

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.

THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 4TH, 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



PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour our your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



MESSAGE SERIES

What if Mass is more than simply going to church on Sunday? This four-week series invites you to discover the

Catholic Mass as our spiritual worship, where we encounter Christ, hear God's Word, unite our lives with Christ's sacrifice, receive His life, and are sent to live our faith in the We'll discover that the Mass isn't something we simply watch or attend. It is something we enter—and something that changes the way we live.

Week One — Why Worship?

Scripture: Matthew 21:33-43

Why would God want my worship? Everyone puts something at the center of life—success, money, relationships, comfort, control, or God. Worship is ultimately about recognizing who or what is worthy of the center of our lives. The vineyard in Isaiah and Jesus' parable reminds us that God has planted, cultivated, and entrusted something to us. Our lives, abilities, relationships, time, and opportunities are gifts from God. Worship begins with gratitude. At Mass, we don't come merely as spectators. Christ offers Himself to the Father, and we are invited to unite ourselves with His offering. What do you to bring to God today?

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 3rd, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Dale Louda Sr. (Wife ~ Irene)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + John Benedetta Birthday deceased (Lindy, Jack & Family)

Sunday, October 4th, 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Bernice, Bruno, Louie & Mike Maffe (Tom, Shelia, Casey, Megan, Gracyn & Berkeley)

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

Monday, October 5th, St. Faustina Kowalska/Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

12:05p.m.(SJ) + Joseph & Patricia Padyjasek 69th Wedding Anniversary deceased (Pete & John)

Tuesday, October 6th, St. Bruno/Blessed Marie Rose Durocher

8:00a.m. (SM) + Helen Hores Birthday deceased (Family)

Wednesday, October 7th, Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Gene Benedetta 18yrs deceased (Family)

Thursday, October 8th,

8:00a.m. (SM) + Ed & Louise Pytlak Wedding Anniversary deceased (Scott & Linda)

Friday, October 9th, St. Denis/St. John Leonardi

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Jane Vasey (John & Wanda Vasey)

Saturday, October 10th, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Jeff Fahey (Fran Sobray)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Charles Melko (Dan & Kim Angalich)

Sunday, October 11th, 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Joseph Tylka (Linda, Penny Lynn & Jo Lynn)

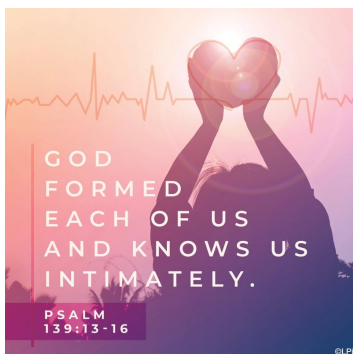
11:00a.m.(SM) For the People of St. John's & St. Mary's



Lord, bless and protect those serving our country, especially:

Lt. Col. Brian Zeno, Airmen 1st Class Curtis McElfresh, Sgt. Christopher Wetzel, 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



Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of September 26/27

St. John's: Adult (91env) \$3733, Loose \$327, Immaculate Heart Fund (2env) \$69, World Missions (1env) \$5, St. Vincent de Paul (2env) \$65, Grade School (1env) \$5, Building Fund (2env) \$110

St. Mary's: Adult (49env) \$1,510, Loose \$212, World Missions (1env) \$20, Imm. Heart Fund (8env) \$115, St. Vincent de Paul (1env) \$10, Grade School (1env) \$20, Building Fund (9env) \$220, Food Pantry (1env) \$20, Candles \$62



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 Kovallo, Susan Gray, Danielle Watt, 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, 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, Bill West, Johnny Rushman, Patty Smith, Martha Rollandini, Marty Strussion, Waneta Janosik, Jarrett Burga, Joseph Weyrick, Cathy Cilles, Henry Boston, Bubba Kapral, Jan West, Marlene Workman, Cathy Wright, Brady Boyd, Shirley Tollett, The Lloyd Family, Bev's Family, Jodi (Narcisi) Adams, Charles Lytton



STAND WITH US FOR LIFE!

Annual Life Chain

This Sunday, October 4, 2026

2:00—3:30pm

2:00pm -2:30pm: Announcements, Prayer and sign pickup.

2:30pm-3:30pm: Silent, prayerful standing along the sidewalks along the fountain square area.

Bridgeport Fountain

(Intersection of Rt. 40 & Rt. 7)

Rain or Shine—We have Signs for you

Peaceful, Public Witness for Life

No Cost, Non -Political and Non-Denominational

Bring a lawn chair if you are not able to stand!

Mary, Mother of Life

Read the full version at
respectlife.org/mary-mother-of-life.

When the angel Gabriel appeared to Mary to tell her that she would conceive and bear a son, Mary responded with her fiat, “May it be done to me according to your word” (Lk 1:38). In becoming the mother of Jesus, Mary becomes the *mother of life*. Mary’s acceptance in this unforeseen moment demonstrates how each of us must welcome the gift of new human life, even when that gift is unexpected or calls us to make sacrifices.

Mary’s role as the Mother of Life extends from the Annunciation all the way to the Crucifixion. The life of the Blessed Mother teaches us to respect each human life in every stage and circumstance. Mary is our model for upholding the sanctity of all human life.

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Mary teaches us to welcome the gift of human life.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR OCTOBER 10/11

St. John’s
October 10th EM: M.A. Kiss Lector: T. Bonfini
October 11th EM: J. Coup Lector: K. Kelly
St. Mary’s
October 10th EM: Volunteer Lector: E. Kalinowski
October 11th EM: L. Kernik Lector: M. Kernik

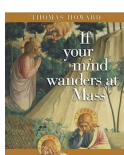
Lectors please remember to recite the rosary before mass in October.



ST. MARY CENTRAL TIGER TROT FUNDRAISER

 St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry, 13th Annual Tiger Trot walk-a-thon, Friday, October 9, 2026 in the school parking lot/ playground. Sponsor sheets are with this bulletin. Please consider being a sponsor. Any size donation is greatly appreciated. Donations will be accepted even after the event. If you have a student or family that you would like to receive the credit for your donation, please include their name. They can be dropped in the collection basket at Mass or mailed to St. Mary Central School, 24 N 4th St., Martins Ferry, OH 43935. Thank you!

This book will help you get more out of the Mass!



Distractions, fatigue, boredom at Sunday worship—maybe we experience these because we don’t fully appreciate what’s going on at Mass. Copies are available to purchase in the back of our churches next weekend for a donation of \$12.



GOSPEL MEDITATION

Have you ever felt like your attempts at prayer are a waste of time? I have. Early in my priesthood, I noticed that my prayer life was weakening. Awe and eager expectancy of contact with God had given way to routine. I gradually spent less and less time praying. Nothing dramatic had happened, but my attitude toward God had changed, and I was losing the desire to pray.

Jesus’ parable of the insane vineyard tenants speaks into this kind of experience. He says the landowner “**leased it to tenants and went on a journey**” (Matthew 21:33). The key to this message is that the vineyard does not belong to those who work it — they are entrusted with it. But little by little, they view it as their possession, and ungrateful entitlement follows. The servants sent by the owner are treated as intrusions. Even the owner’s son becomes a means to their delusional self-will. The central tragedy is not violence but the forgetfulness that spawns it. They need reminding how lucky they are to be given so much.

Eventually, God sent friends to remind me that my relationship with Him and my prayer time are not my possessions, but rather God’s tremendous gifts to me. Perhaps you are feeling discouraged for some reason or other these days in your walk with God. Ponder this parable and let it be a gentle reminder that you and I are fortunate stewards, and God is the generous giver. This allows us to rediscover the beauty of the vineyards in our lives and to remain energetic in cultivating his gifts.

— Father John Muir

©LPi

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN

The Knights of Columbus are once again teaming up with PREVAIL having their Annual Baby Bottle Campaign at our parishes. Your spare change can benefit the PREVAIL Pregnancy Resource Center in Bethesda, Ohio. Simply pick up a bottle and fill it with your change and donations for one month. In four weeks bring back your bottle full. It is a fun and easy way for the whole family to get involved and make a difference in the life of a mother and child! Please spiritually adopt a child and mother and pray for them each day. Please take a flyer from the PREVAIL Center home with your baby bottle!





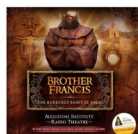
This Week on Formed

Week of October 04, 2026



Faustina and the Spread of Divine Mercy

This episode of Divine Mercy and the Second Greatest Story Ever Told, reveals how a saint from Poland embarked on one of the greatest missions in the history of the Church, becoming a catalyst for the message of Divine Mercy.



Brother Francis: The Barefoot Saint of Assisi

In this 10-part audio drama, listeners can dive into the life of St. Francis of Assisi as he goes from being a son of wealth and privilege to a man who gave up everything for the sake of Christ.



Into Great Silence

Nestled deep in the postcard-perfect French Alps, the Grande Chartreuse is considered one of the world's most ascetic monasteries. In 1984, German filmmaker Philip Gröning wrote to the Carthusian order for permission to make a documentary about them. They said they would get back to him. Sixteen years later, they were ready.

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

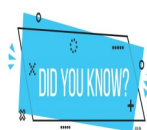
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4. Follow instructions to set up your Account.
5. The "Join your Parish" screen will appear. - Enter the zip code, "43906" in the Search box, then choose "St. John the Evangelist/St. Mary" and click on "Submit"
6. You will be prompted to set up a password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



CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: What words does a Eucharistic minister say before giving the Eucharist to a communicant?

Answer: The Body of Christ/The Blood of Christ ©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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time / October 11, 2026

First Reading: The Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from every face. (Is 25:8)

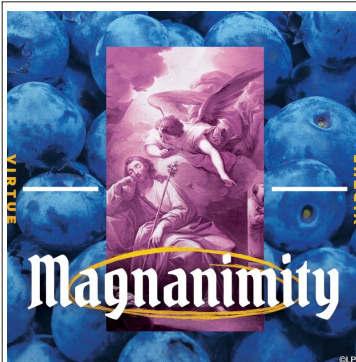
Psalm: I shall live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life. (Ps 23)

Second Reading: I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need. I can do all things in him who strengthens me. (Phil 4:12-13)

Gospel: "Go out, therefore, into the main roads and invite to the feast whomever you find." (Mt 22:9)

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 543-546: Jesus invites sinners, but demands conversion
CCC 1402-1405, 2837: the Eucharist is the foretaste of the Messianic Banquet



Virtues, Explained!

Magnanimity, Explained!

Magnanimity, writes St. Thomas Aquinas, describes "the stretching forth of the mind to great things." (Sum. II-II, 129, Art. 1) This virtue protects souls from the temptation to do honorable things for intentions that fall short of honorability.

Magnanimity shares much with the virtue of humility, but unlike humility, it specifically seeks what is great — but never the distinction of being called great. A magnanimous person's focus is solely on accomplishing as much good as possible, as effectively as possible.

When Joseph learned that Mary, his betrothed, was with child through the Holy Spirit, he had a chance to distinguish himself as a virtuous man. In calling for Mary's punishment, he could have condemned immorality loudly and publicly, while distancing himself from what appeared to be sin.

Instead, he did the opposite. He did what he knew to be right. He exhibited magnanimity, and the world was never the same.

©LPi

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Hoarding the Harvest

I've always thought the Parable of the Tenants could be a storyline on one of those "world's dumbest criminals" shows.

Serial murder seems like an absolutely insane course of action simply to hoard the profits of a harvest you don't legally own. In what world did the tenants think they would get away with that? Furthermore, they must have had a contract with their landowner ensuring payment for their labor. Why, all of a sudden, is this payment not enough?

It's easy to dismiss the tenants as paranoid. Selfish. Greedy.

But then I think of my soul — my own little vineyard. Who owns it? Who bought it at great cost?

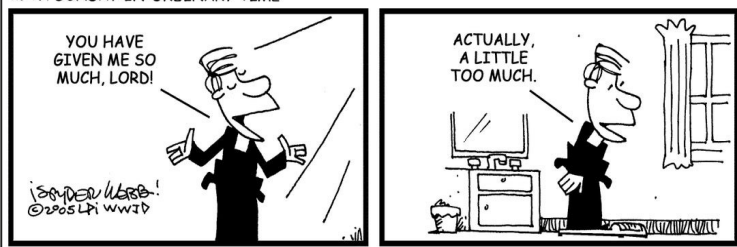
You see, the Parable of the Tenants isn't a story about greed. It's a story about trust. The tenants don't trust the landowner to give them their payment, to honor his promises. They're scared. They're resentful. They're angry.

And I get it.

Around my vineyard, there is a hedge, a protective barrier of grace shielding the fruit within from the toxic fumes of a fallen world. There is a wine press, so that the harvest of my vineyard can fulfill its ultimate purpose instead of withering, forgotten, on the branch. And there is a tower, tall and sturdy, built by capable hands. From its summit, I can see predators — animals, thieves — a long time before they reach me.

But I can see something else from the tower, too. I can see the landowner's Son, making his way to the gates of my vineyard. He is coming to claim the harvest. He is coming to give me what is promised. Do I trust him? Do I let him in? ©LPi

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY****Blessing for Life**

What wonder You have gifted us, Lord, in the blessing of life! May Your name be praised with every movement, every heartbeat, every breath. Protect life in

every stage, race, age, ability, creed, and capacity. Pour Your mercy upon us this day, helping us to live deeply and love well. Amen. ©LPi

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED The Sign of Peace

Question: *Why do Catholics give the sign of peace to one another at Mass?*

Answer: The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord's Prayer. Inspired by the Jesus' words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: "Our Father who art in heaven..." In this prayer, we call for the coming of God's kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — "Give us, this day, our daily bread" — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ's peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus' teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you're at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ's peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, "Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life." ©LPi

**QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK - REFLECT AND RESPOND TO SCRIPTURE****1st Reading Question:**

Isaiah speaks of God's frustration over the people of

Judah (the Lord's "cherished plant") who have not yielded a good crop. How do you encourage family or friends to live up to their potential?

2nd Reading Question: Paul teaches the Philippians that prayer and positive thoughts are key to avoiding anxiety and experiencing the peace of God. What are some positive thoughts you focus on when you are stressed or anxious?

Gospel Question: Jesus harshly criticizes the chief priests and Pharisees in the Parable of the Tenants. How do you deliver legitimate criticism to someone you care about? ©LPi

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**Gifts Given to Share**

My oldest two children took piano lessons when they were younger. In fact, it was because my oldest wanted to learn to play so badly that we purchased a piano. He would use it for practice during his few years of lessons, and then my daughter took up the instrument. After a few years of lessons for each, restlessness set in and a type of indifference took over. The lessons and the practicing came to an end.

My youngest had not expressed much interest in piano when he was younger. Then when he was a teenager, he asked for lessons. He began to play and now he plays even for fun and to relax. When his siblings try to play, they are stuck with the truth that those days are gone and since they gave it up years ago, they can no longer really play. In many ways, they were given a gift, but since they did not use and cultivate it, they lost it.

God gives us gifts every day and we too often act like those gifts will simply always be there. The truth is, unlike God Himself, many of those gifts are not eternal. If we fail to acknowledge them and put them to use, we risk losing them in the end. What a shame. What gifts might be slowly slipping away from each of us due to our lack of interest and indifference? They might not be there if and when we change our minds. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**Devotions, Explained!****Good is Good, All the Time: Explained!**

Perhaps you have been a member of a congregation to whom the pastor says, expectantly, “God is good!” The congregation responds, faithfully, “All the time.” In turn, the speaker repeats: “All the time.” And the congregation affirms: “God is good!”

A collective affirmation of God’s faithfulness amidst the trials of life, this refrain communicates a theme presented again and again in Scripture: Come what may, God will be with us.

There is no official consensus on the origins of this saying, though it is often associated with African Christianity. Whatever this saying’s roots, its message is truth: “For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endures to all generations,” says Psalm 100:5. “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good! For His mercy endures forever,” echoes 1 Chronicles 16:34. Jesus confirms this in Matthew 28:20: “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” ©LPi

**BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE****Mercy Triumphs**

The Church opposes abortion, but embraces with mercy those who have made this mistake.

Let’s all take encouragement from these words of Pope John Paul II: *“I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you his forgiveness and his peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. To the same Father and to his mercy you can with sure hope entrust your child.”* (The Gospel of Life, #99).

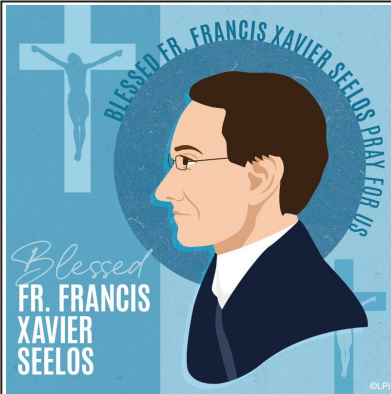
**St. Bruno of Cologne**

St. Bruno, born in 1030, is also known as St. Bruno the Carthusian for the monastic order he founded. He studied in Reims and was ordained in Cologne in 1055. In 1057, he returned to

Reims to lead the school, a post he held for almost 20 years. He was made chancellor of the church of Reims in 1075 but left soon after in protest at the behavior of the new bishop, Manasses de Gournai, who was finally deposed in 1080. St. Bruno refused the nomination to replace de Gournai, as he intended to retire to live in solitude and prayer. He had a vision in a dream to go with Bishop (later Saint) Hugh of Grenoble. St. Bruno, Hugh, and five other religious settled at Chartreuse and founded the Carthusian order in 1084.

This first period of monastic life was not to last long. St. Bruno was called to help Urban II, a former student of his, against the antipope Guibert of Ravenna and the hostile Holy Roman Emperor Henry IV. While working with Urban II, he rejected another offer to become bishop, this time of Calabria. Eventually, St. Bruno was allowed to return to monastic life. Count Roger of Sicily and Calabria befriended St. Bruno and the monks of his order, granting them the land where they founded St. Mary’s at La Torre. The order was known for its strict asceticism, poverty, and prayer, and its unique organization combining the life of the hermit with that of the collective life of traditional monks.

St. Bruno wrote several commentaries on the psalms and on St. Paul’s epistles. He died on October 6, 1101, and was never formally canonized because his order renounces all public honors. However, in 1514, Pope Leo X granted permission for Carthusians to celebrate his feast, and his name was added to the Roman calendar in 1623. ©LPi

**Bl. Francis Xavier Seelos**

Father Francis Xavier Seelos was born on January 11, 1819, in Füssen, Bavaria, which is now part of modern-day Germany. He was the sixth of 12 children, and his parents instilled in him a deep faith and a desire to serve the Lord.

As a young man, Francis Xavier Seelos studied at the University of Munich and later at the University of St. Stephen in Austria. He joined the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer, also known as the Redemptorists, in 1842, and was ordained to the priesthood two years later. He began his ministry in Bavaria, where he served as a pastor and missionary.

In 1849, Father Seelos volunteered to go to the United States, where the Redemptorists had established a mission, to work among German-speaking immigrants. He arrived in New York City and was immediately struck by the poverty and hardship that he saw in the city's slums. He decided to dedicate his life to the service of the poor and spent several years ministering in the Redemptorists communities in New York, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and elsewhere around the United States.

Father Seelos soon became known for gentle and compassionate nature, his deep spirituality, and his tireless dedication to those in need. He often went out of his way to offer help and would visit hospitals and prisons, spending time with the sick and dying. He was also known for his powerful preaching, and many people were drawn to him due to his charismatic speaking abilities.

One of Father Seelos' most important contributions to the Church was his work among the black communities wherever he was serving. At a time when racial prejudice was rampant in America, he made a special effort to minister to the spiritual needs of his black neighbors, often putting himself at risk to do so. He was known for his compassion and his willingness to speak out against racism and discrimination.

On October 5, 1867, Father Seelos contracted yellow fever while ministering to the sick in New Orleans. He died just a few days later, on October 7, at the age of 48. His death was mourned by people of all faiths and races across the USA. Father Seelos' life was marked by a deep spirituality and a strong devotion to the Eucharist and the Blessed Virgin Mary. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II on April 9, 2000, and is considered Blessed. © LPi

OUR LADY

of the Rosary

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**All Are Welcome**

You know how the story goes. Your son or daughter swears that while you were gone he or she only invited two friends over to watch a movie and eat popcorn. How those other twenty-five people got there with beer is still a mystery. They were not invited but your young host felt pretty uncomfortable just kicking them out. You did teach them about good hospitality after all.

That sure is a twisted view of hospitality, perhaps, but it does make me reflect on those I am willing to welcome into my home and those I am not. Who is my neighbor? Would I extend hospitality to the person that is alone? I have done so for holidays. But I have known them well. Would I invite someone into my home that I did not know? It could be unsafe. But what if I found myself alone somewhere without any connections. Where would I turn? Who could I trust?

There are no simple answers here but I wonder if we should really have the luxury of not asking the question. If the Christian will not invite in the lost and forsaken, who will? In the coming days, I suggest we all reflect on those in our midst who seem to be alone. Who can we invite into our lives who need something much more important than a party? Who is out there who simply need friends? They may not need a physical shelter but they do need the warmth of Christian hospitality and the kindness of others.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Life's better when you stop to smell the roses.



St. Thérèse of Lisieux was a young French woman whose gentle spirituality taught that each of us is like a flower in God's garden.

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

Readings for the week of October 4, 2026

Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9 and 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43
Monday: Gal 1:6-12/Ps 111:1b-2, 7-8, 9 and 10c/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Gal 1:13-24/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 14c-15/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14/Ps 117:1bc, 2/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Gal 3:1-5/Lk 1:69-70, 71-72, 73-75/Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Gal 3:7-14/Ps 111:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Gal 3:22-29/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Lk 11:27-28
Next Sunday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10

THIS WEEK

Sunday: 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Respect Life Sunday / Feast of St. Francis
 9:30a.m.—10:45a.m. Parish School of Religion (SMRE)
 2:00pm-3:30pm Life Chain (Bridgeport Fountain)
 4:30pm Blessing of Pets—Tallman Ave, outside of St John's Church
Monday: 7:00p.m. K of C Meeting
Tuesday: 9:00a.m.—5:00p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (SM)
Wednesday: 5:30pm Caring Crafters (SJH)
Thursday: 7:00pm OCIA (SJH)
Next Sunday: 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time
 9:30am-10:45am Parish School of Religion (SMRE)
 6:00pm-7:15pm Youth Group (SMRE)

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

In Loving Memory Of
 The Sharpe & Cerasoli Families
By Anita & Jeannine

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

Fall Blessings for the
 The Boston & Donahue Families
By Cheryl Boston 

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



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

In Loving Memory of My
 Dad, Mom, & Brother
By Tonya (St. John) Grimm 

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

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

OCTOBER
MONTH OF THE
ROSARY





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



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