

RISE UP NOW!



OUR MISSION

Saint Michael the Archangel is a Catholic Community on fire for the Lord that inspires people to "Rise Up Now!" and become active disciples to fulfill God's purpose in their lives.



TO LIVE A
SACRAMENTAL
LIFE

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

SATURDAY 4:00 pm Vigil Mass
SUNDAY 8:30 am, 10:30 am, 12:30 pm
DAILY 6:30 am MON-FRI
8:15 am MON, TUES, FRI, SAT

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

2:00 pm on first and third Sundays. Pre-Baptism class is at 2:00 pm on second Sunday. All by appointment. Sponsors need letter from their pastor.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

2:30-3:30 pm on Saturday.
Anytime upon request. (call for appointment.)

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

No date should be set prior to seeing a priest or deacon six months before desired date.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Please contact the Parish office at 614.885.7814.



TO SERVE IN
LOVE



TO SHARE OUR
FAITH



SAINT
MICHAEL

THE ARCHANGEL
WORTHINGTON, OHIO

614.885.7814

SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG

5750 NORTH HIGH STREET
WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



FIND US ON
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facebook.com/stmichaelworthington

SAINT MICHAEL STAFF DIRECTORY

Website: saintmichael-cd.org

Parish Office: 614-885-7814

MINISTERS TO THE PARISH

Pastor:

Fr. Michael J. Lumpe

Parochial Vicar:

Fr. Wojciech Stachura, SAC

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Dcn. Klaus Fricke (Retired)

Pastoral Minister:

Sr. Riya Mary

srriya@saintmichael-cd.org

Youth Minister:

Jake Asuncion

jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager:

Kris Jesse

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Safe Environment Coordinator:

Bethany Cook

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Choir Director/Organist:

Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Website: stmichaelworthington.org

School Office: 614-885-3149

Principal:

Sr. Mary Regina, O.P.

principal@stmichaelworthington.org

Preschool Director:

Laura Wells

lwells@stmichaelworthington.org

SAINT MICHAEL INFORMATION CENTER



LOW-GLUTEN HOST

If you are in need of a low-gluten host, please scan this QR code for full details.



NEW MEMBERS

Registering in a parish is a declaration of your desire to be part of a Catholic community and a commitment to the life of the parish family. We are often asked to provide affidavits for parishioner standing. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and contributing member in our parish. You can register by scanning the QR code below or visiting our website at www.saintmichael-cd.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE

To submit a bulletin request, the request must be made no later than 12:00 p.m., Monday. Send bulletin requests to rlund@saintmichael-cd.org with "BULLETIN REQUEST" in subject line with all details and contact person for questions. Early submission deadlines may be required surrounding holidays. All bulletin requests are subject to approval.

HOMEBOUND MINISTRY

St. Michael homebound ministry is available to bring the Eucharist to the homebound. If you or a loved one within St. Michael Parish boundaries would like someone to bring the Eucharist to you, please reach out to Sr. Riya Mary to coordinate. She can be reached by calling the Parish Office or by emailing srriya@stmichael-cd.org.



ONLINE GIVING

St. Michael offers online giving as a convenient tool for you to use. Scan the QR code to learn more or set up online contributions

Athletic Association Representative:

Liz Trolli

smaa@saintmichael-cd.org

Knights of Columbus Representative:

Seth Walker

grandknight@kofc11445.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Pete Schlom

svdp@saintmichael-cd.org

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD AUGUST 6, 2023 DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, August 6

- 8:30 a.m. Clem & Jeanne Trenor (The Kyte Family)
- 10:30 a.m. Morgan Cline (The Hageman Family)
- 12:30 p.m. Noreen McCloskey (Valerie Massar)

Monday, August 7

- 6:30 a.m. Kyle Ann Kowaleski (Steve & Kristy Wagner)
- 8:15 a.m. Fiore Matteis

Tuesday, August 8

- 6:30 a.m. Nancy Oparowski (Mary Maurer)
- 8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Laura Campos

Wednesday, August 9

- 6:30 a.m. Loan Thi Vu (The Powers Family)

Thursday, August 10

- 6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Laura Campos
(Luis & Francoise Caso)

Friday, August 11

- 6:30 a.m. Dick & Mary Ellen Bechtel (Joe Fiala)
- 8:15 a.m. Florian & Emma Schortgen
(Kevin & Lisa Barlage)

Saturday, August 12

- 8:15 a.m. Thomas O'Leary (The O'Leary Family)
- 4:00 p.m. George Kortyna Jr. (The Hirsal Family)

Sunday, August 13

- 8:30 a.m. For the People
- 10:30 a.m. Anthony Paul Sylvester (Parents & Students
of SMS Class of 2030)
- 12:30 p.m. Fiore Matteis



AUGUST 6, 2023 THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

"...then from the cloud came a voice that said, 'This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.'"

— Matthew 17:5

When Peter, James and John heard this, they immediately fell prostrate to the ground and they "were very much afraid." We, too, may respond the same way when we hear God's voice. How many times do you become fearful when invited to participate more fully in the life of the Church? Or, when someone says something negative about the Church, are you afraid to respond? Remember, we too, are beloved sons and daughters of God; Jesus is there to help us, but we need to listen.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP:

JULY 23, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 18,198.00
Online Giving	\$ 8,180.00
Total:	\$ 26,378.00

JULY 30, 2023

Envelopes	\$ 10,159.65
Online Giving	\$ 21,508.00
Total:	\$ 31,667.65

PARISH CALENDAR: AUGUST

SUNDAY, August 6	Friendship Sunday after all Masses 11:30 a.m. New Member Welcome (UMR)	Thursday, August 10	Eucharistic Exposition (Adoration Chapel) 7:30 p.m. Festival Committee Meeting (UMR)
Monday, August 7	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)	Friday, August 11	Eucharistic Exposition (Adoration Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Opus Dei (C)
Tuesday, August 8	No Activities	Saturday, August 12	7:00 a.m. Pietra Class (LMR) 8:00 a.m. Opus Dei Recollections (UMR) 9:30 a.m. SVdP Meeting (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, August 9	7:00 p.m. Respect Life Ministry Meeting (UMR)	SUNDAY, August 13	No Activities

(U) = Undercroft, (S) = School, (C) = Church, (G) = Gym, (PO) = Parish Office, (SG, SR, SM) = Saints Gabriel, Raphael and Michael, (MH) = Marian Hall, (SL) = School Library, (SC) = School Conference Room, (R) = Rectory, (PSR) = Parish School of Religion Office, (UMR) = Meeting Room on the first floor of the Parish Ministry Center, (LMR) = Meeting Room in the basement of the Parish Ministry Center, (YMR/SG) = Youth Ministry Room

FROM THE PASTOR


ON THIS FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION we can only imagine what a grace it was to be present for this occasion as they saw Jesus transfigured before their very eyes. Moses and Elijah also appeared and spoke with Jesus. Moses received the Law from God on Mount Sinai and Elijah could be regarded as the greatest of the prophets, certainly here he is a representative of the prophets during Jesus' transfiguration. So, we have the Law and the Prophets, as the Old Testament was often called, with Jesus on the mountain. The Old Testament was pointing forward to Jesus as we heard in that beautiful prophecy of Jesus in our first reading from Daniel 7. Now, two great figures of the Old Testament, Moses and Elijah, appeared on the mountain with Jesus transfigured, to confirm that Jesus is indeed the expected Messiah. In the opening prayer today we heard, "O God, who in the glorious Transfiguration of Your Only Begotten Son confirmed the mysteries of faith by the witness of the Fathers and wonderfully prefigured our full adoption to sonship, grant, we pray, to Your servants, that, listening to the voice of Your beloved Son, we may merit to become co-heirs with Him." The Father spoke from heaven and said, "This is my beloved Son. Listen to him." So the Old Testament and the Father in heaven are now confirming that Jesus is indeed the expected Messiah. Although Jesus had just shocked them by telling them He must suffer and die, this is, in fact, the plan of God for Jesus. The Father said, "Listen to him." In other words, "Do not be scandalized at the teaching of my son Jesus about his forthcoming Passion, death and Resurrection." As our Mass Preface today says, "He revealed his glory in the presence of the chosen witnesses and filled with the greatest splendor that bodily form which He shares with all humanity, that the scandal of the Cross might be removed from the hearts of His disciples." Will they listen to Jesus? Will they stand by Jesus as he goes to his Passion and death? We know the story. But what about each of us? Peter denied Jesus in the courtyard of the high priest and James, like the rest of the disciples, abandoned Jesus. Only John listened to Jesus and was not scandalized by the Passion and death of Jesus. How many times have each of us abandoned Jesus? Perhaps we are disappointed that Peter and James did not listen to Jesus, did not remain faithful to Jesus, during the time He most needed them. They had seen Jesus transfigured, they heard the command of God the Father to listen to Jesus. But why should we be disappointed with them? We also have experienced and met Jesus in many ways and sometimes we, too, let him down. We meet Jesus in a most intimate way every time we receive Him in the Eucharist. Receiving the Eucharist is the time when we are closest to Jesus. We meet Jesus in the Scriptures as these touch our hearts. Jesus speaks to us now when we read the Scriptures. The Scriptures are not just about the life of Jesus; in the Scriptures Jesus also speaks to us about our lives and in them we meet Jesus as He speaks to us about our lives. Folks, just as Peter, James and John received the special grace of seeing Jesus transfigured and received many other graces from Jesus, we, too, have received many graces from Jesus to help us become the great people He has called us to be and to witness to Him wherever life demands. The appearance of Moses and Elijah during the transfiguration, and the Father saying, "This is My beloved Son" confirms that Jesus is indeed the much prophesied, anticipated and expected Messiah. The Father commanded those on Mount Tabor, "Listen to him," and today God commands each of us to do the same. Listen to Jesus, hear what He has to say, hear what Jesus is teaching us, hear how Jesus is calling each of us to a new life in Him, hear how Jesus is shepherding us along the path that leads to everlasting life with Him in Heaven, hear how Jesus is warning us to stay away from all that leads us to sin and despair, hear how much Jesus loves each and every one of us. John is a model disciple; he was faithful to Jesus to the end. Peter and James, for a short while, did not listen to Jesus, but just as Peter, James and John became great witnesses to Jesus, we, too, can become great witnesses to Jesus. Incidentally, if any of us are not as good a listener to God and Jesus as we could be, we might consider praying this prayer:

God our Father, it's interesting that we often plead for Your attention and certainly expect You to listen to our prayers and You assure us through Your word that You hear us when we call on You. But for true fellowship to exist we too must listen to Your voice through Scripture, through fellow believers, through Your many works of creation, and through Your voice that beckons our attention. You have so much to tell us that will often encourage us, sometimes reprove us, but always spur us on to good works and needed spiritual perspective as we journey here below. Help us to listen, to heed, and to be steadfast in our fellowship with You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OUR PARISH FESTIVAL IS APPROACHING and there are many opportunities for us, as members of our parish family, to participate in the success of our Festival. Fr. Kitsmiller and I have already volunteered and have given instructions to put us where you need us – selling tickets, cooking/serving food, emptying trash cans – whatever is needed, happy to help this wonderful Festival which brings our parish and broader community of neighbors and people together. We also have a special Silent Auction item that Fr. Kitsmiller and I were able to secure – dinner for up to five couples at the Chancery with Bishop Earl Fernandes, to take place on a mutually agreeable date. Bid early, bid often, bid high – it's all to benefit our parish! Sign up to volunteer, folks! God bless!

~Fr. Mike Lumpe

AROUND THE PARISH



August Special Election

Radical out-of-state pro-abortion groups are trying to change the Ohio Constitution to make abortion up to birth, sex change surgeries, sex change hormones, contraception, sterilization, and any "reproductive decision" a "Constitutional right" for any person of any age. This change would remove and prohibit any requirement for parental notification, consent or involvement regarding "reproductive decisions," sexual education, and sexual treatment, for minors and it would ban current or future health and safety measures.

On August 8th, there will be a special election and Ohioans will have the opportunity to vote on Issue 1 which protects the Ohio Constitution and the rights of the preborn, parents, and families. If Issue 1 passes, it will be much more difficult for the radical abortion groups to infiltrate the Ohio Constitution. If Issue 1 does not pass, it will make it very difficult to prevent abortion from being added to the Ohio Constitution.

For more information, go to www.protectwomenohio.com. Email Naomi del Guidice, State Director of Vote Catholic Ohio at naomi@votecatholicohio.org with any questions or to volunteer your time and skills for LIFE.

MAKE TIME FOR ADORATION THIS SUMMER

There is no better way to spend an hour of your week than in the presence of Our Lord. Help us grow our Adoration Chapel by signing up to make a commitment to adore. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition on both Thursdays and Fridays. Our current exposition hours are from 7:00 a.m. Thursday morning through 6:00 a.m. Friday morning, resuming at 9:00 a.m. Friday morning until 9:00 p.m. Friday evening. Adoration is available at all other times with the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle. Signing up is easy to do from your phone or computer. You can sign up at StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com.



FORMED® THE CATHOLIC FAITH, ON DEMAND.

Edith Stein: The Seventh Chamber

This film is a moving, artistic portrayal of the life of Jewish philosopher, Catholic convert, and Carmelite martyr, Edith Stein. It powerfully captures the interior struggles of this extraordinary woman and her journey toward the Lord.

Our parish has a FORMED subscription. Visit formed.org/signup and select our parish. Scan the QR code to download the FORMED app to your phone.



PIETRA CLASSES

Join our Pietra Classes! Meeting each week on Saturday mornings at 7:00 a.m., Pietra is a whole-person fitness class that stretches and strengthens the body while refreshing the soul with prayer and meditation. Register at viribuswellness.com or by using the QR code. For more information, contact Maria Elliott at maria@viribuswellness.com.

SCHEDULE YOUR MASS INTENTIONS

The tradition of Masses offered for the intentions of living or deceased loved ones originated in the early Church and continues to be an important Catholic practice. No greater gift can be offered for our loved ones, both living and deceased. The gift of a Mass Intention is a wonderful way to offer prayers to those you love. Mass Intentions are available for an offering of \$10.00 each. If you would like to remember a loved one in this way, please visit the Parish Office to schedule or call for more details.

YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES

Exciting things are happening with our High School and Middle School Youth Ministry! Please see the different ways you can get involved and receive updates as we prepare for a new year of youth group!

SIGN UP FOR UPDATES ON FLOCKNOTE

Join our Flocknote groups to make sure you receive updates for youth ministry events this year. There are groups for High School, Middle School and Parents. Please visit <https://StMichaelChurchWor.flocknote.com> to sign up!

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP PARENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are in need of parent volunteers for our Middle School Youth Group for this upcoming year. Any volunteers would need to have PGC clearance. If you are interested in helping in this way, please email Jake Asuncion at jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org.

HIGH SCHOOL FOOD SPONSORS NEEDED

Please consider sponsoring our High School Youth Ministry by providing food for their meetings! Use the QR code to volunteer. Thank you for your generosity!



CATHOLIC DEVOTIONS

SAINT MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL PARISH • 5750 N. HIGH STREET • WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085 • (614) 885-7814

+ THE MONTH OF AUGUST IS DEDICATED TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY +

“My Immaculate Heart Will Triumph”

by Mary Beth Bracy

It was a moment that I will never forget. A few friends and I accompanied the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to a baby's hospital bedside. He was diagnosed with cancer and the tumors made his little eyes protrude. Tears were shed as the Blessed Mother's life-size image was gently touched to his head. We asked Mary's intercession for his healing, then went to the chapel and prayed the Divine Mercy Chaplet. What seemed like a hopeless situation was soon replaced by gratitude and joy. The baby was healed and is now a young man.

Sometimes we may wonder how we can make a difference in our broken world. Our Lady revealed to Sr. Lucia of Fatima, Servant of God, “God wishes to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. If what I say is done, many souls will be saved and there will be peace.” (July 13, 1917) Mother Mary later appeared to Sr. Lucia and asked her to make the First Saturday devotion known:

“Look, my daughter, at my Heart encircled with thorns, with which ungrateful men pierce it at every moment by their blasphemies and ingratitude. You, at least, try to console me, and say that I promise to assist at the hour of death with all the graces necessary for salvation all those who, on the First Saturday of five consecutive months, confess, receive Holy Communion, recite five decades of the Rosary, and keep me company for fifteen minutes meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary, with the intention of making reparation to me.”

Regardless of our vocation, each of us is invited to console the Hearts of Jesus and Mary through the First Saturday devotion, Confession, Holy Communion, and meditation on the mysteries of the Rosary. Jesus told Sr. Lucia, “I desire that devotion to the Immaculate Heart of my Mother be placed alongside devotion to my own Sacred Heart.”

In his newly republished book “Meditations on the Holy Rosary,” Servant of God Fr. Dolindo Ruotolo – called a saint by Padre Pio – writes of the Immaculate Heart of Mary's role in salvation history and in our lives. Reflecting on the Wedding Feast of Cana, Fr. Ruotolo explains that, when Mary asked Jesus to perform a miracle and create more wine, it may have evoked the idea of the Last Supper in Jesus' mind. This is why He said “my hour has not yet come” (See John 2: 1-11). Fr. Ruotolo further explains the Blessed Mother's purpose in asking Jesus to perform the miracle:

“The Most Holy Virgin did not want only to give wine: She wanted to give His apostles a reason for faith in Jesus. She wanted to strengthen them with a miracle. For this reason, she persisted with Jesus for an action, saying to the servants, ‘Do whatever He tells you.’ By quick insight, she immediately understood the allusion of her Son to transubstantiation, and engaged the servants to provide the water for the miracle. As we can see, instead of being apart from or almost strangers to each other, Jesus and Mary understood each other at once. Mary, as Mistress and Queen, entered into the intimacy of that Divine Heart, and Jesus entered the delicate desires of the Immaculate Heart of his Mother.”

Looking back, I have been blessed to witness and experience numerous other instances of Mother Mary's maternal love. When I traveled with the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe to World Youth Day in Manila, I spoke at several parishes and schools. Early one morning I was asked to do an unscheduled talk. Still rather sleepy, I was concerned that I may have sounded lethargic. When I was finished, however, I was reminded that God only requires our “yes” and His Holy Spirit does the rest. A woman in need of healing approached the Blessed Mother's image weeping, and someone guided her to a priest where she was reconciled to the Lord in the



Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of August is dedicated to The Immaculate Heart of Mary.

"Our labor here is brief, but the reward is eternal. Do not be disturbed by the clamor of the world, which passes like a shadow. Do not let false delights of a deceptive world deceive you." + SAINT CLARE OF ASSISI

**Monday, August 7 ~ Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saints Sixtus II, Pope and Martyr and Companions, Martyrs;
Saint Cajetan, Priest**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21 When Jesus heard of the death of John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. The crowds heard of this and followed him on foot from their towns. When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples approached him and said, "This is a deserted place and it is already late; dismiss the crowds so that they can go to the villages and buy food for themselves." He said to them, "There is no need for them to go away; give them some food yourselves." But they said to him, "Five loaves and two fish are all we have here." Then he said, "Bring them here to me," and he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, and looking up to heaven, he said the blessing, broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, who in turn gave them to the crowds. They all ate and were satisfied, and they picked up the fragments left over – twelve wicker baskets full. Those who ate were about five thousand men, not counting women and children.

Meditation: We've all been there – we have plans for a relaxing day, then someone you know or love calls with an emergency and they need your help, and need it now. How do you react? How do you treat those who all of a sudden make unexpected demands on you? When Jesus and the disciples sought a secluded place to rest, they found instead a crowd of more than five thousand people waiting for them! Did they resent this intrusion on their hard-earned need for privacy and refreshment? Jesus certainly did not – in fact he welcomed them with open arms. Jesus put human need ahead of everything else. His compassion showed the depths of God's love and concern for all who are truly needy. Jesus gave the people the word of God and he healed them physically and spiritually. We can never intrude upon God nor exhaust his generosity and kindness. He is ever ready to give to those who earnestly seek him out.

Prayer ~ Saint Sixtus II and Companions: By the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray, almighty God, make us docile in believing the faith and courageous in confessing it, just as you granted Saint Sixtus and his companions that they might lay down their lives for the sake of your word and in witness to Jesus. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ Saint Cajetan: O God, who endowed the Priest Saint Cajetan with the grace of imitating the apostolic way of life, grant us, through his example and intercession, to trust in you at all times and to seek unceasingly your Kingdom. 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. Amen.

Contemplation: What is the significance of the miracle in today's Gospel? The miraculous feeding of such a great multitude pointed to God's provision of manna in the wilderness for the people of Israel under the leadership of Moses. This food foreshadowed the true heavenly bread which Jesus would offer his followers. Jesus makes a claim that only God can make – He is the true bread of heaven that can satisfy the deepest hunger we experience. The feeding of the five thousand shows the remarkable generosity of God and his great kindness towards us. When God gives, he gives abundantly. He gives more than we need for ourselves that we may have something to share with others, especially those who lack what they need. God takes the little we have and multiplies it for the good of others. Do you trust in God's provision for you and do you share freely with others, especially those who are lacking basic food, clothing and

shelter? What about those who simply need a ride to the grocery store, pharmacy, or doctor's office? Can you share your time and resources to help those in need?

Tuesday, August 8 ~ Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Dominic, Priest; Founder, Order of Preachers

Holy Gospel: Matthew 14:22-36 Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and precede him to the other side of the sea, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea. When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear. At once Jesus spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. But when he saw how strong the wind was he became frightened; and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus stretched out his hand and caught him, and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" After they got into the boat, the wind died down. Those who were in the boat did him homage, saying, "Truly, you are the Son of God." After making the crossing, they came to land at Gennesaret. When the men of that place recognized him, they sent word to all the surrounding country. People brought to him all those who were sick and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak, and as many as touched it were healed.

Meditation: This incident on the Sea of Galilee revealed Peter's impulsivity — his tendency to act first without first thinking things through. In contrast, Jesus always bade his disciples to see how difficult it was to follow him before they set out on the way he taught them. A great deal of failure in the Christian life is due to acting on impulse and on human emotion without thinking things through, without counting the cost, without thinking about ramifications. Peter, in the moment of his failure clutched at Jesus and held him firmly. Every time Peter fell, he rose again. His failures only made him love the Lord more deeply and trust him more intently. The Lord keeps watch over us at all times, and especially in our moments of temptation, anxiety and difficulty.

Prayer: May Saint Dominic come to the help of your Church by his merits and teaching, O Lord, and may he, who was an outstanding preacher of your truth, be a devoted intercessor on our behalf. 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. Amen.

Contemplation: While the disciples in the boat were experienced fishermen, notice how in this Gospel passage they feared for their lives. While Jesus was not with them in the boat, he nonetheless watched for them in prayer. When he perceived their trouble he came to them on the sea and startled them with his sudden appearance. When you are faced with fear, anxiety or challenge times, do you look for the Lord's presence when you encounter life's difficulties? Do you turn to the Lord and rely on him for his strength and help? Jesus assures us that we have no need of fear if we trust in Him and in his great love for us. When calamities or trials threaten to overwhelm you, how do you respond? With faith and hope in God?

Wednesday, August 9 ~ Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, Virgin and Martyr
(formerly Edith Stein before her conversion)

Holy Gospel: Matthew 15:21-28 At that time Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not say a word in answer to her. His disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did him homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that hour.

Meditation: There have been times in each of our lives when we have felt "put-off" by the Lord. A Gentile woman puts Jesus on the spot by pleading for his help. At first Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her, and this made his disciples feel embarrassed. Jesus does this to test the woman to awaken faith in her. What did Jesus mean by the expression "throwing bread to the dogs?" The Jews often spoke of the Gentiles with arrogance and insolence as "unclean dogs" since the Gentiles were excluded from God's

covenant and favor with Israel. For the Greeks the “dog” was a symbol of dishonor and was used to describe a shameless and audacious woman. Matthew 7:6 records the expression: “do not give dogs what is holy.” Jesus, no doubt, spoke with a smile rather than with an insult because this woman immediately responds with wit and faith – “even the dogs eat the crumbs.”

Prayer: God of our Fathers, who brought the Martyr Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross to know your crucified Son and to imitate him even until death, grant, through her intercession, that the whole human race may acknowledge Christ as its Savior and through him come to behold you for eternity. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Notice how Jesus praises this Gentile woman for her faith and for her love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with faith was refused his help. Do you seek Jesus with expectant faith?

About Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross: A brilliant philosopher who stopped believing in God when she was fourteen, Edith Stein was so captivated by reading the autobiography of Teresa of Avila that she began a spiritual journey that led to her Baptism in 1922. Twelve years later she imitated Teresa by becoming a Carmelite, taking the name Teresa Benedicta of the Cross. Born into a prominent Jewish family in Breslau (now Wroclaw, Poland), Edith abandoned Judaism in her teens. As a student at the University of Gottingen, she became fascinated by phenomenology, an approach to philosophy. Excelling as a protégé of Edmund Husserl, one of the leading phenomenologists, Edith earned a doctorate in philosophy in 1916. She continued as a university teacher until 1922 when she moved to a Dominican school in Speyer; her appointment as lecturer at the Educational Institute of Munich ended under pressure from the Nazis. After living in the Cologne Carmel (1934-1938), she moved to the Carmelite monastery in Echt, Netherlands. The Nazis occupied that country in 1940. In retaliation for being denounced by the Dutch bishops, the Nazis arrested all Dutch Jews who had become Christians. Teresa Benedicta and her sister Rosa, also a Catholic, died in a gas chamber in Auschwitz on August 9, 1942. Pope John Paul II beatified Teresa Benedicta in 1987 and canonized her in 1998.

Thursday, August 10 ~ Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

Holy Gospel: John 12:24-26 Jesus said to his disciples: “Amen, amen, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains just a grain of wheat; but if it dies, it produces much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will preserve it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me.”

Meditation: The image of the grain of wheat dying in the earth in order to grow and bear a harvest can be seen as a metaphor of Jesus' own death and burial in the tomb and his resurrection. Jesus knew that the only way to victory over the power of sin and death was through the cross. Jesus reversed the curse of our first parents' disobedience through his obedience to the Father's will -- his willingness to go to the cross to pay the just penalty for our sins and to defeat death once and for all. His obedience and death on the cross obtain for us freedom and new life in the Holy Spirit. His cross frees us from the tyranny of sin and death and shows us the way of perfect love. There is a great paradox here. Death leads to life. When we “die” to our selves, we “rise” to new life in Jesus Christ.

Prayer: O God, giver of that ardor of love for you by which Saint Lawrence was outstandingly faithful in service and glorious in martyrdom, grant that we may love what he loved and put into practice what he taught. 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. Amen.

Contemplation: Have you ever asked what it means to “die” to oneself? It certainly means that what is contrary to God's commands, God's will and the teachings of Christ must be “crucified” or “put to death.” God gives us grace to say “yes” to his will and to reject whatever is contrary to his loving plan for our lives. Jesus also promises that we will bear much “fruit” for him, if we choose to deny ourselves for his sake. Jesus used forceful language to describe the kind of self-denial he had in mind for his disciples. What did he mean when he said that one must hate himself? The expression to “hate” something often meant to prefer less. Jesus says that nothing should get in the way of our preferring him and the will of our Father in heaven. Do you hope in the Lord and follow joyfully the path that he has chosen for you? Or when challenged by Christ, do you push back? Learn now how to die to one's self.

Friday, August 11 ~ Eighteenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Clare of Assisi, Virgin and Martyr; Foundress of the Poor Clares

Holy Gospel: Matthew 16:24-28 Jesus said to his disciples, "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? Or what can one give in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay each according to his conduct. Amen, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death until they see the Son of Man coming in his Kingdom."

Meditation: Without God we are nothing. Everything we have is an outright gift from God. We owe him everything, including our very lives. Every gift, talent, and ability we have we owe to God. It's possible to give God our money, but not ourselves; it's possible to give God lip-service, but not our hearts. Many do this each and every day of their lives. But a true disciple gladly gives up all that he or she has in exchange for an unending life of joy and happiness with God. God gives without measure. The joy he offers no sadness or loss can diminish. The cross of Christ leads to victory and freedom from sin, despair, and death. What is the cross which Jesus Christ commands me to take up each day? When my will crosses with his will, then his will must be done.

Prayer: O God, who in your mercy led Saint Clare to a love of poverty, grant, through her intercession, that, following Christ in poverty of spirit, we may merit to contemplate you one day in the heavenly Kingdom. 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. Amen.

Contemplation: What is the most important investment you can make with your life? Jesus poses some probing questions to challenge our assumptions about what is most profitable and worthwhile. In every decision of life we are forming ourselves into a certain kind of person. The kind of person we are, our character, determines to a large extent the kind of future we will face and live. It is possible that some can gain all the things they set their heart on, only to wake up suddenly and discover that they missed the most important things of all in this earthly life. Of what value are material things if they don't help you gain what truly lasts in eternity? Neither money nor possessions can buy heaven, mend a broken heart, or bring authentic joy a lonely person. Which is why we need to give today's Gospel some serious thought as to how we live our lives, and what is most important in our lives. Perhaps this "prayer of surrender" composed by Saint Ignatius of Loyola may be helpful: "Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given me: I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these I will be rich enough, and will desire nothing more."

About Saint Clare: The Breviary says of her: "Following the example of St. Francis, she distributed all her possessions among the poor. She fled from the noise of the world and betook herself to a country chapel, where St. Francis himself sheared off her hair and clothed her with a penitential garb (on March 18, 1212, at the age of eighteen). Then she resided at the Church of St. Damian, where the Lord provided for her a goodly number of companions. So she established a community of nuns and acted as their superior at the wish of St Francis. For forty-two years she directed the nunnery with zeal and prudence, her own life serving as a constant sermon for her sisters to emulate. She was a most perfect follower of St. Francis of Assisi. Through the renewal of the ideal of poverty, St. Francis effected a "reform of Christian life in head and members." In our twentieth century there still remain large areas with millions suffering under extreme poverty. Poverty in itself is no virtue; but it should be made into one. At least we can be moderate and frugal, and thereby find the way to the spirit of Christian poverty. St. Clare, help us.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

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Sacrament of Confession. As always, the Immaculate Heart of Mary reminds us to turn to the Sacred Heart of her Son.

Some of the meditations in Fr. Ruotolo's book are also written from the perspective of Mother Mary and express the connection between her maternity and the Holy Eucharist.

"Through the Eucharist I continue to offer Him to the world. The priest says in the Consecration: 'This is My Body, this is My Blood.' It is the Body I gave to Jesus, my Blood that gave Him life in my womb. The Body that I gave to Him in the Holy Spirit, Eternal Love, inflamed my Heart with love, and in His love and mine, He made me Mother of the Word of God, made Flesh in me.

"Again, the love of my Heart will bring the Holy Spirit to souls and generate the sons of God, the Mystical Body of Jesus. Again, from my Immaculate Heart, the purest lily, shall come the light that will reawaken faith in hearts gone astray through the filth of impurity." (Meditations on the Holy Rosary)

It has been said that when we pray the Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament we love Jesus with the heart of His Mother.

There is a beautiful song entitled "O Sacred Heart" by Justin Stroh, which reflects on the union of the two hearts. Some of the lyrics read:

*"Dear Lady of the Man Who came to give us life,
Immaculate Heart filled with so much strife,
many have not listened to the message of your Son,
and far from His Precious Blood, they have run.
In your arms let me be, with your eyes let them see, let your truth set them free,
O precious heart, Immaculate Heart.
So many times you have come to lead the way to your Son.
O Mother of us all, O Mother of Our Lord, O Mystical Mother, pray for us."*

As Jesus said to Bl. Dina Belanger, "No invocation responds better to the immense desire of my Eucharistic Heart to reign in souls than: Eucharistic Heart of Jesus, may your kingdom come through the Immaculate Heart of Mary." This is why Bl. Dina used to pray "Our Lady of the Eucharistic Heart, I beg you to give Jesus to souls!"

Pondering Mary's Immaculate Heart, the statue of Our Lady of the Cape (Notre-Dame-du-Cap), located at Three Rivers (Trois-Rivières), Québec also comes to mind. The Blessed Mother is depicted with an immense golden heart and gazes down lovingly at her children. In 1634 this area was consecrated to the Immaculate Conception by the Jesuits. Around 1652 a Church was built and in 1855 the statue was donated by an anonymous benefactor. The faithful were devoted to Our Lady, but their attendance at Church slacked off in the mid-nineteenth century. One day the priest went to offer Mass and his entire congregation consisted of a pig that was chewing a Rosary! The priest preached about this emphatically and the faithful returned back to Church in such large numbers that a new Church needed to be built. Stone needed to be transported across the St. Lawrence River to complete the structure, however, it was a mild winter and there was no ice for the sledges to cross over. The priest prayed for an ice bridge to form and a storm blew in which created this wonder. On another instance parishioners saw the statue of Our Lady open her eyes. Pilgrims continue to flock to the national shrine and many healings have occurred.

Another memory I have of the Missionary Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe is when she visited my home and the fragrance of roses filled our living room, although none were present. When we pray in union with Mary's heart miracles happen—big and small. As Fr. Ruotolo wrote of Our Lady's Magnificat:

"The soul, in greeting you while you sing, hears the Lord in His glory and the Savior in His mercy. The echo of your admirable canticle gives feelings of love toward God in the heart, which is also an echo of the beating of your Immaculate Heart." (Meditations on the Holy Rosary)

May we place ourselves in Mother Mary's hands each day and let her carry us to the Sacred Heart of her Son, mindful of her promise to the children at Fatima: "In the end my Immaculate Heart will triumph" (July 13, 1917).

Mary Beth Bracy is a consecrated virgin of the Diocese of Ogdensburg, New York. She is a writer who is blessed to research, publish, and speak extensively on various aspects of Catholic spirituality. Her books include Behold the Lamb, Bread of Life and The Little Way of Healing Love Through the Passion of Jesus: The Stations of the Cross with St. Thérèse of Lisieux. She is also co-author of the book Stories of the Eucharist. Mary Beth has written articles for numerous Catholic publications and recorded some Catholic talks. For more information or to view her blog visit The Little Way. This article is made available courtesy of The Catholic Exchange.

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Hear God Speaking to You

By Fr. Killian J. Healey

Many people never listen to God because they are not aware that He speaks to them. Yet, God does speak. One way to live in His presence is to acquire the habit of recognizing His voice when He speaks. If we do not know that God wishes to communicate with us, or the ways He has chosen, then our passage through life will be devoid of the most perfect of guides.

When does God speak to us? He speaks at all times, especially in prayer. Prayer is a conversation with God. But it is not a monologue. When we pray, then, we should also listen, because a good conversationalist is also a good listener. We do not pray well when we recite ready-made formulas quickly and distractedly. We act as if God has only to listen to us, and that we have no need to listen to the thoughts and desires that He wishes to communicate to us. He has promised, "If thou wilt hear the voice of the Lord thy God, and do what is right before Him, and obey His commandments, and keep all His precepts, none of the evils that I laid upon Egypt will I bring upon thee."

Unfortunately, many of us have never trained ourselves to listen to His voice. But, if we are to know God's will, we must listen to Him and obey Him when we recognize His commandments.

But how does God speak to us? God is a pure spirit. Unlike man, He has no voice. If He wishes to speak to us, He must use some means outside of Himself, adapted to our nature, by which He can communicate ideas. He may use things we can see and hear in order to stir our imagination, or He may enter directly into our thoughts.

God speaks to you personally

Does God, then, speak to man? How can we ever doubt it? How foolish it is to read all types of books and neglect the word of God! The Scriptures were not meant only for particular groups of people; they were meant for all men at all times. God is eternal; His words are eternal. Although He speaks to all men, He speaks to us personally.

This does not mean that every person should take the Bible and interpret it according to his own fancy. No, the Church alone is the divinely appointed authority to guide us in the correct interpretation of the Bible. The Church encourages us to read it, because she knows that the word of God can enter into our minds and that God, in His own mysterious way, can teach the true way of life, the way of love and intimate union with Him.

St. Ignatius of Loyola felt that God was speaking directly to him, when, on his sick bed, he read the words: "For what shall it profit a man if he gain the whole world, and suffer the loss of his soul?"

But, we ask, is this prayer? It is at least the beginning of prayer. We listen to these words of Christ; we ponder over them; they awaken thoughts and desires within us. We begin to believe, to hope, to love. Our will becomes inspired, and we break forth in ardent affections, calling on Christ to help us, begging forgiveness, expressing gratitude, performing little acts of adoration — and surely this is prayer.

We often read of visions, apparitions, and revelations in which God spoke to the saints. St. Paul on the road to Damascus is a classic example. And we read in the life of St. Margaret Mary Alacoque that, while she was engaged in prayer, Jesus often spoke to her of the devotion to His Sacred Heart.

Such conversations with God are not rare in the lives of the canonized. But must we in our conversation with God await the appearance of Jesus, of some heavenly voice or extraordinary apparition, some heavenly manifestation from God? Absolutely not. It is true that God does single out some chosen souls to whom He speaks directly and who actually experience the divine power working in them, but these are very few; it is not the way that God ordinarily uses. We should not even desire that God speak to us in this extraordinary manner. We should not expect it. Visions and revelations are not necessary for us to grow in deep love for God. We may fall deeply in love with Him and practice

faithfully the presence of God, yet never receive any extraordinary manifestations from Him. These are special gifts, and God gives them to whom He wills, and when He wills.

God speaks to your mind and to your heart

Nevertheless, God does speak to all of us without exception in a more direct way than we have yet mentioned. It is a hidden way, by which He enters directly into our thoughts and desires. Our most hidden secrets are not secrets to Him. He comes right into our mind. Our thoughts are not only our thoughts; our desires are not only our desires — they may also be God's thoughts and desires. We know we can do nothing without God. Even such ordinary things as eating, breathing, and walking cannot be done without the ordinary help that God gives us. But, in this instance, we are presupposing this natural help of God and are referring to a greater and more noble assistance from Him.

Does God help us in a special way to think good thoughts and to desire holy things? He most assuredly does. For we are living in a supernatural order and destined to a supernatural end, the Beatific Vision. To attain this end, God not only gives us the principle of supernatural life, sanctifying grace, but He also gives us actual graces that help us to perform supernatural actions and thus to grow in the grace of God. These actual graces are, especially, the holy thoughts and desires that God creates in us.

God does not have to use external words and signs to attract our attention and convey ideas to us. He enters our minds directly. He speaks secretly, noiselessly, as befits the Divinity. It is only by faith that we know He is working in us. For example, God once spoke in a special, hidden way to St. Peter, who then confessed Jesus to be the Son of God. "Blessed art thou, Simon Bar-Jona," said our Lord. "For flesh and blood hath not revealed this to thee, but my Father in Heaven."

St. John tells us that we will know all things from the Holy Spirit: "But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things." St. Paul says that God enters our very thoughts: "Not that we are sufficient to think anything of ourselves, as of ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God." God also enters our hearts and inspires us to holy desires. "And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God, was listening; and the Lord touched her heart to give heed to what was being said by Paul."

Thus, the Scriptures and the Church tell us that God speaks to us in the silence of our minds and hearts. He speaks to all men, but all men do not hear Him. God speaks to our mind and heart when we kneel to meditate or to adore Him in the Blessed Sacrament. He enters our mind when the passing things of time excite our thoughts. It is He who gives us holy thoughts to conquer our temptations. It is He who stirs up within us the desire to persevere against all adversaries.

Perhaps we have never realized that God is illuminating our intellect and inspiring our will. Yet He does just that. That is why we are told not to do all the talking in prayer. For, if we continually recite vocal prayers without pausing now and then to think, we will stifle the thoughts and desires that God wishes to excite in us.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux tells us how she listened to the voice of God. "I know and have experienced that 'the Kingdom of God is within us,' that our Master has no need of books or teacher to instruct a soul. The Teacher of teachers instructs without sound of words, and though I have never heard Him speak, yet I know He is within me, always guiding and inspiring me; and just when I need them, lights, hitherto unseen, break in upon me. As a rule, it is not during prayer that this happens, but in the midst of my daily duties."

But we are not only to listen; it would be folly to remain in a state of mental blankness, waiting for God to speak. No, prayer is a loving conversation, and, when the Holy Spirit moves us, it is time to begin our part of the colloquy.

One way, then, to practice the exercise of the presence of God is to listen to God, to be aware that He speaks to us, to be ever conscious that God can use all things to communicate with us.

This article, made available courtesy of the Catholic Exchange, is excerpted from Fr. Healy's book AWAKENING YOUR SOUL TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD, which is available from Sophia Institute Press.

Help with the Festival!



Volunteer Signups are OPEN NOW!

We will need many volunteers for each day of the festival, as well as volunteers to help with setup the week before and cleanup on Monday. Please consider helping our parish in this way!

Grab a friend to work a shift together! Sign up at <https://www.saintmichaelfestival.com/volunteers/>

All volunteers are provided a voucher for one free food court item and pop/water stand drink per night.



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We are collecting donations of pre-made baskets to auction off at this year's festival. Tips to consider in creating a basket:

- Start with a theme: Sports, Game night, Legos, Game Tickets, Baking, etc.
- Make a list: Don't forget to list what is in your basket and its approximate value.
- Drop it off: Drop off all pre-made baskets to the Parish Office. We are happy to wrap the basket for you!
- Contact the committee: Do not hesitate to ask us any questions! Email us at coloradomallory@gmail.com
- Want to help, but can't make a basket? Purchase an item from our Amazon wish list, all purchases will come directly to the church to package together!



Amazon wish list

Sponsor the Festival!

It is not too late to sponsor the festival! With sponsorships available at a variety of price ranges, you can help bring our favorite parish tradition to life and support our festival and community. You can make a difference! More information on how you can sponsor the festival are available in Marian Hall or on the Parish Website. All sponsorships are due by August 10th.

Scan the QR code to get your raffle tickets for your chance to win up to \$2,500!!



Make sweet things happen for our festival bake sale! A fun way to help – donate your favorite baked goods for our bake sale. Sign-ups are available online or in Marian Hall. Containers are available in Marian Hall.



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