

DISCIPLES CALLED TO WITNESS

St John the Evangelist Parish / St. Mary Parish

Bellaire - Neffs - Shadyside - Powhatan Point

www.bnspcatholic.org

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

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 23RD, 2026

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

**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: office@bnspcatholic.org

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



21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"I will give you the keys
to the kingdom of heaven.
Whatever you bind on
earth shall be bound in
heaven; and whatever you
loose on earth shall be
loosed in heaven."
- Mt 16:19

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

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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 The 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time



QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE

1st Reading Question For disobeying the Lord, Shebna, the master of King Hezekiah's palace, is stripped of his authority and honor, and it is given to Eliakim. *Are there people in your life or family that you honor and revere?*

2nd Reading Question Reflecting on the unimaginable depth of God's wisdom and knowledge, Paul asks, "Who has known the mind of the Lord or who has been his counselor?" What question do you have for the Lord?

Gospel Question Jesus establishes Peter as the rock upon whom he will build his church. *In what ways do you help build your church community?* ©LPi

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR AUGUST 29/30

St. John's

August 29th EM: K. Shallcross **Lector:** T. Bonfini

August 30th EM: M.A. Kiss **Lector:** L.A. Bennett

St. Mary's

August 29th EM: I. Louda **Lector:** P. Beveridge

August 30th EM: L. Kernik **Lector:** S. Ferrelli

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, August 22nd, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Larry Phillips (Scarnecchia Family)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Irene Campsky (Joyce Zaborek)

Sunday, August 23rd, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Pete & Maureen Flowers (Joseph

Hodorowski, John & Marie Gosney)

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

Monday, August 24th, St. Bartholomew

5:15p.m. (SJ) + Robert, Grace & Dana Mass (Joe & Mary De Genova)

Tuesday, August 25th, St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz

8:00a.m. (SM) + Tom Donahue Birthday dec. (Sisters & Brothers)

Wednesday, August 26th

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Anna Marie Davis (Sally (Keys) Blizzard

Thursday, August 27th, St. Monica

8:00a.m. (SM) + Joseph & June Magyar (Terry Magyar)

Friday, August 28th, St. Augustine

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Maureen Lubic (Applegarth Family)

Saturday, August 29th, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Theresa Comer (Bob & Maggie Sall)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Julie Burkhart (Charles Flowers)

Sunday, August 30th, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + John, Rose & Cathy Magistro (Bruce & Mary Ann Young)

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



Lord, bless and protect those serving our country, especially: Lt. Col. Brian Zeno,

Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt.

Christopher Wetzels, Lance Corporal Zachary

Knowlton, SSG Kayne Melko, HTF Kory

Melko, Sgt. Joshua Hall, SSG Aaron Loeffler,

Tech Sgt. Craig DeBeni, Lt. Col. Trey Vasey, Capt. 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 Brody P. Halenar,

Major Alex Beveridge, Lance Cpl. Keenan Cook, Petty

Officer 1st Class Meleah (Tiber) Hernik, Seaman Joshya D.

Nelson, E -4 Specialist Luke G. Bell, SSG John Workman,

Corporal Dane Miscovich, E-4 Specialist Wyatt L. Robertson



Recycle Your Religious Items!

A Religious Recycle Group will be stopping by to collect Religious items that need a new home. **Items they take are anything Catholic**

such as Statues, Rosaries (Broken rosaries

OK), Crucifixes, Holy Medals, Holy Cards, Framed

Pictures, Prayer Books and Bibles as well as used musical instruments.

Items they do not take- Outdoor Concrete Statuary, Religious

Reading Books that would qualify as a Catholic Library

Book, Pamphlets, Greeting Cards, Wax Candles, Angel

Figurines (Saint Angels are fine), Christmas decorations.

Please bring your items into the parish office no later than

Sunday September 13th.

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of August 15/16

St. John's: Adult (86env) \$3,772.67, Loose \$619, Assumption (19env) \$273, Priest Retirement (1env) \$50

St. Mary's: Adult (45env) \$1,340, Loose \$204.55, Assumption (15env) \$184, Grade School (1env) \$5, Building Fund (4env) \$55, Candles \$63



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: Lindy & Don Freed, Jax McCort, Jeremy Chirpas, Tyce Hughes, Dominic Alexander, Lou Ann Kinder, Mgrs. Gene Mullett, Fr. Tom Petronek, Quentin Scott Coyne, Baby Everett Sommers, Joe Boston Jr., Bob, & Tom, Mary Kay Hanasky, John Hanasky, Beverly Kolenich, Sandy Bass, Anthony De Genova, Magan Nichole Sechrest, Monroe DeLuca, Albert DeBlasis, Mary Jo Garner, Camden Thomas, Ainsley Oliniski, Beth Baker Phillips, Tom Kucera, Brian B., Joanne Dantrassy, Rita Kovalov, Susan Gray, Danielle Watt, Paula St. John, Mary Stegman, John, Mary & Heidi Patt, Raisa Rodsky, Tom Waligura, Shari Taylor, Gerald Paolucci, Mark Barker, Ernest Kiss, Rose Reeher, Lou "Weegee" Bennington, Jean Morgan, Bill Shepherd, Peggy Byles, Janet (Rose) Green, Carol Zemba, Donna Richards, Jack Selmon, Jamie Ellis, Tom & Margie Merryman, Beau Boston, Emily LeMasters, Dalisay Donato, Adrienne Forbes, Stacey Gilli, Max Townsend, Julie, Brian, Patricia, Diana McCulley, Janet Green, Darla Schau, Ella Karst, Richard Gates, Liz Gates, Peggy Gress, Kyle Beaver, Eileen Penyak, JoAnn Rankin, Sandina Leonard, Dick Johnson, Connor Hanasky, Brode Brown, Xander Wilson, James (Cracker) Graham, Gary DeVendra, Liz M., David Arnold, Tom Lengyel, Joe Munjas, Fr. Tim Shannon, Bill West, Johnny Rushman, Linda Tylka, Patty Smith, Martha Rollandini, Marty Strussion, Waneta Janosik, Jarrett Burga, Joseph Weyrick, Cathy Cilles, Henry Boston, Bubba Kapral, Jan West, Marlene Workman, Cathy Wright

LABOR DAY CAR SHOW



This Labor Day, Monday September 7th, St John's Church will be hosting our 2nd annual cruise-in-style car show. It will be from 10am -4pm and free to spectators. There is a \$10

entry fee. Thanks to your generosity last year our profit was \$7,500 that we were able to divide between the Salvation Army Emergency Center, St. Vincent de Paul, Bellaire Local Schools Weekend Food Program, the Living Bread Pantry & the Coat Closet at the Bellaire Presbyterian Church!

We are in need of Gift Cards for the Car Show. Please drop them off at the parish office by Wednesday Aug. 30th. Thank You! Any questions please call Dom at 740-579-6867



THANK YOU!! THANK YOU!!

A great big “thank you” to all who volunteered or helped by your time, donations or attendance to make the St. Mary’s Festival a great success. It’s a lot of work but it helps us grow closer together and bring our community together as well. And we always get to see how God provides!!



Parish Picnic

PARISH PICNIC

Our Parish Picnic will be Sunday, September 13, 2026, 12:45pm - 3:00pm at the Powhatan Pt., Park Shelter, 147 Allen Ave, Powhatan Pt, OH 43942. Please RSVP by returning the form in last’s weekend bulletin, scanning the QR Code or going to our website, bnspcatholic.org. The parish will provide hamburgers, hotdogs and drinks, and parishioners are asked to bring a salad, side dish, or dessert.



The *Caring Crafters* are organizing the annual Chinese auction at our picnic. They are asking for donations such as: gift certificates, prepared gift baskets, merchandise, goods or handmade items. Please kindly have all donations dropped off at the church rectory by Sept 11, or call if a pick up is needed. Thank you as always for your time, generosity and support.



St. John the Evangelist and St. Mary Parishes

Faith Formation Program 2026-2027

Classes Pre-K through Adult begin Sunday, September 13, 9:30am-10:45am, St. Mary’s Church Religious Education Building. There will be other times available for adults to attend class together during the week. Please return the registration form, found at the entrances to church, to the parish office by Monday, August 17th. You can place in collection basket, mail it to 3745 Tallman Ave, Bellaire, OH 43906, take a picture of the completed form with your cell phone and text to (740) 298-4158, or Email it to office@bnspcatholic.org.



Questions? Call or text (740) 298-4158. To sign up online you can find the a link on our website, bnspcatholic.org, or scan the QR Code to find the link for online sign-up!

There will be a Zoom mtg to discuss our program this Sunday at 7:00pm!

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



GOSPEL MEDITATION

The first time I stood inside St. Peter’s Basilica in Rome, its majesty overwhelmed me. The sheer beauty of Michelangelo’s dome seemed to lift my soul right out of my body. Later, I joined the Scavi tour that winds below the basilica, down into the ancient pagan cemetery where Peter was buried. There, in the dim

light and narrow passageways, I found myself looking at the bones of a murdered Jewish fisherman, his feet cut off so his crucified body could be taken down more easily.

What a paradox. Above me, the most glorious church ever built. Beneath me, the remains of a backwater fisherman. But this man dared to answer Jesus’ question, “**Who do you say that I am?**” And crowning that immense dome above his tomb are the words from today’s Gospel, “**You are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church.**”

Within you and me is the drama of the lowest and the highest. Every time we confess Christ, humbly, imperfectly, maybe even trembling, we enter that same mystery. The dust of our humanity, touched by the splendor of heaven. God’s presence and our dry bones together. Humility and glory. May our lives embrace both the lowest and the highest, like that great basilica, as we profess Jesus.

— Father John Muir

©LPi



WANT TO BECOME CATHOLIC? ...or learn more about it?



Have you or someone you know been thinking about becoming Catholic, getting baptized or receiving the other sacraments of initiation, or simply learning about more about the Catholic faith? Our

Discover Catholicism & OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) begins this **Thursday, August 27th at 7:00pm** in the St. John’s Church Hall. Everyone is welcome - whether you’re exploring the faith, a baptized Christian considering becoming Catholic, a baptized Catholic who still needs First Communion or Confirmation, or simply want to better understand Catholic teaching. For more information please call or text (740) 298-4158.



REST IN PEACE

Please pray for the repose of the souls of **Linda Tylka** and **Jeff Fahey**. 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.*

BUILDING THE DOMESTIC CHURCH KIOSK

Our Knights of Columbus Council #1246 is helping Catholics to live out the Church’s vision for our families by providing the *Building the Domestic Church* kiosk in the back of our churches. Check out engaging, faith-based literature available for anyone to take—free of charge!!



This Week on Formed

Week of August 23, 2026



The Confessions of St. Augustine | Littlest Saints

A child, a sinner, a saint. Join us as we share the story of St. Augustine, tailored to our children, as he wrestles with God and comes to the faith.



Feast of Saint Monica | Catholic Saints

Throughout her life, St. Monica constantly prayed for the conversion of Augustine, her beloved son. In a moment of desperation, she even asked for the bishop's help. In response, he said, "the son of those tears surely will not perish." Truly, as this bishop remarked, Monica's tearful prayers helped build her son into the Doctor of Grace. In this video, join Dr. Gray and Dr. Sehorn as they discuss this great Saint.



Restless Heart

This film on the life of St. Augustine offers a message of conversion and redemption. It is the story of a gifted man who pursues fame and fortune without a moral compass - and the dramatic changes that occur in his soul when challenging events lead him to see the light of truth.

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

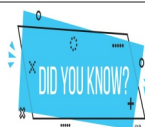
An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE



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4. Follow instructions to set up your Account.
5. The "Join your Parish" screen will appear. - Enter the zip code, "43906" in the Search box, then choose "St. John the Evangelist/St. Mary" and click on "Submit"
6. You will be prompted to set up a password for your account.
7. Enjoy! Download the app!



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What is the name of the very first ecumenical council of the Catholic Church, held in 325 AD?

Answer: The First Council of Nicaea ©LPi



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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time / August 30, 2026

First Reading: I say to myself, I will not mention him, I will speak in his name no more. But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. (Jer 20:9)

Psalm: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (Ps 63)

Second Reading: I urge you, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. (Rom 12:1)

Gospel: "For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Mt 16:25)

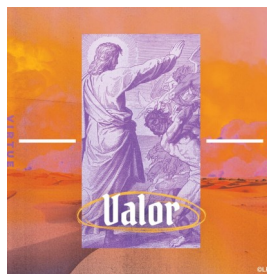
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

CCC 618: Christ calls his disciples to take up the Cross and follow him

CCC 555, 1460, 2100: the Cross as the way to Christ's glory

CCC 2015: way to perfection by way of the Cross

CCC 2427: carrying our cross in daily life



Virtues, Explained!

Valor, Explained!

Though valor itself is not a cardinal or theological virtue, as a Latin-based word that means "strength," we often associate it with the gift of fortitude. Specifically, it conjures an image of fortitude on the battlefield — of fidelity to the good fight, regardless of the coming attack.

When Christ presides at the Last Supper in the Gospel of John, he speaks to his Apostles of the persecutions that will soon be suffered by him and by them. He also speaks of the Advocate (the Holy Spirit) who will "guide you to all truth" — a significant choice, since fortitude is not only a virtue, but a gift of the Holy Spirit.

"Behold, the hour is coming...when each of you will be scattered...and you will leave me alone," Christ tells them. "But I am not alone, because the Father is with me."

In the world, he concludes, there will be pain and suffering. "But take courage, I have conquered the world." (John 16:13-33).
©LPi

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Only Peter Has the Answer

“What do you think of the Pope?”

After the election of Pope Leo XIV in 2025, all my non-Catholic friends texted me this question. The result of the papal conclave was dominating the news cycle, and everyone was curious about this man who would now be so prominent on the world stage, making me temporarily popular with people who apparently need more (and better) Catholics in their lives.

In today’s Gospel, we see Jesus entrust Peter and his heirs with the stewardship of the kingdom here on earth, creating an unbroken line of authority which stretches through the millennia all the way to our current Pope — whoever he is at the time you are reading this.

I don’t know if you like the Pope. The same goes for your local bishop and your pastor. If a friend texted you, “What do you think of him?” I have no idea how you would respond.

All I know is this: it doesn’t really matter. What really matters is what we would say if a friend texted us the same question about Jesus Christ: “What do you think of him, and why?”

In today’s Gospel, Jesus doesn’t ask his disciples to take an IQ test. He doesn’t try to find out which one is the nicest, the hardest worker, the most humble, or even the holiest.

He asks a very simple question: “Who do you say that I am?”

Peter has the answer.

I am not Catholic because I like the Pope. I am not Catholic because the human representatives of the Church have anything to offer me (they often do, but this is beside the point).

I am Catholic because only Peter has the answer. ©LPi

**PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY****Prayer for the Pope**

Dear God,
Be with Our Holy Father in his ministry. Bless, anoint, and protect him in his comings and

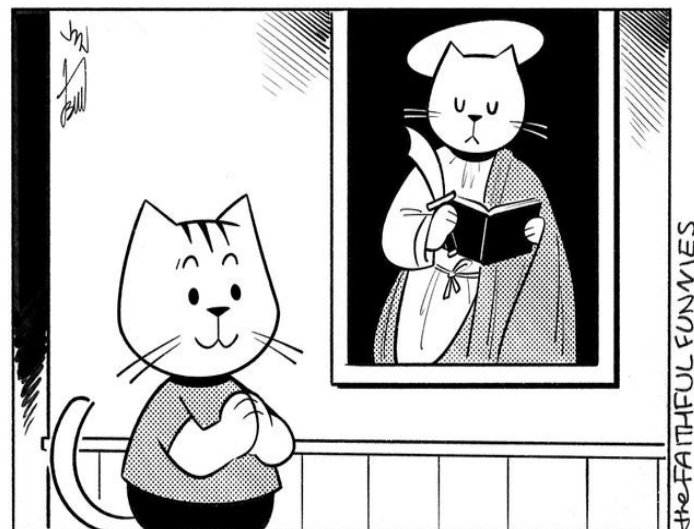
goings. Inspire his words, direct his interactions, guide his prayer. Amen. ©LPi

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED Ten Commandments

Question: *In Sunday school, the students are studying the Ten Commandments. I know that kids are important in the eyes of God, so I'm just wondering why there isn't a commandment about honoring children?*

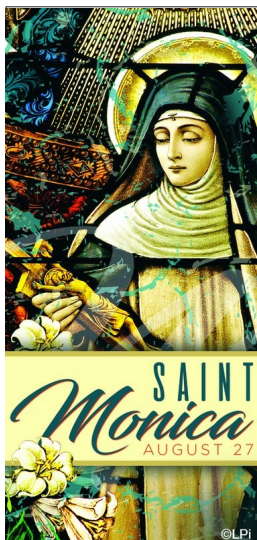
Answer: Commandments provide EOO-Equal Opportunity for Observance! They are meant for everyone, children as well as adults. There are several assumptions that would make such a commandment a bit redundant. One, children are entrusted to the care of their parents. So, respect, love, and care — as well as teaching them — are assumed to be part of the responsibility of parents. They are the first teachers in the ways of faith and, as such, participate in God's work of loving and creating. The child has the obligation and responsibility towards their parents. Only when they are adults will they make decisions on their own.

In Biblical times, and in many societies today, children are responsible for caring for elderly parents, providing for their needs. In our culture today, too often kids have more rights than responsibilities, and oftentimes long before they are able to handle them. If we follow the Commandment of Jesus to love others and treat them as we would want to be treated, everyone is included, children too. ©LPi

“Who is a kitten’s favorite Apostle?”**“St. BartholoMEW.”**

St. Bartholomew was one of Jesus’ closest friends. Tradition holds that he served as a missionary after Jesus rose from the dead, traveling as far as India and Armenia to preach the Gospel!

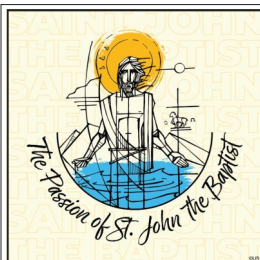
©LPi



St. Monica—Feast Day August 27

Holiness Runs in the Family

Raising faithful children is no easy task. For St. Monica, it seemed nearly impossible. Her husband wasn't Christian and often mocked her faith. Their son, Augustine, fell quickly into wild ways. He and his friends drank, stole, and caroused throughout town. Monica never stopped praying for Augustine, no matter how far he strayed. Augustine became swept up in heresy, a false form of Christianity. He lived with a mistress and had a child out of wedlock. All the while, Monica kept praying. Conversion came slowly to Augustine, but at age 32, he was finally baptized. Augustine would go on to become a priest, then bishop, then world-renowned theologian whose works have stood the test of time. May St. Monica and St. Augustine inspire us to never stop praying for our loved ones. ©LPi



The Passion of St John the Baptist—August 29

This memorial originates in the celebration of the dedication of the church of St. John at Sebaste (Samaria) where, according to tradition, John the Baptist was buried by his disciples.



"We can boast of our humiliations and in taking up daily the holy cross of our Lord Jesus Christ."

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands. (Ps 138)



BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE

Believers can rush physically to the side of those in the community who, like the Blessed Virgin Mary, are uncertain and afraid about their pregnancies. We can accompany them through their pregnancy with support and encouragement, help them to say the "Yes" that leads to life, and experience with them the fact that every birth reflects the joy of the birth of Christ. This is possible when the Church raises awareness of alternatives to abortion, and that there are many people ready to provide those alternatives. - We can rush to the side of those who, like Mary, are uncertain and afraid about their pregnancies – Janet Morana, Executive Director, Priests for Life

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

The Choice of Stewardship

What does it mean to be a good steward? Does it mean to be an active parishioner, or something more? Are we better stewards because we give more in terms of our money and time to our parish, or are we called to do even more than that?

The truth is that stewardship is a way of life. We are not simply called to be active parishioners, but instead be active disciples all the time. In fact, what we learn to do in our parish should serve as preparation for the mission field of the world. What have we really done if we only act like disciples of Jesus Christ while we are assembled with others who claim to be the same?

The choice before us is to give of ourselves in all aspects of our day and life. The call of Jesus will come in our everyday lives with our co-workers, family, and friends more often than it will within our parish community. First, if we can't become good stewards when we are among those who proclaim Jesus as Lord, how will we be able to do so when we are with those who are non-believers? Second, when our muscles of gratitude, generosity, and graciousness are strengthened within our parish community, we are more able to meet the challenges of this world. However, we do not become good stewards by accident. We must always choose to live this way. What will you choose?

– Tracy Earl Welliver

©LPi



EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

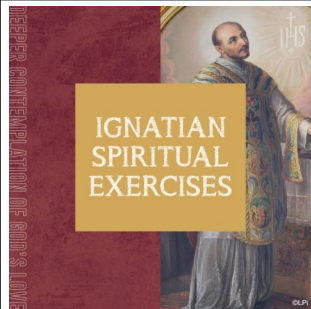
A Friendship with Christ

Sometimes when I ask one of my children about who they were with or about a classmate at school they answer me with, "You don't know them." Apparently, since I do not know him or her personally, I do not need to know the person's name. I may not know this person but I do know that he or she exists in the everyday life of one of my children. If my children don't share with me anything about their friend or classmate, I can only assume he or she has no great impact on my sons' or daughter's daily lives. Of course, sometimes the response I get is simply my teen being a typical teen.

Has Jesus had a significant impact on your life? Do you know Jesus personally? If someone asked you about him what would you say?

My children respond the way they do to me because they are still young and immature. However, some adults are immature as well: immature in faith. We shy away from any discussion of God in our lives and we rarely share our faith. Most days we will not be asked the question, "Who is Jesus?" But we will be in situations where we are being called to share a little bit about ourselves. If Jesus has truly changed our lives and we never seem to want to share something about him with others, they may as well assume that he has had no real impact on us. On the other hand, if we are mature disciples in Jesus Christ, I suspect that others can't help but know about the great friend we have in him.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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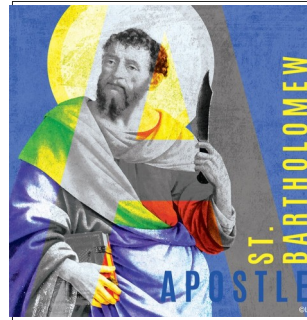
Devotions, Explained!

Ignatian Spiritual Exercises, Explained!

The Ignatian Spiritual Exercises are prayers and meditations developed by St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (commonly referred to as the Jesuits).

St. Ignatius of Loyola (1492-1556) was born to a noble Basque family. In his youth, he spent time at the Royal Court of Castile and fought in the Spanish army. He experienced a profound religious conversion during a long period of convalescence following a battle injury. Living in a cave outside of Manresa, he began to keep the journal that became the basis of the famous Spiritual Exercises.

The Spiritual Exercises are meant to accompany souls on a journey toward deeper contemplation of God's love and a more meaningful understanding of his call to discipleship in the life of each person. Divided into four stages, or "weeks," the exercises focus on the interior movements of the heart to unveil the will of God. ©LPi



St. Bartholomew

Saint Bartholomew the Apostle is primarily remembered for his martyrdom, one of the most brutal and terrifying among those suffered by the saintly martyrs and recorded in hagiography. He was captured by pagan priests while traveling to spread the Word of

Christ in distant lands and was flayed alive by them. This particularly gruesome form of martyrdom inspired great artists of the past, as we shall see. But before his death, Bartholomew was a devoted and passionate follower of Jesus. He is celebrated on August 24 and is also the patron saint of Benevento, a city that houses his relics. Those suffering from skin diseases and dermatologists can also pray to Saint Bartholomew the Apostle.

Saint Bartholomew the Apostle was probably a fisherman, like most of the other apostles, and was very close friends with the Apostle Philip. It was Philip who suggested he meet Jesus and, after initial skepticism, Bartholomew embraced faith in Him with great enthusiasm and conviction. In the Synoptic Gospels, he is presented as one of Jesus' closest disciples (Mark 3:18; Matthew 10:3; Luke 6:14), and in the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:13), he appears with the other disciples witnessing Christ's appearance after the resurrection while fishing on the Sea of Tiberias.

In the writings of Saint John (John 1:43-51; 21:2), we encounter him as Nathanael, native of Cana, meaning "gift of God." The name Bartholomew, instead, would be a patronymic from Bar-Talmai, "son of Talmai the valiant." The first meeting with Jesus is recounted by Saint John. Jesus addresses him with these words: "Here is a true Israelite, in whom there is no deceit." Bartholomew, astonished, asks how Jesus knows him, and Jesus reveals: "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree." We do not know what Jesus was referring to, what happened under the fig tree, but from that moment Bartholomew recognized Him as the Son of God and King of Israel. A few days later, Bartholomew participated with Jesus and the other disciples at the wedding feast in Cana, witnessing the first miracle of Jesus.

After Pentecost, Saint Bartholomew the Apostle set out to preach the Good News. He likely traveled to Lycaonia, a region in Cappadocia, and then ventured into the Middle East and India. He was martyred in Armenia, in Albanopolis. Here the saint had exorcised some possessed individuals, healed the sick, and restored sight to the blind, asking in return for the destruction of idols and conversion to Christ. He managed to convert King Polymius and his wife, provoking the wrath of Astyages, the king's brother, and the pagan priests. They captured him and flayed him alive. Only his eyes and tongue remained unscathed, and with them, the Apostle continued to proclaim faith in Jesus until he was beheaded by order of Astyages.

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

Readings for the week of August 23, 2026

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2a, 2b-3, 6 and 8/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21/Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2/Mt 16:21-27

THIS WEEK

Sunday: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:00p.m. Faith Formation ZOOM Mgt.

Tuesday: 9: 00a.m.– 5:00p.m. Eucharistic Adoration

Thursday: 7:00p.m. Discover Catholicism & OCIA (SJH)

Saturday: 8:15p.m. Men's Study Group (SM)

Next Sunday: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



LIVE THE LITURGY - INSPIRATION FOR THE WEEK

"Who do you say that I am?" Jesus asks his apostles. Peter is the first to answer. He knows who Jesus is. Do we? In everything we do and everything we are, let us say together with Peter: "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." ©LPi

*In Loving Memory of The
Westlake, Gress & Novy Families
By Terry & Linda*

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In Loving Memory of the Deceased &
In Honor of the Living
SJL Class of 1976 Members.
In Remembrance of the Deceased & In
Honor of the Living Teachers we
had Growing Up!
The SJL Class of 1976*



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The Sharpe & Cerasoli Families
By Anita & Jeannine*

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

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

*In Loving Memory of the
Kuchinka, Teasdale & Stolz Families
by Marion & Jeff*

*In Loving Memory Of
The Boston & Donahue Families
By Cheryl Boston*

*In Loving Memory of
Joseph, Patricia & Erin
Padyjasek ~ Peter &
Frances (Pronishun)
Stemkowski ~ Andrew & Helen
(Ashmanas) Padyjasek.
Love Son~Brother~Grandson
~Peter*



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