

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



November 12, 2003

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sat	5:30 PM	- James & Frances Mike
Sun	8:00 AM	- Liv/dec'd of the Roger Bradley Family
	10:00 AM	- Ancient Order of Hibernians, Memorial Mass
	12:00 PM	- People of the Parish
Mon	7:45 AM	- David Erb
	12:05 PM	- Marty Murray
Tue	7:45 AM	- Louise Mayer, 30 th Anniversary
	12:05 PM	- Robert Heiss
Wed	7:45 AM	- Shirley Oliver Stollar
	12:05 PM	- Harry Way
Thu	7:45 AM	- Liv/dec'd of the Richard & Clare Kremer Family
	12:05 PM	- Richard Gillon
Fri	7:45 AM	- Liv/dec'd of the Dale Spindler Family
	12:05 PM	- Edgar Walters
Sat	9:00 AM	- Charles & Marie Rose
	10:00 AM	- Funeral Mass – Bill Hathaway
	5:30 PM	- Ethel A. Morrison
Sun	8:00 AM	- People of the Parish
	10:00 AM	- Bob & Betty Boersma, 44 th Wedding Anniversary
	12:00 PM	- Mike Kern Jubilee of Marriage Anniversaries

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 - Rusty Nesmith (304) 488-1167

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

Stay awake and be ready! For you do not know on what day your Lord will come.

OUR BELOVED DEAD:

Bill Hathaway, a former parishioner, passed away, October 25th, in Crosby, TX. His Funeral Mass will be celebrated here at the Basilica Saturday, November 18th at 10:00 AM. We offer our condolences to his wife, Nancy and their family. May Bill rest in peace.

Karen Kuba died November 1st after a cancer diagnosis. She was buried from St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Bradenville, PA. We extend our sympathy to her family, especially her husband, Dennis who will miss her most of all. God grant Karen eternal peace.

Lloyd Crum passed away November 2nd. We celebrated his entrance into eternal life at his Funeral Mass this past Tuesday morning. We extend our deepest sympathy to his wife, Rita, and their family. May God now welcome Lloyd into heaven and grant him peace.

Leora Arnold died November 6th. Her Funeral Mass was celebrated Friday morning. We offer our condolences to the Arnold Family and will remember Leora in our prayers. May she now enjoy eternal peace and happiness in heaven, her eternal home.

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

TODAY	8:45 AM	-	9:45 AM – CCD Classes in the Basilica Social Hall.
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	-	Parish Advisory Committee Meeting in the Basilica Social Hall.
WED	8:15 AM	-	7:00 PM – Eucharistic Adoration in the Chapel of the English Martyrs.
FRI	8:15 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: \$ 19,199.00

Second collection for maintenance
of our Basilica: \$ 2,701.20

God bless those who support our Basilica Parish!

ONLINE GIVING

Online giving is available at the Basilica. For more information, please visit this website:

<http://www.stmarysmarietta.org> and go to the left side of the web page. Click on the GIVE ONLINE button to see more information or to sign up.

BASILICA FOUNDATION

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

DAILY BREAD KITCHEN

Each month since January 2023, The Daily Bread Kitchen has provided 300 meals weekly to those in need in our community. Expenses have been commensurate with increased numbers and rising costs of food and supplies. Once again, we ask 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.

CEMETERY COLLECTION

Each year, during the months of May and November, we have a collection for the care and upkeep of our two parish cemeteries. Envelopes were provided with your packet and may be put in the collection or mailed to the parish office.

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWS

Holiday Pie Sale: We are partnering with St. Mary alumnus, Jim Goeller and Hucks Farm Market for a Thanksgiving Pie Sale. A variety of pies are for sale for \$15, and with each sale, our school will benefit.

DEADLINE to Pre-Order Desserts is Sunday, November 12th.

Payment is due at the time of order. We accept cash or checks. Please make all checks out to Huck’s Farm Market.

Please contact Teresa Tokodi Domico at 740-516-8322.

Congratulations to the Holiday Cash Raffle winners that were drawn at the Veterans Day Assembly on November 8th. Winners will be notified by Mrs. Bradley to arrange pick up for their cash prizes! Thank you for your support of the St. Mary Catholic School Fall Festival event. Winners are: 5th prize: \$100 – Anna Huck; 4th prize: \$250 – Barb Huffman; 3rd prize: \$500 – Tonya Booth; 2nd Prize: \$750 – Tim Simmons; 1st prize: \$1,000 – Ed & Barb Paxton.

Look for a flyer in today’s bulletin about the Catholic School Breakfast with Santa event scheduled for Saturday, December 9th. All are welcome!

St. Mary Catholic School is gearing up for one of the students most favorite event of the year, SANTA SHOP. Donations for the Santa Shop can be dropped off at the alley street doors during school hours. We take any new or gently used items that can be sold in our shop for the students to purchase for \$1.00. Please, no pillows, stuffed animals or well-loved items. Santa Shop is scheduled at the school the week of December 11th.

CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

The Annual Campaign for Human Development will be taken up at all Masses next weekend. Envelopes were provided with your packet. Please be generous.

CWC CHRISTMAS COOKIE WALK

Sunday, December 10th

Catholic Woman's Club Annual Christmas cookie sale will be in the Basilica Social Hall after all Masses on Sunday, December 10th. Walk from table to table gathering your favorite cookies, and then pay \$8.00 per pound for your selection. 100% of the proceeds will go toward purchasing blankets for the homeless of Washington County.

Many cookies are needed for this fundraiser. If you are able to donate, please call 740-350-0019, or sign up on the Basilica registers. Cookies are brought to the social hall anytime on Saturday, December 9th.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS BOOKS

Thanks to a generous donation, the Basilica library now has books available for the Christmas season. The children's shelves are to the bottom right when you enter the library. We now have various bundles of children's books that can be purchased for our library.

If you are interested in making a donation or purchasing books, contact Debbie Lazorik at 740-434-3769 or lazorik@marietta.edu or Leanne Cooper at 740-774-0342.

2023 BASILICA ORNAMENTS

This year's beautiful, quality crafted ornament is in velvet red, and features the Nativity scene from our Basilica. The flat disc measures 3 inches in diameter with a prayer in gold lettering on the reverse side. Cost is \$8.00 (includes tax). The ornament is displayed on the parking lot side registry.

Place this order form in the collection marked ornament. Checks should be made payable to Divine Mercy Gift Shop. Credit/debit cards can be used in the gift shop.

ORDER FORM

Name _____

Phone number _____

of Ornaments x \$8.00 _____

Money enclosed _____

BASILICA BOOK CLUB NEWS

The November book is **Gold in These Hills** by Joann Bischof. Due to Thanksgiving our next meeting will be **Wednesday, November 29th at 6:00 PM in the Basilica Social Hall**. Snacks and drinks will be provided. All are welcome! You do not have to read the book to join in. Books are available to check out in the library. For more information contact Debbie Lazorik at 740-434-3769 or lazorikd@marietta.edu.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP

A Young Adult Group will be starting on January 8th, 2024. If interested contact Leslie Lupardus at 740-885-9378 for more details.

PRE-CANA

A Pre-Canan Session is scheduled here at the Basilica on Saturday, March 9th, 2024. Couples planning marriage next year should register for this session by calling the Parish Office, 740-373-3643. Pre-Canan is a requirement for marriage in the Diocese of Steubenville.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE SERVICE

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

ST. JOHN SCHOOL GALA

St. John Central School Gala Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, November 18th at the Churchtown K of C Hall. This year's theme is "Casino Night". Tickets are \$100 each (admit 2 people), and include entry in the drawing (over \$3,500 in prizes). There will be heavy hors 'd oeuvres by Big Food Little Kitchen and our exciting Live Auction! Please contact Kristin at (304) 989-0729 or Brandy Pottmeyer at (304)533-4803 for tickets.

K of C ESSAY CONTEST

Knights of Columbus is sponsoring an essay contest. In 500-750 words, the student will write on the subject: How can the Church evangelize in the digital age? Participants must be in 8th -12th grade. The submission deadline is 11/15/23. The winner will receive a \$100.00 check from the K of C with a chance for district and state recognition awards. For an entry form and information, contact Vince Stollar, Community Director, vstollar@suddenlink.net.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND OF November 18th & 19th

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Lectors

Altar Servers

Sat: Tammi Bradley (CAPT)
5:30 Irene Cain (HOST)
Tony Huffman (HOST) (swap req.)
Jean Tornes (CHALICE)
Amy Brockett (CHALICE)

Tina Thomas

Connor Bichard
Nathan Soffian
Karter Lankford

Sun: Suzanne Baker (CAPT)
8:00 Marcia McCabe (HOST)
Patti Finkel (HOST)
Nancy Funk (CHALICE)
Sharon Loken (CHALICE)

Dave Cech

Joe Flaherty
David Baker
Kenny Offenberger
Jerry Huck

10:00 Ken Masselli (CAPT)
Joel Erb (HOST)
Cathy Harper (HOST)
Cathy Rauch (CHALICE)
Gerald Cooke (CHALICE)

Stan Vanlandingham

Bryson Black
Elijah Erb
Griffin Erb
Owen Krason (swap req.)
Liam Long (swap req.)
Benedict Parlin (swap req.)

12:00 Jeanette Flowers (CAPT)
Lisa Taylor (HOST)
Sandy Bickert (HOST)
Dennis Nau (CHALICE)
Cheyenne Greenwood (CHALICE)

Sherry Hill

Anthony Discini
Jonathan Schmidt (swap req.)
Dominic Spencer

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ANNUAL FOOD BASKET COLLECTION

St. Mary's St. Vincent de Paul Society is asking for non-perishable food donations to support our Christmas Basket Share Campaign. This will serve those in our area that need assistance with basic food items. Our mission is to help those in need of food during the Christmas season.

Please place food items (canned goods, peanut butter, mac & cheese or any non-perishables) in the boxes located at the Basilica entrances and downstairs outside the Music Room. We will be collecting donations from November 11th through December 10th, and the food baskets will be distributed Thursday, December 21st.

Thank you for helping us in our mission of charity.

The St. Vincent de Paul Society

COME CELEBRATE WITH US!

(All Women are Invited)

Join us on Wednesday evening December 6th for a complimentary Christmas Dinner. All women of the parish are members of the CWC, and all are invited.

The evening will begin with Mass at 6:00 pm, followed with dinner in the social hall. Come and enjoy good food, fellowship and meet our new officers. Take time to thank the outgoing women for their many years of dedication to our parish. Reservations are required. Please place the form in the collection basket marked CWC, or sign up on the registers.

RSVP

Name: _____

Number of Reservations _____



THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 12, 2023

Jesus told his disciples the following parable: "Then, the kingdom of heaven is like ten virgins who, having taken their own lamps, went out to meet with the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, took their lamps, but they did not take extra oil with them. But the wise took additional oil in containers with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was delayed, all the virgins became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, the cry was heard: "Look! The bridegroom! Come and out to a meet him", then, all the virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out." But the wise answered, "No. There might not be enough for us and for you. Go, instead, to the oil dealers and buy it for yourselves." While they went, however, to buy oil, the bridegroom and those ready went with him into the wedding hall and the door was locked. Later, the remaining virgins arrived, saying, "Lord, Lord! Open up for us!" He, however, having answered, said "Amen, I say to you. I do not know you." Be alert, then, because you do not know the day or the hour."

This parable is part of a greater discourse on the end times. The moral of the parable is the same: be prepared. Jesus used the marriage custom familiar with his contemporaries. The wedding festivities began at the bride's house. Late in the evening, the groom would arrive to escort the bride to his father's house. Last minute haggling between the groom and his father-in-law over the dowery was commonplace. Such haggling symbolized the esteemed value of the bride, but many times delayed the wedding.

The virgins in the parable were most likely cousins or sisters of the groom. As the welcoming party for the groom's family, they would alert others about the groom's impending arrival. Their lamps were fueled by oil. Since the lamps were small, they needed constant maintenance with additional oil and adjustment of the wick. The lamps could be set low for rest time and readjusted for greater light when needed.

In Matthew, Jesus connected the image of the wedding feast to God's Kingdom. In the parable, the groom was the Christ. The town crier was the evangelist who proclaimed the coming King in the marketplace. The night represented the dark times of persecution prophesied before the final judgment. All the signs pointed toward the lived experience of Matthew's audience: a Jewish-Christian community awaiting Jesus' return.

The two most interesting symbols were the ten virgins with their lamps. The virgins were Christians longing for the Christ, the bridegroom. The lamps represented the disciple's example which gave light to the world. The extra oil became the faith which fueled the follower's example during the delay. Lazy Christians (like the foolish virgins) were those who did not renew their faith and allowed their example to slack. They depended on others for motivation. Their ears were dull to the call of the Lord, and they would not be permitted to enter the banquet hall. They would stand outside calling upon a Lord who did not know them, because they did not get to know the Lord. Preparation meant more than declaring one's self a follower. It meant a constant and growing relationship with Christ through prayer and action.



Deceased Priests of our Diocese

On Tuesday, we remember the 16th anniversary of the death of Fr. John Galea. On Thursday, we remember the 46th anniversary of the death of Fr. Mitchell Wilamowski, and the 10th anniversary of the death of Msgr. James Nugent. On Friday, we remember the 45th anniversary of the death of Fr. Constantine Superfisky. On Saturday, we remember the 62nd anniversary of the death of Msgr. Joseph Dooley. May these priests rest in the peace of the Risen Lord.

LITURGICAL FEASTS THIS WEEK

Monday, November 13, Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini (Virgin)

Frances was the youngest of 13 children. She was born in Lombardy. She founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. She labored for 28 years in the United States and South America. She established 67 institutions (schools, hospitals, and orphanages). She is the first American citizen to be canonized a saint. She died in Chicago on December 22, 1917.

Wednesday, November 15, Saint Albert the Great (Bishop)

Albert was a Dominican. He was a master of philosophy, theology, and natural sciences. He was the Provincial of the German Dominicans, and became the bishop of Regensburg. He died in 1280.

Thursday, November 16, Saint Margaret of Scotland

Margaret was the wife of King Malcom III of Scotland and the mother of eight children. She helped root out paganism, and had a great love of the poor. She died in 1093.

Friday, November 17, Saint Elizabeth of Hungary (Religious)

Elizabeth was the wife of Louis IV and the mother of three children. As a widow, she became a Franciscan tertiary and was dedicated to the poor and sick. She died in 1231.

Saturday, November 18, The Dedication of the Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul



About 339, Constantine built a basilica over the tomb of Peter. Reconstruction began in the 14th century, and the basilica of St. Peter was consecrated on Nov 18, 1626 by Pope Urban VIII. The construction of Saint Paul was begun by Valentinian in 316. Destroyed by a fire in 1823, the new basilica was consecrated on December 10, 1854 by Pope Pius IX, who joined in one solemn celebration the dedication of these two basilicas.

Perpetual Help Devotions

Perpetual Help devotions will be celebrated this Monday evening at 6:15 pm. Basilicas have a particular devotion. Since our basilica is dedicated to Mary, it is obvious that we offer devotions related to her.

PRAY FOR PEACE IN ISRAEL, GAZA, AND THE ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST

SPECIAL EVENTS AND PILGRIMAGES TO THE BASILICA

Nov. - 19, - 12:00 pm. Diocesan Marriage Anniversary Mass
Nov. - 30, - 7:00 pm. First Confession
Dec. - 2, - 1:00 pm. St. Henry CWC Christmas lunch (Da Vinci's)
Dec. - 3, - 7:00 pm. Handel's Messiah
Dec. - 12, - 11:00 am. Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration (Bishop Bradley)
Dec. - 13, - 7:00 pm. Advent Penance Service
Dec. - 17, - 6:00 pm. Basilica & St. Henry Christmas Appreciation Dinner & Tree lighting Vespers
Apr. - 28, - 2:00 pm. Confirmation with Bishop Bradley

MEETINGS, EVENTS, AND MASSES FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, November 13,

7:45 am. - Mass
9:15 am. - School Mass (Grade 7&8)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions
7:00 pm. - RCIA

Tuesday, November 14,

8:25 am. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:15 am. - School Mass (Grade 2)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:30 pm. - Grief Support Meeting

Wednesday, November 15,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
9:15 am. - School Mass (Grades 3 & 4)
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursday, November 16,

7:45 am. - Mass
9:15 am. - School Mass (Grade 5 & 6)
12:05 pm. - Mass

Friday, November 17,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:25 am. - Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:45 pm. - Reposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Saturday, November 18,

9:00 am. - Mass
10:00 am. - Funeral Mass -Bill Hathaway,
3:30 s pm. - Confessions
5:30 pm - Mass

Sunday, November 19,

8:00 am. - Mass
9:30 am. - Mass – Saint Henry
10:00 am. - Mass
12:00 pm. - Mass - Bishop Bradley

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

On Wednesday and Friday, Solemn Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place at the Basilica, in the Chapel of the English Martyrs from 8:15 am. until 7:00 pm. Jesus is waiting for us! As we look at the condition of the present culture and the world, there is no greater need for Adoration as there is today. Only the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament can give us hope and change the world in which we live. Come to the Basilica and speak personally with the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament asking Him for mercy on us and on the whole world.



THE BASILICA OF SAINT MARY

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



November 12, 2023

Dear Parishioners,

The Gospel is clear. Our Lord described an incident that happened or could have happened at a wedding festival in order to bring home to his listeners the need for being vigilant and ready in His service if they wish to avoid being excluded from the heaven on the last day.

The ten bridesmaids, or maidens, in the parable represent all Christians. On receiving the sacrament of baptism, the Christian starts on the road to heaven; he gets his invitation to the House of the Father, but this is only the beginning. From the moment he comes to the use of reason he is expected to prepare himself, by living according to the law of God, for the moment when he will meet the Lord. This moment will be, first, at the hour of death for each individual when each one's eternal fate will be decided, and again at the general judgment of the human race. During their lifetime all are invited to the heavenly wedding, and all have the necessary means to get ready. But, like the foolish bridesmaids, many will fail to make use of these means and will realize their folly when it is too late. A certain number of those for whom Christ died on the cross, and to whom he gave the gift of his revelation and offered all the helps they needed, will never reach heaven because they exchanged their heavenly birthright for some worldly desire. The foolish bridesmaids in the parable lost a golden opportunity, and we can all sympathize with them up to a point, but the thoughts of very few will turn to the bride and groom who were so seriously insulted by this act of negligence on the part of chosen friends.

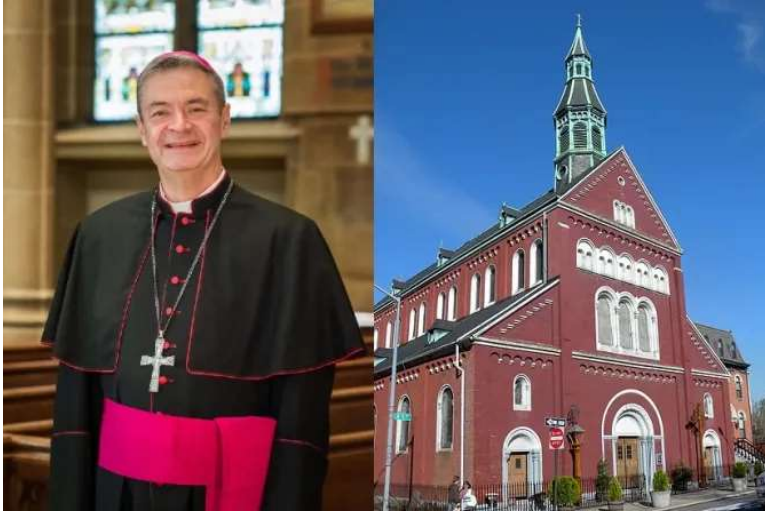
So too, every Christian lost, is a serious insult to the God who created and redeemed him. We Christians have received the fullness of God's revelation, and have been offered a special place in His marriage festival; we have received a privileged invitation not given to others. Is it not a serious and deliberate insult to God not to comply with the conditions of that generous offer?

Providing themselves with oil was the obligation imposed on the bridesmaids in the parable. It was surely a trivial condition when compared with the reward offered them. The obligations imposed on us Christians are trivial when compared with the reward offered us in return: an eternity of happiness in heaven. Each one must stand before the judge just as he or she is, and there can be no borrowing of the oil of merit from others and there will be no time to buy any. Now is the time for all of us to say "Lord, Lord, open to us." It is up to us now to decide, aided by God's grace, where we shall be found on the last day—with the wise bridesmaids or with the foolish.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. John M. Campbell
(Rector)

Brooklyn bishop 'appalled' over music video shot in Catholic church, will investigate



Brooklyn Bishop Robert Brennan said he is “appalled” that a church in his diocese was used to shoot a provocative music video, released Oct. 31, 2023, with the prelate set to investigate why the more-than-100-year-old Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church permitted the controversial video to be recorded on its property.

A newly released music video by pop musician Sabrina Carpenter showed the

American-born singer dancing provocatively on the altar at the historic 19th-century Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Brooklyn. The Oct. 31 music video of the song “Feather,” which has amassed more than 2 million views on YouTube, included scenes shot both inside and outside the church. Carpenter appeared at one point in the video with no pants while profane decorations lay atop and around the altar. The video depicted several men fighting over the singer and eventually killing each other over her; their funeral coffins appear to end up in the Catholic church in the video.

A Nov. 2 statement from the Diocese of Brooklyn said that Bishop Brennan “is appalled at what was filmed at Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Brooklyn. The parish did not follow diocesan policy regarding the filming on Church property, which includes a review of the scenes and script,” the statement said.

The parish reportedly told the diocese that the production company “failed to accurately represent the video content,” with the diocese adding that Brennan “is taking this matter seriously and will be looking into it further.”

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary parish was established in 1863, according to the New York City chapter of the American Guild of Organists. For more than 100 years the church has been a home to Lithuanian Catholics, according to the Tablet, the diocesan newspaper.

In 2022 the church welcomed Lithuanian President Gitanas Nausėda, where the leader pledged his country’s support for its southern neighbor Ukraine in the war that Russia had launched earlier that year.

Other articles from the Tablet show that the church has hosted other Lithuanian leaders such as Archbishop Gintaras Grušas of Vilnius in 2019 and the former head of state Vytautas Landsbergis in 2017.

Annunciation is the only church in the New York metropolitan area that offers a weekly Sunday Mass in Lithuanian.

Pope Francis: Like Benedict XVI, Be 'Humble Laborers' for the Church



Pope Francis presided on Friday morning at a Mass of intercession for the repose of the souls of Pope Benedict XVI and the six cardinals and 147 bishops and archbishops of the Catholic Church who died since November 2022.

Pope Francis prayed for the repose of the souls of Pope Benedict XVI and the cardinals and bishops who died in the past year during a Mass in St. Peter's Basilica on Nov. 3, 2023.

At a Mass for Pope Benedict XVI and deceased cardinals and bishops on Friday, Pope Francis urged Christians, especially pastors, to be the humble servants of others. "I like to recall the very first words with which Pope Benedict described himself following his election: 'a humble laborer in the vineyard of the Lord,'" the Pope said in St. Peter's Basilica on Nov. 3. "Indeed, Christians, especially the pope, the cardinals and the bishops, are called to be humble laborers: to serve, not to be served and to put the fruits of the Lord's vineyard before their advantage," he added. "What a fine thing it is to renounce ourselves for the Church of Jesus!"

"Let us pray for our beloved deceased brethren," Pope Francis said in his homily. "Their hearts were pastoral, compassionate and humble, for the Lord was the center of their lives. In him may they find eternal peace." The Mass for deceased cardinals and bishops is celebrated every year at the Vatican during the week of All Saints' and All Souls' Days.

In his homily, Pope Francis reflected at length on the virtue of Christian humility, which he said "is not simply one virtue among others, but the basic disposition of life: believing ourselves to be in need of God, making room for him and putting all our trust in him. It is the humble, the poor in spirit, who reveal to us the 'littleness' so pleasing to the Lord, the path that leads to heaven. God seeks the humble, those who hope in him and not in themselves and their own plans," the Pope said.

"God loves humility," he added, "because it permits Him to interact with us. Even more, God loves humility because He himself is humble. He comes down to us; He lowers himself; He does not impose himself; he makes room for us."

"Jesus, as today's Gospel shows, halts before the tragedy of death," the Pope explained. "Here we see our God, whose divinity shines forth in contact with our sorrow and grief, for His is a heart full of compassion."

When Jesus raised the son of the widow of Niane, the gift of life overcame death, through the compassion of the Lord, who was moved by death - the greatest cause of our suffering. How important it is to communicate that same look of compassion to all those who grieve for the death of their loved ones," Francis said.

Our Lady of Guadalupe statue untouched by Hurricane Otis' in Mexico

A statue of Our Lady of Guadalupe, including a cloth mantle, was left intact amid the devastation caused by Hurricane Otis, which struck the coastal city of Acapulco and other areas of the Mexican state of Guerrero last week with wind gusts of up to 200 miles per hour. The Category 5 hurricane, which made landfall near Acapulco, left at least 46 dead and serious damage to hotels, homes, and businesses throughout the state.

La Quebrada is a 148-foot-high cliff on the shores of the Pacific in Acapulco. Since 1934, young divers have leapt from the height to plunge into a channel 23 feet wide and 13 feet deep, a very popular spectacle among tourists. Before each jump, the divers cross themselves and commend themselves to the Virgin of Guadalupe, whose image was installed at the location.

A reporter recently discovered that the small statue placed in the grotto had not suffered any damage during the passage of Hurricane Otis. The only damage observed from the storm, which had winds exceeding 185 miles per hour, was to some of the lights that adorned the image. "It's truly a beautiful thing," the reporter said in a video posted Nov. 1.

The Vicar General of the archdiocese said: "The Virgin Mary is the mother of hope. In this difficult moment, she encourages us to hold firm the hope that springs from our faith in Jesus Christ Our Lord, to feel accompanied by her and her son, her Jesus." The priest also stressed that the presence of holy Mary, "as mother," helps us experience "the consolation and closeness of God, who consoles us and helps us."

Cardinal Dolan condemns religious hatred, urges people to 'stand courageously for peace'

New York Archbishop Cardinal Timothy Dolan this week condemned "outbreaks of religious hatred" in the United States amid the ongoing Israel-Hamas war, urging repentance on the part of offenders and for "people of goodwill" to "stand courageously for peace."

"In recent days here in America, where for hundreds of years many have sought refuge from religious persecution, we have seen outbreaks of religious hatred that shock the conscience," Dolan said. The cardinal made reference to the October stabbing of a 6-year-old Muslim boy in Chicago. Officials said that killing came about after the landlord of the boy's family targeted them specifically because they were Muslim. Dolan said it was "especially disheartening" to learn that the accused killer in that incident "reportedly identifies as Catholic."

"Nothing could be more antithetical to our Church's teachings than this man's alleged crime," Dolan said. "And as countless voices celebrate the brutal terrorist attacks of Oct. 7, our Jewish brothers and sisters reasonably fear for their lives." The weeks following the Oct. 7 Hamas attacks against Israel, in which the terrorist group killed more than 1,300 Israelis and Israel in turn declared war on Hamas, have seen reports of increased antisemitism incidents throughout the world and the United States. "In the face of such base hatred, we must affirm certain fundamental truths," Dolan said. "Every human life is of equally incalculable worth. Hating your neighbors is a grave sin against God, who created us all in his image and likeness. Violence only begets more violence, not justice," the cardinal said.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops



The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops will gather for the 2023 Fall Plenary Assembly in Baltimore, November 13-16. Throughout the meeting, the bishops will spend time in prayer and fraternal dialogue with one another. Public sessions of the assembly on November 14 and 15 will be livestreamed.

The plenary will begin with an address by the Papal Nuncio to the United States, Cardinal Christophe Pierre. The bishops will hear from Archbishop Timothy P. Broglio of the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA, president of the USCCB.

While the meeting agenda has not been finalized and therefore is subject to change, the bishops are anticipating a full schedule that includes a number of items: updates on the 2021-2024 Synod of Bishops, the U.S. bishops' Eucharistic revival initiative and national congress, the Institute on the Catechism, the merging of dioceses, and the recently-launched mental health campaign; a consultation of the bishops on the cause of beatification and canonization of Servant of God Isaac Thomas Hecker, priest and founder of the Missionary Society of Saint Paul the Apostle (the Paulist Fathers); and a consultation of the bishops to support the request of the bishops' conference of England and Wales asking the Holy Father to name Saint John Henry Newman a Doctor of the Church; a vote on the USCCB's 2024 budget; and a discussion and consideration of the reauthorization of the USCCB's Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism.

The bishops are expected to discuss and vote on several action items including: a new introductory note and materials supporting *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the bishops' teaching document on the political responsibility of Catholics; the approval of a framework for indigenous ministry; a number of action items pertaining to liturgical texts from the Committee on Divine Worship; and replacing the current USCCB Strategic Plan cycle with a newly-proposed Mission Planning process. During the assembly, the bishops will vote for the new Conference secretary, as well as chairmen-elect of six Conference committees. The terms for the bishops elected for committee chairmen will serve for one year as chairman-elect before beginning a three-year term at the conclusion of the 2024 Fall Plenary Assembly.

Those wishing to follow the meeting on social media are invited to use the hashtag #USCCB23 and follow on X, formerly known as Twitter (@USCCB), as well as on Facebook (www.facebook.com/usccb) and Instagram (<https://instagram.com/usccb>).

BASILICA CHURCH ROOF

As you know, the basilica roof must be replaced. Bid packages have been sent out to several companies. The project will be expensive. Once the bids have been returned, we will seek permission from the Diocese to begin the project. If you are seeking a place to donate money for tax purposes, our project provides a wonderful opportunity.