake Foster, Pvt William Clegg, Petty Officer Alex Rader, SFC Shawn Selmon, SSG Colton Selmon, Seaman Brooke Selmon, 1st Lt. DJ Olexa, SSG Kelsey (Ryncarz) Turner, Senior Airman Cameron Opic, PFC D'eondre Burney, Petty Officer Jared Keiser, Petty Officer Brody P. Halenar, Major Alex Beveridge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook, Petty Officer Meleah (Tiber) Kernik

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS: JUNE 7/8**

**St. John's**

**June 7th** EM:C. Bladen **Lector:** M. Kosky

**June 8th** EM: T. Young **Lector:** A. Busic

**St. Mary's**

**June 7th** EM: T. Mowery **Lector:** L. Gates

**June 8th** EM: L. Kernik **Lector:** M. Kernik



**LOOP FEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Our booth selling Lemon Shakes at Loop Fest, Shadyside, **next weekend** Friday, June 13 & Saturday, June 1, 6:00pm - 10:00pm. Two 2-hour shifts each day. Scan QR Code for link to online sign-up or see sign up sheets at church entrances!

**Offertory Collection**

**For the Weekend of May 25/26**

**St. John's:** Adult (91env) \$3,560, Loose \$517, Ascension (1env) \$20, St. Vincent de Paul (1env) \$Grade School (1env) \$50, Cemetery (9env)\$171, Building Fund (11env) \$355, Candles \$65

**St. Mary's:** Adult (47env), Loose \$195, Ascension (2env) \$30, Cemetery (6env) \$51, Building Fund (4env) \$100, Candles \$122



**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, Jeremy Chirpas, Tyce Hughes, Jax McCort, Dominic Alexander, Lou Ann Kinder, Mgrs. Gene Mullett, Fr. Tom Petronek, Dorothy Kresak, Jeff Fahey, Quentin Scott Coyne, Baby Everett Sommers, Ed and Rose Grammar, Jackie (Donahue) Woods, Joe Boston Jr., Peggy Kotson, Tom Galinski, Susan Vasey, Bob, & Tom, Mary Kay Hanasky, Halen, Jim Garczyk, John Hanasky, Beverly Kolenich, Sharon Leonard, Rosalind Fitch, Jerry & Phyllis, Adam Ruskowski, Jeff Doneson, Joe Budrevich, Cathy Ciulles, Jay Morgan, Kathy Kavmirski, Sandy Bass, Kyrie Vincent, Kim Scott, Gwen Brown, Bobby Roth, Peg Stipetich, Sarah Stipetich, Rhonda Tipton, Rebecca Brown, Mary DeGenova, Anthony De Genova Magan Nichole Sechrest, Megan Kristin Sechrest, Lori Runyan, Monroe DeLuca, Albert DeBlasis, Mary Jo Garner, Camden Thomas, Julie Sharpe, Jill Brinker, Baby Kennedy Rae, Shelli Macurak, Ainsley Oliniski, Mary Taris, Beth Baker Phillips, Linda Ullom, Tom Kucera, Brian B., Joanne Dantrassy, Rita Kovallo, Denise Myers, Todd Link, Charlotte Kovalyk, Susan Gray, Shelley Garczyk, Danielle Watt, Tom Galinski, Sylvia Breedlove, Bonnie Bustamante, Paula St. John, Bubba Peters, Tiffany O' Donnell, Mary Stegman, John, Mary & Heidi Patt, John Vasey, Raisa Rodsky, Jacquie Jochumsen, Mike Kavage, Tom Waligura, Shari Taylor, Fr. Mark Moore

**LOST & FOUND**

We have found several **car key fobs** in recent months! Call office, 740-676-0051



**Shadyside Community Vacation Bible School**

K-6th grade (next year) Tuesday, June 3—6, 9-11:00 a.m., Leona Middle School, Shadyside. Questions? Call Jeri Andes, (740) 676-7908. **We are gathering donations of cookies and juice boxes for the VBS—please bring to church and drop off near the entrances—thank you!**

**Father's Day Novena of Masses**

Grab a card (if you need one) and turn in your envelopes by June 8 so we can pray for our dads, living and deceased!



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

GIANNA DONALDSON

Gianna is a graduate of Shadyside High School. She was a member of the Golf Team and the Track Team and lettered in both. Gianna works at Chick-Fil-A and has been employed there since February of 2024. She plans to move to Columbus this year and would like to study Veterinary Technology in the future. Her favorite thing in the world is her dog, Dexter. Gianna is a member of St. Mary Parish.

SHAE LEXIS MARLING

Shae is a graduate of Wheeling Park High School. She was a 3-year member of the competition Cheer Team, a member of the National Honor Society, the Drug-Free Club, a REAP counselor, a freshman mentor, a volunteer with the Miracle League of the Upper Ohio Valley, a dancer with the Lady Miner’s Dance Team, and a teacher at Take A Bow Dance Center. Shae was part of the 3-year OVAC Champion Cheer Team, 2-year Regional Champion team, and the State Runner-Up Team in 2023. She has been selected to cheer at the OVAC Rudy Mumley All-Star Football Game in July. Shae enjoys spending time with family and friends, shopping, attending concerts, dancing and babysitting and plans on working at the Cloud 9 hair salon while attending college at the Tony & Guy Hairdressing Academy in Pennsylvania, where she will pursue a degree in Cosmetology and her dream of working in the Beauty Industry. She is so thankful for the support that her family and friends have given her throughout her high school years. Shae is a member of St. Mary Parish.

ANTHONY MICHAEL FORGACS

Anthony is a graduate of Shadyside High School. He was a four-year letterman on the Baseball Team, a three-year letterman on the Football Team, served as one of the team captains his senior year, and worked part-time at DeFelice Bros Pizza in Moundsville his senior year. Anthony has been awarded the Ohio Regional Advantage Scholarship and the Ohio Regional Action Award from Ohio University Eastern. During his freshman year he was part of the OVAC Finalist Football Team, a member of the 2023 All Mid-Ohio Valley Second Team, 2024 OVAC First Team, 2024 All-Eastern District Honorable Mention, and was chosen by his coaches as the Tiger’s 2024 Lineman of the Year. Anthony earned college credit for General Chemistry his senior year through the University of Toledo, Principal’s List in his senior year, and will attend the Honor’s Banquet. He was a Student of the Month in November and a member of the 2024 Homecoming Court. He will attend Ohio University Eastern and is undecided on a major but is exploring a degree in Environmental Science and Business Administration and is currently employed at Ohio/WV Excavating for the summer. Anthony is a member of St. Mary’s Parish.



So grateful for the party last weekend, for your generosity, and for your prayers—such blessings for me and my family. Thank you!



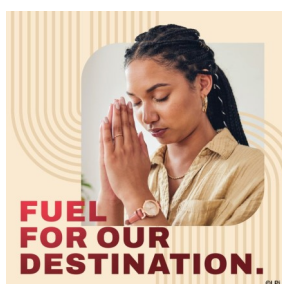
Thank those who donated socks for our veterans. We donated over 200 pairs to the VA clinic. Touching lives!

Catholic Women’s Club NEWS!

Fellowship Night, this Tuesday, June 3rd, Waterfront Hall, Wheeling at 6:00pm. RSVP or to car pool at 740-676-8922 or text (740) 298-4158. CWC Convention, June 4th, Holy Family Church, Steubenville. RSVP ASAP! to Carol at 740-676-8922 or text (740) 298-4158. All women of the parishes are automatically members of the CWC!



- Sunday: The Ascension of the Lord/Pentecost Novena Day 3
- Monday: 7:00pm K of C Mtg / Pentecost Novena Day 4
- Tuesday: Pentecost Novena Day 5/ 9:00am-5:00pm Eucharistic Adoration (SM) / 1:00pm Mass (SCC) / 6:00pm Ladies Night Out (Waterfront Hall)
- Wednesday: Pentecost Novena Day 6 / 6:00pm SM Finance Council (SMRE)
- Thursday: Pentecost Novena Day 7 / 5:30pm Holy Hour of Reparation (SJ) / 7:00pm OCIA (SJH)
- Next Sunday: Pentecost Sunday



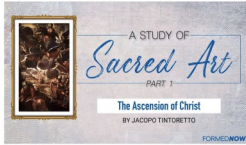
GOSPEL MEDITATION

It was a Delta flight from Salt Lake City to Phoenix, and it looked like an on-time departure. As the large plane rolled away from the gate, the pilot announced over the intercom: “Ladies and Gentlemen, the crew outside didn’t fill up the tanks with fuel. We are going back to the gate to wait for them.” The passengers groaned with impatience. But over the next hour, we knew the waiting had a purpose: it meant fuel to get us to our destination. The disciples at the Lord’s Ascension are in a similar predicament but on a massively higher plane. They want the Kingdom of God to begin on earth as it is in heaven. But Jesus says, “I am sending the promise of my Father upon you; but stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high” (Luke 24:49). They stay together in prayer in Jerusalem and wait nine long days until the Holy Spirit descends. Empowered by supernatural gifts, they go forth to the ends of the earth and to their deaths proclaiming the Good News of Jesus. The wait was worth it. Before you begin a task or endeavor, do you take time to patiently pray for the Holy Spirit to come? The bigger the task, the more ardent the prayer should be. Try it this week, and you’ll be clothed with power to get where God wants you to go. — Father John Muir ©LPi



## This Week on Formed

Week of June 01, 2025



### 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.



### A Bible Study on the Glorious Mysteries: The Ascension

Join Dr. Ben Akers and professors from the Augustine Institute Graduate School as they walk through the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary through the lens of Sacred Scripture.



### Ascension: At the Right Hand of God

Join acclaimed actor Leonardo DiCaprio as he explores the messianic prophecies of the Bible and how they were fulfilled by Jesus. In this episode, learn about the scriptural significance of the Ascension.

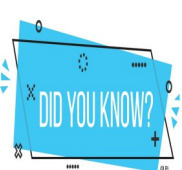
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An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



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### CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

**Question:** What is a conopaeum veil used to cover?

**Answer:** The tabernacle.



### 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!

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

### Pentecost Sunday / June 8, 2025

**First Reading:** Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them. (Acts 2:3)

**Psalm:** Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth. (Ps 104)

**Second Reading:** As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. (1 Cor 12:12)

**Gospel:** Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

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CCC 696, 726, 731-732, 737-741, 830, 1076, 1287, 2623: Pentecost

CCC 599, 597, 674, 715: apostolic witness on Pentecost  
CCC 1152, 1226, 1302, 1556: the mystery of Pentecost continues in the Church

CCC 767, 775, 798, 796, 813, 1097, 1108-1109: the Church, communion in the Spirit

### Readings for the week of June 1, 2025

**Sunday:** Acts 7:55-60/Rv 22:12-14, 16-17, 20/Jn 17:20-26

**Ascension:** Acts 1:1-11/Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9 (6)/Eph 1:17-23 or Heb 9:24-28; 10:19-23/Lk 24:46-53

**Monday:** Acts 19:1-8/Ps 68:2-3ab, 4-5acd, 6-7ab/Jn 16:29-33

**Tuesday:** Acts 20:17-27/Ps 68:10-11, 20-21/Jn 17:1-11a

**Wednesday:** Acts 20:28-38/Ps 68:29-30, 33-35a, 35bc-36ab/Jn 17:11b-19

**Thursday:** Acts 22:30; 23:6-11/Ps 16:1-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11/Jn 17:20-26

**Friday:** Acts 25:13b-21/Ps 103:1-2, 11-12, 19-20ab/Jn 21:15-19

**Saturday:** Morning: Acts 28:16-20, 30-31/Ps 11:4, 5 and 7/Jn 21:20-25

**Next Sunday:** *Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9 or Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b or Ez 37:1-14 or Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Extended Vigil:* Gn 11:1-9/Ex 19:3-8a, 16-20b/Ez 37:1-14/Jl 3:1-5/Ps 104:1-2, 24, 35, 27-28, 29, 30 (see 30)/Rom 8:22-27/Jn 7:37-39 *Day:* Acts 2:1-11/Ps 104:1, 24, 29-30, 31, 34 (see 30)/1 Cor 12:3b-7, 12-13 or Rom 8:8-17/Jn 20:19-23 or Jn 14:15-16, 23b-26

*That the World may Believe that You Sent Me* — John 17:23



(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

That the World May Believe

I love today's Gospel because, in it, Jesus prays for me.

And you.

And the guy sitting next to you at Mass. And the priest, and the altar server, and all the people in all the churches in all the towns in all the world who woke up this morning and headed to Mass because, while it's true that God is everywhere, the Body and Blood of Jesus is only found in one place.

And he prays for the barista who will sell you your coffee later today and see your crucifix and hear you say, "God bless," and think, "That's a weird necklace, and I don't believe in God," but who will one day, at her lowest point, wonder if anyone ever truly loved her, and remember the sight of that broken and bloodied Corpus.

Today, Jesus prays for the person you passed on the way into the parking lot this morning, the one who doesn't go to Mass anymore but who always walks his dog on this street, on this morning, for reasons he can't explain.

He prays for your great-great grandparents and your great-great grandchildren.

*"Those who will believe in me through their word."* That's me. That's you. That's us. We're the ones who believe through the word of the Apostles, who bore witness to the life and death and Resurrection of the God-Man, Jesus Christ, and whose testimony to that life is an eternal flame illuminating the understanding of every human being who will ever say, "I believe."

But if we listen to what Jesus says today, we must understand: it's not just the Apostles' job, and it's not done. It's not a book that is closed. It's a mission that is alive and ongoing, and it's as much ours as it was theirs: *that the world may believe that you sent me.* ©LPi



WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED

Lectio Divina

**Question:** *What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition, whose founder, St. Benedict, we honor on July 11?*

**Answer:** Benedict desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others? ©LPi

PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY

Prayer of Christian Unity

Help us to be one, Lord Jesus, as you prayed to the Father. Gather us all to you, diverse in culture, gift, call, way of life, and perspective.

May the love we have for you overflow into the love we have for each other.

Amen.



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE



"Abortion is more than an issue. Abortion is murder. Abortion, without hinting: whoever performs an abortion kills. You take any embryology textbook of those students that study in medical school. At the third week of conception, at the third, many times before the mother notices, all the organs are already there. All of them. Even the DNA. [...] It's a human life, period. This human life must be respected. This principle is so clear. And to those who can't understand it I would ask two questions: Is it right, is it fair, to kill a human life to solve a problem? Scientifically it is a human life. Second question: Is it right to hire a hitman to solve a problem?" - Pope Francis during a press conference, September 15, 2021



PRAYER  
AFTER  
MEALS

## DEVOTIONS, *EXPLAINED!* – CONNECT WITH TRADITION AND GROW YOUR FAITH

### Prayer After Meals, *Explained*

Just as praying before a meal, praying after a meal is meant to inspire in

Christians an attitude of thanksgiving and an acknowledgment of our dependence on God.

Though it is a less common practice in the modern world, early Church fathers like Tertullian and St. Jerome extolled the importance of praying after a meal, and the Christian poet Prudentius composed hymns for before and after meals (“*ante cibum*” and “*post cibum*”).

There are no “official” prayers for after a meal, but the most common one said by Catholics is this: “We give thee thanks, almighty God, for all your benefits, who lives and reigns forever and ever. And may the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God rest in peace.” It is a benediction which recalls our perpetual fellowship with the entire Body of Christ, including those who have passed from this life. ©LPi

## SUMMER FESTIVALS!

June 13-14 Loop Fest, Shadyside

Date to be determined—St. John Church Festival (New this year!!)

August 15-17 St. Mary Church Festival



## LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

“As Christ ascends to heaven, he asks the Apostles to embrace hope, to again put their trust in his promise. This week, can we be like the Apostles? Can we embrace

the hope of what is promised?

©LPi

## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### Famous Last Words

A fun way to waste an hour or two on the internet is to Google “famous last words.” There are entire websites devoted to chronicling the last utterances of celebrities and historical figures. I think the fascination with parting words stems from the drama of a person’s final moment on earth. We want to ascribe some kind of power and significance to the last words they say, especially if they are our loved ones, because it gives us something to carry with us in our grief.

In Jesus’ case, every word he ever said had power and significance, but especially those he said before ascending into Heaven: “You will be my witnesses ... to the ends of the earth.”

And then he was gone.

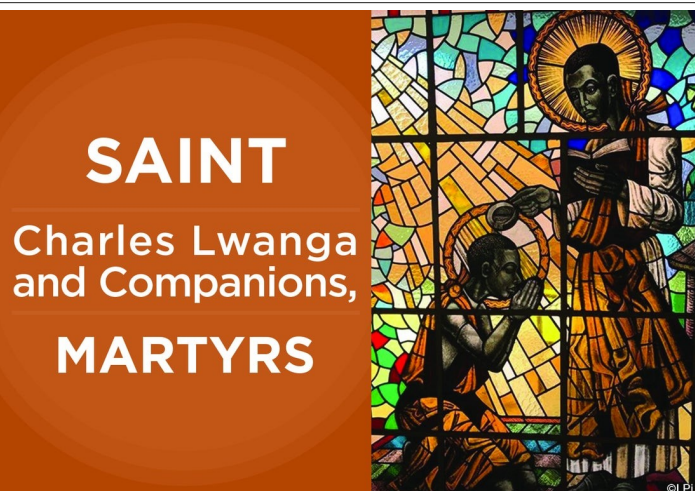
If I were one of the Apostles, I think a small anxiety attack would have commenced at that point. As much as they knew and believed that Christ was still with them, it must have felt awfully lonely standing there staring at an empty sky, with the mother of all homework assignments having just been handed down.

Stewardship is intimidating by nature. The baptismal call is an honor and a gift. But it is also a little scary bearing witness to Christ.

When we doubt ourselves, let’s return to Christ’s last words and cling to the faith he had in his Father’s love for us. He says not “you will be witnesses” but “you are witnesses.” We already have what we need. God is within us, and we take Him wherever we go.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

©LPi



## SAINT

Charles Lwanga  
and Companions,

MARTYRS



## 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](https://bnspcatholic.org)



## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

### He Will Return

I travel a good bit, which means I am away from my wife and children for decent periods of time. But what makes it easier for me, besides being able to share the Good News of Jesus with people all over, is that I know I will not be gone forever. I will return, and then all will be well again. I have been called by God to be away from them at times, but God always brings me back to them.

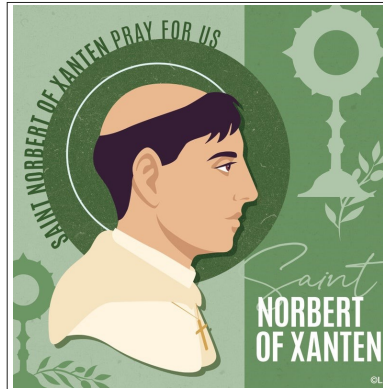
Each liturgical year, we celebrate Jesus' ascension into heaven. The feast speaks much to who Jesus is theologically. But in a very practical way, we also acknowledge that he has gone to be with the Father, but will return someday. Just as I return after a conference or visit with a parish to those God has entrusted to me and I love, Jesus will return to those entrusted to him and whom he loves.

But just like when I am away, there are things to be done. Life goes on for my wife and children with school, work, activities, and the basic responsibilities of family. In good stewardship, they are called to give generously to each other and devote themselves to God. Without them tending to things, upon my return I would find everything in turmoil and disarray. Then when I return, we become one again, and we are about the Lord's work together.

The Lord ascended into heaven, but we are not to sit by quietly awaiting his return. Much needs to be done. He has entrusted much to us, expecting us to be good stewards. If you think that you have all the time in the world to complete the tasks at hand, think again. His return will be when we least expect it. It is time to be about our Father's work.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPi

#### ASCENSION



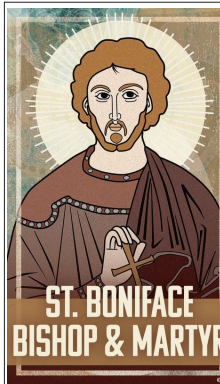
### St. Norbert | June 6

Born to nobility, St. Norbert of Xanten (c. 1075 -1134), was ordained as a subdeacon and served in the court of Henry V, Emperor of Germany, however, at court it was easy to be distracted by wealth, power, and luxury and he lived a worldly and corrupt life there. By the

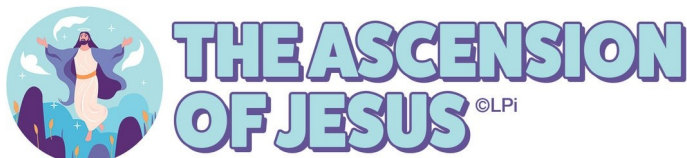
grace of God while traveling in a storm he was nearly struck by lightning and almost killed. This experience changed St. Norbert and he became penitent, left his court post, and after a period of discernment in a monastery, felt called to be a priest.

Norbert became an itinerant preacher, preaching against worldly attitudes but at the Pope's request finally settled in northern France and founded the Norbertine order established according to the rule of St. Augustine. The order grew rapidly and soon founded a women's branch. Norbert traveled and preached across Germany where he also founded a lay branch of the Norbertines. In Belgium he preached against heresies which denied the Blessed Sacrament, this earned him the title "Apostle of the Blessed Sacrament". He and those of his orders had a great love of and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament, with a devout faith in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

Eventually he was made Archbishop of Magdeburg, Germany, and later he traveled to Rome in support of Pope Innocent II, against the antipope. Afterward he returned to Germany to court of Emperor Lothar as advisor, at end of life, in failing health, St. Norbert was carried back to Magdeburg where he died. St. Norbert of Xanten, pray for us! © LPi



St. Boniface, born Wynfrith, was a prominent English missionary, bishop, and martyr, renowned as the "Apostle of the Germans". He played a crucial role in converting Germanic tribes to Christianity and reforming the Frankish Church. His efforts established a strong Christian foundation in Germany and unified the missionary movement under Rome.





## Characteristics of the Jubilee Year

### Indulgences

The Jubilee Indulgence is a concrete manifestation of God's mercy, which goes beyond and transforms the boundaries of human justice. This treasury of grace entered human history in the witness of Jesus and the saints, and by living in communion with them our hope for our own forgiveness is strengthened and becomes a certainty. The Jubilee indulgence allows us to free our hearts from the weight of sin because the reparation due for our sins is given freely and abundantly.

In practical terms, the experience of God's mercy involves some spiritual acts indicated by the Pope. Those who cannot make the Jubilee pilgrimage due to illness or other circumstances are nonetheless invited to take part in the spiritual movement that accompanies the Jubilee year, offering up the sufferings of their daily lives, and participating in the Eucharistic celebration.

**Next Week: "Charity"**

ASCENSION



# GriefShare®

**When:** June 10th & 24th / July 8th & 22nd / August 5th, 19th, & 26th

**Time:** 11:00a.m. to 1:00p.m.

**Where:** St. Mary's Parish Office, 212 West Main Street  
St. Clairsville, OH 43950

**Contact:** Andrea Bigelow, [anbigelow1@gmail.com](mailto:anbigelow1@gmail.com)  
(740) 391-4519



## REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading Question:** Just before his ascension into heaven, Jesus commissioned the disciples to be witnesses to the world of his life, death and resurrection. How do you share your faith with friends or neighbors?

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading Question:** Paul offers a prayer for the believers in Ephesus to be given wisdom, knowledge and an enlightened heart. What are you praying for this week?

**Gospel:** The disciples were overcome with joy and thanksgiving, praising God for the gift of the resurrected and ascended Jesus. What gift from God brings you joy?

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"Who is the patron saint of hungry people?"



"St. Boney-face."



St. Boniface is known as the apostle of the Germans. By the grace of God, he converted many of the pagans in Germany to Christianity. Furthermore, St. Boniface reminded the disobedient clergy of Germany to listen to the instructions of their bishops, and especially the Holy Father in Rome.

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*They said, "Men of Galilee, why are you standing there looking at the sky? This Jesus who has been taken up from you into heaven will return in the same way as you have seen him going into heaven."*

*Acts 1:11*



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