

*St. Mary's Catholic Church
Windthorst, TX*

St. Mary's / St. Boniface Vision Statement

To serve Christ and
promote
His teachings
through Worship,
Education,
Training, Service,
and
Community



*St. Boniface Catholic Church
Scotland, TX*

Father Michael Moloney, O. F. S., Parochial Administrator, and
Donald Brown, Deacon

Mailing Address for Both Churches

PO Box 230, Windthorst, Texas 76389
Phone (940) 423-6687 * Fax (940) 423-6657
Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9 am-5 pm
www.stmarysstboniface.org

General Information

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

on the **3rd Sunday** of the month at 8:45 A.M.
contact the office for dates and to register for classes

Marriage Preparation

contact the office at least nine to 12 months prior
to wedding date

RCIA

contact Florence Anderle @ 423-6310 or 423-6271

Funerals

in the case of a death in the family, please contact the
office as soon as possible.

Ministry to the Sick

contact the office immediately if you know of anyone
who is sick, hospitalized or home-bound

Confession

St. Mary's every Saturday 4:00 – 4:40 pm and
every Wednesday after evening Mass.
(or by appointment at the office.)
St. Boniface – First Saturday from 3:15 – 3:45 p.m.

Hispanic Ministry

Tuesday & Thursday in Convent
Call Oscar or Alma Contreras at 423-6918 or 940-224-8183

Mass Schedule for the Week

Monday <u>6:30 pm</u>	† February 6 – St. Mary's Anna Moloney by Father Robert Strittmater
Wednesday <u>7:00 pm</u>	† February 8 – St. Mary's Buddy Berend by M. J. Geis Family
Thursday <u>8:15 am</u>	† February 9 – St. Boniface Gayle Steinberger and Welfare of Dale Steinberger by Richard Schroeders
Friday <u>7:25 am</u>	† February 10 – St. Mary's Johnny Teichman by Ralph Veitenheimers
Saturday <u>5:00 pm</u>	† February 11 – St. Mary's George Veitenheimer by Anna Mae Veitenheimer
<u>7:00 pm</u>	† Jason Baird by Friends (Spanish Mass)
Sunday <u>8:00 am</u>	† February 12 – St. Boniface Mildred Koetter by James Losapio
Sunday <u>10:00 am</u>	† February 12 - St. Mary's Louise Conrady by Geraldine Lindemann

ST. MARY'S MINISTERS

Monday Feb. 6, 2017 – Sunday Feb. 12, 2017

HOSPITALITY

Sat. 5:00 pm Arthur & Shirley Litteken
 Sun. 10:00 am Sherry Berend & Gladys Wolf

LECTORS

Mon. 6:30 pm Gloria Schroeder
 Wed. 7:00 pm Gina Wolf
 Fri. 7:25 am Michael Schroeder
 Sat. 5:00 pm Chad Steinberger & Suzette Schreiber
 Sun. 10:00 am Margie Berend & Chuck King

SERVERS

Wed. 7:00 pm Grayson Steinberger, Drew Anderle
 Fri. 7:25 am Bri Hoff, Koen Sternadel
 Sat. 5:00 pm MacKenzie & Colby Wolf, Keaira Fillingim
 Sun. 10:00 am Matthew Veitenheimer, Koda & Koen Sternadel

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Sat. 5:00 pm Jerry Anderle/Hosts, Deb Schreiber/Hosts, Richard Schreiber, Beverly Lindeman, Brett Hoff, Betty Wolf, Leo Hoff/Choir Hosts, Donna Hoff/Choir
 Sun. 10:00 am Joey Veitenheimer/Hosts, Angel Veitenheimer/Hosts, Jean Berend, Trissa Berend, Hannah Anderle, Ted Neeb, Mark Veitenheimer/Choir Hosts, Kristi Veitenheimer/Choir

USHERS

Sat. 5:00 pm Doug Wolf, Jerry Anderle, Mason Vieth, James Vieth
 Sun. 10:00 am Terry Schroeder, Brad Hoffman, Dalton Anderle, David McCann

GIFT BEARERS

Sat. 5:00 pm M. J. & Beth Geis
 Sun. 10:00 am Tommy Schlumpf III Family

COMMUNION MINISTERS TO THE SICK

Sun. Feb. 12th Mike Schreiber
 Sun. Feb. 19th Bert & Elizabeth Hoff

CHILDREN'S LITURGY LEADERS

Sun. Feb. 12th Mary Wolf & Marsha Anderle
 Sun. Feb. 19th Ann Hertel & Brooke Schreiber

MONEY COUNTERS

Mon. Feb. 6th Alfred Berend Jr., Margaret Schroeder, JoAnn Hoff

SUPPORT-Sunday Envelopes \$3152.05, Loose \$425.40, Children \$35.57, Building Fund \$310.00, Church in Latin America \$243.00.

ST. BONIFACE MINISTERS,

Monday Feb 6, 2017 - Sunday Feb. 12, 2017

HOSPITALITY

Sun. 8:00 am Jerry & Margaret Smith

LECTOR

Sun. 8:00 am Keith Teichman

SERVERS

Sun. 8:00 am Cassidy & Jenna Veitenheimer

MINISTERS OF COMMUNION

Sun. 8:00 am Priscilla Stallcup, Pat Hemmi, Cole & Elizabeth Hemmi

USHERS

Sun. 8:00 am Ronnie Stallcup, Lyndon Teichman

GIFT BEARERS

Sun. 8:00 am Robert J. Krahle Family

MONEY COUNTERS

Sun. Feb. 12th Pat Hemmi, Joyce Moer, Vivian Rice

SUPPORT – Sunday Envelopes \$990.00, Loose \$180.50, Children \$, Church in Latin America \$80.00.

ST. MARY'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY LIGHT will burn this week in memory of Al Veitenheimer as requested by Ann Veitenheimer.

CHALICE FOR VOCATIONS: Ralph & Clara Veitenheimer will receive the Chalice on **February 11th at the 5:00 p.m. Mass.** They, as well as all of us, are asked to pray for vocations.

2-19 Joey & Angel Veitenheimer 10:00 a.m. Mass

2-26 Don & Benita Essler 10:00 a.m. Mass

NOTICE: CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED ON TUESDAY.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Feb. 8th – Adoration, Benediction, Devotion 6:00 p.m.
 Mass 7:00 p.m. Wednesday evening Adoration
 Intentions: Unity in the Church.

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY ADORATION INTENTIONS:

First Week for Respect for Human Life.

Second Week for Unity in the Church.

Third Week for Vocations.

Fourth Week for World Peace.

Fifth Week for the Intentions of the Holy Father.

ST. MARY'S ANNUAL DINNER/DANCE TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!!! The celebration will be **Saturday, February 11th, 2017** at St. Mary's Parish Hall. **See you there!!!**

BIBLE STUDY will be this Sunday evening, Feb. 5th at 4:00 p.m. in the Convent. Bible Study will continue on Sunday evenings throughout the year. Please bring your Bible, The Catechism of the Catholic Church and notebook. A Handout will be provided at the Bible Study. Everyone is welcome.

ST. MARY'S IMPROVEMENT FUND – Many thanks to Vinny Lewis' Business Solutions for their donation to the Improvement Fund in memory of Frank Moer. It is appreciated.

3rd DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS meet on Wednesday, February 8th after Mass and novena.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS EDUCATION CONTEST entries are due February 15th. This includes Essay, Poetry, Art, Computer Art, Music & Photography and involves Grades 4th through 12th grade and Adult C.D.A. members. Contact Deana Vieth at 642-7102 for more information and if you have any questions.

BAPTISMAL CLASSES are offered on the third Sunday of the month at 8:45 a.m. Classes need to be attended by Parents and Godparents. Baptismal classes need to be refreshed every three years. You may attend the class before the baby is born. Please call the office at 423-6687 or Diane Hubbard at 631-1803 to register. Thank you. Next class is February 19th.

BAPTISMS: Baptisms are held once a month on a rotating basis. Baptisms will be held on the following dates:

Feb. 12, 2017 Outside Mass
May 7, 2017 Inside Sunday Mass
June 4, 2017 Inside Mass
July 9, 2017 Outside Mass
Aug. 27, 2017 Inside Mass
Sept. 24, 2017 Outside Mass

No Baptisms during Advent or Lent unless an emergency.

ST. MARY'S 125TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WILL BE JUNE 9, 10, 11, 2017. MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

ST. MARY'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY TIDBITS! DID YOU KNOW?

The dedication of the first St. Mary's Church was held on February 1st, 1893.

The dedication of the third St. Mary's Church was held on February 11th, 1925. (This is the current church.)

WANTED! Does anyone know what happened to the Graduation Class Group pictures from early on until 1967? If you have any information please call Clara @423-6402 or Gloria @423-6659.

ST. BONIFACE'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

SANCTUARY LIGHT—will burn this week for the complete and speedy recovery of Marianela Cruz as requested by Jerry & Margaret Smith.

ST. BONIFACE 7-DAY LIGHTS: For the welfare of Marie Teichman and For a speedy recovery for Evelyn Krahll by St. Boniface Christian Mothers; For Gary Johnston and family, For all those in pain and suffering from Kenneth, Laurie & Family; Special Intention by Donor; A Special Intention by Donor; For Special Intention by Donor; For Peace, Our Members by St. Boniface Christian Mothers' Society; Living & Deceased Members & Relatives of Catholic Life Insurance Branch #36.

CHALICE FOR VOCATION: **Bill & Pat Hemmi** will receive the Chalice on **February 12th** at the **8:00 a.m. Mass**. They, as well as all of us, are asked to pray for vocations.

2-19 Agnes McDonald

2-26 Art & Helen Ann Hemmi

THE ANNUAL KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #1715 SAUSAGE MEAL will be on **Sunday, February 5th** from 11:0 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the K. C. Hall in Scotland.

ST. BONIFACE ALTAR SOCIETY will meet **Tuesday, February 14th** at 7:00 p.m. in the home of Jennifer Julian. Please make plans to attend this important meeting.

C.C.D. CLASSES FOR 6TH THROUGH 12TH GRADE are on Wednesday evenings starting at 5:45 p.m.

REMINDER TO ST. BONIFACE CHRISTIAN MOTHERS to bring your baked items for the Bake Sale at the Sausage Meal

ST. BONIFACE ALTAR SOCIETY MEMBERS: Don't forget to bring your baked goodies for the Bake Sale at the Sausage Meal.

3RD DEGREE SCOTLAND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS meet **Wednesday February 8th** at 7:00 p.m.

SCOTLAND SENIOR CITIZENS will meet at the Scotland K. of C. Hall on **February 12th at noon**. All seniors are cordially invited. See you there.

POINSETTIAS You may pick up the poinsettias any time. Thanks for your help with the decorating of our church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR BOTH PARISHES

APPOINTMENTS WITH FATHER MICHAEL – If you have a concern and wish to visit with Fr. Michael, please call the office for an appointment. Or you may e-mail Father at mmoloney@comcell.net.

MARRIAGE PREPARATIONS – For those planning to get married in the near future, you must contact the church office at least 9 months or longer before the date of your wedding.

CONFESSIONS: Confessions on First Saturday afternoon at St. Boniface. – Father Michael will have Confessions every Saturday afternoon from 4:00 – 4:40 at St. Mary's, and on Wednesdays after evening Mass at St. Mary's. Confessions at St. Boniface will be on the first Saturday of the month from 3:15 to 3:45 pm. If you are unable to make those times, please call the office at 423-6687 or e-mail Father Michael at mmoloney@comcell.net for a time convenient for both you and Fr. Michael.

THE PILGRIM VIRGIN STATUE will be in the home of **Stella & Ronnie Hoffman** the week of **February 12th**. They are asked to pray for world peace, military, and vocations.

2-19 Bert & Elizabeth Hoff

2-26 Joe & Lugenia Zotz

BIBLE STUDY The Bible Study will be this Sunday, **February 5th at 4:00 P.M.** Bible Study will continue on Sunday evenings throughout the year. Please bring your Bible, The Catechism of the Catholic Church and notebook. A Handout will be provided at the Bible Study. Everyone is welcome.

SAFE ENVIRONMENT – Safe and Sacred is the new safe environment program for the Diocese of Fort Worth (Former program Keeping Children and Vulnerable Adults Safe). You may enroll/renew online. Please send an e-mail to windscot@comcell.net and ask for instructions or if you are up for renewal. Thank you.

NOTE: Those people going for elective surgeries in the coming weeks are encouraged to consider coming to **Confession** on Saturday afternoon (4:00 – 4:40) and return for an **Anointing** of the sick following Mass.

MILITARY PRAYER LIST – Taylor Anderson (Air Force), Charles Berend, Jr. (Navy), Fermin Estrada Jr., (Army), Sgt. Bill Foster, Capt. Sean Fuhrmann (Marines), Lt. Colonel Tony Garcia (Navy), Luke Grotelueschen (Army), Tracey Hoff (Navy), Sgt. Damian Hoffman, Ethan Hoffman (Air Force), Sgt. Whitney Jeter (Marine), Sgt. Nicholas Klein (Army), Jess Martinez (Army), Joshua Millican (Navy), Blake Newby (Army), Kenneth (K.J.) Nichols (Army), Major David Ogura (Army), Kyle Page (Marine), Frank Prokop, (Colorado Air National Guard), Sgt. Robert Rhinehart, Hank Schenk (Air National Guard), 1st Class Craig Slaten (Air Force), Staff Sgt. Ricky Smith (Air Force), Judy Solorio (Navy), Staff Sgt. Matthew Tubbs, Sgt. Ann Schreiber Turner (Air Force), Sgt. Matt Turner (Air Force), Ben Veitenheimer (Navy), Josh Winter (Army), Major Audrey Wolf (Army). (If there are any changes or additions please call the office.) Dear Heavenly Father, please protect our troops as they protect us. Bless them and their families for all that they are doing for us in our time of need. We ask this in the name of Jesus. Amen.

REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IN YOUR PRAYERS!

Caroline Anderle, Zack Andrus, Candace Schreiber Applebee, Conner Berardi, Andy Berend, Don Bilbrey, Patience Blake, J.C. Birkenfield, Teresa Lindeman Birkenfield, Daphne Borgman, Diane Borgman, Deacon Don Brown, David Carcaño, Maria Carcaño, Henry Chafin, Jesús Colchado, Freida Day, Leanne Dennis, Brad Dennis, Karen Edge, Danielle Mueller Fontenot, Royce Gilmore, Jeanne Fischer, Father Nicholas Fuhrmann, Kimberly Fulford, Sister Marie Green, Jerry Gibson, Artie Hallenbeck, Floyd Hilbers, Margie Himmels, Billie Hoff, Cathy Hoff, Ernie Hoff, Frosty Hoff, Marvin Hoff Sr., Wilfred A. Hoff, Willie L. Hoff, Chris Hogue, Gary Humpert, Libby Ingram, Casey Jeter, Judy Koetter, Jim Lowe, Brian Lucore, Lonnie Maag, Kyler Marlar, Annette Meurer, Jess Meurer, Loretta Meurer, Kathleen Moer, Clyde Morbitzer, Mary Morbitzer, Skylar Mueller, Steve Munchrath, Kim Nelson, Travis Nelson, Lena Ostermann, Raymond Ostermann, Rita Pearson, Henry Pennartz, Troy Pennartz, Gina Phillips, Michelle Hubbard Riddles, John Rife, Terry Shefflett, Cassey Schenk, Paul Schenk, Roch Schenk, Rosalie Schenk, Gerald Schreiber, Mike Schreiber Jr., Nelda Schreiber, Conner Schroeder, Joey Schroeder, Linda Schroeder, Richard Schroeder, Helen Seigler, Weldon Snyder, Caroline Stallcup, Kate Talley, Marie Teichman, Margaret Green Tift, Trent Tipton, Anna Mae Veitenheimer, Margie Vieth, Charles Winkles, Sarah Witten, Dorothy V. Wolf, Kellar Wolf, Kenny Wolf, Larry Wolf, Lillie Wolf, Lorine Wolf, Martha Wolf, Pauline Wolf, Ronnie Wolf, Alphonse Zotz Jr., Chuck Zotz. If you wish your name removed or there are any changes, please call the office. **Prayer of the Faithful:** Lord Jesus, we lift those on our weekly list to you; You are the healer of the sick and we keep praying and hoping for those who are ill. May we continue to pray for all who are sick and hurting and may your peace come to each and every one of us. Amen.

UPCOMING MEN'S AND WOMEN'S ACTS RETREATS –

The men's retreat will be February 16-19. The Women's retreat will be March 16-19. Each retreat begins at St. Mary's Parish Hall on Thursday evening at 5:00 pm and ends with the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday.

THE 26TH FATHER DONLON'S MEMORIAL VOCATIONS DINNER

will be take place at Knights of Columbus Council 1473 Hall in Wichita Falls on **Saturday, February 18th** at 6:00 p.m. The evening will have a Social/Silent Auction, Father Donlon's Golden Treasure Chest, Live Auction, Las Vegas Trip Drawing, & Dinner with our special Guest from the Diocese. If you would like to be a sponsor for a reserved table for six people for this dinner, please contact Mike Brown at 692-5166.

THANK YOU NOTE:

"I would like to take this time to say "Thank You" to all the members of St. Mary's Parish and St. Boniface Parish who prepared the Service and Vigil for Frank including the wonderful meal afterwards. A Special "Thank You" to those who prepared food, sent flowers and plants, said prayers and burned lights during this time of grief. The personal visits by Father Michael and Deacon Don were most helpful during these sad times along with visits from family and friends. God Bless each and every one of you and please keep Frank in your prayers." Sincerely, Kathleen Moer and family

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering you own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them-every day begin the task anew."

St. Francis de Sales, Sign of the Cross

THE 7 P'S OF PRAYER

THE 7 P'S OF THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE 7 P'S OF THE OUR FATHER

1 Presence

2 Praise

3 Purpose

4 Petition

5 Pardon

6 Protection

7 Perseverance/Persistence

No matter who you are or what you do – no matter how meaningless you consider your life's work – you can achieve greatness in the eyes of God by doing your work to the best of your ability and offering it up to God.

ST. MARY'S 7-DAY LIGHTS: For Sick Members, For Increase in Priestly and Consecrated Life Vocations, Mildred Hilbers by Catholic Daughters of the Americas #296; For Mildred Hilbers by the John Wolfs; Mom & Dad by Children; Mom & Dad, Ermis Family, Kathleen Moer & Family, Sick of the Parish by Linda; Mildred Hilbers by Floyd, Tom Hoff, Joey & Gail Schroeder, Kathleen Moer, Steve & Carla Schlumpf by Floyd & Mildred Hilbers; Very Special Intentions by L.E. in (Okla.); For Special Help and My Intentions by a Donor; For Special Intentions and Our Family by Donor; Complete recovery for Joey Schroeder by Gail & Family; Successful Surgery & Complete Recovery for Joey Schroeder by Anna Mae and sons & daughters; Tom Hoff by Mom; Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to George & Juanita Martin – May God Bless You with many more years together by Joe & Lugenia; All the sick & shut-ins, Thanks and God bless you to the 2017 Confirmation Class and Sponsors, Special Intention, Welfare of my Family, World Peace, Chuck & Dianne, Chuck & Rita, Joey Schroeder, Gary Humpert, Kenny (Digger) by Frances Hoffman; Deceased Ernest & Pauline Hoff by the Family; Juanita & George Martin - Happy Anniversary by C. D. A. Secret Pal; Floyd & Mildred, Marlene Marshall & Family, For the intentions of and a big "Thank You" to the Confirmation Class of 2017, Debbie & Danny Joe, Frances by Stella & Ronnie; Steve Schlumpf, Gary Humpert, Joey Schroeder, Floyd & Mildred Hilbers, Marlene - May she rest in peace, My children & their families, Special Intention by Pauline Wolf; Happy 50th Wedding Anniversary to George & Juanita, Charles & Dianne, Jr. & Harola, Pat & Bobby, Benita & Don, Joey, Gail & Bruce, Frances Hoffman, Ernie & Jolene, Tom & Leann, Steve & Carla, Special Intentions by Kenny & Martha; Paul, Rosalie and our Family, +Marlene Marshall & her Family, Floyd, Mildred and Family, Gretchen Garza, Bill & Mary Ann, Steve & Sue, Gary & Sharon Humpert, Chuck & Dianne, All the sick, Thanks for all the prayers, cards, lights and Mass enrollments, Special Intentions by the Paul Schenks; Janet Moer, Steve & Carla, Ann Hertel, Paul & Rosalie Schenk, Floyd & Mildred Hilbers, Willie & Pauline Hoff, Antonio & Matilde Colchado Family, Confirmation Class & Teachers, Gary Humpert, Our Special Intentions by Ernie & Jolene; Gary & Sharon Humpert, Steve & Carla Schlumpf, Joey & Gail Schroeder, Anna Mae Veitenheimer, Butch & Pat Humpert, Floyd Hilbers Family by Alfred & Cordella; Help & Guidance for Granddaughter by Donor;

YEARLY LIGHTS: The Holy Spirit's Daily Guidance in Endeavors for each member of my family by Donor; Janice, Ed & Catherine & Lois Luig and Geraldine's health by Eddie Luig; For World Peace and Safety of our Military, especially for Staff Sgt. Damian Hoffman (Army), Ethan Hoffman (Air Force), and Maj. David Ogura (Army) by Grandmommy; For Students of W.I.S.D. & C.D.A. #296 Members by C.D.A. #296; Our Family by Alfred & Cordella; For Our Family by Bernard & Pat Scheffe; Military Service Personnel by V.F.W. Auxiliary Post #2676; Joe Schreiber & Joseph Schreiber Jr. by Agnes Schreiber; Mom by Johnnie & Alice; Living & Deceased Members of Alphonse & Caroline Zotz by the Family; Sick & Hurting of St. Mary's Christian Mother's Society by the Christian Mothers; Arnold & Lillian Lindeman by the Family; Thomas & Leona Schlumpf by Danny

Schlumpf Family; For my Family by Lena Ostermann; My Family by Ann Veitenheimer; For Our Family by Joe & Lugenia Zotz; Safety of Ben Wolf by Mom and Dad; For the Safety of the Volunteer Firemen, Safety of Ben Wolf, Gina Loran & Brett Hoff, Living & Deceased Members of the Charles & Mary Lindeman family by Benny Lindeman; My Family by Margaret Beaman; In prayerful memory of Rusty & Shannon and all my beloved ones from the Green & Lindemann Family, For all my children & grandchildren to always stay close to God and His teachings, For peace in our beloved country. May the Holy Spirit guide our government officials to turn back to God and for our brave military, For all the sick, hurting, lonely and elderly in our parishes, For all faithful priests and religious and for more vocations, May God bless all of my friends who are so kind and helpful to me by Geraldine; For my Family and for Bruce by Anna Mae Veitenheimer; for our Family by Marvin & Elsie Hoff; Floyd Humpert by Betty; - For my Family by Elmer Schroeder; For our Family by Henry & Mildred Pennartz; For the safety and welfare of Blake Newby (Army) by Grandma Dorothy V. Wolf; Living & Deceased Members of Catholic Life Insurance Branch #30.

YEARLY LIGHTS DUE. Please let the office know if you wish to renew any lights from 2016.

**This bulletin compliments of Catholic Life Insurance
Union Branch #30 of Windthorst and
Branch #36 of Scotland**

CATHECHISM IN A YEAR

What is the lay vocation?

The laity are sent to engage in society so that the kingdom of God can grow among men.

A lay person is not a second-class Christian, for he shares in the priestly ministry of Christ (the universal priesthood). He sees to it that the people in his walk of life (in school, family and work) come to know the Gospel and learn to love Christ. Through his faith he leaves a mark on society, business and politics. He supports the life of the Church, for instance, by becoming a lector or an extraordinary minister, by volunteering as a group leader, or by serving on church committees and councils (for example, the parish council or the board of directors of an institution). Young people especially should give serious thought to the question of what place God might want them to have in the Church.

DISCOVER SUBIACO ACADEMY – Subiaco Academy, a Catholic Benedictine boarding/day college preparatory school for boys grades 7-12, in western Arkansas (east of Fort Smith), is offering the opportunity for prospective students and parents to visit and experience Subiaco. 2017 Shadow Days are scheduled for Fridays, Feb. 10, March 10 and April 7. Families can sign up for a Shadow Day or schedule a visit at another time by contacting Admissions: 800-364-7824 or admiussuibs@subi.org. The events are FREE of charge, including meals and overnight accommodations. For more information, visit www.SubiacoAcademy.us.

PLENARY INDULGENCE: The remission before God of the temporal punishment due to sin whose guilt has already been forgiven. A properly disposed member of the Christian faithful can obtain an indulgence under prescribed conditions through the help of the Church which, as the minister of redemption, dispenses and applies with authority the treasury of the satisfactions of Christ and the saints. An indulgence is partial if it removes part of the temporal punishment due to sin, or plenary if it removes all punishment.

THE HOLY FATHER'S INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY ARE:

Comfort for the afflicted. That all those who are afflicted, especially the poor, refugees, and marginalized, may find welcome and comfort in our communities.

PRAYER BEFORE MASS

Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light, and poor and needy to the lord of heaven and earth.

Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement, enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness. May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords, with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love, and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation. May I receive the sacrament of the lord's Body and Blood, and its reality and power.

Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary, and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members.

Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory, who lives and reigns with You forever. Amen.

Saint Thomas Aquinas.

THE SEVEN SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY:

- 1 **Counsel the doubtful.**
- 2 **Instruct the ignorant.**
- 3 **Admonish sinners.**
- 4 **Comfort the afflicted**
- 5 **Forgive offenses.**
- 6 **Bear wrongs patiently.**
- 7 **Pray for the living and the dead.**

FEBRUARY –MONTH OF THE PASSION OF OUR LORD-

For Catholics, the month of February is especially dedicated to the Passion of Our Lord, probably because Lent usually begins in this month. Through the centuries, many devotions have developed to help us focus on the Passion of Christ. Whether we pray the Stations of the Cross, or walk in the procession of the Nazarene, or pray before the crucified Christ, or reflect on the Passion narratives in the Gospel, our reflection on the Passion of Our Lord should lead us from sorrow to wonder: sorrow for our sins, wonder at the unbounded love of Christ for us.

THANKSGIVING AFTER MASS

Lord, Father all-powerful and ever-living God, I thank You, for even though I am a sinner, your unprofitable servant, not because of my worth but in the kindness of your mercy, You have fed me with the Precious Body & Blood of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that this Holy Communion may not bring me condemnation and punishment but forgiveness and salvation. May it be a helmet of faith and a shield of good will. May it purify me from evil ways and put an end to my evil passions. May it bring me charity and patience, humility and obedience, and growth in the power to do good. May it be my strong defense against all my enemies, visible and invisible, and the perfect calming of all my evil impulses, bodily and spiritual. May it unite me more closely to you, the One true God, and lead me safely through death to everlasting happiness with You. And I pray that You will lead me, a sinner, to the banquet where you with Your Son and holy Spirit, are true and perfect light, total fulfillment, everlasting joy, gladness without end, and perfect happiness to your saints. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saint Thomas Aquinas.

PRAYER FOR LIFE

Lord Jesus, come to our aid and bring an end to the horror of abortion and all the evils that flow from it. May every human being love and honor all human life, from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death; May we, Your disciples always choose the Gospel of Life. Through the Eucharist, the great sacrament of life, let us be Your instruments in bringing an end to the culture of death. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS TO CONSECRATED LIFE

O God, throughout the ages you have called women and men to pursue lives of perfect charity through the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity, and obedience. We give you thanks for these courageous witnesses of Faith and models of Inspiration. Their pursuit of holy lives teaches us to make a more perfect offering of ourselves to you. Continue to enrich your Church by calling forth sons and daughters who, having found the pearl of great price, treasure the Kingdom of Heaven above all things. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever Amen.

THE SEVEN CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY:

- 1 **Give drink to the thirsty.**
- 2 **Clothe the naked.**
- 3 **Shelter the homeless.**
- 4 **Visit the sick.**
- 5 **Visit the imprisoned.**
- 6 **Bury the dead.**
- 7 **Give alms to the poor.**

PLANNED PARENTHOOD: A common term for the practice of contraception or, when this fails, of abortion. Also the organized policy of governments and international cartels to coerce people by means of economic or other sanctions to practice contraception or abortion, or submit to sterilization.

FEBRUARY 5, 2017 – MARCH 4, 2017

5 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time St. Boniface Sausage Meal Bible Study 4 pm	6 Mass at St. Mary's 6:30 pm	7 St. Mary's Prayer Group 7am <u>Church Office Closed</u>	8 Adoration, Benediction & Devotion 6 pm, Mass 7pm Confessions after Mass. Adoration Intentions: Unity in the Church. 3 rd Degree K.C. #1824 after Mass 3 rd Degree St. Boniface K.C. 7pm	9 Children's Prayer, Word & Hymns Mass at St. Boniface 8:15 am	10 Mass at St. Mary's 7:25 am Healing Mass and Anointing 6:30pm at St. Mary's	11 Confessions at St. Mary's 4:00 – 4:40 pm. MASS 5:00 P.M. SPANISH MASS 7:00 P.M St. Mary's Annual Dinner/Dance Deanery Youth Mass & Dance at Rhineland
12 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time Baptisms after Mass Youth 2 nd Sunday Bible Study 5 pm	13 Mass at St. Mary's 6:30 pm V.F.W. Auxiliary & V.F.W. meet 7pm	14 St. Mary's Prayer Group 7am <u>Church Office Closed</u> <u>Valentines Day!</u> St. Boniface Altar Society 7pm	15 Adoration, Benediction & Devotion 6 pm, Mass 7pm Confessions after Mass. Adoration Intentions: Vocations. C.D.A. #296 meet after Mass & novena	16 Children's Prayer, Word & Hymns Mass at St. Boniface 7:30 am	17 Mass at St. Mary's 7:25 am	18 Confessions at St. Mary's 4:00 – 4:40 pm. MASS 5:00 P.M. SPANISH SCAP 7:00 P.M
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> Men's ACTS Retreat February 16 – 19, 2017. </div>						
19 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time Men's ACTS return Bible Study 5 pm	20 Mass at St. Mary's 6:30 pm	21 St. Mary's Prayer Group 7am <u>Church Office Closed</u>	22 Adoration, Benediction & Devotion 6 pm, <u>Word Service 7 pm.</u> Adoration Intentions: World Peace.	23 Children's Prayer, Word & Hymns	24 Children's Prayer, Word & Hymns	25 Confessions at St. Mary's 4:00 – 4:40 pm. MASS 5:00 P.M. SPANISH SCAP 7:00 P.M
26 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time	27 Word Service at St. Mary's 6:30 pm 4 th Degree K.C. meet Caregivers meet 6:30 pm	28 St. Mary's Prayer Group 7am <u>Church Office Closed</u> C. D. A. Nursing Home Party	1 MARCH Adoration, Benediction & Devotion 6 pm, Mass 7pm Confessions after Mass. Adoration Intentions: Respect for Human Life. Mission Outreach 6 pm St. Mary's Mother's Society meet after Mass & novena St. Boniface Christian Mothers 7pm	2 Children's Prayer, Word & Hymns Mass at St. Boniface 8:15 am Food Distribution 9-11 am Kristy Krahll Center 9 – 11am	3 First Friday Mass at St. Mary's 7:25 am	4 First Saturday Mass for Peace & Unity 8 am St. Mary's Confessions at St. Boniface 3:15 – 3:45 pm Confessions at St. Mary's 4:00 – 4:40 pm. MASS 5:00 P.M. SPANISH MASS 7:00 P.M.

FEBRUARY 5, 2017 – MARCH 4, 2017

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Second Sunday is February 12th Kim Brown

will be here to discuss Theology of the Body:

The church's teaching on relationships and love

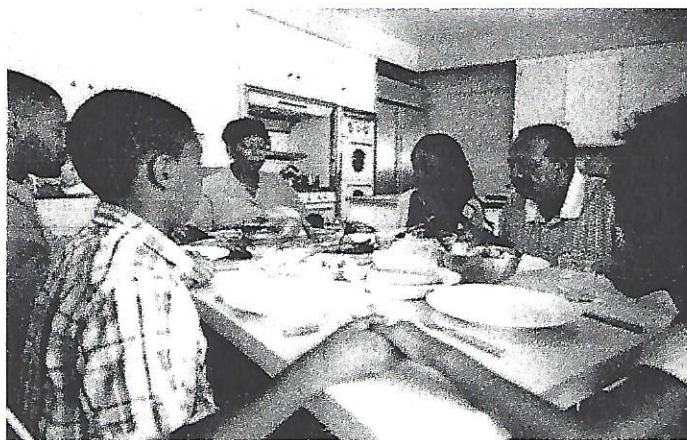
ST. MARY'S ST. BONIFACE YOUTH NEWS

DEANERY YOUTH MASS AND DANCE
FEBRUARY 11TH ST. JOSEPH, RHINELAND
THIS IS ALWAYS A LOT OF FUN.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW AS SOON AS POSSIBLE IF YOU
WANT TO GO. WE WILL LEAVE FROM THE PARISH HALL
AROUND 4:00 PM.

Second Sunday is February 12th Kim Brown will be here to discuss Theology of the Body: The church's teaching on relationships and love. Please encourage our youth to attend and let's give them some tools to help them with the pressure of dating. Jr. High will begin at 3:30pm and High School at 5:00pm in the parish hall with food between sessions. All youth invited so bring your friends and spread the word.

St. Mary's/St. Boniface Youth Ministry Is for all youth age 6th grade thru 12th grade. For more information regarding our youth ministry program contact Shelley Schlumpf at 940-423-6676.



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2017 FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Sometimes more is better

Today we say yes to two important groups of Catholics observing special days. The first Sunday of Black History Month is the National Day of Prayer for African American Families, who courageously uphold and honor what our history once devalued. Black families matter. The first Sunday after the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas) is also World Day for Consecrated Life. Just as we bless candles to recall Christ our light, we recognize those who consecrate their lives in witness to that light. Pray for families. Thank religious women and men.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2:1-5; Matthew 5:13-16 (73).* "Light shall rise for you in the darkness, and the gloom shall become for you like midday."

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6

MEMORIAL OF PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

An unchanging creed

Paul Miki (1562-97) was baptized at age 5. A man of his culture with a profound knowledge of Buddhism, he made an effective and affectionate preacher among the Japanese. When his fellow Jesuits were expelled from Japan, he remained and was eventually crucified with 25 others in Nagasaki. For each generation of Christians the demands of faith and the promises of Christ remain the same: Love God and love one another and you will live in love eternally.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 1:1-19; Mark 6:53-56 (329).* "Then God said, 'Let there be light,' and there was light."

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

Be intentional

Whenever we begin something, it is always a good idea to start with an intention. Take a few breaths and ask yourself, "What do I intend to get out of this day, this meeting, this work, this experience?" The dictionary defines *intention* as the "act of determining mentally upon some action or result." In Latin *in-tendere* means "to stretch toward." One way to think about intention is to ask yourself what you are willing to stretch toward. Then imagine that our compassionate and loving God is also stretching toward you, intending what is best for you. Now you're praying. Plan to get up 15 minutes early and write your intention for the day.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 1:20-2:4a; Mark 7:1-13 (330).* "God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very good."

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8 MEMORIAL OF JOSEPHINE BAKHITA, VIRGIN Sudan's daughters persecuted, then and now

Many in Italy still call her "our Black Mother." Bakhita (b. 1869) suffered great misfortune in her native Sudan. Kidnapped, sold, and persecuted, she knew no mercy until she wound up the property of the Sudanese Italian consulate. Migrating with the consul's family to Italy, she eventually received baptismal instruction from the Canossian Daughters of Charity. After receiving her Christian name, Josephine often kissed the baptismal font, saying, "Here, I became a daughter of God!" Tragically, Christians in Sudan are still persecuted and sold today. Raise your voice for global religious freedom.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 2:4b-9, 15-17; Mark 7:14-23 (331).* "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9

Loving your enemy is hard work

There was a time not that long ago when Catholics believed that anyone who wasn't Catholic was going straight to hell in a handbasket. The Jews during Jesus' time held similar views toward other religions. Syro-Phoenicians, who were enemies of Israel and didn't share in the same faith, were, in the minds of Jesus' disciples, unworthy of God's help. But Jesus turned that attitude on its head. For Christians, all human life has sacred dignity and is beloved by God, even the lives of our enemies. Stepping up to that truth sometimes requires repentance on our part.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 7:24-30 (332).* "Jesus said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.'"

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10 MEMORIAL OF SCHOLASTICA, VIRGIN

Storm heaven with your prayers

How to be sure God knows our needs? Imitate Saint Scholastica, who knew God can't resist the prayer of a holy person. Near the end of her life, Scholastica enjoyed the usual annual visit from her brother, Saint Benedict, who was anxious to return home at the appointed time. Scholastica entreated him to stay but he refused. So she literally "prayed up a storm" whose ferocity made travel impossible. "What have you done?" her brother asked. Scholastica answered, "I asked and you would not listen; so I asked my God and he did listen." Storm heaven with your prayers!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 3:1-8; Mark 7:31-37 (333).* "People brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11 MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES

Wishing you well

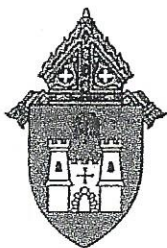
For 150 years visitors to the shrine to Our Lady of Lourdes have believed in the healing power of water that flows from a natural spring there. Closer to home, some parishes commemorate World Day of Prayer for the Sick by asking pastoral care ministers and ministers of Holy Communion to visit the homebound and hospitalized; by placing the names of the sick in a special book displayed in church; or by writing the names of the sick on pieces of paper and asking parishioners to take a name, pray for the person, and send him or her a card. What can you and your community do today?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Genesis 3:9-24; Mark 8:1-10 (334).* "They ate and were satisfied."

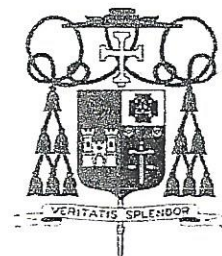


Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time.

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DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH
THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



Dear Friends in Christ,

I write to you in my office as your bishop to encourage you to persevere in authentic faith during these challenging times that call for prayer and clarity of conscience in exercising true patriotism and respect for the common good and human dignity.

The recent executive order issued by our president offers draconian measures against the threat to border security by terrorism. The order bans for four months refugees from any part of the world from entering the United States; it bans for ninety days all people seeking entry from seven predominantly Muslim nations; it further bans for an indefinite period of time the entry of Syrian refugees.

The substance and tenor of this order and its promulgation foster fear of outsiders and tempt us to sin by religious bigotry and by omission of our Christian obligation to welcome the stranger. The refugees, both Muslim and Christian, fleeing from ISIS and other extremists, are sacrificing all they have in the name of security and religious freedom. Often, they could be spared if only they surrendered to the violent demands of their tormentors. Yet, they stand firm in the integrity of their conscience and in their faith in God. Many are families, no different from yours, seeking safety and security for their children.

A radical ban on all seeking entry into the United States destroys a reasonable balance between our need to screen vigilantly for infiltrators who could do us harm and our moral obligation to shelter those in harm's way. A halt to resettlement, albeit for limited amount of time, imposes even more hardships upon refugees who have already endured some of life's worst atrocities.

In our readings at Mass this weekend, the prophet Isaiah instructs us that we are to share our bread with the hungry, shelter the oppressed and the homeless; clothe the naked when we see them, and not to turn our back on our neighbor. Welcoming the stranger and those in flight is not one option among many in the Christian life. Christ's Catholic Church cannot turn away from those in need.

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

800 West Loop 820 South • Fort Worth, Texas 76108-2010 • (817) 500-3300 • Fax (817) 244-8839 • www.fwdioc.org
officeofthebishop@fwdioc.org

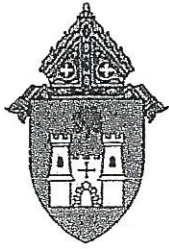
To help allay any fears, I remind you that since 1975 Catholic Charities of Fort Worth, the Diocese's social services arm, has been successfully resettling refugees who have come from around the world including these places. The support system provided to each refugee or refugee family has resulted in 96 percent of its clients becoming self-sufficient, productive members of the community within six months.

I ask that you join me in asking our government officials for a humanitarian implementation of the recent executive order that will enable refugees---Muslim and Christian---who are fleeing religious persecution, who fear for their lives, and who were expelled from their homeland to be resettled in as safe and expedient manner as possible. Most especially I ask you to pray for the security of our nation and for all of those who are placed in harm's way by this current and extreme policy. I remain,

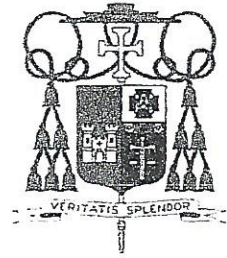
Sincerely Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael F. Olson".

Most Reverend Michael F. Olson, STD
Bishop of Fort Worth



DIOCESE OF FORT WORTH
THE BISHOP'S OFFICE



Queridos amigos en Cristo,

Me dirijo a ustedes en mi calidad de Obispo para animarlos a perseverar en la fe auténtica en estos tiempos difíciles que exigen oración y claridad de conciencia en el ejercicio del verdadero patriotismo y el respeto por el bien común y la dignidad humana.

La orden reciente emitida por nuestro Presidente ofrece medidas draconianas, muy severas, contra la amenaza a la seguridad de nuestra frontera por el terrorismo. La orden prohíbe la entrada de los refugiados de cualquier parte del mundo a los Estados Unidos por los próximos cuatro meses; prohíbe la entrada al país de todas las personas procedentes de siete naciones predominantemente musulmanas por los próximos noventa días; y prohíbe la entrada al país de refugiados sirios por un tiempo indefinido.

La esencia y contenido de esta orden y su promulgación fomentan el temor a los forasteros y nos tientan al pecado debido a la intolerancia religiosa y la omisión de nuestra obligación cristiana de acoger y dar la bienvenida a los extranjeros. Los refugiados, tanto musulmanes como cristianos, que huyen de ISIS y otros extremistas, están sacrificando todo lo que tienen en busca de la seguridad y la libertad religiosa. A menudo, la única forma de salvarse es rindiéndose a las exigencias violentas de sus torturadores. No obstante, ellos se mantienen firmes en la integridad de su conciencia y en su fe en Dios. Muchos de estos refugiados son familias, no diferentes de las suyas, que buscan seguridad para sus hijos.

Una prohibición radical de todos los que buscan entrar a los Estados Unidos destruye el equilibrio razonable entre nuestra necesidad de examinar atentamente a los que intentan infiltrarse que podrían hacernos daño y nuestra obligación moral de proteger a los que están en peligro. Una cesación de la reubicación de los refugiados, aunque sea por un tiempo limitado, impone aún más dificultades sobre estas personas que ya han sufrido algunas de las peores atrocidades de la vida.

En nuestras lecturas de las Misas de este fin de semana el profeta Isaías nos instruye que debemos compartir nuestro pan con los hambrientos, dar refugio a los oprimidos y desamparados; vestir al desnudo cuando le vemos y no dar la espalda

THE CATHOLIC CENTER

a nuestro prójimo. Dar la bienvenida al extranjero y a los que están huyendo no es una opción para muchos en la vida cristiana. La Iglesia Católica de Cristo no puede ignorar a los necesitados.

Para ayudar a disipar cualquier temor, les recuerdo que desde el 1975, Caridades Católicas de Fort Worth, el brazo de servicios sociales de la Diócesis, ha estado reubicando con éxito a los refugiados provenientes de todas partes del mundo, incluyendo estos lugares a los que la orden se refiere. El sistema de apoyo proporcionado a cada refugiado o familia de refugiados ha dado lugar a que un 96% de sus clientes se conviertan en miembros productivos y autosuficientes de la comunidad en un plazo de seis meses.

Les pido a que se unan a mí para pedir a nuestros funcionarios de gobierno que se aplique la reciente orden de una manera humanitaria que permita que los refugiados---musulmanes y cristianos--- que huyen de la persecución religiosa, que temen por sus vidas y que han sido expulsados de su patria, sean reubicados de la forma más segura y conveniente posible. Les pido muy especialmente que oren por la seguridad de nuestra nación y por todos aquéllos que se encuentran amenazados por esta política presente y extrema. Quedo de ustedes,

Sinceramente suyo en Cristo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michael F. Olson".

Most Reverend Michael F. Olson, STD
Obispo de Fort Worth

Growing in FAITH™

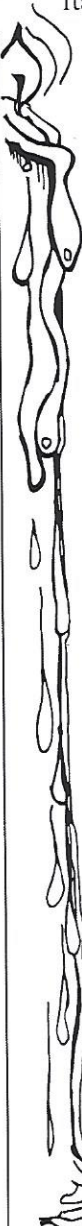
Discovering **hope and joy** in the Catholic faith.

February 2017

St. Mary's/St. Boniface

One Minute Meditations

St. Gabriel Possenti



Francesco Possenti was born in Assisi, Italy, into a large family. He was often sick as a child. He lost two sisters and his mother to illness by the time he was four. At 18, he joined the Passionists and was named Gabriel of Our Lady of Sorrows. He inspired others by his prayer and faithfulness in the little things. He suffered from tuberculosis shortly after entering, which he endured patiently and cheerfully until his death.

Serve without complaint

Every job has aspects about it that are tedious, messy, and unrewarding, yet they are necessary. However, they can be opportunities to grow in virtue: humility, patience, self-discipline, etc. When you dread doing your work, smile and say a prayer, *"and your Father, who sees in secret, will repay you"* (Matthew 6:4).

"The works of God are all of them good; in its own time every need is supplied"
(Sirach 39:16).



Love and live your faith

Faith in God is not a passive virtue resting in the background of our lives. Belief and love for God compels us to an active life of serving, sharing, and living our faith daily.

Embrace excellence. All that we do becomes a prayer when we give our employers, communities, neighborhoods and families our best abilities in God's name.

Celebrate the Eucharist. No Catholic life is complete without weekly Mass attendance. Do what is necessary so you can receive Communion.

Become family. Register in your parish and look for ways to get involved in a parish ministry, such as lecturing, ushering, singing, or becoming a Eucharistic minister.

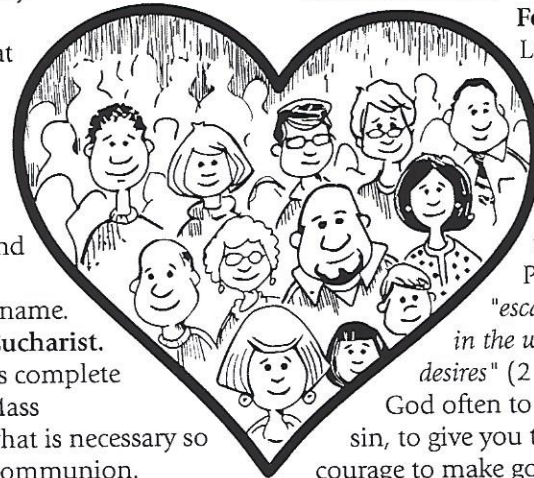
Be joyful. Scripture comforts us with the assurance that God will not rest until we find our way home to him. Reject Earthly worry and live with joy. God is in control.

Forgive often. Learn to practice this critical skill – and to ask for it when needed. **Flee**

temptation. St. Peter tells us to *"escape the corruption in the world caused by evil desires"* (2 Peter 1:4). Ask

God often to protect you from sin, to give you the wisdom and courage to make good choices.

Listen to God. Be sensitive to the promptings of the Holy Spirit. God will reveal when you've messed up, and rejoice with you when you get it right.

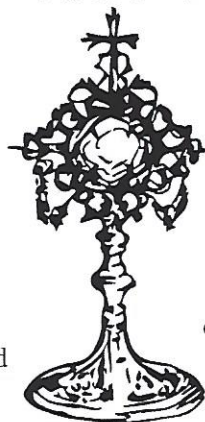


Why Do Catholics Do That?

The saints were ordinary people, like us, but they had an extraordinary love for God. Relics—their remains and personal possessions—represent those who are in glory with God. Just as we treasure things that once belonged to someone we loved

Why do Catholics venerate relics?

or admired—a piece of clothing or jewelry, for example—we treasure the relics of saints. Although relics themselves have no special properties, venerating them reminds us of the virtuous examples of the saints.



Know him, love him, and serve him to be happy forever

The Baltimore Catechism taught us that God made us to “know him, to love him, and to serve him in this world, and to be happy with him forever in the next.” In truth, God loves us and wants us to love him back.

Knowing him. Each of us was created with a place in our hearts just for God. Until we discover it, we may try to fill it with earthly things but nothing else fits. Remove the clutter, turn to God and the reward is peace.



Loving him. Jesus asked us to love God with all our hearts because surrendering to God is the best way to experience his infinite love. Show your love by praying daily, seeking Communion with him often, and thanking him for his goodness.

Serving him. When we make sure others have enough to eat, warm clothes to wear, and a place to stay, Jesus takes it personally. It's what he asked us to do.

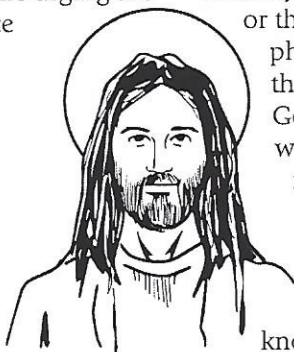
The reward for doing all this is eternal happiness.

from Scripture

Matthew 6:24-34, Our choice.

In Jesus' day, scribes and Pharisees often lived comfortably while urging the people to heights of sacrifice and penance they didn't observe themselves. The message was right but the messengers were flawed. Instead, Jesus took on our humanity and spoke with authority. He experienced hunger and thirst, and didn't always have a place to sleep. So when he counseled his listeners to trust God with all their needs, he knew what he was asking.

Jesus said don't worry. By that he meant don't be anxious and concerned



beyond our immediate needs.

Stability in this world for the rich or the poor comes not from physical provisions but from the inner peace that only God can provide. By worrying about our physical needs, we draw attention away from attaining the inner stability so necessary for peace.

From experience, Jesus knows we have a choice. We can live in the world or we can live in God's Kingdom, but we cannot do both. Jesus wants us to invest in our future with him. God will take care of the rest.

Q & A Does being a “good Catholic” mean following all the rules exactly?

The ancient Jews had a lot of rules. Jewish Law dictated what you could eat, how to stay ritually clean, and how to spend Saturdays. Yet, when asked what the most important commandment was, Jesus' answer brought his listeners back to the basics: “*You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind...you shall love your neighbor as yourself*” (Matthew 22:37).

Jesus didn't give rules so much as he laid down principles. At the Last Supper, Jesus gave his disciples a New Commandment: “*Love one another as I love you*” (John 15:12). This New Commandment gives us the whole Law in its simplest form: Catholicism, at its heart, is about love—Christ-like love for God and others. Being a good Catholic isn't about following all the rules perfectly for perfection's sake, but about falling in love with God. Once that happens, following the Commandments and the Beatitudes takes care of itself. They cease to be rules and become a lifestyle.



Feasts & Celebrations

Feb. 2 – St. Paul Miki and Companions (1596). St. Paul Miki, a Jesuit missionary in Japan, was arrested along with 25 other Catholics during religious persecution and forced to walk more than 300 miles to Nagasaki where they were crucified. It is said they preached the whole journey and ran to their crosses praising God.

Feb. 3 – St. Ansgar (865). Ansgar was born in Picardy, France. He was sent to the nearby Benedictine monastery after the death of his mother. After taking vows, he traveled to Denmark and

Sweden to preach the Gospel. In 831, he was appointed papal legate to the northern lands by Pope Gregory IV. He was known for his holiness and ascetic lifestyle.

Feb. 5 – St. Agatha (c.251). At an early age, Agatha dedicated herself to God and promised to preserve her chastity. She kept this vow, even under torture. To strengthen her, God sent a vision of St. Peter who healed her. She is the patroness of nurses and miners.



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Creciendo en la FeTM

Descubriendo **esperanza y gozo** en la fe católica.

Febrero de 2017

St. Mary's/St. Boniface

Meditaciones breves

San Gabriel Possenti

Francesco Possenti nació en Asís, Italia, en el seno de una familia numerosa. De pequeño solía estar enfermo. A la edad de cuatro años ya había perdido a su madre y dos hermanas a causa de una enfermedad. A los 18 años ingresó en los pasionistas y recibió el nombre de Gabriel de la Dolorosa. Inspiró a los demás por su vida de oración y de fe en las cosas pequeñas. No mucho después de ingresar en la orden enfermó de tuberculosis que sufrió con paciencia y alegría hasta su muerte.

Servir sin quejas

Cada trabajo tiene aspectos que son aburridos, conflictivos e ingratos, pero necesarios. Sin embargo, pueden servirnos de oportunidades para crecer en virtud: humildad, paciencia, autodisciplina, etc. Cuando tema hacer su trabajo, sonría y rece y *"tu Padre, que ve en lo secreto, lo premiará"* (Mateo 6:4).

"¡Qué hermosas son todas las obras del Señor!, todas sus órdenes se cumplen a su tiempo" (Eclesiástico 39:16).



Ame y viva su fe

La fe en Dios no es una virtud pasiva que sirve de telón de fondo a nuestras vidas. Creer y amar a Dios nos impulsa a una vida en la que diligentemente nos ocupamos de nuestra fe y la compartimos y vivimos a diario.

Dé acogida a la excelencia. Todo lo que hacemos se convierte en una plegaria cuando concedemos a nuestros empleadores, comunidades, barrios y familias nuestras mejores aptitudes en nombre de Dios.

Celebre la Eucaristía. Ninguna vida católica es completa sin asistir semanalmente a misa. Haga lo necesario para poder recibir la Comunión.

Únase a la familia. Regístrese en su parroquia y busque maneras de participar en los servicios de la parroquia como leer, hacer de acomodador, cantar o hacerse

ministro de la Sagrada Comunión.

Sea alegre. Las Escrituras nos consuelan asegurándonos que Dios no descansará hasta que regresemos a él. Rechace las preocupaciones terrenales y viva con alegría. Dios lleva las riendas.

Perdone con frecuencia. Aprenda a ejercer esta indispensable destreza y a pedir perdón cuando lo necesite.

Huya de las tentaciones. San Pedro nos insta a escapar de *"los deseos corruptores de este mundo"* (2 Pedro 1:4). Pida a Dios con frecuencia que lo proteja del mal, que le dé la sabiduría y el valor de tomar buenas decisiones.

Escuche a Dios. Preste atención a las indicaciones del Espíritu Santo. Dios le hará saber si se ha equivocado y se alegrará con usted cuando obre bien.

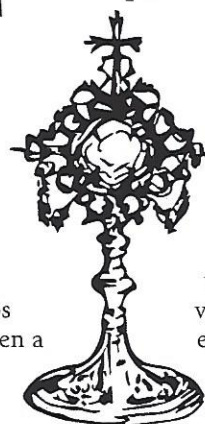


¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué veneran reliquias los católicos?

Los santos eran gente normal como nosotros, pero sentían un amor extraordinario por Dios. Las reliquias—los restos y las pertenencias de los santos—representan a los que están en la gloria con Dios. Lo mismo que apreciamos los objetos que una vez pertenecieron a alguien a

quien amamos o admiramos—una prenda de vestir o una joya, por ejemplo—así apreciamos las reliquias de los santos. Aunque las reliquias en sí mismas no tienen propiedades especiales, venerarlas nos recuerda el ejemplo virtuoso de los santos.



Conózcenlo, ámenlo y sírvanlo para ser eternamente felices

El Catecismo de Baltimore nos enseña que Dios nos hizo para que "lo conozcamos, lo amemos y lo sirvamos en este mundo y para que seamos eternamente felices con él en el otro". Dios en verdad nos ama y quiere que lo amemos.

Conocerlo. Cada uno de nosotros fue creado con un lugar en nuestros corazones reservado exclusivamente a Dios. Hasta que lo conocemos puede que intentemos llenarlo de cosas terrenales, pero no caben ahí. Limpíen lo que estorba y vuelvan a Dios, la recompensa es la paz.



Amarlo. Jesús nos pidió que amemos a Dios con todos nuestros corazones porque entregarnos a Dios es la mejor manera de experimentar su amor infinito. Muestran su amor rezando a diario, comulgando con frecuencia y agradeciéndole su bondad.

Servirlo. Cuando procuramos que los demás tengan suficiente comida, ropa cálida y un techo, Jesús se lo toma a título personal. Es lo que nos pidió que hiciéramos.

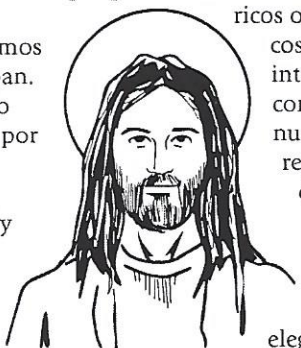
La recompensa por hacer todo esto es la felicidad eterna.

de las **E**scrituras

Mateo 6:24-34, Elegimos nosotros.

En tiempos de Jesús, los escribas y los fariseos vivían cómodamente al tiempo que exigían a la gente que hiciera sacrificio y penitencia en extremos que ellos mismos no observaban. El mensaje era el correcto, pero los mensajeros erraban. Jesús, por el contrario, adoptó nuestra humanidad y habló con autoridad. Paso hambre y sed y no siempre tuvo un sitio donde dormir. Así que cuando aconsejaba a sus seguidores que confiaran todas sus necesidades a Dios, sabía lo que estaba pidiendo.

Jesús nos dijo que no nos preocupáramos. Quería decir que no nos angustiáramos por conseguir cosas que están por encima de



nuestras necesidades urgentes. La estabilidad en este mundo para los ricos o los pobres no viene de las cosas físicas, sino de la paz interior que sólo Dios puede conceder. Al agobiarnos por nuestras necesidades físicas restamos atención al esfuerzo de conseguir la estabilidad interior tan necesaria para la paz.

Jesús sabe por experiencia que podemos elegir. Podemos vivir en el mundo o podemos vivir en el Reino de Dios, pero no podemos vivir en ambos sitios. Jesús quiere que invirtamos en nuestro futuro con él. Dios se encargará de lo demás.

P & R ¿Ser "un buen católico" implica seguir las normas al pie de la letra?

Los antiguos judíos tenían muchas normas. La ley judía dictaba lo que se podía comer, el ritual para lavarse y cómo pasar

los sábados. Sin embargo, cuando le preguntaron cuál era el más importante de los mandamientos, la respuesta de Jesús recordó lo esencial a sus oyentes: "Amarás al Señor tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente..."

Amarás al prójimo como a ti mismo" (Mateo 22:37-39).

Más que dar normas, Jesús estableció principios. En la Última Cena Jesús dio a sus discípulos un nuevo mandamiento: "Ámense los unos a los otros como yo los he amado" (Juan 15:12). Este nuevo mandamiento nos dio toda la ley en su forma más simple: El catolicismo, en su esencia, consiste en el amor: un amor a Dios y a los demás semejante al de Cristo. Ser un buen católico no consiste en seguir todas las normas perfectamente simplemente por hacerlo perfectamente, sino que consiste en enamorarse de Dios. Cuando eso sucede, seguir los Mandamientos y las Bienaventuranzas ocurre con facilidad. Dejan de ser normas y se convierten en una forma de ser.



Fiestas y celebraciones

2 de febrero – San Pablo Miki y sus compañeros (1596). San Pablo Miki, misionero jesuita en Japón, fue detenido con otros 25 católicos durante una persecución religiosa y les obligaron a caminar más de 300 millas hasta Nagasaki donde fueron crucificados. Se dice que predicaron durante todo el viaje y que corrieron hacia sus cruces alabando a Dios.

3 de febrero- San Ansgar (865). Ansgar nació en Picardía, Francia. Tras la muerte de su madre fue enviado al cercano monasterio benedictino. Después de tomar los votos viajó a Dinamarca y Suecia a predicar el Evangelio. En 831 fue nombrado

enviado papal a las tierras del norte por el papa Gregorio IV. Se le conoció por su santidad y su vida ascética.

5 de febrero – Santa Ágata (c. 251). Cuando era muy pequeña, Ágata se dedicó a Dios y prometió preservar su castidad. Cumplió este voto incluso bajo tortura. Para darle fuerza, Dios envió una visión de san Pedro que la curó. Es la patrona de las enfermeras y los mineros.



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What Gives Us Human Dignity and Worth?

Are we inherently valuable because we are human, or are there certain qualities (like appearance) that make some of us more valuable than others?

In America in the 1800's, a slave was not considered a person. Oh yes, intellectually, everyone knew that a slave was a biological member of the human race – but that was not enough. Instead of having inherent worth, a slave was denied rights. Similarly, Hitler exterminated thousands of the mentally and physically 'unfit' before turning on millions of gypsies, homosexuals and Jews.

Are you a valuable human being? Are you worthy of life and rights? If so, why? Is it because of your age? Your appearance? Your size? Your intelligence? Your success in life? The amount of money you have? Your race? Your gender? Your capabilities?

Or is it because you are a human being?

If you have inherent worth simply because you are a living human and not because of external characteristics, then what of an unborn baby?

Abortion is wrong for the same reasons as slavery and other human rights violations are wrong--- because it victimizes a human being with inherent worth and dignity.