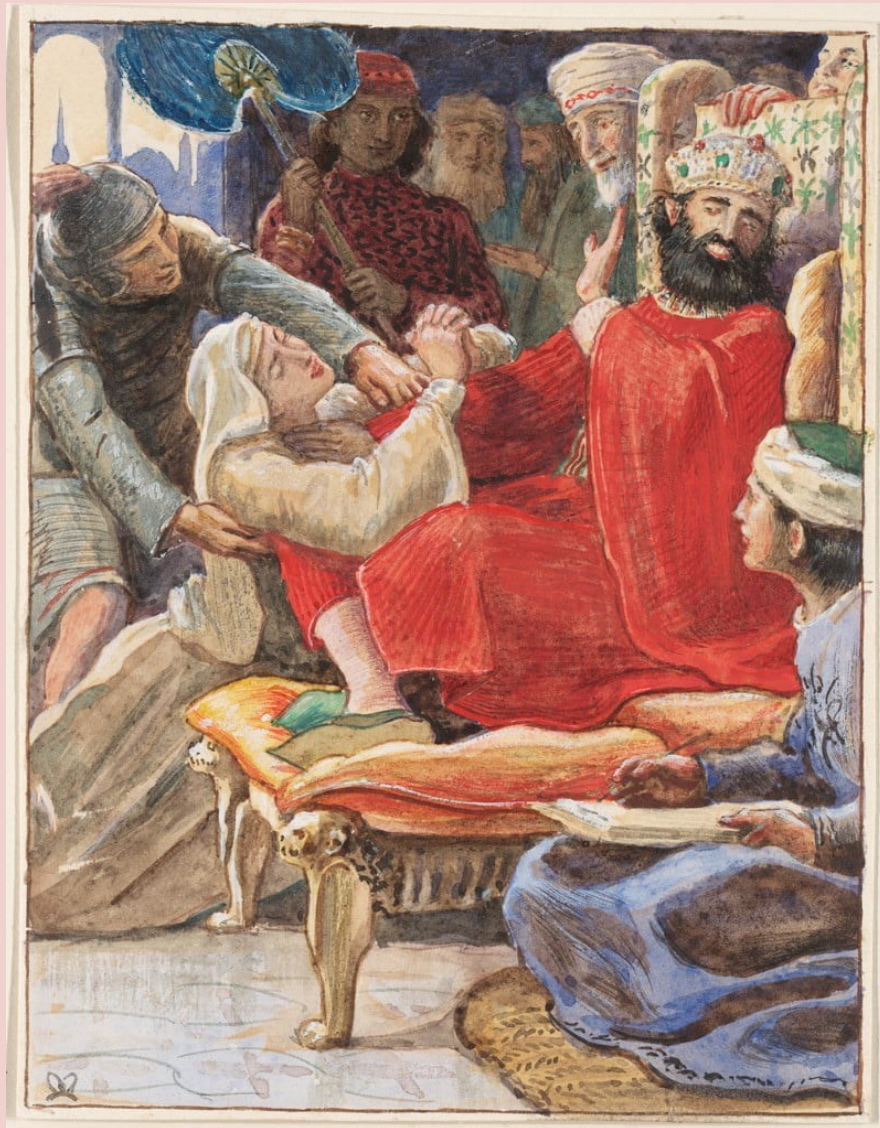


THE 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 16, 2022



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

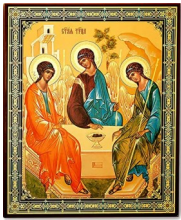
2220 Reed Street
Erie, Pennsylvania 16503
814.456.0671

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



October 16, 2022
29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Brendan wouldn't stop. He continued nagging his mom to let him have a little more time with his phone. He knew the rules but wanted to finish a game and text a few more friends. He begged, had a temper tantrum, pleaded, screamed, pouted, and used every means he could think of to get Mom to change her mind. Mom had a busy day and was tired. At first, she held her ground. Then, her son's persistence got the best of her, and she caved. "Brendan, you can have 30 more minutes and no more!" she retorted. Brendan's determination paid off. He won.

Is this how it works with God too? If we want something enough and feel it is our due, does our persistence allow us to eventually get our way? Judging God by human standards, it would seem so. But is this the way God works? It gets a bit confusing when Jesus tells his disciples to "pray always without becoming weary" and then further tells them how God will "secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night." If we catch God at the right time, when he's having a weak moment, then our tenacity ought to pay off. What we want, we will get. Really? Sadly, the way many approach prayer suggests that this is precisely how it goes.

Good parents set boundaries and offer proper discipline. They learn the art of being steadfast when presented with determined minds and wills. They know what is best and, at times, have to say "no." God is always there with His full attention and unconditional love showering itself upon us. God also knows what is best. And, as with any good parent, the one constant that is always available and never withheld is love. We can be as persistent and determined as we want if what we are seeking is God's love. We are never a bother and requests for God's love are never denied. This is the prayer of the heart. Desiring God alone and not only what we want God to do for us places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. God is never bothered by this prayer. As we breathe in and exhale out, the Divine Life freely flows.

Readings for the week of October 16, 2022

Sunday: Ex 17:8-13/Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8/2 Tm 3:14—4:2/Lk 18:1-8

Monday: Eph 2:1-10/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5/Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18/Lk 10:1-9

Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12/Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6/Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Eph 3:14-21/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12, 18-19/Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Eph 4:1-6/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Eph 4:7-16/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5/Lk 13:1-9

Next Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18/Ps 34:2-3, 17-18, 19, 23 [7a]/2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18/Lk 18:9-14

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, or music minister, 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., Oct. 17th - Private Intention
 Tues., Oct. 18th - Stan & Jean Markiewicz (Family)
 Wed., Oct. 19th - Gabriella Wodarczyk (Family)
 Thurs., Oct. 20th - Sr. Geraldine Wodarczyk (Marie Przepierski)
 Fri., Oct. 21st - Robert John Kapsar (H. Angeloff)
 Sat., Oct. 22nd, 4:00PM - For the People of St. Stanislaus (*Pro Populo*)
 Sun., Oct. 23rd, 9:00AM - Dec. Mem. of Immaculate Conception Church



Our sanctuary candle burns in memory of **SR. GERALDINE WODARCZYK**, as gifted by Marie Przepierski.



POLISH AMERICAN
heritage month

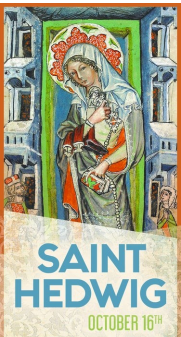
Casimir Pulaski, a Polish nobleman, soldier and military commander was recruited by Benjamin Franklin to help lead the American army. General George Washington made Pulaski a General and he had a large role in training the Continental

Army. He later created Pulaski's Legion that was one of America's first cavalry regiments. Casimir Pulaski was called the "Father of the American Cavalry."

Pulaski Park and stone plaque located at East 10th and Hess Avenue was erected in 1931 by Stephen C. Szumigala - Post No. 416 American Legion, Polish Army Veterans Association Post No. 17 and the People of Erie.



-Bobby J. Sulecki Erie Polonia History



Duchess and widow, the patroness of Silesia, a region of eastern Europe. Also called Jadwiga in some lists. Hedwig was born in Andechs, Bavaria, Germany, the daughter of the Duke of Croatia and Dalmatia. She was the aunt of St. Elizabeth of Hungary. At the age of twelve, Hedwig was married to Duke Henry of Silesia, the head of the Polish Royal family. She bore him seven children, and they had a happy marriage. Henry died in 1238 and Hedwig became a Cistercian at Trebnitz. She had to leave her prayers to make peace among her

offspring, and she buried a child who was killed fighting against the Mongols. She died in the convent on October 15. Many miracles were reported after her death, and she was canonized in 1266.

WEEKLY OFFERING (OCTOBER 9TH, 2022)

	This Week	July 1 to date
Amount we need	\$4,156.00	\$62,340.00
Amount Received	\$3,325.00	\$36,620.00
Net over/under	(\$831.00)	(\$25,720.00)

Mass Attendance: 4:00PM = 117; 9:00AM = 52
 Envelopes: 44/168



SPARKING HOLINESS

As the seasons change, a lot of us like to clean out our homes and unload some of the junk we've acquired over the summer. One trendy approach to decluttering is the Marie Kondo method, named after the author who popularized it. Overly simplified, it's a process that compels you to go through your closets, your garage, your basement — all the places you collect the dreaded "stuff." As you do so, you hold up the items and ask yourself: "Does it spark joy?" It's a question that is bold in its simplicity. In answering, you're supposed to go with your gut. If it's a quick "Yes, it sparks joy," the item should be kept. If the answer is no, it gets tossed. There are people in life who will support our efforts to do God's will. There are those who will, as Paul says, "convince, reprimand, (and) encourage," unafraid of the reaction we give them. There are those who will shore up our defenses when the battle goes longer than we thought. The same goes for hobbies and pastimes. There are those that will ennoble our minds and bring us closer to God. And there are also those that will drain our funds and our free time, with nothing to show for it. During these autumn months, don't just declutter your basement in preparation for the hauling out of the Christmas ornaments. Take stock of the people and pursuits that make up your life. With each one, ask yourself: "Does it spark holiness?" If the answer is yes, thank God that our help is from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. If the answer is no, maybe it's time to declutter.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

SSJ SOUP KITCHEN

The next time we will be collecting donated goods for the SSJ Soup Kitchen (individually wrapped items like Little Debbie's and Hostess) will be on the weekend of **OCTOBER 19**. They can be left in the church vestibule, or brought to the Nazareth Center between 2:00-3:00PM on October 19th.

FULL OF THANKS



Holy Trinity Parish Community



The sanctuary candle burns this week in honor of **THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST**.



10/18 - Pearl Wisniewski
10/22 - Tim Wiley

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon., Oct. 17th - Kulig, Laszczewski, & Habas Families (Estate)
Tues., Oct. 18th - Nancy Slubowski (Gail & Thomas Blaszczyk)
Wed., Oct. 19th - All Deceased Mothers
Thurs., Oct. 20th - Anna Marie Neimeic (Lenny Posway)
Fri., Oct. 21st - All Deceased Fathers
Sat., Oct. 22nd, 5:15PM - The People of Holy Trinity Parish (Pro Populo)
Sun., Oct. 23rd, 10:30AM - Wally & Delphine Gorniak (D. & J. Thiemann)

USHER'S MEETING

There will be a meeting on Tuesday, October 25th at 7:00PM in the Gathering Space to make final plans for the upcoming annual Pre – Election Party. All are welcome!

MARRIAGE MOMENT

Who married you? No, you don't have to remember the priest's name for "the spouses, as ministers of Christ's grace, manifesting their consent before the Church, confer the sacrament of marriage on one another." (Catechism of the Catholic Church 1623) Resolve to be a worthy minister today.

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

It is not always convenient to be a good steward, especially when all the temptations of our busy and materialistic world get in the way. Now add our own pride and ego into the equation and living a stewardship lifestyle may be downright uncomfortable! Remember, God didn't call us to be comfortable. He never said that we would have an easy life. Rather, He called us to be faithful!

CONGRATULATIONS to Brian Reynolds & Maria Cecelia Tabuzo who were married at Holy Trinity on Saturday, October 8th. Wishing you many blessed years of marriage!

PARENTING POINTERS

October is Respect Life Month. As a parent, I assume you speak respectfully to your children and they to you. Respecting life also means valuing all human life – especially the lives of the weak, the vulnerable, the unborn, the poor, even those with whom we disagree. With political speech becoming less civil, let your children hear you speak respectfully even of those you disagree with.

A FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

The widow in today's gospel is praised for her PERSEVERANCE. In our homes perseverance is a critical ingredient to resolving differences in marriage, and teaching lessons and skills to children. Perseverance is always an act of faith and trust in the goodness of the other person.

ZABAWA "THANK YOU" DINNER

Holy Trinity will host its annual "Thank You" dinner on Wednesday, October 19th, with snacks served at 6PM and a catered dinner by Serafin's at 6:30PM. All who volunteered are cordially invited to attend at no cost. Please call the Parish Office to make a reservation.

WEEKLY OFFERING FOR OCTOBER 9, 2022

Regular Offering: \$1,122.00 (23/130)

	THIS WEEK	JULY 1 TO DATE
Dream Goal:	\$4,000.00	\$54,000.00
Budgeted:	\$2,400.00	\$31,200.00
Total Offertory:	\$1,122.00	\$32,128.00
Net (over/under):	(\$1,278.00)	\$928.00

Attendance: 5:15PM = 34; 10:30AM = 62

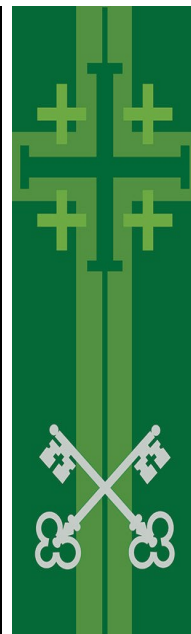
Keep On Praying

Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. Luke 18:1 (NIV)
The puzzle is based on Luke 18:1-8 (NIV).



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

UNJUST SHOW WIDOW JUSTICE	LISTEN LORD FEAR WIDOW	JESUS REFUSED NIGHT TOWN	CHOSEN DISCIPLES PARABLE BOTHER	DAY JUDGE PERSISTENT PRAY
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"... when the Son of Man comes, will He find faith on earth?"

- Luke 18:8

News for Our Partnership

THE HOLY TRINITY USHERS' SOCIETY

... invites everyone to their annual "Pre-Election Get-Together" on Sunday, November 6th, from 4:00PM - 7:00PM at the Holy Trinity Social Hall. Candidates running for political office will be introduced at 6:00PM. Admission is \$15.00 and includes Ox Roast Sandwiches, Sausage Sandwiches, Hot Dogs, Chicken Wings, and Beverages. You *must be* 21 to attend.

ANNUAL PROLIFE ADORATION/ROSARY

Our Annual ProLife Adoration and Rosary will take place on Sunday, October 23rd at 1:00PM at Saint Stanislaus Church. All are welcome to attend!

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL LADIES' GUILD

... will hold its Annual Fall Luncheon and Auction on Sunday, October 23 from 1-4 pm at Scheffner Hall, 1531 East Grandview Blvd. Tickets are \$9.00 and include a delicious lunch. Also on tap – a Basket & Gift Card Auction (100+ items), a Line Dance Demo, Dessert Auction, tip boards, and a 50/50 drawing. Reserve a table for your group today! For tickets or more information, call Carolyn at 814-825-3895.



On October 16, 1978, Cardinal Karol Wojtyla was chosen as our first Polish Pope, John Paul II. This also happened to occur on the feast of St. Hedwig where St. Hedwig Church in Erie was celebrating the last day of their Novena to their patron

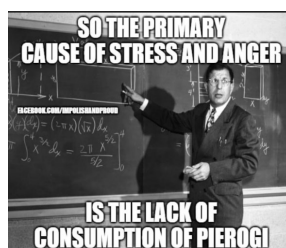
saint. It was not only joyous news for all Polish-Americans but the humble church of St. Hedwig was especially proud. A permanent altar was constructed that was dedicated to Pope John Paul II from the proud parishioners. It was created from an old stone pulpit from the church. The Pastor, Fr. Louis Kozlowski, explained it was a permanent altar and he was given special permission by Bishop Alfred Watson to consecrate it as such. However, it was moved when the Latin Community moved into St. Hedwig's Church in 2022.



-Bobby J. Sulecki Erie Polonia History

ANNUAL MEMORIAL FALL FEST

The annual Val V. Jaskiewicz & Ron Bukoski Fall Fest, sponsored by St. Stan's Holy Name Society, will be held at Saint Stanislaus Parish Hall on Saturday, November 5th from 5-9PM. Only 150 tickets will be sold for \$25 (admits 2 people). Drawings will take place throughout the evening from a total pot of \$2,500. Food and refreshments will be provided. Tickets can be purchased from any St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society Member, from St. Stan's Parish Office (M-F, 9AM - 3PM, closed from Noon - 1PM), or from Father after Mass at St. Stan's. Come out, have a good time, and support St. Stanislaus Holy Name Society!



Me: It's so frustrating when I have everything perfectly clean and set up; then my kids come in and, in two minutes, the whole place is a big mess.

God: You have no idea.

SAINT JUDE the APOSTLE

Pasta Dinner featuring "Ginny's Sauce"

Sunday, October 23rd 11am-6pm

\$12 Pasta Dinner (2 Meatballs)
\$15 Chicken Parm Dinner

Special Early Bird
Takeout Option
Saturday, Oct 22nd
4-7pm



Live Music with Dean Martin!
Basket Drawings, Winavette Tickets, and More!

606 Lowell Ave St. Jude School Gym

THE 31 CLUB - PRAYING FOR VOCATIONS

10/17) Ed Korytowski & Barbara Tuszynski; 10/18) Pearl Wisniewski; 10/19) Bill Dyakon, Rob Lintleman, & Fr. Jason Glover; 10/20) Ed Korytowski; 10/21) Darlene Vlahos & Dorothy Mielnik; 10/22) Suzanne Sundy & Kathy Wisniewski; 10/23) Heidi Jankowski & Gina Lintelman

PRAY FOR OUR PRIESTS

10/17) Fr. Nick Rouch; 10/18) Fr. Casimir Wozniak; 10/19) Fr. Tom Fialkowski; 10/20) Fr. Ray Hahn; 10/21) Fr. Ben Daghir; 10/22) Fr. Rich Toohey; 10/23) Bishop Persico

Sunday, Oct 16, 2022

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Exodus 17:8-13; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:2; Luke 18:1-8

"Proclaim the word... through all patience and teaching."

Yes, there's a day for that

Mealtime arrives three times daily. Most of us are glad to sit down and dig in. Yet for 800 million people worldwide, there isn't enough to eat. The medical costs associated with unhealthy diets will soon exceed \$1.3 trillion annually. The problem isn't growing enough food. Fourteen percent of each harvest is lost to bad handling, storage, and transit methods. Another 17 percent is lost at the consumer end; it simply goes bad or gets thrown away. World hunger is solvable. Find out more at World Food Day.

Monday, Oct 17, 2022

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, BISHOP, MARTYR

Ephesians 2:1-10; Luke 12:13-21

"Thus will it be for the one who... is not rich in what matters to God."

Follow the lead of those in need

The United Nations, which declared today Poverty Eradication Day, proposed that the world work so "that people living in poverty are actively encouraged and supported to be in the front." The Catholic Church has a very similar teaching called the "preferential option for the poor." The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that "those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a preferential love on the part of the Church which, since her origin and in spite of the failings of many of her members, has not ceased to work for their relief, defense, and liberation through numerous works of charity which remain indispensable always and everywhere." Do your part to create a society where the needs of the poor are always considered first.

Tuesday, Oct 18, 2022

FEAST OF LUKE, EVANGELIST

2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Luke 10:1-9

"Say to them, 'The Kingdom of God is at hand for you.'"

Paging Dr. Luke

Thanks to scripture scholarship, we know that Saint Luke authored not only the Gospel of Luke, but also the Acts of the Apostles. Thanks to Saint Paul, and later Saint Jerome, we likewise know that Luke was a physician. Little wonder, then, that Luke's description of Jesus' life contains more accounts of physical healing than the other New Testament books. Luke's writing is famous for honoring the full humanity of everyone Jesus encountered. How can you be a person who does the same?

Wednesday, Oct 19, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DE BRÉBEUF AND ISAAC JOGUES, JESUIT PRIESTS, AND COMPANIONS

Ephesians 3:2-12; Luke 12:39-48

"God indeed is my savior; I am confident and unafraid. My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior."

Healing past wrongs is a mission of love

Today the church celebrates the feast of the North American Martyrs, a group of eight French Jesuit missionaries killed in the 17th century by members of the Mohawk people in Canada. One of the best-known martyrs is Saint Isaac Jogues, who after originally being ransomed by Dutch colonists—including a Protestant pastor—in 1642, was one of two Jesuits who returned to the Mohawk region in an (unsuccessful) attempt to broker peace. Following Pope Francis' recent visit to Canada to apologize for injustices at the hands of Catholics, may the saints we remember today inspire us to serve without prejudice or fear.

Thursday, Oct 20, 2022

MEMORIAL OF PAUL OF THE CROSS, PRIEST, FOUNDER

Ephesians 3:14-21; Luke 12:49-53

"I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing!"

We all struggle at times

Saint Paul of the Cross became the founder of the Passionists, a worldwide religious community. In his day (the 1700s) he was a famous preacher who drew large crowds. But as a young man still considering his path in life, he was beset with doubts: "The very sound of the church bells became hateful to me," he wrote about this period. His life reminds us that confusion and doubt have long affected the faithful. If you've experienced this kind of anguish, you are not alone. "Lord, I believe. Help my unbelief," (Mark 9:23) is a prayer many turn to.

Friday, Oct 21, 2022

Ephesians 4:1-6; Luke 12:54-59

"Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right?"

Right relationship

Following Jesus the Christ means living in right relationship—with others, with the Earth and all God's creatures, and perhaps most important, with your own self. The backbone of right relationships is love. Such love, Saint Thomas Aquinas says, is "willing the good of the other." For Catholics, this idea of right relationship has two key components. First, it means upholding the dignity of all persons, especially when we encounter differences and conflict. Second, it means working for justice. Justice is something we can practice daily in our choices of how we live and how we treat others. It also means being aware of and active in transforming unjust structures and institutions. What helps you nurture right relationships?

Saturday, Oct 22, 2022

MEMORIAL OF JOHN PAUL II, POPE

Ephesians 4:7-16; Luke 13:1-9

"...I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future."

Loss leads to life

Pope Saint John Paul II, canonized in 2014, was revered for his many accomplishments during his long pontificate. What is less well known about the beloved pontiff is that he experienced tremendous loss early in life. The future pope lost his mother when he was only 9, his eldest brother when he was 12, and his father when he was just 21. Perhaps this is why Saint John Paul II made the "culture of life" a focus on his pontificate: the "church counters the culture of death with the culture of life," he said as he advocated for all life issues, in statements such as this: "May the death penalty, an unworthy punishment still used in some countries, be abolished throughout the world." Let loss lead to life.

