

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 22, 2023



Saint Stanislaus Catholic Church

516 East 13th Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.452.6606

www.ststanserie.org
email: ststaner@outlook.com

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Debbie Oldenski, Secretary
Thaddeus Fryczynski, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:30AM - 3:00 PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 4:00PM; Sunday at 9:00AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**

Holy Trinity Catholic Church

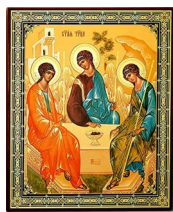
2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

www.holytrinityrc.org
email: parishoffice@holytrinityrc.org

Fr. Jason Glover, S.T.L., Pastor
Msgr. Daniel Magraw, Senior Associate
Mary Ann Merski, Secretary
Jeannie McGinley, Director of Music

Office Hours: Monday - Friday, 9:00AM - 4:00PM
(Closed 12:00PM - 1:00PM, Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays)

Weekend Eucharistic Liturgy:
Saturday at 5:15PM; Sunday at 10:30AM
*** Daily Eucharist: Call the Parish Office**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



January 22, 2023
3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a young seminarian, I asked a wise old priest how to pray better. He said simply, "Don't lie when you pray." He helped me to see how much energy I waste in trying to appear acceptable to God when I pray. For me, prayer was showing off for God and hiding what was ugly.

It's stunning that the Gospel of Matthew tells us of Jesus, "He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulon and Naphtali..." This isn't just the Lord's relocation up north. It's his moving into places of shame and defeat. This region was where the enemy invasion of Israel began centuries before. Jesus left the comfortable confines of Nazareth and sought out a place of darkness, not to bring shame, but to announce the dawning of his light.

When we pray, we usually prefer Jesus to stay put in our little Nazareths — where we feel comfortable, successful, and in control. But he moves. He re-locates into the Zebulons and Naphtalis of our shame, embarrassment, fear, and sense of being defeated. The question for us is: will we allow him to take up residence in those places in our prayer time? Will we talk to him honestly about our places of darkness? If we do, we're no longer lying when we pray.

— Father John Muir

Readings for the week of January 22, 2023

Sunday: Is 8:23-9:3/Ps 27:1,4, 13-14/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23 [3rd Sun.]
Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98:1-6/Mk 3:22-30
Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40:2, 4-11/Mk 3:31-35 [St. Francis de Sales]
Wednesday: Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117:1-2/Mk 16:15-18 [Conversion of Paul]
Thursday: 2 Tm 1:1-8/Ps 132:1-5, 11-14/Mk 4:21-25 [Sts. Timothy & Titus]
Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37:3-6, 23-24, 39-40/Mk 4:26-34 [St. Angela Merici]
Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1:69-75/Mk 4:35-41 [St. Thomas Aquinas]
Next Sunday: Zep 3:12-13/Ps 146:6-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12 [4th Sun.]

Sacrament of Baptism: Sacramental preparation is required of the parents who desire to share the Catholic faith with their children and are held monthly throughout the City of Erie. Call the parish office to register to schedule your preparation. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics with a letter of recommendation from their pastor to serve as a sacramental sponsor.

Religious Education, First Holy Communion, and First Reconciliation programs are hosted at Saint Luke's Church for all eastside Erie parishes. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.7105).

Confirmation preparation for all eastside Erie parishes is hosted at Saint Luke's Church. Contact their parish office for more information and to register your child (814.825.6920).

Sacrament of Holy Orders: God calls all people to holiness. Some men are called to fulfill this vocation as priests. If you are interested in the priesthood, or have questions about it, please contact a parish priest or our Diocesan Vocation Director, Scott Jabo, at 1.814.824.1181.

Sacrament of Matrimony: Before a date can be scheduled, a priest must be contacted at least six months in advance to complete the required documents.

Sacrament of the Sick: Communal celebrations of Anointing the Sick are scheduled periodically. The sacrament can also be requested by any parishioner who is seriously ill or in danger of death. *Please note:* Federal law no longer permits hospitals or nursing homes to contact churches when a parishioner is admitted. It is important that family members notify the parish office if a loved one needs a visit, desires to receive Holy Communion, or needs to be Anointed.

Leave A Legacy: Consider Saint Stanislaus and Holy Trinity as you meet with your attorney or financial planner regarding your estate planning. Remember the needs of your parish family and leave a legacy of faith for future generations with your generous remembrance.

Bulletin Information Deadline: Please submit information to be included in the weekend bulletin by noon the Monday prior. Holiday bulletin announcements must be received by the parish office two weeks in advance.

Prayer to St. Paul

O holy apostle Paul,
our patron and protector,
look kindly upon us.

Join us in praising God, our creator,
through Jesus Christ,
who died and rose to give us life.

Pray with us
that God will preserve our parish,
strengthen and enrich our community,
and defend us against all adversity.

We ask this in the name of Jesus
through the intercession of Mary.

St. Paul, pray for us.

The Conversion of Saint Paul
January 25th

Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission

"PRAYER, CARE, AND CONCERN" MINISTRY

Those who participate in this ministry express the care and concern of our entire parish community to those who are ill, hospitalized, homebound, or in nursing facilities, through birthday and holiday cards, visits, and prayers. To request prayers, or to participate in this ministry, contact Saint Stanislaus Office (814-452-6606).

"PRAYERLINE" MINISTRY

These ministers devote themselves to prayer for any needs made known to them and any special intentions. To participate in this ministry, or to request prayers for a particular need, contact Kay (825-7328) or Shirley (452.3395) from St. Stanislaus, or Kathy (392-8974) at Holy Trinity.

PCEP (Parish Catholic Education Program)

Parishioners of Holy Trinity can receive a parish grant to assist with the cost of tuition for families who wish their primary or secondary school age children to have a Catholic education. To be eligible, families must participate in the program, attend Mass regularly, and be involved in the parish community. For more information, contact the parish office.

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

Parishioners interested in serving our worshipping community as an altar server, lector, Eucharistic minister, music minister, or usher/greeter, please let one of your priests know.

"PRAYER SHAWL" MINISTRY

The enjoyment of knitting, crocheting, and sewing are uniquely combined with prayer to offer a deeply personal and meaningful spiritual ministry. Shawls are prayerfully made and freely given away to those suffering bereavement, those recovering from illness, the elderly, homebound, and those in nursing facilities. To join us in this ministry, please contact Sue (450-2987).

THE "ZABAWA COMMITTEE"

Held on the parish grounds of Holy Trinity, Zabawa is the largest Polish heritage celebration in the region, drawing tens of thousands of people to our neighborhood. The Zabawa Committee organizes the festival through food preparation, donation solicitation, food and beverage service, and so on. The committee always welcomes any help they receive. If you would like to offer your time, and experience hands-on learning about these rich cultural traditions, contact Ray (882-1032).

PROLIFE COMMUNITY

This ministry advocates through for the protection of all human life from conception until natural death through prayer, education, and action.

"PRAYER CANDLE" MAKING MINISTRY

This ministry makes prayer candles from the church's left over bee's wax. They meet on Wednesdays, from 10AM - Noon in St. Stanislaus Parish Hall. No experience necessary.

ST. STANISLAUS / HOLY TRINITY INITIAL PARISHIONER REGISTRATION FORM

(please circle which parish)

Family Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

City/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Please Check: ☐ New Registration ☐ Change of Address ☐ Change of Telephone Number

☐ Change of E-mail ☐ Moving out of Parish ☐ Want Envelopes

*Place in offertory basket or mail to Parish Office. We will contact you to complete our Census Form.
Welcome to our Parish Family!*

A Community of Faith Built on Tradition, Where Everyone is Welcome

Saint Stanislaus Parish Community

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Jan. 23rd - Private Intention
Tues., Jan. 24th - Allen Trojanowski (D. & L. Wolfe)
Wed., Jan. 25th - Anna Mae & Howard Meyers (Kathy & Jack Ciecierski)
Thurs., Jan. 26th - Albert "Mickey" Mabie (Bill Foley)
Fri., Jan. 27th - Patricia Jenks (Marcia)
Sat., Jan. 28th, 4:00PM - Christine Sullivan (Rose Marie Radomski)
Sun., Jan. 29th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns for in memory of **JOHN & THERESA PIOTROWSKI** as gifted by Janet & Jim.



IN MEMORIUM

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Friday, January 13th, for Raymond Przybyszewski. Please keep Ray, his family, and his friends in your prayers. "Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord..."

CONGRATULATIONS

We extend a special word of congratulations to Haley Rohrbach, who earned a place on the Dean's List at Gannon University by achieving a 4.0 GPA in her first semester of college. Way to go, Haley!

HELP WANTED

Our "Pierogi Making Team" is looking for volunteer help on January 23rd and 24th (this coming Monday and Tuesday) starting at 9:30AM in the Parish Hall. Coffee, donuts, and lunch will be provided. No experience necessary. It's always a fun time and good way to socialize with other parishioners!

DROP YOUR NETS AND BE FREE

There are times I wish I had no obligations. It would be great to take my wife's hand, hop in the car, and drive into the sunset. Where we were going would not matter as much as the fact that we would have nowhere we had to be. There would be nothing we had to do. No bills. No commitments. No problems. Freedom! Life doesn't work like that, however. When Jesus came along and asked some fishermen to drop their nets and follow him, they did just that. Wow! In some ways, they experienced true freedom. That is what Jesus offers all of us. Yet, true freedom looks quite different than my dream scenario. In living in the true freedom that Jesus offers, there are things we must do and places we must go. That is because freedom only exists in following God's will, not our own. We are called to be and called to give ourselves completely to God without reservations. We always have the free will to not respond to His call, but we will find that a negative answer may complicate our lives even further. God's path for us calls on us to give freely of what we have been given. Saying no to that call means we carry the weight of those gifts. We were never meant to keep them. The path of God's will may seem long and winding, but it is the one that leads us into that sunset. It is the way to true freedom.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WORDS OF GRATITUDE

"On behalf of my entire family, I want to thank everyone who attended my father, Charles Rohrbach's, wake and funeral Mass, or otherwise sent cards of sympathy (he passed on December 3rd at the age of 88). We appreciate the support of our parish community."

- Chip, Elaine, and Haley

MARRIAGE MOMENT

"I urge you...that you be united in the same...purpose." (1 Cor. 1:10) Spouses don't have to agree on everything, i.e. favorite meals, politics, how to wash the dishes – BUT, what is the ultimate purpose of your life together? Agree on that. Perhaps write a short marriage mission statement today.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR JANUARY 15th

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$120,524.00
Amount Received	\$1,830.00	\$71,255.00
Net over/under	(\$2,326.00)	(\$49,269.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 58; 9:00AM = 58
Envelopes: 45/168

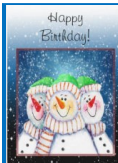


*NEVER BE IN A HURRY; DO
EVERYTHING QUIETLY AND IN A CALM
SPIRIT. DO NOT LOSE YOUR INNER
PEACE FOR ANYTHING WHATSOEVER, EVEN IF
YOUR WHOLE WORLD SEEMS UPSET.
- ST. FRANCIS DE SALES*

Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **MARK NITKIEWICZ** as gifted by Barb & Lloyd.



1/26) Jim Walczak
1/27) Tom Twaroski
1/28) Paul Potthoff

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Jan. 23rd - All Deceased Fathers
Tues., Jan. 24th - Terry Hiney (Pearl & Kathy)
Wed., Jan. 25th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
Thurs., Jan 26th - All Deceased Mothers
Fri., Jan. 27th - The Souls in Purgatory
Sat., Jan. 28th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
Sun., Jan. 29th, 10:30AM - Mark Nitkiewicz (Barb & Lloyd)

Today's readings remind us that stewardship is not just a thing we do - rather, stewardship is at the core of who we are as disciples of Christ. Our first reading, from Isaiah, contains this prophecy of Christ and what His saving message would mean to all who embrace it. "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; upon those who dwelt in the land of gloom a light has shone." We are among those blessed people on whom the light of Christ has shone. By virtue of our Baptism, we, who were once in the darkness of original sin, have been reborn into the great light that is God's grace in us. We are cherished members of God's family. What a privilege! Yet, with this privilege comes the responsibility to actually live for God and to bring His Good News to all those we meet - at work, at school, in our community and right in our own home - in other words, to live as His good stewards. And there is a certain urgency that comes with the call to a stewardship way of life as we see in our Gospel passage from Matthew. Jesus says, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." In other words, turn away from selfishness, turn towards God and live as His disciple now - don't wait! In this same passage, the very first disciples give us examples of a good steward's prompt "yes" when the Lord called to them. Our Lord invites them to "Come after me and I will make you fishers of men." They did not hesitate but "at once they left their nets and followed him." This is the essence of a stewardship way of life - to be always ready for the ways that our Lord is calling us to bring His light to others. It's more than something we do - it's who we are.

HOLY TRINITY USHERS

... will have their monthly meeting on Tuesday, January 31st at 7:00PM in the gathering place. Men and Women are welcome to serve our parish in this ministry.

A Prayer Before Study (by St. Thomas Aquinas)

Come, Holy Spirit, Divine Creator, true source of light and fountain of wisdom! Pour forth your brilliance upon my dense intellect, dissipate the darkness which covers me, that of sin and of ignorance.

Grant me a penetrating mind to understand, a retentive memory, method and ease in learning, the lucidity to comprehend, and abundant grace in expressing myself. Guide the beginning of my work, direct its progress, and bring it to successful completion. This I ask through Jesus Christ, true God and true man, living and reigning with You and the Father, forever and ever. Amen.

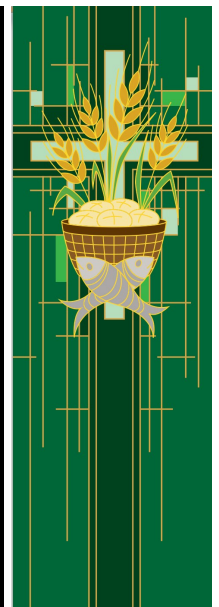
Fishing for People

Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" Matthew 4:19 (NLT)
The puzzle is based on Matthew 4:18-22 (NLT).



M D A E W B C W P E T E R G F
J L M S L A R P A G N E T S F
U O K L U W T R E L F I S H K
C Y J T O P K J B O K B C Y I
X O H L R G K T R G P I O C A
X W L E S C H L O A N L N A S
Z O T E B A H B T L M W E G T
F A M U W T I O H I B L N T Q
W A B E H I N D E L Q M K J S
J T H J O H N B R E Z Z Q Y L
J S Z M D I V E S E W L E J I
P E O A N D R E W X W C J W V
B N S L D O L E A V I N G H I
D X B U H Y B S I T T I N G N
N C F S S C B W B U W E F Y G

BROTHERS	JAMES	NETS	COME	GALILEE
BOAT	PETER	WATER	FOLLOW	BEHIND
ANDREW	LIVING	JESUS	SITTING	FISH
WALKING	PEOPLE	JOHN	SHORE	LEAVING



WEEKLY OFFERING FOR JANUARY 15, 2023

Regular Offering: \$2,216.00 (27/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$109,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$64,800.00
Total Offertory:	\$2,216.00	\$65,202.00
Net (over/under):	(\$184.00)	\$402.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 43; 10:30AM = 52

"Behold the Lamb of God..."

— John 1:30

News for Our Partnership

So the NFL season is almost over. Only the Super Bowl remains. For some fans, the season is already over since their team is now sitting at home. It is amazing the allegiance some people have to their teams. Some people bleed Green Bay green and yellow or believe the only team is supposedly America's team, the Dallas Cowboys. Of course, if you are reading this outside the States, perhaps you live and breathe a team like the New Zealand All Blacks or the Calgary Flames.

In the early church, people took their allegiance to certain leaders to an extreme. Paul chastised them for thinking that the baptism of one community or the teachings of a certain leader were superior to the anything else in this new movement of Jesus followers. He reminded them that there is to be no division in Christ and that all things flow from Christ, not from the leaders in the community. Those who follow Jesus are one body of Christ: a place where there is no room for competition or condescension.

Sometime our stewardship efforts in a parish become all about the parish. We seek to get people to do more stuff and give more money and we lose sight of why we live a stewardship way of life in the first place: Jesus. It is wonderful to watch our parishes grow into more vibrant communities that lead people to Jesus. We should rejoice to be in such a parish family. But one day there will be no parishes and those who have received his gifts freely and have followed him will live with Christ as one forever. In your stewardship, always keep Jesus as *the main thing*.

SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

The Allegheny Health Network at Saint Vincent Hospital is looking for volunteers in a variety of positions. For more information, call 814-452-5646 or visit <https://allegheny.vsyslive.com/pages/app/61EFWO7WP9NQRA10>

Many have returned our recently distributed **Census Form**. Thank you for taking the time to complete it. If you haven't done so already, please take a form and complete it before the end of the month. The price of mailing them to those who are registered, but haven't yet completed them, is over a dollar per form.

TAX INFORMATION

If you need an accounting of your offertory donations for tax purposes, please contact the Parish Office during normal business hours and a form will be mailed to you.

January 23rd
DAY OF PRAYER
*for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children*

MARCH FOR LIFE: ERIE

The People for Life of Erie is sponsoring its first "post-Roe v. Wade" March for Life on Saturday, January 28th. Participants are asked to arrive at the Pavilion in Perry Square at 10:45AM. The mile long march will begin at Perry Square at 11:00AM and end back at Perry Square with a brief program where Representative Mike Kelly will offer remarks. The entire event will conclude by 12:30PM.

MARCH FOR LIFE: WASHINGTON, DC

The People for Life of Erie is sponsoring a bus to Washington, DC, on Saturday, January 20th. The cost of the bus trip is \$65 per person. For more information, visit www.peopleforlife.org.



HOLY TRINITY BINGO

All CASH prizes!!!

*** Instants * 50/50 Game**

- Sunday, February 5th 1:00pm, (Doors Open at Noon)
- Polish Falcons Club, 431 E 3rd St.
- \$25 Admission (1pk), \$5 each add'l pk.
- Kitchen Food Available
- Call 814-456-5300 to reserve your seat!

Walk Ins Welcome

All proceeds benefit Holy Trinity PCEP program

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

1/23) Heidi Jankowski & Gina Lintelman; 1/24) Len Sebastian, Tom Widomski, & Diane Valahovic;
1/25) Kathy Ciecierski, Jack Kempisty, & Helen Zimmerman; 1/26) Patricia Straub & John Kleiner;
1/27) Sr. Maxine Kaminski & Regina Jaworski; 1/28) [Open]; 1/29) Msgr. Bernie Urbaniak & Janis Leretsis

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

1/23) All Vocations; 1/24) Fr. Mark Mastrain; 1/25) Fr. David Whiteford; 1/26) Fr. Justin Pino; 1/27) Fr. Chris Wheeler;
1/28) Bishop Persico; 1/29) Fr. Joe Petrone

Sunday, Jan 22, 2023

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 8:23-9:3; 1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17; Matthew 4:12-23
"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light."

Coming live to a parish near you!

In 2019, Pope Francis designated the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time as "Word of God Sunday." While every Mass includes a healthy serving of Bible readings, annually we're invited to reflect that this is "an experience which occurs 'live' and not through hearsay," as the pope says. "We gather precisely to listen to what God has done and still intends to do for us." Let's not miss a word of it!

Monday, Jan 23, 2023

MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, RELIGIOUS

Hebrews 9:15, 24-28; Mark 3:22-30

"If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand."

Don't let fear keep you from serving

The disease of leprosy has been curable since the mid-20th century and is actually not highly contagious, as was believed in the past, but the physical effects were devastating enough to cause tremendous fear. Mother Marianne Cope was not afraid, which she stated in 1883 in her letter of acceptance to King Kalākaua of Hawaii, who had already asked for help from—and been turned down by—more than 50 other religious congregations to care for his people who had leprosy. The German-born American sister and six others came to his aid all the way from New York. When you go beyond your fears to answer a call, you may be bridging the greatest distance of all.

Tuesday, Jan 24, 2023

MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Hebrews 10:1-10; Mark 3:31-35

"Behold, I come to do your will, O God."

There is strength in gentleness

Francis de Sales is famous for his gentleness. He used it on his stubborn father, convincing him he was meant to become a priest instead of a lawyer. It was a virtue Francis tapped to win hardened Calvinists back to the Catholic faith following the Protestant Reformation, a time of much bitterness. Explaining that a "spoonful of honey gathers more flies than a barrel full of vinegar," Saint Francis practiced what he preached by greeting everyone with simple kindness, speaking good-naturedly about the goodness, truth, and beauty of the Catholic faith. "Be who you are and be that well," he reminds us in Introduction to the Devout Life.

Wednesday, Jan 25, 2023

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF PAUL THE APOSTLE

Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18

"Saul, my brother, regain your sight."

I can see clearly now

We've all had the rather unpleasant experience of "being shown the error of our ways," though none perhaps as dramatically as Saul of Tarsus, zealous persecutor of early followers of Christ. On assignment to round up these dissidents, Saul was knocked from his horse by a blinding light and a voice from heaven. Three days of blindness ensued before the scales literally "fell from his eyes" and the newly awakened apostle and great evangelist we know as Saint Paul emerged. Don't wait to be knocked to the ground before considering how your own life may have gone astray. Pray that anything that blinds you may fall away from your vision.

Thursday, Jan 26, 2023

MEMORIAL OF TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS

2 Timothy 1:1-8 or Titus 1:1-5 (520); Mark 4:21-25

"The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you."

Our moment is now

In the '90s, it seemed everyone wanted in on the "dot.com" internet startup craze. Many were excited to be in on the ground floor of something brand new. It's tempting to think that Timothy and Titus (both of whom have letters in the New Testament addressed to them) were like the dot.com entrepreneurs when it came to the new, exciting religion of Christianity. In contrast, today's Christianity can seem weighed down by centuries of precedent and proscriptions. Titus and Timothy dealt with plenty of church trouble in their time, however, from division to drunkenness to false teaching. Their witness reminds us to pray for the strength to rise to the challenges of the moment we've been given, just as they did.

Friday, Jan 27, 2023

MEMORIAL OF ANGELA MERICI, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

Hebrews 10:32-39; Mark 4:26-34

"We are not among those who draw back and perish, but among those who have faith and will possess life."

Stand the course

Sometimes when the going gets tough, if they are honest, the tough want to curl up under the blankets and never come out! Life is not always an easy road, even when we feel called by God. But we're not alone on the journey. We can look to the saints to see how they've weathered the storms. Today, on the feast of Angela Merici, educator and founder of the Ursuline Sisters, let us take heart in her wisdom. "Strive with all your might to keep yourselves as you have been called by God, and seek out and desire all those means and ways that are necessary to persevere and prosper till the end."

Saturday, Jan 28, 2023

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS AQUINAS, PRIEST, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19; Mark 4:35-41

"He asked them, 'Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?'"

Be resolute

Sometimes your commitment to your faith or choice of a vocation or calling can lead to uncomfortable conflicts with loved ones who have a different idea of who you should be or how you should live your life. Even a saint as illustrious as Saint Thomas had to struggle against opposition. His family was so opposed to his decision to enter the Dominican order that they had him abducted and held captive for a year! Thomas stood firm and they finally relented, and as a result the church gained perhaps its greatest theologian. Stand firm when you need to—who knows what God has in store for you!

**Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to
know you, a heart to seek you, wisdom
to find you, conduct pleasing to you,
faithful perseverance in waiting
for you, and a hope of finally
embracing you. Amen.**

— Thomas Aquinas

