

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



June 18, 2023

Eleventh Sunday In Ordinary Time

Father's Day

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sat	5:30 PM - Lee Bryant
Sun	8:00 AM - Joseph Wesel
	10:00 AM - People of the Parish
	12:00 PM - Liv/dec'd Members of the Jim & Julia Matheny family
Mon	7:45 AM - Ann Veon Armor
	12:05 PM - Evelyn Hawn
Tue	7:45 AM - Souls In Purgatory
	12:05 PM - Mary Agnes Augenstein
Wed	7:45 AM - Helen & William Grosel
	12:05 PM - Lisa Wesel
Thu	7:45 AM - Bill & Mary Lou Wesel
	12:05 PM - Liv/Dec'd of the Ruth & Louis Brooker Family
Fri	7:45 AM - Todd Hetzer
	12:05 PM - Harry Way
Sat	9:00 AM - Francis "Junior" Arnold
	5:30 PM - Rick Schaad
Sun	8:00 AM - People of the Parish
	10:00 AM - Vincent & Alice Lang
	12:00 PM - Sheila Howlett

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)

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)

K of C Grand Knight - Mr. Pete Saliba (304) 494-6170

Parish Council President - Luke Strahler - (614) 309-8876

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

The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the Gospel.

READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY.

Jer 20:10-13; Rom 5:12-15; Mt 10:26-33.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bulletin announcements must be in by Wednesday morning to be included in the following weekends bulletin. All announcements must be in writing. We do not take bulletin announcements by phone.

FREE HELP FOR PARISHONERS

If you need a ride to and from Mass, a doctor's appointment, or need help with errands, like picking up groceries, etc., please call or text Anne-Marie at 609-471-5294. Twenty-four hours' notice is appreciated, but not necessary.

REST IN PEACE:

Dale E. Gerken passed away Sat. June 10, 2023. We celebrated his entrance into eternal life at his funeral mass this past Weds. We offer our deepest condolences to his family. May he rest in 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	-	St. Vincent DePaul Society Meeting in the Conference Room.
TUE	7:00 PM	-	Addiction Group Support Group Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
WED	8:20 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
THU	8:30 AM	-	Cleaning the Basilica. See Announcement.
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: \$ 15,435.00

Amount needed each weekend for
Our 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.

SCHEDULING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Please check with the parish office before scheduling a meeting in the Basilica Social Hall, Conference Room, library, or using the Basilica Kitchen. If you cancel & reschedule, please make sure the new time & date are available. All meetings and events must be put in the master book in the parish office.

NEW ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

If you have recently moved, please call the parish office to give us the new address. Also, many parishioners have done away with their land line and are just using cellphones. Please give us that information so we can update our roster. Thank you for your cooperation.

SAINT MARY SCHOOL NEWS

St. Mary Catholic School summer office hours are in effect. The school office is open on Wednesday's from 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. The office will be closed the week of the 4th of July.

St. Mary Catholic School has the following job postings for the 2023-2024 school year.

- **Tag teacher** (part time)
- **Technology teacher** (part time)
- **PreK teacher** (full time, we will be having 2 PreK classes in the Fall)
- **Middle School Social Studies teacher** (part time)
- **Director of Religious Education** working within the school and the Basilica)

All job postings/descriptions are on the school website at stmarys.k12.oh.us

The Irish Booster Scholarship application for two St. Mary Catholic School alumni is open for submission. The scholarship application can be found on the school website home page at stmarys.k12.oh.us

Due to unforeseen circumstances, Vacation Bible School previously scheduled July 10-14 is postponed until July 2024.

Have a great summer.

THIS WEEKENDS FLOWERS

This weekend the roses & flowers for the altar are in celebration of Catherine Dickson's Birthday. If you would like to request flowers for a particular weekend, please call the parish office to reserve the date. You should contact the florist of your choice to arrange for delivery.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY

Join Father Tom Nelson on a Pilgrimage to Italy, January 1-12, 2024. Stops include Assisi, Norcia, Cascia, Loreto, Lanciano, San Giovanni Rotondo, Monte San Angelo, Montecassino, and Rome.

the discount price of \$4,989.00 per person is enjoyed by those paying with Cash or Check (based on a minimum of 30 participants with double occupancy).

For full itinerary visit:

<https://catholicfaithjourneys.com/>. For more information contact Maggie McDaniel: email: maggie@catholicfaithjourneys.com or phone: (419)290-8782.

MARY'S HOUSE- GOLF OUTING

Mary's House Golf Outing is Saturday, June 24 at Lakeside Golf Course in Beverly, Ohio. Cost is \$70.00 per person. Cost includes 18 holes of golf, cart, mulligan, food, and drink. Hole sponsor is available for \$100.00. Call Jordan Welch to sign up your team and hole sponsor, 740-538-9901.

SERVICE MEN

Please pray for all of the young men & women who are serving our country in the Military. We especially remember those from our own Parish & friends & relatives of our parishioners. May God watch over them & keep them safe.

2023 DIOCESAN/PARISH SHARE CAMPAIGN

This year our parish goal is \$115,639.21. This is an increase of \$4,381.21 over last year. So far, the Diocese has received \$89,608.00 from our parish. This means that our parish has only met 77% of our goal.

Thanks once again to those who participated in this year's DPSC. If you've not yet turned in your pledge, please do so. You can place your pledge in the collection basket, or you can mail it directly to the diocese using the pre-addressed DPSC envelope.

Additional pledge cards are available at the parish office. You can also contribute to the campaign on line at www.Give.Diosteub.org.

Our parish has always met and surpassed our goal. Please help us to do so again this year.

BASILICA BOOK CLUB NEWS

Living Joy: Thanks to a donation, the book "Living Joy" by Chris Stefanic is available for check out in our parish library. Due to the content that asks for reflection, the book will be discussed at the June meeting of the Basilica Book Club.

Remember: ALL are welcome, bring a friend. Snacks and drinks are provided. If you are not able to read the book, a summary is presented, and you can participate at whatever level is comfortable for you. Any questions, information or if you want to be added to the Basilica Book Club email list: contact Debbie Lazorik, lazorikd@marietta.edu or 740-434-3769.

The next book club meeting will be Wednesday, June 28th at 6:00 p.m. in the Basilica Social Hall.

Parish Office Hours this week

The parish office will be closed all day Monday, June 19th and Tuesday, June 20th until 1:00 pm.

ROSARY

The Knights of Columbus will be praying the rosary a half hour prior to the June 20th meeting at the hall on Franklin Street. Rosary begins at 7:00 pm. Everyone welcome.

HAM / CHICKEN DINNER

St. Bernard's Catholic Church Parish Chicken or Ham Dinner. Wednesday, June 28, held in the church social hall at 307 7th Street, Beverly, Ohio. Meal serving time is 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Adult Meal \$13.00; Childrens Meal (ages 10 and under) \$5.00. Take-outs available.

The meal includes many side dishes, dessert and beverage. Games for children and bingo. Raffle for many very nice items. Contact the church for additional information 740-984-2555.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF June 24 & 25

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Lectors

Altar Servers

Sat:	Missy Deskins CAPT)	Tony Huffman	Connor Bichard
5:30	Irene Cain (HOST)		Braxton Kroft
	Karen Schramm (HOST)		Brecken Kroft
	Jean Tornes (CHALICE)		
	Sandy George (swap req.)		
Sun:	Theresa Huck (swap req.)	Shelly Medley	Jerry Huck (swap req.)
8:00	Patti Finkel (HOST)		Mike Iaderosa
	Carol Antill (HOST)		Joyce Iaderosa
	Sharon Loken (CHALICE)		Joe Flaherty
	Nancy Funk (CHALICE)		
10:00	Ken Schilling (CAPT)	Tom Hushion	Bryson Black
	Gary Pitt (HOST)		Elijah Erb
	Carol O'Grady (HOST)		Griffin Erb
	Jennifer Schenkel (CHALICE)		Liam Long
	Kaelly Erb (CHALICE)		Benedict Parlin
12:00	Gerald Cooke (CAPT)	Sherry Hill	Jonathan Schmidt
	Joe Schmidt (HOST)		Grant Huffman
	Jeannette Flowers (HOST)		Evan Huffman
	Cheyenne Greenwood (CHALICE)		
	Dennis Nau (CHALICE)		

Sat., June 25—Not Filled

This is My Body

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body". He took a cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sin".

Matthew 26:26-28

In his book, Bishop Barron offers a threefold analysis of the Eucharist as sacred meal, sacrifice, and Real Presence, helping readers to understand the sacrament of Jesus' Body and Blood more thoroughly so that they might fall in love with him more completely.

A complimentary copy is available at the basilica side entrances (one copy per family). Discover the profound truth flowing out of Jesus' words at the Last Supper.

THE NEW SUMMER HOURS FOR OUR CHANCERY IN STEUBENVILLE

In an effort to reduce utility expenses, the Chancery will move to a 4-day work week until the end of summer. The staff will be extending their workdays Monday-Thursday to serve the needs of the Diocese.



THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 18, 2023

In Matthew's gospel, Jesus presented a need for ministers and empowered his Apostles to serve others. When Jesus saw the crowds, He felt sorry for them. They were worried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest is abundant, but the laborers are few. Beg the Lord of the harvest to send workers into his harvest!"

Matthew used harvest imagery as a metaphor for the final judgment. The Messiah would gather people before God through preaching and healing. Jesus' request for prayer extended His Messiahship over His followers in their missionary efforts. As the Messiah's ministry grew through His followers, so would the numbers of believers. Implicitly, the Spirit would compel missionaries and evangelists into ministry. These people would not find rest until they found their calling.

Then, Jesus called his Twelve followers. He gave them the authority to throw evil spirits out of people and to heal every sickness. Jesus sent these Twelve out with the command: "Don't go into Gentile areas or the towns of the Samaritans. Go instead to the lost sheep, the people of Israel, and tell them: 'God's kingdom is near!' Heal the sick, raise the dead, heal people of terrible skin diseases, and throw evil spirits out of people. What you received as a gift, give as a gift."

"Jesus sent these twelve." The Greek word for "apostle" is "one being sent." So, Matthew had a play on words with the verb "sent." To add the noun "Apostles" after the "twelve" would have been redundant in Greek.

Many different nationalities settled Galilee, some Jewish, some Greek and Roman, some Samaritan. Each group lived separately in their own hamlet or town. But, because the area mixed so many groups together, one could not conduct business or trade without contacting people from other groups.

Jesus wanted His Apostles to serve Galilean Jews with the Good News and healing. Their ministry, like that of Jesus, would concentrate on the "house of Israel," the common people. Notice Matthew used the image of the lost sheep. Jesus expected the Apostles to have the same success as He did.

Matthew listed particular signs of Messianic times: healing, raising the dead, cleansing lepers, and exorcisms. Signs that only the great prophets performed would become common place and they would be freely given. Like the forgiveness of sin, all other signs of the Kingdom were grace. This placed the Kingdom itself outside the economic and social systems of the day, yet, directly in the lives of the people.

Catechism Themes: Grace and Merit (CCC 2006-2011)

In the time of Jesus, people practiced hospitality as a virtue. The stranger would be treated like a brother or sister. The visitor would have the place of honor. These people did not deserve such treatment. Society expected such freely given treatment.

The transient ministry of Jesus depended upon such hospitality. But, for such freely given accommodations, Jesus gave a greater gift, the words and the fruit of God's Kingdom. In the final analysis, what Jesus offered was so much greater than the housing and food He received.

The spirit of grace, freely given favor, stands starkly against any notion that we somehow merit or earn God's blessings. The greatness of God's blessings should cause gratitude and service, not complacency or expectation. God blesses because He chooses to bless. He offers healing and wholeness out of love, not out of duty. He adopts us as his children; He does not force or make arrangement for one class of people or another. If we merit anything on our own, that merit will be microscopic compared to God's love and grace.

God's freely given gifts, however, must be used with care, with responsibility. Exercised wisely, they can bring great joy and peace in life. They can be a means to care for others. We must always remember that our good works, the things for which we take pride, ultimately find their source in Christ, not in us. And even those works, as beneficial as they may seem, will seem so small before the love of God.

The passages from Matthew's gospel present us with a challenge. Pass along grace. Jesus gave his followers this key to evangelization. And he gives us the same insight.

To convert others means to convert ourselves. To drain the world of selfishness means to give freely for others' good. Let us then give freely so we can live in a freedom that comes from God. And bring others to Christ.

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

Sept. - 24 - 9:30 am. Confirmation – Saint Henry Church
Oct. - 1, - 10:00 am. Respect Life Mass - Bishop
Oct. - 27, - 8:45 am. Diocesan Teacher in Service Day
Oct. - 29, - 12:00 pm. Women Religious celebration
Dec. - 12, - 11:00 am. Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration



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 every Monday evening in our Basilica. We ask Our Lady to guide and protect our Basilica, all visitors, and each one of us.

The Scripture Readings this Weekend

St. Paul expresses profound anguish in today's second reading for his people. He longs that they accept Christ, who is "God blessed forever," and the only hope of the human family. For every disciple, Christ is everything. Each event and decision of life, each project and plan, finds its standard, meaning, and fulfillment in him.

Yet those events, projects, plans, and the circumstances of life under which they unfold, are very much like the tempestuous behavior of nature that we see in both the first reading and the Gospel. Wind, waves, earthquakes, noise, danger, and the confusion of constant change mark many chapters of life. Yet there isn't a single chapter, nor a single moment, in which the believer cannot cling to Christ, find him present, and embrace his hand that saves them from drowning.

In all of this, we seek and cling to Christ, who gives us the strength to stand on the side of life and experience his forgiveness and strength for the battle.

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place this week in our Basilica's Chapel of the English Martyrs - on Wednesday and Friday from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. Jesus remains in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh and love us. Why not come for a visit and sit in His presence?



Deceased priests of the Diocese of Steubenville



On Monday, we remember the 6th anniversary of the death of Fr. Martin Smith. On Wednesday, we remember the 27th anniversary of the death of Msgr. Francis Baudo. On Thursday, we remember the 59th anniversary of the death of Fr. Kenneth Harris, and the 32nd anniversary of the death of Fr. George Kramer. On Saturday, we remember the 32nd anniversary of the death of Fr. Joseph Finan. We thank God for these priests who served the Church in our Diocese to the best of their ability.



"If we truly love the poor, our first contact must be with Jesus, in the Blessed Sacrament. Then it will be easy to bring our love for Jesus to the poor."

—St. Teresa of Calcutta

LITURGICAL FEASTS THIS WEEK:

Monday, June 19, Saint Romuald (Abbot)

Romuald was from Ravenna. He founded the Camaldolese Hermits, today numbering about 95 members. They urge contemplative prayer through solitude, silence and fasting. We have a foundation in our Diocese. He died in 1027.

Wednesday, June 21, Saint Aloysius Gonzaga (Religious)

Aloysius – a Jesuit scholastic died in 1591 at the age of 23 caring for the sick. He came from a princely family and renounced his inheritance and joined the Jesuits. He was strongly devoted to the Holy Eucharist, interior prayer, and charitable service. He is the patron of youth.

Thursday, June 22, Saints John Fisher & Thomas More

John Fisher was the only bishop in England who defended Church tradition and the Roman primacy against King Henry VIII. He was the Bishop of Rochester. He was beheaded on June 22, 1535. Thomas More was a humanist and chancellor of England. He refused to support King Henry VIII's divorce of Queen Catherine and his Act of Supremacy. He was beheaded on July 6, 1535. He is the patron of lawyers. Our chapel is dedicated to St. Thomas More, Saint John Fischer, and Saint Thomas Becket – English martyrs.

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, June 19,

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

Tuesday, June 20,

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

Wednesday, June 21,

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

Thursday, June 22,

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

Friday, June 23,

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

Saturday, June 24,

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

Sunday, June 25,

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

Please pray for the members of our two parishes who are ill.



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

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



June 18, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

Forgiveness Is Not Easy, but Unforgiveness Leaves us Lost. We all need to forgive, to apologize, and to be forgiven. Forgiveness is an act of the will. Forgiveness must be vibrant and active. The Gospel of Matthew tells us, "Then Peter came up and said to him, 'Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'"

Forgiveness is normally not a one-and-done kind of thing. Forgiveness always requires patience, time, consistent effort, endurance, and fortitude. God, by His grace, will elevate and empower forgiveness to unleash healing in our life.

History is full of the most unspeakable crimes to which victims responded with heroic forgiveness, offered in the name of Christ. Forgiveness means getting to a place where we genuinely desire every good thing for the offender. Genuine forgiveness seeks justice, not vengeance.

Many of us have one person in our lives whom we refuse to forgive. And one of the most frequent struggles is the struggle to forgive oneself. We need to let ourselves off the hook. When we forgive someone, we become free of the heaviness of the offence, and shift the burden to the one who offended us.

We need to remember that the Lord sees our goodness and forgives and affirms us in His love. We often feel that we are bad, but God overpowers us with the conviction of His love and forgiveness and enables us to seek reconciliation and to amend our life, and live in new freedom.

Forgiveness is not easy, but unforgiveness leaves us lost. To forgive is to set a prisoner free, and to discover that the prisoner was you.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. John M. Campbell

Pope Francis making normal progress in recovery from abdominal surgery



Pope Francis is “steadily improving” after he underwent abdominal surgery to correct an incisional hernia, a Vatican spokesman said.

According to Matteo Bruni, the pope rested during the night and on the morning of June 9 was able to eat breakfast and move from his hospital bed to an armchair. “The medical team reports that the clinical picture is steadily improving and the postoperative

progress is normal,” he said. He added that Pope Francis was able to read the newspaper and do some work.

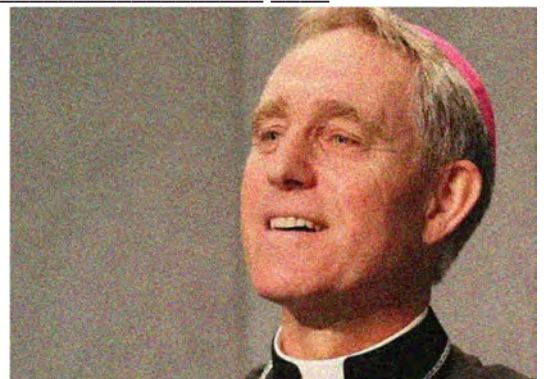
Francis underwent a three-hour surgery for an incisional hernia on June 7. A team of surgeons removed scar tissue and operated on a hernia in the pope’s abdominal wall at the site of a previous surgical incision.

Dr. Sergio Alfieri, the pope’s main surgeon, said that Francis had been experiencing increasing pain for several months due to the hernia and decided on June 6 to undergo the surgery to correct it.

He was hospitalized for four days in March for a lung infection and has also dealt this year with a recurrence of diverticulitis, a painful inflammation of bulges in the large intestine for which he was operated on in July 2021.

Gänswein ordered to leave Vatican, return to home diocese without new role

The longtime private secretary of Pope Benedict XVI has been told to return to his home diocese of Freiburg in southwest Germany but has not been given any role or assignment, the Welt newspaper reported on Friday. Pope Francis informed the 66-year-old Gänswein of his decision during a private audience on May 19.



The future role of the late Benedict’s secretary has been the subject of rumor and gossip across Rome and the Church in Germany for months. The eloquent prelate is fluent in several languages, including German and Italian. Pope Francis “referred to the custom that the former private secretaries of deceased popes did not remain in Rome.” Gänswein also served as prefect of the Papal Household to both Benedict and his successor, Pope Francis, until February 2020.

Here's what the bishops are saying about the Dodgers honoring an anti-Catholic group



Prominent Catholics and other Christians, including baseball players and bishops, continue to denounce the Los Angeles Dodgers' decision to honor an anti-Catholic drag group called the "Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence" at a game on June 16.

The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are a national drag queen group that impersonates nuns and uses Catholic religious imagery and themes in protests and sexualized performances to raise awareness and money for LGBTQ+ causes.

The performers call themselves nuns and regularly use the images of Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and women religious.

Cardinal Timothy Dolan, archbishop of New York, blasted the Dodgers' decision to honor the drag group in an episode of his talk show "The Good Newsroom" on June 2. Dolan pointed out that beloved former Dodgers who were devoutly religious such as Sandy Koufax, Tommy Lasorda, and Vin Scully would be outraged today. "Sandy Koufax, a great Dodger, there was a guy that loved religion so much he wouldn't pitch on Yom Kippur," Dolan said. "Now the Dodgers ... are honoring this viciously anti-Catholic group."

"We here in New York are well aware of them," Dolan said of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. "These are the ones that spit on Cardinal John O'Connor, these are the ones that threatened to desecrate the holy Eucharist, these are the ones who exposed themselves in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral. We're well aware of their antics. This isn't some benevolent, humorous group. You shouldn't do this to any group," Dolan added. "Why is the only group that they feel free to attack Catholics?"

Archbishop Jose Gomez of Los Angeles, the archbishop of the city in which the anti-Catholic group is being honored, called on Catholics and people of goodwill to "stand against hate in any form."

Pope Francis explains why Catholics make the sign of the cross

Each time that a Catholic makes the sign of the cross, it is a reminder that God is a communion of love, Pope Francis said Sunday. The pope highlighted how the simple gesture that Catholics are taught as children is a sign of the central mystery of Christian faith. "By tracing the cross on our body, we remind ourselves how much God loved us, to the point of giving his life for us; and we repeat to ourselves that His love envelopes us completely, from top to bottom, from left to right, like an embrace that never abandons us," Pope Francis said. "God is a communion of love: This is how Jesus revealed him to us," Francis added. God is love. God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and he gave his life for us, so we make the sign of the cross," he said. The tradition of making the sign of the cross dates back much further. St. Basil (329–379) wrote that the Apostles "taught us to mark with the sign of the cross those who put their hope in the Lord."

Catholic pilgrim goes viral as 'backpack hero' after stopping mass stabbing

A 24-year-old Catholic Frenchman named Henri went viral Thursday as the "backpack hero" after he stopped a potentially deadly knife attack at a playground in southeastern France by chasing away the attacker with a backpack.

The perpetrator, only partially identified by French authorities as Abdalmasih H., is a 31-year-old Syrian refugee. On June 8 he unleashed a sudden stabbing attack on children and adults at a playground in the town of Annecy. Two adults, men over 70, and four children, all 3 years old and younger, were seriously injured and later hospitalized due to the attack.

Henri, who did not give his last name to the media, told reporters he was in the town of Annecy as part of a nine-month pilgrimage to visit France's cathedrals on foot. When he saw the attack begin to unfold, Henri sprang into action. "That's when your brain turns off and you act like an animal, by instinct," Henri told reporters. "I didn't even think."

Henri told reporters that a city employee with a shovel joined his efforts and assisted him in drawing the attacker away from the children. Abdalmasih was subsequently arrested by French authorities.

Henri has since been widely hailed as a hero for disregarding his own safety in his attempt to stop the attacker. French media believes he most likely prevented the injury or even deaths of many more children and adults at the park.

French President Emmanuel Macron, who visited the victims in the hospital, called the attack on the children "the most barbaric act possible" and expressed his "gratitude and pride" to those who responded, including Henri.

TODAY IS FATHER'S DAY

Happy Father's Day

Today is Father's Day. It is a holiday honoring our fathers. We celebrated the day in the United States on the third Sunday in June. It was first celebrated on June 19, 1910, in the ... It celebrates the contribution that fathers and father figures make for their wives and children.

On this Father's Day, Jesus summons each of you fathers to give yourselves to your wife and children as Jesus gave Himself on the cross.

It's not easy to be a father these days – so much is expected of fathers., but an important fact to remember is that a father's influence remains with us for our entire lifetime. In this day and age, when we need heroes to look up to, a good father is one of the most unsung, unappreciated, unnoticed, and unappreciated hero's in all mankind. Today, tell him that you love him and how much he means to you. Tell him now, because tomorrow, it might be too late.