

St. John the Baptist Catholic Church

Missionaries of the Precious Blood



Pastor: Rev. Matthew Keller C.P.P.S.
Email: frmatt@glandorfstjohns.com

Deacon: Don Inkrott

PARISH OFFICE BUSINESS HOURS

Monday—Friday, 9:00am - 5:00pm

Closed for Lunch from 12:30pm—1:30pm

Phone: 419-538-6928

Sacramental Emergencies :

419-778-9339

Fax: 419-538-6147

Website: www.stjohnglandorf.org

Address: PO Box 48, Glandorf, OH 45848

Business Manager: Ashley Duling
Email: bmanager@glandorfstjohns.com

Administrative Assistant:
Michelle Horstman
Email: admin@glandorfstjohns.com

Music: Dan Ellerbrock

Maintenance: Joe Schroeder

Janitors: Mark Klausung (Church),
Mark Kaufman (Parish Center)

Cemetery Caretaker-Manager:
Jeff Gerding

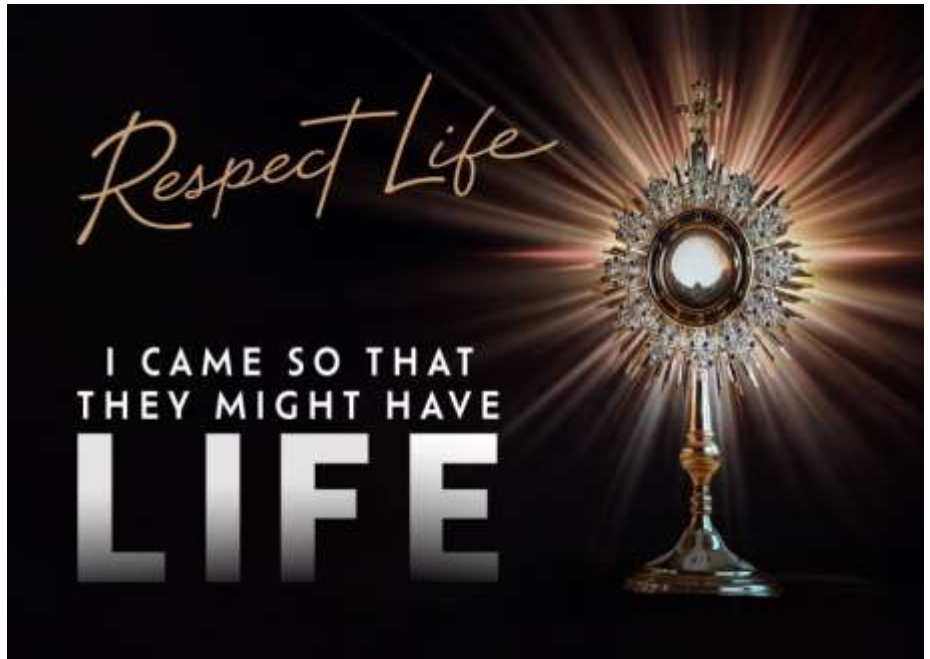
Preschool Administrator: Lori Rump
Email: preschool@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6264

K-4th Religious Education:
Tammy Schmitz
Email: k4ccd@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6335

5th-8th Religious Education:
Mindy Recker
Email: jrhighccd@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6897

High School Religious Education:
Jennifer Warnecke
Email: hscdd@glandorfstjohns.com
Phone: 419-538-6897

Parish Council President: Mike Karhoff
Finance Committee Chairperson:
Luke Recker
Altar Rosary Society President:
Abby Nussbaum
Men's Society President: Derek Maag



OUR MISSION

Founded by Jesus Christ, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church is the heart of Glandorf. At the heart of our faith are the Sacraments which St. John's is here to evangelize, catechize, and celebrate all of God's people to set their hearts on fire in passionate love of God and neighbor.

PARISHIONERS

- New Members
 - Any status or address changes
 - To keep informed, register for Bulletin and Parish Notifications by email or visit St. John's website
- Call or email the Parish Office

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN OUR PARISH?

- If you are interested in becoming a Lector, Extraordinary Minister, Usher, Funeral Server, Choir, Spirit and Song Group and any other way.
 - If Interested in becoming a member on our Finance Committee or Parish Council Committee. Please call the parish office for more information and to be put on the next ballot.
- Call or email the Parish Office.

CYO SPORTS

DIOCESAN POLICY FOR CYO SPORTS – All players must be members of the sponsoring parish and/or educational system of the parish in order to play on the parish team. PARISH POLICY FOR HIGH SCHOOL CYO Playing any sports this year? You are expected to attend both the Fall & Winter sessions of High School Religious Education Groups or Grade School CCD Classes---plus weekend Saturday or Sunday Mass. This includes all players, coaches and their families. Attendance at these groups/classes will be monitored and reviewed. For each class missed, beyond 4 classes you will be sitting out one game. Parents, if your child is sick, please call or text Jenn Warnecke at 419-302-8465 before class. This also includes the PUTNAM COUNTY GRADE SCHOOL BOY'S & GIRL'S CYO SPORTING TEAMS. We kindly ask the cooperation of all concerned as we implement this church policy for the good of our parish. Fr. Matt & Mike Karhoff

2 FROM THE DESK OF FATHER MATT

www.stjohnnglandorf.org

This man was looking for something more, he was in search of eternal life, he wanted to inherit, and he knew that there was something more that he needed to do so that he could inherit it. And in his search, he asked Jesus “what more do I need to do?” Like the man in our scriptures today we also want to inherit eternal life, and we like this man in our scriptures today ask the same question “what more do I need to do?” Jesus told this man what he needed to do and tell us to obey the commandments. As you assess your life how are you doing at following the commandments? My personal assessment I would say is somewhere between average to above average, I am aware my sins and so I would give myself an excellent score. The man in our scriptures said he has observed the commandments from his youth and recognizes that there is something still lacking. There is something more that he needs to do and perhaps also in our lives we can also recognize that needing to do more in our lives to inherit eternal life.

Jesus tells him “Go, sell what you have, and give to the poor and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me” (Mark 10:21). In response this man’s face fell and he walks away sad. As we hear this part of the story, I think it is easy for us to be critical of this man for not wanting to sell all that he has and give to the poor. But put yourself in the story for a moment, put yourself in this man’s shoes, Jesus tells you to sell all that you have and give to the poor. What is your response to Jesus? Can you sell all that you have and give to the poor? Or on hearing does your face like this man fall and you go away sad too?

As I think of this man, I think of him as being rich. And so, as I put myself in this man’s shoes, I do not consider myself to be rich, so I say I cannot identify myself with this man. But I must admit that I live pretty comfortably and I must admit that I have a lot of things. I have a lot of things that I want to keep, I have a lot of things of value both material and personal value. I have a lot of things that I want to keep much less give the proceeds of the sale to the poor. So, does this disqualify me from inheriting eternal life?

I hope not or if it does, I am in trouble. Perhaps it is more about an invitation to take inventory of the things that we have, and question how do we share what we have with others? As I sit in my office typing this note, I take inventory of these things I have. I have things that I can practically share like office supplies and several mementoes that would help to share stories about my life.

As I reflect on our Sunday Funday last Sunday, I saw a lot of sharing of things financial resources buying tickets, food, drinks, and playing games. Volunteering running food stands, games, and even tearing down at the end happened so efficiently. And simply sharing the company of each other. We are a parish with an abundance of things and a parish that is willing to share our things with one another. May we always be a parish that is willing to share our things with one another so that we can inherit eternal life.



MONDAY, OCTOBER 14 st. Callistus

7:35am Rosary
8:00am Communion Service-Mike Karhoff

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15 St. Teresa

8:20am Rosary
8:40am Ruth Ann Stechschulte(AN)

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16 Sts. Hedwig & Margaret Mary

7:15am-7:45am Confession
7:35am Rosary
8:00am Anna Yaufman
6:30pm-8:15pm Adoration
7:45-8:15pm Confession

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17 St. Ignatius

8:20am Rosary
8:40am Joe Uphaus

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18 St. Luke

7:15am-7:45am Confession
7:35am Rosary
8:00am Oscar & Marie Kuhlman, Phyllis Fry, Greg Fry, Tom Kaufman
12:00pm Rosary
6:00pm Wedding Rehearsal-Julie Pothast

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19 Sts. John de Brebeuf & Isaac

7:35am Rosary
8:00am L/D Francis & Mary Ann Hanneman
8:30am Confessions
1:00pm Meyer/Warnecke Wedding
4:00pm Confessions
4:30pm Carolyn & Bob Warnecke, Mose Stechschulte, Audrey Lauf, Naomi Bellman, L/D Robert & Alice Schroeder Family, L/D Jerome & Alma Schmitz Family, L/D Al (AN) & Irene Schroeder Family

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20-29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Feast of St. Gaspar

7:35am Rosary
8:00am L/D Cassidy Family, Paul Schulte, L/D Gary Wiechart Family, L/D Mel Nienberg Family, L/D Rita Jane Bockrath Family, L/D Donald Recker Family, Oscar Schnipke
10:30am Alice Wolke, L/D Tom & Velma Balbaugh Family, Joe Koch
11:30am Baptism-Fr. Matt

SERVERS

Mon	8:00am	No Mass
Tue	8:40am	Students
Wed	8:00am	Jerry Hanneman, Jeff Schram
Thurs	8:40am	Students
Fri	8:00am	Elton Schroeder, Roger Schroeder
Sat	8:00am	Connor Schimmoeller, Maya Vorst, Landon Heckman
Sat	4:30pm	Adam Maag, Ross Maag, Mylie Bockrath, Thurifer-TBD
Sun	8:00am	Grant Leopold, Justin Kahle, Grace Kahle,
Sun	10:30am	Reese Karhoff, Grant Schroeder, Grant Maag

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS LECTORS

Sat	4:30pm	Doug Deitering Diane Deitering	Sharon Meyer Chris Schroeder
Sun	8:00am	Deb Leopold Deb Schroeder	Andy Gray Deb Schroeder
Sun	10:30am	Tara Gerding Jane Moening	Mary Ellen Klear Dan Klear

GIFT BEARERS

Sat	4:30pm	Don and Connie Dehnart Grandkids
Sun	8:00am	Tim & Chris Hoehn
Sun	10:30am	Pat & Delene Everman

OCTOBER USHERS

Sat	4:30pm	Richard Schmitz, Brady Laudick
Sun	8:00am	Bart Recker, Ken Kottenbrock
Sun	10:30am	Jerry Recker, Al Kaufman

COMMUNION TO MEADOWS: Deb Burwell, Fran Roof
COUNTERS FOR SUNDAY: 3
ROSARY NEXT SUNDAY: Edna & Diane Nienberg
OCTOBER FUNERAL ROSARY LEADERS: Jeff & Jeanne Schram, Ginnie Riepenhoff, Bertie Hermiller, Mike & Judy Niese, Lee & Diane Recker

OCTOBER MASS COUNT 2024

We need to report Saturday and Sunday Mass attendance to the Toledo Dioceses. Starting this weekend Saturday October 5th and 6th, the ushers will count all people present at every Mass. This will include servers, Fr. Matt, Deacon Don, choir & babies in arms.

Thank you very much!

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION
(PRE CANA CLASS)**

Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 8:00am.

This is a mandatory, 1-day class. If you haven't registered for this class at the office please do so by e-mailing admin@glandorfstjohns.com.



**THURIFER
TRAINING**

**ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS IN
GRADES 8-12!**

We are offering Thurifer Training on **Friday, October 25, 2024 after 8:00am Mass until 9:30am.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to deepen your participation in the Mass and serve in a special way.

We invite you to **prayerfully consider this opportunity.** No prior experience is needed—just come with an open heart and a willingness to learn!

JOIN US

SACRAMENTS**BAPTISM**

Instruction is necessary when this is your first child. To arrange a baptism or register for the parental baptism class, please contact the Parish Office.

PARENTAL BAPTISM CLASS (by Deacon Don)
Parish Center Room 15 9:00am –10:30am
Upcoming classes:

MARRIAGES

Please contact the Parish Office six months in advance to start planning your wedding. A marriage preparation class is required.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION CLASS (REQUIRED)
1-DAY CLASS organized by Dr. Craig and Wendy Imm in the Parish Center Cafeteria
Sunday, November 3, 2024 at 8:00am

RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

Wednesday 7:15am –7:45am, 7:45pm—8:15pm
Friday 7:15am—7:45am
Saturday 8:30am, 4:00pm—4:15pm

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office if you need a Priest for Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites. If a Sacramental Emergency call 419-778-9339.

HOLY ORDERS AND RELIGIOUS LIFE

Contact the vocation office at the Toledo Diocese at 419-244-6711 ext. 4945 or e-mail psmith@toledodiocese.org or contact the vocation office at the Missionaries of the Precious Blood 937-228-9263 or e-mail vocation@cpps-preciousblood.org.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Wednesday 6:30pm—8:15pm
1st Friday 1:00pm—4:00pm with Benediction
1st Saturday 5:30pm - 8:00am

INITIATION OF ADULTS INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH (RCIA/OCIA)

Is a journey through which interested adults and older children are welcomed and gradually introduced to the Roman Catholic Faith, Sacraments, Worship and way of life. In response to their inquiries, these people are properly instructed so that you can discern (through reflection and prayer) whether you are indeed called to Catholicism. If you would like more information or want to register please contact the Parish Office. The next session will start in the fall.

CATECHISM CORNER

Each week at Holy Mass we profess our belief in reciting the Nicene Creed. What does it mean when we say we believe in these statements/truths? We will take a look at each statement/truth of the creed and examine it's meaning through the use of the Faith and Life Series by Ignatius Press that is utilized in our parish religious education morning program, 5th Grade curriculum. For more information on this program, visit <https://loc.ignatius.com/faithandlife/>

"His Kingdom will have no end." *"In my Father's house are many rooms; if it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And when I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may also be." (John 14:2-3)*

Jesus was baptized in the Jordan by his cousin John. But since Jesus didn't have any sin, why would He need to be baptized? The answer is, He didn't *need* to be baptized. He did this to set an example; to indicate that He would be taking the sins of his people upon himself. He was accepting the mission of the Messiah. It was at His baptism, that God revealed Him as God's beloved Son, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

After Jesus was baptized and accepted His mission as the Messiah, he went to the desert to fast and pray for forty days. Satan tempted Jesus in the desert because he is opposed to Jesus' mission to save all souls. However, Jesus remained strong against the temptations because he fortified himself with prayer and fasting. Again, we must look to Jesus' example and fortify ourselves through prayer and fasting to resist attacks of temptation also.

After His time in the desert, Jesus began His public ministry to build His Kingdom. For three years, Jesus taught about the Kingdom of Heaven. He used parables to do this. A parable is a story that teaches a lesson. Stories are effective ways to learn as they help people use their imaginations and think about the truths applied to their own lives.

The following are the main lessons Jesus taught using parables:

- He taught about God
- He taught about the Kingdom of Heaven.
- He taught us that God loves us.
- God wants sinners to return to His love and forgiveness.
- He taught that we are children of God.
- He taught us to love, even our enemies.
- He taught us to forgive others.
- He taught us to do good works.

Jesus taught these lesson to anyone who wanted to listen, but especially to the poor, sinners, and all whom the world considered unimportant.

Think about this: Jesus began His mission on earth to redeem the world of their sin. He knew He would suffer, die, and ascend to Heaven in order for His mission to be completed. But, His mission to get all souls to Heaven would not yet be completed. Therefore, He chose 12 Apostles to continue that mission. The successors of the Apostles continue the mission today. These successors are the bishops.

But, it's not up to the bishops alone. Each Christian is called to evangelize, to call all people to Jesus Christ and His Church. Through the Church we receive necessary graces for salvation. It is only through Jesus Christ and the graces He freely offers that we will attain eternal life.

Our mission to carry on this message is great, especially in a world that is forgetting who God is.

STEWARDSHIP		October 6, 2024
<u>Offering</u>		
Loose	\$	849.35
Adult Envelope	\$	10,462.00
Children	\$	213.00
Maintenance	\$	50.00
Online Offering	\$	2,467.50
Online Maintenance	\$	223.75
Pre-School	\$	210.00
Total Collection	\$	14,475.60

Thank you to all of you who have been continuing to make your Weekly/monthly contributions to your St. John's parish family and for sharing your treasure, time, & talent with your St. John's parish family!

Give Online Today!

Visit our website to get the E-Giving Form to fill out and return to the Parish Office. It is located in the left side above the Menu options.

www.stjohnsglandorf.org

Heartbeat needs Baby wipes, Diapers - size 4, 5, and 6, 3-6 and 6-9 month plain white onesies, Enfamil formulas (Infant and Gentlease) & Similac Neosure formula (for preemies)

Heartbeat Hours: Tuesday 1-5pm and located on 1225 E. Third St. in Ottawa.

Foods Needed at the Ottawa Food Pantry: pineapple, salad dressing, jelly.
Note: Monetary gifts are also welcome. (Send in care of Trinity UM Church, 137 N. Pratt, Ottawa)

World Mission Sunday 2024

October 20th

Next weekend, we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and part of Europe and the Americas, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Confirmation Candidates

Please pray for our Confirmation Candidates as they continue to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation on November 3rd. Let us pray that their hearts are softened and open to allow all the grace God wishes to bestow upon them so that they may become true disciples of Christ and living witnesses of His infinite goodness. Come Holy Spirit!

Isaac Ansley	Hudson Heitmeyer	Lee Moening	Zachary Schroeder
Logan Birkemeier	Brynn Hohenbrink	Alayna Okuley	Ayvrie Schulte
Gavin Bockrath	Orant Kaufman	Alexis Parys	Landon Stechschulte
Kya Bogart	Whitney Kaufman	Caleb Pulfer	Maddox Stechschulte
Ella Brady	Knox Kidd	Easton Rader	Breyson Trombley
Cole Carrera	Jonathan Klear	Carson Recker	Clare Turnwald
Alaina Duling	Lydia Lammers	Megan Recker	Calista Vennekotter
Maci Ellerbrock	Mason McKee	Chloe Schey	Collin Verhoff
Owen Ellerbrock	Mattilyn Maag	Caleb Schroeder	Mallory Verhoff
Trey Ellerbrock	Riley Maag	Ella Schroeder	Mya Wagner
Will Evans	Chase Meyer	Kamryn Schroeder	Lauren Weis
Brooke Felkey	Emmit Miller	Wyatt Schroeder	Ty Wrasman
Claire Haselman	Megan Miller		

Come Holy Spirit!

Please Include them in your prayers

OUR FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Please remember in your Masses and prayers the soul of our faithful departed. Our sincere sympathy is extended to their families, relatives, friends & neighbors of

Debra Bryant

WEDDING BANN

III Devon Warnecke, of this parish, daughter of Wade & Tracy Warnecke & Brandon Meyer, of this parish, son of Doug & Lynn Meyer

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH FAMILY

Ian and Amanda Richey

Todd and Nancy Carr



CONGRATULATIONS
ON YOUR 50th
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY!

Cliff & Janet Schroeder

Pray For Those Who Have Gone Before Us

The past 20 years

Clarence W Pohl 10/14/09	Joseph E Stechschulte 10/16/10
Edna M Lauer 10/14/14	Alphonse A Palte 10/17/00
Ruth Ann Stechschulte 10/14/17	James H Ellerbrock 10/17/05
Peggy Osting 10/15/01	Oscar L Kuhlman 10/17/08

SONday Fun Day

Thank you to everyone for coming out and/or supporting this event!

Thank you to all our St. John's ministries and area businesses for their amazing raffle baskets and donations.



Thank you to the Glandorf Park Board for allowing us to use several items, to Joe and Deb Schroeder and Ed and Tammy Schmitz and their team for selling tickets and organizing the reverse raffle, to the Ottawa-Glandorf Jaycee's for cooking hamburgers and frying French fries, Al and Julie Wrasman's for the ice cream, Deacon Don and team for making an amazing turtle soup and shrimp Kabobs, to 1820 BrewWerks, to the finance and parish council for organizing and running the drinks, to Boz and Jackie Luttfiring for having horse rides, to Gary Birkemeyer and the Boy's CYO teams for building the 9 Square-In-the-air, to Jeannie Verhoff for providing and setting up the Pickleball court and teaching kids how to play, to Mindy Recker for organizing the Saint Parade and all the students who dressed up and participated in the Saint Parade (We had such cute Saints!) to the Preschool teachers for participating in the open house, to the high school students and adults for volunteering and helping at the event, to everyone who brought in the delicious bake goods for the Bake Goods Wheel, to Joe Schroeder and Cliff Schroeder for making sure we had electricity, to Joe Schroeder and team for setting up the fencing around the property, to the set up crew and clean up crew and janitorial staff, and especially to the SONday Fun Day Committee (Father Matt, Ashley Duling, Cheryl Schimmoeller, Tim Sarka, Mindy Recker, Tammy Schmitz, Lori Rump and Michelle Horstman) and their loving families for supporting them.

Thank you to everyone who came out and/or supported this event!!!

Without all of you this event would not been possible!

We thank you again for all you do for St. John's Parish!

SONday Fun Day



THANK YOU SPONSORS



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Please patronize these businesses who helped sponsor SONday Fun Day!



PLEASE JOIN THE 2024 FATIMA PUBLIC ROSARY!!

**St. John's, Glandorf - 12:00 Noon
October 12, 2024
- At the Shrine -**

(Bring a lawn chair if you wish to sit and pray –if the weather is uncomfortable we will go in the church)

**Sts. Peter & Paul, Ottawa -
Sunday, October 13 at 1:00 p.m.
in the Peace Garden**

If it's raining, we will go in the school to pray.
Please come pray for our nation



Our Lady of Fatima
Oct. 13, 1917 marked the last Marian apparition in Fatima and the day on which thousands of people bore witness to the miracle of the dancing sun – a miracle that shattered the prevalent belief at the time that God was no longer relevant. This year is the 107 Anniversary of Fatima.

Our very own Fatima Statue will be in St. John's Church.
Saturday October 12, 8:30am till 8:00pm.
Sunday October 13, 7:00am till 8:00pm.

COME! Pray for Our Families, Our Communities, Our Nation, & Our World. Spend time in Prayer as a Family or Individually. Mary hears our Prayers!

Info packets and prayer books will be available to use and/or take home.

**"Life is Short, Death is Certain,
Only the hour remains Obscure"**
Saturday October 26, 2024, 10:00am-11:00 am in the Parish Center St. John's is going to host a **Catholic Funeral planning session.** Fr. Matt will give a presentation on the Catholic Funeral Liturgy along with a representative from Love Funeral Home, and Jeff and Elaine Gerding also presenting.

LADIES OF LEISURE SOCIAL (L.O.L.s.)

(Sponsored by St. John's Alter Rosary Society)
Come for Old Fashioned visiting while playing cards, games or crafting

**Every Third Wednesday
of each month.**

Two Event Times: 1:00- 4:00
OR 6:00- 9:00

@ The Parish Center cafe in Glandorf.

You are welcome to:
Play board games,
Share cards,
Beverages, Tea,
Knitting, Crocheting,
Sewing, Games, etc.
(Please bring your own supplies if desired)

You can bring Your Own Beverage & snack.
**FREE EVENT
NO MEMBERSHIP FEE**

"It is a pleasure to gather with friends and neighbors without having to check boxes!"
Questions OR to Reserve A Table, Contact Jill Gerding 419-338-6942

B

ALTAR ROSARY BINGO & BAKE SALE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2024
1:00PM PARISH CENTER GYM
DOORS OPEN AT 12:30PM
OVER 100 DOOR PRIZES & 50/50 DRAWING

G

ALL WOMEN OF THE PARISH 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER ARE ASKED TO DONATE 2 BAKED GOODS OR \$5. BAKED GOODS OR MONEY CAN BE DROPPED AT THE FRONT ENTRANCE OF ST. JOHN'S HALL ON THE MORNING OF OCTOBER 20TH AFTER 7:30 A.M. MONEY CAN ALSO BE PLACED IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "ARS BAKE SALE" WITH THE WEEKLY COLLECTION.

50/50 TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE BACK OF THE CHURCH. THEY CAN BE RETURNED AT BINGO OR IN THE WEEKLY COLLECTION IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED "ARS BINGO 50/50."

B

BINGO GO

15 20 1 10 19
25 44 40 18 63
7 60

BINGO GO

20 1 10 19
18 63 53
13

We would like to invite all the adult women of St. John the Baptist Glandorf to a **Welcome Retreat Weekend!**

Begins on Saturday November 16 @ 8am & ends on Sunday November 17 @ 4pm.

The **Welcome** experience helps people discover what is missing in their lives and what to do about.

Welcome is an experience that helps teach you how to draw closer to Jesus Christ.

Free to attend. Meals provided. Casual dress. This is not an overnight retreat.

What are the benefits of going on a WELCOME RETREAT? You will find the answer to four important questions: Who am I? What am I here for? What matters most? What matters least?

"Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire!"
Saint Catherine of Siena

Use the QR code to sign up or call Amy Owens with questions.
419-615-8024

welcome 18

10 AROUND THE PARISH



Attention ALL MEN!!!! Join us on for That Man Is You (TMIY)

Saturday Oct. 19th, 6-7:30am in the Cafeteria or

Wednesday, Oct. 16th, 7-8:30pm in room 22.

For more information, contact Mike Karhoff @ mbkarhoff@bright.net, 419-796-0763

TMIY "APOSTLES OF THE NEW SPRINGTIME" – The Assumption of Mary (Mysteries of the Rosary - Glorious Mysteries) (Sat. 10/19, Wed. 10/23) (session 6)

Presenter: Mark Hartfiel: The Immaculate Conception and Assumption Are Connected. Mary had No Decay of the Body. Danger of Modern Gnosticism. St. Bernadette and Lourdes. Glorify God in Your Body. [Genesis 1:27-31](#), [Romans 12:1, 1Cor 6:19-20](#).

OCIA
(Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)
Monday, October 14, 2024
St. John's Parish Center Cafeteria
Topic: #5 Who is Jesus: Just a Good Man or Lord of Our Lives?
Snack person: Carol Kaufman
All our welcome. If interested, call the office to register.

Faith to move mountains
MATTHEW 17:20

NEED YOUR HELP
OCIA (FORMERLY RCIA)

We are looking for volunteers to bring snacks to our upcoming OCIA meetings. If you enjoy sharing your favorite treats or simply want to contribute, this is a great way to help out! Different snack ideas are meat and cheese tray, veggie bars, fruit tray, veggie wraps or cookies. These are only suggestions any type of snack will be greatly appreciated.

The meetings will be on Monday nights starting in September. You will need to provide snacks for 10 people and you can drop them off around 5:45pm in the Parish Center.

Please sign up for a date that works for you. To sign up to bring snacks click on the link or scan the QR code below.

<https://rb.gy/9swxl5>

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated by everyone attending! Thank you for your generosity and support.

The Piecemaker's Sewing Group
Tuesday evening, October 29th,
from 7:00pm - 8:30pm in Room 8 (The old Science Room)
We will be putting kits together and cutting out fabric. To date, we have put together 674 hygiene kits and 644 cloth diapers that have been distributed to Uganda and other countries. We could use darker printed cotton fabric and flannel; colored washcloths, and gallon plastic bags, NO ziplock bags. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Meyer at 419-538-6437. Thanks to all who help and donate to this worthwhile cause.

SOULCORE
BODY MIND SOUL

Join Chris Schroeder, with Restore 23, to nourish body, mind & soul with a prayer experience that combines the prayers of the rosary with core strengthening, stretching and functional movement.
No fitness level, age or experience required.

Suggested donation: \$10/session
Registration required
Call/text Chris at #419-230-2953 to sign-up

Thursdays, Oct. 17 & 24; Nov. 7 & 14
7:45 - 8:45 PM
Glandorf St. John's Parish Center Cafeteria

BOX OF JOY
BY CROSS CATHOLIC OUTREACH

Once again this year, Holy Family Radio will be sponsoring the Box of Joy program for children suffering from severe poverty in Guatemala, Haiti, Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Grenada, Honduras, and Malawi. In 2023, through your generosity, Holy Family Radio provided 1,692 gift boxes of the 131,308 total boxes by Cross Catholic Outreach. Through the Box of Joy program, you can ensure these children are not deprived of Christmas blessings this year. By packing a gift box and sponsoring the cost of its shipment (\$8.00 per box), you can deliver a Box of Joy to a child overseas who would otherwise receive nothing. Please join Holy Family Radio in supporting this great cause by participating. Gift boxes and additional information are available in the back of church, and filled boxes can be returned there at any time up through November 10th after 10:30 mass. For any questions or additional information, please contact Brad Rump by phone/text at 419-722-9437 or by e-mail at brump@rustices.org or go to the website at www.crosscatholic.org/box-of-joy/. This is a great way to get your children and grandchildren involved in gift giving to the Poorest of the Poor.

ST. JOHN'S 2025 PARISH PICTORIAL
To Order additional Parish Pictorials

If you had your family picture taken by Universal Church Directories you will receive a free St. John's Parish Pictorial. If you submitted a family photo you will need to purchase a St. John's Parish Pictorial. If you would like additional copies of St. John's Parish Pictorial then you will need to order them. The cost for St. John's Parish Pictorial is \$25.00 per copy. Payment is due, when you pick up your additional Parish Pictorials from the office. We will publish in the bulletin when the additional copies will be available for pick up. You will have one month to pick up the books you requested. After this period we cannot guarantee that the books will still be available. Please make arrangements to collect your books or call the office to make special arrangements when the time comes.

If you ordered an additional Parish Pictorial at the appointment or called the office before 08/25/2024, we already added you to the list. If you want to confirm or have questions call the office.

OR CLICK THE LINK <https://form.jotform.com/242345304164146>

SCAN ME TO SIGN UP

HOW TO CREATE A FORMED.ORG ACCOUNT
FREE FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Go to FORMED.org. Click Sign Up. Chose sign up as a parishioner / organization Find your parish, type in Glandorf OH - Click on St. John 109 Main St. Glandorf when it pops up. Fill out create a New Account. Already have a FORMED account. Visit FORMED.org. Click Sign In - upper right corner Have questions? Call 419-890-3724

respect life

called to serve moms in need

COME AND FIND

- Love - Hope -
- Peace - Unity -
- Meaning -

~ Transformation ~

Come to the Mini Eucharistic Congress

Location: St. Michael, Kalida church basement
Date/Time: Saturday, October 26, 2024 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

During this opportunity of Eucharistic Revival, receive a fresh understanding of your call to follow Jesus. Fr. Phil Smith will be presenting on the Mass and leading prayer. Also, Fr. Phil's book **What Nobody Ever Told Us: A Guide to Getting More Out of the Catholic Mass** will be available for purchase at cost for \$5 during the Mini Eucharistic Congress.

Come for the entire morning or for as long as you can.
Donuts and other light refreshments will be provided.

44

We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

FRAN PERAZIC



FUNDRAISER

Back on April 7, 2024, Kevin Kaufman was struck with a life-changing hemorrhagic stroke that nearly took his life. Kevin has had a rigorous few months of rehabilitation. Kevin's goal is to eventually walk again in hopes of spending more time with his five grandchildren. A fundraiser on October 26, 2024 at the Kalida K of C hall with all proceeds going to Kevin and his wife Marcia. Please join us for a fun evening of Live Music, 50/50, Gun Raffle, Tip Books, Silent Auction, Live Auction and a Chicken BBQ dinner. Please contact a family member for Chicken BBQ Tickets or contact Drew Stechschulte @ 419-615-5367, Gary Verhoff @ 419-438-3765, or Logan Kaufman @ 419-957-1775.

the mustard seed
Christian Gifts & Educational Resources

Mustard Seed Gift Shop normal business hours
Tues, Thurs, & Fri 9:00am - 5:00pm;
Wed 10:00am - 6:00pm;
Sat 8:00am - 1:00pm

Phone number 419-538-7220 www.mustardseedgiftshop.com
Brenda Maag 419-235-3106
Julie Barlage 419-303-5366

Restore 23

Health Coaching for Women - Rooted in the Catholic Faith

Christine Schroeder
INTEGRATIVE NUTRITION HEALTH COACH
Ph# 419-230-2953
email: christine@restore23.net
website: www.restore23.net

Divine Grace
Fertility Care™

Come join us for our 2nd annual Putnam County Walk for Life
Saturday, October 19

Speeches begin at 10:00 am with the walk to follow at 11:00 am. Peter Range, former CEO of Ohio Right to Life will speak. We will meet in front of the Putnam County Courthouse. All ages are welcome. Pro-life signs are welcome also. Any questions, call Chase Maag at 567-376-5382.

American Red Cross
BLOOD DONORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE.
Schedule today!

Blood Drive
Glandorf Community Knights of Columbus Ottawa

Flat 10760 Rd H
Ottawa, OH 45875

Tuesday, October 29, 2024
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

To schedule an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: SLANDORFLEBUNTARY

Thank you! Come give blood at Glandorf for a 100% guaranteed 500 cc whole blood. PLEASE remember to be screened for a disease to win a \$1000 gift card. There are 100 other daily donors! Thank you! www.redcross.org

Missionaries of the Precious Blood
UNITED STATES PROVINCE

Exciting News, Father Matt is thinking about going!

Join with Missionaries of the Precious Blood their Companions and friends on an eight day pilgrimage to Rome and the Italian towns that are an important part of our history as we celebrate the Jubilee Year of Hope, June 28-July 5, 2025.

For more information or to register go to <https://petersway.com/1250.html>

THE SERRA CLUB of Lima Area

We exist to promote and support vocations to priesthood and religious life. We will be meeting Thursday October 17 at Lima Central Catholic. Mass will begin at 5:45PM followed by dinner and a program. This month's speakers will be Fr. John MacQuarrie, retired pastor of Springfield, Ohio catholic parishes and Casey Rollins, Exec. Director of Springfield St. Vincent DePaul. The topic will be " Dynamics of being a shepherd of parishioners, many of whom are from Haiti." Guests who have an interest in this topic or the mission of the Serra club are welcomed. If interested in attending, please respond to 419-303-0339 no later than Tuesday, Oct. 15

Providing Education on the CREIGHTON MODEL Fertility Care™ System to Empower Women and Couples to UNDERSTAND, MAINTAIN, and APPRECIATE their Health and Fertility in a way that is cooperative with our Catholic faith.

Contact Wendy Imn, BSN CFPC for more information at 614-634-1043 or divinegracefertilitycare@gmail.com

The mission of **St. Catherine's Embrace** is to reach out to, assist and embrace all families in the St. George Deanery, regardless of faith affiliation, who have lost a child from miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.

Please call the rectory
419-538-6928

12 YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT

High School CCD Reminder

No high school CCD next week,
Wednesday, October 23rd due to the girl's
 soccer tournament game.



Glandorf Youth Choir for Christmas Eve Mass

ANY STUDENTS 5TH GRADE AND
 UP, INCLUDING COLLEGE
 STUDENTS, WOULD YOU LIKE TO
 SING FOR THE 4:00 CHRISTMAS
 EVE MASS?

WE WILL BE PRACTICING ON
 SUNDAY MORNINGS FROM 9:15 AM
 TIL 10:00 AM IN THE CHURCH
 BALCONY.

OUR FIRST PRACTICE WILL BE ON
 SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING
 ALL OF YOU!

Join us for a
Chili Cook Off
 &
Bonfire
 Please bring your chili for
 everyone to try!

YOUTH GROUP
 When: October 27th
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Glandorf Park behind Fire
 Station (shelter house)

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP

COME AND JOIN US!
 FIRST SATURDAY OF EVERY MONTH
 AFTER 4:30PM MASS UNTIL 8:30PM

FELLOWSHIP
 FAMILY ADORATION
 FREE PLAY
 PIZZA, DRINKS, SNACKS PROVIDED

GATHER IN THE PARK!
 SEPTEMBER 7TH
 OCTOBER 5TH
 NOVEMBER 2ND
 NO DECEMBER FELLOWSHIP

WHAT IS FAMILY ADORATION?

- Family Adoration will be offered from 6-7:30pm in the Church. You can stay for as long as you'd like!
- Enjoy this special opportunity to introduce your children of all ages to adoring Jesus with other parish families
- Soft meditative music will be playing at this time
- Crying, soft whispers, & fidgeting is OK! Jesus wants ALL the little children to come to Him!

QUESTIONS? CONTACT:
 BROOKE CASSIDY @ 419-238-4362
 SHANA DULING @ 419-625-8188
 WENDY IMM @ 419-634-1043

Smelly Kid CANDLE CO.
 Norwex
 St. John the Baptist
Catholic preschool
 Feel The Burn Hot Sauce

Quarter Auction & Vendor Fundraiser

Friday November 8th at 6:00 PM
 Quarter Auction begins at 7:00
 Glandorf St. John's Parish Center

Featured Vendors

- *Bellame * Color Street * Design Unlimited *
- * Feel the Burn Hot Sauce * Gerding Design * Kolbe & Co. *
- * Leatherwood Creek Designs * Mary Kay * Norwex *
- * Pampered Chef * Rest Assured Sleep Solutions *
- * Scentsy * Sew & So * Signature Design * Tupperware *
- * Vendors subject to change *

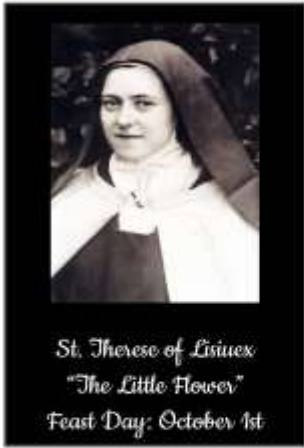
\$15 Ticket Includes an Auction Paddle and 1 entry ticket for "Extra Auction Money"
 Reserve a table with 8 tickets for \$10 more
 Additional paddles are available for \$2
 50/50 Drawing & Door Prizes
Adults Only Please

Tickets available from:
 Preschool Office- 419 538 6264

Remember to bring your quarters!

Design Unlimited
 BELLAME
 LEATHERWOOD CREEK DESIGNS

REST ASSURED
 Signature Design
 DIY STUDIO
 PIC
 Gerding Design
 SEW AND SO



*"Remember there is nothing small in the eyes of God.
Do all that you do with love."*

St. John the Baptist Religious Education Newsletter: October 2024



Upcoming Events:

- Oct. 2nd: NET Confirmation Retreat for 8th Grade
- Oct. 6th: SonDay Fun Day
- Oct. 8th: 1st Reconciliation Parent Meeting
- Oct. 17th: 3rd Grade Scapular Enrollment
- Oct. 24th: 2nd Grade Tours Confessionals in Church
- Oct. 25th: No School - Quarter Break
- Oct. 31st: 2nd Grade & 8th Grade

"Persevere in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving"
- Colossians 4:2

Please join us in prayer for the complete healing of Zach Bowers

Zach, we're praying for you!

from your friends at St. John's CCD

15,000 Prayers said so far:

197 Complete Rosaries + 2 decades	197 Apostles Creeds
32 St. Michael Prayers	1184 Our Fathers
159 Angel of God Prayers	1044 Hail Mary's
58 Extra Glory Be's	1184 Glory Be's
24 Extra Hail Mary's	1184 Fatima Prayers
279 Extra Our Fathers	197 Hail Holy Queen Prayers
13 Masses offered for you	

All Students (420) offered 20 minutes of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament (at St. John's)

Faith at Home
Say this little prayer as you carve your pumpkins this year

PUMPKIN PRAYER

Let your light shine.
Matthew 5:16

<p>CUT OFF THE TOP</p> <p>Dear God, as I cut the top of the pumpkin, I open my heart to you. Help me let your light shine from within, just like in Matthew 5:16. Amen.</p>	<p>CLEAN OUT THE SEEDS</p> <p>As I take out the seeds, help me to remove the darkness and make room for your light to shine, as in Ephesians 5:8. Amen.</p>
<p>CARVE OUT THE EYES</p> <p>As I carve the eyes, may they remind me to see others with love and compassion, just like 1 John 4:7. Amen.</p>	<p>CARVE OUT THE NOSE</p> <p>As I carve the nose, help me to breathe in kindness and goodness, as it says in Ephesians 4:32. Amen.</p>
<p>CARVE OUT THE MOUTH</p> <p>As I carve the mouth, may it remind me to speak with love and kindness to everyone, just as Colossians 4:6 teaches. Amen.</p>	<p>LIGHT A CANDLE</p> <p>As I light this candle inside the pumpkin, help me remember to shine your light and love for all to see, as in Philipians 2:15. Amen.</p>

we are so excited!!! we had a great time last year stuffing stockings, but it went way too fast! So, this year we invite you to participate again in donating items to be shipped to soldiers overseas then come join us on November 12th to stuff the items into the stockings. But, the fun won't end there! The Parish Center will be your #1 stop to kick off the Holiday season with all kinds of activities (see the attached Flyer)! on the back of the flyer is a list of items that can be donated beginning October 1st - November 12th. Thank You!



Catechist Birthdays:
Heather Haselman - Oct. 1st
Katie Verhoff - Oct. 22nd
Michelle Horstman - Oct. 25th
Janole Schroeder - Oct. 31st



September Events:



7th Grade: Rosary at the Marian Shrine + Classroom Learning!

5th Grade - 8th Grade Adoration & Benediction with Deacon Don



1st Grade goes to Church to visit Fr. Matt & learn how he prepares for Mass



Kindergarten and 4th Grade Buddies play a "Get to Know you" game with Skittles!



Jesus and the Rich Young Man



The rich man in today's Gospel reading wanted to follow Jesus. But he was sad when Jesus told him that he should sell his things and give his money to the poor.

Do you think Jesus wants everyone to give away everything they have?

God calls some people to give up all their things so they can live a special life for Him, like religious brothers and sisters.



But God also wants people who are rich to use their money and things for Him- to help the poor and the Church.

What do you have that is really special? Would you be ready to give it up if God wanted you to?

Cross-word Puzzle answers: Across: 3 light 5 silver 7 good 10 her 12 chose 13 was 14 gold 15 me 16 splendor Down: 1 things 2 wisdom 3 loved 4 the 6 riches 8 prayed 9 throne 11 hands

www.thekidsbulletin.com

The Kids' Bulletin

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 13th, 2024

Mark 10:17-30



The rich young man in today's Gospel reading was sad because Jesus told him to sell his things and give his money to the poor.

Jesus said that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the Kingdom of Heaven.

But all things are possible with God!

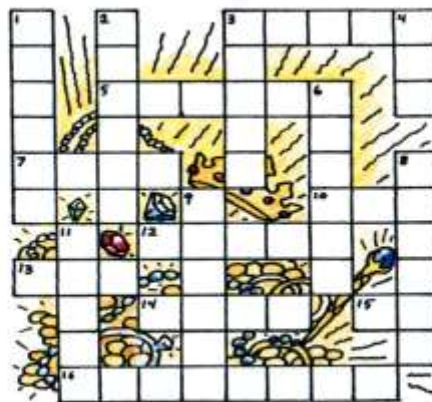
Can you find the way from the camel through the needle?

Saint Teresa of Avila October 15



WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG SAINT TERESA HAD A HARD TIME KEEPING GOD FIRST IN HER LIFE. SHE WAS DISTRACTED BY FRIENDS AND NICE THINGS. BUT SHE KNEW THAT GOD WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT, SO SHE GAVE HER LIFE TO HIM. WHAT ARE YOU DISTRACTED BY? WILL YOU LET IT KEEP YOU AWAY FROM GOD?

thekidsbulletin@gmail.com



Wisdom Cross- Word Puzzle

Wisdom 7:7-11

Unscramble the words in CAPITALS and fit them into the puzzle!
A=Across and D=Down.

I DEYPAR (8D), and prudence SWA (13A) given me;
I pleaded and HET (4D) spirit of MSODWI (2D)
came to EM (15A).
I preferred her to scepter and ONTHRE (9D),
and deemed ERSIHC (6D) nothing
in comparison with her,
nor did I liken any priceless gem to her;
because all DLGO (14A), in view of her, is a little sand,
and before her, VELSIR (5A) is to be accounted mire.
Beyond health and comeliness I OELVD (3D) her,
And I SECHO (12A) to have RHE (10A)
rather than the HGLTI (3A),
because the DORSPLEN (16A) of her
never yields to sleep.
Yet all DOOG (7A) NSGTIH (1D) together
came to me in her company,
and countless riches at her SDHNA (11D).



Office of the Bishop
Diocese of Toledo

+

October 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is not uncommon in an election cycle to be asked by members of the faithful how being Catholic should inform the way we vote. While it is not my role to tell someone which candidates to vote for, it is important to note that voting is not only a civic duty, but a moral obligation. Pope St. John Paul II reminds us that, "the value of democracy stands or falls with the values which it embodies and promotes. Of course, values such as the dignity of every human person, respect for inviolable and inalienable human rights, and the adoption of the 'common good' as the end and criterion regulating political life are certainly fundamental and not to be ignored" (*[Evangelium Vitae](#), 70*). We must fulfill this high calling in the way we live and the way we vote.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church provides a clear moral compass, emphasizing the sanctity of human life, the dignity of the person, and the common good. Paragraph 2239 states, "It is the duty of citizens to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom." This calls us actively to engage in the political process, ensuring our votes align with these enduring values. A vote for a candidate is a vote for their party platform. We need prayerfully to discern which candidate and platform are more closely aligned with what we believe and profess as Catholics.

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) document "[Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship](#)," highlights the importance of protecting human life, stating, "**The right to life is the first and most fundamental principle** of human rights that leads Catholics to actively work for a world of greater respect for human life and greater commitment to justice and peace." The issue of abortion, the direct and intentional killing of an innocent baby in the womb, should weigh heavily on our consciences as we consider candidates in local and national politics and policies.

The USCCB document *[Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics](#)*, (22), presents a striking and timeless analogy: "If we understand the human person as the 'temple of the Holy Spirit' -- the living house of God -- then these latter issues [racism, poverty, hunger, employment, education, housing, and healthcare] fall logically into place as the crossbeams and walls of that house. *All direct attacks on innocent human life, such as abortion and euthanasia, strike at the house's foundation.* These directly and immediately violate the human person's most fundamental right -- the right to life. Neglect of these issues is the equivalent of building our house on sand. Such attacks cannot help but lull the social conscience in ways ultimately destructive of other human rights."

Voting as a Catholic means engaging with the political process in a way that reflects the love of Christ and the teachings of His Church. It is an opportunity to be the voice for the voiceless, to advocate for justice and peace, and to contribute to a society that upholds the dignity of every human person. Together, we approach this sacred duty with prayerful discernment, seeking the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we cast our votes for a more just society.

Sincerely yours in Christ Jesus,

Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas
Bishop of Toledo

I CAME SO THAT THEY MIGHT HAVE LIFE



During the Easter Vigil liturgy, the single flame of the Easter candle shines through the darkness. That small flame spreads as each person's candle is lit and the light of Christ is shared with others. Before we know it, the entire Church is ablaze with the warm glow of candlelight and the darkness has been vanquished.

We are each called by God to be that light of Christ that breaks through the darkness. We are called to be his disciples, continually transformed by our encounter with him and sharing in his mission. Jesus came that we might have *life*.

Part of the impetus for the Eucharistic Revival was a concern that some Catholics do not believe, or at least do not understand, that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist. Even though our human senses perceive bread and wine, the Eucharist is Jesus—body, blood, soul, and divinity. Similarly, many people do not realize or acknowledge the sanctity of human life when it is hidden in the womb. Both instances call for us to help others recognize these sacred gifts that may not be perceivable through our human senses. We need to help others understand that just because something may not be apparent to our eyes does not mean that it is not there or that it is not important.

We live in a society that rejects those who are weak, fragile, or vulnerable. Yet, it is precisely within these conditions that a person is most in

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.”

John 1:5



need of our care and protection. Pope Francis reminds us that “every child who, rather than being born, is condemned unjustly to being aborted, bears the face of Jesus Christ, bears the face of the Lord, who even before he was born, and then just after birth, experienced the world’s rejection.”¹

The U.S. bishops have affirmed that, while it is important to address all the ways in which human life is threatened, “abortion remains our pre-eminent priority as it directly attacks our most vulnerable brothers and sisters, destroying more than a million lives each year in our country alone.”²

As Pope St. John Paul II wrote, “we are facing an enormous and dramatic clash between good and evil, death and life, the ‘culture of death’ and the ‘culture of life’. ...we are all involved and we all share in it, with the inescapable responsibility of choosing to be unconditionally pro-life.”³

**“I am with you always,
until the end of the age.”**

Matthew 28:20

.....

In the face of challenges such as abortion and physician-assisted suicide, we may feel that we are not equal to the task of overcoming the darkness. Yet, we are not alone. Jesus tells us, “I am with you always, until the end of the age” (Matthew 28:20).

The God who became man to save us still dwells among us. For Christ is “the light [that] shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5). He is the one who overcame death and continually raises us to new life. He remains close to us always, seeking us out in each moment of our lives.

Jesus gave his very flesh to give us the gift of eternal life and invites us to the most profound



experience of this gift in our celebration of the Eucharist. When we meet Jesus in the Eucharist, this encounter has the power to change us. The Eucharist has the power to transform the depths of our hearts and the heart of our culture. United to the power of his Eucharistic Presence, may we work to ensure that each person has life—and has it in abundance.

1 Pope Francis, “Address of Holy Father Francis to Participants in the Meeting Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations,” September 20, 2013 (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2013).

2 *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political*

Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States, Introductory Letter, p. 8. (Washington, D.C.: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2024).

3 Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1995), no. 28.

Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible, revised edition* © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, D.C. and are used by permission of the copyright owner. All rights reserved. Excerpts from *Evangelium vitae (The Gospel of Life)*, © 1995 and “Address of Holy Father Francis to Participants in the Meeting Organized by the International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations” © 2013, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved. Copyright © 2024, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. All rights reserved.



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | usccb.org/prolife

The Common Good

In their statement on *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, the Catholic bishops of the United States identify the four main principles of the Church’s social teaching and apply them to some concrete issues. This is not to tell the faithful for whom or against whom to vote, but instead to help them form their consciences in accordance with God’s truth as they approach this often-challenging decision. The four main principles are the Dignity of the Human Person, the Common Good, Solidarity, and Subsidiarity. They are all interrelated. This bulletin focuses on the **Common Good**, and the other three principles are covered in three other bulletins in this series. —★

The Common Good is “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.”¹ Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met. Every human being has a right to life, a right to religious freedom, and a right to have access to those things required for human decency.

Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to ourselves, to our families, to the larger society, and to the earth.²



In short, we should seek “to build that kind of society where it is easier for people to be good.”³

In the midst of a “throwaway world” in which some members of the human family “can be readily sacrificed for the sake of others considered worthy of a carefree existence,” Pope Francis urges us to build a “culture of encounter” in which those most in need receive our greatest concern and attention. We must “place at the center of all political, social and economic activity the human person, who enjoys the highest dignity, and respect for the common good.”⁴



“In short, we should seek ‘to build that kind of society where it is easier for people to be good.’”



As we seek to imitate the Good Samaritan, who was neighbor to all, we pursue the Common Good in order that every individual and all people can flourish.⁵

- Marriage and the family are the central institutions of social life – the primary

school of virtue, where we first experience common rather than merely individual goods – and so these institutions should be supported and strengthened.

- Likewise, as one human family dwelling in our common home, we must hear “both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” and respond to climate change with actions to better protect creation for our brothers and sisters now and in generations to come.⁶
- Accepting the entire world as a gift from the Father, and as our common home includes accepting our bodies as God’s gift, whereas thinking that we enjoy absolute power over our own bodies turns, often subtly, into thinking that we enjoy absolute power over creation.⁷
- We recognize and protect the right to religious liberty, our first and most cherished freedom. The protection of conscience and religious liberty is an indispensable element of the common good – a fundamental human right that knows no geographical boundaries.⁸
- While the common good embraces all, those who are weak, vulnerable, and most in need deserve special concern, which the Church describes as the *preferential option for the poor*.⁹ Laws and policies must prioritize those who struggle to make ends meet and must preserve the social safety net and promote decent jobs, affordable housing, and childcare.

Pope Benedict XVI writes in *Caritas in Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*): “To desire the common good and strive towards it is a requirement of justice and charity.” We must be attentive to the

common good “juridically, civilly, politically and culturally” in the life of society. “The more we strive to secure a common good corresponding to the real needs of our neighbors,” he writes, “the more effectively we love them.”¹⁰

This bulletin insert along with five others was approved by the body of U.S. bishops in November 2023.

Find this and more complementary resources at www.faithfulcitizenship.org.

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1 *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1906, citing *Gaudium et Spes* (*The Church in the Modern World*), no. 26.

2 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, nos. 49, 51.

3 Peter Maurin, as quoted by Dorothy Day. See *All the Way to Heaven: The Selected Letters of Dorothy Day* (New York: Random House, 2010), 457.

4 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* (*On Fraternity and Social Friendship*), nos. 18 and 232.

5 Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti* (*On Fraternity and Social Friendship*), no. 66.

6 Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (*On Care for Our Common Home*), no. 49. See also: Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate* (*Charity in Truth*), nos. 48-52, and Pope Francis, *Laudate Deum*, nos. 58 and 60.

7 Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* (*On Care for Our Common Home*), no. 155.

8 St. Pope Paul VI, *Dignitatis Humanae* (*Declaration on Religious Freedom*), no. 6; *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 1907, citing *Gaudium et Spes* (*The Church in the Modern World*), no. 26.

9 United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, no. 53.

10 Pope Benedict XVI, *Caritas in Veritate*, no. 7.