

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 10, 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**

*** Reconciliation is celebrated until 15 minutes before Mass
(If the priest is not in the confessional, inform a greeter)**

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**

*** Reconciliation is celebrated until 15 minutes before Mass
(If the priest is not in the confessional, inform a greeter)**



Saint Stanislaus & Holy Trinity

Partners in Faith & Mission



September 10, 2023
23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

What are you supposed to do about the bad behavior of the people around you? You know who I'm talking about. That family member, friend, coworker, or acquaintance who is quite immoral. On this front there are two lively options in our culture: bash the person to others (probably online) or pretend everything's fine. The former damages the person. The latter ignores reality. What to do?

Jesus' strategy in the Gospel of Matthew is as wise as it is difficult: go directly to the person, and then gradually expand the circle of intervention. Simple, often effective, and hard. But what we often miss is the context of the Lord's strategy, "If your brother sins against you..." Notice the italicized words. Is the person in a Christian familial bond with you? And was the action in question against you? If so, proceed with the plan. Fine. But how often we fret over the sins of those who either aren't our spiritual siblings or have done nothing directly to us. This is not an invitation to ignore injustice in the world. Rather, we should build bonds of fraternal love, and carefully discern when and how others' sins are indeed our concern. Sometimes they are. Other times — frequently, perhaps — they simply are not.

— Father John Muir

**"PEOPLE WHO WORK
MUST TAKE THE TIME
★★★ TO RELAX, ★★★
TO BE WITH THEIR FAMILIES,
TO ENJOY THEMSELVES,
READ, LISTEN TO MUSIC,
PLAY A SPORT."**

— POPE FRANCIS



Readings for the week of September 10, 2023

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-9/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
Monday: Col 1:24-2:3/Ps 62:6-9/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Col 2:6-15/Ps 145:1-2, 8-11/Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11/Ps 145:2-3, 10-13/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Nm 21:4-9/Ps 78:1-2, 34-38/Phil 2:6-11/Jn 3:13-17
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14/Ps 16:1-2, 5-8, 11/Jn 19:25-27
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17/Ps 113:1-7/Lk 6:43-49
Next Sunday: Sir 27:30-28:7/Ps 103:1-4, 9-12/Rom 14:7-9/Mt 18:21-35

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.

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., Sept. 11th - Private Intention
Tues., Sept. 12th - Julie Aleksandrowicz (Stephanie & Bill Wycech)
Wed., Sept. 13th - Ann Ropelewski (Dr. Hal Angeloff)
Thurs., Sept. 14th - Ron Wiczorek & Henry Dudkiewicz (Jim Macie)
Fri., Sept. 15th - Victoria Baniszewski (Diane & Rich)
Sat., Sept. 16th, 4:00PM - Rose "Babe" Niedzwiecki (G. & J. Gorski)
Sun., Sept. 17th, 9:00AM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **THE ZIMMERMAN FAMILY**, as gifted by Helen.



WOMEN'S SOCIETY

Our Women's Society will meet on Sunday, September 10th, at 1PM in the Parish Hall. All are invited to attend.

PIEROGI MAKING SESSIONS

The crew will be gathering in the Parish Hall on September 19th & 20th (9AM-2PM) to begin making pierogi for our annual "Parish Day/A Taste of Poland." All are invited to help. As always, no experience is necessary and lunch will be provided.

TOWN HALL MEETING

A Town Hall meeting will take place on Sunday, September 17th, following the 9:00AM Mass. Fr. Jason will present on the proposed changes to parishes in Erie County, specifically, how the plan will impact St. Stanislaus. Please make every effort to attend.

AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATORS

Thanks to a grant secured by a parishioner, St. Stan's has purchased and installed two AEDs - one in the church and one in the Parish Hall. Appropriate people will be trained on their use, God forbid we ever need to use them.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The key word in today's gospel is "listen." We cannot change another person; not alone, not with others and not with a whole Church. All we can do is state our position and "if he listens to you" then he / she can take the steps necessary to change themselves. Change comes from within.

I have been blessed to be a member of my parish community for 28 years. For much of that time I was serving as a member of the parish staff, but it was still the community that I call home. I have been fortunate to be able to remain in that parish even as my life has encountered new chapters and callings. I am so grateful to God that I have been able to grow, be nourished, and find companionship in a parish for this long of a time. It is a natural tendency for human beings to desire belonging to something bigger than themselves. Not everyone is fortunate enough to find the community, big or small, that fulfills that need. Unfortunately, that means that many communities suffer from not having the benefit of the gifts, skills, and talents that any member can offer. Communities are in many ways living organisms that move and breathe based upon the individuals who form that body. A community is truly the sum of its parts. Your parish community reflects you and everyone else in that community. The more each member gives to the community, the stronger that community finds itself. If you hold back, your community suffers, and you gain little. I know firsthand what being a part of a community can mean to a person. I would be no one at all – and you would not be reading this – if it weren't for the life I have had in my parish community.

– Tracy Earl Welliver

OCTOBER LOTTERY

Raffle tickets for the October Lottery are now available. Please see any member of the Holy Name Society. Tickets can also be purchased from the Parish Office, or after Masses in the sacristy. Thank you, in advance, for your ongoing support.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023



"THE CHURCH MUST BE A PLACE OF MERCY FREELY GIVEN, WHERE EVERYONE CAN FEEL WELCOMED, LOVED, FORGIVEN AND ENCOURAGED TO LIVE THE GOOD LIFE OF THE GOSPEL."

POPE FRANCIS



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in memory of **THE HOLY TRINITY PARISH FAMILY.**



9/18 Jozef Sperka

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Sept. 11th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
 Tues., Sept. 12th - Peggy Goetzinger (Friends)
 Wed., Sept. 13th - Daniszewski & Gorka Families (Estate)
 Thurs., Sept. 14th - Msgr. John Daniszewski (Estate)
 Fri., Sept. 15th - Warfel Family (Estate)
 Sat., Sept. 16th, 5:15PM - For the People of Holy Trinity (Pro Populo)
 Sun., Sept. 17th, 10:30AM - Florence Kaminski (Family)

Today's readings are all about relationships. Among the many lessons we have learned from the global pandemic is the deep importance of the relationships and communities in our lives. Our families, neighbors, friends and parish family need us, and we need them to be our best selves. St. Paul gives us simple instruction in our second reading from Romans to guide us in our dealings with others, reminding us what Christ Himself taught: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Love is the overarching principal that guides us to be good stewards of our relationships. In our Gospel passage from Matthew, Jesus further refines this instruction on good stewardship of our relationships, even when they involve conflict. He says, "If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother." Jesus teaches us to confront the offending person directly and discretely — with the goal of restoring the relationship if possible. This is how we steward our relationships even through rocky waters. Jesus also speaks to us of the power and beauty of community life. "If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them." Christian stewards, God has designed us in such a way that we must help each other on the journey towards heaven. Let us take care to steward our relationships well.

There will be a Town Hall Meeting Sunday, September 10th, following our 10:30 AM Mass. At that time, Fr. Jason and the Pastoral Leadership Team will present the preliminary Pastoral Plan for Erie County. We will discuss its implications, our feedback, and how you can respond to the proposal. Please make plans to attend.

OFFERTORY PROCESSION

We are asking worshippers to bring down the gifts at the offertory. If you would like to do this, please see one of the Ushers when you arrive at Mass or call the Parish Office in advance and we will put you down for the Mass you want. It is always nice to have families participate in the Mass when the intention is for their loved one.

USHERS MEETING

The Holy Trinity Ushers will meet on Tuesday, October 3rd, at 7PM in the Social Hall. All are welcome to attend.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR SEPTEMBER 3RD, 2023

Regular Offering: \$3,185.00 (31f/120 envelopes)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$40,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$24,000.00
Total Offertory:	\$3,185.00	\$28,141.00
Net (over/under):	\$785.00	\$4,141.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 41; 10:30AM = 62

Gathered In His Name

For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them." Matthew 18:20 [NIV]

The puzzle is based on Matthew 18:15-20



Come Together

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

REFUSE NAME BROTHER	FATHER BIND LOOSE	HEAVEN TWO SISTER	FAULT GATHER AGREE	CHURCH EARTH LISTEN
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"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

- Matthew 16:24

News for Our Partnership

Men are invited to half-day conference in Pittsburgh The 15th Gathering of Pittsburgh's Catholic Men's Conference has adopted "The Light of the World" as its theme. At this September 23rd gathering, speakers will equip men to respond to the call. The doors will open at 11:30 am on Saturday, Sept. 23, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 12:30 pm. The program will begin at 1 pm with the closing Mass at 4:00 pm. Register online at www.cmfwpa.org. The event will be held at the Duquesne University Power Center Ballroom, 1015 Forbes Avenue in Pittsburgh, within walking distance of a nearby parking garage.

WHAT IS THE RCIA?

The RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process of initiation into the Catholic Community of Faith.

It enables the study of the Gospels, Catholic Christian teaching, the acceptance of Christian values and morality, the development and deepening of a life of prayer and action with the support and involvement of the local Christian community. Who is RCIA for?

- Non-Catholics who want to find out more about the Catholic Faith
- Those who want to join the Catholic Church through Baptism, or Profession of Faith
- Those who were baptized Catholic as infants but never received religious education, Confirmation, or First Eucharist.

If you are interested please contact the parish office or talk with one of the priests in the upcoming weeks.

WEDDING SEASON

Fr. Jason will be out of town this coming Friday and Saturday (September 15-16), and next Friday and Saturday (September 22-23), in order to officiate at the marriages of two former students - one a hockey alumnus and the other a fraternity alumnus. The weddings are being celebrated in Buffalo, NY, and Loretto, PA, respectively. On these weekends, Fr. Dan will celebrate both Saturday Masses and Fr. Jason will celebrate both Sunday Masses. Thank you for your understanding as Fr. Jason celebrates these significant life-events with these former students.

PRAYER REQUEST

Msgr. Dan will be making his annual priest retreat this week at Good Shepherd Parish, West Middlesex, PA. Keep him and all priests from our Diocese and the Retreat Director, Bishop Michael Woost, auxiliary Bishop of Cleveland.

The Catholic Education Collection will be taken on the weekend of September 16-17. This annual collection supports lifelong education and faith formation opportunities for everyone throughout our entire diocese. Please generously support this collection. You play an integral part in our success in nurturing growth in mind, heart and spirit of the faithful. Half of the funds raised from this collection remain in our parish to support our local education and faith formation programs. The other half provides funds across the diocese for ministry and leadership training, technology support, creative projects in faith formation, as well as tuition assistance for families attending Catholic schools. A small portion also supports The Catholic University of America. Contributions can be made directly at our parish or online at <https://www.eriercd.org/cec.html> Be assured of my prayers for you and your family.

With every best wish, I am,
Bishop Lawrence Persico

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, September 17th
St. Benedict Alumnae Bingo
Polish Falcons Club
431 East 3rd St.

Doors open at Noon; Bingo starts at 1PM
Kitchen/bar open

Get a free bingo packet with a paid admission; just bring gloves, or hat or toy or scarf for a child that will be donated to the Saint Benedict day care center.
Packets \$ 25/9 cards. 50/50, \$100 lottery wreath, tips/instant
CASH GAMES !

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

9/10) Elizabeth Dalton & Eleanor Walker; 9/11) Sandy Kempisty; 9/12) Elizabeth Dalton & Debbie Oldenski; 9/13) Mary Brocius & Shirley Widomski; 9/14) Julie Slomski & Katherine Krainski; 9/15) Nancy & Art Kujawinski, & Carol Clark; 9/16) Corinne Dyakon, Mary Jo Sulecki, & Richard Valahovic; 9/17) Ed Korytowski & Barbara Tuszyński

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

9/10) Bishop Persico; 9/11) Fr. Casimir Wozniak; 9/12) Fr. George Strohmeyer; 9/13) Fr. Matthew Kujawinski; 9/14) Fr. Shane Mathew; 9/15) Fr. Michael Kesicki; 9/16) Fr. Jason Glover; 9/17) Fr. Wally Packard

Sunday, Sep 10, 2023

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:8-10; Matthew 18:15-20

"For where two or three are gathered together... there am I..."

The long loneliness

"Church" means assembly: It is not good for us to be alone. Today's Suicide Prevention Day reminds us that loneliness is an unhealthy condition. More than 700,000 people die by suicide each year: about 132 a day in the United States. For every suicide, there are more than 20 attempts. Mental illness and substance abuse contribute to the crisis, but marginalized groups are at highest risk: migrants, indigenous people, those who identify as LGBTQ+, and prisoners. The feeling of alienation is real but also preventable. Call or text the crisis hotline at 988 to seek help for yourself or someone you love.

Monday, Sep 11, 2023

Colossians 1:24-2:3; Luke 6:6-11

"Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?"

A day to remember those who gave everything

Today, the anniversary of the largest terrorist attack in American history, is a day to call to mind those who rushed in to help, at great cost. The first certified fatality of the attacks was Father Mychal Judge, Franciscan friar and New York City Fire Department chaplain, who rushed to the World Trade Center to help. During his life, he was known for the words on a prayer card he often distributed: "Lord, take me where you want me to go. Let me meet who you want me to meet. Tell me what you want me to say. And keep me out of your way." Honor his legacy and make his humble prayer yours today.

Tuesday, Sep 12, 2023

MEMORIAL OF THE MOST HOLY NAME OF MARY

Colossians 2:6-15; Luke 6:12-19

"He chose Twelve... Simon, whom he named Peter, ..."

On Earth we you children invoke your sweet name

More than a moniker, the names of people - and God - capture, convey, and even conjure a being's very essence. It's why the Hebrews refused to speak God's holiest name. We see in biblical history how lifechanging experiences prompt a person's change of name, as when Sarai becomes Sarah and Saul becomes Paul. When Jesus talks of acting "in my name," he affirms a power and presence invoked by simply uttering his name. Today, heed Venerable Bruno Lanteri, founder of the Oblates of the Virgin Mary, who instructed: simply "think of Mary, call on Mary."

Wednesday, Sep 13, 2023

MEMORIAL OF JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 6:20-26

"Think of what is above, not of what is on earth."

Always speak the words of light

With seemingly never-ending revelations of ministerial misconduct, today's feast of Saint John Chrysostom is a sight for sore eyes. The eminent fourth-century preacher and teacher was surely a product of his day. But he was also guided by the Holy Spirit, who inspired him to be baptized as an adult and denounce corruption in the church while serving as a priest and later as archbishop of Constantinople. As we remember his legacy today, let's take courage to also stand for truth and against all that dishonors the call of the gospel.

Thursday, Sep 14, 2023

FEAST OF THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Numbers 21:4b-9; Philippians 2:6-11; John 3:13-17

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish."

By the wood of the cross

Today's feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross goes back to early days in church history. Saint Helena was the mother of Emperor Constantine (the first Roman emperor to embrace the faith), and Helena is said to have found the actual crucifix of Jesus in Jerusalem in the fourth century, spurring significant devotion to the Holy Cross. This devotion has had staying power perhaps because it helps believers to reflect upon the saving power of Jesus' death. Today when something presents itself as a "cross" to you, take a few moments to contemplate the cross of Christ.

Friday, Sep 15, 2023

MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS

1 Timothy 1:1-2, 12-14; John 19:25-27 or Luke 2:33-35

"And you yourself a sword will pierce so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed."

I feel your pain

Anyone who loves will experience sorrow. It can't be helped. When a loved one suffers, we suffer. The church looks to Our Lady of Sorrows during those difficult times. Mary has been pierced by the sword of sorrow many times, including the seven noted by tradition: The prophecy of Simeon, the Flight into Egypt, the lost child Jesus later found in the Temple, meeting Jesus on the road to Calvary, the Crucifixion, and Jesus' removal from the cross and his burial. Listen to the aching beauty of the Stabat Mater hymn recited each year on this memorial and know that you are not alone in your suffering. Mary's empathy is one of the saving graces of our faith. She knows how we feel, and sometimes that's all it takes to get us past the pain.

Saturday, Sep 16, 2023

1 Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 6:43-49

"Why do you call me, 'Lord, Lord,' but not do what I command?"

Care for the creation

God entrusts to us High above our heads the ozone layer of the stratosphere absorbs enough of the sun's deadly ultraviolet radiation to make possible life on Earth. But just a few decades ago an alarming depletion of the ozone layer generated worldwide concern over resulting increases in skin cancer, cataracts, and other health issues. These concerns led to the adoption of the Montreal Protocol in 1987, celebrated today, which bans the production of chemicals that cause ozone depletion. In his 2015 encyclical *Laudato si'*, Pope Francis applauds the Protocol for helping to protect the Earth, our common home. What can you do for our Earth today?

Let us ask the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us a fervent longing to be saints for God's greater glory, and let us encourage one another in this effort.

— Gaudete et Exsultate

