

# The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption



PARISH OFFICE: 506 Fourth Street, Marietta OH 45750 PHONE: 740-373-3643  
WEBSITE: [www.stmarysmarietta.org](http://www.stmarysmarietta.org)  [www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta](https://www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta) EMAIL: [info@stmarysmarietta.org](mailto:info@stmarysmarietta.org)



May 2, 2021  
*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM - Charles & Mayme White
SUN	8:00 AM - Joseph Wesel
	10:00 AM - Ron Strahler
	12:00 PM - People of the Parish
	2:00 PM - First Communion
MON	7:45 AM - David Erb
	12:05 PM - Herman Offenberger, 10 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
TUE	7:45 AM - Louella Macenko
	12:05 PM - Joanie Bosco
WED	7:45 AM - Mildred Arnold
	12:05 PM - Anna & Metro Hrycenko
	6:00 PM - Liv/dec'd Members of the CWC
THU	7:45 AM - Betty Russell
	12:05 PM - Richard Miller Family
FRI	7:45 AM - Patrick Vermaaten
	12:05 PM - Helen Steil, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary
SAT	9:00 AM - Henry Albrecht
	5:30 PM - People of the Parish
SUN	8:00 AM - Luada Wesel
	10:00 AM - Jim Archer
	12:00 PM - Louis Huck, Jr.

**SUNDAY MASSES - Saturday 5:30 PM; Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 PM**  
**CONFESSIONS - Saturday 3:30-5:00 PM (or anytime by appointment)**  
**BAPTISMS - Contact Parish Office**  
**WEDDINGS - Contact Parish Office six months in advance**

Rector - Rev. Msgr. John Michael Campbell ([fatherjmike@gmail.com](mailto:fatherjmike@gmail.com))  
Parochial Vicar - Rev. Joshua D. Erickson  
Permanent Deacon - Rev. Mr. Lee Weisend  
Music Director - Mr. John Ontko (740-350-4224, [ontkotb@suddenlink.net](mailto:ontkotb@suddenlink.net))  
St. Mary School - 320 Marion St, 740-374-8181 ([www.stmaryscatholic.org](http://www.stmaryscatholic.org))  
School Principal - Elizabeth Tokodi, ([elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org))  
DRE - Cecelia Cottrill ([ceceliacottrill@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:ceceliacottrill@stmaryscatholic.org))  
Parish Council Chairman - Dennis Blatt  
K of C Grand Knight - Mr. David Payne (740-373-7834)  
CWC President - Jenn Tinkler  
Hibernians - Mr. Tom Binegar, President (740-374-4559)  
Prayer Line - & Eucharistic Adoration, Mrs. Shelly Medley (740-525-6360)  
Pregnancy Assistance - Women's Care Center (740-374-7123)  
Health Ministry - Mrs. Janet Jaeger (740-374-6768)  
Daily Bread Kitchen - Mrs. Carol Henshaw (740-885-1181)  
St. Vincent De Paul - Help Line (740-376-1334)  
Welcoming Committee - Jim Naylor (740) 350-5510

*Remain in me as I remain in you, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me will bear much fruit.*

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48; 1Jn 4:7-10; Jn 15:9-17.

## REST IN PEACE:

Francis "Frank" Schilling passed away April 25<sup>th</sup>. He was the father of Patty Finkel and the brother of Gert Bradley and Ken Schilling of this parish. His Funeral Mass was celebrated Friday Morning at St. John's, Churchtown. We offer our condolences to the Schilling family and will remember Frank in prayer. May God grant him eternal peace and happiness.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY BAPTIZED:

Ava Josephine Brockett and Avyanna Zoella Owens.

## THE FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR THIS WEEKEND

are in celebration of First Holy Communion which will be held at a special 2:00 PM Mass this Sunday.

## PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The parish offices are open from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Mondays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Tuesday thru Friday. The offices are closed for a lunch break from Noon until 1:00 PM.

**VISITORS WELCOME!** We welcome any visitors who are joining us for Mass this weekend. We hope your stay in Marietta is enjoyable. Any new parishioners at the Basilica are asked to please register with the parish office.

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## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TODAY	2:00 PM	-	First Holy Communion
MON	6:00 PM	-	RCIA in the Basilica Social Hall.
	6:15 PM	-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions.
TUE	6:30 PM	-	Choir Practice
WED	8:15 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Basilica. See announcement.
	6:00 PM	-	CWC Mass and May Crowning, followed by a meeting in the Basilica Social Hall. See announcement.
THU	6:00 PM	-	Totus Tuus Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall. See announcement.
FRI	8:15 AM	-	7:00 PM. Eucharistic Adoration in the Basilica. See announcement.
SAT	3:30 PM	-	Confessions.

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### **The Lord Will Never Be Outdone In Generosity!**

Total collection last weekend:           \$ 14,780.00

Amount needed each week to meet  
the Basilica budget:                       \$ 14,225.00

***God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!***

### SECOND COLLECTION

On the first weekend of each month, there is a second collection for the maintenance of our Basilica. This collection will be taken up at all Masses this weekend, May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>.

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### ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available at the Basilica. For more information, please visit this website: <http://www.stmarysmarietta.org> and go to the left side of the web page. Click on the GIVE ON LINE button to see more information or to sign up.

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### BASILICA FOUNDATION

A fund has been established by the Marietta Community Foundation for the maintenance and repairs of our Basilica. This fund is separate from the monthly maintenance collection. Our goal is to have at least One Million in the fund before using it. To donate, contact the Community Foundation.

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### ST. MARY ALUMNI REUNION

Due to COVID -19, we have rescheduled our next Alumni Reunion for July 9, 2022.

### SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

**Happy Teacher Appreciation** to the amazing staff of St. Mary Catholic School. We are blessed with the best and appreciate our teaching staff.

**Seeking Kindergarten Teacher:** St. Mary Catholic School is seeking a Kindergarten Teacher to expand its program for the 2021-2022 Academic Year. The applicant should be a practicing Catholic, have an Ohio Teaching Certificate or be in the Resident Educator Program and be knowledgeable regarding the Content Standards in the Core Academic areas.

For additional information, call the school office at 740-374-8181 or email resume, three references, copy of teacher certificate and college transcript to: Ms. Elizabeth Tokodi at [elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org).

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### DIOCESAN PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN

Last week we received our first report from the Diocese for the D/PSC. Our parish goal for 2021 is \$108,498 and to date we have received \$80,413. This is 74% of the goal. Please remember that it is not too late to make a pledge. Please help us reach our goal. Your support is crucial to our parish and our diocese. Money received over and above our goal will be returned to our parish to be used for our own parish needs. The diocese mailed pledge cards to all registered parishioners at the beginning of the campaign. Pledge cards are also available at the parish office. They should be mailed directly to the diocese in the envelope provided.

Thank you to all of our parishioners who have so generously contributed to the Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign thus far. May God bless you for your support of our diocese and our parish.

### **MAY CROWNING**

**Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 PM**

All women and girls are invited to join our Catholic Woman's Club for a special evening giving honor to Mary, Mother of Our Lord. We will begin with Mass and the Crowning of Mary at 6:00 PM. If you wish you may bring a flower to place at her feet.

The CWC will be having their monthly meeting following the Mass/May Crowning. The meeting will be held in the Basilica Social Hall. All women of the Parish are invited.

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### **DIVINE MERCY GIFT SHOP**

Mothers' Day and Graduation are coming up soon. There are many beautiful gifts available for both so please stop by and check out our new items. If you prefer to shop during the week, contact Sue at 740-434-3456 to set up a time. Or you can shop online at [stmarysmarietta.org/shop](http://stmarysmarietta.org/shop).

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### **BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Bulletin announcements must be in by Noon Wednesday. This will ensure that your announcement (s) will be included in the following Sunday's bulletin. Announcements should be in writing. We cannot accept bulletin announcements by phone.

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### **PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY**

We pray for all of the men and women who are serving our country in the military. We especially remember those from our own parish and friends and relatives of our parishioners. May God watch over them and keep them safe.

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### **CEMETERY COLLECTION**

It is a corporal work of mercy to care for the resting places of our beloved dead. Every year during the months of May and November we have a collection for the care and up-keep of our two parish cemeteries. Envelopes were provided with your monthly packet and may be put in the regular collection or mailed to the parish office any time this month.

### **TOTUS TUUS PROGRAM**

This summer, the Basilica will be hosting the Totus Tuus Program from June 12 – 18. Totus Tuus is a summer catechetical program for grades 1 -12 that uses fun to teach about the Catholic faith and the sacraments. Volunteers will be needed. To find out how you can help, please attend the Tutus Tuus meeting on Thursday May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM or email Cecilia at [ceceliacottrill@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:ceceliacottrill@stmaryscatholic.org).

### **MASS FOR GRADUATES**

We will honor our parish graduates, from all area high schools, at the 10:00 AM Mass on Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Graduates are asked to meet in the Basilica Social Hall at 9:45 AM that morning, dressed in cap and gown.

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### **NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?**

If you have recently moved, please call the parish office to give us your new address. Also, many of our parishioners are just using cell phone numbers. Please let us know so we can update our parish census. Thank you for your cooperation.

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### **USE OF THE BASILICA SOCIAL HALL**

Before scheduling a meeting in the Basilica Social Hall or using the Basilica kitchen, please be sure to check with the parish office to see if the time and date are available. All meetings and events MUST be put in the master book in the parish office.

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### **2021 EAGLE SCOUT CEREMONY**

This past Sunday afternoon, Father Mike offered a prayer to open the 2021 Eagle Scout Induction Ceremony for Troop 231. Sam Gottfried, Nicholas Earley, Carson Urban, John Barry Wharff, of our parish, and Adam Coil were honored as they were awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. Another member of our parish, Matthew Rauch, of Troop 216 has also been awarded the rank of Eagle Scout. One of the rules that guide Scouts is Reverent – A Scout is reverent toward God. He is faithful in his religious duties. He respects the beliefs of others. ***Congratulations to these young men on reaching this milestone!***

# THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 2, 2021

## NOTES ON THE GOSPEL

Jesus said to his followers: "I am the true vine and My Father is the grower. Every branch in Me not carrying fruit He cuts away; every (branch) that produces fruit He cleans, so it might carry more fruit. But He prunes every branch, so it can produce even more."

My Father has already pruned you, because of the words I spoke to you when I lived with you. Remain in Me and I (will remain) in you. Just as the branch is not able to bear fruit by itself unless it remains in the vine, so you (can) not, unless you remain in Me.

"I AM the true vine." Vines and vineyards were popular images for Israel in Scripture. "I AM..." John used the phrase "I AM" to refer to the presence of the divine in Jesus. The phrase is an allusion to the name of God, "YHWH" (in Exodus 3:14 as "I AM WHO AM"). "I am the vine and you are the branches. Without Me, you cannot do anything as my follower. But the follower who stays close to me and I am close to will do many things, just like the branch that produces lots of grapes. If a follower does not stay close to Me, My Father will reject him, like a branch he throws out and allows to dry up. He will gather that branch, and will throw them into the fire so they can be burned up.

In John's passage on the vine and the branches, Jesus presented the themes of testing and judgment, intimacy, and assurance of God's benevolent providence. Jesus seemed to say, "No matter what happens, stay close to me, produce the fruit of a good Christian life, and my Father will take care of you." The theme of mutual fidelity threaded its way throughout this passage.

"If you remain in me and my words remain in you..." Those who are one with Christ and accept testing (his words), live in God's will. They will ask for and receive his will. In no way does being Christian give the believer power over God's providence.

John presented the believer with two choices: dependence upon the Lord or condemnation. Indeed, the believer's faith itself was a gift from the Lord. So, the believer could not do anything (even loving the Lord) without God's help.

Hence, the power of the word in the time of Jesus could judge the speaker and the listener. Wisdom and honor demanded truth from the speaker and adherence from the listener. The words of Jesus were to remain with the follower because they were true.

Those who were faithful in spite of testing could pray in confidence. They could ask and they could be certain there would be an answer to their requests. Notice that prayer and its answer were to glorify God, not simply fulfill the whims of the follower who prayed. Hence, Christians should pray with utter trust. But their prayers should seek God's will and proclaim God's glory. A goal of prayer was evangelization.

**THE BASILICA OF  
SAINT MARY  
OF THE ASSUMPTION  
506 FOURTH STREET  
MARIETTA, OHIO 45750**

May 2, 2021

Dear Parents of our First Communicants, and all Parishioners,

This weekend, 25 parish children will receive Holy Communion for the first time at the First Communion Mass offered at 2:00PM. First Communion is a memorable day, full of tradition and family celebrations. In two weeks, 4 children from Saint Henry parish will also receive their First Communion at the 9:30 Sunday Mass.

The Church does not provide any specific ritual for this celebration. Here in the Basilica, the liturgy of First Communion will be full of reminders of baptism. At the beginning of the Mass, the children, and all present, are sprinkled with baptismal water. The beautiful white dresses and suits they will wear will be another reminder of baptism, when they were clothed in a white garment. The children, with all gathered, will renew their baptismal promises. Why all the reminders of baptism? Because Eucharist, in which the children will share for the first time, is one of the three sacraments of initiation: baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist. The link between these three sacraments is clear in the initiation of adults at the Easter Vigil, when they are celebrated in sequence within a single liturgy. But when infants are baptized, the three sacraments are separated, with First Holy Communion taking place when the children have reached the "age of reason," and Confirmation even later.

This celebration reminds us to remember the day of our own First Communion. We need to be as reverent and filled with awe each time we receive the Lord in the Eucharist. We must also be attentive to our obligation to attend Mass every Sunday and participate in the mystery of the Eucharist. Each time we participate in the Sacrifice of the Mass and receive Communion, we should be as reverent as though it is our first Mass, our only Mass, our last Mass.

Congratulations to our First Communicants and to their parents and families! Live the Holy Eucharist and live the Mass.

In His Sacred Passion,  
Rev. Msgr. John M. Campbell

## **Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday Evening**

Perpetual Help Devotions will be offered this Monday evening at 6:15 pm. All parishioners are invited to participate in this beautiful devotion celebrated in our Basilica. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica and each one of us. Jesus Christ Himself invites us to a personal visit with Him in our basilica.

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## **REVERENTIAL QUIET IN THE BASILICA**

It is an ancient tradition in the Church to have a reverential quiet tone in a Catholic Church – especially in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. More and more, this tradition is being ignored in the Basilica. Sometimes, people are trying to pray before or after Mass – we need to respect them. Please observe a quiet tone when you are present in the Basilica.

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## **ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Basilica on Wednesday and Friday. Jesus stays with us in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us in mind, in heart and in spirit. Take advantage of Eucharistic Adoration which takes place at our Basilica. Come and visit the Lord in Adoration this Wednesday and Friday.

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## **Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:**

- May 12 - Basilica Tour (3:30 pm.)
  - May 16 - First Communion at Saint Henry's Church
  - May 21 - Ordination of Fr. Jeremiah Hahn – St. Peter Church, Steubenville
  - July 13 - Basilica tour (Tuscarawas County 9:30am. & 10:15 am.)
  - Aug. 14 - Bishop Daniel Conlon visit
  - Sept. 27 - Diocesan Giving Society Mass & Reception (Bishop)
  - Nov. 21 - Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass (Noon – Bishop)
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## **PILGRIMAGES TO OUR BASILICA**

The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption welcomes all visitors encouraging them to come, pray, and enjoy our beautiful church. If you are a member of a group who would like to tour our Basilica or make a spiritual pilgrimage, please let us know how we can be of assistance.

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## **DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE**

On Monday, we remember the 29th anniversary of the death of Fr. Joseph Saraceno. On Tuesday, we remember the 48th anniversary of the death of Fr. Rudolph Wargo. On Thursday, we remember the 8th anniversary of the death of Msgr. Paul Metzger. These priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May they rest in peace.



## EVENTS AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, May 3,

- 7:45 am. – Mass
- 12:05 am. – Mass
- 6:00 pm. – RCIA Dinner
- 6:15 pm. – Perpetual Help Devotions

Friday, May 7,

- 7:45 am. – Mass
- 8:20 am. – Adoration (Chapel)
- 12:05 pm. – Mass
- 7:00 pm. – Reposition of the Eucharist

Tuesday, May 4,

- 7:45 am. – Mass
- 12:05 pm. – Mass

Saturday, May 8,

- 9:00 am. – Mass
- 3:30 am. – Confessions
- 4:00 pm. – Mass (Saint Henry)
- 5:30 pm. – Mass

Wednesday, May 5,

- 7:45 am. – Mass
- 8:20 am. – Adoration (Chapel)
- 12:05 pm. – Mass
- 6:00 pm. – CWC Mass & May Crowning
- 7:00 pm. – Reposition of the Eucharist

Sunday May 9,

- 8:00 am. – Mass
- 9:30 am. – Dinner  
(St. Henry's 10:30 – 1:30)
- 10:00 am. – Mass
- 12:00 pm. – Mass

Thursday, May 6,

- 7:45 am. – Mass
- 12:05 pm. – Mass

## FEASTS THIS WEEK

Monday,

May 3rd,

Saints Philip & James (Apostles)

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Philip was among the first disciples called by Jesus. He preached in Phrygia, and died on a cross. James was the son of Alphaeus. He is called "the Less" or "the Just" for his piety. He was the leader of the Jerusalem Church. He was stoned to death in the year 62..

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## LIFE IN JESUS CHRIST

When we believe in Jesus Christ, partake of his mysteries, and keep his commandments, the Savior himself comes to love, in us, his Father and his brethren. His person becomes, through his Spirit, the living and interior rule of our activity. Staying connected to Christ has a high price. Sometimes it costs us the respect of the world. Sometimes it costs us relationships with others. Sometimes it costs us a sense of comfort and community.

But the price of life without Christ is much higher. Imagine what life would be like without faith, without good Christian spouses and friends, without a prayer life and worship to sustain us, without the goodness and Christian charity of others to help along the way. Imagine a life without Christ! Even if we have to walk by ourselves, even if we have to be loners in the name of Jesus, we will never be truly alone. Remember whose team we're really on, whose name we can invoke in need. Ask and he will be there.

## **Pope Francis declares blind 14th-century lay Dominican a Saint**

Pope Francis declared a blind 14th-century Italian lay Dominican a Saint Saturday using a process known as “equipollent” canonization. The Holy See press office said April 24 that the pope had authorized the extension of the liturgical cult of Blessed Margaret of Castello to the universal Church during a Saturday morning meeting with Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Vatican Congregation for the Causes of Saints. She will now be inscribed among the saints via the procedure also called “equivalent” canonization, where the requirement for a miracle attributed to the candidate’s intercession is waived.

Margaret of Castello was born blind and with a severe curvature of the spine in 1287 in Metola, present-day central Italy. Her parents abandoned her in 1303 at a shrine in Città di Castello where they had taken her in hope of a miraculous cure. She was discovered by local townsfolk, who began caring for her. She came in contact with the then recently founded Dominican order and was admitted to the Third Order of St. Dominic. While remaining a laywoman, she received a religious habit, which she wore for the rest of her life.

To thank her neighbors for raising her, she opened a small school, where she taught children the Psalms, which she had learned by heart, and instructed them in the Catholic faith. She died in 1320, at the age of 33, and was buried inside the church, where her tomb quickly became associated with miracles. Pope Paul V declared her Blessed by equivalent beatification in 1609.

Candidates for equipollent canonization must meet three criteria. They must be the subject of a long-standing cult. They should have a solid and enduring reputation for virtue. They must also have a long association with miracles. While there were few equipollent canonizations in the 20th century, Benedict XVI declared Hildegard of Bingen a saint via the procedure in 2012.

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## **The Franciscan University of Steubenville is conducting a research study – to better understand COVID-19 and herd immunity.**

Through its School of Natural Applied Sciences, the university plans to evaluate 500 students and faculty by the end of April. The study is led by biology professor Dr. Kyle McKenna. The Biology Department and the Franciscan Institute of Science and Health provided for the initial costs of the study, but it recently received a grant by the American Life League.

According to a university statement, McKenna said senior nursing majors have already drawn blood from 200 individuals. The blood is then analyzed for coronavirus antibodies. “We want to know what percentage of people on campus demonstrate an immune response to SARS-CoV-2 virus,” said McKenna. “To achieve herd immunity which limits transmission of the virus, you need at least 60 to 70 percent of a given population to be resistant to infection, either through exposure to the virus or vaccination.”

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## What Catholics should know about brain death

The Catholic Church is clear in its teaching on when life begins: at conception. On death— described as “the end of man’s earthly pilgrimage” — the Church teaches in the Catechism of the Catholic Church that “life is changed, not ended;” that death represents the moment of “the separation of the soul from the body.”

While the moment of human conception— the beginning of life— is well-understood and observed from a scientific standpoint, the exact moment of death can be harder to pin down. This is especially true thanks to various forms of modern technology such as ventilators, which make it possible for doctors to declare a patient dead based on the state of their brain, even if their body appears, to the untrained eye, still to be alive. Brain death, also called death by neurological criteria, is the practice of declaring a person dead based on the loss of brain function, rather than the stoppage of the heart and breathing.

Brain death is, today, a commonly accepted standard for declaring a person dead. According to the 1981 guidelines of the American Medical Association, brain death entails the “irreversible cessation of all functions of the entire brain.” Most people are unlikely to need to think about brain death until it affects a loved one— but on a nationwide scale, the phenomenon is more common than one might think. An estimated 42 people are declared brain dead throughout the U.S. every day.

The issue is complicated by the reality of organ transplantation. Brain-dead donors are, today, the primary source of organ transplants. Organs such as the heart, lungs, and pancreas can be— and are— harvested from brain dead donors as close to the time of death as possible. Donors’ bodies are sometimes given painkillers to stop involuntary movements originating from the spinal cord.

What Catholics should make of this - The term “brain death” is not found in the Catechism of the Catholic Church. But statements from popes and from the Vatican have made it clear that, if properly diagnosed, the complete and irreversible cessation of all brain function is a valid way to assess with moral certainty that a person has died.

Moral certainty, St. John Paul II has said, “is considered the necessary and sufficient basis for an ethically correct course of action.” Catholic doctors and ethicists today largely echo the Vatican in stating that brain death, when properly diagnosed, is not a “kind” of death; it is simply death, period.

However, brain death remains a hotly debated topic among some Catholic medical professionals and ethicists

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## Pope Francis ordains nine new priests in St. Peter’s Basilica

Pope Francis ordained nine men to the priesthood on Sunday, urging them to be shepherds like Christ throughout their priestly lives. In a largely off-the-cuff homily in St. Peter’s Basilica April 25, he told them that they would share in the mission of Christ. He said: “You will be shepherds like him. This is what he wants of you. Pastors. Pastors of

God's holy faithful people. Pastors who go with God's people: sometimes in front of the flock, sometimes in the middle or behind, but always there with God's people." The pope urged the new priests to seek "closeness" to God, their bishop, their fellow priests, and the People of God throughout their priestly service.

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## **Police seize altar wine in Quebec, say it's illegal to import it**

QUEBEC CITY — Police have seized large quantities of altar wine in the province of Quebec, creating a situation where buying a bottle is nearly impossible. On April 9, police officers seized sacramental wine from Bertrand, Foucher, Bélanger, Inc. in Montreal, Procure Ecclésiastique, Inc. in Quebec City.

Sandra Dion, spokeswoman for the Quebec City Police Department, said the wine was seized following an investigation. The seizures appear related to laws governing the resale of alcohol within provinces, although some distributors claim they are within the law and have licenses. The altar wine available in Quebec comes from two Californian producers: Mont La Salle Altar Wines and Cribari Premium Altar Wines. Since the provincial liquor board does not sell these products, the wines had to be imported from other Canadian provinces. Although that was the practice for many years, police now says it's illegal.

Officers from the Montreal Police Department showed up with a warrant for a store specializing in church goods. The warrant mentioned illegal possession and selling of alcohol.

The Catholic Church says the wine used for Mass must be natural, made entirely from grapes, uncorrupted and free of foreign substances. A locally produced altar wine was available for a few years, but it is not produced anymore, so distributors in Quebec resort to American-produced wines. The specialized wine made in California is imported to Ontario or New Brunswick before resellers can get it in the province of Quebec. Last December, the Liquor Control Board of Ontario warned permit holders that selling alcohol in other Canadian provinces is prohibited.

Canada's 1985 Importation of Intoxicating Liquors Act, provided for exceptions for the importation of beverages for sacramental or medical purposes. Excise taxes has been paid on the altar wine which is imported into New Brunswick . There is a license, and it is done legally.

The seizures have a negative impact on religious freedom. The police actions seek to prevent the practice of religious worship which is a fundamental right. Currently, parishes in Quebec no longer have access to Mass wine for worship." Msgr. Pierre Murray, general secretary of the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops, said his "concern is to work to restore the supply chain" for altar wine.

The Archdiocese of Quebec said it does not envision a shortage for now, as parishes still have stocks. At the same time, the COVID-19 pandemic "is reducing the need for Mass wine these days," explained the director of communications, Valerie Roberge-Dion. The issue could be resolved quickly, since the SAQ may already have wines that could be suitable for worship, especially in its natural wine selections.

## Cardinal Wyszyński, Poland's 'Primate of the Millennium,' to be Beatified in September

Cardinal Wyszyński is credited with helping to preserve and strengthen Christianity in Poland despite the communist regime's persecution from 1945 onwards. Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński with Cardinal Karol Wojtyła, the future St. John Paul II.

The beatification of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, the former Primate of Poland who heroically resisted communism, will take place on Sunday, Sept. 12. The beatification ceremony would be held in the Polish capital, Warsaw, at noon local time. During the September ceremony, Pope Francis will be represented by Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, who will promulgate the decree of beatification.

Cardinal Wyszyński is credited with helping to preserve and strengthen Christianity in Poland despite the communist regime's persecution from 1945 onwards. He is known as the "Primate of the Millennium" because as Primate of Poland he oversaw a nine-year program of preparation culminating in a nationwide celebration of the millennium of Poland's baptism in 1966. The Vatican announced the approval of a miracle attributed to Cardinal Wyszyński's intercession last October.

The miracle involved the healing of a 19-year-old woman from thyroid cancer in 1989. After the young woman received the incurable diagnosis, a group of Polish nuns began praying for her healing through the intercession of Cardinal Wyszyński, who died of abdominal cancer.

In 1953, Cardinal Wyszyński was placed under house arrest by Communist authorities for three years for refusing to punish priests active in the Polish resistance against the Communist regime. He also helped to secure the approval of Karol Wojtyła as archbishop of Kraków in 1964, which ultimately led to Wojtyła's election as Pope John Paul II in 1978.

Cardinal Wyszyński died on May 28, 1981, 15 days after Pope John Paul II was shot in an assassination attempt in 1981. Unable to attend the cardinal's funeral, John Paul II wrote in a letter to the people of Poland: "Meditate particularly on the figure of the unforgettable primate, Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński of venerated memory, his person, his teaching, his role in such a difficult period of our history." The Polish parliament declared 2021 the Year of Cardinal Stefan Wyszyński, in anticipation of his beatification.

### MOTHERS DAY NEXT SUNDAY AT SAINT HENRY'S

Next Sunday, support our Sister-Parish with a wonderful meal! The parishioners work very hard to provide this chicken dinner.

*Please support our efforts.*