

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



October 31, 2021

Tomorrow the Church celebrates All Saints Day. Since the Holy Day is on a Monday the obligation to attend mass has been lifted. However, we will celebrate the Holy Day for all those who are interested in observing the feast of All Saints. Mass will be at 8:00 a.m. You are more than encouraged to join us for the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in memory of All Saints. In accordance with their tradition St. Thomas will have a noon Mass here in the church and later at 7:00 p.m. in their activity center.

Tuesday, we celebrate the feast of All Souls'. We take this opportunity as we near the end of the liturgical year to pause and remember in prayer all the deceased members of our families, friends and most notably those parishioners who have died this past year. We have all been touched by the grief and sorrow of death. All of us have had members of our family and friends who have passed away. With Christian charity we pause and pray for the repose of their souls. This is a gracious and charitable use of our time. We are all in need of prayers because we are all sinful and in need of God's gracious mercy. On Tuesday morning, mass will be offered at 9:00 a.m. For those who are interested, St. Thomas will also have an evening mass in their activity center at 7:00 pm.

As we approach the end of 2021 and another liturgical year, we turn our reflections to the end times and the coming of the Kingdom of God. We welcome the parables and reflections on the Kingdom of God. Yet we are a little uncomfortable thinking about that other thing we call death, especially if it is imminent. As difficult or uncomfortable it maybe, it is necessary to take the "Last Things" into our prayerful thoughts. It is a matter of faith.

Death entered creation because of Original Sin. Sin is oriented to death, thus St. Paul writes to the Romans "*For the wages of sin is death,*" (Rm 6:28). Apart from Jesus and his mother, we are all born with Original Sin. Original Sin is a weakness that predisposes us to sin. That weakness is selfishness. This is part of our human lot. Because of Original Sin, we are not capable of saving ourselves, even though we are tempted to believe we can. Long story short, we need a Savior. The Gospel of St John reminds us that "*God So loved the World that he sent his only begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.*" (John 3:16). Since God alone can forgive sin and conquer death, God became man in the person of Jesus, the Son of God, sent as our savior. Confident in God's love, we place our faith in the one He sent: Jesus Christ. In faith we listen and follow the one who is our savior. Jesus Christ alone leads us to eternal life.

This is our human condition. It is our task to respond by living a life worthy of the gracious gift we have received in Jesus Christ: the love of God. Our life is a response to the love of God. Living the virtues of love and faith is not easy. Again, we need help.

The effect of Original Sin, as I have often said, is selfishness. This is our weakness that makes us vulnerable to temptation and sin. Love is selfless; thus, we find it difficult to love one another. This is also true when it comes to trusting others. Love and faith are very difficult virtues to practice. This is particularly clear when we consider the way we treat those closest to us much less strangers. We hate to admit it but we need help. We know we are not perfect; we also know that no one is perfect. Yet heaven is the place of absolute perfection for it is the dwelling place of God. We can say that no one is ready to enter the presence of God. Our love is incomplete and imperfect because of Original Sin. We are not ready to enter the presence of perfect love: the presence of God.

We need a little cleaning up if you will. We need some purification, a time of purgation: purgatory.

When speaking of Purgatory some automatically consider it a place of "punishment" for our sins. We tend to think this since we are inclined to think that sin deserves punishment. The word "punishment" does not truly express the true nature of purgatory. Instead, we should consider it is a "place" of love. Purgatory exists because God loves us and desires for us to enter fully into His perfect love in heaven. We are not ready to enter into this perfect love because we have not loved perfectly. We need to be purified and perfected before we enter heaven.

What of hell? Hell is that place completely devoid of love. It is the place of complete isolation. An image of hell in this world is the punishment of solitary confinement. We are social creatures; we are created to live in community. Sin opposes love since it divides, separates and isolates. It only makes sense that the ultimate death of sin is absolute isolation.

Circling back, I often think of Purgatory as the experience of looking into the "eye of love." For two people who genuinely love each other, they find great joy gazing into each other's eyes. We often say that the eyes are the window to the soul. Eye contact is very important. It is true and genuine. It is the wordless gaze of faithful love. If we have ever lied, offended or hurt someone who loves us dearly, we find it difficult to make eye contact. Eye contact is most difficult and avoided especially if the offense is serious. Making eye contact can be painful. It is painful because it is a truth-telling moment. One cannot lie while looking into the eyes of the beloved. (If one can do that then the relationship is anything but love. It is more demonic.) It is painful because the relationship has been betrayed. Looking into the "Eyes of Love" is about the truth of a loving and faithful relationship. It can be a moment of pain or of great joy. Looking into the eye of love can be a purgation or a perfecting of love.

At one point we will all have to look into the eyes of the one who loves us beyond our imagining. We must "behold the face of God": the Beatific Vision. If we have grown in our loving relationship with God in this world, we will find it to be pure joy. If, however, we have lived a life of unrepentant sin we will find this moment most difficult and painful. If we are filled with pride, it may take a very long time.

So, we observe All Souls' Day as a day we pray for our deceased relatives and friends. It is out of love that we pray for our beloved dead that they may enter into the full embrace of God's perfect love. On All Souls' Day we pray for all the poor souls in Purgatory who have no one to pray for them. Our prayers are a means of breaking that isolation caused by sin. It is good for us as well as for those we pray for. We all need the purifying grace of God's love. It is to be our humble desire for all to behold the face of God. God is good and merciful. May the loving gaze of our Heavenly Father purify and perfect the souls of our beloved dead. Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them.

An update for our parish consultation sessions for **Real Presence, Real Future**. We will gather in the Media Center at Bishop Rosecrans High School. The sessions will be virtual (online). We will meet online with our parish facilitator and be able to participate as a group. You can also do this at home on your computer with audio and visual capability. Or you can join us as a group at BRHS. You may choose between one of the two sessions offered on Monday, November 8th and Wednesday, November 10th at 6:30 p.m. You only need to attend one session. To register at home please go to the parish website at: www.stnickparish.org and

find the link to register. Or you may register directly at: <https://realpresencerealfuture.org/parish-sessions-register/>.

Lastly, Tuesday is also an election day. There are a number of levy issues on the ballot as well as individuals running for various government offices: city, county and state. It is important for us to fulfill our civic duty as citizens by casting our vote in these important matters.

Have a great week.
Father Ralko

**This week we pray Week III
of the Liturgy of the Hours.**



*We pray for those who have died recently:
Sally A. Durant*



**This weekend, October 30 & 31,
St. Vincent de Paul will be "Holding the Hat"
during all Masses as a 2nd collection.**

Our annual Cemetery Visit and Bonfire will be held this Sunday, October 31st at 5:00 p.m. All are invited to join us at the Mt. Olive Cemetery as we remember those who have died. Our time together will include an opportunity for private grave visitation and prayer. We will then gather around the bonfire for the recitation of the names of the parishioners who have died within the past year followed by the Rosary for the Repose of Souls. Even if you do not have anyone buried in the Cemetery, it is good to come and pray for the repose of souls as some have no one to pray for them. The evening will end with refreshments including baked beans, hot dogs, chili from Al and Pati Logan Catering, hot chocolate, bottled water, marshmallows and S'mores ingredients. Please bring your rosary (if you don't have one, no worries we will have extra), lawn chairs and roasting sticks.

May the faithful departed, by the mercy of God, rest in peace!

Eucharistic Adoration: All are encouraged to participate in Eucharistic Adoration, Friday, November 5th. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will begin immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Mass and will end at 4:00 p.m. Guardian adorers are essential and needed as Christ exposed in the Monstrance must never be left alone. While drop-ins are welcome and there is no limit on the number of participants at any given time, there is a need for a minimum of two people per hour or the day. If you are able to commit to an hour, please contact the parish office at (740) 453-0597 ext. 14 or pboggs@stnickparish.org.

JOIN US FOR BREAKFAST! Sunday, November 14th following the 8:15 A.M. AND 10:45 A.M. Masses. If you haven't tried our breakfast, you should! We have fancy potato casserole made by Nancy Arnold, amazing French toast made by Kelly Taylor, "Steve Evans" sausage, which in our opinion is way better than "Bob Evans" sausage, and delicious scrambled eggs. The breakfast is served in the Church Social Hall (church basement) and is free; however, we do accept donations for support of future breakfasts. **Please join us!**

CATALYST NIGHTS: Due to unforeseen circumstances, November 14th Net Nights will be from 1:00-3:45 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact Patty Boggs at 740-453-0597.



**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB –
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 5, 2021**

Father Michael Hartge will address Catholic Men's Luncheon Club on Friday, November 5, 2021. Please join us Friday, November 5 at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for lunch and to hear Father Michael Hartge, Moderator of the Curia, speak about the Columbus Diocese' Real Presence Real Future initiative. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 am followed by lunch at 12:10 pm and Father Hartge's remarks. Free parking available in the Columbus State Grant Avenue parking lot (25-S) across the street from St. Patrick. No reservations are necessary. \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend!

For information on Catholic Men's Luncheon Club, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc. Our December luncheon will feature newly ordained Fr. Stephen Ondrey.

"The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary. Let not even one day pass without saying it, no matter how burdened you may be with many cares and labors."



~Pope Pius XI

In honor of Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary, we will pray the Rosary in the church during the month of October before the weekend Masses. Rosaries can be found in the pews and are free to take.



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time, October 31, 2021, **Real Presence, Real Future reflections: To Be the Message Alfred Akainyah, St. Anthony Parish & RPRF Commission Member**

Our gospel message focuses on love: love for God, neighbor, and self. How do you understand love and who is a neighbor? How we understand love goes hand in hand with how we live our lives together, as a church community with our growing diversity. Our neighbor is anyone who needs our love and service, not just the one closer to us. Like Jesus, let us have the loving hearts that reach out to others in a special way, bringing them closer to the church and community. When we love and act, Jesus comes to us.

To read more about how we are growing together in the life of faith and discipleship in the Diocese of Columbus, visit <http://www.RealPresenceRealFuture.org>.

Muskingum Valley Right to Life meets the 4th Tuesday of each month. For more information contact Mike Musselman at (740) 452-9806.

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BRHS GOLF FUNDRAISER: BRHS Golf team is having a fundraiser during Ohio State men's basketball season. Square board based on the score at halftime and final score. \$25.00 per square. Payout is \$20.00 halftime and \$30.00 final. First 20 games of season starting November 9. Names will be placed on the board when purchased. Winners will be announced each week. If you would like a square, contact Ed Johnston at enjedj@yahoo.com. Send checks made to: BRHS Golf, 1040 East Main Street, Zanesville, Ohio. Thank you for your support! Golf team was MSJ Champion this year! Ed Johnston, BRHS

BISHOP ROSECRANS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS: Booster Mania tickets are available for the upcoming year. \$25.00 each or three tickets for \$60.00, drawings for tickets are for every day for this next year. Questions or concerns, please contact Marvin Paul at 740-819-3429.

MATTINGLY SETTLEMENT ANNUAL TURKEY DINNER: St. Ann Church (4th and Chestnut Dresden) will be hosting their annual turkey dinner on Sunday, November 7th from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The dinner will consist of Turkey, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Applesauce and Pumpkin Pie. Cost is \$9.00 for adults and \$6.00 for Children. If you have any questions, please contact Sheryl House at 740-704-0131.

ELECTRONIC CONTRIBUTIONS

St. Nicholas Church has a convenient way to make your regular offerings. With our electronic giving program, you can easily set up a recurring giving schedule. If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. Even when something prevents you from attending services, our church will continue to receive your contributions on an uninterrupted basis. To become an electronic giver, call or visit the church office or our website: stnickparish.org.

Our thoughts and prayers remain with those serving our country currently and with their loved ones at home. We pray for a safe homecoming and that the world may one day be at peace.

PLEASE REMEMBER ST. NICHOLAS PARISH IN YOUR WILL. CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 453-0597 FOR MORE DETAILS.

Please join us each Monday at the St. Nicholas Parish Office Chapel at 2:00 p.m. as we gather to pray the Rosary asking Our Lady's Intercession or the many needs of our nation, community, and parish.

What's Happening in Our Parish

MONDAY, November 1, ALL SAINTS

8:00 a.m., Mass: *deceased members of the Tran & Nguyen families, Church*

12:00 p.m., Mass: *St. Thomas Intention, Church*

2:00 p.m., Rosary, *Parish Office Chapel*

TUESDAY, November 2, Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed

9:00 a.m., Mass: *Pastor's intentions, Church*

10:00 a.m., Tuesday Morning Bible Study, *Parish Office Upper Level*

WEDNESDAY, November 3, St. Martin de Porres

8:10 a.m., School Mass: *Albert Crook, anniversary, Church*

7:00 p.m., RCIA, *Parish Office meeting room, upper level*

THURSDAY, November 4, St. Charles Borromeo

8:00 a.m., Mass: *St. Thomas Intention, Church*

7:00 p.m., *Adult Children of Alcoholics Support Meeting,*

FRIDAY, November 5

8:00 a.m., Mass: *James & Lois Shiplett, Sr. Church*

8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m., *Eucharistic Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Church*

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SATURDAY, November 6

4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m., *Confessions, Church*

5:15 p.m., Mass: *Kathy Shawger, Church*

SUNDAY, November 7

8:15 a.m., Mass: *St. Nicholas Parishioners, Church*

9:15 a.m., Sunday School, *Bishop Fenwick School*

10:45 a.m., Mass: *Mary E. Pfeifer Roessler, anniversary, Church*

Readings for Week of November 1

Monday	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14	Mt 5:1-12a
Tuesday	Wis 3:1-9	Jn 6:37-40
Wednesday	Rom 13:8-10	Lk 14:25-33
Thursday	Rom 14:7-12	Lk 15:1-10
Friday	Rom 15:14-21	Lk 16:1-8
Saturday	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27	Lk 16:9-15
Sunday	1 Kgs 17:10-16	Wis 1:1-7

LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE – November 6 & 7, 2021 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

	CANTORS	LECTORS	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday, November 6 5:15 p.m.	Kevin McCarthy	Tom Pitcock	Coord: Laurie Harmon Margaret Kronenbitter
Sunday, November 7 8:15 a.m.	Kerby Staker	Bill Sullivan	Coord: Dan Sylvester Scott Peterson, Phil Kocoloski
Sunday, November 7 10:45 a.m.	Jackie Connell	Wendy Hart	Coord: Claire Tiberio Gerald Tiberio, Kevin Jones
(Please arrange a substitute if you are unavailable for your scheduled time)			

All Souls' Day

Please join us for Mass on Tuesday, November 2 at 9:00 a.m.
for The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed
who have died in the past year.

Ann M. Burkhart, Mary K. Bradley, Elizabeth J. Weaver,
Rita L. Burgess, Grace M. Raymond, Samuel F. Gianettino,
Sandra A. Young, William C. Kohler, Bonnie M. Wetzel,
Elizabeth J. Gildow, Ann A. Bronkar, Joan A. Reed,
Richard A. Blaz, Patrick S. Tanner, Frank H. Gorsky, II,
Robert R. Havens, Virginia Morozowsky, Anna M. Sellers,
Rose M. Tetak, Charles "Bill" Durant, Phillip J. Ramsey,
Carolyn Elaine Stigler, Richard M. Emmert, Chad M. Maziar,
David D. Wagner, Rita Marie Pitts, Christopher L. Baum,
John W. Wagner, David L. Sowers, Miles Lee Roy Luke,
Anthony J. Scott, Ann L. Baker, Clara K. Rousos,
Jon L. Murphy, Harold J. Longstreth, Anthony T. West,
Bobbeta Hohman, Heather R. Robinson, Mark J. Dosch,
Carol M. Stotts, Marilyn L. Swackhammer,
Donald L. Thompson, Sally A. Durant



NET MINISTRIES

CATALYST

NIGHTS Youth Ministry

GAMES | SKITS | FOOD | FRIENDS

Junior High and High School Welcome (Grades 7-12)

6:00—8:45 p.m. | St. Thomas Activity Center

Sun, October 10, 2021	Righteousness	Sun, February 13, 2022	His Faithfulness
Sun, November 14, 2021	His Spirit	Sun, March 13, 2022	His Provision
Sun, December 12, 2021	His Presence	Sun, April 10, 2022	His Help in Temptation
Sun January 16, 2022	His Strength	Sun, May 1, 2022	Gods Care for You

Saint Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church
740.453-3301
144 North Fifth Street, Zanesville, OH 43701
saintthomascatholics.org/faith-formation/youth-ministry/

Saint Nicholas Catholic Church
740.453-0597
953 East Main Street, Zanesville, OH 43701
stnicolascath.org/get-the-latest

CELEBRATING OUR **10TH** ANNIVERSARY

SACRED HEART CONGRESS

NOVEMBER 6, 2021

**ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CHURCH
313 NORTH STATE ST | WESTERVILLE, OH**

9:30am - 12:00pm

9:00am REGISTRATION

\$10 for INDIVIDUALS

\$20 for FAMILIES



**Open the
Door of
Your Heart
to Christ.**

Online Streaming Available: www.WelcomeHisHeart.com

FEATURING FABULOUS PRESENTERS AND HOLY MASS WITH BISHOP BRENNAN



**Bishop
Robert Brennan**



**Emcee
Bill Messerly**



**Fr. Joseph
Laramie, SJ**



**Fr. Peter John
Cameron, OP**



**Emily
Jaminet**

REGISTER AT: www.WelcomeHisHeart.com



SACRED HEART ENTHRONEMENT

**Listen to the Sacred Heart Hour First Fridays on AM 820
Hosted by Father Stash Dailey and Jo Ann and Chuck Wilson**

The Sacred Heart Enthronement Network | www.entronements.com | www.WelcomeHisHeart.com