



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

Saturday Vigil Sunday 4:00pm 8:30am

10:30am 12:30pm

5:00pm

Daily

Monday-Friday 6:30am Monday-Saturday 8:15am

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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

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

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

2:30-3:30pm every Saturday;
Weekly Holy Hour with
Confessions from 6:30-7:30pm
every Wednesday.
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 SICKPlease contact the Parish office.

614.885.7814 SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG 5750 NORTH HIGH STREET WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



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

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Director of RCIA:

Jake Neal

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ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Website: stmichaelworthington.org School Office: 614-885-3149

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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 above or by 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 the 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's Homebound Minstry 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 to 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:

Elaine Miracle

svdp@saintmichael-cd.org

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME OCTOBER 22, 2023 DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, October 22

8:30 a.m. + Richard Lumpe (The Stover Family)

10:30 a.m. Maureen Ferega (James Ferega)

12:30 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of our Parish 5:00 p.m. + Joan O'Leary (Juliana O'Leary & Family)

Monday, October 23

6:30 a.m. + Poor Souls in Purgatory

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Kyla Francis (Mike Butchko)

Tuesday, October 24

6:30 a.m. + Annie Boote (Pat Kearns) 8:15 a.m. + David Michael Beseau

Wednesday, October 25

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Roseann Horvath (The Smullen Family)

8:15 a.m. For the School

Thursday, October 26

6:30 a.m. + Provida Masi (Laura Wells)

8:15 a.m. + James R. Cecil (Theresa & Rich Agnello)

Friday, October 27

6:30 a.m. Special Intention of Bill & MaryBeth Hinger 8:15 a.m. + Kyle Ann Kowaleski (Kristy & Steve Wagner)

Saturday, October 28

8:15 a.m. + Rita Corrigan (The Butler Family)

4:00 p.m. Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Sunday, October 29

8:30 a.m. + Michael Plunkett (Janet Plunkett)

10:30 a.m. Special Intention of Fr. Michael Lumpe (The Stover Family)

12:30 p.m. + Kyle Ann Kowaleski (Kristy & Steve Wagner)

5:00 p.m. + Elizabeth Sulich (Alice Heller)



OCTOBER 22, 2023 TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's.

- Matthew 22:21

Everything we are and everything we have belongs to God. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts God has given each of us. All God is asking is that we give back a portion of what He gave us. This is the essence of Stewardship. God should be our first priority in everything. All else comes second, especially our money.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: OCTOBER 15, 2023

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Envelopes\$	17,961.65
Online Giving\$	9,275.00
Total· \$	27 236 65

PARISH CALENDAR: OCTOBER			
SUNDAY, October 22	Cub Scout Popcorn Sales after all Masses 11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 11:30 a.m. PSR (LMR) 2:00 p.m. Seasons of Hope (UMR) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Ministry (MH)	Thursday, October 26	Eucharistic Exposition (Adoration Chapel) 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (U) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)
Monday, October 23	5:00 p.m. Election Canvassing (MH) 6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)	Friday, October 27	Eucharistic Exposition (Adoration Chapel) 7:00 p.m. Opus Dei (C)
Tuesday, October 24	7:00 p.m. Parish Council (LMR) 7:30 p.m. WFF Bible Study (UMR)	Saturday, October 28	6:45 a.m. Men's Faith & Fellowship (UMR) 7:00 a.m. Pietra Class (LMR) 8:00 a.m. Opus Dei Recollections (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, October 25	6:30 p.m. Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY October 29	Boy Scout Wreath Sales after all Masses 11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 2:00 p.m. Seasons of Hope (UMR) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Ministry (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Ministry (MH)

(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 TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, it is interesting to see that two groups of people, both with two very different opinions, come together to form a plot against Jesus. Jesus is seen as a common enemy, the viewpoint of the scribes and the pharisees, stubbornly blind, refusing to believe anything about Jesus and His teachings just for the sake of not believing, having a closed mind and a closed heart to the timeless truths of Jesus Christ. In one corner, we have the Pharisees and their disciples, who were opposed to the Roman Empire meddling in Palestine and opposed to paying tax to Rome. In another corner, we have the Herodians, who supported the local Roman ruler in Palestine (Herod) and supported paying tax to Rome. When you have opponents coming together and plotting together against Jesus, you know it is a serious situation. It gets even more sinister when the Pharisees and Herodians speak to Jesus. On one hand, what they say about Jesus is true - that Jesus is truthful, teaches the way of God, and doesn't regard a person's status in how he treats them and, thus, all people are equal as children of God. But it is so obvious that what they say is mere lip service, they have a flawed interior attitude toward Jesus – and so their empty words are part of a plot to trap Jesus. They are pretending to be on the side of Jesus but, in fact, they ask a question about whether or not to pay tax to Caesar because they think no matter what way Jesus answers, He will get Himself into trouble. Not to worry, as Jesus knows what they are up to and sees through their malice. Jesus Himself reprimands them when He says, "Why are you testing me, you hypocrites?" The word "hypocrite" says it all. A hypocrite was the name for an actor on the Greek stage at this time. The hypocrite would simply wear a face mask to play the role on stage. Jesus is saying they are false, they are wearing masks in front of Him but behind their masks - what lies in their hearts and minds - is entirely different. They say or profess one thing, but in actuality, they do another. Thus, Jesus' reply to their question about paying tax to Caesar was masterful. Roman coins at that time had an image of Caesar on them, so Jesus declares, "Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God" (Matthew 22:21). Obviously, as good citizens, we pay our just taxes, defend our country, vote, and support in many other ways. At the same time, our country is to serve its loyal citizens by taking only what belongs to Caesar and leaving to God what belongs to God. Apply this to Issue One, which is of interest to all of us. Beginning with the basics, God gives life and only God can take that life again. As Pope Saint John Paul II wrote in his encyclical Evangelium Vitae:

"Man's life comes from God; it is His gift, His image and imprint, a sharing in His breath of life.

God therefore is the sole Lord of this life: man cannot do with it as he wills."

It should never be up to a country, state or city or its citizens to decide that its unborn children, whose very lives are a gift from God, can be aborted – to do so, as Issue One proposes, ignores and God what God wants for us, His children, and is a sin against the Fifth Commandment: Thou shall not kill. And to take parental rights away, also part of Issue One, also ignores what God wants for His children and has the potential to encourage children to sin against the Fourth Commandment: Honor your mother and your father. Any discussion which does not give to God what belongs to God, and does not respect and revere God above all things for Who He is as our Father, is a flawed discussion, an unworthy proposal. How can a country and its people, as "One Nation Under God," which was founded upon Judeo-Christian principles, ignore what belongs to God when making important decisions about human life and the human family? We do not want to be like those in the Gospel who came to Jesus with empty platitudes and who simply said nice things about Him when, in reality, they were only giving Jesus mere lip service. As Saint Ingnatius of Antioch once wrote:

"We recognize a tree by its fruit, and we ought to be able to recognize a Christian by his actions.

The fruit of faith should be evident in our lives, for being a Christian is more than making sound professions of faith.

It should reveal itself in practical and visible ways. Indeed it is better to keep quiet about our beliefs,

and live them out, than to talk eloquently about what we believe, but fail to live by it."

The Roman coin had an image of Caesar on it, so Jesus said to give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar. We also have an image on us, the most important image – the image of God. We read in Genesis 1:26-27 that we are made in the image and likeness of God. If the coin belongs to Caesar and is to be given to Caesar because it has Caesar's image on it, we belong to God and are to give to God because we have God's image on us. Thus, we are called to give to God, after properly discerning how to respond to the issues of life with faith and conviction. As Father Thomas Merton, OCSO, once wrote:

"We too often forget that faith is a matter of questioning and struggle before it becomes one of certitude and peace. You have to doubt and reject everything else in order to believe firmly in Christ."

Also, the closer we come to God, the more we want to give of ourselves to God. Giving to God is never a chore, rather it is pure joy for us and an act of love because we are giving back to God with love, thanksgiving and gratitude to God Who first loved us and has given us everything we have – again, Father Thomas Merton, OCSO, wrote:

"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him. Gratitude, therefore, takes nothing for granted, is never unresponsive, is constantly awakening to new wonder and to praise of the goodness of God. For the grateful person knows that God is good, not by hearsay, but by experience. And that is what makes all the difference."

Folks, if we give only to Caesar and not to God, don't think for a minute that Caesar will be there to welcome us to eternity or to judge how we lived – but God will be there waiting for each of us, weighing the case that each of us will present as to whether or not we have earned that prized seat at the eternal banquet table with Christ. Knowing this, may we demonstrate the authentic faith, love and conviction we have for God, so that our faith continues to be the driving force in all that we think, say, and do, remembering what Jesus said: "For the Son of Man will come with his angels in his Father's glory, and then he will repay everyone according to his conduct" (Matthew 16:27).

DOERS OF THE WORD

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

True Charity

by Alan Scott, courtesy of the Catholic Exchange

How often is our intent to be as helpful and charitable as possible to everyone who needs us, so that others may have the peace and help from us that they require?

And how often do we fail at providing this help?

Sometimes we just ignore the call for help altogether. And sometimes we give our help, but perhaps for the wrong reasons.

Often it's in our core attitude towards what we're doing. Are we being charitable merely out of obligation? Out of burden? Or are we being charitable out of love for God?

When our answer is the former and not the latter, the true virtue of charity is lacking. Because true charity causes us to love God above all things for His own sake. It's not about us, it's about Him.

And there is no greater achievement in a person's life than to love God above all other things. And when we are charitable for God sake, not our own, it's only then that charity is in its purest, most virtuous form.

In my past (and sometimes, present) I seek to help others but as soon as things go slightly awry, my act of charity converts into acting out of a burden.

And how often is our 'charity,' nothing more than an attempt to gain glory for ourselves? "Look how kind and self-sacrificing I am! I can help everyone and be a wonderful friend! See how incredibly noble I am?"

OK, perhaps I'm exaggerating but this attitude often quietly becomes more and more a part of our general attitude when helping others.

It's during these times that God is no longer involved so much, because much of why we make sacrifices is more about us than God. And when it's about us, and not about God, we start to feel more and more burdened and more incapable of taking care of so many things. We cannot carry the load all by ourselves – but we try to do it just the same.

There is no more room for God's help because we are doing it all by ourselves.

And true charity has no room for our personal likes and dislikes but only for goodness and for doing what is right and for what is needed of us.

Charity is a very holy virtue. One that we must practice, not only during an instance of need but also during every day of our lives. And we must act as unselfishly with other people and situations as possible, for God's sake. Not our own. Because if we're doing it for ourselves, we will always fail. Even if we do everything that is needed from us, we will still fail. Perhaps not in the function of what we're doing to help others but in the reason, the intent, of why we're doing it. Because we're doing it for 'me.' And if we do things only for ourselves, we'll often be left feeling mistreated, annoyed and even resentful.

Sure, we act out of charity for the person we're helping but most importantly we must always act out of charity for God's sake as much as we are able.

And in this charity, we must be patient, kind, thoughtful, helpful and even long-suffering, just as God has been all of these things and more with us.

One of the effects of the virtue of charity, is that it makes us face our own limitations and defects. True charity makes a person humble – because they have to face the truth about themselves and their failures. Even when it's very disagreeable – and many times it will be.

I read once that true charity is the shortest path to God. Because it is the fastest way to the perfection of our souls.

The next time someone asks if you can help him or her in their time of need, say *Yes.* But this time, not as a matter of what you feel you can give, but because of what is needed of you – for the help of our friends, family and neighbors. And most importantly, for our love of God.

FOOD for THOUGHT

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

Render unto Caesar: Taxes and the Role of the State

by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Ph.D.

Despite their flattering words, they were trying to trap him into a no-win situation.

Consider the circumstances. They are living under the iron boot of a brutal empire which filled the earth with its idolatry. Patriotic Jews longed to throw off the yoke of the tyrants. They prayed for an anointed king who would free them from the Romans as David had freed them from the Philistines. Anyone advocating collaboration with the invaders could not possibly be the hoped-for Messiah. No, he would appear as a traitor. But on the other hand, anyone preaching resistance to Rome would be branded an enemy of the Empire and would wind up suspended from a cross.

A No-Win Situation

So the Pharisees decided to put Jesus on the spot in front of the crowd. They asked him a question bound to get him into trouble one way or the other. "Is it lawful to pay taxes to the Emperor or not?"

First of all, Jesus teaches us how to deal with a bogus theological question. He unmasks it for what it is, an effort to trip him up rather than an inquiry proceeding from a sincere desire to know the truth. And then, rather than letting himself be controlled and put on the spot, he takes charge of the conversation and puts the Pharisees on the spot. He answers a question with a question. "Whose head is on that coin that you have in your pocket, the coin that you are using to pay for the temporal necessities of life?" "Caesar's." Next Jesus says something that makes them think, much like he did with the men eager to stone the woman caught in adultery (John 8). "Then give to Caesar what is Caesar, but give to God what is God's." (Mat 22:15-21).

Jesus wins the battle. He transforms an attempt to make him look bad into a teaching moment recorded for all time, providing all peoples and ages with some very important food for thought.

Render to Caesar what is Caesar's

Government is a fact of life. Rulers, laws, police, taxes. What should a worshiper of God make of it? One thing Jesus points out to the Pharisees is that they participate in this societal infrastructure. They don't live on a deserted island but are dependent upon the imperial system for everything from the food in the marketplace to protection from thieves. One rural community in the USA recently celebrated their independence and freedom from local taxes after seceding from the nearby township. A few days later, they were unpleasantly surprised when the town trash trucks failed to show up.

Jesus says we can't have it both ways—if we benefit from secular society, we need to support the infrastructure of society. This can take the form of taxes, military service, jury duty, and informed, conscientious voting.

Give to God what is God's

On the other hand, Jesus says that we need to give to God what is God's. This is the real punch line of the story. For God has given us everything. In fact, it is he who raises up kings and nations and through them provides for us. The Lord used the Babylonians to punish the stubborn disobedience of the kingdom of Judah. But when the time of exile was completed, God used the pagan Persian king, Cyrus, to break the stranglehold of Babylon and allow the Chosen People to return home. The prophet Isaiah even calls this unbeliever the messiah or anointed one! (Is 45:1-6)

But there are also times when political rulers overstep their authority. Sometimes, they demand to be worshiped, like Caesar did. Other times they attack the family and human dignity, violating natural law which demands that innocent human life be respected and that liberty be protected. These are times when Christians have a duty to boldly insist that while Caesar is owed his due, we won't stand by and silently watch him step on God's toes.

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 October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary.

"Those who are called to the table of the Lord must glow with the brightness that comes from the good example of a praiseworthy and blameless life. They must completely remove from their lives the filth and uncleanness of vice. Their upright lives must make them like the salt of the earth for themselves and for the rest of mankind. The brightness of their wisdom must make them like the light of the world that brings light to others." +SAINT JOHN OF CAPISTRANO

Monday, October 23 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time Saint John of Capistrano, Priest

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:13-21 Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?" Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." Then he told them a parable. "There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, 'Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!' But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God."

Meditation: Inheritance disputes are rarely ever easy to resolve, especially when the relatives or close associates of the deceased benefactor can't agree on who should get what and who should get the most. Why did Jesus refuse to settle an inheritance dispute between two brothers? He saw that the heart of the issue was not justice or fairness but rather greed and possessiveness. The Ten Commandments were summarized into two prohibitions – do not worship false idols and do not covet what belongs to another. It's the flip side of the two great commandments – love God and love your neighbor. Jesus warned the man who wanted half of his brother's inheritance to "beware of all covetousness." To covet is to wish to get wrongfully what another possesses or to begrudge what God has given to another. Jesus restates the commandment "do not covet," but he also states that a person's life does not consist in the abundance of his or her possessions.

Prayer: O God, who raised up Saint John of Capistrano to comfort your faithful people in tribulation, place us, we pray, under your safe protection and keep your Church in everlasting peace. Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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: Why does Jesus call this wealthy landowner a fool? Jesus does not fault the rich man for his industriousness and skill in acquiring wealth, but rather for his egoism and selfishness – *it's mine, all mine, and no one else's.* The rich fool had lost the capacity to be concerned for others. His life was consumed with his possessions and his only interests were in himself. His death was the final loss of his soul! Saint Augustine comments on Jesus' words to the brother who wanted more: *Greed wants to divide, just as love desires to gather. What is the significance of "guard against all greed," unless it is "fill yourselves with love"? We, possessing love for our portion, inconvenience the Lord because of our brother just as that man did against his brother, but we do not use the same plea. He said, "Master, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." We say, "Master, tell my brother that he may have my inheritance." [Excerpted from Sermon 265.9]*

Tuesday, October 24 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Anthony Claret, Bishop, and Founder of the Missionary Sons of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:35-38 Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants."

Meditation: This parable contains a lesson in faithfulness and a warning against sloth. Why is faithfulness so important to God? For one, it's the foundation for any lasting and meaningful relationship. Faithfulness or fidelity allows us to persevere in living out an unswerving commitment. The Lord is committed to us in a bond of unbreakable love and fidelity. That is what covenant means – keeping one's word, promise, and commitment no matter how tough or difficult it gets. Faithfulness is a key character trait of God and one that he expects of us. Fortunately God gives the grace and strength to be faithful. He also rewards faithfulness. Why is fidelity, commitment, and faithfulness so difficult today? Many today in western society extol freedom over fidelity and don't want to be bound to an unknown or uncertain future. It's regarded as inconvenient and a burden to the pursuit of the individual's interests. We badly need to recover this virtue, not only for our own sake, but for the sake of future generations as well. If we want to pass on the faith then we need to first be faithful models for our young people. Faithfulness demands consistency and determination to stay the course and see the task to its completion.

Prayer: O God, who for the evangelization of peoples strengthened the Bishop Saint Anthony Mary Claret with admirable charity and long-suffering, grant, through his intercession, that, seeking the things that are yours, we may earnestly devote ourselves to winning our brothers and sisters for Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Contemplation: God loves faithfulness. That is why we can always expect God to give us what he promises. In turn, God expects us to be faithful to him and to one another. How can we grow in faithfulness? God's grace shows us the way. When we are faithful in the little tasks and promises we make, we learn to be faithful in the bigger and more important responsibilities and tasks entrusted to us. Our reward is the Lord Jesus himself who shares with us his joy and friendship – "well done good and faithful servant...enter into the joy of your Master" (Matthew 25:21).

Wednesday, October 25 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:39-48 Jesus said to his disciples: "Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." Then Peter said, "Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?" And the Lord replied, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property. But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish the servant severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master's will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master's will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."

Meditation: The Lord loves faithfulness and richly rewards those who are faithful to him. What is faithfulness? It's keeping one's word, promise, and commitments no matter how tough or difficult life's challenges may be. Faithfulness is a key character trait of God and one that he expects of us. Fortunately God gives us the grace and strength to remain faithful. He also rewards faithfulness. The joy and privilege of being a son or daughter of God carries with it an awesome responsibility. The Lord expects us to make good use of the gifts and graces he gives to us. The more he gives, the more he requires. The temptation while the Master is away is to put off for tomorrow what we know the Master expects us to do today. How can we grow in faithfulness? God's grace shows us the way. When we are faithful in the little tasks and promises we make, we learn to be faithful in the bigger and more important responsibilities and tasks entrusted to us.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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: The Lord Jesus calls us to be vigilant in watching for his return and to be ready to meet him when he calls us to himself. The Lord gives us his Holy Spirit so that we may have the wisdom, help, and strength we need to turn away from sin to embrace God's way of love, justice, and holiness. The Lord's warning of judgment causes dismay for those who are unprepared, but it brings joyful hope to those who eagerly wait for his return in glory. God's judgment is good news for those who are ready to meet him. Their reward is God himself, the source of all truth, beauty, goodness, love and everlasting life.

Thursday, October 26 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:49-53 Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

Meditation: Do you want to be on fire for God? Jesus shocked his disciples when he declared that he would cast fire and cause division rather than peace upon the earth. What kind of fire did Jesus have in mind here? Fire in biblical times was associated with God and with his action in the world and in the lives of his people. God sometimes manifested his presence by use of fire, such as the burning bush which was not consumed when God spoke to Moses (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire was also used to symbolize God's glory (Ezekiel 1:4, 13), his protective presence (2 Kings 6:17), his holiness (Deut. 4:24), righteous judgment (Zechariah 13:9), and his wrath against sin (Isaiah 66:15-16). It is also used of the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:11 and Acts 2:3). God's fire both purifies and cleanses, and it inspires a reverent fear of God and of his word in us. Jesus' sharp statement that he would cause division rather than peace within families must have shocked his disciples. Was he exaggerating? Jesus used a typical Hebrew (Semetic) hyperbole to drive home an important lesson. We often do the same when we want to emphasize something very strongly. Jesus' hyperbole, however, did contain a real warning that the gospel message does have consequences for our lives. It has the power to heal, restore, and unite those who believe its message. But the consequence of ignoring or rejecting the gospel can lead to many hurtful desires and seduction by the world - especially the latest societal trends, what is popular, teachings of false prophets, and giving adherence to man-made civil laws prominence over following God's laws (e.g. supporting legalized abortion under the antiseptic spin language of "choice" and "freedom" versus God's simple and straightforward commandment of "Thou shalt not kill"). Do we really think we have the ability to trump God's laws by simply enacting civil laws or rendering judicial verdicts? Our human Supreme Court cannot invalidate or supersede God the Supreme being. Folks, let get back to loving God as his children, and loving Christ as our Savior and Redeemer, humbling ourselves to follow their way. Let's admit our all too human mistakes in life, reconcile ourselves with God, and come back to the fold of Christ as his sheep whom he loves and shepherds on the one path that leads to eternal life.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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: When Jesus spoke about division he likely had in mind the prophecy of Micah: "a man's enemies are the men of his own household" (Micah 7:6). The essence of Christianity is loyalty to Jesus Christ – a loyalty and faithfulness that takes precedence over every other relationship. The love of God compels us to choose who will be first in our lives. To place any relationship (or anything else) above God is a form of idolatry. Jesus challenges his disciples to examine who they love first and foremost. A true disciple loves God above all else and is willing to forsake all for Jesus Christ. Jesus insists that his disciples give him the loyalty which is only due to God, a loyalty which is higher than spouse or kin. It is possible that family and friends can become our enemies, if the thought of them keeps us from doing what we know God wants us to do. Does the love of Jesus Christ compel you to put God first in all you do (2 Corinthians 5:14)? Remember, Jesus invites us to follow him – let's take him up on this profound invitation, and in doing so live lives of discipleship of love of God, and love of neighbor.

Friday, October 27 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:54-59 Jesus said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west you say immediately that it is going to rain—and so it does; and when you notice that the wind is blowing from the south you say that it is going to be hot—and so it is. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky; why do you not know how to interpret the present time? "Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? If you are to go with your opponent before a magistrate, make an effort to settle the matter on the way; otherwise your opponent will turn you over to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the constable, and the constable throw you into prison. I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny."

Meditation: A lot of effort is made today, with the help of science and technology, to discern potential natural dangers, such as tropical storms, hurricanes, floods, tornados, earth quakes, and erupting volcanoes, so that people can be warned to take shelter before disaster hits. Our need for accurately discerning spiritual danger is even more necessary if we want to avoid a spiritual crisis or a moral disaster. Jesus used a vivid illustration to point out the urgency of getting right with God before it is too late. If you got into serious trouble with your neighbor and did something that could get you severely penalized (like being thrown into jail and losing everything you owned), would you not try to settle the case out-of-court to avoid the worst consequences?

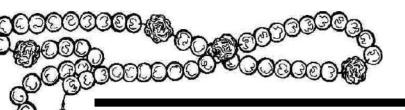
Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: None of us has the power and strength of will for overcoming sin and evil on our own. We stand in constant need of God's grace, help, strength, and protection. That is why scripture uses vivid language to describe God as our rock, refuge, fortress, and mighty defense. We are also vulnerable to Satan's lies and deceptions as well as our own spiritual blind spots for recognizing sin and moral weakness in our own lives. That is why we need God's help and discernment for distinguishing between truth and error, right and wrong, good and evil. Fortunately the Lord Jesus, who is a just judge, is also a merciful advocate who pleads for us at the right hand of the Father in heaven. The light of Jesus Christ reveals what is in our hearts and his grace frees us from the tyranny of sinful habits, hurtful desires, and harmful addictions. God's call is urgent and his grace is available for total freedom and transformation in Christ. If we want to turn away from sin the Lord is ready to give us the grace and help we need to choose for his way of love and holiness. Are you ready for his saving grace and healing action in your life?

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.

frlumpe:2023





OCTOBER:

Month of the Rosary

Praying the Holy Rosary for Healing and Deliverance By Kathleen Beckman

In his 2002 Apostolic Letter, "On The Most Holy Rosary," written to mark the inauguration of the Year of the Rosary, Pope Saint John Paul II quotes Pope Leo XIII: "The rosary is an effective spiritual weapon against the evils affecting society."

In the tradition of the Church there are many stories of healing and deliverance through the prayer of the Holy Rosary. Mary's month of May seems like a good time to share a personal testimony of the power of the Rosary for healing and deliverance in the family.

In the year 2000 our son was a teenager going through a very rough time. I could see the spirit of the world trying to pull him away from our family and take him into a dark world. Within our home there was suddenly a lot of turmoil. I was a full time mother so I could see how troubled our son was becoming but I did not know how to handle it. During my daily holy hour I began to pray the rosary specifically for our son to be delivered away from all the bad influences and temptations that were pulling him down. I prayed the Glorious Mysteries because I was interceding for my son's resurrection. While meditating on the Glorious Mysteries, I claimed for my son the grace of each mystery. For example:

The first glorious mystery is the Resurrection. I prayed, "Dear Lord, please let the grace of your resurrection penetrate my son and bring him to new life in you. Raise him up above the dark pit that he is descending into. Grant resurrection of his true self. Put to death his false self. Be glorified in my son and do not let the devil take him away from you. Release the grace of his baptismal seal to protect him from every temptation."

The second glorious mystery is the Ascension. I prayed, "Dear Lord, please take hold of my son and pull him up with you toward heaven and toward the Eternal Father. Help him to transcend his current struggle and enter into the glory of your resurrected love. You said you would not leave us orphans. Do let my son be an orphan. Grab him back from the enemy of his soul. Detach him from any darkness and raise him up toward the Light of Love."

The third glorious mystery is the Descent of the Holy Spirit. I prayed, "Dear Lord, the grace of the Upper Room at Pentecost is for all souls. I want to place my son near Mary in the Upper Room so he too experiences a personal Pentecost and receives the tongues of fire that ignited the hearts of the Apostles and disciples at Pentecost. Come Holy Spirit, fall afresh upon this young man; fan into flame the baptismal graces he received when you accepted him into the holy family of Trinitarian Love. Set his heart on fire for you, O God! Make him fully alive in the power of your Spirit. I claim your Word, 'Greater is the spirit within you than the spirit from without.' Consecrate him in the Truth and free him from the Liar."

The fourth glorious mystery is the Assumption of Mary. I prayed, "Dear Mary, I entrust to you my little son. Be his mother. I am at a loss. You know what to do. Take him to your heart where he can be safe from the harm that surrounds him. Mary, plead before the Mercy Seat of the Father who assumed you into heaven and ask for mercy upon my son so God will be gloried in his creature and devil will not gloat in taking him away from God. Mary, I have no more wine. Please ask your Son for a miracle of grace that supplies for our families great lack and need."

The fifth glorious mystery is the Coronation of Mary. I prayed, "Dear Lord, with the coronation of Mary you crowned the fulfillment of your glorious work. You desire each creature to reach his fulfillment, to be crowned with everlasting glory. When you received my little son at his baptism, you took him into your house and provided the Queen Mother to be his mother too. I beg you to pour special grace through Mary's maternal heart upon my little son. Let it penetrate and change his direction. Set him on the right path, the straight and narrow, royal road of sanctity. I will never cease to pray for my son until he receives his crown of glory, a gift of your merciful love. Rescue him please."

I prayed in this manner with deep confidence that this Rosary was pleasing to God. I somehow knew that He would hear and answer this prayer. I continued this rosary noven for my son's healing and deliverance for

one year. I could not see improvement. In fact things seemed to get worse. My prayer only became more fervent and my faith increased that God would rescue him. I never doubted but it was difficult.

Then God moved but it was in an unexpected way. He sent my older son home from Europe where he was studying. He saw the difficulties that his younger brother was undergoing. He approached me immediately stating that there is a serious problem here. I shared with my older son that neither I nor my husband could reach him no matter what we tried.

Our oldest son went into his room for a long time. I did not know what he planned on doing until he emerged with several pages of writing on a legal tablet: a letter he penned to his younger brother. He then entered his younger brother's room and read the letter slowly to him. I was told that the effects were almost immediate. Our older son had written a long list of positive attributes about his brother, all the things that were loveable about him.

I imagine that our young son was like a parched desert in need of a big cup of refreshment. His brother's list was a statement of truth. His brother provided a mirror of his true self-identity. For a while he had lost the image of his true self as he entered an arena of deception, an arena that is the downfall of many young people. My two sons went to the movies together. At the end of that day our son was healed and delivered. I assure you that this was a big deliverance from the influence of the Evil One on my family. It was the power of a brother's love that overcame the power of evil that had a grip on our son. But it was the power of a mother's prayer, specifically the Holy Rosary, that was the catalyst behind the events that led to the healing and deliverance of our son.

I was simply the mother and intercessor with Mary, praying the Holy Rosary to prepare the soil of my son's heart to receive the flood of grace that would come through his brother — not through me or my husband. I have no doubt my son's healing and deliverance was the fruit of the one year novena of the Holy Rosary.

Pope Saint John Paul II's Apostolic Letter on the Holy Rosary states, "We need to return to the practice of family prayer and prayer for families, continuing to use the rosary. The holy rosary by age old tradition has shown itself particularly effective as a prayer which brings the family together. The rosary is a treasury to be rediscovered."

In conclusion to the Apostolic Letter, JPII wrote, "I humbly make my own the touching words of Blessed Bartolo Longo, the Apostle of the Rosary. Prayer: *Supplication to the Queen of the Holy Rosary:*

O Blessed Rosary of Mary, sweet chain which unites us to God, bond of love which unites us to the angels, tower of salvation against the assaults of Hell, safe port in our universal shipwreck, we will never abandon you. You will be our comfort in the hour of death: yours our final kiss as life ebbs away. And the last word from our lips will be your sweet name, O Queen of the Rosary of Pompei, O dearest Mother, O Refuge of Sinners, O Sovereign Consoler of the Afflicted. May you be everywhere blessed, today and always, one earth and in heaven. Amen.

I never let a day pass that I do not pray as many rosaries as possible because for me, it is the prayer that releases the most love. Love heals. The Holy Rosary is a weapon against evil, no doubt about it. The rosary is a prayer that acts as a fulcrum to move Mary's heel to crush the head of the ancient foe.



Kathleen Beckman, L.H.S., serves as Co-founder and President of the Foundation of Prayer for Priests (www.foundationforpriests.org). She is an author, radio host and retreat director who frequently speaks to priests, seminarians, religious and laity in the United States and abroad. Often featured on EWTN TV and radio, Kathleen hosts the weekly program Living Eucharist, which airs internationally on Radio Maria. She serves as spiritual director, advisory board member and faculty for the Pope Leo XIII Institute, and the Magnificat advisory team. Her book, Praying for Priests: A Mission for the New Evangelization, is available from Sophia Institute Press.

AROUND THE PARISH

SCHEDULE YOUR MASS INTENTIONS

With our expanded Mass times each week, we have many Mass Intentions available on weekends and weekdays for the remainder of 2023. 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. The tradition of Masses offered for the intentions of living or deceased loves ones originated in the early Church and continues to be an important Catholic practice. If you would like to remember a loved one in this way, please visit the Parish Office to schedule or call for more details.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY COAT DRIVE

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting winter coats for our Sponsor a Family program. Please bring your clean, gently used winter coats (both child and adult sizes) to the clothing chute no later than October 29. Thank you for your generosity.



• NOVEMBER ELECTION CANVASSING **EVENT AT ST. MICHAEL**

The Knights of Columbus and Respect Life Ministry are co-sponsoring a Get Out the Vote

Against Issue 1 event. We will be hanging door hangers in local neighborhoods. Join us on Monday, October 23rd to help us as we work together to defeat Issue 1 at the polls this November. We will meet as a group for prayer and fellowship in Marian Hall and then disperse into smaller groups to canvass the neighborhoods around St. Michael. Food and drink will be provided. For those not wanting or able to walk, a phone bank option exists as well. Special bonus! We are offering a cash reward to the parish organization that sends the most volunteers to the event. Sign up using the QR code. We hope to see you there!



回探!! BOY SCOUT WREATH SALE

The St. Michael's Boy Scout Troop is kicking off its annual Christmas greenery sale! Scouts from Troop 123 will be accepting wreath orders in Marian Hall

after the Sunday Masses on October 29th and November 5th. In-person orders will be distributed after the Sunday Masses on December 3rd. Direct Delivery wreath orders can also be placed on our secure online store at https://sherwoodfundraiser.com/ T123 until 5:00 p.m. on November 5th. Direct Delivery Orders will be shipped to the recipient within the two weeks after Thanksgiving. Contact us at 614-792-1138 with any questions.



同投稿 ST. MICHAEL CUB SCOUT **POPCORN SALE**

Help us support St. Michael's Cub Scout Troop 123 during their annual popcorn sale! Scouts will be in

Marian Hall after all Masses the weekend of October 21-22 with popcorn available to purchase. You can also order online using the QR code or by visiting https://www.prpopcornstore. com/?sid=4VS0HE. This fundraiser works two-fold as it provides an opportunity to offset the scouting dues cost as well as encourage the boys to build interpersonal and leadership skills for life. Thank you for your support and generosity!

Christmas Card Art Contest

SUBMIT YOUR ARTWORK THIS WEEK!

"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us." Matthew 1:23

Help us design our Christmas card this year! Children and adults of the parish are invited to submit artwork using the guiding theme above. The art will be divided into three categories by age level (Category 1: ages 3 - 11, Category 2: ages 12 - 18, Category 3: ages 19+). We will have a category champion for each division, and a grand champion from all submissions.



Scan the QR code for full contest details





MEN'S IGNATIAN SILENT RETREAT

Men, mark your calendars for this year's silent retreat at the Jesuit Spiritual Center in Milford, Ohio. This year's retreat hosted by St. Peter, St. Michael, St. Timothy, and Immaculate Conception parishes will be held Friday, October 27th to Sunday, October 29th. The theme is "Come and See" with Fr. Michael Graham, SJ as retreat master. Please go to www. jesuitspiritualcenter.com/retreats for more information and to register. Space is limited so register early. For additional information, please contact Bill Hinger at bill.hinger@gmail. com or at 614-593-1073.

MEN'S FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, October 28th, we have an introduction to the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary from the Holy Land with Mark Hartfiel. This is a beautiful video with testimonies from many people, young and old, professed and lay, men and women, about the benefits of contemplating the joyful mysteries. Join us in praying and learning with your brothers in Christ to be better fathers and evangelists. We meet at 6:45 a.m. in the Upper Meeting Room for the Rosary and then have the presentation and a short discussion. Men of all ages may join us any week. Ask a friend to come with you. Any questions can be directed to mensgroup@saintmichael-cd.org.

MELCHIZEDEK PROJECT

The Melchizedek Project is a spiritual discernment group that helps high school and college-aged men consider a vocation to the Priesthood. It is based on the book "To Save A Thousand Souls" by Fr. Brett Brannen. All participants will enjoy a meal at each meeting and receive the book for free. Led by Fr. Bill Hahn and assisted with seminarians Zach Goodchild and Sam Severance and Youth Minister Jake Asuncion at St. Michael the Archangel Church, 5750 N. High Street, Worthington, OH 43085. This is primarily for high schoolers. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Dinner and discussion beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Upper Meeting Room of the parish. Please email Fr. Bill Hahn at whahn@columbuscatholic. org or Jake Asuncion at jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org for more information.

SCHOOL

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL IS HIRING!

St. Michael School is hiring a Before Care Assistant for the 2023-2024 School Year to work the following shift: 6:45 a.m. to 7:45 a.m., Monday-Friday. Students arrive at 7:00 a.m., so the start time for the position could be discussed if applicant wishes to attend the 6:30 a.m. Mass.

Requirements:

- Current satisfactory BCI and FBI background checks
- Have attended or be willing to attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children training
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills For more information or to apply, please contact Sr. Mary Regina at principal@stmichaelworthington.org.

ST. CHARLES ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, NOVEMBER 5 FOR PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS

Attention prospective St. Charles Cardinals and families: You are invited to see our campus and learn about the school during our **Open House** program taking place on **Sunday, November 5th**, starting at **1:00 p.m.** Included is a presentation by Principal Jim Lower, tours of campus, and opportunities to learn about and speak to members of our many teams, clubs, and organizations. There will also be refreshments to enjoy in the company of your fellow future Cardinal families. Register for Open House today at **stcharlesprep.org/admissions.**

DISCOVERY NIGHTS FOR FUTURE STALLIONS

Designed specifically for 6th, 7th and 8th grade prospective Stallion families, each informational session will focus on a unique strength of our St. Francis de Sales High School community. Visit https://www.sfdstallions.org/visit-sfd to register.

BE WHO YOU ARE AND BE THAT WELL – October 24, 2023, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Your four-year journey should be filled with experiences and opportunities that are unique to your passions and purpose. No two students are alike...nor should be their experience. What will YOUR St. Francis de Sales High School experience look like?

THE VALUE OF A ST. FRANCIS DE SALES HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION –

November 15, 2023, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

We believe the value of a St. Francis de Sales High School education is priceless and we partner with our families to ensure affordable Catholic education for their children. In this November Discovery Night, we will discuss tuition, scholarships, and tuition assistance opportunities for families, as well as the lifelong dividends associated with a St. Francis de Sales High School education.

BISHOP WATTERSON OPEN HOUSE

Save the date for Bishop Watterson's Open House! Sunday, November 19 from 1:00-3:00 p.m., 99 East Cooke Road, Columbus. Register now to attend an information session with our principal, Deacon Chris Campbell. For more information, go to bishopwatterson.com.

On Friday, Oct. 13 the entire school joined in a Eucharistic procession from the Church through the school, followed by Adoration with the recitation of the rosary, and concluding with Benediction. At the end, when Fr. Mike asked students if they had any questions, they said "Can we do this every week?" It is evident that students are eager for our monthly First Friday Eucharistic Holy Hour!













AROUND THE DIOCESE



EARLY VOTING - MISLEADING FACTS ABOUT ISSUE 1

The Catholic Church supports and defends women, children, and vulnerable Ohioans through accompaniment, social services, and material assistance. A misleading amendment on the ballot this November suggests that a "right to an abortion" is needed to protect women and children, while the amendment would actually put women at risk and endanger preborn children. Catholics must Vote NO on Issue 1 to reject this misleading amendment because...

Miscarriage care and ectopic pregnancy treatments are already protected by state law; generations of women's healthcare in Catholic hospitals prove that our society can protect

women without enshrining a "right to abortion" in our constitution. As Catholics, we follow a Savior who is "the Way, the Truth, and the Life." Catholics, therefore, must reject Issue 1 because it is NOT the way to protect women and children, it does NOT represent the truth about miscarriage care and ectopic pregnancy treatment, and it does NOT respect the dignity of human life.

Your vote is needed to save Ohio from this extreme amendment.

Find your early voting location at www.voteohio.gov and protect women and children in Ohio by Voting NO on Issue 1. dignity of life at all stages, immigrants, Ohioans in need, and Catholic education.





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