

# 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)



August 21, 2022

*Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time*

## MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM - Bill Nau
SUN	8:00 AM - People of the Parish
	10:00 AM - Mary Agnes Augenstein
	12:00 PM - William "Bill" Edward Gill, 17 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
MON	7:45 AM - Gertrude Baker, 18 <sup>th</sup> Anniv.
	12:05 PM - Clarence Roesch
TUE	7:45 AM - Kenton Fliehman
	12:05 PM - Lewis Francis Hayes
WED	7:45 AM - Harry Way
	12:05 PM - Richard Gillon
THU	7:45 AM - Richard Schneider II
	12:05 PM - Liv/dec'd of the Joe & Lu Wesel Family
FRI	7:45 AM - Tony Weber, 1 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary
	12:05 PM - Val Milsark
SAT	9:00 AM - Tony Weber
	5:30 PM - Bob Schroeder
SUN	8:00 AM - People of the Parish
	10:00 AM - Liv/dec'd of the John & Debbie Karas Family
	12:00 PM - William & Betty Erb

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](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 - Mrs. Deborah Coty - ([debcoty@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto: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

**Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.**

## READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Sir 3:17-18,20,28-29; Heb 12:18-19,22-24a; Lk 14:1,7-14.

## CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY BAPTIZED:

Spencer Tide Black.

## PARISH PICNIC:

Our Annual Parish Picnic is this afternoon (Sunday) at Williamstown Park from 4:00 PM until 7:00 PM. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish for sharing.

## WELCOME MARIETTA COLLEGE STUDENTS:

We welcome all new and returning Marietta College students. We wish you well as you begin this new school year and we are happy to have you here celebrating Mass with us.

CROSSFIRE YOUTH GROUP will kick off soon! Check the Church entrances for this year's schedule. All 7<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join!

## BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin announcements must be in by Wednesday morning to be included in the following weekend's bulletin.

**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.

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## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

TODAY	4:00 PM	-	Parish Picnic. See announcements.
MON	6:15 PM	-	Our Lady of Perpetual Help Devotions. See announcement.
	7:00 PM	-	RCIA Inquiry Session. See announcement.
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
FRI	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.

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

Total collection last weekend:           \$ 14,032.00

Amount needed each weekend  
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.

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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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### INQUIRY SESSION

Interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and the teachings of the Catholic Church? Attend the open inquiry session on Monday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM in the Basilica 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. (If you attended the Inquiry Session in July, you do not need to attend this one as the information is the same.)

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### NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

If you have recently moved or are just using a cell phone number, please call the parish office and give us the new information so we can update our parish census. Thank you.,

## ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS:

**Uniform swap/August 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM:** This is your opportunity to clean closets of uniforms that are too small, spirit gear, belts, gym shoes, etc. Bring your items (donating items is not required to participate) to the Parish Center by August 23<sup>rd</sup>. Stop by on August 24<sup>th</sup> to refresh your student's wardrobe before we head Back to School!

**Classes for the 2022-2023 Academic Year** begin on Wednesday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. If you are interested in learning more about the wonderful educational opportunities Preschool 3 through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, please contact Tammi Bradley at [tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org) or call the school office at 740-374-8181.

**“Adopt a Classroom”:** St. Mary Catholic School is introducing an “Adopt a Classroom” for the 2022-2023 Academic Year. To learn more about this opportunity, please email Tammy Bradley at [tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org](mailto:tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org).

**CONGRATULATIONS** to St. Mary Catholic School Alumni Gabby Bradley and Carli Robinson who were awarded the Irish Boosters Scholarship. Gabby is a Sophomore at Ohio University studying Business/Marketing and Carli is a Junior at Ohio State University studying Marketing. Way to go Irish!

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

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### EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS MEETING

There will be a meeting for Extraordinary Ministers on Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Basilica Social Hall. This meeting is for ALL Eucharistic Ministers and for those interested in becoming one.

## **DAILY BREAD KITCHEN**

Families are struggling to make ends meet with higher prices. As a result, the number of people we serve at the Daily Bread Kitchen continues to increase. We are currently serving 250+ meals each Wednesday and believe that the number will continue to rise.

We are asking for your prayers and support. Please place your donation in an envelope marked "DBK" and put it in the collection basket. Thank you and God bless you.

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

We pray for all of the young 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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## **SCHEDULING 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 are available.

**NOTE:** All meetings and events must be put in the Master Book in the parish office.

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## **JUBILEE OF MARRIAGE ANNIVERSARIES**

Bishop Monforton will once again offer Special Masses to recognize significant marriage anniversaries of the faithful in the Diocese of Steubenville.

This year's celebration will be offered for couples celebrating their 10<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 45<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup>, 55<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 60+ (every year thereafter). The anniversary is (or was) during 2022.

The Jubilee Mass for our area will be celebrated here at the Basilica on Sunday, November 6, 2022 at the 12:00 Noon Mass.

More information will follow in future bulletins. Qualifying couples may register for this Jubilee of Marriage Mass by calling the parish office at 740-373-3643.

## **BASILICA BOOK CLUB NEWS**

The next book for the BBC: The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hill by Robert Dugoni  
**Next Meeting: August 31, 6:00 PM, Social Hall.**  
ALL ARE WELCOME (men and women)!  
Snacks, drinks and great discussions – bring a friend.

### **The Extraordinary Life of Sam Hill.**

Sam Hill always saw the world through different eyes. Born with red pupils, he was called "Devil Boy" or Sam "Hell" to his classmates; "God's will" is what his mother called his ocular albinism. Her words were of little comfort, but Sam persevered, buoyed on by his mother's devout faith, his Father's practical wisdom and his two misfit friends.

**Copies of the Book are now available to check out of the Church Library. The Library is located in the Basement Social Hall.**

You may also order this book through the Washington County Library.

Any questions or if you know someone who would like to be put on the BBC email list serve (to receive information and announcements) contact Debbie Lazorik, [lazorikd@marietta.edu](mailto:lazorikd@marietta.edu) or 740-434-3769.

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## **DRIVE-THRU FUNDRAISER**

St. John Central School will be hosting its first ever Drive-Thru Fundraiser on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> from 5-7:30 PM. You have your choice of two different meals: Meal #1 -Hamburger or cheeseburger; Meal #2 – Hot Dogs. Both meals come with baked beans, macaroni & cheese, chips, cookie and a drink.

Meals are \$6 each and orders & money MUST be received NO LATER than Friday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. You may contact any St. John Central Student to place your order or you may call the school office at 740-896-2697. All proceeds will benefit the St. John Central music program.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF August 27 & 28**

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
<b>Sat:</b> <b>5:30</b>	Amy Brockett (CAPT) Evelyn Potter (HOST) Cheyenne Greenwood (HOST) Greg Black (CHALICE) Sherri Black (CHALICE)	Shelly Medley	Madelyn Birge Gavin Kunz Eva Tornes
<b>Sun:</b> <b>8:00</b>	Suzanne Baker (CAPT) Carol Antill (HOST) Marcia McCabe (HOST) Cory Marshall (CHALICE) David Baker (CHALICE)	Janet Welch	Greg Dickson Joe Flaherty Charles Kremer Kenny Offenberger
<b>10:00</b>	Ken Schilling (CAPT) Debbie Karas (HOST) Carol O'Grady (HOST) Gary Pitt (CHALICE) Kaelly Erb CHALICE)	Stan Vanlandingham	Griffin Erb Grant Palmer (sub. req.) Henry Corcoran Owen Krason
<b>12:00</b>	Tammi Bradley (CAPT) Sandy Bickert (HOST) Elizabeth Tokodi (HOST) Lisa Taylor (CHALICE) Joe Schmidt (CHALICE)	Mary Ellen Evans	Jonathan Schmidt Anthony Discini Emilie Wright

<b>Week of Aug 22, 7:45 AM</b>	Jaelynn Nichols Avery Nichols	<b>Saturday, Aug 27, 9:00 AM</b>	Ella Steyn Teddy Bauer
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# **THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**AUGUST 21, 2022**

## **Notes on the Gospel**

Jesus traveled through towns and villages, teaching, and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone said to Him, "Lord, (are only) the few being saved?" He said to them, "Struggle to go through the narrow door. Many, I say to you, will seek to enter and will not be strong (enough)."

Jesus said, "From the time which the head of the house rose and closes the door and you begin to stand outside and knock on the door, saying, 'Master, open up for us,' he will say to you, 'I do not know from where you are.' Then you will begin to say, 'We ate and drank before you, and you taught in our streets.' Speaking to you, he will say, 'I do not know from where you are. Stand away from me, all (you) workers of injustice!' There will be crying and gnashing of teeth when you will see Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, but you are outside. They will come from east and west, from north and south, and they will recline in the Kingdom of God. Look, the last are (those) who will be first, and the first (are those) who will be last."

In Luke's gospel, Jesus answered a simple question. How many will be saved? Jesus shifted the answer from numbers to faith. Who will be saved? It would not be what the questioner expected. "The narrow door" - in the time of Jesus, homes had narrow doors to discourage bandits and thieves. In the light of the verse, Jesus seemed to indicate that many who were not invited to enter the Kingdom would try.

In the gospel passage, someone asked Jesus about those who will be saved. As God's Chosen People, many Jews believed they would be saved, simply because they were faithful Jews. The questioner may have wanted Jesus to confirm that belief. But, Jesus turned the question of numbers (how many would be saved) to a challenge of identity (who would be saved).

Simply being religious by habit or by association (being part of a religious organization) does not make one right in the eyes of God. Jesus' point was clear. No matter how hard one tries, no matter how much one demands in prayer, no matter how much one claims to behave religiously, going through the religious motions does not make one a true disciple. In fact, Jesus insisted, God would call people whom one would least expect to have a faith relationship. They come from different races, cultures, and countries. They might not be "religious" in the popular sense of the word, but they would put their trust in God. Those who trusted would truly please God (the last who are first), while those who were simply religious could displease God (the first who are last).

This gospel highlighted an attitude shift in religious thinking. Do we think of being religious as the things we do (i.e., going to Mass on Sunday, praying on a daily basis, helping a neighbor, etc.)? Or do we think of being religious as relationship with God?

## DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE



On Tuesday, we remember the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. George Voytko. On Saturday, we remember the 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the death of Fr. John Turel. These two priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May God grant them eternal rest and peace.

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## Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament

On Wednesday and Friday, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in our 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. Eucharistic Adoration allows us to clear our minds and just pray in the presence of the Lord. We can pray a rosary, or just sit in silence and contemplation. Adoration brings peace. It is always therapeutic. It is an opportunity to have an hour to reconnect with God on a personal level. In our loud, busy world, it is a wonderful experience that we need in our lives. If we have five minutes, 10 minutes, that's all it takes. A person who finds themselves spending just a little bit of time with the Lord will eventually find more time for adoration. The result would be that we would have 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!

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## PILGRIMAGES TO OUR BASILICA



Our 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.

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## 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.

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## 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 or your consideration in this matter.

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## 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 place to celebrate Sunday Mass.

## Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

- Aug. - 21, - Basilica Parish Picnic  
Aug. - 22, - RCIA Inquiry Session (7:00 pm.)  
Sept. - 12, - RCIA Begins  
Oct. - 22, - Mass of remembrance (Bishop)
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## 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.

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## Feast days this week

Monday, August 22, The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Today' Memorial was prescribed in 1954 by Pope Pius XII. It is celebrated on the octave of the Assumption.

Tuesday, August 23, Saint Rose of Lima, (Virgin)

Isabel Flores de Oliva died at the age of 31. She was a Peruvian mystic, nicknamed "Rosa" because of her beauty. She led a life of penance and solitude, caring for the homeless, elderly, and the sick. She was declared the first saint of the New world.

Wednesday, August 24, Saint Bartholomew (Apostle)

Bartholomew was also known as Nathaniel. He was associated with St. Philip. He preached the Gospel in India and Armenia and was flayed alive.

Thursday, August 25, Saint Louis of France (King)

Louis was a model ruler and father of eleven children. He cared for lepers, built Sainte Chapelle in Paris as a reliquary for the crown of thorns. He died of the plague while on the second crusade.

Saturday, August 20, Saint Monica

Monica was the mother of Saint Augustine. After 30 years of prayer, she obtained the conversion of her pagan husband and her son. She died in 387.

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## 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 to be united to Him in the mystery of the Cross offered to His Father.

## EVENTS AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK

### Monday, August 22,

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

### Tuesday, August 23,

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

### Wednesday, August 24,

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

### Thursday, August 25,

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

### Friday, August 26,

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

### Saturday, August 27

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

### Sunday, August 28,

8:00 am. - Mass  
9:30 am. - Mass - Saint Henry Church  
10:00 am. - Mass  
12:00 pm. - Mass  
1:00 pm. – Athens – Marietta Mtg. (Diocese)

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## INTINCTION AND RECEIVING HOLY COMMUNION

Since we have returned to offering the PRECIOUS BLOOD FROM THE CHALICE, at Masses here at the Basilica, communicants are NEVER PERMITTED to receive the SACRED HOST, and then go the Eucharistic minister distributing the Eucharist from the chalice, and instinct their host into the chalice and then consume the Eucharist. To do so is an offence to the liturgical norms of The Catholic Church as directed by the Dicastery for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments in Rome. We receive Holy Communion from a priest, deacon, or a designated Eucharistic Minister. We do not receive the Holy Eucharist from ourselves.

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### Catechetical Sunday

This year, the Basilica of St. Mary will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18, 2022 at the 10:00 Mass. Those who the parish community has designated to serve as catechists will be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechist listed by grade. At the present time, we are in need of a Kindergarten and Seventh grade Catechist.

- 1 Kaelly & Joel Erb
- 2 Adam Schwendeman
- 3 Sandy and Randy Bicket
- 4 Mary LaBarre
- 5 Melanie Fouss
- 6 John Spencer

After Mass there will be a reception in the Social Hall where parents and students can meet and greet their CCD Teacher.





THE BASILICA OF  
**SAINT MARY**  
OF THE ASSUMPTION

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



Dear Parishioners,

August 21, 2022

The primary goal of our human existence is to know and love God. There are many ways to achieve a loving relationship with Him. We can approach him through creation, through introspection, and a variety of other ways. These journeys lead to one conclusion. There is a God.

Many people today claim to be spiritual yet they reject organized religion. Some claim religious traditions stifle the human spirit. Others claim, that since all religious traditions have the same goal, choosing any path or even one's own path will achieve the same end. At worst, religion is rejected as a burden. At best, it is treated as one of many different options for life.

America seems to currently be filled with this line of reasoning. Poll after poll shows that most people in the United States pray on a weekly basis, while fewer than half attend religious services on Sunday. Religious hypocrisy is easy to catch and easy to hold up for ridicule. Simply being religious is not enough. Jesus pointed this fact out in Luke's gospel.

We have limits on how far we reach out for God. At some point, we must open ourselves to the message God gives us. More important, we must be willing to accept the gift He gives us. No matter how hard we try, we cannot achieve union with God by our own efforts. We must surrender self to God and allow him to become Lord of our lives.

Religion is the context for faith. While being active members of a church may not bring us closer to God, membership certainly helps. It opens our hard hearts and moves our minds toward God and what He offers us. Religion helps us so that we can accept God's gifts and grow in his presence.

Being religious is not enough. We also need the support of a community and a tradition. Jesus clearly did not reject the traditions of Israel. He simply challenged his listeners to take the next step. Stop trusting what you think. And begin to trust God. Jesus words challenge us to shake off religious complacency and seek out God. Trust in God is the key.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. John M. Campbell  
(Rector)

# PERSONAL SUFFERING

Some people see suffering to discredit God's goodness and to stop believing in Him. Yet there is suffering in union with Christ, and that kind of suffering is not hopeless suffering. Accepting suffering in one's life or in the life of someone we love is surrendering to God's will and accepting suffering during the slow process of dying. Our lives are meant to prepare for our death in Christ. Even through suffering, we can find joy in the life God has given to us. All human life is precious over suffering.

in God's eyes, and love always triumphs

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## Pope Francis:



## The desire for 'eternal youth' and 'unlimited well-being' is delusional conceit

Pope Francis said Wednesday that it is “delusional” to try to stop the natural passage of time in pursuit of “eternal youth” and “unlimited well-being.” The Holy Father pointed out that from the Christian perspective, the passing of time “is not a threat, it is a promise.”

“The conceit of stopping time — of wanting eternal youth, unlimited well-being, absolute power — is not only impossible, it is delusional,” Pope Francis said. “Our existence on earth is the time of the initiation of life; it is life, but one that leads you toward a fuller life ... a life which finds fulfillment only in God.” The pope underlined that life on earth is best understood as a “novitiate,” a preparation for an eternal life in heaven that will be “superior to the time of our mortal life.”

“We are apprentices of life, who — amid a thousand difficulties — learn to appreciate God's gift, honoring the responsibility of sharing it and making it bear fruit for everyone,” he said. “We are imperfect from the very beginning, and we remain imperfect up to the end,” Francis added.

He explained that life is not meant to “be wrapped up in itself in an imaginary earthly perfection.” Life “is destined to go beyond, through the passage of death — because death is a passage. Indeed, ... our destination is not here, it is beside the Lord, where he dwells forever,” the pope said.

Pope Francis underscored that old age should be a time of “expectation” that brings one closer to life's fulfillment in God. “In the fulfillment of God's promise, the relationship is inverted: the space of God, which Jesus prepares for us with the utmost care, is superior to the time of our mortal life. Hence: old age brings closer the hope of this fulfillment,” Pope Francis said.

“Old age knows definitively, by now, the meaning of time and the limitations of the place in which we live our initiation. Therefore old age is wise. God's world is an infinite space, in which the passage of time no longer carries any weight,” he said.

## The Sistine Chapel was consecrated to Our Lady of the Assumption



On August 15, 1483, Pope Sixtus IV consecrated the Sistine Chapel to Our Lady of the Assumption. Today, as we celebrate the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, let's take a closer look at this historic chapel.

One of the most popular tourist attractions in Vatican City, it is known for its magnificently frescoed ceilings, but it also serves an important function as the place where the cardinals meet to elect a new pope. Here are five things to know:

The chapel derives its name from the man who consecrated it: Pope Sixtus IV, who served as the Roman Pontiff from 1471 to 1484. He commissioned the restoration of the Cappella Magna, the chapel that stood where the Sistine Chapel stands today.

The artist most famously connected with the Sistine Chapel is Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni. However, it wasn't until several years after a team of artists began work on the chapel, that Pope Julius II commissioned work from Michelangelo.

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## Ortega regime in Nicaragua violently shuts down Catholic radio stations

Police arrived the night of Aug. 1 at Divine Mercy parish in Nicaragua. The parish broadcast live on Facebook the arrival of the police at the parish doors as well as their entry by force. Nicaraguan police broke into Divine Mercy parish the night of Aug. 1, to shut down one of the five Catholic radio stations closed on Monday by the Daniel Ortega regime.

The Catholic Channel in Sébaco also broadcast live the police raid on the Infant Jesus of Prague chapel. The station reported that the officers fired shots into the air and launched tear gas canisters to drive away the people who came out to support the pastor, the director of the media outlet.

It was announced: "All our radio stations have been closed. But they won't silence the Word of God," the bishop stated. The man in charge of communications for the bishops' conference said: what the government wants "is a mute Church that doesn't announce the hope of the people" and doesn't denounce "personal sin and structures of injustice."

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## WORK AT THE SCHOOL

The work on the fourth street entrance to the school has been completed. The new entrance has greatly been enhanced and improved, and the walls of the school have been stabilized. New shrubbery and plantings have been installed as well as new railings. On the inside of the school, our principal, Elizabeth Tokodi, has supervised the painting of hallways and classrooms, and has replaced some needed flooring. The kitchen has been sanitized, and all kitchen cabinets have been cleaned and years of unnecessary items have been discarded. The school is in very good shape, and is ready for a new school year. We are fortunate to have a wonderful school, a great principal, and fine teachers.

# Visiting Jesus: Take Little Ones to Adoration



A toddler stares intently at the Blessed Sacrament. Perhaps this blessed trend is due to the National Eucharistic Revival taking place right now, or maybe it is the witness of the youthful holiness of Blessed Carlo Acutis. As Jesus himself said, "Let the little children come to me" (Matthew 19:14).

In the holy footsteps of St. Gerard Majella, who went to Mass with his mother as a young child, there is always an opportunity to introduce even the youngest of Catholics to Our Lord. Most likely, the

Child Jesus won't climb down from the Blessed Mother's arms to give Bread to my toddler like St. Gerard experienced, but little ones should be shaped and guided to understand this blessed reality: Jesus is real and only asks us to come.

There is so much we can learn from children when it comes to faith and, in particular, prayer. We should not lose the heartfelt voice of a child finding a true friend in Jesus. Parents have a blessed task in working to instill a fervent faith into our children, and the Real Presence should be at the heart of family life. Just bring the children to say 'Hi' to Jesus."

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament is a perfect gift for young children. At adoration, Mom can gather close to the altar, snuggle with her little ones, and gently offer her love for Jesus and her family. There is an awe and stillness in adoration, whether it is a formal service or an informal visit during perpetual adoration, that can soothe and entice a young one's attention."

Learning how to be quiet seems like a heavy task these days, given the social-media saturation of our times, but it is vital to cultivating an interior life for the littlest hearts. Prayer doesn't have to captivate or inspire — it requires us to be captivated — inspired by our own love and knowledge of God.

Our Basilica opens our doors to this devotion in thoughtful ways. Our Vacation Bible School offered adoration for our young children.

Start small! Even a few moments of quiet prayer in adoration can establish a beautiful desire to be close to Our Lord. When entering the chapel of the English Martyrs, remember to ask your children to pray for you, their parents. Jesus hears and loves the prayers of our little ones!"

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## Belarus: Catholic priest fined for 'Ukraine, forgive us' sticker on his car

Father Vasil Yahorau is a Ukrainian Greek Catholic priest who ministers in Belarus, an ally of Russia. The priest was arrested and fined \$490 for his bumper sticker. Reading this article, we need to be grateful for the freedom that we enjoy in America.