

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 26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 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



26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."
- Mt 21:32

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

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK

O God, who manifest your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. 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 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

LIFE. LOVE. PURPOSE.

What Jesus has to say about the things that matter most.

MESSAGE SERIES

Welcome to our four-week message series, **Life.Love.Purpose**, where we will explore

what Jesus has to say about the things that matter most. Four weeks. Four questions. One invitation: Come and see what Jesus has to say about your life.

Week Four: THE RESPONSE: What Are You Going to Do About It?

Scripture: Matthew 21:28-32

The question: What difference does Jesus actually make in my life?

Jesus tells the story of two sons. One says "no" but eventually goes. The other says "yes" but never goes. Jesus forces us to confront something uncomfortable: It's possible to say all the right things and still not follow God. The good news is that it's okay to start with "no." Jesus can work with honest doubt. He can work with questions. He can work with someone who has walked away. But don't stop there. The first son changes his mind. Eventually, faith requires a response. At some point we have to decide what we're going to do with Jesus. Jesus isn't looking for people who say all the right things. He's looking for people who will follow him. **This week's invitation:** Take a step on your journey of discipleship. Review our booklet and return the response card to try a small group for six weeks.

Fr. Dan's Intentions for the Week

Saturday, September 26th, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. (SM) + Patricia Padyjasek 90th birthday deceased (Pete & John)

5:30p.m. (SJ) + Bernice, Bruno, Mike & Louie Maffe (Tom, Shelia, Casey, Megan, Gracyn & Berkeley)

Sunday, September 27th, 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m. (SJ) + Brian Lyden Sr. (Wife & Family)

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

Monday, September 28th, St. Wencelaus/St. Lawrence

5:15p.m.(SJ) + Mabel Zeno (Sharon Demkowicz)

Tuesday, September 29th, St. Michael, St. Gabriel & St. Raphael

8:00a.m. (SM) + Kitty Lou Magyar (Terry Magyar)

5:15pm (SJ) + Deceased members of St. Michael Parish

Wednesday, September 30th, St. Jerome

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Shirley Meintel (Louis & Sandy Wojcick)

Thursday, October 1st, St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus

8:00a.m. (SM) + Paul Paolucci (Mom, Dad & Sister)

Friday, October 2nd The Holy Guardian Angels

8:00a.m. (SJ) + Jeannie Busack (Jay & Marie Sommer)

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 (Linda, Jack & Family)

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

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

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 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



CAR SHOW THANK YOU!

Thank you to all for making our Labor Day car show such a fantastic event. Special thanks to everyone who donated gift cards, ran the different stations, and provided sponsorships. To all who entered a car or came out to show support—Thank you for bringing our community together. It was a huge

success! See you next year!

Offertory Collection

For the Weekend of September 19/20

St. John's: Adult (90env) \$3,421, Loose \$347, Assumption (1env) \$10, Immaculate Heart Fund (1env) \$5, Religious Retirement (1env) \$100, St. Vincent de Paul (3env) \$58, Building Fund (5env) \$105, Candles \$6

St. Mary's: Adult (36env) \$1,010, Loose \$240, Immaculate Heart Fund (1env) \$5, Grade School (1env) \$15, Building Fund (4env) \$115, Candles \$27



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



STAND WITH US FOR LIFE!

Annual Life Chain

Next 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!

**MESSAGE SERIES**

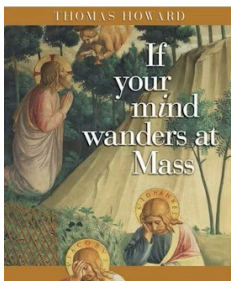
I'll be doing regular message series on the 7 essential elements of parish life. This month we have been focusing on the element of Word, our journey of Catholic discipleship, following Jesus and allowing his word to grow in our hearts and change us. Next week we'll be starting a new series on Worship. I'm excited to spend four weeks talking about the Mass. It's the central experience of our Catholic lives but we know so little about it! I encourage you to get a copy of Thomas Howard's book, *If your mind wanders at Mass*, it's a beautiful and inspiring look at what goes on at every mass and I'm sure it will change your perspective and experience of the mass!

**ST. MARY CENTRAL TIGER TROT FUNDRAISER**

St. Mary Central School, Martins Ferry, is having their 13th Annual Tiger Trot walk-a-thon on 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 for supporting our Catholic School!

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES FOR OCTOBER 3/4**St. John's****October 3rd** EM: A. Snedeker Lector: S. Homer**October 4th** EM: M.A. Young Lector: L.A. Bennett**St. Mary's****October 3rd** EM: L. Gates Lector: L. Gates**October 4th** EM: T. Mowery Lector: A. Schamp**HONORING ST MICHAEL!**

Every year we honor St. Michael the Archangel, one of our patron saints due to the legacy of St. Michael parish in Bellaire. We'll have three days of celebration again this year—an Angel Prayer Walk to the former St. Michael's Church on the 28th, a 5:15pm Mass on the 29th and a Festival of Praise at 6:30pm on September 30 at St. John's.

**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. Howard's profound and practical look at the liturgy focuses our wandering minds. It reminds us that at Mass the veil separating earth and heaven lifts, so that we stand with angels and saints in the presence of God Most High. Copies of this book will be available to purchase in the back of our churches next weekend for a donation of \$12. Make checks out to St. John's Church. You can listen to the audiobook for free on **Formed!**

**GOSPEL MEDITATION**

This Sunday, Jesus tells a short, uncomfortable story. A father asks two sons to go work in the vineyard. One says no, but later goes. The other says yes, but never shows up. It is a parable so simple, we almost miss how sharp it is. Jesus is clear about who it is for. This is not aimed at pagans or outsiders. It is aimed

squarely at religious people, people who know the right words and sound obedient.

Jesus is not condemning unbelief so much as disobedience. The polite hypocrisy that says the right things while quietly resisting the Father's will. St. John Chrysostom put it bluntly, "Not words, but deeds, are what God requires. Nothing so exasperates Him as insincere obedience, while nothing so delights Him as repentance."

Every disciple must face that mirror. Do I publicly profess faith in Christ while privately resisting what He asks of me? It is easy to say, I believe in God in my heart. But if faith never becomes action, it slowly becomes an illusion.

Jesus does not expose hypocrisy to shame us. He reveals it to heal us. He wants our hearts and our deeds to speak the same word, to let our yes truly mean yes. Like the second son who initially refused but afterwards changed his mind and went, Jesus invites us to step into the Father's will, however late, however imperfectly.

Challenge: Where are your public faith and private obedience divided? Where do you say, I will go, but never enter the vineyard? Go, get to work, even if it is late. The Father's vineyard is still open.

— Father John Muir

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MEMORIAL DONATIONS TO ST JOHN'S CHURCH**In Memory of Paula St. John** by Sandy Grimm, Chris & Debbie Brown, Dom & Barb Marinacci.**In Memory of Janet Rose Green** by Paula Johnston.**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!





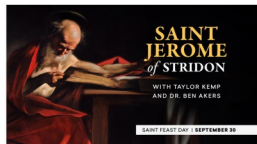
This Week on Formed

Week of September 27, 2026



St. Therese | Littlest Saints

Which flower in Jesus's garden is the best? The most beautiful? St. Therese gives us her "little" answer to these questions.



St. Jerome | Catholic Saints

An early Church Father from the 4th century, St. Jerome translated the Bible into Latin with the desire to make Scripture more accessible. St. Jerome is the patron of biblical scholars, translators, and archivists and famously said, "Ignorance of Scripture is ignorance of Christ."



Who Are the Archangels?

Dr. Ben Akers and Dr. Elizabeth Klein discuss archangels and what role they have in our lives.

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

An offering from the AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE

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

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time/ October 4, 2026

First Reading: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I had not done? Why, when I looked for the crop of grapes, did it bring forth wild grapes? (Is 5:4)

Psalm: The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel. (Is 5:7a)

Second Reading: Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you. (Phil 4:9)

Gospel: "What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants." (Mt 21:41)

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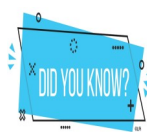
CCC 755: the Church as God's vineyard
CCC 1830-1832: gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit
CCC 443: prophets are the servants, Christ is the Son



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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 was the relationship among the three children who witnessed Mary's apparition at Fátima?

Answer: They were a sister, a brother, and a cousin. ©LPi

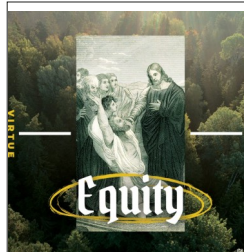


MASSTIMES.ORG

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!

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Virtues, Explained!

Equity, Explained!

Our God is just — but our God is also merciful. Practicing the virtue of equity means striving to imitate God in both these important aspects.

Governments draft legislation and authorities enforce laws in an attempt to create a system of rules and regulations that will ensure the common good. But we live in a fallen world, and there will never be a perfect justice system. Following one law will demand much more of one man than it does another, just the same as breaking one law will be easier for one woman than it is for another — and exacting punishment for the sake of punishment is never justice.

The virtue of equity is practiced by those who attend to the letter of the law, but who do so using their God-given human faculties and the mercy required of a Christian. To practice equity is to look at the whole picture — especially the divinely crafted person at the center of it. ©LPi

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

The God of Changed Minds

I wonder what was so important.

The man gave both his sons the same order: go out and work in the vineyard today. One son said yes. One refused.

The first son doesn't show up. The second son changes his mind, and does what his father asked. I wonder what was so important, that it kept the first from fulfilling his word. I wonder what was so important, that it prevented the second from committing wholeheartedly.

I have an image in my head of the sun setting on the vineyard. The second son pauses for a moment to catch his breath while his father sits at the gate, anxiously scanning the horizon. "Any sign?" the son asks the father, who instead of answering drops his gaze into his lap.

With this parable, Jesus acknowledges that few of his disciples can anticipate a straight path to Heaven. Most of us are destined for a few bends in the road. Most of us will suffer failures of will and strength. We will become distracted. We will become preoccupied. We will doubt ourselves. There will be so many things that seem important, and it will take us too long to realize they aren't. Once we have, we may be too proud to change course.

The shadows grow long in the vineyard. Any moment and they will give way to darkness. With its dying breath, the sun illuminates the contours of a figure making his way toward the father and son. When the figure cries out, it is a voice they recognize. "Am I too late?"

We worship the God of second chances. The God of changed minds. The God of never-too-late.

©LPi

WHY DO WE DO THAT? - CATHOLIC LIFE EXPLAINED St. Jerome

Question: Who is St. Jerome, and why is he so significant that we honor him with a feast on September 30?

Answer: St. Jerome (345–420) was considered the greatest biblical scholar of his day, conversant with Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. He set about translating the books of the Bible from their original languages into Latin.

Much of Jerome's correspondence has survived and gives us a powerful glimpse into the kind of person that he was, as well as the time in which he lived. Jerome eventually became Pope Damasus' (366–384) personal secretary. In the West, Latin was overtaking Greek as the language of the common people. The pope desired a translation of the Bible that would be accurately translated from the original languages into the language and idiom of the people. Previous Latin translations existed, but they were poor in quality.

Jerome set about this task and spent the rest of his life meticulously translating. He is credited with the translation of the Bible known as the Vulgate, a Latin translation intended to address the needs of the common people. That translation became the standard and the only one used by Catholics until modern times.

Catholics did not actively engage in a similar process until 1943, when Pius XII allowed Catholic scholars once again to go back to the original languages and translate an accurate and meticulous version of the Bible. We carry on that tradition to this very day.

©LPi

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**PRAYER – FOR EVERYDAY AND EVERYBODY**

Dear God,
As the weather changes, the birds migrate, and autumn's flowers, colors, and clouds make their entrance, we thank You for the gift of this beautiful season!

Help us use this season to draw closer to each other and to You.
Amen. ©LPi



For he commands
his angels with
regard to you,
to guard you
wherever you go.

PSALM 91:11

©LPi

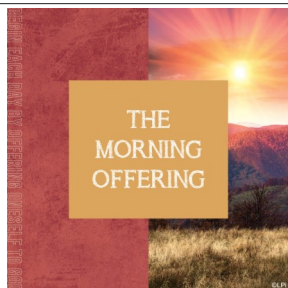
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS**Is It the Thought That Counts?**

I can remember times when I received a gift that I would not have chosen for myself. At those times I certainly thought to myself that “it was the thought that counts.” I was happy that the gift-giver thought of me at all. Then there have been times when my children have not given me a gift and then chose to tell me all about what they were going to give me. They would then follow it up by saying, “it was the thought that really counts.” Really?! I don’t think so. I could think of sending my wife on a cruise, but that is not in any way the same as going on the cruise. I think there are times when all of us think we are more generous than we are, simply because we were thinking about being generous.

This way of thinking can be dangerous. Jesus teaches us to say what we mean and mean what we say. The intentionality of our actions is important, but intentionality without action is meaningless. How we act and what we give serves as evidence of our intentions and indicates where our heart truly lies. If we fool ourselves into thinking we are someone we are not, it can become difficult to see the truth. We need to look for the fruit in our lives. We need to make sure our desires and thoughts are moving us to act. You know that other saying about intentions, don’t you? Don’t pave the road to a place no one wants to end up with your intentions. Instead, let your intentions and actions lead others to another place where Jesus can be found.

– Tracy Earl Welliver

©LPi

**Devotions, Explained!****Morning Offering, Explained!**

There are many variations of the Morning Offering, but all share the same purpose: to begin each day by offering oneself to God, along with all the experiences, struggles and blessings that the day will bring.

The ancient Israelites practiced the *bikkurim* (“first fruits”) as described in Deuteronomy, chapter 26. This was a ritual by which the first fruits of the harvest were offered back to God in a sacrificial act of gratitude and obedience. The theology behind the Morning Offering is similar: giving to God the first moments of each day.

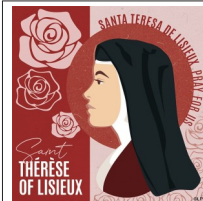
The most traditional form of the Morning Offering, attributed to Fr. François-Xavier Gautrelet, begins “O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day, for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart...”

A full version of this text can be found at usccb.org/prayers/morning-offering.

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**BUILDING A CULTURE OF LIFE****No More Death**

“Dear friends, by seeking holiness and using the gifts God has given us to accomplish his will in our lives, we are contributing mightily to that kingdom we all long for, where there will be no more crying or pain or death. Certainly no abortion. No euthanasia. No assisted suicide. No deep freezing of embryos as though they were merchandise. And no destruction of human life in the name of science.” --Cardinal Justin Rigali, National Prayer Vigil for Life Opening Mass January 21, 2008

**St. Thérèse of Lisieux**

St. Thérèse of Lisieux (1873-1897) was born in France, the youngest of nine children. Her mother died when she was four. Thérèse was described as being sensitive and precocious as a child.

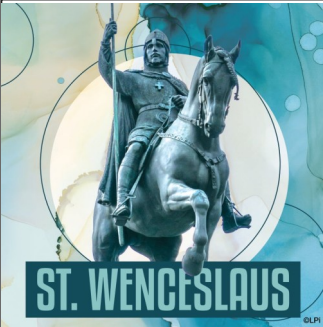
Thérèse experienced a transformative conversion early on when she saw a vision of Mary, Mother of God. She had fallen ill, and the doctors of her time were unable to diagnose or treat her. She experienced fevers, convulsions, and fearful visions. This lasted until, turning her face to the statue of the Blessed Mother near her bedside, she asked Mary to take pity on her. According to her writings, Thérèse said that she experienced a beautiful vision of Mary. In this vision, when Mary smiled upon her, all her pain and illness disappeared. This experience, *The Healing of Our Lady of the Smile*, contributed to setting Thérèse’s heart on pursuing religious life.

When Thérèse was 15, she entered the Carmelite convent in Lisieux, France. She took the name Sister Therese of the Child Jesus and the Holy Face and began a life of prayer and intimacy with God. Despite her struggles with depression, she always put her best foot forward. She tragically died of tuberculosis at age 24 but, before her death, she said “My mission — to make God loved — will begin after my death. I will spend my heaven doing good on earth. I will let fall a shower of roses.” Now, she is fondly known as Thérèse the Little Flower of Jesus and roses have become a symbol of her intercession.

During her life, Thérèse wrote several essays cataloguing her pursuit of holiness that were later published under the title “Story of a Soul.” These writings earned her the privilege of being the youngest person to ever be designated a Doctor of the Church and continue to be treasured by Catholics worldwide! St. Thérèse, pray for us! ©LPi

BOOK AND BAKE SALE

St. Mary’s Church, St. Clairsville will be holding a Book and Bake Sale October 8/9. Donations of books and baked goods greatly appreciated. Drop-off times: Wed, Oct 7th & Thurs, Oct 8th, 9-5p.m. Please no magazines. Baked goods can be dropped off Wednesday-Friday. Questions? Call Linda Vicker at 740-695-9477 or Ann Farnario at 740-338-7178



St. Wenceslaus

You may know St. Wenceslaus better than you think; he is, in fact, the “Good King Wenceslas” from the Christmas carol penned in the 19th century.

He was born in 907 near Prague, the son of the Duke of Bohemia, raised and educated as a Christian by his paternal grandmother, Ludmila, who herself became a saint. The land of Bohemia at this time was a place in turmoil. Christianity had not yet taken hold, and there were power struggles even within the noble family. When St. Wenceslaus’ father died, his Christian grandmother became regent. However, his mother, who may have been a pagan or at least held anti-Christian sentiments, upset at being overlooked, had Ludmilla killed. St. Wenceslaus, though young, eventually prevailed.

He ruled from 921-929, working at unification; he supported the Church, building many churches, including the rotunda of Saint Vitus at Prague Castle. And like in the carol, he cared for the sick, poor, widowed, and orphaned in his kingdom. To make peace with Germany, St. Wenceslaus recognized King Henry the Fowler as the successor of Charlemagne, which put Bohemia under King Henry. The peace was not a popular move with the non-Christian sects and nobles who wanted to remain outside of German rule.

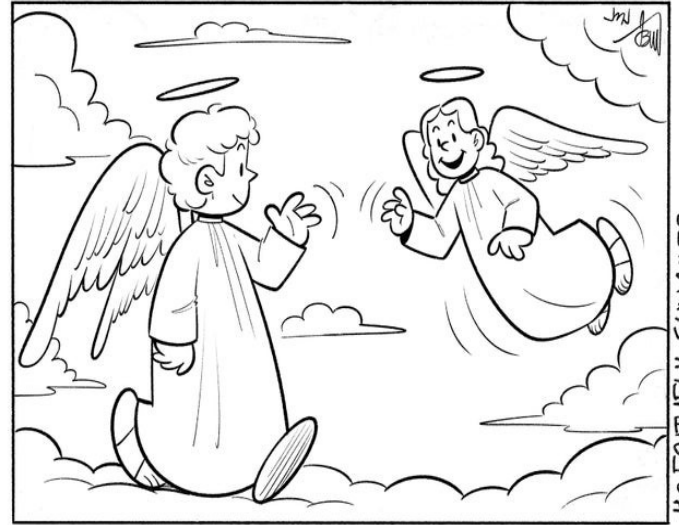
Legend holds that his brother, Boleslaus the Cruel, led some anti-Christian movements. Whether Boleslaus plotted to murder St. Wenceslaus or they just had a disagreement that ended in his death, it is generally accepted that the saint was killed by Boleslaus or his men. His last words were to forgive his brother.

St. Wenceslaus was immediately recognized as a martyr for the faith and sainted. The Holy Roman Emperor Otto I posthumously gave him the title “king.” He is the first Czech saint and the patron saint of the Czech state.

St. Wenceslaus, pray for us!

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“How do angels greet each other?”



THE FATHFUL FUNNIES

“Halo!”



Angels are spiritual beings created by God. St. Augustine calls them “the mighty ones who do His word, hearkening to the voice of His word.”

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EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

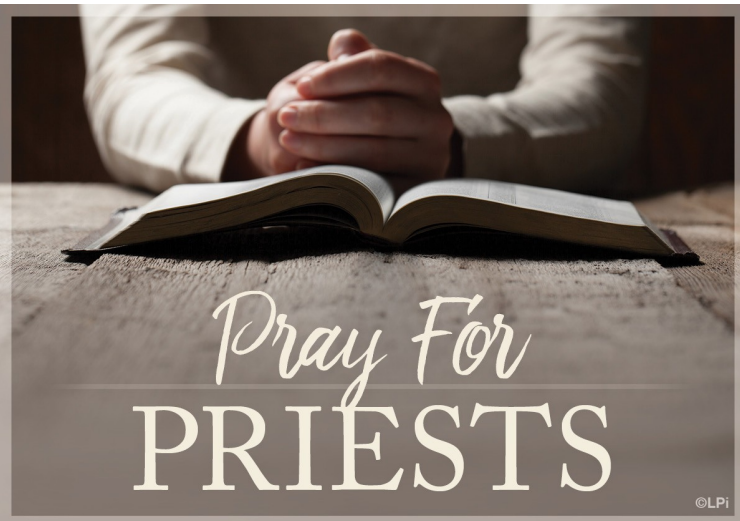
All We Have Belongs To God

Remember a time when jealousy or envy reared its ugly head and you wished you had something that someone else owned? Maybe it was a house, a car, a bank account, or even that luscious green lawn. All humans have had that feeling before and some of us more often than others. After the emotion hit you, hopefully you considered all the good gifts you did have in your life and gave thanks for them. Let's pray that you are still not hanging onto those feelings. Unfortunately, we do live in a world that seems to fuel those desires and push us toward wanting more and more.

But let's level the field here. Did you ever hear of someone who died and was able to take any of those things into the afterlife? The reality is that nothing we have in this life truly belongs to us. We come into this world with nothing and as time goes by more gifts are entrusted to us but we never truly own them. So whom do they belong to anyway?

Of course, you know the answer. All that we have has been entrusted to us by God; to be cherished, cultivated, and then given back to him for his glory. God doesn't need any of these things, and we only need them short-term. All that we need long-term is God. If he is all we need in the end, I bet our lives would be more fruitful and happier if we focused on that now instead of later.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



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

Readings for the week of September 27, 2026

Sunday: Ez 18:25-28/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5/Mt 21:28-32

Monday: Jb 1:6-22/Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12ab/Ps 138:1-2ab, 2cde-3, 4-5/Jn 1:47-51

Wednesday: Jb 9:1-12, 14-16/Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/Lk 9:57-62

Thursday: Jb 19:21-27/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14/Lk 10:1-12

Friday: Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/Mt 18:1-5, 10

Saturday: Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17/Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/Lk 10:17-2

Next Sunday: Is 5:1-7/Ps 80:9 and 12, 13-14, 15-16, 19-20/Phil 4:6-9/Mt 21:33-43

THIS WEEK

Sunday: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:30a.m.—10:45a.m. Parish School of Religion (SMRE)
6-7:15p.m. Youth Group (SMRE)

Monday: Triduum in Honor of St. Michael the Archangels
6:00pm. Angel Prayer Walk from St. John's to former St. Michael's Church

Tuesday: Triduum in Honor of St. Michael the Archangels
9:00a.m.—5:00p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
5:15p.m. Mass (SJ)

Wednesday: Triduum in Honor of St. Michael the Archangels
6:30p.m. Festival of Parise (SJ)

Next Sunday: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Respect Life Sunday

9:30a.m.—10:45a.m. Parish School of Religion (SMRE)
2:00pm-3:30pm Belmont County Life Chain—
Bridgeport fountain (intersection of Route 40 & Route 7)

*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*

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

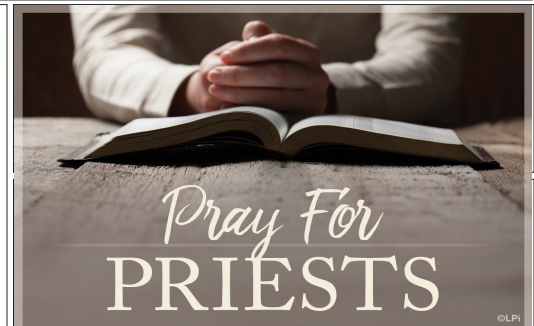
*In Loving Memory of
Bill Kahl by Wife Karen
George, Bud, Murph & Jerry Snider
By Sister & Family*

*~ 50 Year Reunion 1976 ~ 2026 ~
In Loving Memory of the Deceased &
In Honor of the Living
SJC Class of 1976 Members.
In Remembrance of the Deceased & In
Honor of the Living Teachers we
had Growing Up!
The SJC Class of 1976*



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

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



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



**Compassion,
right next door...**

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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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