



CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD THE CONFESSOR

Pastor

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes

Deacon

Rev. Mr. John Barbour



COME NOW, KING OF HEROES! DO NOT
DELAY TOO LONG! WE HAVE NEED
OF MERCIES! THAT YOU WILL FREE US!

**Parish Office
Fax**

**740-587-3254
740-587-0149**

Office Business Manager

Pushkar Baum
church@saintedwards.org

Office Staff

Maggie Barno
maggie@saintedwards.org

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sdantzer@saintedwards.org

Diane Fitzpatrick
dfitzpatrick@saintedwards.org

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Paul Radkowski 740-587-3254
music@saintedwards.org

Director of Parish School of Religion

Rebecca Bucknam 740-587-4160
reled@saintedwards.org

PSR Staff

Greg Lombardo 740-587-4160
psr@saintedwards.org

**Rite Of Christian Initiation
of Adults/R.C.I.A.**

Dcn. John Barbour, Director 740-366-4124
barfamilybour@yahoo.com

Youth Minister

Steven Arias 740-587-3254
youth@saintedwards.org

Preschool Director

Adrienne Evans 740-587-3275
preschool@saintedwards.org

Baptisms

Contact Parish Office 740-587-3254

Marriage Preparation Inventory Program

Dcn. John & Cindy Barbour 740-366-4124
barfamilybour@yahoo.com

Knights of Columbus

Jim Gremling 614-668-1419
jim.gremling@gmail.com

Respect Life Committee

John Koenig 740-587-0720
koenigj@alink.com

Parish Council

John Martin 614-403-0567
jfm225@gmail.com

Senior Visits Ministry

Cheri Spoo
spooel53@outlook.com

Eucharistic Adoration

Julie Kunsman
julie.kunsman@gmail.com

Mass Schedule

Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 8:15 & 10:45 a.m.

Holy Day Mass Schedule

TBA in bulletin

Weekday Mass Schedule

Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m.

Confessions

Saturday 4:00-4:30 p.m.

Bulletin Submission Deadline

Monday Noon

maggie@saintedwards.org

Prayer Chain

Cindy Kendrick
cck1@att.net

740-366-2871

Maintenance

Floyd Lahmon



MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK

Sunday, September 17 – 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Edward Parish

10:45 a.m. Tatla Dager (RIP) by Chuck & Terri Cera

Monday, September 18

9:00 a.m. Howard Varley (RIP) by Nancy Zeller

Tuesday, September 19 – St. Januarius, Bishop & Martyr

9:00 a.m. Lois Stammen (RIP) by Connie Bremer

Wednesday, September 20 – Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest, & Paul Chong Ha-sang, Companions & Martyrs

9:00 a.m. Coleman Family by Mark & Paula Coleman

Thursday, September 21 – St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist

9:00 a.m. Robert Lamb (RIP) by Karen Hayes

Friday, September 22

9:00 a.m. Raymond Thomas (RIP) by Bill & Cindy Kendrick

Saturday, September 23 – St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest

5:00 p.m. Observance of Wedding Anniversary of Joe (RIP)
& Cecilia Bodine by Cecilia Bodine

Sunday, September 24 – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8:15 a.m. Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Edward Parish

10:45 a.m. Catherine Wesdock Test (RIP) by Catherine Dollard Burczak

From Fr. Tim: I invite you to pray as I bow toward the congregation:

“Lord, give him the homily You want me to hear. Give me the ears to hear it, the heart to receive it, and the grace to put it into practice in my life.”

24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 – YEAR A

PRELUDE

8:15 & 10:45 a.m. (Val Matula, organist): Rhosymedre, from “Three Preludes Founded on Welsh Hymn Tunes” (Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958, arr. Robert Lau)

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING: Praise the Lord, Ye Heavens (#569)

GLORIA: A New Mass for Congregations (text: inside front cover or p. 6)

LITURGY OF THE WORD

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Ps. 103: The Lord is kind and merciful... (p. 199)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. (p. 199)

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

PREP. OF GIFTS: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow (#212)

EUCCHARISTIC ACCLAMATIONS: Land of Rest Mass

LAMB OF GOD: Holy Cross Mass

COMMUNION: O Sacrament Most Holy (#334)

COMMUNION 2: Forgive and You Will Be Forgiven (Psallité)

CONCLUDING RITE

CLOSING: Alleluia! Sing to Jesus (#732)

POSTLUDE

From Quattro versi in fa maggiore (D. Zipoli, 1688-1726)

CANTORS

5:00 p.m.: TBD

8:15 a.m.: Randy Kerr

10:45 a.m.: Sandy Wolfe

NOTES FROM THE LOFT

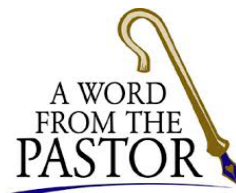
♪ Today's Communion hymn – “O Sacrament Most Holy” – brings together elements from the Church in the United States, Italy, and Germany. First published in 1958, its verses are by Fr. Irvin Udulutsch, a Franciscan Capuchin friar from Wisconsin. The refrain text is translated from the *Raccolta*, a 19th-century Italian compilation of prayers and various charitable, penitential, and pious acts. The melody is from a hymnal published in the German town of Fulda in 1891. As we sing it, may it inspire a renewed love for Jesus and the Eucharist, especially in the midst of this National Eucharistic Revival year.

Paul Radkowski, Music Director
music@saintedwards.org or 740-587-3254



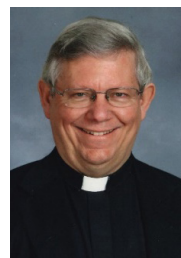
St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do Thou O Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine Power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits that prowl around the world seeking the ruin of souls.

A WORD FROM YOUR PASTOR



Dear Parishioners:

As most of you have heard, one morning as I was coming to St. Edward for the morning Mass, another driver swerved left of



center on Newark Granville Road just west of the church. I was heading east toward the church in my lane and suddenly I found myself stopped and heading west. I put the car in park and realized that the air bags on the left side of the car had been activated. I sat for a few minutes and saw that the other driver and others who had witnessed the accident were coming to check on me. I opened the door and got out of the car. I did not have any injuries and it appeared that the other driver was also okay. I made a call to the church to let the parish know I would not be able to celebrate Mass that day. A Communion service was held and I was spending the time filling out police forms and trying to figure out just what to do next.

I am certainly grateful that I did not sustain any injuries. Although many advised that I might be sore the next day, happily, that did not occur. Some parishioners lent me a car for the day and now I have a rental supplied by my insurance company while the fate of the vehicle is determined. It does appear that it will be a total loss and I will have to find a new car.

In the meantime, life goes on! The past weekend, I had a wonderful time with our children. I visited all the PSR classes, starting with Pre-K/K and working my way up to the 8th Grade Confirmation Class. After the 10:45 a.m. Mass, I had the Baptisms of four infants. In the evening, I stopped in to visit with the H.S. Youth group at their kickoff. So the new catechetical year has begun in earnest.

This past week, we also began our journey with the Eucharistic Revival. My prayer is that all our families will be able to participate. We are called to build a Eucharistic Culture so that we can pursue the mission entrusted to us by Jesus Christ. God has shared the joy of Triune Life with us and it is our common task to share His Love with the world. I invite you and your family to get on board. Let us be united in Faith and let us work together so that all may be one according to the desire of the Heart of Jesus.

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes

Rev. Timothy M. Hayes, Pastor

This Week at St. Edward

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 – TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Mass – 8:15 a.m.

Mass – 10:45 a.m.

2nd Collection for The Church in Africa

SVDP – 9:15 a.m. in the Lounge

PSR – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.

Parent Confirmation Meeting – 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. in the Hall

OCIA – noon in the Lounge

Mass – 6:00 p.m. in Adoration Chapel

Fr. Slattery Lecture Series – 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Parish Hall.

Youth Group – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in Youth Room (Room 6).

First Episode of *The Chosen*

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Ghiloni

Adoration after Mass to 11:30 a.m.

Women's Social – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall



TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

Respect Life Committee – 9:30 a.m. in Conference Room

PSR – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Parent Confirmation Meeting – 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Hall

Painting Class – 7 to 9:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

Men's Rosary & Faith – 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

Choir – 7:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Social – 7:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

Mass – 9:00 a.m., Fr. Hayes

Preschool

O'Neill/Brown Wedding Rehearsal – 5:30 p.m.

Painting Class – 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. in Parish Hall

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

Saturday Men's Fellowship – 7:00 a.m.

O'Neill/Brown Wedding – 2:00 p.m.

Confession – 4:00 to 4:30 p.m.

Mass – 5:00 p.m., Fr. Hayes

OSU Game Parish Party – 6:30 p.m. in Parish Hall

Bring a snack to share. Sodas provided.



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

Mass – 8:15 a.m. Fr. Hayes

Mass – 10:45 a.m. Fr. Hayes

NO PSR (due to Monday off from Granville schools)

OCIA (former RCIA) – noon to 1:00 p.m. in the lounge

Youth Group – 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.



Please put Food Pantry donations in the box in the Gathering Space or the wooden box outside of the Parish Office. Your continuous donations are a blessing to others. Thank you!

PSR HAS BEGUN!

PRE-K (age 4) to Grade 8.

Make sure your child is registered.

Please pray the USCCB Prayer for PSR teachers:

Lord God, Your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us Your ways. Look upon the St. Edward's teachers. Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavor always to bring the truth to eager minds. Grant that they may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life, forever and ever. Amen.



Register Now for PSR 2023-2024.

Please include a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate.



OCIA

A Journey in Faith

"Always be ready to give an explanation to anyone who asks you to give the reason for your hope."

1 Peter 3:15

- Are you thinking about becoming Catholic and have a lot of questions about the faith?
- Are you curious about the Catholic Faith, but are unsure about becoming Catholic?
- Are you already Catholic and want a "refresher" course on your faith?

At OCIA, you can

- Prepare to become confirmed in the Catholic Faith
- Learn about the Catholic Faith in a friendly, relaxed environment
- Learn the "hows and whys" of the Catholic Faith
- Continue your journey if you're already Catholic

The 2023-2024 OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation – formerly RCIA) formation class begins Sunday, September 17, from noon-1:00 p.m. in the St. Edward Lounge. All are invited! Pre read assignment: The Prologue of the Catechism of the Catholic Church: paragraphs 1-25. Any questions? Contact Dcn. John Barbour at 740-366-4124.

To be a part of OCIA, fill out this form and drop it in the collection basket.

Yes! I want to learn more about the Catholic Faith!


NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

		Eucharistic Ministers:	Lector:	Altar Servers:
September 16-17: Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Leann Kirchner Cliff Kirchner	Karen Kolbe	Kevin Bollo Olivia Priano
	Sunday, 8:15 a.m.	Martin Flautt Sharon Martin	Sarah Rundell	Isaac Gardner Jonathan Gardner
	Sunday, 10:45 a.m.	Noelle Gremling Maria McDermott	Rose Ann Stevenson	Warren Moberg Leah Moberg
September 23-24: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	Saturday, 5:00 p.m.	Beverly Knoderer Andrew Morey	Sharon Stancavage	Claire Skinner Carter Skinner
	Sunday, 8:15 a.m.	Rita Baldwin Kathy Stukus	Philip Stukus	Sydney Miller Avery Miller
	Sunday, 10:45 a.m.	Andrea Harvey Julie Smith	Jason Winterhalter	Claire Cottrell Andrew Cottrell

 Ministry Scheduler Pro Please check in sacristy for current list of weekend volunteers.

SUPPORTING ST. EDWARD CHURCH

*"Each one must do as he has purposed in his heart,
not grudgingly or under compulsion,
for God loves a cheerful giver."
2 Corinthians 9:7*

OFFERTORY

September 3

\$ 6,768.00

September 10

\$ 10,579.00

Please consider ONLINE GIVING. Sign up on the St. Edward website homepage at www.saintedwards.org. If already giving online, please update any changes to your credit card on your online account. For help, contact the Parish Office.

September Second Collection
September 16/17 – Church in Africa



Schedule 2024 Mass Intentions

- ~ 2024 MASS INTENTIONS NOW OPEN ~
- Contact Maggie Barno to schedule Mass Intentions at maggie@saintedwards.org, call Maggie at the office at 740-587-3254, on Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Fridays, or put your Mass Intention envelope in the collection basket.
- When you desire a specific date/s for Mass Intentions, please contact Maggie at least six (4-6) months before the desired date.
- If the date you request for a Mass Intention is already taken, we endeavor to schedule your Mass on a date that will suit you. Your patience is greatly appreciated.
- To comply with Diocesan Finance Office policies, a \$10.00 stipend is requested when Mass Intentions are scheduled.

Catholic Lecture Series

by Fr. William Slattery, PhD, STL

On September 17th, Swasey Chapel is not available.

The lecture will be in St. Edward's Parish Hall at 7:30 p.m.

Mass at 6:00 p.m. St. Edward's Adoration Chapel.

Lecture Theme: *Ultramodern Christianity in the light of Quantum Physics:*

Why It Can Revolutionize Worldview and Reenchants Lifestyle

Lecture Time: Every Sunday, 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

followed by Questions & Answers and social time.

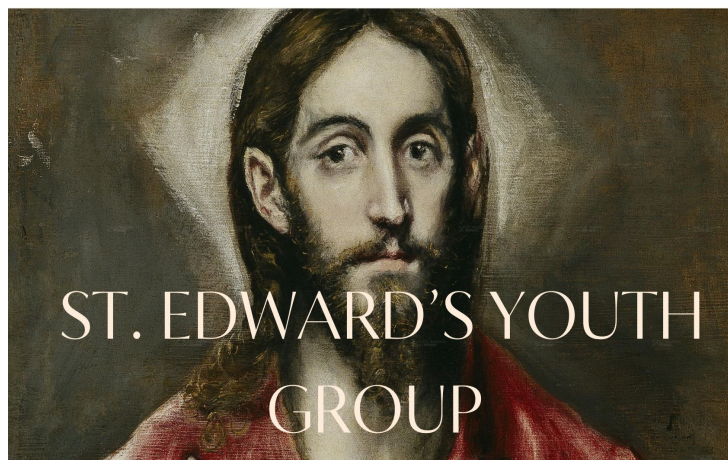
September 17 Lecture Topic: *The "God" of Modernity and "Official Christianity" versus the Triune Creator-Lover-Rescuer*

Women of St. Edward

*Special parish events during the year
happen because of the dedication of the
WOMEN OF ST. EDWARD (WSE)!*

- **Santa's Attic on November 4** and the **Christmas Bazaar on December 2**.
- **Funeral Luncheons** after a Funeral Mass when requested by grieving families.
- **Women's Study Groups** such as:
 - **A Biblical Walk with The Blessed Mother. (Starts September 25th)**
 - **Women's Evening Retreat (scheduled for May 6, 2024)**
 - **Service Projects: Duffel Bag Project** for foster children; **Nationwide Children's Hospital Blankets**; collect decorative pins for the **Turban Project** for cancer patients.

The Women of St. Edward do a lot! More Helping Hands are needed! Women of all ages are all invited! Please prayerfully consider joining this wonderful group of women. For information, contact Selma Leshner at selmalesher@yahoo.com. PLEASE JOIN WOMEN OF ST. EDWARD!



TOPIC: THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE OF CHRIST

Fun Activity: Season 1. Ep 1 of the
Series "The Chosen"

Dinner: Donatos Pizza

DAY	TIME	LOCATION
SEP, 17	6 - 8PM	Youth Room #6

Church of St. Edward the Confessor
785 Newark-Granville Rd, Granville, OH 43023



If you want to be forgiven...

In today's Gospel reading Jesus tells the story of a king whose servant owed him a lot of money.

The king was going to punish the servant, but when the man knelt down and begged for mercy, the king forgave him. Then that same man went and punished a servant who owed him money. When the king found out about this he was very angry.



SORRY. I RIPPED
YOUR BOOK
A BIT.



In this story Jesus is telling us that if we want God to forgive us our sins then we have to forgive the people who have hurt us.

Has anyone ever done something mean to you? How do you feel when that happens? Do you feel

loving toward that person? Jesus tells us that we must forgive those people, even when they really hurt us, because we want God to forgive us too. Every time we sin we offend God, and He will still forgive us if we are sorry. If we want God to forgive us, then it's only fair for us to forgive others.

Answer to Word Find: Saint Helen

Answer to puzzle on front:
He forgave him.



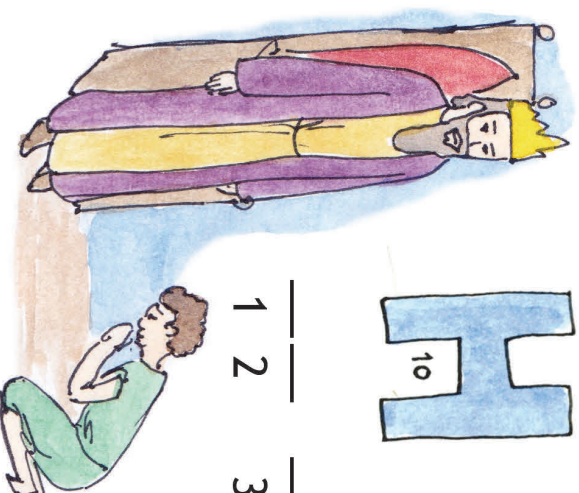
www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 17th, 2023

*What did the king in today's parable do to the servant who owed him much but asked for forgiveness?
Use the numbers to sort the letters and find out!*

JOHN
VEAR
HFC

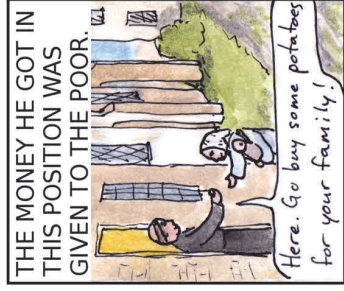


1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

10 11 12

Saint Thomas of Villanova

September 22

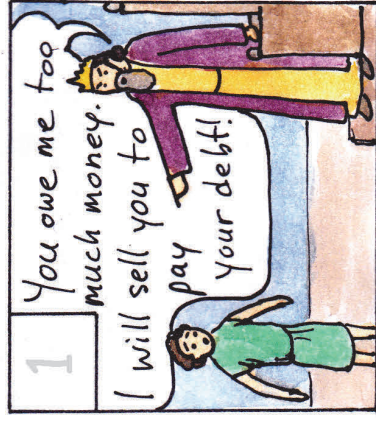


PEOPLE CRITICIZED ST. THOMAS BECAUSE HE WOULD GIVE TO ANYONE WHO ASKED, AND BECAUSE HE WAS GENTLE WITH SINNERS. BUT HE KNEW THAT HE COULD WIN MORE SOULS TO GOD BY BEING GENEROUS AND KIND. WE CAN IMITATE ST. THOMAS' GENEROSITY BY SHARING OUR GOOD THINGS.

The Unforgiving Servant

sort-out-the-pictures

What happened in today's parable?
Figure out the order of the story
and put the numbers from 1 to 6 in the boxes.



Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows.

“Prayer is the best weapon we have; it is the key to God's heart. You must speak to Jesus not only with your lips, but with your heart.” +SAINT PADRE PIO

Monday, September 18 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 7:1-10 When Jesus had finished all his words to the people, he entered Capernaum. A centurion there had a slave who was ill and about to die, and he was valuable to him. When he heard about Jesus, he sent elders of the Jews to him, asking him to come and save the life of his slave. They approached Jesus and strongly urged him to come, saying, “He deserves to have you do this for him, for he loves our nation and he built the synagogue for us.” And Jesus went with them, but when he was only a short distance from the house, the centurion sent friends to tell him, “Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you enter under my roof. Therefore, I did not consider myself worthy to come to you; but say the word and let my servant be healed. For I too am a person subject to authority, with soldiers subject to me. And I say to one, *Go*, and he goes; and to another, *Come here*, and he comes; and to my slave, *Do this*, and he does it.” When Jesus heard this he was amazed at him and, turning, said to the crowd following him, “I tell you, not even in Israel have I found such faith.” When the messengers returned to the house, they found the slave in good health.

Meditation: A Roman official boldly sought Jesus with a daring request. What made him confident was that Jesus would receive his request and act favorably towards him. Like a true soldier, he knew the power of command. And he saw in Jesus both the power and the mercy of God to heal and restore life. In the Roman world the position of centurion was very important. He was an officer in charge of a hundred soldiers. In a certain sense, he was the backbone of the Roman army, the cement which held the army together. Polybius, an ancient writer, describes what a centurion should be: “They must not be so much venturesome seekers after danger as men who can command, steady in action, and reliable; they ought not to be over-anxious to rush into the fight, but when hard pressed, they must be ready to hold their ground, and die at their posts.”

Prayer: Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The centurion who approached Jesus was not only courageous, but faith-filled as well. He risked the ridicule of his cronies by seeking help from an itinerant preacher from Galilee, and well as mockery from the Jews. Nonetheless, he approached Jesus with confidence and humility. Augustine notes that the centurion regarded himself as unworthy to receive the Lord into his house: “Humility was the door through which the Lord entered to take full possession of one whom he already possessed.” Jesus commends him for his faith and immediately grants him his request. Are you willing to suffer ridicule in the practice of your faith? When you need help, do you approach the Lord Jesus with expectant faith?

Tuesday, September 19 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Januarius, Bishop and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Luke 7:11-17 Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to the gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and said to her, “Do not weep.” He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!” The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God,

exclaiming, "A great prophet has arisen in our midst," and "God has visited his people." This report about him spread through the whole of Judea and in all the surrounding region.

Meditation: The scriptures make clear that God takes no pleasure in the death of anyone (see Ezekiel 33:11); he desires life, not death. Jesus not only had heart-felt compassion for the widow who lost her only son, he also had extraordinary supernatural power – the ability to restore life and to make whole again. Jesus, however, as an observant Jew incurred grave risk by approaching the bier, since the Jews understood that contact with a dead body made oneself ritually impure. His physical touch, however, not only restored life but brought freedom and wholeness to soul as well as body. This miracle took place near the spot where the prophet Elisha raised another mother's son back to life again (see 2 Kings 4:18-37). Jesus claimed as his own one whom death had seized as its prey. By his word of power he restored life for a lad marked for death. Jesus is Lord not only of the living but of the dead as well. Jesus triumphed over the grave and he promises that because he lives (and will never die again), we also shall have abundant life with and in him both now and forever (John 14:19). Do you trust in the Lord Jesus to give you abundant life and everlasting hope in the face of life's trials, misfortunes, and moments of despair?

Prayer: O God, who grant us to venerate the memory of the Martyr Saint Januarius, give us, we pray, the joy of his company in blessed happiness for all eternity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: How do you respond to the misfortunes of others? In a number of places the gospel records that Jesus was "moved to the depths of his heart" when he met with individuals and with groups of people. Our English word "compassion" doesn't fully convey the deeper meaning of the original Hebrew word which expresses heart-felt "sympathy" and personal identification with the suffering person's grief and physical condition. Why was Jesus so moved on this occasion when he met a widow and a crowded funeral procession on their way to the cemetery? Jesus not only grieved the untimely death of a young man, but he showed the depth of his concern for the woman who lost not only her husband, but here only child as well. When a member of the parish dies, how do you respond to the death of a member of the parish? What about the deceased's family members? Perhaps you may not know them well, but as a member of the parish community, should we not pray for the repose of the soul of the deceased, and extend heartfelt compassion and sympathy for the family? Of course we should. For this is an important aspect of community, of belonging to a parish, and what being a member of Christ body is all about.

Wednesday, September 20 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Priest and Martyr;
Saint Paul Chong Ha-sang, Martyr, and Companions, Martyrs

Holy Gospel: Luke 7:31-35 Jesus said to the crowds: "To what shall I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? They are like children who sit in the marketplace and call to one another, 'We played the flute for you, but you did not dance. We sang a dirge, but you did not weep.' For John the Baptist came neither eating food nor drinking wine, and you said, 'He is possessed by a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking and you said, 'Look, he is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is vindicated by all her children."

Meditation: So, what do children's games have to do with the kingdom of God? The children in Jesus' parable react with disappointment because they cannot convince anyone to join in their musical medley. They complain that when they play their music at weddings, no one dances or sings; and when they play at funerals, it is the same dead response. This refrain echoes the words of Ecclesiastes 3:4 — there is a time to weep and a time to laugh; a time to mourn and a time to dance. Jesus' message of the kingdom of God is a proclamation of good news and of great joy for those who will listen; but it is also a warning for those who refuse. Why did the message of John the Baptist and the message of Jesus meet with resistance and deaf ears? It was out of jealousy and spiritual blindness that the scribes and Pharisees attributed John the Baptist's austerities to the devil and they attributed Jesus' table fellowship as evidence for messianic pretense. They succeeded in frustrating God's plan for their lives because they had closed their hearts to the message of John the Baptist and now to Jesus.

Prayer: O God, who have been pleased to increase your adopted children in all the world, and who made the blood of the Martyrs Saint Andrew Kim Tae-gon and his companions a most fruitful seed of Christians, grant that we may be defended by their help and profit always from their example. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Have you ever sat back and thought about those things that can make us spiritually dull and slow to hear God's voice? Like the generation of Jesus' time, our age is marked by indifference and contempt, especially in regards to the things of God's kingdom. Indifference dulls our ears to God's voice and to the good news of the gospel. Only the humble of heart can find joy in God's grace and favor. Do you listen to God's word with faith and obedience?

Thursday, September 21 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle

Holy Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13 As Jesus passed by, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the customs post. He said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. While he was at table in his house, many tax collectors and sinners came and sat with Jesus and his disciples. The Pharisees saw this and said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" He heard this and said, "Those who are well do not need a physician, but the sick do. Go and learn the meaning of the words, I desire mercy, not sacrifice. I did not come to call the righteous but sinners."

Meditation: Look at how Jesus' simple two-word invitation of "follow me" changed Matthew's life forever. Matthew would never be the same person again after his encounter with Jesus. So why did Jesus choose a tax collector rather than a religious-minded person, such as a scribe or Pharisee trained in the law of God? Jesus wanted disciples who were willing to receive his word and be taught by him. Matthew was both willing and eager to jump at the opportunity to follow Jesus and his band of disciples. So what made Matthew so willing to exchange his wealthy business for the uncertain future of working with a missionary preacher – a preacher who bluntly told his followers that they would have to give up the comfort and security of their own homes, lands, and possessions to serve him? The Gospels do not tell us what must have passed through Matthew's mind when Jesus' called him. Matthew very likely had heard Jesus on some occasion speaking to the crowds about God's kingdom and the heavenly treasure that awaited those who chose to follow as Jesus' disciples. When Jesus called Matthew his response was immediate and positive. There was no hint of hesitation or uncertainty. He didn't tell Jesus that he needed some time to think it over. And he didn't go home to discuss it with his family or friends, or consult an advice column, blog or Facebook posting. He just left his office and began to join Jesus' company as one of his disciples.

Prayer: O God, who with untold mercy were pleased to choose as an Apostle Saint Matthew, the tax collector, grant that, sustained by his example and intercession, we may merit to hold firm in following you. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus' defense for associating with outcasts and needy people was quite simple. He likened his ministry to that of a town physician who paid house visits to those who were sick, rather than those who were well. Jesus came to seek out those with the greatest need. Unfortunately, the orthodox of Jesus' day were so preoccupied with their own practice of religion that they neglected to help the very people who needed their care. Their religion was selfish because they didn't want to have anything to do with people not like themselves. Jesus stated his mission in unequivocal terms: I came not to call the righteous, but to call sinners. Just as a true physician seeks healing of the whole person — body, mind, and spirit, Jesus, likewise, offers wholeness of life to all who need God's mercy. Jesus not only heals, but he restores and transforms us and gives us new life in his Holy Spirit. Jesus' two-word invitation "follow me" is extended to each and every one of us. What is your RSVP to this great invitation – the greatest invitation you will ever receive! One that has true rewards in this life, and for all eternity!

Friday, September 22 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 8:1-3 Jesus journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the Kingdom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve and some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities, Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza, Susanna, and many others who provided for them out of their resources.

Meditation: Are you ready to serve the Lord and to support the work of the gospel with your personal resources? During his three years of public ministry Jesus traveled widely. The gospel records that a band of women accompanied Jesus and the twelve apostles. This was a diverse group of women; some came from rich and prominent families; some had been prostitutes, and others had been afflicted with mental and physical infirmities. We know that Mary Magdalene had lived a very troubled life before Jesus freed her from seven demons. She was privileged to be the first to see Jesus as the risen Lord. As the wife of King Herod's chief financial officer, Joanna was a wealthy lady of the court. It's unlikely that these two

would have ever met under other circumstances. What brought them together and united them in a bond of friendship, service, and loyalty to Jesus? Certainly Jesus and his message of the kingdom of God had transformed them. Unlike the apostles, who took great pride in being the chosen twelve, these women did not seek position or demand special privileges. Jesus had touched them so deeply that they were grateful to do anything for him, even menial service. They brought their gifts and resources to Jesus to use as he saw fit. Or are you more like the status-conscious apostles who were concerned for their position, or like the women who were content to serve Jesus quietly and generously with their personal resources? In our fallen state, our natural tendency is to want to be served and placed first and to avoid giving too much of ourselves to the service of others. And besides, who really prefers to take the lowly place of a servant who puts the needs of others before their own needs?

Prayer: Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you With all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Our privilege as children of God and disciples of Jesus is to serve as Jesus served with humility, selfless love, generosity, joy, and a willingness to do whatever God asks of us. God, in his turn, gives us every good gift and grace we need to carry out our task and mission. God in his infinite power needs no one, but in his wisdom and love, he chooses to entrust his work through each one of us. His Holy Spirit equips us with all that we need to love and serve others. No one is unimportant or unnecessary in God's economy. The least in his kingdom find a home and a mission at Jesus' side. Do you know the joy of serving Jesus in company with others who love and serve him willingly?

Saturday, September 23 ~ Twenty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)

Holy Gospel: Luke 8:4-15 When a large crowd gathered, with people from one town after another journeying to Jesus, he spoke in a parable. "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path and was trampled, and the birds of the sky ate it up. Some seed fell on rocky ground, and when it grew, it withered for lack of moisture. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew with it and choked it. And some seed fell on good soil, and when it grew, it produced fruit a hundredfold." After saying this, he called out, "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear." Then his disciples asked him what the meaning of this parable might be. He answered, "Knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you; but to the rest, they are made known through parables so that they may look but not see, and hear but not understand. "This is the meaning of the parable. The seed is the word of God. Those on the path are the ones who have heard, but the Devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts that they may not believe and be saved. Those on rocky ground are the ones who, when they hear, receive the word with joy, but they have no root; they believe only for a time and fall away in time of temptation. As for the seed that fell among thorns, they are the ones who have heard, but as they go along, they are choked by the anxieties and riches and pleasures of life, and they fail to produce mature fruit. But as for the seed that fell on rich soil, they are the ones who, when they have heard the word, embrace it with a generous and good heart

Meditation: Jesus' parable of the sower is about those who hear his word. There are different ways of accepting God's word and they produce different kinds of fruit accordingly. There is the prejudiced hearer who has a shut mind. Such a person is unteachable and blind to the things of God. Then there is the shallow hearer who fails to think things out or think them through; such a person lacks spiritual depth. They may initially respond with an emotional fervor; but when it wears off their mind wanders to something else. Another type of hearer is the person who has many interests or cares, but who lacks the ability to hear or comprehend what is truly important. Such a person is forever too busy to pray or too preoccupied to study and meditate on God's word. Then there is the one whose mind is open. Such a person is at all times willing to listen and to learn. He or she is never too proud or too busy to learn.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who, by a singular grace, gave the Priest Saint Pio of Pietrelcina a share in the Cross of your Son and, by means of his ministry, renewed the wonders of your mercy, grant that through his intercession we may be united constantly to the sufferings of Christ, and so brought happily to the glory of the resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

WHERE DOES IT SAY THAT?



THIS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT...

THREATENS PARENTAL RIGHTS

By using "individual" instead of adult or woman, anyone under the age of 18 could have an abortion or make any other reproductive decision without their parents' consent or notification.

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

Current Ohio laws* require abortion providers to explain procedure risks and ensure access to hospital transfer if needed. These health and safety standards could be seen as a "burden" and be eliminated, making it even less safe for women seeking an abortion.

ALLOWS ABORTIONS THROUGH 9 MONTHS OF PREGNANCY

In U.S. law,** "health" includes age or physical, emotional, or psychological well-being. This means a woman's age or emotional health could be cited to justify aborting a full-term baby. An abortion-providing physician would decide when a baby could survive outside the womb, leaving no clear protections for preborn children.

IS MISLEADING

Referring to "miscarriage care" promotes a myth that a "right to abortion" is necessary to preserve care for miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies. This is false. Catholic hospitals have always provided comprehensive miscarriage care and will continue to do so regardless of the outcome of this vote.

ARTICLE I, SECTION 22

*The Right to Reproductive Freedom
with Protections for Health and Safety*

1. Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, **miscarriage care**, and abortion.
2. The State shall not, **directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either an individual's voluntary exercise of this right or a person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right, unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care.**
3. However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. **But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.**
4. As used in this Section, "Fetal viability" means "the point in a pregnancy when, in the **professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures. This is determined on a case-by-case basis**"; and "State" includes any governmental entity and political subdivision.
5. This Section is self-executing.

* Ohio Revised Code, Sections 2317.56 & 3702.303

** Based on Doe v. Bolton





Article I, Section 22. The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety

Ballot Language

A. **Every individual** has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, **including but not limited to** decisions on:

1. contraception;
2. fertility treatment;
3. continuing one's own pregnancy;
4. miscarriage care;
5. and abortion.

B. The State shall not, **directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against** either:

1. **An individual's voluntary exercise of this right** or
2. **A person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right**, unless the State demonstrates that it is using the **least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care**.

However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant **patient's life or health**.

C. As used in this Section:

1. "Fetal viability" means "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnancy patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measure. This is determined on a **case-by-case basis**."

D. This section is **self-executing**.

What This Means

"**Every individual**" does not distinguish between adults and minors. This **takes away parental consent for minors obtaining abortion services and gender-related medical procedures**.

Reproductive decisions, "**including but not limited to**," is a broad phrase used to allow for future interpretation and concepts that voters might reject. Expansion is the intent here.

"**Directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against**" **eliminates the legal requirement for physicians to follow basic hospital health and safety standards that protect women**. "**An individual's voluntary exercise of this right**" includes anything determined to be a burden on a minor who wishes to access abortion or any other "reproductive decision." Language stating that "**a person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right**" using the "**least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care**" has been used in other states to attempt to **force physicians and pregnancy centers to provide or to refer for abortions**.

"**Patient's life or health**" encompasses factors such as singleness, family issues, interference with education, etc. This loophole permits physicians to legally perform abortions **without any restrictions through all nine months of pregnancy in Ohio**.

"Fetal viability" is determined by the physician on a "**case-by-case basis**." This deceptive language permits physicians to legally perform abortions **without any restrictions through all nine months of pregnancy in Ohio**. (Currently in Ohio, abortions are illegal after 22 weeks.)

"**Self-executing**" means the legislature doesn't need to repeal or amend existing Ohio Law. Once this law is enshrined in the Ohio Constitution, it will be very difficult to reverse and **taxpayers would be required to pay for abortions**.

RADIO FUN

September 20-22 – Our Music Director, Paul Radkowski, will be on the radio on Wednesday, September 20th, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. He will be on a team with two priests, in a basketball tournament to see who will win the gold medal! For every donation made in Paul's name prior to or during the **AM820** radio event, his team will receive additional shots for Paul to make. To make a donation, call **614-459-4820** or go to **www.StGabrielRadio.com** and be sure to write Paul Radkowski's name in the "comments" section.

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St. Leonard Church, 57 Dorsey Mill Road in Heath, is having a Spaghetti Dinner on September 21st, from 4:00-6:30 p.m. Enjoy salad, bread, dessert, and a drink. All welcome.

*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

For Catholics to Return to Church

For Our Country & World to Return to God

Bishop Fernandes & All Bishops to Follow God's Plan

That the Parish Warmly Accepts Fr. Hayes

For Young Men to Heed the Call to Become a Priest

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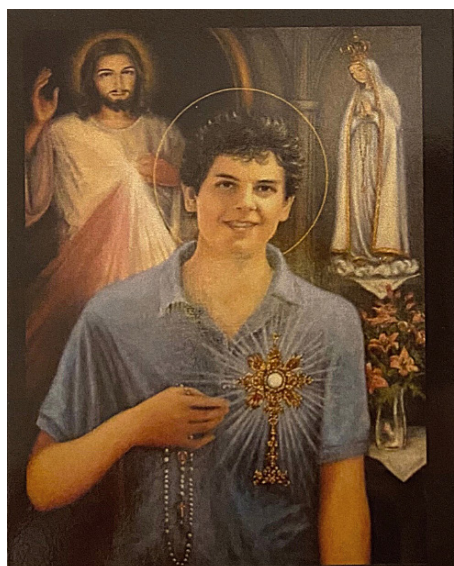
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Know Your Saints



**Quotes of
Blessed Carlo Acutis
1991 - 2006
Beatified 10 October 2020**

"The more we receive [the Eucharist], the more we will become like Jesus, so that on this earth we will have a foretaste of Heaven."

"The only thing we have to ask God for, in prayer, is the desire to be holy."

"The Virgin Mary is the only Woman in my life."

"If you want salvation, promote the Rosary."

"To Always be close to Jesus, that's my life plan."

-Blessed Carlo Acutis

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Blessed Carlo Acutis – 1991-2006

How does a city boy who only lived to the age of 15 "go viral" more than a decade after he died? Blessed Carlo Acutis, is the first millennial to be beatified by the Catholic Church.

Born in 1991, the same year as the launch of the World Wide Web, Carlo has been hailed by the pope as an example of love and holiness in our complex digital age. This tech-savvy Italian teen has shown the world that computer coding and video games are no obstacle to sainthood.

From a young age, Carlo's enthusiasm for Jesus was contagious. His witness brought his own family back to faith and even helped convert his Hindu au pair to Catholicism. Carlo called the Eucharist "my highway to heaven" and was eager to tell everyone about the incredible reality of Christ's true presence in the world. To this end, he used his computer to help design an exhibition dedicated to Eucharistic miracles that has traversed the globe.

Carlo sought no attention for himself while alive, yet in the years after his death, he has become a global "influencer for God."



PRO-LIFE POSTER CONTEST!

FOR:

GRADES K through 12
(One Entry Per Student)

**Student's Original Art – NO Collaboration –
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"Everybody Has a Beating Heart"

POSTER SIZE: 9" x 12"

DUE BY: September 30 ~
in the box in the Gathering Space

CASH PRIZES FOR EACH GRADE LEVEL!

Grade Levels: K-2; 3-5; 6-8; 9-12
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Questions? Contact John Koenig at 740-587-0720

Cut off and complete the form below, attach it to your poster and place it in the designated box in the Gathering Space by September 30.

NAME _____

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PARENT'S NAME _____

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SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SIR 27:30–28:7; PS 103:1-4, 9-12; ROM 14:7-9; MT 18:21-35

Today's readings call us to look inward to the state of our hearts, our thoughts, our emotions, and our anger toward another.

Our first reading, from Sirach, addresses the complicated emotion of anger. "Could anyone have anger against another and expect healing from the Lord?"

We have all been wounded by others at some point, some perhaps quite deeply. Our emotions are gifts from God. But we must steward them well, rather than allowing them to overcome us.

How do we do this? Sirach tells us. "Remember your last days, set enmity aside... Remember the Most High's covenant and overlook faults." We embrace the stewardship mindset – not brooding over hurts, but recalling all the gifts our good God has given us, all the love He continually pours out upon us, and we put our focus and trust in Him.

In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus reminds us of the true position we have before Him in light of all that He has done for us, comparing the kingdom of heaven to a "king who decided to settle accounts with his servants." In the parable, a debtor is brought before the king, owing such an overwhelming debt that it could not possibly be repaid. Yet, the king is filled with compassion for the servant, forgives the debt and lets him go free.

Doesn't that sound like each of us in relation to the King of Kings? The Father has given us life, and then sent His only Son to die for us to free us from our sin "debts" and make eternal life with Him possible for us. It is impossible for us to repay this debt. All we can do is thank God by giving Him our whole selves – inside and out.

What joy and freedom we find in the stewardship way of life!

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