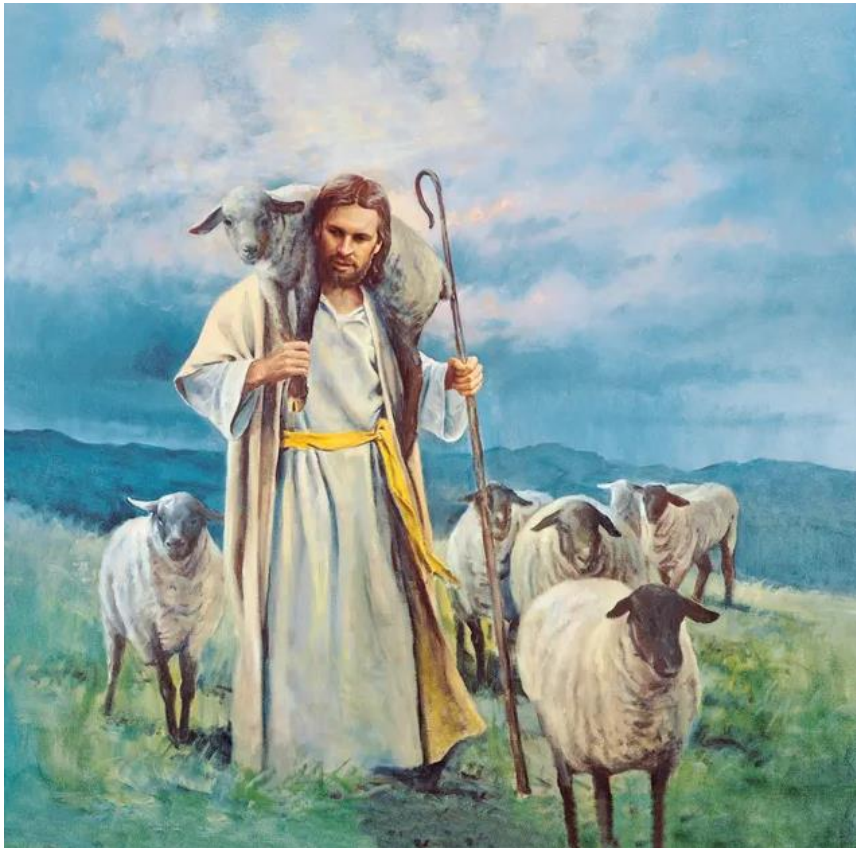


EASTER SEASON

Fourth Sunday

Good Shepherd Sunday



As we continue our journey through the liturgical season of Easter, today we celebrate what is traditionally called “Good Shepherd Sunday.” Jesus applies to Himself this image (cf. Jn 10:6), rooted in the Old Testament and very dear to Christian tradition. Christ is the Good Shepherd who, by dying on the Cross, lays down his life for His sheep.

Thus a profound communion is established between the Good Shepherd and His flock. Jesus, according to the Evangelist, “calls his own sheep by name and leads them out ... and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice” (John 10:3-4).

Sheep and Shepherd are united by long familiarity, real knowledge and mutual attachment: he takes care of them; they trust him and follow him faithfully. How comforting, then, are the words we have just repeated in the Responsorial Psalm:

“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.”

+POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II



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
Wednesday	6:00pm

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

Priest in Holy Service: Fr. Peter Fegan, O.P.

Transitional Deacon: Dcn. Sam Severance

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

jneal@sjchcc.org

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Business Manager: Kris Jesse

kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org

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Steve Moore

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Safe Environment Coordinator: Bethany Cook

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Choir Director/Organist: Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL

Website: stmichaelworthington.org

School Office: 614-885-3149

Principal: Sr. Mary Regina, O.P.

principal@stmichaelworthington.org

Preschool Director: Laura Wells

lwells@stmichaelworthington.org

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES

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

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.

ADORATION CHAPEL

There is no better way to spend an hour of your week than in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. Consider signing up for Adoration. Our Adoration Chapel offers Eucharistic Exposition on Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00 a.m., Thursday morning through 9:00 p.m., Friday evening. Adoration is available at all other times with the Blessed Sacrament reposed in the tabernacle. Registration is easy to do from your phone. Visit StMichael.WeAdoreHim.com to sign up. You can also visit the Church on Wednesdays for our weekly Holy Hour with Confessions from 6:30-7:30 p.m. each week.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 21, 2024

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, April 20

4:00 p.m. + Warren, David & Michael Roberts
(Carolyn Roberts)

Sunday, April 21

8:30 a.m. + Thomas Pitcock (The Elliott Family)
10:30 a.m. + Chris Damo (The Damo Family)
12:30 p.m. Special Intention of Mickey Geslak
5:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members of our Parish

Monday, April 22

6:30 a.m. + Deacon Labita (Deacon Crerand)
8:15 a.m. + Mary Jane O'Brien (Juliana O'Leary)

Tuesday, April 23

6:30 a.m. Needs of the Carmelite Sisters for the
Aged and Infirm
8:15 a.m. Special Intention of James & Diane Vincent

Wednesday, April 24

6:30 a.m. +Msgr. Anthony Borrelli
8:15 a.m. For the School
6:00 p.m. +James Hahn and his son Dustin Hahn

Thursday, April 25

6:30 a.m. +Souls of those who died by suicide
8:15 a.m. +Souls in Purgatory

Friday, April 26

6:30 a.m. For the Deceased Members of the Griffith
& Vercellotti Families (Karen & Lou Griffith)
8:15 a.m. Needs of those in nursing homes
and care facilities

Saturday, April 27

8:15 a.m. + Richard Sur
4:00 p.m. + For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

Sunday, April 28

8:30 a.m. + Chuck & Joann Melekian (Terri & Stan Bradham)
10:30 a.m. + Tony Petrarca (St. Michael Church Choir)
12:30 p.m. For the 40th Wedding Anniversary of
Bill & Laurie Demidovich
5:00 p.m. + Jeff Brader (The DeCenzo Family)

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

APRIL 14, 2024

Envelopes.....\$ 16,896.00
Online Giving\$ 8,527.00
Total:.....\$ 25,423.00

OUR SYMPATHIES

OUR SYMPATHIES TO THE FAMILIES OF:

BILL COSTELLO
KATHRYN LAMPE
ELIZABETH WALLENFELSZ
ROBERT WOODRUFF

EAT PIZZA RAISE DOUGH



MONDAY, MAY 6
4:00 - 9:00



All supporters, family, and friends are invited to eat pizza and raise funds! Mention this flyer when ordering and up to 20% of all food purchases will be donated to St. Michael School.

Order Online: deweyspizza.com [mention "GBN" in Order Notes]

DEWEY'S PIZZA, WORTHINGTON
640 HIGH ST | 614.985.3333



Valid only on 5.6.24 at Dewey's Pizza Worthington.
Not valid with DoorDash delivery.

PARISH CALENDAR APRIL

SUNDAY, April 21	K of C Community Breakfast after the 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses 11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (MH)	Thursday, April 25	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 5:30 p.m. Cub Scout Meeting (U) 6:30 p.m. Young Adult Bible Study (LMR)
Monday, April 22	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)	Friday, April 26	Eucharistic Exposition (AC)
Tuesday, April 23	7:00 p.m. Choir Practice (C)	Saturday, April 27	7:00 a.m. Pietra (LMR) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, April 24	6:00 p.m. Mass, Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY, April 28	11:30 a.m. RCIA (UMR) 3:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Gym) 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (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

FROM THE PASTOR

ON THIS FOURTH SUNDAY IN THE SEASON OF EASTER – “GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY” – we see the extraordinary love for us, as God’s children, that God has taken, in Jesus, the form of the Good Shepherd who “laid down his life for his sheep” (today’s Gospel). Out of love God created us, and out of greater love, God sent His Son, Jesus Christ, to shepherd and guide us. Jesus proclaims in the Gospel today that He is the Good Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep (John 10:11). A hired man, Jesus says, has no concern for his sheep and abandons them even to the wolves but Jesus lays down His life for His sheep (John 10:12-14). He does this because in Matthew 9:36 and in Mark 6:34, we read “At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.” So Jesus laid down His life for them by teaching them the true way of living – a life of love, to love God above all things and to love one another as Jesus loves us. Jesus is the one and only path to salvation for us as His children, for we are children of God (today’s Second Reading): a salvation that is so profound, it is not limited to an external alteration or a change in legal status, but actually makes us be children of God. Notice what unfolds in Jesus as our Good Shepherd:

- First He calls us by name – None of us is just a number to Him, just another name on a roster. He intimately knows each and every one of us by our name because Jesus truly knows and understands who each of us are – each of us are “known” to Him, each of us are special to Him. Now, is Jesus special to us? Do we love Him above all things?
- Second, Jesus, our shepherd, leads and guides us – He doesn’t call us and leave us on our own, but He constantly calls us to follow Him, to be with Him. He goes before us so that He can turn to us and say “follow me.” Because He knows us individually, He knows that we need His personal direction. Are we open to Christ’s direction in our lives?
- Third, Jesus feeds us – In the most famous Psalm 23, which is all about how God shepherds us, we proclaim that with Him, we lack nothing – we truly have it all! Jesus our shepherd leads us into green pastures to have us graze. He guides us to restful waters to refresh us. He sets a table before us and makes our cup overflow. In Matthew’s Gospel, when Jesus looked on the crowd because they were “like sheep without a shepherd,” on one occasion He worked the miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish and on another occasion He began to teach, knowing that people were hungering for nourishment for their souls as well. As our shepherd, Jesus always remembers to give us each day our daily bread, both material and spiritual. He nourishes us by both word and sacrament. Do you seek this nourishment?
- Fourth, Jesus watches over and protects us – the ancient shepherds used to risk it all to protect their sheep against savage animals like wolves but also against bandits who would come to steal them. Jesus came into our world courageously to do the same for us each and every day of our lives. When we get lost and wander away from Jesus and follow the way of the world instead of the way of Christ, Jesus leaves everyone else to come and find us and to rescue us when we’re in danger. But only if we let Him – a key point to remember!
- Finally, Jesus, our Good Shepherd, loves us enough to die for us – Jesus lays down, and lays down freely, His life for His sheep – us – you and me and every man woman and child on this earth. Just look at a crucifix as a reminder of Christ’s great love for us! Can we not love Him in return for all that He has and continues to do for us?
- Remember the words of Pope Saint John Paul II: “God has, in fact, thought of us from eternity and has loved us as unique individuals. He has called every one of us by name, as the Good Shepherd ‘calls His sheep by name.’” Jesus continues to call each of our names, each and every day of our lives. Folks, let’s not let the noise and distractions of the world drown out the voice of Jesus our Good Shepherd. Let us hear His voice with great clarity, let Jesus shepherd us, and let us follow Him with the same level of love that Jesus loves us!

Today the Church also celebrates **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** – remembering that Jesus has always shepherded His people through those to whom, following Peter and His apostles, He has repeated, “Feed my sheep” (John 21:15-17). He is still calling young men to the priesthood and religious life and permanent diaconate as shepherds, and young women to the religious life and consecrated life where they can exercise their unique, God-given gifts and talents of caring for God’s loved ones. We have to be truly grateful for the ones who listen to His call and are willing, like Him, to “lay down their life” freely. It is, after all, the only life they have. It is no secret that we have a shortage of priests – please pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood. I have included some information and prayers in this bulletin.

We have cause to celebrate the young people of our parish making their First Holy Communion (Saturday, May 4, 4:00 p.m. Mass) and receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation (Saturday, May 11, 4:00 p.m. Mass). Since each of these Masses will include visiting family members and guests, I would ask that you plan ahead to be seated in Marian Hall to accommodate visiting family and guests in the Church, or to attend any of the four Masses celebrated in our parish on Sunday. In the meantime, let us pray for these young persons and their families in making these great strides in their sacramental and faith lives! Truly a time for celebration in our parish family!

--Fr. Mike



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 21

AFTER THE 8:30AM & 10:30AM
MASSES IN THE CAFETERIA

Join us for our next community breakfast hosted by the Knights of Columbus! Come enjoy good food and fellowship. The menu will include pancakes (gluten free available), sausage, bacon & eggs!

Breakfast is available at NO COST; donations will be accepted and all proceeds will go to support the Women's Care Center.



YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Young adults of the parish are invited to join our Bible Study on Thursday evenings in the Lower Meeting Room from 6:30-7:30 p.m. All are welcome, invite a friend to join you! Questions? Email Jake Asuncion at jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org.

JOIN US FOR OUR SPRING PRE-K SOCCER PROGRAM!

Preschool students are invited to join our Pre-K soccer program this spring! This is a parent-run program that plays at St. Peter's soccer fields. Joining together each Saturday at 10:00 a.m. through May 18, this program includes 30 minutes of drills, 30 minutes of scrimmage, and a great way for the kids to meet future classmates! Bring a water bottle, soccer ball, and wear shin guards and cleats or athletic shoes. There is no cost or commitment to attend! Questions? Email Sean Murray at sean.murray84@gmail.com.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRY

The St. Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry is in need of boxes of instant mashed potatoes and tomato products (tomato sauce, paste, diced tomatoes). Thank you for your continued generosity!



EXPERIENCE PIETRA ...

Join us for *Pietra*: an exercise class that strengthens body, mind, and spirit! Upcoming classes include *Mother/Daughter*, and our regular *Women's Saturday* morning classes. Information and sign-up can be found at the QR code or by visiting www.viribuswellness.com/pietra.



St. Michael
Middle School Youth
Ministry
(6th-8th grade)

The Adventurers

Food Games Food

Sunday April 21
3:00 - 4:30 pm
Gym

SCHOOLS

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

St. Michael Preschool is now accepting application 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 Preschool Director, Laura Wells at lwells@stmichaelworthington.org. Please note that we only accept digital copies of the application form. We anticipate having a waitlist so be sure to get your applications in as soon as possible.

BWHS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration is open for Bishop Watterson's summer art, theatre and sports camps. Woodshop camp information is coming soon. Sports being offered are baseball, boys basketball, girls basketball, cheerleading, field hockey, football, girls soccer, softball, track & field, boys volleyball and girls volleyball. Go to bishopwatterson.com for dates, registration and other details.

SUMMER CAMPS AT ST. FRANCIS DESALES HIGH SCHOOL

Registration is now open for the summer camps offered at St. Francis De Sales High School during June and July. Families can choose from a broad menu of programs that include a variety of sports, academic enrichment, and faith-based activities specifically for kids to explore their passions! Please visit www.sfdstallions.org/summercamps to sign up today!

Reflecting on Psalm 23

POPE BENEDICT XVI + GENERAL AUDIENCE + 5 October 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Turning to the Lord in prayer implies a radical act of trust, in the awareness that one is entrusting oneself to God who is good, "merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness" (Ex 34:6-7; Ps 86[85]:15; cf. Joel 2:13; Jon 4:2; Ps 103 [102]:8; 145[144]:8; Neh 9:17). For this reason I would like to reflect with you today on a Psalm that is totally imbued with trust, in which the Psalmist expresses his serene certainty that he is guided and protected, safe from every danger, because the Lord is his Shepherd. It is Psalm 23 [22, according to the Greco-Latin numbering], a text familiar to all and loved by all.

"The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want": the beautiful prayer begins with these words, evoking the nomadic environment of sheep-farming and the experience of familiarity between the shepherd and the sheep that make up his little flock. The image calls to mind an atmosphere of trust, intimacy and tenderness: the shepherd knows each one of his sheep and calls them by name; and they follow him because they recognize him and trust in him (cf. Jn 10:2-4).

He tends them, looks after them as precious possessions, ready to defend them, to guarantee their well-being and enable them to live a peaceful life. They can lack nothing as long as the shepherd is with them. The Psalmist refers to this experience by calling God his shepherd and letting God lead him to safe pastures: "He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake" (Ps 23[22]:2-3).

The vision that unfolds before our eyes is that of green pastures and springs of clear water, oases of peace to which the shepherd leads his flock, symbols of the places of life towards which the Lord leads the Psalmist, who feels like the sheep lying on the grass beside a stream, resting rather than in a state of tension or alarm, peaceful and trusting, because it is a safe place, the water is fresh and the shepherd is watching over them.

And let us not forget here that the scene elicited by the Psalm is set in a land that is largely desert, on which the scorching sun beats down, where the Middle-Eastern semi-nomad shepherd lives with his flock in the parched steppes that surround the villages. Nevertheless the shepherd knows where to find grass and fresh water, essential to life, he can lead the way to oases in which the soul is "restored" and where it is possible to recover strength and new energy to start out afresh on the journey.

As the Psalmist says, God guides him to "green pastures" and "still waters", where everything is superabundant, everything is given in plenty. If the Lord is the Shepherd, even in the desert, a desolate place of death, the certainty of a radical presence of life is not absent, so that he is able to say "I shall not want". Indeed, the shepherd has at heart the good of his flock, he adapts his own pace and needs to those of his sheep, he walks and lives with them, leading them on paths "of righteousness", that is, suitable for them, paying attention to their needs and not to his own. The safety of his sheep is a priority for him and he complies with this in leading his flock.

Dear brothers and sisters, if we follow the "Good Shepherd" — no matter how difficult, tortuous or long the pathways of our life may seem, even through spiritual deserts without water and under the scorching sun of rationalism — with the guidance of Christ the Good Shepherd, we too, like the Psalmist, may be sure that we are walking on "paths of righteousness" and that the Lord is leading us, is ever close to us and that we "shall lack nothing". For this reason the Psalmist can declare his calm assurance without doubt or fear: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff they comfort me" (v. 4).

Those who walk with the Lord even in the dark valleys of suffering, doubt and all the human problems, feel safe. You are with me: this is our certainty, this is what supports us. The darkness of the night frightens us with its shifting shadows, with the difficulty of distinguishing dangers, with its silence taut with strange sounds. If the flock moves after sunset when visibility fades, it is normal for the sheep to be restless, there is the risk of stumbling or even of straying and getting lost, and there is also the fear of possible assailants lurking in the darkness.

To speak of the "dark" valley, the Psalmist uses a Hebrew phrase that calls to mind the shadows of death, which is why the valley to be passed through is a place of anguish, terrible threats, the danger of death. Yet the person praying walks on in safety undaunted since he knows that the Lord is with him. "You are with me" is a proclamation of steadfast faith and sums up the radical experience of faith; God's closeness transforms the reality, the dark valley loses all danger, it is emptied of every threat. Now the flock can walk in tranquility, accompanied by the familiar rhythmical beat of the staff on the ground, marking the shepherd's reassuring presence.

This comforting image ends the first part of the Psalm, and gives way to a different scene. We are still in the desert, where the shepherd lives with his flock, but we are now set before his tent which opens to offer us hospitality. "You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows" (v. 5).

The Lord is now presented as the One who welcomes the person praying with signs of generous hospitality, full of attention. The divine host lays the food on the "table", a term which in Hebrew means, in its primitive sense, the animal skin that was spread out on the ground and on which the food for the common meal was set out. It is a gesture of sharing, not only of food but also of life in an offering of communion and friendship that create bonds and express solidarity. Then there is the munificent gift of scented oil poured on the head, which with its fragrance brings relief from the scorching of the desert sun, refreshes and calms the skin and gladdens the spirit.

Lastly, the cup overflowing with its exquisite wine, shared with superabundant generosity, adds a note of festivity. Food, oil and wine are gifts that bring life and give joy, because they go beyond what is strictly necessary and express the free giving and abundance of love. Psalm 104[103] proclaims: "You cause the grass to grow for the cattle, and plants for man to cultivate, that he may bring forth food from the earth, and wine to gladden the heart of man, oil to make his face shine, and bread to strengthen man's heart" (vv. 14-15).

The Psalmist becomes the object of much attention for which reason he sees himself as a wayfarer who finds shelter in a hospitable tent, whereas his enemies have to stop and watch, unable to intervene, since the one whom they considered their prey has been led to safety and has become a sacred guest who cannot be touched. And the Psalmist is us, if we truly are believers in communion with Christ. When God opens his tent to us to receive us, nothing can harm us. Then when the traveler sets out afresh, the divine protection is extended and accompanies him on his journey: "Surely, goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord for ever" (Ps 23[22]:6).

The goodness and faithfulness of God continue to escort the Psalmist who comes out of the tent and resumes his journey. But it is a journey that acquires new meaning and becomes a pilgrimage to the Temple of the Lord, the holy place in which the praying person wants to "dwell" for ever and to which he also wants to "return". The Hebrew verb used here has the meaning of "to return" but with a small vowel change can be understood as "to dwell". Moreover, this is how it is rendered by the ancient versions and by the majority of the modern translations. Both meanings may be retained: to return and dwell in the Temple as every Israelite desires, and to dwell near God, close to him and to goodness. This is what every believer yearns and longs for: truly to be able to live where God is, close to him. Following the Shepherd leads to God's house, this is the destination of every journey, the longed for oasis in the desert, the tent of shelter in escaping from enemies, a place of peace where God's kindness and faithful love may be felt, day after day, in the serene joy of time without end.

With their richness and depth the images of this Psalm have accompanied the whole of the history and religious experience of the People of Israel and accompany Christians. The figure of the shepherd, in particular, calls to mind the original time of the Exodus, the long journey through the desert, as a flock under the guidance of the divine Shepherd (cf. Is 63:11-14; Ps 77: 20-21; 78:52-54). And in the Promised Land, the king had the task of tending the Lord's flock, like David, the shepherd chosen by God and a figure of the Messiah (cf. 2 Sam 5:1-2; 7:8 Ps 78[77]:70-72).

Then after the Babylonian Exile, as it were in a new Exodus (cf. Is 40:3-5, 9-11; 43:16-21), Israel was brought back to its homeland like a lost sheep found and led by God to luxuriant pastures and resting places (cf. Ezek 34:11-16, 23-31). However, it is in the Lord Jesus that all the evocative power of our Psalm reaches completeness, finds the fullness of its meaning: Jesus is the "Good Shepherd" who goes in search of lost sheep, who knows his sheep and lays down his life for them (cf. Mt 18:12-14; Lk 15:4-7; Jn 10:2-4, 11-18). He is the way, the right path that leads us to life (cf. Jn 14:6), the light that illuminates the dark valley and overcomes all our fears (cf. Jn 1:9; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46).

He is the generous host who welcomes us and rescues us from our enemies, preparing for us the table of his body and his blood (cf. Mt 26:26-29; Mk 14:22-25); Lk 22:19-20) and the definitive table of the messianic banquet in Heaven (cf. Lk 14:15ff; Rev 3:20; 19:9). He is the Royal Shepherd, king in docility and in forgiveness, enthroned on the glorious wood of the cross (cf. Jn 3:13-15; 12:32; 17:4-5).

Dear brothers and sisters, Psalm 23 invites us to renew our trust in God, abandoning ourselves totally in his hands. Let us therefore ask with faith that the Lord also grant us on the difficult ways of our time that we always walk on his paths as a docile and obedient flock, and that he welcome us to his house, to his table, and lead us to "still waters" so that, in accepting the gift of his Spirit, we may quench our thirst at his sources, springs of the living water "welling up to eternal life" (Jn 4:14; cf. 7:37-39). Many thanks.

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 April is dedicated to the Holy Spirit.

“It is because of faith that we exchange the present for the future.”

+SAINT FIDELIS OF SIGMARINGEN

Monday, April 22 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 10:1-10 Jesus said: “Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever does not enter a sheepfold through the gate but climbs over elsewhere is a thief and a robber. But whoever enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens it for him, and the sheep hear his voice, as he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has driven out all his own, he walks ahead of them, and the sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice. But they will not follow a stranger; they will run away from him, because they do not recognize the voice of strangers.” Although Jesus used this figure of speech, they did not realize what he was trying to tell them. So Jesus said again, “Amen, amen, I say to you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. A thief comes only to steal and slaughter and destroy; I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly.”

Meditation: One can legitimately ask what shepherding can teach us about God and our relationship with him. At the end of each day the shepherd brought his sheep into shelter. They knew the voice of their shepherd and came at his beckoning. So familiar was the shepherd and his sheep, that each was called by a distinct name. In the winter the sheep were usually brought to a communal village shelter which was locked and kept secure by a guardian. In the summer months the sheep were usually kept out in the fields and then gathered into a fold at night which was guarded by a shepherd throughout the night. He was literally the door through which the sheep had to pass. The scriptures describe God as a shepherd who brings security and peace to his people. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and for evermore (Psalm 120:8). Even the leaders of God's people are called shepherds: they shall lead them out and bring them in; that the congregation of the Lord may not be as sheep which have no shepherd (Numbers 27:17). Just as a shepherd kept watch over his sheep and protected them from danger, so Jesus stands watch over his people as the Shepherd and Guardian of our souls (1 Peter 2:25). Do you know the peace and security of a life fully submitted to God?

Prayer: O God, perfect light of the blessed, by whose gift we celebrate the paschal mysteries on earth, bring us, we pray, to rejoice in the full measure of your grace for ages unending. 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 Old Testament often speaks of God as “shepherd” of his people, Israel. *The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want* (Psalm 23:1). *Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!* (Psalm 80:1) *We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture* (Psalm 100:3). The Messiah is also pictured as the shepherd of God's people: *He will feed his flock like a shepherd, he will gather the lambs in his arms* (Isaiah 40:11). Jesus says he is the *Good Shepherd* who will risk his life to seek out and save the stray sheep (Matthew 18:12, Luke 15:4). He is the *Shepherd and Guardian of our souls* (1 Peter 2:25). Saint Augustine wrote: “He has accomplished what he taught us: He has shown us what He commanded us to do. He laid down his own life for his sheep, that within our mystery he might change his body and blood into food, and nourish the sheep he had redeemed with the food of his own flesh. He has shown us the way we must follow, despite fear of death. He has laid down the pattern to which we must conform ourselves.” So ask yourself: Do you look to Jesus the Good Shepherd, to receive the strength and courage you need to live and serve as his disciple?

Tuesday, April 23 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint George, Martyr; Saint Adelbert, Bishop and Martyr

Holy Gospel: John 10:22-30 The feast of the Dedication was taking place in Jerusalem. It was winter. And Jesus walked about in the temple area on the Portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long are you going to keep us in suspense? If you are the Christ, tell us plainly." Jesus answered them, "I told you and you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify to me. But you do not believe, because you are not among my sheep. My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish. No one can take them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one can take them out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

Meditation: Saint Cyril, a Father of the Church, comments on Jesus as our Good Shepherd: "He shows in what manner a shepherd may be proved good; and He teaches that he must be prepared to give up his life fighting in defense of his sheep, which was fulfilled in Christ. For man has departed from the love of God, and fallen into sin, and because of this was, I say, excluded from the divine abode of paradise, and when he was weakened by that disaster, he yielded to the devil tempting him to sin, and death following that sin he became the prey of fierce and ravenous wolves. But after Christ was announced as the True Shepherd of all men, He laid down his life for us (1 John 3:16), fighting for us against that pack of inhuman beasts. He bore the Cross for us, that by His own death he might destroy death. He was condemned for us, that He might deliver all of us from the sentence of punishment: the tyranny of sin being overthrown by our faith: fastening to the Cross the decree that stood against us, as it is written (Colossians 2:14). Therefore as the father of sin had as it were shut up the sheep in hell, giving them to death to feed on, as it is written in the psalms (Ps. XLviii.16), He died for us as truly Good, and truly our Shepherd, so that the dark shadow of death driven away He might join us to the company of the blessed in heaven; and in exchange for abodes that lie far in the depths of the pit, and in the hidden places of the sea, grant us mansions in His Father's House above. Because of this he says to us in another place: Fear not, little flock, for it has pleased your Father to give you a kingdom (Luke 12:32)."

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, celebrating the mysteries of the Lord's Resurrection, we may merit to receive the joy of our redemption. 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 ~ Saint George: Extolling your might, O Lord, we humbly implore you, that, as Saint George imitated the Passion of the Lord, so he may lend us ready help in our weakness. 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 ~ Saint Adelbert: O God, who bestowed the crown of martyrdom on the Bishop Saint Adalbert, as he burned with zeal for souls, grant, we pray, by his prayers, that the obedience of the flock may never fail the shepherds, nor the care of the shepherds be ever lacking to the flock. 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 promises the security of peace and protection from evil and the greatest harm that could befall us – eternal destruction. The Lord does not spare us from all trouble. In this life we will experience pain, suffering, sickness, and death. But through these the Lord will lead us to ultimate victory and safety in his everlasting home. Even in the midst of our sufferings we can find a peace and security which no one can give except God alone. We can confidently follow the Lord wherever he leads, trusting that nothing can keep us from God *if* we trust in him. Which begs the question: Have you placed your life securely in God where it belongs?

Wednesday, April 24 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen, Priest and Martyr

Holy Gospel: John 12:44-50 Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me believes not only in me but also in the one who sent me, and whoever sees me sees the one who sent me. I came into the world as light, so that everyone who believes in me might not remain in darkness. And if anyone hears my words and does not observe them, I do not condemn him, for I did not come to condemn the world but to save the world. Whoever rejects me and does not accept my words has something to judge him: the word that I spoke, it will condemn him on the last day, because I did not speak on my own, but the Father who

sent me commanded me what to say and speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. So what I say, I say as the Father told me.”

Meditation: God does not leave us in our ignorance and unbelief. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit he helps us to grow in faith, knowledge and understanding of his word. Saint Augustine summed up rather succinctly our need for God's help in the following prayer: “God our Father, we find it difficult to come to you, because our knowledge of you is imperfect. In our ignorance we have imagined you to be our enemy; we have wrongly thought that you take pleasure in punishing our sins; and we have foolishly conceived you to be a tyrant over human life. But since Jesus came among us, he has shown that you are loving, and that our resentment against you was groundless.” Do you want to know more of God and his transforming love? Look to Jesus, the Light of God, and in his truth you will find joy, freedom, and wholeness of mind, body and soul.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, putting off our old self with all its ways, we may live as Christ did, for through the healing paschal remedies you have conformed us to his nature. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ Saint Fidelis: O God, who were pleased to award the palm of martyrdom to Saint Fidelis as, burning with love for you, he propagated the faith, grant, we pray, through his intercession, that, grounded in charity, we may merit to know with him the power of the Resurrection of Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: To see Jesus is to see God. To hear his words is to hear the voice of God. He is the very light of God that has power to overcome the darkness of sin, ignorance, and unbelief. God's light and truth brings healing, pardon, and transformation. This light is not only for the chosen people of Israel, but for the whole world as well. Jesus warns that if we refuse his word or take it lightly, we choose to remain in spiritual darkness. Jesus made it clear that he did not come to condemn us, but rather to bring abundant life and freedom from the oppression of sin, ignorance and evil. We condemn ourselves when we reject God's wisdom and truth. It is one thing to live in ignorance due to lack of knowledge, but another thing to disdain those who teach us true wisdom and knowledge. Jesus says that his word which we have heard will be our judge. Do you believe that God's word has power to change and transform your life?

Thursday, April 25 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter Saint Mark, Evangelist

Holy Gospel: Mark 16:15-20 Jesus appeared to the Eleven and said to them: “Go into the whole world and proclaim the Gospel to every creature. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved; whoever does not believe will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will drive out demons, they will speak new languages. They will pick up serpents with their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not harm them. They will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.” Then the Lord Jesus, after he spoke to them, was taken up into heaven and took his seat at the right hand of God. But they went forth and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the word through accompanying signs.

Meditation: Ask yourself: “Lord, what are you saying to me in these scripture passages?” Need some inspiration? Think about this. Saint Mark the Evangelist is honored today. Each of the four gospel accounts gives us a portrait of Jesus, His mission and teaching. Each is different in style, length, and emphasis. But they all have a common thread and purpose -- the proclamation of the good news of Jesus Christ. When the Lord Jesus departed physically from the Apostles, they were not left in sorrow or grief. Instead, they were filled with joy and with great anticipation for the coming of the Holy Spirit. Jesus' last words to His Apostles point to His saving mission and to their mission to be witnesses of His saving death and His glorious resurrection and to proclaim the good news of salvation to all the world. God's love and gift of salvation is not just for a few, or for a single nation -- it is for the whole world, and for all who will accept it. The Gospel guides us, inspires us, enlightens us, challenges our way of thinking and our ways of life and invites us to share in the life of Christ. Do you believe in the power of the Gospel teachings -- the power to inspire us to conform our lives to Christ?

Prayer: O God, who raised up Saint Mark, your Evangelist, and endowed him with the grace to preach the Gospel, grant, we pray, that we may so profit from his teaching as to follow faithfully in the footsteps of Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: This is the great commission which the risen Christ gives to the whole church. All believers have been given a share in this task -- to be heralds of the good news and be living witnesses to

the teachings of Jesus Christ. We have not been left alone in this task, for the risen Lord works in and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. Today we witness a new Pentecost as the Lord pours out his Holy Spirit upon his people to renew and strengthen the body of Christ and to equip it for effective ministry and mission world-wide. Do I give adequate reflection on God's Word and how these timeless teachings have an application in my daily life? Am I a living witness to others the joy of the Gospel and the hope of the resurrection? If not, why not? What must I do to conform my life to Christ, and join in the mission of Christ and His Apostles?

Friday, April 26 ~ Fourth Week in the Season of Easter

Holy Gospel: John 14:1-6 Jesus said to his disciples: "Do not let your hearts be troubled. You have faith in God; have faith also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If there were not, would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back again and take you to myself, so that where I am you also may be. Where I am going you know the way." Thomas said to him, "Master, we do not know where you are going; how can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

Meditation: The Lord Jesus came to fulfill God's promise to bring his people, not simply to a land flowing with milk and honey, but to a restored paradise and new creation where we can dwell with God in perfect peace and unity. That is why Jesus proclaims, I am the way, and the truth, and the life.<> Jesus does not simply give advice and direction. He personally is the Way, and we cannot miss it. Through his life-giving word and Spirit, Jesus leads and guides us personally every day. The Lord Jesus also is the Truth. Many can say "I have taught you the truth." But folks, only Jesus can say "I am the Truth." Moral truth cannot be conveyed by words alone; it must be conveyed also by example. Jesus embodies the truth in his person. Jesus also is the Life. He not only shows us the path of life (Psalm 16:11); he gives the kind of life which only God can give – abundant life which never fails nor ends. Is there any fear or trouble that keeps you from the perfect peace and happiness of a life surrendered to Jesus Christ as an authentic disciple?

Prayer: O God, author of our freedom and of our salvation, listen to the voice of our pleading and grant that those you have redeemed by the shedding of your Son's Blood may have life through you and, under your protection, rejoice for ever unharmed. 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: As much as we try to avoid it, inevitably we encounter trouble and difficulties that are hard to endure. Life is not a bowl of cherries, nor is it a bed of roses – cherries have pits, and roses have thorns. Jesus knew his disciples would have to face trials and persecution after he left them to return to his Father in heaven. Adversity can make us lose hope and become discouraged, *or* it can press us closer to God and to his promises. "It is the Lord who goes before you; he will be with you, he will not fail you or forsake you; do not fear or be dismayed" (Deuteronomy 31:8). Just as God went ahead of the Israelites in the wilderness to lead them safely to the promised land, Jesus tells his disciples that he is going ahead to prepare a place for them in God's house – a place of refuge, peace, and security, and everlasting happiness. The greatest fear in this present life – whether it be the separation and loss of life to a loved one or the threat to one's own life – is put to rest by Jesus' promise that we will live forever with him and the Father in their heavenly home.

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:2024



WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

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The Family: A Seedbed of Vocations

by Arland K. Nichols

The Catholic Church in the United States is enduring a protracted vocations crisis. Numbers of priests dwindle even as the Catholic population increases. Many clergy as well as lay apostolates, such as the Serra Club and parish vocations committees, have done much to stem the tide in an effort to encourage young men to discern the priesthood. As a result many men have heard and responded to God's call. Vocation ministry is a necessary and beautiful work, but it will inevitably be a classic case of "too little, too late" if we fail to do more for and within the most important element in fostering vocations to the priesthood — the family.

Above all else, it is the family that must manifest a fervent commitment to creating and fostering a culture of vocation. This commitment begins in the home and extends and radiates outward. The family, Pope Saint John Paul II taught, is "the primary and most excellent seedbed of vocations to a life of consecration to the kingdom of God." It is the Christian family that strives to live the faith fervently, that is open to a life of service and that fulfills its duties to God and neighbor that becomes the rich soil that gives rise to children

The primary effort of the family that becomes a seedbed of vocations is that it ardently embraces the first vocation of each person — the sincere gift of self, an ardent love that makes of oneself an oblation to God and neighbor. Above all else, and in everything, the family must be a school of love, and the faith must be lived. If the Gospel is not lived in the home, if the members of the family do not embrace the truth that freedom is for a life of virtue, it will be difficult for our children to grow up with a sense of mission, of being called to a vocation. These are necessary conditions if the family is to be the primary seedbed of vocations.

Yet this is no easy task, especially in light of the various struggles faced by the family today, not least of which was noted recently by Pope Francis who said that the devil, "attacks the family so much. The demon does not love it and seeks to destroy it."

The solution to the vocations crisis is the renewal of the family in a generic sense. But especially vital is the renewal of my family, of your family. Our families must embrace the call to create a culture of vocation. We tend to pray for an increase in vocations to the priesthood as if the vocation crisis is to be solved by others without a full embrace of personal or familial responsibility. We must each ask God to make our family a vocation powerhouse. We need to pray that our families become that seedbed of vocations in words that embrace our familial duty: "Choose from our home those who are needed for Your work. May our home and the homes of our children truly be a most excellent seedbed of vocations, to a life of consecration to the kingdom of God."

As Pope Saint John Paul II noted in his autobiography, it was his father's witness to the faith in the midst of much hardship and societal strife that created "my first seminary, a kind of domestic seminary" that gave rise to his priesthood.

God plants the seed, but in order for the vocation to flourish and the harvest to be plenty, the seedbed itself must be of rich, fine soil. The vocations crisis is a symptom of a prior crisis of the family. The domestic church, therefore, is called to recover and live its innate vocation to recognize God's guiding hand in family life and to foster the ability to perceive and respond to God's call in freedom. Each family must faithfully foster a culture in which young people can hear and respond to the unique mission to which He calls each member.

The family, each family, with its innate mission to be a seedbed of vocations, is the linchpin for solving the vocation crisis.

Arland K. Nichols is the founding president of the Saint John Paul II Foundation for Life and Family, www.forlifeandfamily.org. This article is made available courtesy of THE CATHOLIC HERALD – the newspaper of the Diocese of Arlington.

PRAYERS for VOCATIONS

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.*

Prayer of Discernment

O Lord, I do not know what to ask you. You alone know my real needs, and you love me more than I even know how to love. Enable me to discern my true needs which are hidden from me. I ask for neither Cross nor consolation; I wait in patience for you. My heart is open to you. For your great mercy's sake, come to me and help me. Put your mark on me and heal me, cast me down and raise me up. Silently, I adore your holy will and your inscrutable ways. I offer myself in sacrifice to you and put all my trust in you. I desire only to do your will. Teach me how to pray and pray in me, yourself. Amen. - *Vasily Drosdov Philaret*

Prayer for One's Own Vocation

God our Father, life is your gift to me. Through baptism, you invite me to share in the gift of my life in service to others. Be with me as I choose each day to show your presence in our world. Give me the courage and generosity to respond to your love, to your call. I pray especially for those who serve you as priests and religious. Keep them close to you. Open the minds and hearts of many other men and women that they may accept your challenge to build the Kingdom. Amen.

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.

A Prayer for Seminarians

O Jesus, Eternal High Priest, I offer You through Your Immaculate Mother Mary, Your own Precious Blood, in all the Masses throughout the world, as petition for graces for all seminarians, Your future priests, especially for (our seminarians | name of a particular seminarian). Give them humility, meekness, prudence, and a burning zeal for soul. Fill their hearts with the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to know and love the Church, that they may always and everywhere speak, act, and think with her, the glorious spouse of Christ. Teach them generosity and detachment from worldly goods; but above all, teach them to know You and to love the One and Only Eternal Priest. Good Shepherd of Souls, hear this prayer for saintly priests. Amen.

SAINT MICHAEL SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD OPENING FOR 2024-2025



THE TIME COMMITMENT:

- Meetings once per month
- 1-3 hours per month of additional committee work
- Events throughout the year such as the New Family Picnic, Open House, Trivia Night, Parish Festival, and Volunteer Appreciation Night
- Each position holds a three-year term

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD?

- The School Board (SMSAB) serves as an advisory committee to both the principal and pastor.
- The board's advice is valued because the corporate wisdom and insight of its members are desired and appreciated.
- The board promotes St. Michael School and helps to build a strong school community by outreach to current and new families.



If you are interested in applying for a position on the SMSAB, please contact the principal, Sr. Mary Regina, O.P. at principal@stmichaelworthington.org with a brief description stating your interest and your resume by **May 1, 2024**.

AROUND THE DIOCESE

MEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION AT THE JOSEPHINUM

Columbus Catholic Men's Ministry and the Pontifical College Josephinum will host "The Eucharist: Sacrament of Truth and Love," a day of reflection for men, from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at the Josephinum. Facilitated by Father Peter Fegan, OP, Josephinum assistant professor and spiritual director, the event will include two conferences, the Rosary, outdoor Stations of the Cross, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Mass, as well as breakfast, lunch, and a tour of the seminary. For more information and online registration, please visit pcj.edu/mensdayofreflection.

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON

Join us Friday, May 3 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a talk by Fr. Steven Beseau, President/Rector of the Josephinum, on the Status of the Josephinum. The May luncheon is sponsored by Jim Flaherty. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Pat Foley at foley513@gmail.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Fr. Beseau's presentation. No reservations are necessary. \$12.00 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! **Our final luncheon before the summer break is Friday, June 7, 2024, and will feature Patrick Madrid, who will give a talk entitled "Ten Recent Discoveries That Point to the Existence of God." Mark your calendar now so you don't miss it!**

SERRA, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

Are you looking to get more involved in promoting, encouraging, and praying for vocations? Serra Clubs, a lay apostolate, have been in our Columbus Diocese for 70 years. We seek members to stand alongside our priests and seminarians to support vocations for the Diocese of Columbus. Serra Club of North Columbus meetings include the Rosary, lunch, and a speaker at 11:30 a.m. on the first Tuesday of every month at the Jessing Center at the Josephinum. Check out our website at SERRACOLUMBUS.ORG for more information and scheduled events.



MISSION FOR PEACE – MAY 31-JUNE 4, 2024 – WITH THE DOMINICAN SISTERS OF PEACE

The Dominican Sisters of Peace invite single, Catholic women, ages 18-45, to attend a no-cost “Mission for Peace” prayer and service immersion program, designed to help women explore contemporary Dominican life. Experience Dominican PRAYER, enjoy a behind-the-scenes glimpse of COMMUNITY LIFE with our Sisters, engage in SERVICE to the local community, and reflect on God’s call and PURPOSE for your life. This five-day service program begins at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31, and concludes at noon, Tuesday, June 4 at the Dominicans Sisters of Peace Motherhouse, 2320 Airport Drive, Columbus, Ohio. For more information, call or text Sister Mai-dung Nguyen at 405-248-7027 or email mai-dung.nguyen@oppeace.org. Use the QR code to register, or for more information.



SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON ROUTE NATIONAL EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION JUNE 24 - JUNE 30, 2024

MONDAY JUNE 24

St. Joseph Catholic Church, Somerset
8:00 am All Day Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 pm Mass with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
8:00 pm Eucharistic Procession

TUESDAY JUNE 25

St. Francis de Sales Parish, Newark
4:00 pm Eucharistic Procession Church of the Blessed Sacrament, Newark
5:15 pm Eucharistic Adoration
St. Francis de Sales, Newark
6:30 pm Picnic Dinner

WEDNESDAY JUNE 26

Seton Parish, Pickerington
9:00 am All Day Eucharistic Adoration
6:00 pm Mass
7:00 pm Eucharistic Procession
8:00 pm Picnic Dinner

THURSDAY JUNE 27

Christ the King, Columbus
6:00 pm Eucharistic Adoration
7:00 pm Mass (Spanish)
with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
8:00 pm Picnic Dinner

FRIDAY JUNE 28

St. Charles Preparatory School, Columbus
5:30 pm Arrival time
6:00 pm Mass with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
(Bilingual)

SATURDAY JUNE 29

St. Paul the Apostle Parish, Westerville
9:00 am Eucharistic Adoration
10:00 am Mass with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
11:00 am Eucharistic Procession
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Vocations Fair in the Klinger Center

SUNDAY JUNE 30

St. Joseph Cathedral, Columbus
12:30 pm Mass (Bilingual)
with Bishop Earl K. Fernandes
2:00 pm Eucharistic Procession
2:30 pm Picnic Dinner

**For more information and to register,
go to www.columbuscatholic.org/revival**

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