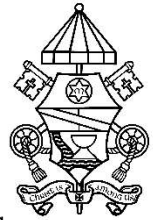


The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption

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



January 22, 2023
*The Third Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SAT	5:30 PM	- Denise Lazorik Parman & Debbie Lazorik, Birthdays
SUN	8:00 AM	- Dale Spindler
	10:00 AM	- Mark Bradley
	12:00 PM	- People of the Parish
MON	7:45 AM	- Shirley Hesson
	12:05 PM	- Nathan Heiss
TUE	7:45 AM	- Liz Strahler
	12:05 PM	- Carol Wentzell, 14 th Anniversary
WED	7:45 AM	- Danny Gallito
	12:05 PM	- Helen Miller, 1 st Anniversary
THU	7:45 AM	- Bill Rice
	12:05 PM	- Lois Baumgard, 4 th Anniversary
FRI	7:45 AM	- D.J. Maxon, 1 st Anniversary
	12:05 PM	- Mary Doan, 7 th Anniversary
SAT	9:00 AM	- Francis "Junior" Arnold
	5:30 PM	- Tony Weber
SUN	8:00 AM	- Liv/dec'd of the David & Suzanne Baker Family
	10:00 AM	- Mary Louise Pitt
	12:00 PM	- People of the Parish

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)
Parochial Vicar - Rev. Edward Maxfield Jr. (emaxfield@diosteub.org)
Retired - Rev. Dale Tornes
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 - (dmcoty22@gmail.com)
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. William Rathbone (740) 374-5492
Prayer Line - & Eucharistic Adoration, Mrs. Shelly Medley (740-525-6360)
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

JESUS PROCLAIMED THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM AND CURED EVERY DISEASE AMONG THE PEOPLE.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

Zeph 2:3;3:12-13; 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 5:1-12a

PRIESTS RETIREMENT FUND: There will be a special collection for the retirement fund for our priests of the Diocese of Steubenville the weekend of February 4th and 5th. Envelopes will be placed in the pews that weekend. Please be generous in this special collection as **it is for our own diocesan priests.**

CONGRATULATIONS TO NEWLY BAPTIZED:

Amaly Rosalina Olvera.

REST IN PEACE:

Tom Chalfant passed away January 15th. We extend our sympathy to his family, especially to his wife, Jeanne, who will miss him most of all. May God now welcome him into heaven, his eternal home and grant him peace.

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	-	RCIA in the Basilica Social Hall.
TUE	6:00 PM	-	First Communion Parent Meeting in the Social Hall. See announcement.
	7:00 PM	-	Grief Support Meeting in the Rectory
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
	6:00 PM	-	Religious Education at Saint Mary Catholic School.
	6:00 PM	-	Basilica Book Club Meeting in the Social Hall.
FRI	8:30 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: \$ 11,516.00

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. To donate, contact the Marietta Community Foundation.

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. All meetings and events MUST be put in the master book in the office.

COLLECTION FOR CHURCHES IN LATIN AMERICA

This weekend there is a special collection for the churches in Latin America. Envelopes were provided with your packet and should be put in the regular collection. Please be generous.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week we invite you to attend our appreciation luncheon for family, friends and parishioners on Wednesday, February 1, 2023, from 11:30 AM -1:00 PM. in the Msgr. Kakascik Parish Center, 320 Marion Street.

In the event of a 2-hour delay the lunch will be served as planned. In the event of a snow day, the lunch will be rescheduled.

Save the Date for Vacation Bible School!

VBS will be held July 10-14th in conjunction with the Basilica. VBS will be held at the school. Many more details to come.

The 29th Annual Foundation Dinner Drawing

will be held on Saturday, February 4th in the Parish Center of the school. Doors open at 6:30 PM.

A \$125.00 ticket admits 2 for a chance to win the grand prize of \$2,000.00.

Tickets are available in the school office, 740-374-8181. The Rectory office, 740-373-3643 or by contacting a Foundation Board Member (Brandon Burnworth, Tim Williams, Matt Ingram, Becky Haller, Tonya Booth, Chris Palmer, Nate Black, Joe Augenstein, Chris Pfeiffer, Lori Lutz or Chris Greenwood.)

CALLING ALL BAKERS!

The highlight of the St. Mary School Foundation Dinner and Drawing is always the dessert table, made possible by our wonderful parish bakers. Please consider donating a batch of your signature cookies or other sweet treats to a great cause. We will be accepting baked goods all day Friday, February 3rd and Saturday, February 4th, just bring them to the Parish Center. If you need a different drop off time or pick up, please call Tonya Booth at 740-336-4750. Thank you and hope to see you there!

St. Mary Catholic School OPEN HOUSE

To kick off Catholic Schools Week, St. Mary Catholic School will host an Open House to highlight our educational programs Preschool 3 through 8th grade. We will be sharing registration information as well as offering tours. Appointments are appreciated and may be made by calling the school office at 740-374-8181 or emailing Tammi Bradley at tammibradley@stmaryscatholic.org. *Appointments are being made from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm*

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin announcements must be in the parish office by Wednesday to be included in the following weekend's bulletin. Announcements must be in writing. We do not accept them by phone.

K of C ROSARY

Knights of Columbus will be praying the rosary before all Masses next Sunday, January 29th (7:30 AM, 9:30 AM and 11:30). All parishioners are welcome to join us.

K OF C ACTIVITY NIGHT

The Knights of Columbus will be having activities on Thursday, January 26th and Thursday, February 16th at 7:00 PM. Cornhole/Euchre – Blind Draw. All members and friends are welcome. Please call 740-525-0053 with questions.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

An informative parent meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 24th at 6:00 PM in the Basilica Social Hall. Dates to Remember: First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, May 7th at 2:00 PM. A special retreat is being planned for Communicants on Saturday, April 29th. Please pray for our First Communion students and their families.

PRE-CANA:

A Pre-Cana Session is scheduled for Saturday, March 11, 2023, here at the Basilica. If you are planning to be married any time this year, you should register for this session by calling the parish office, 740-373-3643. Pre-Cana is a requirement for marriage in our diocese.

BASILICA BOOK CLUB

The January book is **The Butterfly and the Violin** by Kristy Cambron. In 1942 a darling of the Austrian aristocracy, talented violinist, and daughter of a high-ranking member of the Third Reich, Adele Von Bron risks everything when she begins smuggling Jews out of Vienna. In a heartbeat, her life of prosperity and privilege dissolves into a world of starvation and barbed wire.

As Sera untangles the secrets behind a painting, she finds beauty in the most unlikely places: the grim concentration camps of Auschwitz and the inner recesses of her own troubled heart.

“Cambron expertly weaves together multiple timelines, and perspectives to produce a poignant tale of the power of love and faith in difficult circumstances.”

The book is available to check out at the Parish Library. Check out time is 4 weeks or sooner if you finish. Please return the book within the time frame so it will be available to others.

Remember: **The next meeting is this Wednesday, January 25th at 6:00 PM in the Social Hall.** All are welcome, bring a friend. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Thoughts, questions, or if you would like to be added to the BBC email list, contact Debbie Lazorik at 740-434-3796 .

PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY

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

THIS WEEKEND'S ALTAR FLOWERS

This weekend the flowers for the altar are in celebration of Denise Lazorik Palmer and Debbie Lazorik's birthday. If you would like to request flowers for a particular weekend, please contact the parish office to reserve the date. You should contact the florist of your choice to arrange for delivery.

2024 MASS BOOK

The 2024 Mass Intention Book will be opened around the middle of February for scheduling Masses, Weddings, Meetings and Flower Intentions. Given the size of our parish, many parishioners were not able to have even one weekend Mass in 2022. Therefore, **we must limit requests to 4 weekend Masses per family.**

2022 CONTRIBUTION RECORDS

If you would like a complete record of your church contributions for 2022, please call the parish office and we will mail them to you. If you wish to pick up your record, please call ahead. Please note: your contribution record will include donations made to the St. Vincent dePaul Society. It will not include donations made to the Diocesan/Parish Share Campaign. This information will be sent directly from the diocese.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF January 28 & 29

	Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Lectors	Altar Servers
Sat: 5:30	Amy Brockett (CAPT) Sandy George (HOST) (swap req.) Karen Schramm (HOST) Irene Cain (CHALICE) Jean Tornes (CHALICE)	Don Murray	Connor Bichard Braxton Kroft Brecken Kroft
Sun: 8:00	Beckie Arnold (CAPT) Cory Marshall (HOST) Marcia McCabe (HOST) Teresa Huck (CHALICE) Sharon Loken (CHALICE)	Jaclyn Schwieterman	Ken Offenberger Charles Kremer Greg Dickson Joyce Iaderosa
10:00	Gerald Cooke (CAPT) Sherry Payne (HOST) Cathy Rauch (HOST) Cheyenne Greenwood (CHALICE) Kaelly Erb (CHALICE)	Tom Hushion	Bryson Black Elijah Erb Griffin Erb Owen Krason Benedict Parlin
12:00	Jeannette Flowers (CAPT) Elizabeth Tokodi (HOST) Dennis Nau (HOST) Joe Schmidt (CHALICE) Lisa Taylor (CHALICE)	Mary LaBarre	Evan Huffman Grant Huffman Karter Lankford
	SATURDAY, January 28 – 9:00 AM – Not Filled		

DAILY BREAD KITCHEN

In January of this year, The Daily Bread Kitchen celebrated its twelfth year of providing meals every Wednesday to all who come. We are indebted to every parishioner who has so generously contributed to our cause.

There have been many changes since the beginning of this mission. Not only has the cost of food and supplies increased, but we are now serving 250-300 meals per week. A 33% increase over pre-Covid numbers.

Even with conscientious and frugal planning, the DBK finds itself in dire need of monetary assistance, so once again we ask your help in maintaining this effort. If you are able to donate in any amount, please place an envelope in the Sunday collection baskets. Thank you and God Bless.



THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

With his arrest, the ministry of the Baptist along the Jordan dwindled as His followers formed communities. Now, a new light arose – Jesus Christ.

Hearing that John was arrested, Jesus went back to Galilee. He settled in Capernaum, by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali. From then on, Jesus began to preach, "Turn back to God! The kingdom of heaven is near!" Walking along (the shore of) the Sea of Galilee, He saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew, his brother, casting a net into the sea. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men!" They left their nets, they immediately followed him. Then He saw two other brothers, James, son of Zebedee, and his brother, John, in the boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their nets, and He called them. They too left the boat and their father, they followed him.

Jesus traveled all around the region of Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the Good News of the Kingdom, and healing every disease and every illness among the people. "Come after me..." This was not an invitation to companionship, but a call to discipleship. According to Matthew, Jesus molded his ministry by preaching, calling disciples to follow him, and healing. Jesus preached that the Kingdom was no longer a coming event. It was at hand.

When Jesus began his ministry, the Kingdom was truly at hand, for he embodied God's reign. By preaching the Good News and healing those in need, Jesus revealed God dealing with His people. By gathering followers, Jesus called together God's people, his Church, so people could be close to the Father.

Jesus also gained an audience by healing. Israel had a folk tradition of local healers. Usually, someone would gain popularity in a certain locale. People would come to the healer's town, even their house, for relief. Jesus' message and mobility, however, set him apart. Jesus did not wait for the people to come to him. His message and ministry were too important.

Jesus' initial message created a tension that still survives to this day. Theologians speak of God's Kingdom as "Here, but not yet." The Kingdom is present, but not fully realized. God reigns in the world because Christ is present in and through his Church. Until the Second Coming, however, the Kingdom, like Christ himself, remains hidden.

When Jesus began his ministry, the Kingdom was truly at hand, for he embodied God's reign. By preaching the Good News and healing those in need, Jesus revealed that God was present in the midst of his people. By gathering followers, Jesus called together God's people, his Church, so people could be close to the Father. We, too, look for "lights" to our way. Jesus was a light in his message, his ministry, and his call. He revealed God to others. As his followers, we are to carry that message, ministry, and call forward.

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament takes place in our Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs on Wednesday and Friday of this week. Adoration takes place on these two days from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. every week. Adoration is an opportunity to reconnect with God on a personal level. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us.

PILGRIMAGES TO OUR BASILICA

Our Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption welcomes all visitors, encouraging them to come for a pilgrimage or visit. We are honored to host visitors and pilgrims to our Basilica.

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

Jan. - 31, - Catholic School Week
Feb. - 4, - Bethlehem Christian Families Items
Feb. - 22, - Ash Wednesday
Mar. - 5, - Rite of Election (Bishop)
May. - 21, - Confirmation

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

On Tuesday, January 24th, we will continue our grief support group session at 7:00 pm. in the rectory. As the group moves toward conclusion, letters will be placed before the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, expressing our thoughts and words which we ask the Lord to deliver to our deceased loved ones. Thank you to the members of our support group, and all those who care.

DECEASED PRIESTS OF OUR DIOCESE

On Tuesday, we remember the 30th anniversary of the death of Fr. Stanley Bernacki. On Saturday, we remember the 49th anniversary of the death of Fr. Joseph Johnson. These two priests served our Diocese to the best of their ability. May they now rest forever in the Kingdom of our Father.



Perpetual Help Devotions This Monday

Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated this Monday evening at 6:15 pm. Parishioners are encouraged to participate in this devotion celebrated in our Basilica on Monday evening. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica, all visitors, 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.

MEETINGS & EVENTS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, January 23,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist
9:15 am. - School Confessions (2,3,4,5)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions
7:00 pm. - RCIA

Tuesday, January 24,

7:45 am. - Mass
9:15 am. - School Confessions (6,7,8)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:00 pm. - First Communion Parent Meeting
7:00 pm. - Grief Support Mtg

Wednesday, January 25,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Eucharist

Thursday, January 26,

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

Friday, January 27,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Eucharist
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Eucharist

Saturday, January 28,

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

Sunday, January 29,

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



FEASTS OF THE WEEK

Tuesday, January 24, Saint Francis de Sales (Bishop)

Francis was the bishop of Geneva who sought to bring many people to the Church through his personal life and writings.

Wednesday, January 25, The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle Paul became a follower of Christ, and proclaimed the Message to all nations.

Thursday, January 26, Saints Timothy & Titus (Bishops)

Timothy and Titus were companions of St. Paul. They were the bishops of Ephesus and Crete.

Friday, January 27, Saint Angela Merici (Virgin)

Angela was the foundress of the Ursuline Sisters – the first teaching order for poor young girls.

Saturday, January 28, Saint Thomas Aquinas (Priest & Doctor of the Church)

Thomas was a Dominican priest. He is called the “Angelic Doctor”. He wrote the Summa Theologia and many Eucharistic hymns. He is the patron of Catholic schools.



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

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



January 22, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

When I was a child, growing up in Detroit, I wanted to be a train engineer. Later in my school years on a Good Friday as I attended the Good Friday Liturgy, I felt that God wanted me to be a priest to serve Him and His people.

In the Gospel reading for this weekend, we learn about God's call to His first disciples, and to us as well. God called them to a relationship with Him, and He calls us for the same reason. God calls us to be one with Him. Without God, life has no purpose, and without purpose, life has no meaning or purpose.

The Call of Jesus is to Follow Him. "Come and you will see.... Follow me." This was a command not an invitation. "Come," literally means "come here.... your destiny is to follow me!" For the disciples, this meant leaving their nets, their father, their boats. In 1st Century Palestine it was the norm for disciples to choose their rabbi. Here Jesus does the choosing. This was a passionate call.

"Come, follow..." conveys the idea of following as a learner, an apprentice, committed to imitating the one being followed. It conveys a path, a destination. This was a passionate call. A purposeful call.

"Come, follow me" Jesus calls us to follow Him, not a particular parish or a priest we particularly like, but Jesus Himself. The call of Jesus is a passionate, purposeful and a personal call. The disciples' obedience was immediate: They left their nets and followed Jesus. Our primary purpose is to know Jesus, and our second purpose is to serve Him.

Following Jesus must be a conscious decision we each choose to take. Jesus says "What do you want?" "Why are you following me?" Our response must be because I want to find out more about You and reside with You. Jesus calls us to follow Him home and join His family.

"Come, follow me," Jesus said to His disciples and now to us. At once the Apostles left their nets and followed him. What about us? When we come to faith we think that we chose to follow Jesus. But as we grow to know Him better, we realize that it was Jesus who came looking for us. Will you follow Him, where ever he leads in 2023?

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. John M Campbell

Eucharistic Congress Mass - Saturday January 21, - (Bishop)



Next Saturday evening, Bishop Monforton will celebrate the 5:30 pm. Mass as a major celebration for the Eucharistic Revival. In the Catholic Church, the Eucharistic Revival is a celebration bearing witness to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

Our world is hurting. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith in the celebration of the Eucharist. The National Eucharistic Revival is a movement to restore understanding and devotion to this great mystery here in the United States by helping us renew our worship of Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

It takes time to kindle a living, loving relationship—and a relationship with Jesus Christ is no exception. That's why the Eucharistic Revival calls for discernment, encounter, and grassroots response on the diocesan, parish, and individual levels. Pope John Paul II said: "The Eucharist is the heart of the Church. Where Eucharistic life flourishes, there the life of the church will blossom.

In a world where not many people know Jesus intimately, the revival is meant to show everyone what wonders the True Presence of Jesus can do to heal the soul.

The current world is hurting and straying far from God. According to Pew Research Center, only 31% of Catholics even believe in the True Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. We all need healing, yet many of us are separated from the very source of our strength. Jesus Christ invites us to return to the source and summit of our faith — his Real Presence in the Holy Eucharist."

Next Saturday, our Diocese of Steubenville offers this special Pontifical Mass to promote and inspire understanding of the Eucharist. Christ is among us – He is now and always will be!

HUNTING AT THE CEMETERY

A Diocesan memo has been sent to all parishes who have a cemetery. THERE IS TO BE NO HUNTING ON ANY DIOCESAN PROPERTY. Under Ohio law, one cannot hunt or discharge a weapon within 100 yards of a cemetery. Violation of this is a misdemeanor, which can be subject to a sixty-day jail sentence, as well as a \$500.00 fine. It is also against the mission of the Church to hunt in a sacred area.



'Black Nazarene' procession in the Philippines draws over 100,000

More than 100,000 faithful gathered to venerate the "Black Nazarene" in the Philippines after a two-year suspension of the traditional procession due to the COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The venerated image of the Black Nazarene was processed Jan. 8 from the Quirino Grandstand to St. John the Baptist church in Manila, with an estimated 103,277 faithful participating. The procession is one of the most important religious celebrations in the Philippines. The origin of the Black Nazarene dates back to 1607.

Who Will Step Up to Replace Cardinal Pell in Defending Truth of the Catholic Faith?



George Cardinal Pell died in Rome on Tuesday evening. He was Australia's prelate. He faced great injustice, which included 404 days of solitary confinement in a Melbourne prison cell before the charges were quashed by the Australian High Court in April 2020. He was a compelling example of faithfully enduring the kind of persecution that Christ foretold those who follow him would face.

An outspoken and public advocate for doctrinal orthodoxy going back to his days as a bishop in Australia, Cardinal Pell's profile took on new stature following his exoneration. The trials he endured, recounted in his published *Prison Journal*, raised his status beyond defender of the faith to a witness to it, communicating the truth of the Gospel not only through what he was willing to say, but he was willing to suffer.

Cardinal Pell showed a willingness to speak out about threats to orthodoxy within the Church with more vigor and universality than ever before. He was one of the first cardinals to sign onto a fraternal letter of correction from the world's bishops to the German episcopacy over the potentially schismatic Synodal Way, describing the bishops' push there for women's ordination and the blessing of same-sex sexual relations as "an explicit disavowal and rejection of Christian teaching."

Cardinal Pell also didn't hesitate to take to the printed pages to provide his own assessment of the doctrinal crises plaguing the Church. With Cardinal Pell's death, it's not clear who, if anyone, can play a similar role of rallying cardinals who hew to the "hermeneutic of continuity" understanding of doctrine and development around a consensus candidate in the event of a conclave. Cardinal Pell's post-2020 standing as a widely known and respected champion of doctrinal orthodoxy may simply not be replaceable.

The Australian prelate will continue to inspire the Church and those who shared his vision through, God-willing, heavenly intercession, but also through the compelling witness he leaves behind; during his maltreatment at the hands of the Australian legal system, yes, but also in his last years of life, as an increasingly prophetic voice for those committed to safeguarding the apostolic faith and handing it on in continuity to future generations.

In what was possibly his last public interview before his death, Cardinal Pell told the hosts of EWTN's onsite coverage of Pope Benedict XVI's funeral Mass, "What is really important, of course, is that the legacy of John Paul the Great and Benedict survives and thrives."

As one of those hosts, Register contributor put it on Twitter, "We also pray that others will continue the hard work of Cardinal Pell to make sure [John Paul II's] and [Benedict XVI's] legacy in service to Christ and his Church does survive." Cardinal Pell has carried the mantle this far. Time will tell who steps up to carry it forward.

In pandemic's wake, churchgoing takes a hit, survey indicates Church pews

The percentage of Americans who attend religious services is now “significantly lower” than before the COVID-19 pandemic, especially among young people and other groups identified as less likely to regularly attend, a new survey indicates. The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted much of American society, including religious worship.

The pandemic accelerated ongoing trends in religious change. Young people, those who are single, and self-identified liberals ceased attending religious services at all at much higher rates than other Americans did. At least in terms of religious attendance, the pandemic appears to have pushed out those who had maintained the weakest commitments to regular attendance.

Among white Catholics, the percentage of those who do not attend religious services increased from 11% to 18%. Hispanic Catholics who never attend increased from 10% to 20%. Almost half of Catholic respondents continued to say they attended religious services “infrequently,” the survey found.

Consistent Mass-goers tended to continue their churchgoing habits. The percentages of white Catholics and Hispanic Catholics who regularly attend religious services now compared with before the pandemic was relatively unchanged at 30% and 23%, respectively.

The groups most likely to attend religious services, and to attend regularly, are political conservatives, adults age 50 and older, women, married adults, and people with a college degree. Their frequency of attendance was “largely similar” to before the pandemic and spring of 2022.

Young people, political liberals and moderates, and Americans without a college degree were the most likely groups not to attend religious services before the pandemic and as of spring 2022. The habits of the young adult population, those aged 18–29, showed significant changes. About 30% of young adults attend religious services less often now, while only 12% are more religiously active compared with before the pandemic.

Catholic Schools Week!

Catholic Schools Week (CSW) is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. Now entering its 49th anniversary year, CSW has traditionally been held the last week in January. Catholic Schools Week will be held from January 29 to February 4, 2023. Saint Mary's School will observe the week with Masses, assemblies and other activities for students, families, parishioners and community members to celebrate. Bishop Monforton will be with us on Tuesday to visit and celebrate Mass. There will be days honoring our Basilica parish, our community, our students, our parents, vocations, our faculty & staff. There will be a luncheon for parishioners and the public.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR TWO PARISHES WHO ARE ILL!



Reporter appears to be no longer at Politico after tweets slandering Pope Benedict XVI

A reporter for Politico indicated that he is no longer with the organization following a tweet he made slandering the late Pope Benedict XVI on the day of the pope's death. Geller, who was with the organization for more than six and half years, received heated criticism following his tweet.

Maryland Catholic hospital discriminated by denying transgender surgery, federal judge rules

A federal judge has ruled against a Catholic-founded hospital in Maryland, contending that it discriminated in refusing to perform a hysterectomy on a woman who was pursuing a purported gender transition. The court case concerns St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson, Maryland, part of the University of Maryland Medical System (UMMS), which had canceled a hysterectomy for 33-year-old which had been scheduled for Jan. 6, 2020. Hammons identifies as a transgender man; that is, a biological woman who believes herself to be a man. The hospital said removing an otherwise healthy organ would violate Catholic ethics.

The big danger is that Catholic hospitals are going to be coerced and legally attacked for not providing transgender interventions. Catholic hospitals will have to defend themselves in court. They have to stand up for their religious liberty rights and conscience rights and that, of course, is very expensive and difficult. And in the end, they might even be shut down. It is very important that Catholic health care should be able to continue to practice in a way that is both ethical and moral from the Church's perspective. Being required to do transgender interventions would be, in effect, the destruction of Catholic health care. It is extremely serious.



SAINT MARY SCHOOL FOUNDATION

The 29th annual Benefit School Foundation Drawing for our Saint Mary School will take place on Saturday, February 4th at the Msgr Kakascik Parish Center. There will be \$5,725 in prizes. – 51 Winners. The Grand Prize is \$2,000. The Foundation was established in 1992 to ensure the future financial stability of our school.

Plan on a great night out and a great donation to our school.

