

The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption



PARISH OFFICE: 506 Fourth Street, Marietta OH 45750 PHONE: 740-373-3643
WEBSITE: www.stmarysmarietta.org  www.facebook.com/stmarysmarietta EMAIL: info@stmarysmarietta.org



July 17, 2022

Sixteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM - Bobbie Heiss, 29 th Anniversary
SUN	8:00 AM - People of the Parish
	10:00 AM - Karen Offenberger
	12:00 PM - Charles Ontko
MON	7:45 AM - Special Intention
	12:05 PM - Mel Baumgard
TUE	7:45 AM - Bonnie Nau
	12:05 PM - Lee Bryant
WED	7:45 AM - Geno DeMaio, 3 rd Anniversary
	12:05 PM - Mary Agnes Augenstein
THU	7:45 AM - Joe Sailer
	12:05 PM - Mary Ontko
FRI	7:45 AM - Jim Archer
	12:05 PM - Jeanne Tasse
SAT	9:00 AM - Carol Miller, Celebration of Life
	5:30 PM - Rick Schaad
SUN	8:00 AM - People of the Parish
	10:00 AM - Vincent & Alice Lang
	12:00 PM - Tom Brockmeier, 6 th Anniversary

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)
Permanent Deacon - Rev. Mr. Lee Weisend
Music Director - Mr. John Ontko (740-350-4224, ontkotb@suddenlink.net)
St. Mary School - 320 Marion St, 740-374-8181 (www.stmaryscatholic.org)
School Principal - Elizabeth Tokodi (elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org)
DRE - Mrs. Deborah Coty - (debcoty@stmaryscatholic.org)
Parish Council Chairman - Larry Hawn (740) 373-9095
K of C Grand Knight - Mr. Pete Saliba (304-494-6170)
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 (304-485-7113)
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
Divine Mercy Gift Shop - Barb Ritchie (740) 538-4733

Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Gn 18:20-32; Col 2:12-14; Lk 11:1-13.

REST IN PEACE:

Carolyn Renier Zide passed away July 1 in Suwanee, GA. She and her late husband, Gabe, were members of our parish for a great many years. A Celebration of Life honoring Carolyn will be held here at the Basilica on Saturday, August 6th at 10:00 AM. We offer our condolences to the Zide family and will remember Carolyn in prayer. May she rest in God's eternal peace.

LECTOR MEETING: There will be a Lector Meeting on Tuesday, July 26th at 7:00 PM, in the Basilica Social Hall.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin announcements must be in by Wednesday morning. All announcements must be in writing – we cannot accept bulletin announcements by phone.

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.

PARISH OFFICES are open from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM on Mondays and from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM Tuesday through Friday, with a lunch break from Noon until 1:00 PM each day.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

MON	6:15 PM	-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions. See announcement.
	7:00 PM	-	St. Vincent dePaul Society Meeting in the Conference Room.
TUE	7:00 PM	-	Support Group Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
	7:00 PM	-	RCIA Inquiry Session in the Basilica Social Hall. See announcement.
THU	8:30 AM	-	Cleaning the Basilica. See announcement.
	5:30 PM	-	Catechists Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
	7:30 PM	-	CWC Outreach Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
FRI	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.

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

Total collection last weekend: \$ 14,667.00

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

God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!

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 ONLINE button to see more information or to sign up.

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.

RCIA INQUIRY SESSION

Interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and teachings of the Catholic Church? Attend the open inquiry session on Wednesday, July 20th or Monday, August 22 at 7:00 PM in the Social Hall (basement) of the Basilica. All are welcome to come and ask questions or just sit and listen. We will also share about the RCIA process if interested in learning how to join the church. Come join us.

CLEANING THE BASILICA

Volunteers will be cleaning the Basilica Thursday morning at 8:30 AM. If you are able to help, please join us.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Donatos of Marietta is offering “Dough-nations” to Saint Mary Catholic School with all orders placed On Tuesday, July 19th, dine in, carry out delivery. 15% of all orders that mention St. Mary Catholic School will apply. Please help St. Mary Catholic School fund new carpeting on July 19th. 15% of your regular priced purchase will be “Doughnated” by Donatos to Saint Mary Catholic School!

Talented and Gifted Teacher: St. Mary Catholic School is seeking a part-time (3 days per week) Talented and Gifted teacher (TAG) for the 2022-2023 Academic year. The teacher would be responsible for providing creative enrichment for students Pre-kindergarten through 8th grade in reading and math, maintaining WEPS for all gifted students and assisting teachers with enrichment opportunities within the classroom.

The applicant should have an Ohio teaching certificate and bachelor’s degree from an accredited College or University in Education and will need to obtain a TAG certificate. For additional information, telephone the school office, 740-374-8181 , or email resume, three references, copy of teaching certificate, and college transcript to Ms. Elizabeth Tokodi at elizabethtokodi@stmaryscatholic.org.

Educational Apparel, one of the uniform companies for school uniforms for St. Mary Catholic School will be set up in the Parish Center of the school for a try on/uniform ordering opportunity on Tuesday, July 26th from 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM.

Save the Date: Our back-to-school grounds cleanup is scheduled for Wednesday, August 24th with our Partner in Education, Greenleaf Landscapes.

SEDULING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Before scheduling a meeting or event in the Basilica Social Hall, Conference Room or using the Basilica Kitchen, please check with the parish office to be sure the time and date is available. Also, before changing the time of an event, please check to be sure the new time is available.

NOTE: All meetings and events MUST be put in the master calendar book in the parish office.

K OF C SUMMER SCHEDULE

The K of C will meet August 2nd at 8:00 PM. They will return to the regular schedule in September, which is the first and third Tuesday of every month.

DIVINE MERCY GIFT SHOP

Christmas in July: During the month of July, all previous years of Basilica Commemorative Christmas Ornaments will be on sale for just \$5.00 each, until all are gone. Ornaments are available in the social hall/gift shop.

VBS

Dear Parishioners,
On behalf of the children, we give a heartfelt thank you for your prayers, and monetary support. To date we have collected \$1,250.00. These funds will help cover the cost of t-shirts, books, music CCD's, craft supplies and snacks. Your donations have enabled us to keep the cost affordable to families. We need to place orders soon. Parents, registration closes July 31. If you are considering VBS for your child or children, please do so soon. We currently have 55 children registered, and 20 teen and adult helpers! The children will learn about 5 saints and the honorable virtues of Faith, Hope and Love. Registration is open to children Pre-K- 6 grade. Registration forms can be found on the website, or at the entrances of the church.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY

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

GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Knights of Columbus Golf Scramble is scheduled for August 14th at Lakeside Golf Course. All proceeds will go toward the support of Saint Mary Catholic School and all of the charitable organizations supported by the Knights of Columbus. Contact Pete Saliba at 304-494-6107 or Kenny Offenberger at 740-350-4967 for more information.

BASILICA BOOK CLUB NEWS FOR JULY

Our July book is: **Life is Messy**, Matthew Kelly. 220 pages. If you are not able to purchase the book, please contact Debbie Lazorik (see info below) and we will make sure you are able to get a copy of the book.

Remember: **ALL** are welcome, bring a friend. If you are not able to read the book, a summary is presented, and you can participate at whatever level is comfortable for you. **Next meeting: July 27, 6:00 PM in the Basilica Social Hall.**

July book: **Life is Messy** by Matthew Kelly
Life is messy.
It isn't a color within the lines exercise.
It's a wild and outrageous invitation
full of uncertain outcomes.
So, what will we do with broken people,
broken relationships, broken institutions, broken families,
and of course, our very own broken selves?
Matthew Kelly shares how the worst three years of his life affected him, by exploring this question:
Can someone who has been broken be healed and become more beautiful and more lovable
Then ever before?
The answer will fill you with hope.
There has never been a more urgent need
for us to attend to what is happening within us.
This is quite simply
the right book at the right time.

Any thoughts, questions or if you would like to be added to the BBC email list, contact: Debbie Lazorik – lazorikd@marietta.edu 740-434-3769

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF July 23 & 24

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Lectors

Altar Servers

Sat: Tina Thomas (CAPT)
5:30 Tony Huffman (HOST)
 Cathy Harper (HOST) – sub.req.
 Amy Brockett (CHALICE) – sub. req.
 Cheyenne Greenwood (CHALICE)

Shelly Medley

Parker Crum
 Christian Isaly
 Eva Tornes

Sun: Patti Finkel (CAPT)
8:00 Theresa Huck (HOST)
 Marcia McCabe (HOST)
 Ron Arnold (CHALICE)
 Babs Douglass (CHALICE)

Nancy Funk

Beckie Arnold
 David Baker
 Jerry Huck
 Kenny Offenberger

10:00 Gerald Cooke(CAPT)
 Carol O’Grady (HOST)
 Debbie Karas (HOST)
 Gary Pitt (CHALICE)
 Jennifer Schenkel(CHALICE)

Khadine Ritter

Nico Marasco
 Valentina Marasco
 Claire Schenkel
 Emilia Weltner

12:00 Joe Schmidt (CAPT)
 Sherri Hill (HOST)
 Mary Tokodi Ruth (HOST) -sub. req
 Dennis Nau (CHALICE)
 Lisa Taylor (CHALICE)

Mary Ellen Evans

Anthony Discini
 Kingston McMahan
 Taylor Wescott – sub. Req.

Week of July 18th 7:45 AM

Avery Nichols
 Jaelynn Nichols

Saturday, July 23th, 9:00 AM

Ella Steyn
 Teddy Bauer



THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN **ORDINARY TIME** **JULY 17, 2022**

Notes on the Gospel

As they made their way to Jerusalem, Jesus entered a village. There, a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home as a guest. Martha had a sister named Mary who sat by Jesus and listened to him teach. But Martha was involved with trying to serve every-one. Martha came up to Jesus and asked, "Lord, doesn't it bother you that my sister left me alone to serve all these people? Tell her to help me!" "Martha, Martha," Jesus sighed. "You're worried about too many things. You only need one thing--faith! Mary has chosen that good thing. And it will not be taken from her."

Martha was a woman of means. In a gender segregated society, such women were the exception, but they were not unusual. Mary, her sister, wanted to be a disciple. Martha tried to shame Mary into helping through Jesus. But Jesus would have none of her shame. Instead, he praised Mary's choice.

The actions of Mary were highly unusual. Sitting at the feet of Jesus, Mary assumed the position of disciple learning from a rabbi. In other words, as a fellow student, she made herself the equal of her male counterparts. Jewish women were not expected to receive an education. Her presence and position would have caused scandal as outrageous behavior. (However, upper-class Gentile women many times had some education. Luke's Gentile audience may not have been as shocked as Jewish Christians who heard this narrative.) Martha approached Jesus so he could shame Mary into helping her. This way, Mary would return to her social role of servant, with the approval of the people around her.

"One (thing) is needed. For Mary has chosen the good portion which will not be lifted away from her." Jesus responded with a meal analogy. While Martha was frustrated with the burdens of service, Mary focused only on one thing, the teaching of the Lord. He likened her choice to choosing a portion at a meal. What she chose would not be taken from her. Implicitly, Jesus recognized her rightful place at the meal of the community. What is more important when we welcome a guest: getting about the business of serving them, or seating down so we can listen to them?

In the gospel, Martha and Mary represented the two problems in welcoming people. Martha got busy serving her guest, while Mary simply wanted to listen. In response, Jesus told Martha to stop worrying and start listening.

Jesus did not reject the need for serving others. Helping guests is the sign of a gracious host. What Jesus did insist upon was balance. There is a time to prepare for guests and there is a time to socialize with them. There is a time to serve and a time to listen.



DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE

On Monday, we remember the 17th anniversary of the death of Fr. Norbert Connelly. On Wednesday, we remember the 29th anniversary of the death of Msgr. John Yonk. On Thursday, we remember the 43rd anniversary of the death of Fr. Leo Wiggins. These priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May God grant them eternal rest and peace.



Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament

On Wednesday and Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs (which is on the right side of the sanctuary). Adoration takes place on these two days from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. every week. We need more parishioners to become adorers and spend time in the chapel with the Lord. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us in mind, in heart and in spirit. Often, we take God for granted, and forget about Him. As He said to the apostles when He was in agony in the garden, "can you not spend one hour with Me?" Think about it!

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

- July - 20, - RCIA Inquiry Meeting (7:00 pm..)
- July - 26, - Lector Meeting (7:00 pm.)
- Aug. - 7, - St. Henry Parish Picnic
- Aug. - 8, - Parish Bible School through the 12th

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. We are honored to host visitors and pilgrims to our Basilica.



Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday Evening

Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated this Monday evening at 6:15 pm. All parishioners are encouraged to participate in this beautiful devotion celebrated in our Basilica each week. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica and each one of us. Since 1866 the Redemptorists have spread devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary under the icon and title of Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

CELL PHONES We ask that all cell phones be turned off when inside the Basilica. If a cell phone rings during a Mass or a service, there is much distraction caused to the congregation and the celebrant. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Feast days this week

Monday, July 18, Saint Camillus de Lellis, (Priest)

Camillus was a soldier who was addicted to gambling. His conversion led him to found (1582) a society (today numbering 1,120 religious), which established hospitals and cared for the sick. He died in 1614 in Rome.

Wednesday, July 20, Saint Apollinaris, (Bishop & Martyr)

Apollinaris was ordained by St. Peter himself, and sent as a missionary bishop to Ravenna. He was renowned for his power to heal in the name of Christ. He was frequently exiled, tortured, and imprisoned for the Faith and finally martyred.

Thursday, July 21, Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, (Priest)

Lawrence was a Capuchin priest, linguist, military chaplain, diplomat, and minister general. He was a learned exegete, forceful preacher, and controversialist. 15 volumes of his writings are extant.

Friday, July 22, Saint Mary Magdalene

Mary was a disciple of Jesus and was present at His crucifixion. She was the first to witness the Risen Lord. She is called the "Apostle to the Apostles".

Saturday, July 23, Saint Bridget, (Religious)

Bridget was born in Sweden. She was the mother of eight, a mystic and founder of the Order of the Most Holy Savior (Bridgettines). She sought the end to the Avignon papacy, and the return of the pope to Rome.

OUR BISHOPS

People complain about the bishops. They say: "It's the bishops fault that people are not coming to Mass and believing in the Real Presence. But this really isn't about the bishops at all. It's about all of us doing more to fulfill our duty as Catholics. So many of us say, "If only we had holy bishops, we would have holy laymen!" The problem isn't the USCCB or the Second Vatican Council. Ultimately, the problem is that we Catholics refuse to take our faith seriously. And the solution? The solution is for more of us Catholics to start taking our faith seriously in our own lives and even sharing it more publicly with our community.

It's easier to blame the bishops. It's easier to "reform" 200 bishops than 72 million laymen. The bishops can't fix this problem alone. The laity must take responsibility for our holiness ... or lack thereof. St. Augustine told his flock: "You all say, 'The times are troubled, the times are hard, the times are wretched.' Live good lives, and you will change the times by living good lives. You will change the times, and then you'll have nothing to grumble about."

Augustine didn't say his people were wrong. The times really were bad. Augustine simply refused to waste any time playing the blame game. All of us are responsible! We need to get busy dealing with and fixing the problem.

EVENTS AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, July 18,

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

Tuesday, July 19,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass

Wednesday, July 20,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist
6:45 pm - Reposition of the Eucharist

Thursday, July 21,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass
7:00 pm. - RCIA Inquiry Session

12:05 pm. - Mass

Friday, July 22,

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

Saturday, July 23,

9:00 am. - Mass
3:30 pm. - Confessions
5:30 pm. - Mass

Sunday, July 24,

8:00 am. - Mass
9:30 am. - Mass - Saint Henry Church
10:00 am. - Mass
12:00 pm. - Mass

SUMMER VACATIONS

All of us need to relax and take time from our ordinary activities and obligations. We need to get away to a different scene. As we consider different destinations, remember to include time and a place to celebrate Sunday Mass.



GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

In September we will begin a support grief group which will meet on Wednesday evenings. There have been several deaths earlier in the year, and it is beneficial to share our thoughts and grief. The death of child or a spouse is a very difficult journey – sharing with others who are going through the same process gives us support. Transforming loss into living again with faith, hope and love and moving toward healing and growth.

INVITE THEM BACK!

During the covid virus, the bishops excused Catholics from attending Sunday Mass in person. The threat of the virus is over! If you know of someone who has not yet returned to Mass, invite them back and tell them that we miss them; yet they need to return for the right reason. The right reason being that they know that they are missing a personal encounter with the Lord. We don't come to Mass to see what we can get out of the celebration. We come to Mass to encounter the Risen Lord, and be united to Him in the mystery of the Cross offered to His Father.



THE BASILICA OF
SAINT MARY
OF THE ASSUMPTION

506 4TH STREET • MARIETTA OH 45750 • 740-373-3643



July 17, 2022

Dear Parishioners,

For the Catholic Church in the modern world and its future health and holiness, Pope Francis is convinced that the Second Vatican Council holds the key. The pope is asking Catholics worldwide to prepare for the next jubilee year by studying the council documents, especially its four constitutions, which focused on: the liturgy; the church as the people of God; Scripture; and the role of the church in the modern world.

Pope Francis strongly affirmed the Vatican II reform of the Latin-rite Mass as inspired by the Holy Spirit. "I do not see how it is possible to say that one recognizes the validity of the (Second Vatican) Council, and at the same time not accept the liturgical reform born out of the Council." The pope did not mince words when talking about the resistance of some bishops and priests to the teaching of the Second Vatican Council and its vision of the church.

For years, people have been saying that we need liturgical reform. In the Catholic Church, the Vatican Council determines the liturgical rites of the Church, rather than the people themselves. If people only understood the rites, the liturgical renewal promised by the Second Vatican Council would unfold. Adherents to the pre-conciliar liturgy have discerned that the problem is not education, but the *Novus Ordo* itself. Only a return to the pre-conciliar liturgical rites, will bring the faithful back to Church. This is the position that Pope Francis rejects.

Endless liturgical reform is not the way to move forward. Liturgical formation does not consist of endless explanations of what is really happening in the liturgy. Pope Francis is inviting us to be someone who enters the life of the Church, letting an "I" become a "We". The Sacrifice of the Mass is not a celebration to please "Me" (what can I get out of it?), it is a celebration of the community of God's people – united to Jesus Christ – offering worship to the Father.

Pope Francis is not advocating a return to endless liturgical abuse. He is asking the Church to really commit herself to the post-conciliar reforms, and offer fitting worship to God the Father, though, with, and in Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. John M. Campbell
(Rector)

Assassination of Japan's Shinzo Abe



Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, an ultra-nationalist who served in the post longer than anyone else before stepping down in 2020, was Assassinated on Friday at a campaign rally.

Police tackled and arrested the suspected gunman at the scene of an attack that shocked many in Japan, which is one of the world's safest nations and has some of the strictest gun control laws anywhere. "It is barbaric and malicious, and it cannot be tolerated," current Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said.

Abe, 67, served as prime minister in 2006 and 2007, and again from 2012 to 2020, when he suddenly resigned citing health issues. Despite leaving office, he remained influential within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and continued to be a force on Japan's political landscape.

This death reminds all of us that life is fragile, and can end at any time; so the question posed is "If death came to any one of us today, are we prepared?" Are we living our lives in union with the Risen Lord, and according to His teachings? Is He part of our lives? When we meet Him in death and judgement, will He know us and will we know Him? Are we ready to meet the Lord? Scripture tells us that death comes to us like a thief in the night.

Pope Francis announces appointment of women to committee selecting new bishops

Pope Francis has said he would announce the appointment of two women to the Vatican committee that elects bishops. The Congregation of Bishops, a department of the Roman Curia, recently changed its name to the Dicastery for Bishops.

The ultimate decision in appointing bishops rests with the pope, and he is free to select

anyone he chooses. Usually, the pope's representative in a country, the apostolic nuncio, passes on recommendations and documentation to the Vatican. The Dicastery of Bishops then discusses the appointment in a further process and takes a vote. On being presented with the recommendations, the pope finally makes the decision.



"The only true freedom, the only freedom that can truly satisfy, is the freedom to do what we ought as human beings created by God according to his plan. It is the freedom to live the truth of what we are and who we are before God, the truth of our identity as children of God, as brothers and sisters in common humanity."

—Pope St. John Paul II

The Holy Eucharist



The Holy Eucharist is the most important of the seven sacraments because, in this and in no other sacrament, we receive the very body and blood, soul and divinity of Jesus Christ. The Church encourages Catholics to receive frequent Communion, even daily Communion if possible, and mandates reception of the Eucharist at least once a year during the Easter season. Before going to Communion, however, there are several things one needs to know. First, you must be in a state of grace. "Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord. This is an absolute requirement which can never be dispensed.

Out of habit and out of fear of what those around them will think if they do not receive Communion, some Catholics, in a state of mortal sin, choose to go forward and offend God rather than stay in the pew while others receive the Eucharist. To receive the Eucharist, one must believe in the doctrine of transubstantiation. Transubstantiation means more than the Real Presence. According to transubstantiation, the bread and wine are actually transformed into the actual body, blood, soul, and divinity of Christ, with only the appearances of bread and wine remaining. One must also observe the Eucharistic fast. Canon law states, "One who is to receive the most Holy Eucharist is to abstain from any food or drink, with the exception only of water and medicine, for at least the period of one hour before Holy Communion." Elderly people, those who are ill, and their caretakers are excused from the Eucharistic fast. Provided they are in a state of grace and have met the above requirements, Catholics should receive the Eucharist frequently.

The Eucharist - Source & Summit

The United States Catholic Bishops have begun a multiyear initiative to renew the Church by inviting the faithful to a loving relationship with Jesus Christ in the Eucharist. The initiative is called *The National Eucharistic Revival*. The Church teaches that the Eucharist is the "source and summit of the Christian life." The revival is a three-year program designated to help renew the Church in the United States by inviting Catholics to a living relationship with Jesus in the Eucharist.

As many as 70% of Catholics do not believe, or at least understand, the Church's teaching on Jesus' real presence in the Eucharist, and when you add the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in many people not attending Mass, there is obviously a problem. It's not surprising but it's a bit of a wake-up call to remind us we can't be complacent.

Pro-abortion protesters disrupted Mass at Catholic church in Chicago

Pro-abortion protesters were quickly escorted out of a Mass at St. Joseph Catholic Church in Chicago. Protesters stood up on the pews during Mass and entered the aisle with a demonstration. One of the protesters can then be heard reading aloud the statement of Cardinal Blase Cupich of Chicago regarding the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which returned the regulation of abortion to the states. Parishioners shouted, "Get out of here! We're in church!" "Get out of this place!" and "This is church!" The protesters were holding signs, one of which said, "The Catholic Church had blood on its hands."

HISTORICAL FACTS ABOUT OUR BASILICA

The stained-glass windows in the basilica depict events in the life of Mary and her Divine Son. The windows were made at Zettler Studios in Munich, Germany, and were shipped during the German blockade during World War I. They were installed about 1916. During the most recent renovation, the windows in the sacristy, the chapel, and the two side entrances, were replaced by windows given to us by the bishop of Wooster, Massachusetts. Those windows were made by the same company in Germany – the same year that the windows in the main basilica were constructed. We are grateful to the bishop for his gift to us.

The three bronze bells are in the south tower. They were cast in Baltimore and hung in the old church on East Fourth Street in 1880 then transferred to the present church when it was built. The largest bell is consecrated to the honor of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. The smaller bells are consecrated to the honor of the Sacred Heart of Mary, and to Saint Joseph. The bells are rung three times a day for the “Angelus”, (a call to prayerful remembrance of the event of Christ’s Incarnation), and for weddings and funerals.

The pipe organ is an instrument of 22 ranks. The organ was rebuilt in 1973 by the Ebert Organ Company of Pittsburgh.

Pope Francis and Vatican II: It’s not a battleground, but the future

For the Catholic Church in the modern world and its future health and holiness, Pope Francis is convinced that the Second Vatican Council holds the key. The pope is asking Catholics worldwide to prepare for the next jubilee year by studying the council documents, especially its four constitutions, which focused on: the liturgy; the church as the people of God; Scripture; and the role of the church in the modern world.

In “The Joy of the Gospel,” the 2013 apostolic exhortation that laid out the vision for his pontificate, he described The Vatican Council called for “ecclesial conversion” and an “openness to a constant self-renewal born of fidelity to Jesus Christ.”



“We all must march to the same drum as Christ. The Church is reformed when the baptized march more resolutely toward holiness, allowing themselves to be recreated in the likeness of God by the power of the Holy Spirit. Only the contagion of sanctity can transform the Church from within.”

—Robert Cardinal Sarah

Pastor of Catholic Church in Bethesda, Maryland, Describes Arson, Desecration of Tabernacle

St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish was the most heavily damaged of three Bethesda churches hit by vandalism over the weekend. “We are the Church. We are the living stones. Last night our church was vandalized. People broke in. They overturned statues. They tore down the Stations of the Cross. They desecrated the tabernacle, and they tried to set the church on fire,” he said. “I believe that this is one of the manifestations of the deep divisions right now within our country, that there are those who believe that we do not have even the right to practice our faith.”