



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/stmichaelworthinton

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. David Johnstone

Priest in Residence/Diocesan Judicial Vicar:

Fr. Robert Kitsmiller

Transitional Deacon: Dcn. Sam Severance

Permanent Deacons:

Dcn. John Crerand

Dcn. Bill Demidovich

Dcn. Klaus Fricke (Retired)

Pastoral Minister: Sr. Riya Mary

sriya@saintmichael-cd.org

Youth Minister: Jake Asuncion

jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org

Director of RCIA: Jake Neal

jneal@sjhcc.org

PARISH OFFICE

Business Manager: Kris Jesse

kjesse@saintmichael-cd.org

Office Manager: Kathy Trafford

ktrafford@saintmichael-cd.org

Receptionist/Secretary: Rhonda Marinelli

rmarinelli@saintmichael-cd.org

Marketing & Communications: Rebecca Lund

rlund@saintmichael-cd.org

Campus Facility and Safety Director:

Steve Moore

smoore@saintmichael-cd.org

Safe Environment Coordinator: Bethany Cook

bcook@saintmichael-cd.org

Choir Director/Organist: Ron Barrett

rbarrett@saintmichael-cd.org

ST. MICHAEL PARISH 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:

Mike LaMorte

grandknight@kofc11445.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society Representative:

Elaine Miracle

svdps@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 sriya@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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – JULY 28, 2024

DAILY MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 27

4:00 p.m. Special Intention of Rachel Putnam
(SMS 4P Families)

Sunday, July 28

8:30 a.m. Special Intention of Fr. Wocjciech Stachura

10:30 a.m. + Lawrence Sur

12:30 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

5:00 p.m. +Bill Costello (The Schilling Family)

Monday, July 29

6:30 a.m. +Sally Ann Joyce

8:15 a.m. Poor Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday, July 30

6:30 a.m. + Jim Heady (Mary Freacker)

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Helmut Titz
(Brigitte Bohnen-Hartley)

Wednesday, July 31

6:30 a.m. +Wayne Muzzioli (Betsy Butler)

8:15 a.m. + Jody Munhall (Dcn. John & Mary Crerand)

6:00 p.m. Special Intention of Matt DeCenzo
(The DeCenzo Family)

Thursday, August 1

6:30 a.m. +Dieter Mews (The Hoffman Family)

8:15 a.m. Special Intention of Riley Flanigan

Friday, August 2

6:30 a.m. For All Who Are Ill and Infirm

8:15 a.m. + Jeff Brader (Terri & Stan Bradham)

Saturday, August 3

8:15 a.m. + Dominica Canini
(Armando & Liliana Tempesta)

4:00 p.m. + Ann Krsak (The Krsak Family)

Sunday, August 4

8:30 a.m. + Jody Munhall (Joe & Kim Mogan)

10:30 a.m. + Helen O'Connor

12:30 p.m. + Heinrich & Hubertine Bohnen
(Brigitte Bohnen-Hartley)

5:00 p.m. For the Living & Deceased Members
of our Parish

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

JULY 21, 2024:

Envelopes \$ 8,870.95
Online Giving\$ 11,493.00
Total:\$ 20,363.95



EXPERIENCE PIETRA ...

A whole-person fitness class that stretches and strengthens the body while refreshing the soul with prayer and meditation. In one hour, you will feel calmer, stronger, and renewed! Join our **Pietra classes!** Saturdays this summer from 7:00-8:00 a.m. at St. Michael Church. Contact Maria Elliott at maria@viribuswellness.com for more information or by using the QR code.

BE AWARE – TEXT & EMAIL SCAMS

We have been the victim of multiple types of scams where emails and texts are being sent to parishioners seeking donations or gift cards from Father Mike, other parish priests or staff. Please know that no one from our parish or school would ever solicit help in this manner. It is important to block any phone numbers reaching out to you in this way, or report phishing/spam filters for any emails you receive. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the Parish Office.

Live Wires
SUMMER MEETING
Tuesday, August 13th
11:30am
Marian Hall

Calling all Live Wires!
Join us for our last meeting of the summer. Invite a friend to join you! Bring your sack lunch and we will provide dessert & drinks. We hope to see you there!

PARISH CALENDAR JULY/AUGUST

SUNDAY, July 28	Reception for Father Mike after all Masses 6:00 p.m. High School Youth Group (Gym)	Thursday, August 1	Eucharistic Exposition (AC) 6:00 p.m. Festival Planning Meeting (UMR)
Monday, July 29	6:30 p.m. Boy Scouts (U)	Friday, August 2	Eucharistic Exposition (AC)
Tuesday, July 30	No Activities	Saturday, August 3	7:00 a.m. Pietra (Field) 2:30 p.m. Confessions (C)
Wednesday, July 31	6:00 p.m. Mass followed by Holy Hour & Confessions (C)	SUNDAY, August 4	Friendship Sunday after all Masses 2:00 p.m. Baptism (C) 6:00 p.m. Middle School Youth Group (Gym)

(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 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, I am celebrating my last Sunday Masses here as your pastor, before I begin my new duties on August 1 as Chaplain at the Villas at Saint Therese and Mother Angeline McCrory Manor, and continuing my role as Diocesan Vicar for Hospital Ministry, including in-hospital Priest Chaplain duties at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, Riverside Hospital, and in the Mount Carmel Hospital System. My last day in the parish will be July 31; we collectively welcome Fr. Stash Dailey as your new Pastor beginning August 1. As I prepare to leave, there are so many things that I wanted to share with you, but one in particular, as you move forward, is an excerpt from the writings of Thomas à Kempis, CRV, a German-Dutch Catholic canon regular of the late medieval period and the author of *The Imitation of Christ* – one of the most popular and best-known Christian devotional books, which I would encourage everyone to read in its totality. In Chapter Seven he writes:

Blessed is he who appreciates what it is to love Jesus and who despises himself for the sake of Jesus. Give up all other love for His, since He wishes to be loved alone above all things. Affection for creatures is deceitful and inconstant, but the love of Jesus is true and enduring. He who clings to a creature will fall with its frailty, but he who gives himself to Jesus will ever be strengthened.

Love Him, then; keep Him as a friend. He will not leave you as others do, or let you suffer lasting death. Sometime, whether you will or not, you will have to part with everything. Cling, therefore, to Jesus in life and death; trust yourself to the glory of Him who alone can help you when all others fail.

Your Beloved is such that He will not accept what belongs to another – He wants your heart for Himself alone, to be enthroned therein as King in His own right. If you but knew how to free yourself entirely from all creatures, Jesus would gladly dwell within you.

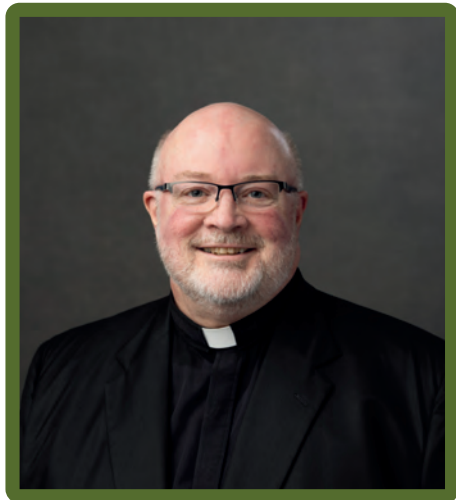
You will find, apart from Him, that nearly all the trust you place in men is a total loss. Therefore, neither confide in nor depend upon a wind-shaken reed, for “all flesh is grass” and all its glory, like the flower of grass, will fade away.

You will quickly be deceived if you look only to the outward appearance of men, and you will often be disappointed if you seek comfort and gain in them. If, however, you seek Jesus in all things, you will surely find Him. Likewise, if you seek yourself, you will find yourself – to your own ruin. For the man who does not seek Jesus does himself much greater harm than the whole world and all his enemies could ever do.

Folks, please do not be fooled by or lured in by the glib and articulate who blow in and out of our lives; don't let your life be ruled by political affiliations in these election seasons which are full of misleading hype and empty promises. Instead, be challenged by and humbly embrace the way and the life of our Savior, Jesus Christ, as a faithful and loving disciple of His as a “doer of the word, not hearers only” (James 1:22). Teach your family members and friends to embrace the way of Christ as well, not the way of the world, and to be a witness of Jesus before all people and in all situations. All that glitters is fleeting; Jesus gives us His Sacraments, His words, His teachings, His Divine Wisdom, which, if we live in witness to Him, leads us to eternal life with Him in Heaven. That's the long-game, our earthly goal – earn that prized seat at the Heavenly Banquet table. Make it happen! Jesus gives us everything possible to get to Heaven – it's up to us to make it happen.

PLEASE KNOW that I have thoroughly enjoyed serving you as your Pastor, and I thank you for the honor of serving you and working alongside you. I honestly thought I would be here until age 70, but my health dictates otherwise. Working together, we have achieved a lot during this past year; we have turned several corners in the parish and in our parish school, and we are on the right trajectory. Thank you for all that you have done! There is a wonderful spirit here at Saint Michael and I have every confidence that this will continue under the leadership of **Fr. Stash Dailey**, along with **Sister Mary Regina, O.P.**, our school principal, and along with the arrival of the new Local Dominican Superior, **Sister Ave Maria, O.P.** Sister Ave Maria will also be teaching in our school, so please welcome her. Sister Ave Maria is profiled in a YouTube vocations video for her Dominican Order – check it out: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jGk_fleLWMg. The work, ministry and help of Fr. Bob Kitsmiller, Fr. David Johnstone, Deacon John Crerand, Deacon Bill Demidovich, our parish staff, our parish school teachers and staff, the Sisters in our school, and the army of ministers volunteers all make it happen here at Saint Michael. With a twist on President Kennedy's inauguration speech, we should give some thought and put into action: “Ask not what your parish and parish school can do for you, ask what you can do for your parish and parish school.” Volunteering and support is critical in maintaining the health and vitality of any parish on all levels and in all aspects; things are on the upswing here, so let's continue the momentum! **The latest Appeal report** shows that we have contributions totaling **\$443,505.33** – we are so very close to our \$500,000.00 goal, so please, folks, get your contributions in to pay off our long-standing debts. **The Parish Festival** is coming up quickly – volunteers are needed, so please sign up! Silent auction items are needed as well, along with Festival sponsors, so let's make it happen, folks. See you around! God bless you all!

~Fr. Mike



Thank You Father Mike!

We are so grateful for your leadership and service at St. Michael the Archangel, appreciating your contributions to our parish, and sending prayers for success in hospital ministry.

“Be doers of the word and not hearers only.”

James 1:22



**JOIN US AS WE THANK
FATHER LUMPE FOR HIS
SERVICE AND WELCOME
FATHER DAILEY TO
ST MICHAEL!**



**JULY
27 & 28**

**RECEPTIONS FOLLOWING
ALL MASSES**

**AUGUST
10 & 11**

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY BACK TO SCHOOL COLLECTION

The St. Vincent de Paul Society is collecting new clear or mesh backpacks for the St. Francis Center in Vinton County. These are the only options the schools allow, but they are difficult to find in their area. Please leave donations in the box in Marian Hall no later than August 4. Thank you for helping us to give these children a great start to the new school year!

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN TRAINING CLASS

Are you interested in volunteering at St. Michael Parish & School through our various children's ministries, athletics, and school volunteer opportunities? St. Michael will be hosting a Protecting God's Children training on Monday, August 12 at 6:00 p.m. in Marian Hall. This training, as well as a new BCI background check, must be completed prior to scheduling any volunteering with children. Please complete your registration for this session by going to virtusonline.org. If you have any questions about this, please email Bethany Cook, Safe Environment Coordinator, at bcook@saintmichael-cd.org.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS COMMUNITY BREAKFAST

SUNDAY, AUGUST 18

**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 net proceeds will go to support Catholic Social Services.



**CATHOLIC SOCIAL
SERVICES**



DOERS OF THE WORD

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

Put Your Faith in Christ, Not In Your Feelings

By Constance Hull

Rather frequently, I hear people make arguments about aspects of the spiritual life, the Church, morality, or relationships that are predicated upon a particular individual's feelings. Some will complain that the Mass doesn't make them "feel" good or the Church's teaching doesn't cause a flood of the emotions they are looking for in their lives. I've had friends tell me that their relationship with Jesus requires them to "feel good" on some level.

The problem is, our emotions or "feelings" — as we call them colloquially — are an unruly taskmaster and a dangerous guide in the spiritual life. It is true that our emotions are an aspect of being a human person, but they are in no way meant to overrule our intellect or our will. It is not uncommon for our emotions to lead us into temptation and take us down paths that are destructive.

When an individual tells me how essential it is for them to "feel" the presence of God or to experience Him subjectively in the Mass or in prayer, I tend to ask them some questions. First, I ask them how many times a day they experience an emotion? Do those emotions always comport with what is going on in reality? Do our bodies impact our emotional state e.g. level of sleep, stress, even what we've eaten? Is God our emotions? Does God cease to love us if we don't "feel" good on a given day? What about the very real dark night experiences of some of the holiest souls in our Tradition? Can our emotions be impacted by our encounters with other people? There are a lot of other questions that should and can be considered when it comes to deciphering how much our emotions can impede our ability to understand reality, love and serve God properly, love our neighbor as we ought, and progress in holiness.

Part of the spiritual life is learning to temper, control, or discard our emotional states. We can't always control our emotions, so at times we are called to endure until an emotional state passes. Much of the time an emotion we experience in a given situation is irrelevant to what is actually happening outside of ourselves. The Mass is a good example.

The celebration of the Mass — through which we offer right praise to God and participate in the Eucharistic sacrifice as a priestly people through the ministerial priesthood — is an objective reality outside of ourselves. Heaven and earth meet and Our Lord is made bodily present to His people whether we "feel" it or not. The Mass is not meant to give us warm-fuzzy feelings. That's not what it is designed for. If that is what we want out of the Mass (and if we *must* have that experience), then we are not seeking to worship God, we are seeking an emotional high. That doesn't mean we won't experience powerful feelings from time-to-time at Mass, but it does mean that we can't be overly dependent on how we feel at Mass. We praise God regardless of our emotional state.

Many of the great spiritual masters of the Church note that as we progress in holiness, God seeks to free us of those things we depend upon outside of Him. One of these dependencies is our emotions. There will be periods, especially after consolations, in which God will seem to withdraw from us and we will no longer "feel" His presence. In fact, St. Ignatius of Loyola points out that we are in desolation more often than consolation in this life. We may experience aridity, darkness, numbness, and confusion. It is not that God has abandoned us, rather, He is seeking to purify our love for Him. We are not meant to rely on the good feelings that can come from a consolation or an experience of Him at an emotional level. If we constantly seek an emotional response to God, we often become trapped in a type of idolatry in which we worship our feelings over God.

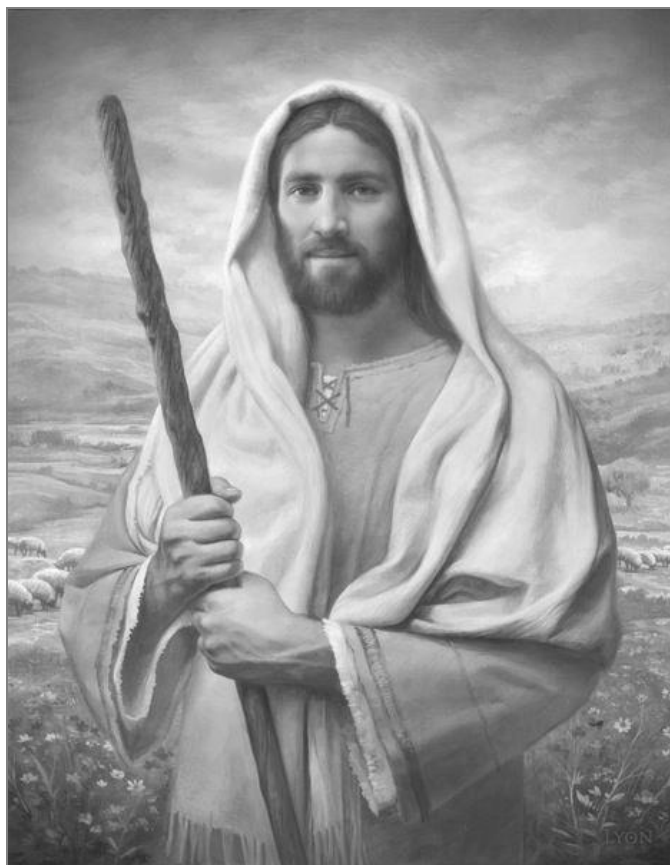
The questions we must ask ourselves in our spiritual life is: Who do I follow, and why? Who do I want? Do I want God, or do I want me? If we want God, then we must learn to temper, control, and discard our emotional states and no longer remain dependent upon them. When we learn to recognize our emotional responses to situations we can see very quickly how our emotions can entangle us in temptations and lead us to sin. This is a prevalent issue in our culture and it is something we have to fight against by the grace extended to us through the Sacraments and regular prayer.

The mantra of our culture is, "If it feels good, then do it – everyone else is doing it." This is problematic and destructive in the spiritual life. It leads us to justify and commit sinful behavior. We can quickly become enslaved by alcohol, drugs, gambling, wrath, food, greed, pornography, or other forms of lust. Often adultery is predicated upon the notion that a person "feels" romantic love, attraction, or attachment to someone other than their spouse. We cannot truly love someone through sin and having an emotional response to another human being does not mean we should act upon it. What is required of us is to properly order that emotion to what is good, holy, and true. This is true of every aspect of our lives. A lot of people use their emotions and the argument that God wants them to be "happy" in order to indulge in sinful behavior. God wants us to become saints and our happiness can only come from living in accordance with His designs.

We are meant to move past our emotions as the starting point of our faith journey. They serve their purpose in the beginning by moving us towards God, but they are the shallow end. We are meant to swim into the great depths of God's mystery and love through the gift of faith and our use of reason. We can't truly come to know God and allow Him to live within us fully if we would rather worship our good feelings over Him. Christ doesn't promise that the spiritual life will be rainbows and sunshine. He promises that it will be blessed and lead us to the ultimate happiness we are made for at the end of the journey. In fact, there will be very dark valleys that we must walk through.

We can't persevere if we don't understand that our spiritual life isn't reliant upon feeling good. It is wholly dependent on Jesus Christ and our willingness to move forward in faith following Him no matter what. There will be much that we are asked to endure, some of which will be brutal, but our hope and trust is in Him, not how we feel about what is asked of us. The greatest joy, the deepest peace, and the most intense love is found in the Holy Trinity as we enter into the communion of the Divine Persons when we let go of our counterfeits and embrace reality Itself. In order to do so, we must be willing to accept that our emotions are not God and that our faith journey is not dependent upon how we feel, but rather on embracing the timeless teachings of Christ. We are called to follow our Savior, Jesus Christ, as His disciples, and to live our lives according to His way, guided by our faith. May our lives bear faithful witness to the joy of being His disciples, at all times, in all situations, before all people.

This article is made available courtesy of the Catholic Exchange.



Lectio Divina

DAILY SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

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

"Take, O Lord, and receive my entire liberty, my memory, my understanding and my whole will. All that I am and all that I possess You have given me: I surrender it all to You to be disposed of according to Your will. Give me only Your love and Your grace; with these I will be rich enough and will desire nothing more."

~THE "PRAYER OF SURRENDER" OF SAINT IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA

**Monday, July 29 ~ Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus**

Holy Gospel: John 11:19-27 Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother [Lazarus, who had died]. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and anyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

Meditation: Martha, like many Orthodox Jews, believed in the life to come. The loss of her brother Lazarus did not diminish her hope in the resurrection – in fact she gently chides Jesus for not coming sooner to save Lazarus from an untimely death. But Jesus does something unexpected and remarkable, both to strengthen her faith and hope in the life to come, and to give her a sign of what he was to accomplish through his own death and resurrection. Jesus gave to her belief a new and profound meaning: He came from the Father to defeat sin and death for us and to restore life to those who believe in him. Jesus states unequivocally the he himself is the Resurrection and the Life. And the life that he offers is abundant life – life which comes from God himself. Jesus also offers everlasting life – the fullness of life which knows no end.

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that the example of your Saints may spur us on to a better life, so that we, who celebrate the memory of Saints Martha, Mary and Lazarus, may also imitate without ceasing their deeds. 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: In light of what unfolds in today's Gospel, we might ask ourselves what gives us hope and joy in the face of death? The loss of a loved one naturally produces grief and anguish of heart. When Martha, the sister of Lazarus and a close friend of Jesus, heard that Jesus was coming to pay respects for the loss of Lazarus, she immediately went out to meet him before he could get to her house. What inspired her to leave the funeral gathering in order to seek out Jesus? Was it simply the companionship and consolation of Jesus – a friend who loved her brother deeply? Or did she recognize in Jesus the hope that God would restore life through Christ who is our Savior? Probably both, with the latter building on the former; Jesus, who loves each of us as much as he loved Lazarus, is our sweetness and our hope – hope for eternal life with Him that can be ours by living an earthly life "through Him, with Him and in Him" as faithful disciples, loving Christ as He loves us.

**Tuesday, July 30 ~ Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Peter Chrysologus, Bishop and Doctor of the Church;
Blessed Solanus Casey, Capuchin Friar**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:36-43 Jesus dismissed the crowds and went into the house. His disciples approached him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field." He said in reply, "He who sows good seed is the Son of Man, the field is the world, the good seed the children of the Kingdom. The

weeds are the children of the Evil One, and the enemy who sows them is the Devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels. Just as weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his Kingdom all who cause others to sin and all evildoers. They will throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the Kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears ought to hear."

Meditation: There are different ways of accepting God's word and they produce different kinds of fruit accordingly. There is the prejudiced hearer who has a shut mind. Such a person is unteachable and turns a deaf ear to what they don't want to hear. Then there is the shallow hearer. He or she fails to think things out or think them through; they lack depth. They may initially respond with an emotional reaction; but when it wears off their mind wanders to something else. Another type of hearer is the person who has many interests or cares, but who lacks the ability to hear or comprehend what is truly important. Such a person is forever too busy to pray or too preoccupied to study and meditate and pray on God's word. He or she may work so hard that they are too tired to even think of anything else but their work. Then there is the one whose mind is open. Such a person is at all times willing to listen and to learn. He or she is never too proud or too busy to learn. They listen in order to understand. God gives grace to those who hunger for his word that they may understand his will and have the strength to live according to it. The "evil one" refers to Satan who also tempts us with sowing his evil seed in our hearts and minds. The evil one can also refer to those among us who promote ways that are contrary to that of Christ – those who embrace contrary ways of living, far from the way that God has commanded and Christ has taught. Do you embrace the laws of God and the teachings of Christ and His Church? Or do you embrace the ways of the evil one, public opinion, the politically correct, that which may be popular, that which may be civilly legal yet immoral in the eyes of God, and anything that is contrary to the truths of sacred scripture?

Prayer ~ Saint Peter Chrysologus: O God, who made the Bishop Saint Peter Chrysologus an outstanding preacher of your incarnate Word, grant, through his intercession, that we may constantly ponder in our hearts the mysteries of your salvation and faithfully express them in what we do. 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 ~ Blessed Solanus Casey: O God, who in your providence conformed Blessed Solanus Casey to the image of your Son making him tireless in service to the poor, by his intercession and example, grant also to us the same generosity and joy in giving of ourselves in service to our neighbor. 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.

Contemplation: Don't be naive. An enemy exists who seeks to destroy the good seed of His word before it can bear fruit. Both good and evil can be sown in our hearts like tiny seeds which germinate, and in due time yield a harvest of good or bad fruit. We must stand guard lest evil take root in our hearts and corrupt us. In the day of judgment each will reap what he or she has sown in this life. Those who sow good will shine in the kingdom of their Father. They will radiate with the beauty, joy, and fullness of God's love.

About Blessed Solanus Casey: Barney Casey became one of Detroit's best-known priests even though he was not allowed to preach formally or to hear confessions! Barney came from a large family in Oak Grove, Wisconsin. At the age of 21, and after he had worked as a logger, a hospital orderly, a streetcar operator, and a prison guard, he entered St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee—where he found the studies difficult. He left there, and in 1896, joined the Capuchins in Detroit, taking the name Solanus. His studies for the priesthood were again arduous. On July 24, 1904, Solanus was ordained, but because his knowledge of theology was judged to be weak, he was not given permission to hear confessions or to preach. A Franciscan Capuchin who knew him well said this annoying restriction "brought forth in him a greatness and a holiness that might never have been realized in any other way." During his 14 years as porter and sacristan in Yonkers, New York, the people there recognized Solanus as a fine speaker. James Derum, his biographer writes, "For, though he was forbidden to deliver doctrinal sermons, he could give inspirational talks, or *feverinos*, as the Capuchins termed them." His spiritual fire deeply impressed his listeners. Father Solanus served at parishes in Manhattan and Harlem before returning to Detroit, where he was porter and sacristan for 20 years at St. Bonaventure Monastery. Every Wednesday afternoon he conducted well-attended services for the sick. A co-worker estimates that on the average day 150 to 200 people came to see Father Solanus in the front office. Most of them came to receive his blessing; 40 to 50 came for consultation. Many people considered him instrumental in cures and other blessings they received. The many friends of Father Solanus helped the Capuchins begin a soup kitchen during the Depression. Capuchins are still feeding the hungry there today. In failing health, Solanus was transferred

to the Capuchin novitiate in Huntington, Indiana, in 1946, where he lived for ten years until needing to be hospitalized in Detroit. Father Solanus died on July 31, 1957. An estimated 20,000 people passed by his coffin before his burial in St. Bonaventure Church in Detroit. At the funeral Mass, the provincial Father Gerald said: "His was a life of service and love for people like me and you. When he was not himself sick, he nevertheless suffered with and for you that were sick. When he was not physically hungry, he hungered with people like you. He had a divine love for people. He loved people for what he could do for them—and for God, through them." In 1960, a Father Solanus Guild was formed in Detroit to aid Capuchin seminarians. By 1967, the guild had 5,000 members—many of them grateful recipients of his practical advice and his comforting assurance that God would not abandon them in their trials. Solanus Casey was declared Venerable in 1995, and beatified on November 18, 2017.

Visit the Solanus Casey Center in Detroit, Michigan: <https://www.solanuscasy.org/>.

Wednesday, July 31 ~ Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time Saint Ignatius of Loyola, Priest; Founder, Society of Jesus

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:44-46 Jesus said to his disciples: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the Kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. When he finds a pearl of great price, he goes and sells all that he has and buys it."

Meditation: Discovering God's kingdom is like stumbling across hidden treasure or finding the one pearl of great price. When we discover the kingdom of God we receive the greatest possible treasure — the Lord himself. Selling all that we have to obtain this incomparable treasure could mean many things — our friends, job, our "style of life", what we do with our free time. Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of will and focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. In this parable what does the treasure of the kingdom refer to? It certainly refers to the kingdom of God in all its aspects. But in a special way, the Lord himself is the treasure we seek. If the Almighty is your gold and your precious silver, then you will delight yourself in the Almighty (Job 22:22-23). Is the Lord the treasure and delight of your heart?

Prayer: O God, who raised up Saint Ignatius of Loyola in your Church to further the greater glory of your name, grant that by his help we may imitate him in fighting the good fight on earth and merit to receive with him a crown in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What do you treasure most and how do you keep it secure? In a peasant community the best safe was often the earth. The man in the parable "went in his joy" to sell everything. Why? Because he found a treasure worth possessing above everything else he had. He did not, however, have enough to buy the treasure. Fortunately, he only needed enough money to buy the field. In a similar fashion, God offers his kingdom as incomparable treasure at a price we can afford! We can't pay the full price for the life which God gives us. But when we exchange our life for the life which God offers, we receive a treasure beyond compare. So what is of greater value, then? The treasure of this earthly life? Or the treasure that God makes available to us — the Lord himself!

Thursday, August 1 ~ Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time St. Alphonsus Liguori, Bishop, Doctor of the Church; Founder, Redemptorists

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:47-53 Jesus said to the disciples: "The Kingdom of heaven is like a net thrown into the sea, which collects fish of every kind. When it is full they haul it ashore and sit down to put what is good into buckets. What is bad they throw away. Thus it will be at the end of the age. The angels will go out and separate the wicked from the righteous and throw them into the fiery furnace, where there will be wailing and grinding of teeth. Do you understand all these things?" They answered, "Yes." And he replied, "Then every scribe who has been instructed in the Kingdom of heaven is like the head of a household who brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." When Jesus finished these parables, he went away from there.

Meditation: What can a story of a dragnet and a great catch of fish tell us about God's kingdom? The two most common ways of fishing in Jesus' time was with a casting-net (or hand-net) which was thrown from the shore and the drag-net or trawl which was let down or cast into the waters from a boat. As the boat moved through the waters the drag-net was drawn into the shape of a great cone which indiscriminately took in all kinds of fish and flotsam and jetsam swept in its path. It usually took several men to haul such a net to shore. What is Jesus' point here? Just as a drag-net catches every kind of fish in the sea, so the church acts as God's instrument for gathering in all who will come. Just as the drag-net does not or cannot

discriminate, so the church does not discriminate between the good and the bad, the useless and the useful. God's kingdom is open to all who will accept and believe. But there will come a time of separation, at the close of the age, when the angels will send the good and the bad to their respective destinations.

Prayer: O God, who constantly raise up in your Church new examples of virtue, grant that we may follow so closely in the footsteps of the Bishop Saint Alphonsus in his zeal for souls as to attain the same rewards that are his in heaven. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What is our duty in all of this? Our duty is rather simple – to gather in all who will come. God, in the end, will give the good and the bad the reward they deserve. God offers the treasure of his kingdom to all who believe. Do you hunger for God and his kingdom?

Friday, August 2 ~ Seventeenth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Peter Julian Eymard, Priest; Founder, Congregation of the Bl. Sacrament

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:54-58 Jesus came to his native place and taught the people in their synagogue. They were astonished and said, "Where did this man get such wisdom and mighty deeds? Is he not the carpenter's son? Is not his mother named Mary and his brothers James, Joseph, Simon, and Judas? Are not his sisters all with us? Where did this man get all this?" And they took offense at him. But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and in his own house." And he did not work many mighty deeds there because of their lack of faith.

Meditation: Are you critical towards others, especially those who are close to you? The most severe critics are often people very familiar to us, a member of our family, a relative, neighbor, student, or worker we rub shoulders with on a regular basis. Jesus faced a severe testing when he returned to his home town, not simply as the carpenter's son, but now as a rabbi with disciples. But it was of not matter, as the people of Nazareth took offense at him and refused to listen to what he had to say. They despised his preaching because he was a carpenter from the working class, and a mere layman untrained by religious scholars. They also despised him because of his family background. After all, Joseph was a tradesman as well and Mary had no special social distinctions.

Prayer: O God, who adorned Saint Peter Julian Eymard with a wonderful love for the sacred mysteries of the Body and Blood of your Son, graciously grant that we, too, may be worthy to receive the delights he drew from this divine banquet. 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: How easily familiarity breeds contempt. Jesus could do no mighty works in his hometown because the people who were familiar with him were closed-minded and despised his claim to speak and act in the name of God. The Lord Jesus offers us freedom from sin, prejudice, contempt, and fear. His love and grace sets us free to love others with the same grace and mercy which he has shown to us. Only Jesus can truly set us free from the worst tyranny possible — slavery to sin and the fear of death. His victory on the cross brings us pardon and healing, and the grace to live holy lives by the power of the Holy Spirit. Do you know the joy and freedom which Christ's love brings to our hearts?

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

MONTH OF AUGUST ~ PRAYER TO THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY

Immaculate Heart of Mary, my Mother, I come to you in childlike prayer. I earnestly desire that all the people of the world may be brought back to the humble knowledge and love of the Sacred Heart of your dear Son. I pray, dear Mother of my God, that the wonderful beauty and purity of your own Immaculate Heart may so win our souls that we may detest all sin and dedicate our lives to the honor and glory of the God who created us.

You revealed the secrets of your own sad heart at Fatima and begged for penance, prayer, and conversion of the world to God. What more can I do than unite my heart to yours in this great yearning? What can I add but the fervent prayer that all the world may listen to your pleading?

I give my heart to you, my heavenly Queen, and in confidence I leave to you what is best for me in answer to my prayer for love and reparation. Immaculate Heart of the Mother of my God, I implore through your powerful intercession, the conversion of the hearts of men, complete victory over sin, and the return of the peace which you have promised. Amen.

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 God 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 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.

A Prayer to Fulfill God's Plan for Me

Composed by Fr. William D. Lynn, S.J.

My God, it astonishes me to know that from all eternity
You have thought of me every moment and have loved me
with an unimaginably great love.

I am amazed to know that You have created me
for a special purpose which I alone can fulfill.

If I fail to accomplish it,
no one else can do it in my stead.

Help me to remember that I shall pass this way but once,
and that any good I can do, or any kindness I can show,
I must do it now, for I shall never pass this way again.

Help me to be faithful to Jesus and the teachings of His Gospel
so that I may bring joy into the lives of others.

Give me a keen eye to see the good that I can do for them.

Help me to recognize those whom I can help with a kind word,
a friendly smile, a generous hand:

those who are ill, lonely, sad, and depressed;

those who need a friend;

those oppressed with worry and anxiety;

those who are hungry, homeless, and helpless;

those who live in the darkness and hopelessness of unbelief.

Lord, show me the good You want me to do today,
and help me to do it with a generous heart.

Through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

Fr. Lynn was a noted theologian who served for many years as a respected priest, professor and formator at the Pontifical College Josephinum seminary.

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MISSION

St. Michael's Middle School youth ministry, *The Adventurers*, serves middle school students (6th-8th) who are looking for community, to help foster their relationship with Jesus Christ, and to dive deeper in the faith

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Looking for high schoolers, young adults, or parents who have a passion for evangelization among our youth! These individuals are also able to bring the love of God and joy to others. Some responsibilities is to help foster community, build intentional Christ-centered relationships with the high schooler, are hospitable and energetic, and comfortable giving talks and lead small group. Must have completed Protecting God's Children (contact for more info)

WHEN DO WE MEET?

September - May
Every 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month
2:30 - 4:30

CONTACT INFO

Jake Asuncion
jasuncion@saintmichael-cd.org



Elevari
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MISSION

St. Michael's High School youth ministry, *Elevari*, serves high school students who are looking for community, to help foster their relationship with Jesus Christ, and to dive deeper in the faith

WHAT ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

Looking for young adults or parents who have a passion for evangelization among our youth! These individuals are also able to bring the love of God and joy to others. Some responsibilities is to help foster community, build intentional Christ-centered relationships with the high schooler, are hospitable, and comfortable giving talks and lead small group. Must have completed Protecting God's Children (contact for more info)

WHEN DO WE MEET?

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CONTACT INFO

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JUBILEE OF ANNIVERSARIES MASS:

The Jubilee of Anniversaries Mass will be celebrated at St. Joseph Cathedral on Saturday, September 7th with a Vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m. Bishop Fernandes is planned to be the main celebrant for the Mass. The Mass is for married couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60 and every year after 60 years of marriage. All registered couples, whether attending or not, will receive a personalized certificate in the mail. The Mass is also scheduled to be livestreamed for family members and couples who prefer to attend virtually. Couples can register by visiting our website at <https://columbuscatholic.org/marriage-family/marriage/jubilee>.



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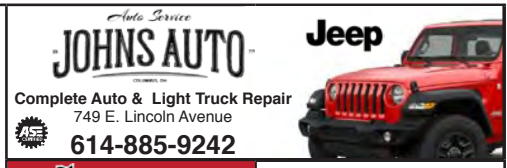


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