



HOLY MASS SCHEDULE

SEE BULLETIN FOR HOLY DAYS

Saturday Vigil	4:00pm
Sunday	8:30am
	10:30am
	12:30pm
	5:00pm

Daily

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

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 SICK

Please contact the Parish office.

614.885.7814

SAINTMICHAEL-CD.ORG

5750 NORTH HIGH STREET
WORTHINGTON, OHIO 43085



FIND US ON
facebook

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

Director of RCIA:

Jake Neal

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PARISH OFFICE

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Safe Environment Coordinator:

Bethany Cook

bcook@saintmichael-cd.org

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 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 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 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

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NOVEMBER 5, 2023

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Sunday, November 5

- 8:30 a.m. Living & Deceased Members of our Parish
- 10:30 a.m. + Cesidio Pizzuti (The Pizzuti Family)
- 12:30 p.m. + Kyle Ann Kowaleski (Kristy & Steve Wagner)
- 5:00 p.m. + Steven Meck (The Meck Family)

Monday, November 6

- 6:30 a.m. + James W. Cecil (Theresa & Rich Agnello)
- 8:15 a.m. + Mario & Francesca Capoccia (The Pizzuti Family)

Tuesday, November 7

- 6:30 a.m. + Holy Souls in Purgatory
(Central Ohio Purgatorial Confraternity)
- 8:15 a.m. + Paul Deshaies (Deacon Crerand)

Wednesday, November 8

- 6:30 a.m. + Angelo & Giaseppa Pizzuti (The Pizzuti Family)
- 8:15 a.m. For the School
- 6:00 p.m. For an Increase in Vocations

Thursday, November 9

- 6:30 a.m. + Ann Ball (Deacon Crerand)
- 8:15 a.m. + Ranita Kownacki (Deacon Crerand)

Friday, November 10

- 6:30 a.m. + Loreto Tempesta (Armando & Liliana Tempesta)
- 8:15 a.m. + Sally Ann Smith (The Stover Family)

Saturday, November 11

- 8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Robert C. Brown
(The Brown Family)
- 4:00 p.m. + Warren, David & Michael Roberts (Carolyn Roberts)

Sunday, November 12

- 8:30 a.m. Special Intention of the Harty & Morrison Family
- 10:30 a.m. For the Living and Deceased Members of Our Parish
- 12:30 p.m. + Fiore Matteis
- 5:00 p.m. + Claudia Pena (Juliana O'Leary & Family)



NOVEMBER 5, 2023

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"Whoever exalts himself will be humbled; but whoever humbles himself will be exalted."

— Matthew 23:12

The world celebrates people in the spotlight and those who have the most of everything. We think celebrity, money and possessions is the key to happiness. Yet, our world is filled with more loneliness, anxiety and depression than ever before. The key to a happy life is relationship. Relationship with God and each other. Trust is the foundation of any good relationship and humility is the seed of trust.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP: OCTOBER 29, 2023

Envelopes.....	\$ 7,121.00
Online Giving	\$ 9,750.00
Total:	\$ 16,871.00



BAPTISM
CONGRATULATIONS
ON THE BAPTISMS OF
LUCAS GERALD ATCHISON
LUCILLE HAFHEY ZALLER
JOSEPHINE MAGDALENA ZALLER



PARISH CALENDAR: NOVEMBER

SUNDAY, November 5	Boy Scout Wreath Sales after all Masses Friendship Sunday 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, November 9	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 5:30 p.m. Cub Scouts (U) 6:00 p.m. Respect Life Ministry Meeting (UMR) 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)
Monday, November 6	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)	Friday, November 10	Eucharistic Exposition (AC)
Tuesday, November 7	9:00 a.m. SVdP Sandwich Making (MH) 7:30 p.m. WFF Bible Study (UMR) 7:30 p.m. Cub Scout Planning Meeting (LMR)	Saturday, November 11	SVdP Sponsor-a-Family Food Drive (after Vigil Mass) 6:45 a.m. Men's Faith & Fellowship (MH) 7:00 a.m. Pietra Class (LMR) 9:30 a.m. SVdP Meeting (UMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, November 8	6:00 p.m. Mass for Vocations (C) 6:00 p.m. Melchizedek Project (UMR) 6:30 p.m. Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY, November 12	SVdP Sponsor a Family Food Drive after all Masses 11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 2:00 p.m. Baptism Class (UMR) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Ministry (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Ministry (MH)

(U) = Undercroft/Cafeteria, (S) = School, (C) = Church, (G) = Gym, (MH) = Marian Hall, (SL) = School Library, (UMR) = Meeting room on the first floor of the Parish Ministry Center, (LMR) = Meeting room in the basement of the Parish Ministry Center, (AC) = Adoration Chapel

ON THIS THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Jesus' criticism of the Pharisees in our Gospel today (Matthew 23:1-2) reminded me of the **Litany of Humility** and the need for all of us to pray this regularly. Jesus criticized the Pharisees for many reasons, and one of those reasons was their wanting to be better than everybody else in public. The Litany of Humility is a prayer the Pharisees could do with praying and practicing. There can, at times, be a little bit of the Pharisees in each of us, perhaps more in some than others, thus today's Gospel is relevant to each of us; as Father Thomas Merton once said: "Pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real." The end of our first reading today is most beautiful: "Have we not all one Father? Did not one God create us?" (Malachi 2:10). We sometimes forget that since we are all children of God, created equally in the eyes of God, that there are no favorites in the eyes of God. The Pharisees had forgotten that. The world may consider people great because of their power or success or money or fame but those things do not count for greatness in the Gospel. In the Gospel what counts for greatness is if you serve. In our Gospel today Jesus said: "The greatest among you must be your servant" (Matthew 23:11). How far our world has wandered from this Gospel message. Jesus and Mary are two great examples of humility and service. Mary said to the angel Gabriel: "Behold the handmaid of the Lord. Be it done unto me according to your word" (Luke 1:38). When Mary consented to become the mother of Jesus, she ran the risk of being stoned to death because that was the penalty for an unmarried mother (Deuteronomy 22:20-21). But Mary in her humility and desire to serve God agreed not only to be the mother of Jesus but also to suffer the rejection of people as a result. So Mary is a model of humility and service for us. She is a model of giving, never counting the cost. Jesus is our other great model of humility and service. In the Garden of Gethsemane, through prayer, Jesus got the strength to let go of His will and submit to the will of His Father, "not my will but yours be done" (Luke 22:42). Crucifixion was the form of death penalty used for common criminals at that time in the Roman Empire; Jesus was executed as a common criminal. But through His death Jesus won life for all of us. Remember, the Son of Man came to serve, not to be served – so must we serve Christ and others in imitation of Him. And always remember this: (1) Don't forget who you are, and who made you – God the Father; (2) Don't forget that you're the creature, not the Creator – none of us are God; and (3) Don't forget where you came from. I would encourage everyone to pray the **Litany of Humility** (below): In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Begin the Litany by praying one "Our Father" followed by one "Hail Mary."

O Jesus! meek and humble of heart, *hear me.*
 From the desire of being esteemed, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being loved, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being extolled, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being honored, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being praised, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being preferred to others, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being consulted, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the desire of being approved, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being humiliated, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being despised, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of suffering rebukes, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being calumniated, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being forgotten, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being ridiculed, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being wronged, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 From the fear of being suspected, *deliver me, Jesus.*
 That others may be loved more than I, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may be esteemed more than I, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may increase and I may decrease, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may be chosen and I set aside, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may be praised and I unnoticed, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may be preferred to me in everything, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 That others may become holier than I, provided that I may become as holy as I should, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*
 In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

+ + +

TWO ITEMS: (1) Please make sure you read and share the **Homily of Bishop Earl Fernandes**, which I have included in this bulletin. (2) This is **National Vocation Awareness Week** – please support vocations (see information in this bulletin).

~Fr. Mike Lumpe

*"Here is one of the
 best means to acquire
 humility; fix well in your
 mind this maxim:
 One is as much as he
 is in the sight of God, and
 no more."
 +SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI*

A MESSAGE FROM
BISHOP EARL. K FERNANDES



My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

This weekend I address all Catholics throughout the Diocese of Columbus. This coming Tuesday, there will be a very important vote regarding enshrining abortion in the Constitution of Ohio. I urge all of you who have not yet voted to vote No on Issue 1. **No in November**. I encourage you to invite your family members, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to vote No. If you know an elderly or homebound person who needs transportation, offer to drive them so that they can participate in the political process. Our No to this amendment is an expression of our great Yes to the gift of human life and to God Himself.

Two Sundays ago, Jesus said in the Gospel: “Render unto Caesar what belongs to Caesar and unto God what belongs to God.” God is the author of life and Lord of all creation. After making man and woman in His image and likeness, He declared His creation to be *very good*. We are called to be stewards of creation and to give back to God what belongs to God. Look around you – your fellow parishioners, infants in their mothers’ arms, your spouse – they all have dignity and value. Each is a masterpiece of God, made in His image, bearing His likeness. We are to render unto God what belongs to God, offering Him our very lives.

Last Sunday, Jesus summarized the law and prophets in two commandments: love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, and love your neighbor as yourself. To love God only with our lips is not enough. We show our love of God by loving our neighbor, including the unborn. I am astounded by how many people, especially Catholics, tirelessly serve the poor and accompany women and their children – at the Pregnancy Decision Health Centers, the Women’s Care Center, at the St. Vincent de Paul Centers throughout the Diocese; through Seton Housing, sheltering the homeless; at food pantries and soup kitchens; and through our Catholic healthcare ministries and visits to the sick and elderly. Our responsibility to our neighbor extends far beyond the womb. Many of our parishes carry out the Walking with Moms Initiative. We commit ourselves to accompanying women, their children, and their families.

Nevertheless, I urge you to vote No because if the rights of the unborn are not protected then other populations too become vulnerable. Pope Francis has said:

“Among the vulnerable for whom the Church wishes to care with particular love and concern are unborn children, the most defenseless and innocent among us. Nowadays efforts are made to deny them their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. Frequently, as a way of ridiculing the Church’s effort to defend

their lives, attempts are made to present her position as ideological, obscurantist and conservative. Yet this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right.

It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development. Human beings are ends in themselves and never a means of resolving other problems. Once this conviction disappears, so do solid and lasting foundations for the defense of human rights, which would always be subject to the passing whims of the powers that be. Reason alone is sufficient to recognize the inviolable value of each single human life, but if we also look at the issue from the standpoint of faith, ‘every violation of the personal dignity of the human being cries out in vengeance to God and is an offence against the creator of the individual’ ” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 213).

To protect the rights of the vulnerable, I urge you to vote No. I also urge you to vote No, not only because this amendment would permit abortion even in the latest stages of pregnancy, but also because it takes rights away from parents in making decisions regarding their minor children. The amendment does not apply to adults but says *any individual*. The amendment is not restricted to permitting abortion; the language says “*reproductive decisions*”, which would also include gender reassignment, without parental consent or knowledge. The amendment puts women at risk by making it nearly impossible to prosecute those who have abused women or female minors and who pressure them to have abortions and those women who have been trafficked, who subsequently are pressured into ending their pregnancy. Issue 1 simply goes too far – even for some who identify as pro-choice.

This is not merely a political issue; it is fundamentally a moral issue. Will we accept our responsibility as Catholics to protect the rights of parents, vulnerable women, and the unborn? Will we acknowledge God as the Lord of Life?

In this Sunday’s Liturgy, Paul invites us to draw near to the Gospel “*not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God.*” Jesus offers a warning to our conscience to conform our way of living to it. In today’s passage, He rebukes the scribes and the Pharisees for their hypocrisy. Jesus notes that they “*preach, but do not practice;*” rather “*they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on men’s shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with their finger.*”

Catholics throughout the Diocese are lifting their hands and voices to lighten the burdens of women and children, but we need your help to be the people that God has called us to be – a people of life, a people who celebrate life, nourish life, cherish life, and protect and defend life. I urge you to vote No in November. No matter how the election goes, the day after the election, there will still be women who are contemplating abortion, and we need to be there to offer support so that they know they can say Yes to life – to assure them of a network of support, to remind them that they and their children are loved. We need to make abortion unthinkable.

By voting *No* in November, we will offer the answer to the question of Malachi the prophet in the first reading: “*Have we not all the one father? Has not the one God created us? Why then do we break faith with one another?*” We are part of the same human family. Jesus Himself says in the Gospel, “*You are all brothers ... you have but one Father in heaven.*”

At the end of November, we will celebrate the Feast of the Christ the King. The Gospel that day is the separation of the sheep from the goats – the Last Judgment. Christ will say, “*Whatever you did for the least of my brothers and sisters, you did for me.*” Stand beside the least of our brothers and sisters, defending their right to life, acknowledging that there is one God and Father of us all. Say *Yes* to God and human life. Vote *No* in November.

+BISHOP EARL K. FERNANDES

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 November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory.

"Short and fleeting are the joys of this world's pleasures which endeavors to turn aside from the path of life those who are called to eternity. The faithful and religious spirit, therefore, must desire the things which are heavenly, and being eager for the Divine promises, lift itself to the love of the incorruptible Good and the hope of the true Light." +POPE SAINT LEO THE GREAT

Monday, November 6 ~ Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:12-14 On a Sabbath Jesus went to dine at the home of one of the leading Pharisees. He said to the host who invited him, "When you hold a lunch or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or sisters or your relatives or your wealthy neighbors, in case they may invite you back and you have repayment. Rather, when you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Meditation: The Lord is always ready to receive us at his table. As far as we can tell from the gospel accounts, Jesus never refused a dinner invitation! Why, in this particular instance, does Jesus lecture his host on who he should or shouldn't invite to dinner? Did his host expect some favor or reward from Jesus? Did he want to impress his neighbors with the honor of hosting the "miracle worker" from Galilee?

Prayer: Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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: Jesus probes our hearts as well. Do you show favor and generosity to those who will repay you in kind? What about those who do not have the means to repay you – the poor, the sick, and the disadvantaged? Generosity demands a measure of self-sacrifice. It doesn't impoverish, but rather enriches the soul of the giver. True generosity springs from a heart full of mercy and compassion. God loved us first, and our love is a response of gratitude to his great mercy and kindness towards us. We cannot out give God in his generosity towards us. Do you give freely as Jesus gives without expectation for personal gain or reward?

Tuesday, November 7 ~ Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time ~ Election Day ~

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:15-24 One of those at table with Jesus said to him, "Blessed is the one who will dine in the Kingdom of God." He replied to him, "A man gave a great dinner to which he invited many. When the time for the dinner came, he dispatched his servant to say to those invited, 'Come, everything is now ready.' But one by one, they all began to excuse themselves. The first said to him, 'I have purchased a field and must go to examine it; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have purchased five yoke of oxen and am on my way to evaluate them; I ask you, consider me excused.' And another said, 'I have just married a woman, and therefore I cannot come.' The servant went and reported this to his master. Then the master of the house in a rage commanded his servant, 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in here the poor and the crippled, the blind and the lame.' The servant reported, 'Sir, your orders have been carried out and still there is room.' The master then ordered the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedgerows and make people come in that my home may be filled. For, I tell you, none of those men who were invited will taste my dinner.'"

Meditation: What does it mean to “eat bread in the kingdom of heaven?” In the ancient world the most notable sign of favor and intimate friendship was the invitation to “share bread” at the dinner table. Who you ate with showed who you valued and trusted as your friends. A great banquet would involve a lavish meal of several courses and a large company of notable guests and friends. One of the most beautiful images of heaven in the scriptures is the royal wedding celebration and banquet given by the King for his son and close friends. We, in fact, have been invited to the most important banquet of all! The last book in the Bible ends with an invitation to the wedding feast of the Lamb and his Bride, the Church: The Spirit and the Bride say, Come! (Revelations 22:17). The ‘Lamb of God’ is the Lord Jesus Christ and his bride is the people he has redeemed by his own precious blood which was shed upon the cross for our salvation.

Prayer: Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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.

Prayer Before an Election: Lord God, as the election approaches, we seek to better understand the issues and concerns that confront our city/state/country, and how the Gospel compels us to respond as faithful citizens in our community. We ask for eyes that are free from blindness so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters, one and equal in dignity, especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty. We ask for ears that will hear the cries of children unborn and those abandoned, Men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender. We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will bring us closer to your Kingdom. We pray for discernment so that we may choose leaders who hear and embrace your Word, live your love, and keep in the ways of your timeless truths as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace. We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

A Prayer Before I Vote: Gracious and loving God, let your Spirit be with us (me) today as I participate in voting. Hear our (my) prayers, and increase in us (me) the will to follow your Son Jesus Christ. Help us (me) to draw on the resources of our (my) faith as we (I) use the opportunities of our democracy to shape a society more compatible with doing Your will, and respectful of the life, dignity, and rights of the human person, especially the poor, the unborn children, the elderly, and the protection and support of the family. We (I) ask this through Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God forever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Notice how Jesus probes the reasons why people make excuses to God's great invitation to “eat bread” with him at his banquet table. The first excuse allows the claims of one's personal business or work to take precedence over God's claim. Do you allow any task or endeavor to absorb you so much that it keeps you from the thought of God? The second excuse allows our possessions to come before God. Do you allow the media and other diversions to crowd out time for God in daily prayer and worship? The third excuse puts home and family ahead of God. God never meant for our home and relationships to be used selfishly. We serve God best when we invite him into our work, our homes, and our personal lives and when we share our possessions with others. Do you make excuses to God's great invitation to “eat bread” with him at his banquet table?

Wednesday, November 8 ~ Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 14:25-33 Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, “If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, ‘This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.’ Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms. In the same way, every one of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.”

Meditation: What does the parable of the tower builder and a ruler on a war campaign have in common? Both risk serious loss if they don't carefully plan ahead. In a shame and honor culture people want to avoid at all costs being mocked by their community for failing to complete a task they began in earnest.

This double parable echoes the instruction of Proverbs: "By wisdom a house is built" and "by wise guidance you can wage a war" to ensure victory (Proverbs 24:3-6). Every landowner who could afford it walled in his orchard as a protection from intruders who might steal or harm his produce. A tower was usually built in a corner of the wall and a guard posted especially during harvest time when thieves would likely try to make off with the goods. Starting a building-project, and leaving it unfinished because of poor planning would invite the scorn of the whole village. Likewise a king who decided to wage a war against an opponent who was much stronger, would be considered foolish if he did not come up with a plan that had a decent chance of success. Jesus tells his would-be disciples that they, too, must count the cost if they want to succeed as his disciples. Jesus assures success for those willing to pay the price. All it cost is everything! What does Jesus have to offer that's worth giving up everything else? More than we can imagine! Jesus offers the gift of abundant life and everlasting peace and happiness with God.

Prayer: Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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: Jesus used strong language to make clear that nothing should take precedence or first place in our lives over God. Jesus knew that the way of the cross was the Father's way to glory and victory over sin and death. He counted the cost and said 'yes' to his Father's will. We, too, must 'count the cost' and be ready to follow Jesus in the way of the cross if we want to share in his glory and victory. What is the 'way of the cross' for you and for me? When my will crosses with God's will, then his will must be done. The way of the cross involves sacrifice, the sacrifice of laying down my life each and every day for Jesus' sake. What makes such sacrifice possible and "sweet" for us is the love of God poured out for us in the blood of Jesus Christ. Paul the Apostle reminds us that "God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit" (Romans 5:5). We can never out give God. He always gives us more than we can expect or imagine. Do you allow the Holy Spirit to fill your heart with the love of God?

Thursday, November 9 ~ Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time **Feast of the Dedication of Saint John Lateran Basilica**

Holy Gospel: John 2:13-22 Since the Passover of the Jews was near, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He found in the temple area those who sold oxen, sheep, and doves, as well as the money-changers seated there. He made a whip out of cords and drove them all out of the temple area, with the sheep and oxen, and spilled the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables, and to those who sold doves he said, "Take these out of here, and stop making my Father's house a marketplace." His disciples recalled the words of Scripture, Zeal for your house will consume me. At this the Jews answered and said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered and said to them, "Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and you will raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking about the temple of his Body. Therefore, when he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they came to believe the Scripture and the word Jesus had spoken.

Meditation: What can keep us from the presence of God? Jesus' dramatic cleansing of the temple was seen by his disciples as a prophetic sign of God's action. The temple was understood as the dwelling place of God among his people. When God delivered his people from slavery in Egypt, he brought them through the sea, and finally to Mount Sinai where he made a covenant with them and gave them a new way of life embodied in the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17). God gave Moses instruction for worship and for making the Tabernacle, or tent of meeting, which was later replaced by the temple. The New Testament tells us that these "serve as a copy and shadow of the heavenly sanctuary" – God's Temple in heaven (Hebrews 8:5). Jesus' cleansing of the temple is also a prophetic sign of what he wants to do with each of us – a cleansing of the mind, heart and soul.

Prayer: O God, who from living and chosen stones prepare an eternal dwelling for your majesty, increase in your Church the spirit of grace you have bestowed, so that by new growth your faithful people may build up the heavenly Jerusalem. 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: It is understandable that Catholics might ask what the significance is of celebrating the anniversary of the dedication of St. John Lateran Basilica. This particular Basilica is the Cathedral Church of Rome – just as St. Joseph Cathedral is the "mother church" of the Diocese of Columbus, and is the "Bishop's Church." The Holy Father – Pope Francis – is also the Bishop of Rome, thus the Lateran Basilica

is his Church as Bishop. St. John Lateran is Christendom's earliest basilica. Ordered by Rome's first Christian Emperor, Constantine the Great, it became the Popes' own cathedral and official residence for the first millennium of Christian history. Today, standing before the basilica's ponderous eighteenth-century facade, assailed by ear-splitting Roman traffic snarls on every side, we can hardly imagine this as the cradle of our religious heritage. It was to Jesus the Savior that Constantine dedicated the original church, confirming Christ's superiority over the Capital's pagan gods and assuring the worldwide expansion of the Christian religion. The dedication of a church is a feast for all its parishioners. St. John Lateran is, in a sense, the parish church of all Catholics, for it is the Pope's parish, the Cathedral Church of the Bishop of Rome. This church is the spiritual home of the people who are the Church.

Friday, November 10 ~ Thirty-First Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Leo the Great, Pope

Holy Gospel: Luke 16:1-8 Jesus said to his disciples, "A rich man had a steward who was reported to him for squandering his property. He summoned him and said, 'What is this I hear about you? Prepare a full account of your stewardship, because you can no longer be my steward.' The steward said to himself, 'What shall I do, now that my master is taking the position of steward away from me? I am not strong enough to dig and I am ashamed to beg. I know what I shall do so that, when I am removed from the stewardship, they may welcome me into their homes.' He called in his master's debtors one by one. To the first he said, 'How much do you owe my master?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note. Sit down and quickly write one for fifty.' Then to another he said, 'And you, how much do you owe?' He replied, 'One hundred measures of wheat.' He said to him, 'Here is your promissory note; write one for eighty.' And the master commended that dishonest steward for acting prudently. For the children of this world are more prudent in dealing with their own generation than the children of light."

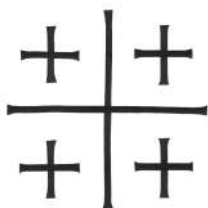
Meditation: Notice how the dishonest steward is commended not for mishandling his master's wealth, but for his shrewd provision in averting personal disaster and in securing his future livelihood. The original meaning of "shrewdness" is "foresight." A shrewd person grasps a critical situation with resolution, foresight, and the determination to avoid serious loss or disaster. Jesus is concerned here with something more critical than a financial or economic crisis. His concern is that we avert spiritual crisis and personal moral disaster through the exercise of faith and foresight. If Christians would only expend as much foresight and energy to spiritual matters which have eternal consequences as much as they do to earthly matters which have temporal consequences, then they would be truly better off, both in this life and in the age to come.

Prayer: O God, who never allow the gates of hell to prevail against your Church, firmly founded on the apostolic rock, grant her, we pray, that through the intercession of Pope Saint Leo, she may stand firm in your truth and know the protection of lasting peace. 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: Saint Ambrose once said: "The bosoms of the poor, the houses of widows, the mouths of children are the barns which last forever." So, thus, true wealth consists not in what we keep but in what we give away. Possessions are a great responsibility. The Lord expects us to use them honestly and responsibly and to put them at his service and the service of others. We belong to God and all that we have is his as well. He expects us to make a good return on what he gives us. God loves generosity and he gives liberally to those who share his gifts with others. The Pharisees, however, had no room for God in their hearts. The gospel says they were lovers of money (Luke 16:14). Love of money and wealth crowd out love of God and love of neighbor. Jesus makes clear that our hearts must either be possessed by God's love or our hearts will be possessed by the love of something else. What do you most treasure in your heart? What do you love the most – better yet, who do you love the most. God? I hope so!

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



Special Mass and Holy Hour for Vocations
Saint Michael the Archangel Parish
Wednesday, November 8
6:00 p.m. Mass, followed by Holy Hour, Confessions



As part of National Vocations Awareness Week, we will have a special 6:00 p.m. Mass on Wednesday, November 8, followed by our Weekly Holy Hour and Confessions – this Holy Hour is for an increase in Vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, especially in our Diocese of Columbus. All are invited and encouraged to come to the Mass, and to spend some time praying before the Blessed Sacrament for an increase in vocations.

Praying for vocations is something that all of us can and should do. If you cannot attend this special Mass and Holy Hour, please make sure you pray for an increase in vocations as part of your regular prayers, including praying the Rosary.

A Prayer for Vocations

Lord Jesus, as You once called the first disciples to make them fishers of men, let your sweet invitation continue to resound: Come, follow Me! Give young men and women the grace of responding quickly to Your voice. Support your bishops, priests and consecrated people in their apostolic labor. Grant perseverance to our seminarians and to all those who are carrying out the ideal of a life totally consecrated to Your service. Awaken in our community a missionary eagerness. Lord, send workers to your harvest and do not allow humanity to be lost for the lack of pastors, missionaries and people dedicated to the cause of the Gospel. Mary, Mother of the Church, the model of every vocation, help us to say "yes" to the Lord Who calls us to cooperate in the divine plan of salvation.

+Pope Saint John Paul II

Prayer to Mary, Mother of the Good Shepherd

Holy Mother of the Good Shepherd, turn your motherly care to our Diocese. Intercede for us to the Lord of the Harvest to send more laborers to the harvest. Inspire vocations in our time. Let the word of your Son be made flesh anew in the lives of persons anxious to proclaim the Good News of everlasting life. Draw them near to the heart of your Son so that they can understand the beauty and the joy that awaits them to be His witnesses. Amen.

–Cardinal Sean O'Malley, OFM, Cap.

A Parent's Vocation Prayer for their Children

Loving Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, You have created my children special and unique and I give You thanks and praise for them. Help me to guide them well, to pray for them deeply. Open their hearts to Your word that they may know the sound of Your voice in a world filled with distractions. May they hear Your call to live lives of Christian service. If you are calling my children to a life of Church ministry, my prayer is that Your call will be steady and irresistible. Grant me, too, a generous heart to open my arms one day to give them to Your service. Mother Mary, may your tender care keep my children safe, especially as they discern their vocations in life. Loving God, what I ask for my children, I ask for all children: help them to know Your Presence in their lives for You are God for ever and ever. Amen.

OUR Catholic FAITH

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Purgatory: “Cleansing the lens”

by Fr. William Saunders

Vatican II's Dogmatic Constitution on the Church asserted, "This sacred council accepts loyally the venerable faith of our ancestors in the living communion which exists between us and our brothers who are in the glory of heaven or who are yet being purified after their death; and it proposes again the decrees of the Second Council of Nicea, of the Council of Florence, and of the Council of Trent" (No. 51). Moreover, the *Catechism* clearly affirms the Church's belief in purgatory and the purification of the soul after death (cf. No. 1030-32).

As Vatican II stated, the Church has consistently believed in a purification of the soul after death. This belief is rooted in the Old Testament. In the Second Book of Maccabees, we read of how Judas Maccabees offered sacrifices and prayers for soldiers who had died wearing amulets, which were forbidden by the Law; Scripture reads, "Turning to supplication, they prayed that the sinful deed might be blotted out" (12:43), and "Thus, [Judas Maccabees] made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from the sin" (12:46). This passage gives evidence of the Jewish practice of offering prayers and sacrifices to cleanse the soul of the departed. Rabbinic interpretation of Scripture also attests to the belief. In the Book of the Prophet Zechariah, the Lord spoke, "I will bring the one third through fire, and I will refine them as silver is refined, and I will test them as gold is tested" (13:9); the School of Rabbi Shammai interpreted this passage as a purification of the soul through God's mercy and goodness, preparing it for eternal life. In Sirach 7:33, "Withhold not your kindness from the dead" was interpreted as imploring God to cleanse the soul. In sum, the Old Testament clearly attests to some kind of purification process of the soul of the faithful after death.

The New Testament has few references about a purging of the soul, or even about heaven for that matter. Rather the focus is on preaching the gospel and awaiting the second coming of Christ, which only later did the writers of Sacred Scripture realize could be after their own deaths. However, in Matthew 12:32, Jesus' statement that certain sins "will not be forgiven either in this world or in the world to come," at least suggests a purging of the soul after death. Pope St. Gregory (d. 604) stated, "As for certain lesser faults, we must believe that, before the Final Judgment, there is a purifying fire. He who is truth says that whoever utters blasphemy against the Holy Spirit will be pardoned neither in this age nor in the age to come. From this sentence we understand that certain offenses can be forgiven in this age, but certain others in the age to come." The Council of Lyons (1274) likewise affirmed this interpretation of our Lord's teaching.

The early Church preserved the belief in offering prayers for the purification of the soul. Pope St. Gregory said, "Let us not hesitate to help those who have died and to offer our prayers for them." St. Ambrose (d. 397) preached, "We have loved them during life; let us not abandon them in death, until we have conducted them by our prayers into the house of the Lord." Moreover, the Church has affirmed this belief many times, as Vatican II stated.

The key to this answer, however, is to see the beauty behind the doctrine of purgatory. We believe that God gave us a free will so that we could choose between right and wrong, good and evil. Our free will allows us to make the one fundamental choice — to love God. An act of the free will also entails responsibility. When we choose not to love God and thereby sin, we are responsible for that sin. God in His justice holds us accountable for such sins, but in His love and mercy desires us to be reconciled to Himself and our neighbor. During our life on this earth, if we really love God, we examine our consciences, admit our sins, express contrition for them, confess them, and receive absolution for them in the Sacrament of Penance. We perform penances and other sacrifices to heal the hurt caused by sin. In so doing, we are continually saying "yes" to the Lord. In a sense our soul is like a lens — when we sin, we cloud the lens; it gets dirty, and we lose the focus of God in our lives.

Through confession and penance, God cleanses the "lens" of our soul. When we die, if we leave this life fundamentally loving God, dying in His grace and friendship, and free of mortal sin, we will have eternal salvation and attain the beatific vision — we will see God for who He is. If we die with venial sins or without having done sufficient penance for our sins, God in His love, mercy and justice will purify our souls, "cleanse the lens" so to speak. After such purification, the soul will then be united with God in heaven and enjoy the beatific vision.

This article is made available courtesy of the Catholic Education Resource Center.

AROUND THE PARISH

THE SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL INVITES YOU TO HELP OTHERS THIS HOLIDAY SEASON THREE WAYS YOU CAN HELP:

1. You can help to purchase food for the families in our Sponsor-A-Family program. Pick up a grocery bag after mass on Nov. 11 & 12. Shop for the items on the bag. Return the full bag at mass on Nov. 18 & 19.
2. You can sponsor a family by shopping for the members of a particular family off a wish list. Families range in size from one child to six children. We ask that you spend about \$75 per child and that all gifts are new. Packets will be available after all masses Nov. 11/12 & Nov. 18/19.
3. You can purchase any gift for a child of any age and put it in our Giving Tree boxes. These gifts are given out at the St. Francis Center and the SVDP Downtown Center. The Giving Trees will go up Thanksgiving weekend. We need all of our gifts no later than Dec. 10!

ATTENTION, ALL LIVE WIRES!

Our next get-together will be held on Tuesday, November 14th at 11:30 a.m. in Marian Hall. All current and future Live Wires are welcome. Live Wires of ALL ages are invited – no need to be a Senior. Bring your favorite brown bag lunch and leave the desserts and drinks to us! Plan to enjoy some games and conversation! Hope to see you there!



BOY SCOUT WREATH SALE

The St. Michael 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 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. 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.

St. Michael Athletic Association Presents

Euchre Tournament & Chili Night



Saturday, November 18, 2023

St. Michael Church Cafeteria (undercroft)

Doors Open: 6:00 PM Begins: 7:00 PM

\$100 to high scorer, \$50 to most loners

50/50 Drawing | Door Prizes & More

Pre-register cost per player: \$25 | Cost per player at Door: \$30

Register a table of 8: \$175

Register now at www.smaa-events.com

Ticket Cost includes: tournament, chili, and beverage wristband

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Questions? Contact

Kelly Damschroder | kellyhaller1@gmail.com

Katie Preston | kapreston1@gmail.com

Women's Faith & Fellowship Advent Reflection Journal

Bring your Advent journey to life with our Advent Reflection Journal. Rejoice! An Advent Pilgrimage into the Heart of Scripture by Fr. Mark Toups is a wonderful way for you to prepare your heart for the birth of our Savior & King.

Books are \$10 each and are now available for preorder! You can reserve one for yourself or add a few more & share with some friends this Advent season.

Quantities are limited, to reserve yours now, use the QR code or email us at womensgroup@saintmichael-cd.org



MEN'S FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP

Saturday, November 11th, The Visitation of the Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary is our focus. Filmed in the Holy Land with Mark Hartfiel, this is a beautiful video with testimonies and insights from many people, professed and lay, men and women about the benefits of contemplating the joyful mysteries. Prepare for Advent by increasing your joy! All are invited to join us in praying and learning with your brothers and sisters in Christ to be happier 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. Adults of all ages may join us any week, invite a friend to join you. Any questions can be directed to mensgroup@saintmichael-cd.org.

Women of the St. Michael Community and their family and friends are invited to:

Advent by Candlelight

Thursday, November 30 at 7:00pm

Featuring Fr. Michael Lumpe

Join us for a beautiful evening of faith and fellowship as we share a meal and listen to Father Mike share with us about the motherhood of Mary. To host a table, RSVP as an individual or for more information on our candlelight evenings, please use the QR code below.



JOIN ST. ANN'S ALTAR SOCIETY AND HELP KEEP OUR CHURCH CLEAN!

Members of the St. Ann's Altar Society at St. Michael the Archangel Church keep the church and Adoration Chapel clean throughout the year. Our goal is to clean the church on Fridays to have it ready for weekend Masses, and to clean the Adoration Chapel on Tuesdays before Eucharistic Exposition. No heavy-duty cleaning or lifting is required, just a desire to help keep our church looking beautiful! To sign up, scan the QR code or visit saintmichael-cd.org/community-life/parish-ministries/st-anns-altar-society/.

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.

SCHOOLS

ST. MICHAEL PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION NOW OPEN FOR 2024-2025 SCHOOL YEAR

St. Michael Preschool is now accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year. Please visit www.stmichaelworthington.org/admissions/prekindergarten/ for the application form and for more information. Completed applications can be emailed to Laura Wells at lwells@stmichaelworthington.org. We anticipate having a waitlist, so be sure to get your application in as soon as possible.

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: 6:45-7:45 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 & 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.



NOVEMBER 1, 2023

ALL SAINTS DAY HIGHLIGHTS



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AROUND THE DIOCESE

FALL "COME AND SEE" WEEKEND

Dates: November 9-12, 2023. The weekend begins with arrival at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9 and concludes with departure at noon on Sunday, November 12. The weekend has been set aside to allow young men (high school juniors, seniors, and college-aged students) to visit the seminary for a few days. Live-In participants will experience seminary prayer life, classes, communal worship, and interaction with current seminarians, faculty and staff. Live-In weekends include introductory presentations on discernment, student life, and the college seminary formation program. *Contact us at vocations@columbuscatholic.org if you are interested.*

EARLY VOTING – ISSUE 1 & ISSUE 2 THREATEN FAMILIES

Our Catholic faith teaches that parents have a duty to protect and care for their children. These duties are the reason that parents have special rights regarding the education and welfare of children. A constitutional amendment on the ballot in this election would threaten a parent's ability to protect and care for their children. Catholics must Vote NO on Issue 1 and Issue 2 because...

- **Parental rights are under threat** – Issue 1 challenges a parent's right to know about and consent to their child receiving any reproductive interventions, including abortion.
- **Children are at risk** – Issue 2 endangers children as the legalization of recreational marijuana is shown to increase use by youth, therefore harming their development, especially neurologically. It could also increase traffic accidents and fatalities.

Jesus teaches us to love our neighbor as ourselves, and it is in a family where we first learn to love. This is why the Catholic Church teaches that parents have special rights and responsibilities, so that a child's home can be a haven of love. To protect a parent's ability to love, protect, and care for their children, **Catholics in Ohio must Vote NO on Issue 1 and Issue 2.** You can mail or drop off your absentee ballot to your local board of elections by November 6th. Or, go to your board of elections to vote early in-person by November 5th. *The Catholic Conference of Ohio is the official voice of the Catholic Church in Ohio on public policy, advocating for the dignity of life at all stages, immigrants, Ohioans in need, and Catholic education.*

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