

September 20, 2020

A hand holding a bouquet of green herbs and yellow flowers against a gold background. The bouquet includes various green leaves and stems, with a prominent spike of small yellow flowers. The hand is positioned at the bottom center, holding the stems together.

generous

THE BEAUTY IN GIVING

CHURCH OF
SAINT AIDAN

505 Willis Ave.
Williston Park
New York 11596-1727

516-746-6585
516-746-6055 (Fax)
www.staidanparish.org
lynnp@staidanparish.org
516-404-2746 (After Hours Cell)

Pastor
Rev. Adrian McHugh

Associate Pastors
Rev. Solomon Odinukwe
Rev. Ken Grooms is on vacation

Visiting Priest
Rev. Kevin Cronin

Deacons
Rev. Rudy Martin
Rev. Salvatore B. Villani

St. Aidan School
ext. 202, 203 Grades Nursery-2
ext. 302, 303 Grades 3-8
Principal
Mrs. Julie O'Connell
Assistant Principal
Ms. Barbara Graham

Faith Formation
ext. 404, 405
Director ext. 406
Mrs. Elaine Smith,

Youth Ministry
ext. 403
Mr. Stephen Loewenthal

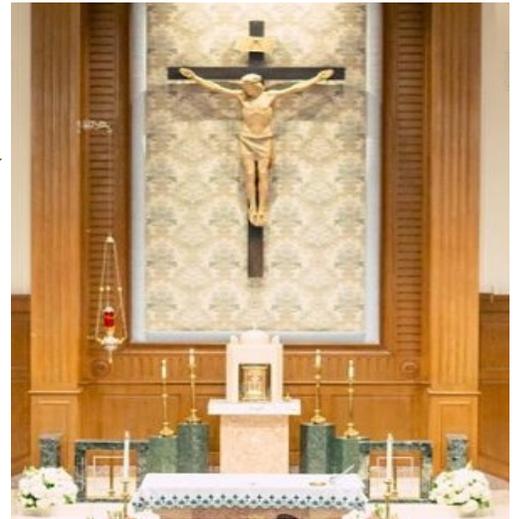
Music Director
Mr. Drago Bubalo ext. 130
bdrago@staidanparish.org

Social Ministry, Director
ext. 410, 408
Ms. Rosemarie Cavallaro

Parish Facilities Manager
Mr. Pat Perez

Business Manager
Ms. Maria Peluso ext. 107

We invite
everyone to walk
with Jesus
and experience
His healing
power and love



RECTORY OFFICE 516-746-6585

HOURS MONDAY TO FRIDAY
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

PLEASE WEAR A MASK

DAILY MASS
Catholics are dispensed from their obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Daily Mass can be viewed on staidanparish.org and on Facebook. Masks or cloth facial coverings must be worn by all present.

COMMUNION
Holy Communion will be distributed at the normal time during the celebration of Mass.

VISIT THE CHURCH
St. Aidan Church is open from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Please wear a face mask and maintain the proper precautions regarding distancing.

BAPTISM
Baptisms are held on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Sunday at 1:30 PM.

BAPTISM CLASS FOR NEW PARENTS
The required Baptism class for new parents is held the second Sunday of each month beginning with the 12:00

Mass. Parents are asked to gather at St. Joseph's statue to the right of the main altar.

MARRIAGE
Arrangements are to be made at the Rectory office at least 9 months in advance. Pre-Cana and FOCCUS registrations must be arranged through the parish.

CONFESSION
Confessions are available in the St. Aidan sacristy meeting room on Saturday from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Enter by the church door at the children's play area. You can also make a confession appointment with a priest by calling the rectory office.

ANOINTING & COMMUNION
The anointing of the sick takes place after the 12:00 PM Mass on the 4th Sunday of each month. Anyone who is homebound may receive Holy Communion at home on a regular basis. Call the rectory - ext. 101.

ADORATION
First and third Fridays of the month 1:00 -3:00 PM in the church.

PARISH EMAIL
To be added to email distributions of the Parish Bulletin please email Bonnie Parente at bparente@verizon.net.

THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN

505 WILLIS AVE. WILLISTON PARK, NEW YORK 11596-1727

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 ST. MATTHEW, APOSTLE

| | | |
|----------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Fr. Adrian | 6:30 AM | Angela Murphy (Birthday Rem.) |
| Fr. Adrian | 9:00 AM | Matthew Clark (1st Anniversary Rem.) |
| Fr. Kevin | 12:30 PM | Antoinette Benaquista |
| Bishop Andrzej | 5:30 PM | Marie Siemann (1st Anniversary Rem.) |

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 25

| | | |
|-------------|----------|----------------------------------------|
| Fr. Kevin | 6:30 AM | Angela Murphy (Birthday Rem.) |
| Fr. Kevin | 9:00 AM | Patrick McCourt (9th Anniversary Rem.) |
| Fr. Solomon | 12:30 PM | Mariann Fudjinski |
| Fr. Solomon | 5:30 PM | Lori Brennan |

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 ST. PIUS OF PIETRELCINA

| | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Fr. Solomon | 6:30 AM | Lv. Ints. of Frank & Sean Moloney |
| Fr. Adrian | 9:00 AM | Helen Sullivan |
| Fr. Kevin | 12:30 PM | Helen & Joseph Urban |
| Fr. Kevin | 5:30 PM | Mary Louise Connelly |

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 25

| | | |
|------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Fr. Kevin | 6:30 AM | Lv. Ints. of Elizabeth Huhn |
| Fr. Kevin | 9:00 AM | Thomas Moschetto, Jr. |
| Fr. Adrian | 12:30 PM | Matthew Clark (Birthday Rem.) |
| Fr. Adrian | 5:30 PM | Diane Coppolo (7th Anniversary Rem.) |

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 25

| | | |
|-------------|----------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fr. Adrian | 6:30 AM | Matthew Clark (Birthday Rem.) |
| Fr. Adrian | 9:00 AM | Barbara Pasko |
| Fr. Solomon | 12:30 PM | Timothy Francis Patrick Sullivan (1st Anniversary Rem.) |
| Fr. Solomon | 5:30 PM | Joseph Silvaggio III (Anniversary Rem.) |

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 25

| | | |
|-------------|---------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Fr. Solomon | 9:00 AM | Joseph Montalbano (Birthday Rem.) & Elsa Montalbano |
| Fr. Adrian | 5:00 PM | Diane Villa (18th Anniversary Rem.) Joan & Fred Stabile (Wedding Anniversary Rem.) John Persico (Anniversary Rem.) Marc Colletti (25th Anniversary Rem.) Maureen Forrester |
| Fr. Kevin | 7:30 PM | Dennis O'Connell (1st Anniversary Rem.) |

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27 TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY

| | | |
|-------------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | ORDINARY TIME |
| Fr. Adrian | 7:30 AM | Helen Brown |
| Fr. Kevin | 9:00 AM | Parishioners of St. Aidan |
| Fr. Solomon | 10:30 AM | Mary & Albert Monfort |
| Fr. Adrian | 12:00 PM | Richard Schanno (Anniversary Rem.) Isabella Kuriger (1st Anniversary Rem.) Rogelio Vall Bonona (1st Anniversary Rem.) Melina Ingrao (Birthday Rem.) Corina Ann Webber |
| Fr. Solomon | 5:00 PM | Deena Ardito-Caccavale |

ARE YOU
ENVIIOUS
BECAUSE I AM
GENEROUS

THUS, THE
LAST WILL BE
FIRST, AND
THE FIRST
WILL BE LAST



What's Pastor Thinking

"It's not fair!" You've heard those words, haven't you. You've thought and felt those words. And you've

probably said those words more than once. Life's not very fair, is it? One person coasts through life with good health, and dies at 95, mind intact; another struggles with ill health for years, and dies at 53. Is that fair?

That's what they said, too, in the parable Jesus tells today. "It's not fair!" The last ones paid had toiled all day in the vineyard, under the blazing sun, for the going wage of a day laborer, just enough to feed their families that evening. They had blisters on their hands, and every muscle in their bodies ached. It had been a long, hard day. And then those late-comers, the lazy ones who had partied all night, slept most of the day, and worked only one hour, in the coolest part of the day, why had they gotten the same wage for barely breaking a sweat?

To top it off, their employer had made the weary workers who had labored all day stand in line and wait, getting angrier by the moment, while the last ones hired got paid first. It wasn't fair! The owner of the vineyard just wasn't fair!

Jesus is trying to tell us something about God in today's story. And here's the news: God is NOT fair! That's right, God is not fair. Because God is more than fair. God is generous! God is more generous than the vineyard-owner in paying the last workers

hired, certainly far more generous than WE deserve! If God were only fair, we'd be in deep trouble, wouldn't we?

In God's eyes, we are the last ones hired! We're not cheated, we're fortunate! We're not cursed, we're blessed! We live under good news, not bad news! The landowner gives exactly what was promised to each worker, a fair day's wage. Nobody got cheated; it's just that all got what was fair, and some got what others thought was too much!

That's how God operates, like the vineyard owner. We all get TOO MUCH! We all get too much mercy, too much grace, too much forgiveness, too much joy and peace, too much of the love of God! Isn't it amazing? For Jesus didn't enter the world because God is fair. Jesus entered this world, entered your life and mine, enters into our midst in the Church, because God is generous! If God were only fair, we'd get coal in our stocking at Christmas, grounded for life! But God is not only fair. Instead God gives graciously and generously.

Jesus lives to give us abundant life now, and glorious life with God for all eternity! Isn't it a good thing that God is not fair. God doesn't operate the way we do.

"Can I not do what I choose with what belongs to me?" asks the vineyard owner. Are you envious because I am generous?"

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

MARY B. DUFFY
ROSEMARIE PAGANELLI

VERONICA FILIPPONE
Funeral Mass
Monday, September 21st
at 10:00 AM

MATILDA CRUZ
Prayer Service
Monday, September 21st
Nassau Knolls Cemetery

ROBERT HESS
Memorial Mass
Saturday, September 26th
at 11:00 AM

THOMAS BURNS
Funeral Mass
Monday, September 28th
at 10:00 AM

SAVINO (SAL) CHIMIANTI
Memorial Mass
Saturday, October 10th
at 11:00 AM

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Jill Ohl
Lily O'Rourke
John Joseph Mulrooney
Steve Pomticello
Kay Perro
Mark Cristello
Maryann Katkowsky
Sean Anderson
Francesca Caccavale
Thomas Yorke
Ashley Lyons
Judy Kostovick
Jack Groothuis
Sharon Devis
Agnes Chun
Blaise DeCario Webber
Virginia Fallon
Kathleen Donnelly
Frank Keenan
Isabella Mueller
Eileen Fitzgerald
Richard Arcario
Janet Stemberger
Jho Martin
Mercy Velasco
Anthony Bosco
Bernadette Abbate

Helen Bondurant
Tony Sigonolsi
Shirley Aguirre
Daniel Kozak
Vittoria Fellin
Baby Amandamarie Shinnick
Peter Testani
Ambrose Donnelly
Siobhan O'Keeffe
Linda Hayes
Christine Adelman
Alicia Zumbrunn
Anthony Siconolfi
Rob Clarkin
Geraldine Massey
Dana Cavanaugh
Ann McGarry
Dominic Caccavale
Greg Sasso
Baby Nolan Shelley
Noel Mcpartland
Dana Cavanaugh
Flavia Marino
Florence & Paul Simmons
Mary Mone
James Peppard

BREAD & WINE MEMORIAL

In Loving Memory of
DANIEL KOPETIC
(6th Anniversary Rem.)
Requested by His Loving Aunts,
Uncles & Cousins

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE
THIRD WEEK**

Nicholas DeBartolo,
St. Joseph, Coroton Falls, NY
Taylor Esposito,
St. Rose, New Town, CT

STEWARDSHIP

9/15/19 \$20,946
9/13/20 \$24,961
(+19.16%)

**CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY
COLLECTION**

9/08/19 \$1,444
9/13/20 \$786 (-45.56%)

THIS WEEKEND

Retired Priests
Facilities Maintenance

ONLINE GIVING

Over 350 parishioners are
donating online. Go to
staidanparish.org. Click DONATE.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES APPEAL

Parish Goal \$150,000.00
Pledges \$101,577.15
Donors 385
Payments \$93,082.15



A Catechist's Prayer

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY 2020

A Catechist's Prayer

Loving Father, pour forth your Holy Spirit upon me that I may be a good catechist of your Word, your Son, Jesus Christ.

Render my mind and heart so open, receptive and responsive to your Holy Spirit that, like Mary, I might become a living instrument of your Word to others. Help me to be a faithful witness to Gospel life so that your Church may become ever more alive.

Let the fire of your love so enkindle my heart that I may be an instrument of drawing others to love of you in the Church of your Son.

I ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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JOIN US FOR DAILY MASS FROM THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN AT ST.AIDANPARISH.ORG AND ON FACEBOOK.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

DEACON ORDINATION AND MASS OF THANKSGIVING

Mr. Jerry Magaldi will be ordained a Deacon on Wednesday, September 23rd at St. Agnes Cathedral. Mass of Thanksgiving at the Church of St. Aidan, next Sunday, September 27th at 12:00 PM Mass. Reception after in St. Aidan Gym.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

As Pope Benedict XVI said in his Encyclical, Deus Caritas Est, "Everything has its origin in God's love, everything is shaped by it, everything is directed towards it. Love is God's greatest gift to humanity; it is his promise and our hope."

FOOD PANTRY: Please bring all non-perishable food/ personal hygiene items to the sacred heart chapel in church or to the Parish Social Ministry office.

Items Needed: cookies, clorox wipes, dishwashing liquid, detergent and oil/vinegar.

PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Social Ministry office hours are: Monday-Friday, 9:00-3:00. Please use the Finamore Parish Center entrance (across from the church on Willis Avenue).

COAT COLLECTION

It's that time again. Keep the homeless warm this winter. Please donate a coat or jacket to a soup kitchen that feeds 185 million meals a year. Please call Tecky at (516) 655-9755 or Cathy comayu27@gmail.com for drop off point.



RCIA SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Congratulations to all the candidates who received the sacraments of initiation at the 7:30 PM Mass on Saturday, September 12th. We welcome Samantha Chu, Samantha Ferazzolo, Elvin Polanco and Daniel Wloski into full communion in the Church. The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a catholic, contact the rectory for information. 516-746-6585 ex 101

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Children attending St. Aidan School will receive First Holy Communion on Saturday, October 3rd at 11:30 AM and 2:00 PM. Tickets for attendance will be issued to each family. Services will be livestreamed on staidanparish.org and on Facebook.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Confirmations at the Church of St. Aidan will be celebrated Saturday, October 24th and Saturday, November 7th.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Sunday, September 27 - 1:00 PM

BAPTISM CLASS

Parents who are bringing their first child for baptism may now attend a baptism class. The next class is on Sunday October 11th. Please contact the rectory office.

CHARISMATIC PRAISE AND WORSHIP WITH BLD GROUP

Every Friday from 7:15 PM to 9:30 PM.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER HAS GONE "VIRTUAL"!

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual marriage experience called Restore – Rekindle – Renew. This Enrichment Experience will meet via Zoom for seven sessions on Monday evenings September 14 to October 26 from 7-9:30 PM. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God’s plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call John & Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit them at <https://wwmenyli.org/>.

CHIEFS FOOTBALL REGISTRATION

Chiefs PAL Football has upgraded its website so that online registration for the Fall 2020 Season is available at www.mineolapal.org. The sign up is for flag (5 and 6 year olds). The registration fee for flag is \$60 but we have turned off the payment feature at this time. We just want to register children to know who wants to play so we are ready for a Fall Flag Football Season. Practices start on Monday September 21st and the games begin on Sunday September 27th.

BISHOP BARRES' PASTORAL LETTER, EVANGELIUM VITAE: A GOSPEL OF LIFE FOR TODAY.

On this 25th anniversary year of Evangelium Vitae, Bishop Barres has issued a letter to the people of the Diocese of Rockville Centre and beyond. It is particularly fitting that Evangelium Vitae: A Gospel of Life for Today is issued as the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced that October, Respect Life Month, begins the year-long theme "Live the Gospel of Life," during which we will more deeply explore the Church's teachings on human life and how we can more faithfully follow Christ's example. Evangelium Vitae: A Gospel of Life for Today will enrich your life, for the first step to live the Gospel of Life, is to know the Gospel of Life.

FREE COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING

The Town of Hempstead has teamed up with Northwell Health to help keep our community safe. To schedule an appointment, call 516-821-2500.

ST. DOMINIC HIGH SCHOOL

2020 TACHS. Exam Perp. Course, September 26th and October 3, 17, 24 and 31st. 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. Course fee \$250. Contact Mrs. Stutzmann at 516 922 4888 ext. 5241.



Signs will be distributed at both locations.

23rd Annual Stand Up For Life

**Sunday, October 4, 2020
2:00-3:30 PM**

(rain or shine)

At two locations:

Along Route 110 and Route 25

Huntington, LI

and

SUFL, East - LIE, Exit 70S, Cty. Rd. 111
Manorville, LI

ALL WELCOME!

Remembering and Caring for our Senior Priests

Do you ever think about a favorite Pastor or Parish Priest and wonder how they are and where they may be living?

Well, for our Senior Priests who are living at St. Pius X Residence, life is good and sometimes very busy.



"We are very happy that more and more of our Priests are taking advantage of this wonderful facility. We thank you for your support, we depend on it, especially now with the increasing costs we are experiencing. We couldn't do it without you!"

- Rev. Msgr. Thomas Costa,
Vicar for Senior Priests

"Since I arrived at St. Pius X, I have found living here like being at home. I have found much happiness with my fellow priests and in the entire community, and I especially appreciate the support I receive. Thank you for helping to make this home possible."

- Rev. Msgr. T Peter Ryan



Even in retirement our senior priests retain roles as our shepherds, and St. Pius X enables these dedicated men who live there to be fully engaged members of the community. "Still on duty," they serve as our teachers, counselors, and spiritual leaders.

The special collection for retired priests living at St. Pius X Residence will take place next weekend. Please be as generous as possible! Thank You!

www.drvc.org/stpiusx

What's Happening at St. Aidan School

We celebrated Grandparents' Day virtually this year on Friday, September 11, 2020.



Fr. Adrian celebrated a beautiful Mass for Grandparents' Day and the opening of the 2020-2021 school year. Our students watched the Mass live streamed in their classrooms and our grandparents and grandfriends watched from home. Our grandparents are an important part of our school community and we loved sharing this Mass with them.



Some of our wonderful grandparents and their grandchildren!



Faith FORMATION

TODAY IS CATECHETICAL SUNDAY.

Please keep all children, their parents, and their catechists in your prayers. We thank all those who have offered to help in various capacities in our parish's Faith Formation program. May God bless you for your generosity.

GOOD NEWS! FAITH FORMATION HAS ITS OWN PAGE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE:

WEBSITE: staidanparish.org/ff. Please visit this webpage throughout the year for ongoing updates and information.

2020-2021 School Year: Due to the current pandemic, the Faith Formation program will be a blended program for the upcoming school year, which will include children working at home under the direction of their parents, supported by catechists and the Faith Formation Office plus small Church Gatherings where children will come together in the church while remaining socially distant. Parents were sent emails explaining the details of the program.. Children must be registered to participate. Children attending public schools are expected to participate in Religious Education classes every school year from grade 1 through grade 8. Each grade must be successfully completed in order to move to the next grade. Materials will be distributed on September 21, 22, and 23 from 3:30PM to 6:30PM in the back parking lot of the upper school building. We ask parents to enter the parking lot via Winthrop Street, which is on the north side of the upper school building and exit via Birmingham Place.. A Drive

Thru station will be set-up. Additional Drive-Thru days will be added the following week should any of the originally scheduled dates have inclement weather. Parents received emails with more detailed information. Please call the Faith Formation Office with any questions.

Attention First Grade Parents:

Welcome to the Religious Education Program! Please check the Faith Formation webpage on the staidanparish.org website. If you know any Catholic families with 1st grade children, who attend public school, please pass on this information or ask them to call the Faith Formation Office at (516)746-6585 x404. A copy of the child's Baptismal certificate is required for all 1st grade children. Preparation for First Communion is a two year process. Children must complete both grades 1 and 2 in the Religious Education program in order to be properly prepared for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion at the end of grade 2.

Multisensory Religious Education: St. Aidan's has had a multisensory Religious Education program for over ten years. This program uses creative teaching techniques and smaller class ratios to serve children who learn better in such an environment. For further information, please call (516)746-6585 x406. A meeting with the Director is required before registering for this program.

Catechists Needed: Catechists are needed for the Multisensory Program. If you can help, please contact the Faith Formation Office

Student Aides: Are you a high school student who enjoys working with children? Are you possibly considering a career goal working closely with children and families? Are you looking for opportunities to have an ongoing service experience? If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions or you are curious to learn more about actively assisting in the Multisensory Program, please call the Faith Formation Office at (516)746-6585 x405 or contact the Director at x406.

Confirmation Fall 2020 Candidates:

The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated on October 24th and November 7th. Parents received email notifications regarding their children's assigned Confirmation dates and times. Please contact the Faith Formation Office if you have not received this information. Please note that the Confirmation Registration Forms, Sponsor Testimony Forms signed and stamped at the sponsor's home parish, and the Letter to the Pastor requesting Confirmation were due on August 21st. These forms must be submitted to to the Faith Formation Office as soon as possible as they are necessary for Confirmation this Fall.

Helpful Websites: During this time of pandemic precautions, the following websites may be helpful. Google usccb.org (United States Catholic Conference of Bishops) which provides the Scripture readings for Mass. Catholicmom.com, which ordinarily has many of the Mass worksheets made available to the children at the Family Mass, is providing videos and articles about how to celebrate the Faith at home in the “domestic church.” Loyolapress.com and religion.sadlierconnect.com have some family activities and informative articles.

Contact Us: The Faith Formation Webpage includes direct contact information for each member of the Faith Formation Office Team. During this time of phasing into a more “normal” schedule, the office is open by appointment only. Please contact us with your questions and concerns. We welcome your phone calls and emails during this challenging time. If you have paperwork to submit, there is a Drop Box outside the building for your convenience. If you want to stop by the office, please call ahead of time. Let us pray for one another!



During this time of transition, the Family Mass will continue to provide some limited materials each week. The Magnifikids magazines are available every week along with the Children’s Worship Bulletins for ages 3 to 7 and ages 7 to 12. They are located in the Children’s Corner racks in the main lobby of the Church. Even if you are not yet returning to Mass due to pandemic concerns, these materials can be used at home. Take a few minutes to stop by the

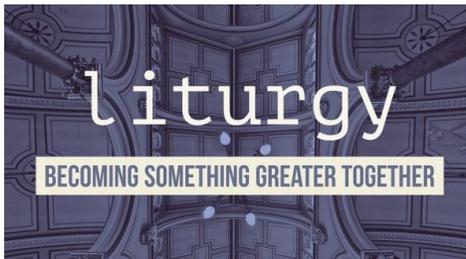
church to pick them up for home use. Please do not leave them in the church. Today is the Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The liturgical color is green. Each week, we have been focusing on a Word of the Week to help link the Gospel to Family Life. This week’s Word of the Week is GENEROUS. Today’s Gospel, (Matthew 20:1-16a), is the story of the workers in the vineyard. A landowner went out early in the morning to hire workers to work in his vineyard. These workers agreed to the wage the landowner offered them for the whole day’s work. Around three hours later, the landowner hired more workers. The landowner continued to hire groups of workers throughout the day into the early evening. At the end of the official work day, the landowner assembled all his workers and began to pay them beginning with the last workers hired and giving each of the groups the full day’s pay. The first workers hired expected to receive a larger salary because they assumed that the landowner would be fair in their estimation and pay them more since they worked more. The first workers were disappointed when they found out that they were only going to be paid what was initially agreed to. The landowner explained that he did exactly what he said he would do and paid them according to his agreement with them. Therefore, the first workers were not cheated in any way. The landowner had the right to be generous to those he hired throughout the day if he wanted to. The landowner was showering all his workers with his generosity. This story is a clear example of how God’s ways are beyond our understanding. By virtue of our Baptism, we are called to learn how to grow in understanding God’s ways. This certainly doesn’t mean that fairness isn’t important, but it does show that God works with us as individuals. We are part of the Body of Christ; however, we are not just thrown into the “melting pot” of the Body of Christ! We bring our

own uniqueness into our actions and God meets us where we are. For families, the balance between being generous and being fair can sometimes seem confusing and perhaps even contradictory. Children expect parents and others to be fair. They learn quite young that often there are “extra perks” for good behavior or good grades, etc. What children struggle with is welcoming opportunities to do for and give to others with a generous spirit without any expectations. They expect everyone in the family to be treated fairly on their terms unless of course, they are being rewarded beyond what they deserve. Parents and relatives often struggle about how to model and teach children about being generous. The first thought that would pop into our adult minds would be teaching children the importance of sharing. This is often a nursery school goal; however, we need to help children understand how God offers His great mercy and blessings to all as He sees fit. God’s generous spirit is not something we earn or are entitled to. He gives freely, even when it isn’t earned or even appreciated. Have “awareness conversations” as a family this week about God’s generosity and how the family can work together to model it by discussing things that may be purchased, donations that are being considered, assisting children in earning some money to purchase their own food donation for the less fortunate, etc. Work on creating a more conscious climate of sharing and use the word generous as often as you can. It is a natural developmental process for children to see themselves as the center of the universe and let’s face it, to parents, they are, but working on being generous in more conscious ways will lay the foundation of individual generosity, empathy, and true Christ-like compassion for others. This is how we grow into the Missionary Disciples we are called to be.

SUNDAY READINGS

Have you ever wondered why some people "get all the breaks" and others seem to have bad luck all their life? In biblical times, those who were rich or prosperous, or just good-looking were considered to be favored by God. Those who were poor or ill or in some way disabled were automatically, but unjustifiably, considered being sinners punished by God. On the other hand, there are countless stories where God is overwhelmingly generous with many; but such stories don't seem to get much recognition. The readings for today give us a good example of God's generosity, yet we seem to focus on the "unfairness" of the landowner in the Gospel. The unions would surely be after him in today's environment. We must remember that this is a parable, a "story" with a message. So what is the message? The First Reading is from the Prophet Isaiah (55:6-9). Here we have the prophet preaching to his congregation the virtues and generosity of God, citing: "God's ways are not like mankind's ways." We should be thankful for that and remember it when we feel that we are being treated unfairly, and then ask ourselves, "What is going on here? Why is God treating me this way?" The Responsorial Psalm (145:2-18) is a prayer in which the psalmist praises God for His goodness, compassion and generosity. However, with God there is always some qualification in His instructions or offerings. In this case it is "...to all who call upon Him in truth." We can't ignore Him for most of our life and then expect Him to answer our needs when we call. The Second Reading is from Paul's Letter to the Philippians (1:20-27). "Philippians" is all about humility. In this passage, Paul is saying that he is so grateful to Jesus Christ for bringing him to this stage of his life that it makes no difference if he, Paul, is dead or alive. To Paul each has its merits, and so he

gives his body, his very life to Christ in thanksgiving; and he asks that we do the same. Wow! That's a tall request, but it is truly worth the effort. The Gospel Reading is from Matthew (20:1-16). In this passage, Jesus is giving us a lesson on what the kingdom of heaven is like. When the Bible uses the word "like" it does not mean "the same as." So we must look for a similarity or likeness. In this story, the similarity is the landowner who is somewhat like God the Father. God can be as generous as He wishes to those He loves and even to those who He might not totally approve of. This might be the way He is working with someone to bring them around to His way of thinking. So we must not look with longing at someone who is rich or powerful or good looking. Who knows, behind the façade there could be all kinds of problems. If we have needs, either spiritual or temporal (and who doesn't?) we should call upon our generous Lord and God for mercy and help, but we should also see to it that our spiritual house is in order. Then, let the "chips fall where they may." Just something to think about during your prayer time this week! Oh, and the message? I'll also leave that for you to think about.



Before getting into the epistles themselves, let's look a bit at one of the most influential writers in the history of humanity, St. Paul. Not since the books of the Prophets had an individual's voice sounded so clearly in Scripture. And unlike many other books of the Bible, for many of his letters, we know Paul was the author, so we know to whom we are listening. Beginning with his letter to the Romans, the first one in the Bible, but not the first he wrote, we hear the actual words of the specific writer, not through the narrative, as in the Gospels and Acts, but written directly to the church members then, and, ultimately, to us today. Originally

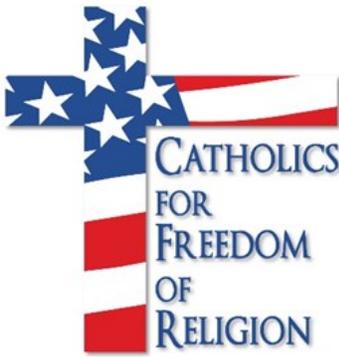
a Jewish zealot, he became the primary Christian zealot. He says that like Jeremiah, he was called from his mother's womb, but only later recognized his true calling (see Gal 1), and like the prophets, he suffered dearly for his acceptance of this mission – imprisonment, beatings, stoning, three shipwrecks, deprivation, disappointment with the failure of some of those he taught to truly listen to him, and, ultimately, martyrdom. He is a man of contrasts – seen both as a feminist and misogynist, an apocalyptic Jew and yet one who preached to Gentiles, as well as both anti-slavery, and yet accepting it. He experienced a life-changing event when Jesus spoke to him and from that day on, with a new name signifying the change, he went from being a chief persecutor of God's new church to its greatest advocate. All of which needs to be viewed in the context of when he lived and to whom he wrote. There were many religions and sects, both formal and unorganized, at the time he wrote, all competing for members. The old Greek and Roman gods were there, the nameless gods of Athens, Egyptian gods. Rome didn't care as long as you worshipped the emperor, although at the time of Paul, this emperor worship was only beginning – it became a major issue later leading to persecutions. But the emperor did claim titles of lord and savior, so Paul's use of them referring to Jesus was in direct opposition to Rome.

Paul deals with the existing society as well as matters of faith. In addition to expounding on his theological teachings, morality is a big part of his writing, both as applied to daily life and to that of the church's leaders. Women play a great part in his description of the churches he established, and this was somewhat unique in much of the area in which he preached. In Greek society women had few rights, but in Roman society, they could own property, inherit, and sometimes live independent of a male guardian. The spread of the Roman concepts were somewhat coincident with Paul's mission, but the leadership roles of women in his letters was very progressive, to say the least.

Further, his preaching to and advocating for the acceptance of Gentiles into the

growing Christian community without their converting to Judaism and following the rules of Judaism, notably circumcision, was originally opposed by the early church leaders in Jerusalem (see both Acts and Galatians). But as described in those books, the Holy Spirit helps end the discussions and they conclude with Paul's position becoming accepted by the nascent church. This clearly opens the way for the growth of the church into a house for a vast number of people and cultures as we know it today, and it clearly reflects Jesus' directive to carry His words to the ends of the earth – far beyond the imagination of those who received the original directive.

Some scholars refer to Paul as a sort of co-founder of the church, because of his mission to the non-Jewish world and how that influenced the church, but seen in the context of his role harkening back to the Old Testament prophets and the influence of the Holy Spirit, it is more of his being God's chosen missionary, as he is sometimes referred to as the Apostle to the Gentiles. That word, Apostle, has many meanings, one of which, "one who leads or advocates a cause" certainly fits him. But he sometimes refers to himself as an apostle, in more like our traditional interpretation of that title, although with a significant caveat: 1 Cor 15: 8-10 "Last of all, as to one born abnormally, He appeared to me. For I am the least of the apostles, not fit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace to me has not been ineffective. Indeed, I have toiled harder than all of them; not I, however, but the grace of God [that is] with me." Paul's career was relatively short. All of his epistles were probably written over a period of about fifteen years, between roughly 50 and 65 AD. But it changed the world. Paul recognized who he was. We should, too. Without him, arguably the church would have ended up like so many other sects around at the time, lost to history except as footnotes. But Paul was the one chosen by God, and guided by the Holy Spirit, to set in motion the establishment of His Church on earth. As usual, God chose His man well.



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The Constitution of the United States This "Miracle in Philadelphia" Was Grounded in America's Judeo-Christian Values

"The happy union of these states is a wonder; their Constitution is a miracle; their example the hope of liberty throughout the world. Woe to the ambition that would meditate the destruction of either!"

- James Madison, 1787

Judeo-Christian values are foundational to America, beginning with the Declaration of Independence "endowed by their Creator" to the principles found in the U.S. Constitution honoring God-given Life and Liberty."

"Our Founding Fathers separated church from state, but they wisely did not separate God from state. They acknowledged God as the source of our rights and were careful to place Biblical morality directly into our founding documents and laws, and into our values and culture, precisely to help prevent a future totalitarian or tyrannical rule in America," wrote author Dr. Ronald R. Cherry (1)

It is alarming that many today have turned a blind eye to the required connection between God and Liberty and forgotten the warning from John Adams and Thomas Jefferson that Liberty cannot survive among men without its Divine connection. "Remember that a Constitution which gives to the people so much freedom and entrusts them with so much power, rests for its permanency, on their knowledge and virtue," wrote Arthur Stansbury, in 1828. "An ignorant people are easily betrayed, and a wicked people can never be ruled by

the mild influence of their own laws. If you would be free ... cultivate knowledge - flee from vice. The virtuous citizen is the true noble." (2)

(Elementary Catechism on the Constitution of the U.S. (2); americanthinker.com, 9/15/07(1); renewamerica.com, 5/5/11; thoughts.com, 7/3/19; The 5,000 Year Leap)

Happening Now: Freedom of Religion & Freedom of Speech Denied

Florida State University's former head of the student senate is suing the school, charging his religious freedom was violated when he was removed from his position following comments he made in a private chat forum for Catholic students. He had commented that policy positions of some protesting groups that embrace disrupting the nuclear family and are hostile to the Gospel, contradict the teachings of the Catholic Church.

"While FSU students claim they're creating a 'safe space', they've tried to cancel Jack's freedoms and discriminate against him because they don't like his beliefs in direct violation of the First Amendment," said Alliance Defending Freedom.(3) "Florida State should be fostering real diversity of thought and not punishing individuals based on religious convictions or political beliefs."(4)

(nregister.com, 8/3/20(4); cna.org, 9/2/20 (3); christianpost.com, 8/3/20)

Be Silent No More!

Elected officials and their staff listen to, read and tabulate citizens' concerns and opinions when making decisions for their state and for the country. Do not be silent. Please contact one or more Senator or Congressman each week to encourage them to share your values. Call Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to be connected to any Representative or Senator's office. Email: Find Representative's email at www.house.gov Find Senator's email at www.senate.gov

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

We vote because we are citizens. But we vote conscientiously because we are people of faith. Our consciences are formed through studying Scripture and the teachings of the Church, examination of the facts, and prayerful reflection.

This brief insert is intended as a starting point to help us respond to our choices in the current political landscape.

Forming Consciences



Faithful Citizenship

While there are many moral issues before us, every issue is not equal.

- ★ **Issues that directly affect human lives**—such as abortion and euthanasia—are fundamental and demand serious consideration.
- ★ Our Constitution heralds **religious liberty** in the First Amendment, yet increasingly people of faith are having to fight to retain this basic right.
- ★ There is a move in the nation to **redefine marriage**. The marriage of a man and a woman is the foundation of the family and an essential core element of a flourishing society.
- ★ The **growing disparity between rich and poor** means most of the world's resources are in the hands of a small percentage of its people. The federal budget is a moral document and must prioritize the poorest and most vulnerable among us.
- ★ The **millions of undocumented persons** living in the United States deserve our compassion. There is an immigration problem, and we need a humane solution to it.
- ★ War, terror, and **violence** have caused thousands of lost lives. We must work for just solutions to conflict in the Holy Land, throughout the Middle East, and beyond.

Visit **FaithfulCitizenship.org** today.

As Catholic citizens, we should remember three things:

- 1. Respect for the dignity of each person** is the core of Catholic social and moral teaching. This is our most basic principle.
- 2. We focus on the common good**, not our own personal interests. We ask, how can we make the world a better place? Not, how can I improve my own personal situation?
- 3. We have a responsibility**—a true obligation—to form our consciences and participate in the civic life of this nation.

Here are some ways to do that.

- ★ Be true to the **teachings of the Church**. Read Scripture, the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, teachings from the Holy See, and the statements of our bishops. Read *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* at faithfulcitizenship.org. We need to be sure that our reasoning and judgments are well-grounded in our faith.
- ★ Stay **well-informed about issues** through judicious and reasoned engagement with the immense world of information in the twenty-first century. Just as all issues are not equal, all sources are not equal. For example, an individual's blog—while potentially very insightful—may not have the same fidelity to factual truth as our media sources that hold themselves to professional standards of journalistic ethics, imperfect though they are.
- ★ Remain in contact **with our representatives** in local, state, and federal government. Our responsibility to form our consciences leads to an obligation to be *active citizens*. We communicate regularly with our leaders—not only during election seasons.
- ★ Engage in **reasoned, compassionate, and loving dialogue** with others—Catholics and non-Catholics alike—about the issues and choices that we are facing as a nation. Remember that we are called first to witness the Gospel, and through that witness, to share our social teaching, to highlight the moral dimensions of issues, and to participate in debate on public policy.
- ★ The dual calling of faith and citizenship lies at the heart of **what it means to be a Catholic in the United States**. We stand on the shoulders of many Catholics who have gone before us, who have helped the United States of America become a better country because of their faith in a loving God.

We care.
Therefore, we vote.



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You can make a difference in the lives of those around us by making a gift to this year's Catholic Ministries Appeal

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A gift of \$50 from an emergency fund may help pay the electric bill in a cold winter month for a family in need.

A gift of \$100 may help care for a newborn infant in Catholic Charities Regina Residence.

A gift of \$250 may help subsidize a home for an adult who is developmentally disabled.

A gift of \$1,000 may help support a Seminarian's education.

Because of you, every year we serve more than 600,000 people in our Long Island Community. This support enables our children to continue to receive the gift of spiritual formation, sacramental preparation, and quality education. It allows seminarians and lay leaders to fulfill their calling to serve the community. With your support, Catholic Charities can maintain its services for the poor and disadvantaged, and we can continue to reach out to our young people and others to find the best ways to guide and pass on our faith from generation to generation.

For more information about the Catholic Ministries Appeal, please visit <https://www.drvc.org/donate/cma/or> call 516-678-5800 ext. 296.

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THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN IS OPEN

- * The Church of St. Aidan is open from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM and is sanitized regularly. We continue to function with alternating pews closed (every other pew remaining open).
- * Masks or cloth facial coverings must be worn by all present. Please maintain 6 feet social distance from non-family members.
- * The dispensation from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains in effect. Those who are not feeling well or who are at risk should be reminded to remain at home.
- * Mass from the Church of St. Aidan can be viewed on staidanparish.org and on Facebook. Weekday Mass: 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:30 PM and 5:30 PM. Saturday Mass: 9:00 AM, 5:00 PM and 7:30 PM. Sunday Mass: 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM.
- * St. Aidan School are using the parish parking lots throughout the day. Daily Mass goes and those attending funerals on Monday to Friday are asked to park on the street or in St. John's parking lot.
- * Confessions are held in the sacristy meeting room. Screen only. Saturday 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

HOLY COMMUNION

- * As of the weekend of September 12 – 13, Holy Communion will be distributed at the normal time during the celebration of Mass.
- * Please practice the utmost reverence for the Blessed Sacrament. We have two communion lines – Left side at St. Anthony & Right side at St. Teresa. The priest or Eucharistic Minister will return to the second line after they finish distributing at the first. Follow the arrows and maintain a 6-foot distance from each other as you come forward.
- * We are encouraged to receive in the hand. Those wishing to receive on the tongue may come at the end and receive kneeling.
- * Priests and those distributing Holy Communion should put on their masks, and sanitize their hands immediately before distributing Communion. If the minister is masked, those receiving Holy Communion can lower their mask immediately before receiving the Sacred Host.
- * Do not “walk away” with the Sacred Host. If you receive Holy Communion, you must consume the Host immediately. The Precious Blood is still not to be distributed to the lay Faithful at this time.
- * The Sign of Peace is still to be omitted.
- * No one is to wear gloves while distributing or receiving Holy Communion. The Center for Disease Control advises that glove should only be worn when one is cleaning or is caring for the sick.

PLEASE NOTE

- * The number of assistants in the sanctuary during Mass should be at an absolute minimum and socially distanced. Altar Servers and Ushers are not required at this time.
- * Lectors & Eucharistic Ministers are invited to resume their ministry. Please do not enter the sacristy.
- * The use of Choirs continues to be strongly discouraged. Hymnals and “worship aids” are removed. Cantors may be used, and people may respond to parts of the Mass, but, vigorous communal singing should not occur.
- * There is no entrance, offertory or recessional procession.
- * Bulletins are available but not to be distributed.
- * Collection baskets will not be passed around. Please place your donation in the collection boxes at the doors or continue to donate online. Thank you for your support.
- * Call the Rectory Office to request Mass Intentions for 2021 and to schedule baptisms, weddings, funerals etc.

Adapting to COVID protocols has been most challenging and we are grateful for your understanding. If you have any questions please call the RECTORY OFFICE 516-746-6585.

Hours: Monday to Friday, 9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM.

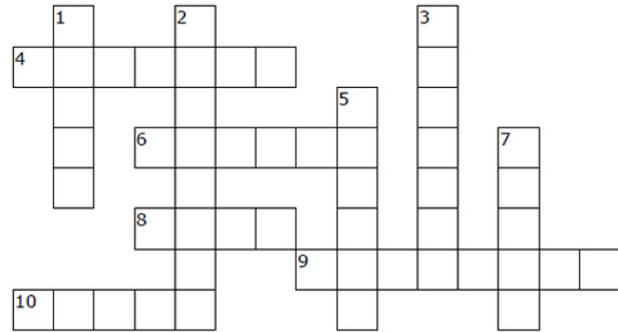
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ACROSS

- 4. People who labor, usually for wages or a salary
- 6. The place where God lives
- 8. A period of time equal to sixty minutes
- 9. A place where grapes are grown
- 10. Pay received for working

DOWN

- 1. Coins or bills used to pay for something
- 2. To give or share freely with others
- 3. To gripe or complain
- 5. Not playing by the rules
- 7. Two things that are of the same value

| | | | | |
|----------|---------|-------|---------|----------|
| HEAVEN | GRUMBLE | MONEY | WORKERS | VINEYARD |
| GENEROUS | HOURLY | WAGES | UNFAIR | EQUAL |

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