

07
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26

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Some seed fell
among thorns,
and the thorns grew
up and choked it.*

*But some seed
fell on rich soil,
and produced fruit,
a hundred or sixty
or thirtyfold.*

*Whoever has ears
ought to hear."*

~Matthew 13:1-23

Holy Mass*

SATURDAY VIGIL
5:30 PM

SUNDAY
7:15 AM, 8:45 AM,
10:45 AM, 5:30 PM

Daily Mass*

MON./WED.
6:30 AM, 8 AM, 5:30 PM

TUES./THUR./FRI.
6:30 AM, 8 AM

SATURDAY 8 AM

Reconciliation*

WEDNESDAY
6-7 PM (during Adoration)

SATURDAY
Following 8 AM Mass
or, call the parish office
to schedule a Confession
with one of our priests.

4475 DUBLIN ROAD, HILLIARD OH 43026 | 614-876-1272 | STBRENDANS.NET

Saint
Brendan
THE NAVIGATOR

Please take a yard sign home today to help promote our Parish Festival!

*Regular Mass/Confession times may change due to events/funerals/Holy Days. This week's calendar is found in our bulletin or website.

Information Center

PARISH OFFICE HOURS – Weekdays, 9 AM-12 PM & 1-4 PM

CHURCH HOURS – M-F & Sunday, 6 AM-10 PM; Saturday, 6 AM-6 PM

ST. BRENDAN SCHOOL – 614-876-6132, fax 614-529-8929

NEW MEMBERS – Fill out a New Member Registration form at stbrendans.net/welcome or 614-876-1272 / parish@stbrendans.net

MARRIAGE – Marriage Request form: stbrendans.net/marriage (fill out at least six months prior to your wedding.) Marriage prep is required. Email Valerie Scheel, weddingplanner@stbrendans.net

BAPTISMS – 12 PM most Sundays. Visit stbrendans.net/baptism or email baptism@stbrendans.net for questions or details. **Baptism Preparation Class:** 2 required, 1st Sundays monthly, 12 PM.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK – Contact the Parish Office.

POD NURSERY – Sundays during 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass (for children 6 months-4 years old) Questions? Email nursery@stbrendans.net

OCIA – (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Contact Wendy Ferkany at 614-876-1272, ext. 291 or wferkany@stbrendans.net

MINISTRY OF EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS – (Family Faith Formation) Contact Jacob Doran: 614-876-1272, ext. 231

MARKETING & BULLETIN REQUESTS – Fill out a marketing request form at stbrendans.net/marketing or marketing@stbrendans.net

MASS INTENTIONS – Fill out a Mass Intention envelope (in the church gathering area) with \$10 cash/check and drop off at the Parish Office.

FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR – To remember a loved one or for a special intention: \$75 donation (actual cost is \$109, so extra is welcomed!) Donors/intentions are published in the parish bulletin.

CANDLE DONATIONS – \$2 for large candles / 25 cents for small ones.

MINISTRY OF CARE FOR HOMEBOUND – To receive Eucharist at home or at a facility, email Nell at doconnell@stbrendans.net

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN – Register at www.virtus.org

NAVIGATOR NEWS / PARISHSTAQ – To receive our weekly parish e-newsletter, visit stbrendan.ccbchurch.com and create your account in ParishStaQ. Log in to be automatically added to our email list.

LITURGICAL MINISTRY PORTAL – Access Ministry Scheduler Pro at www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/stbrendans or, for liturgical scheduling questions, email ministryscheduler@stbrendans.net

FACEBOOK – Parish [StBrendanofHilliard](https://www.facebook.com/StBrendanofHilliard)

INSTAGRAM – Parish [@stbrendanhilliard](https://www.instagram.com/stbrendanhilliard) / School [@saintbrendanschool](https://www.instagram.com/saintbrendanschool) Vine [@stbvine](https://www.instagram.com/stbvine) / Roots [@stb_theroots](https://www.instagram.com/stb_theroots) / Young Adults [@stbya](https://www.instagram.com/stbya)

LIVESTREAM – YouTube: [SaintBrendantheNavigatorHilliard](https://www.youtube.com/SaintBrendantheNavigatorHilliard)
OR Facebook: [facebook.com/StBrendanHilliardyoutube.com/c/](https://www.facebook.com/StBrendanHilliardyoutube.com/c/)
Sunday, 10:45 AM; Monday/Wednesday, 5:30 PM; and Tuesday/Thursday/Friday/Saturday, 8 AM

SHARE YOUR PARISH/SCHOOL EVENT PHOTOS – Upload photos at stbstories.net and hit "submit" so we can share the many happenings with our parish and school through our bulletin & social media!

ST. MARGARET OF CORTONA PRESCHOOL – Contact Andrea Boyd, Director/Lead Teacher, at aboyd@cducation.org or 614-274-1922

MINISTERS TO THE PARISH: 614-876-1272

Fr. Michael Lumpe, Pastor ext. 223

Fr. Sam Severance, Parochial Vicar
ext. 226, frseverance@stbrendans.net

Fr. Dan Moloney, Parochial Vicar
ext. 253, frmoloney@stbrendans.net

Fr. Weldit Abay, Parochial Vicar
ext. 238, frweldit@stbrendans.net

Rev. Mr. Jim Morris, Permanent Deacon
ext. 230, deaconmorris@stbrendans.net

Rev. Mr. Doug Saunders, Permanent Deacon
ext. 230, deacondoug@stbrendans.net

Rev. Mr. Doug Yglesias, Permanent Deacon
ext. 230, deaconyglesias@stbrendans.net

Henry Szabo, Order of Instituted Acolytes

Danielle O'Connell, Pastoral Associate
ext. 227, doconnell@stbrendans.net

Wendy Ferkany, Adult Evangelization
ext. 291, wferkany@stbrendans.net

Jacob Doran, Dir. of Youth Evangelization & Catechesis
ext. 231, jdoran@stbrendans.net

Sarah Pennington, Family Faith Formation Coordinator
ext. 233, spennington@stbrendans.net

Kara Shand, High School Youth Ministry
ext. 232, kday@stbrendans.net

Anneliese Johanni, Pastoral Assist., High School Youth Ministry
ext. 232, ajohanni@stbrendans.net

Anna Marino, Middle School Youth Ministry
ext. 232, amarino@stbrendans.net

PARISH OFFICE: 614-876-1272

Kris Jesse, Parish Administration Director
ext. 222, kjesse@stbrendans.net

Ben Romaker, Dir. of Development/Multimedia Coordinator
ext. 224, bromaker@stbrendans.net

Lee Salcone, Marketing/Bulletin/Communications
ext. 237, lsalcone@stbrendans.net

Dr. Ross Williams, DMA, Director of Music
ext. 236, rwilliams@stbrendans.net

Dina Harder, Database Administrator/Event Coordinator
ext. 235, dharder@stbrendans.net

Teresa Boyne, Safe Environment/Security Coordinator
ext. 221, tboyne@stbrendans.net

Cathy Brackenridge, Parish Accountant
ext. 229, cbrackenridge@stbrendans.net

Peter Shearer, Facilities Supervisor
ext. 297, pshearer@stbrendans.net

ST. BRENDAN PARISH SCHOOL: 614-876-6132

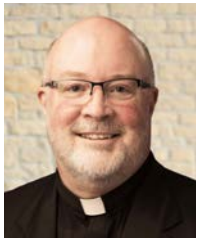
Mike DeMassimo, Principal
ext. 248, mdemassimo@cducation.org

Courtney Kreber, Assistant Principal
ext. 247, ckreber2@cducation.org

Marcia Voelkel, Office Manager
ext. 246, mvoelkel@cducation.org

Logan Johansen, Office Secretary
ext. 298, ljohansen@cducation.org

Lorin Pankewicz, Dir. of Student Services
ext. 249, lviglio@cducation.org



From Our Pastor

ON THIS FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Jesus describes a farmer throwing seeds across four different types of terrain. This imagery represents the diverse states of the human heart – a heart that calls us, as Catholics, to look inward into the deep recesses of our hearts. In doing so we can evaluate what kind of environment we offer to the Divine Seed of Christ's teachings. Our souls constantly interact with the grace of God and the challenges of the world. Understanding these spiritual landscapes helps us cultivate a life of deep, lasting faith.

The Hard Path: The Closed Mind. When the seed falls here, it cannot penetrate the surface. The birds quickly swoop down and eat it. In our modern lives, this hard path represents a heart hardened by pride, cynicism, or stubborn indifference. When we close ourselves off to Church teachings or harbor unconfessed sin, our hearts become defensive. The Word of God sits on the surface; we don't allow the Word inside. This leaves it vulnerable to the enemy, who easily snatches away the timeless truths of the faith before these truths can even begin to challenge us.

The Rocky Ground: The Shallow Weather of Human Emotion. As a thin layer of soil sits on top of solid limestone, the seed sprouts remarkably fast because the ground is warm. However, the plant cannot grow deep roots. When the scorching sun rises, the sapling quickly withers and dies. This ground reflects a faith based purely on emotion or good feelings. It is easy to be enthusiastic about the Gospel during a powerful retreat, a beautiful Mass, or a time of personal blessing. But human life experiences changing weather. When the scorching heat of life's trials occur – sickness, challenging relationships, social and/or peer pressures, and so forth – a shallow faith can crumble. Thus, the need for deep roots; for without deep roots nourished in prayer and the Sacraments, we fall away when real discipleship requires real sacrifice.

The Thorny Soil: The Choked Life. The seeds manage to take root and grow alongside weeds. However, as the crops grow, the thorns grow faster. They block the sunlight, steal the soil's nutrients, and eventually choke the life out of good plants. Jesus explicitly defines these thorns as all that is worldly. This is perhaps the greatest danger for disciples today. We may attend Mass and love the Lord, but we fill our schedules with endless distractions. The constant pursuit of material wealth, social status, and hours of screen time can overtake our spiritual lives. Our time for prayer gets suffocated; we run the risk of our faith becoming barren and fruitless.

The Rich, Good Soil: Receptivity and Grace. This earth is soft, deep, and rich. It welcomes the seed, protects it, and nourishes it. The result is a spectacular harvest that yields thirty, sixty, or a hundred times what was sown. The good soil represents the person who hears the Word and understands, is challenged by the Word, and ultimately embraces the Word with an open heart and a level of apostolic zeal in order to live the Word. This soul does not just listen to the Gospel on Sunday; they let it shape their choices every day, 24/7/365. This heart is willing to be opened up by God's grace so that the roots of faith can go deep, take root, and flourish in a bountiful multitude of ways.

Breaking Up the Fallow Ground. So how do we transform the hard paths, rocky ledges, and thorny patches of our hearts into rich, fertile soil? The answer is simple – humility! To be humble is to recognize that we are the soil, and God is the master gardener. Who gives us every possible tool to cultivate, nourish and enrichen our spiritual soil. We must allow the Holy Spirit to plow through our pride. The primary tool for this spiritual plowing is making a good Confession, which breaks up the hardened, compacted areas of our hearts caused by habitual and serious (mortal) sin. A good Confession clears away the hidden rocks of resentment and pulls up the choking thorns of pride, greed and self-centeredness. But in order to rise to the spiritual heights God intends for us, we must first allow Him to dig deep foundations within our souls. As Saint Augustine beautifully noted on the necessity of this foundation: "Do you wish to rise? Begin by descending. You plan a tower that will pierce the clouds? Lay first the foundation of humility."

Weathering the Seasons of Life. In the spiritual life, we will experience both the gentle rain of consolation and the scorching heat of desolation. Humility teaches us to rely on God rather than our own changing feelings. This virtue keeps us steady, protecting us from the shifting "weather" of human praise and worldly difficulty. Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa) highlighted this protective power of a humble heart: "If you are humble, nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are." By staying faithful through changing spiritual weather, our roots grow past our shallow human emotions and reach deep into the unchanging love of God.

Bearing Fruit That Will Last. The ultimate goal of the Christian life is to bear fruit that remains for eternity. In his Papal Encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas*, Pope Leo XIV points out that our journey toward becoming fruitful terrain is completely sustained by God's infinite patience. As our Holy Father states, "God throws the seed of His word on all kinds of soil, that is, in any situation of ours... He does not wait for us to become the best soil, but He always generously gives us His word." When we recognize this unearned love, we find the courage to ask God to work on us, clear our faults, and soften our hearts. When we humbly submit to the Word of God, our lives naturally begin to change as we align our minds and hearts to the Divine Mind and Sacred Heart of Jesus. We become living extensions of the Living Word of the Gospel as faithful and loving disciples of Christ.

THANK YOU TO ALL who were involved in a couple of special Independence Day events in our Parish – namely, all those who participated from our Parish in the Hilliard July 4th Parade, and all of our students who hand-crafted Independence Day cards that were given to seniors who reside in the 14 senior living facilities in our Parish. Seniors also received July 4th-themed cookies to enjoy as we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the founding of our nation. It's great to keep our seniors connected to our Parish!

Fr. Mike

Fr. Michael Lumpe, Pastor

An Examination of Conscience from the Parable of the Sower

Article by John Kubasak courtesy of the Catholic Stand.

One of the ways that the Scriptures show their depth is when the Holy Spirit gives different insights in different seasons of our lives. Previously, my reading of the parable of the sower (Matthew 13:3-8) focused most on the end of the parable. Being the fertile soil, hearing the Word of God and acting upon it, and in general, the “success” of the seed.

Times changed, the world reeled out of its mind, and the parable has taken on a different tone for me. Instead of an exhortation, I read it as a warning. Rather than take joy in the abundant harvest of the fertile soil, I saw that the seed did not survive in three of the four examples Jesus gave in the parables.

This is not a descent into pessimism, but rather a wake-up call to the sins that we often miss in our lives. If there is no other message on my heart to communicate to whoever reads this, it is: wake up, Catholics! *“It is full time now for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed; the night is far gone, the day is at hand”* (Romans 13:11-12, RSVCE).

As evil accelerates in our world, time is running out to turn to Our Saving Lord. Our vital task now is to devote ourselves more fully to Jesus Christ, which necessarily involves turning away from sin. In that light, I think we can read the parable of the sower as an examination of conscience.

The Seed and the Examen

There is more than one interpretation of the seed, but in this case, I’m using the imagery of the seed as the Word of God. As an examination of conscience, the first three types of ground named in the parable highlight sins, or states of the soul, that can be fatal to the Word of God. That is not a dark interpretation but a simple reading of the text, for each of these non-fertile types of ground result in the death of the seed.

The Hardness of Heart – the Path

The seed that fell on the path had no chance. Jesus gave us an explanation of this type of ground:

“When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in his heart” (Matthew 13:19). *From the start, the path was not even disposed to receive the seed. Think of a well-worn dirt path. The word has no more chance of gaining entry than the seed has of settling into the ground that has been beaten hard by many feet”* (William Barclay, The Gospel of Matthew, Vol. 2, pg. 60).

Many things lead to hardness of heart: pride, an unwillingness to change a habitual life of sin, and lukewarmness. In my experience, I think lukewarmness is the easiest to slip into; it usually involves a gradual slipping away rather than a dramatic turning from God.

I can verify that once a soul becomes tepid, it cares less about God. After that, pride and a habitual life of sin often follow, since the enemy of our souls uses one foothold to advance to another. This very thing happened to me when I was in college. I wanted to have one foot in the world and one foot in the faith. I never had an instance where I formally turned away, but I made different rules for different parts of my life. That resulted

in conceding footholds to Satan that took years to undo. Thankfully, the Holy Spirit, the healing grace of God, and my beautiful wife broke up the hardened ground in my heart.

St. John Henry Newman commented:

“Make the most of the precious time. Delay not—many a soul has been damned by delay. God’s opportunities do not wait; they come and they go. The word of life waits not—if it is not appropriated by you, the devil will appropriate. He delays not, but has his eyes wide always and is ready to pounce down and carry off the gift which you delay to use.” (from “The Calls of Grace” sermon).

Worldliness – The Thorny Ground

One of the myths of the secular world is that religion is no fun. God asks for everything, the world says, for the purpose of making life boring and sterile. This is the anthem of the thorns in the parable of the sower: faith does not really make us happy.

This is a subtle lie that ensnares many of us at one time or another, myself included. It takes half of a truth—God really does ask for everything from us—without the aid of grace and the promise of heaven. This lie dates back to the very beginning in the garden of Eden. God cannot truly satisfy us; He’s keeping us from what we want.

This seems to be one of the main temptations of our age. Satan does not necessarily tempt us into horrendous sins. All he needs to do is distract us—even with things that are not inherently bad. Many are actually good things! Good TV shows with no immoral content (admittedly a small sample size), a career, hobbies, year-round sports, music, and so on have their place. Yet when out of control, those good things can suffocate the Word of God in us.

Put more bluntly, unchecked worldliness will lead us into eternal ruin.

For that reason, we need to approach our attachments to the world with a serious lens. Discernment is necessary, and having a trusted spiritual director is invaluable. Making time for the worldly things that give us joy is good and healthy, as long as those things are spiritually good and healthy. But what are the thorns in our life that push the Word of God out?

Lack of Faith – the Rocky Ground

The seed that fell on the rocky ground settled into shallow soil. The wheat sprang up quickly but was scorched by the hot sun. Jesus provided the explanation: *“This is he who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet he has no root in himself but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away”* (Matthew 13:20-21).

The rocks in the soil can be symbolic of many things that prevent grace from taking firm root in our hearts. Perhaps it is a vice that we are attached to, an unwillingness to forgive, or a tepid response to grace that has let lukewarmness calcify in our hearts. Whatever the case, the Word of God cannot survive for long in the rocky soil. Too many obstacles prevent the seed from establishing deep roots.

Relating this to the spiritual realm, a superficial faith simply cannot survive during times of persecution or tribulation any more than a plant can survive without roots. If the signs of the times are any indication, Catholics in the West are headed toward persecution. We face a culture, governments, and elsewhere that are increasingly hostile to traditional Catholic values.

In this parable, Jesus draws an analogy toward our life of faith and the "science" of our spiritual lives. Without roots deep in Christ, the hot sun of tribulation will be too much to bear.

Becoming Fertile Ground

In any age, the Gospel message comes with urgency. Repent, turn to Jesus, and do not delay! Facing death is a fact of life, and we have no idea if our "time" will come tomorrow, next month, or decades from now. On top of that ordinary urgency, I believe there is a greater urgency in these confusing, anxiety-ridden times.

The best part? Examining our conscience exercises our humility, the virtue necessary for spiritual growth. And if done properly, and followed with the sacrament of confession, Jesus can root out sin in our lives. Let us take to heart His words spoken to St. Faustina:

"Be not afraid of your Savior, O sinful soul. I make the first move to come to you, for I know that by yourself you are unable to lift yourself to Me. Child, do not run away from your Father; be willing to talk openly with your God of mercy who wants to speak words of pardon and lavish His graces on you. How dear your soul is to Me! I have inscribed your name upon My hand; you are engraved as a deep wound in My Heart" (Diary of St. Faustina, #1485).

"The greater the misery of a soul, the greater its right to My mercy; [urge] all souls to trust in the unfathomable abyss of My mercy, because I want to save them all. On the cross, the fountain of My mercy was opened wide by the lance for all souls – no one have I excluded!" (Diary of St. Faustina, #1182).

Jesus the Sower has the tools to work miracles with the soil in our hearts. Hardened pathways are no match for His love; rocks and other obstacles melt away in the fire of His mercy. The cross hacks away the thorns from our hearts, allowing the Word of God to grow. No matter where we are, we do not have to stay there. Allow Jesus to heal and clear out your heart, and the seed of the Word of God will grow abundantly. Choose the freedom of Christ!

ARE YOU REAPING WHAT YOU'VE SOWN?

Sow kindness, reap compassion — (Luke 6:36)

Sow love, reap unity — (Colossians 3:14)

Sow integrity, reap honor — (Proverbs 21:21)

Sow obedience, reap favor — (Isaiah 1:19)

Sow deceit, reap ruin — (Jeremiah 17:11)

Sow generosity, reap blessing — (Luke 6:38)

Sow arrogance, reap disgrace — (James 4:10)

Sow peace, reap righteousness — (Hebrews 12:11)

Sow rebellion, reap judgment — (1 Samuel 15:23)

Sow mercy, reap forgiveness — (Matthew 5:7)

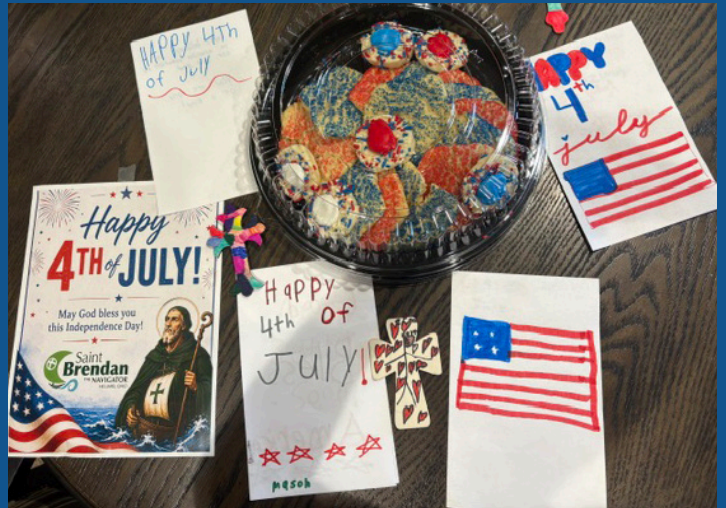
Sow endurance, reap character — (2 Peter 1:5-7)

Sow humility, reap wisdom — (Proverbs 11:2)

Sow fear, reap torment — (1 John 4:18)

Sharing God's Love This Independence Day!

This week, our parish had the joy of delivering cookies, patriotic cards, and decorated crosses to residents at all 14 of our local independent living, assisted living, and nursing facilities. These brought smiles, encouragement, and a reminder that our parish family is praying for and remembering our neighbors this Independence Day.



food for thought

"As faithful sons and daughters of the Church, Catholics are called to imbue every dimension of their existence with the charity of Christ (cf. 2 Cor 5:14), living out the Gospel in the circumstances of daily life."

~ Pope Leo XIV

Imitate Our Lady's Ten Principle Virtues

Article by Fr. Ed Broom, OMV courtesy of the Catholic Exchange

From the cross, Jesus gave the person He loved most on earth, His Blessed Mother Mary, to Saint John as well as to us, as our Mother Most Holy! In his Marian Spiritual Masterpiece, *True Devotion to Mary*, Saint Louis de Montfort highlights ten of the most important virtues of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Let us put forth this list of Mary's principal virtues.

We read in the text of *True Devotion to Mary* (#108): *"Third, true devotion to our Lady is holy, that is, it leads us to avoid sin and to imitate the virtues of Mary. Her ten principal virtues are: deep humility, lively faith, blind obedience, unceasing prayer, constant self-denial, surpassing purity, ardent love, heroic patience, angelic kindness, and heavenly wisdom."*

Let us humbly beg the Blessed Virgin Mary for the grace to understand these ten virtues that she practiced always to a heroic degree of perfection, but also let us beg for the grace to be able to put these virtues into practice in our daily walk of life!

1. Deep Humility

A humble person recognizes that all the good they have done, and can do, is a result of the Presence of God in their life. Mary was most humble, calling herself the servant or the handmaid of the Lord. Also, in her magnificent canticle of praise that we call The Magnificat (Lk 1: 46-55), Mary states that God has looked with favor upon the humility of His handmaid. Let us beg Mary for a meek and humble heart so that like her, we will attribute our successes to God and our failures to ourselves.

2. Lively Faith

Faith is one of the three theological virtues – faith, hope, and charity. Faith is believing in God and His Word without seeing with our eyes. Jesus gently reproved the doubting Thomas with these words: *"Blessed are those who believe without seeing."* (Jn 20: 29) Mary is the woman of faith par excellence. Even though Mary witnessed the passion, suffering, and death of Jesus, she believed that He would conquer death. Therefore, when we are tempted to doubt, let us turn to Mary, the woman of faith, and beg for her most powerful intercession.

3. Blind Obedience

By giving her consent in the Annunciation – *"Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word."* (Lk 1: 38) – Mary displayed an admirable attitude of obedience to the Word of God and trust in His holy will. When we are tempted to rebel and turn against God, let us, through Mary's prayers and example, obey God like Mary, and like Jesus who *"was obedient to death, even death on the cross."* (Phil 2: 8)

4. Unceasing Prayer

Prayer can be defined as communication with God. There is no better example in the world, aside from Jesus, with respect to a life of constant prayer than that of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Scripture tells us, *"Mary pondered these things in her heart."* (Lk 2: 19) She continually thought of God in her mind and loved God with all of her heart; she maintained constant communication with the Blessed Trinity – the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The devil of laziness can attack all of us. May Our Lady inspire us to be constant, fervent, and faithful to prayer. Indeed, prayer is the key to our salvation. What air is to the lungs, prayer is to the soul.

5. Constant Self-Denial

Another way of wording this is mortification, the ascetical life, which leads to the mystical life of union with God. Mary denied and sacrificed herself in all times and places. By doing so, she gave full reign for God to work in the entirety of her life. In Mary's approved Apparitions in both Lourdes and Fatima, she strongly encouraged the practice of prayer, but also that of sacrifice. By making sacrifices we are imitating Mary in the art of self-denial. Self-denial turns us towards God and away from self. Mary was always God-centered and never self-centered. May this be our style of life!

6. Surpassing Purity

One of the most sublime virtues that characterizes the most Blessed Virgin Mary is that of her spotless purity; Mary is known as the Immaculate One. In Fatima, Our Lady sadly expressed that most souls are lost to the eternal fires of hell due to sins against the virtue of holy purity. Mary is the Perpetual Virgin. She was virgin before the birth of Jesus, during the birth of Jesus, and after the birth of Jesus. True devotion to Mary can help us to maintain our purity, and if we have lost it, to seek restoration through Sacramental Confession. Contemplating a beautiful picture, painting, or statue of Our Lady can instill in us noble aspirations for purity.

7. Ardent Love

Of all the virtues that we are called to practice that of ardent love, sometimes called charity, is the greatest of all. (Read the beautiful hymn of love of Saint Paul: I Corinthians 13). Our Lady practiced love to a sublime degree and in two ways, for love or charity has two dimensions. Mary at all times and places, loved God first and foremost. However, Mary expressed concretely her love for God by her ardent love for neighbor. An example of this: In the Annunciation, through her unconditional "Yes," Mary showed her total and unreserved love for God. However, moving in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth, Mary manifested great love for neighbor. May we say, in imitation of Mary and in the words of Saint Paul, *"The love of God compels me."* (2 Cor 5:14) May we learn this double commandment – love of God and love of neighbor – and strive to live it out on a daily basis. Saint John of the Cross states: *"In the twilight of our existence, we will be judged on love."*

8. Heroic Patience

Not one of us can say that we are patient at all times, in all places, and all circumstances. Unlike Mary, who manifested remarkable patience! Consider Mary in her pregnancy, travelling the long trek to Bethlehem and then being rejected – what great patience! Losing the Child Jesus when He was twelve years of age for three long days before finding Him in the Temple – another manifestation of heroic patience! Most especially, in accompanying Jesus in His Passion leading up to His brutal Crucifixion and death, Mary manifested an unequalled patience! When our patience is put to the test, let us call out to Mary for her assistance. She will never fail us!

9. Angelic Kindness

The opposite of kindness is rudeness. Just try to imagine the way and manner in which Mary must have treated her neighbor! A warm welcome, a kind and winning smile,



courtesy to the maximum, an attentive ear to listen – all of these are clear manifestations of kindness, angelic kindness. Mary did all this to the highest degree! Saint Frances de Sales on this virtue commented: *“One can attract more flies with a spoonful of honey than with a barrel full of vinegar.”* In other words, kindness attracts others to Christ more than drastic and rude measures. May Our Lady teach us what it means to be kind and may we put it into practice!!!

10. Heavenly Wisdom

One of the sublime titles given to Mary in her glorious Litany is that of SEAT OF WISDOM. A wise person knows what is most important in life. Dynamic love for God and ardent desire for the salvation of immortal souls are hallmarks of true wisdom. Our Lady had a burning love for God and an ardent desire for the conversion of sinners and their eternal salvation. *“The Blessed Virgin persevered in her union with her Son unto the cross... joining herself with his sacrifice in her mother's heart.”* (Vat II, Lumen Gentium) King Solomon was once wise, but he gave in to his weakness – that of lustful desires – and ended his life like a fool. We beg the intercession of *Our Lady, Seat of Wisdom* to attain for us not only wisdom now, but perseverance in this sublime virtue until the very end!

Conclusion

In conclusion, may we ardently desire to know, love, and imitate our Blessed Mother Mary, be motivated with a firm decision to meditate frequently and fervently on the virtues of Mary most holy, and then strive to live them out all the days of our lives! *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

St. Brendan Parishioners Celebrate 4th of July in the Hilliard Parade

Thank you to all the parishioners who joined us at the Hilliard 4th of July Parade last weekend and walked along with our St. Brendan Parish float!



During the parade, this year's **Food for the 4th Food Drive** collected more than 700 pounds of donations. Over \$1,200 to support the Hilliard Food Pantry Plus was also raised. Thanks to all those who donated and to the Owsley family/parishioners who coordinated the drive!

Community Calendar

MONDAY, JULY 13

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
9:00 AM	Church Cleaning	Church & Chapel
12:00 PM	Seniors NOW: Summer Luncheon	Weaver Park/Norwich Pav.
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
7:00 PM	St. Teresa of Avila: Nine Grades of Prayer	Wellnitz, Room 1

TUESDAY, JULY 14

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
6:30 AM	Esto Vir Men's Ministry	Davidson, Room A
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
8:30 AM	ROOTS Middle School Summer Bible Study	Wellnitz, Room 1
6:30 PM	OCIA Immaculate Conception Cohort Mtg.	Davidson, Room B
7:00 PM	OCIA Assumption Cohort Mtg.	Davidson, Room A

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

5:30 AM	Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry	Campus Parking Lot
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM-5:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00 PM	Adoration with Confession	Church
7:00 PM	Adult Study: Unlocking Mystery of the Bible	Davidson, Room B
7:00 PM	Summer VINE	Wellnitz, Room 1 & 2
7:15 PM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	Church

THURSDAY, JULY 16

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
6:30 PM	Communion & Liberation School of Community	Wellnitz Hall, Room 2
7:00 PM	SVdP Sandwich Making for the Homeless	Wellnitz, Room 1

FRIDAY, JULY 17

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
8:45 AM	VINE Encyclical Study	Wellnitz, Room 1
7:00 PM	Summer VINE	Wellnitz, Rooms 1 & 2

SATURDAY, JULY 18

5:30 AM	Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry	Campus Parking Lot
6:30 AM	Esto Vir Men's Ministry	Davidson, Rooms A & B
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-1:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM	Confession	Confessional
5:30 PM	Vigil Mass	Church

SUNDAY, JULY 19

7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM, 5:30 PM	Sunday Masses	Church
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	POD Nursery	Childcare Center
After 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	Coffee & Donuts	Davidson, Rooms A & B
12:00 PM	Baptisms	Church
12:15 PM	KofC Mac & Cheese Assembly	School Cafeteria
6:30 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC SCHEDULE: 5:30 PM, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays • 5:30 PM, Sundays
Masses with contemporary music will utilize the screens.

NO INCENSE, REST OF JULY 

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” +Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of July is dedicated to the Most Precious Blood of Jesus

"Hear my prayer, O Lady: upon a firm rock establish my mind. Be thou to me a tower of strength: protect me from the face of the cruel destroyer. Be thou to him terrible as an army in battle array: and may he fall living into the depths of hell. For thou art shining and terrible: a cloud full of dew, and the rising dawn. Thou art beautiful and bright as the full moon: thy sacred aspect is as when the sun shines in its strength."

+FROM THE PSALTER OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY BY SAINT BONAVENTURE

Monday, July 13 ~ Fifteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Optional Memorial: Saint Henry

Holy Gospel: Matthew 10:34-11:1 Jesus said to his Apostles: "Do not think that I have come to bring peace upon the earth. I have come to bring not peace but the sword. For I have come to set a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; and one's enemies will be those of his household. Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is righteous will receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because he is a disciple— amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward." When Jesus finished giving these commands to his Twelve disciples, he went away from that place to teach and to preach in their towns.

Meditation: Why does Jesus describe his mission and the coming of God's kingdom in terms of conflict, division, and war? Jesus came in peace to reconcile a broken and sinful humanity with an all-merciful and loving God. Jesus also came to wage war, to overthrow the powers and principalities arrayed against God and his kingdom. What are these powers? Jesus describes Satan as the ruler of this world whom he will cast out (John 12:31). The battle Jesus had in mind was not an earthly conflict between nations, but a spiritual warfare between the forces of Satan and the armies of heaven. The scriptures make clear that there are ultimately only two powers or kingdoms – God's kingdom of light and the kingdom of darkness.

Prayer + Saint Henry: O God, whose abundant grace prepared Saint Henry to be raised by you in a wonderful way from the cares of earthly rule to heavenly realms, grant, we pray, through his intercession, that amid the uncertainties of this world we may hasten towards you with minds made pure. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Contemplation: When Jesus spoke about division he likely had in mind the prophecy of Micah: a man's enemies are the men of his own household (Micah 7:6). The love of God compels us to choose who will be first in our lives. To place any relationship or anything else above God is a form of idolatry. Jesus challenges his disciples to examine who they love first and foremost. A true disciple loves God above all else and is willing to forsake all for Jesus Christ. Jesus insists that his disciples give him the loyalty which is only due to God, a loyalty which is higher than spouse or kin. It is possible that family and friends can become our enemies, if the thought of them keeps us from doing what we know God wants us to do. True love for God compels us to express charity towards our neighbor who is created in the image and likeness of God. Jesus declared that any kindness shown and any help given to the people of Christ will not lose its reward. Jesus never refused to give to anyone in need who asked for his help. As his disciples we are called to be kind and generous as he is.

Tuesday, July 14 ~ Fifteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Memorial: Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin ~ the "Lily of the Mohawks"

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:20-24 Jesus began to reproach the towns where most of his mighty deeds had been done, since they had not repented. "Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would long ago have repented in sackcloth and ashes. But I tell you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon on the day of judgment than for you. And as for you, Capernaum:

Will you be exalted to heaven? / You will go down to the nether world.

For if the mighty deeds done in your midst had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. But I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom on the day of judgment than for you."

Meditation: If Jesus were to walk down the streets of any community – your neighborhood, perhaps – what would he say? Would he issue a warning like the one he gave to Chorazin and Bethsaida? And how would you respond? Wherever Jesus went he did mighty works to show the people how much God had for them. Chorazin and Bethsaida had been blessed with the visitation of God. They heard the good news and experienced the wonderful works which Jesus did for them. Why was Jesus upset with these communities? The word woe can mean misfortune, calamity, distress, sorrow, sadness, misery, grief, or wretchedness. It is as much an expression of sorrowful pity and grief as it is of dismay over the calamity and destruction which comes as a result of human folly, sin, and ignorance.

Prayer: O God, who desired the Virgin Saint Kateri Tekakwitha to flower among Native Americans in a life of innocence, grant, through her intercession, that when all are gathered into your Church from every nation, tribe and tongue, they may magnify you in a single canticle of praise. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Prayer to Saint Kateri Tekakwitha: Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, our elder sister in the Lord, discreetly, you watch over us; may your love for Jesus and Mary inspire in us words and deeds of friendship, of forgiveness and of reconciliation. Pray that God will give us the courage, the boldness and the strength to build a world of justice and peace among ourselves and among all nations. Help us, as you did, to encounter the Creator God present in the very depths of nature, and so become witnesses of Life. With you, we praise the Father, the Son and the Spirit. Amen.

Contemplation: Repentance demands constant change – a change of heart, a change of mind, and always a call to change the way we live our life. God's word is life-giving and it saves us from destruction – the destruction of heart, mind, and soul as well as body. Jesus' anger is directed toward sin and everything which hinders us from doing the will of God. In love he calls us to walk in his way of truth and freedom, grace and loving-kindness, justice and holiness. Do you receive his word with faith and obedience or with doubt and indifference?

Wednesday, July 15 ~ Fifteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Memorial: Saint Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 11:25-27 At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him."

Meditation: In today's gospel Jesus thanks the Father in heaven for revealing to his disciples the wisdom and knowledge of God. His prayer also contains a warning that pride can keep us from the love and knowledge of God. What makes us ignorant and blind to the things of God? Certainly intellectual pride, coldness of heart, and stubbornness of will shut out God and his kingdom. Pride is the root of all vice and the strongest influence propelling us to sin. It first vanquishes the heart, making it cold and indifferent towards God. It also closes the mind to God's truth and wisdom for our lives. What is pride? It is the inordinate love of oneself at the expense of others and the exaggerated estimation of one's own learning and importance. Jesus contrasts intellectual pride with child-like simplicity and humility. The simple of heart are "childlike" (not childish) in the sense that they see purely without pretense and acknowledge their dependence and trust in the one who is greater, wiser, and more trustworthy. They seek one thing – the "summum bonum" or "greatest good" who is God himself. Simplicity of heart is wedded with humility, the queen of virtues, because humility inclines the heart towards grace and truth. Just as pride is the root of every sin and evil, so humility is the only soil in which the grace of God can take root. It alone takes the right attitude before God and allows him as God to do all. God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble (ref. Book of Proverbs 3:34, James 4:6).

Prayer: Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, just as we celebrate the heavenly birthday of the Bishop Saint Bonaventure, we may benefit from his great learning and constantly imitate the ardor of his charity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus makes a claim which no one would have dared to make – he is the perfect revelation of God. One of the greatest truths of the Christian faith is that we can know the living God. Our knowledge of God is not simply limited to knowing something about God, but we can know God personally. The essence of Christianity, and what makes it distinct from Judaism and other religions, is the knowledge of God as our Father. Jesus makes it possible for each of us to personally know God as our Father. To see Jesus is to see what God is like. In Jesus we see the perfect love of God – a God who cares intensely and who yearns over men and women, loving them to the point of laying down his life for them upon the Cross. Jesus is the revelation of God – a God who loves us completely and unconditionally.

Thursday, July 16 ~ Fifteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Optional Memorial: Our Lady of Mount Carmel

Optional Gospel: Matthew 12:46-50 While he was still speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers appeared outside, wishing to speak with him. But he said in reply to the one who told him, "Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?" And stretching out his hand toward his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my heavenly Father is my brother, and sister, and mother."

Meditation: God offers to each of us the greatest of relationships - union of heart, mind, and spirit with himself, Jesus Christ, who is the very author and source of love (1 John 4:8,16). God's love never fails, never forgets, never compromises, never lies, never lets us down nor disappoints us. His love is consistent, unwavering, unconditional, and unstoppable. Nothing can deter him from ever leaving us, ignoring us, or treating us unkindly. He will love us no matter what. It is his nature to love. That is why he created us - to be united with him and to share in his love and unity (1 John 3:1). God is a trinity of persons - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - and a community of love. That is why Jesus challenged his followers and even his own earthly family to recognize that God is the true source of all relationships. God wants all of our relationships to be rooted in his love.

Prayer: May the venerable intercession of the glorious Virgin Mary come to our aid, we pray, O Lord, so that, fortified by her protection, we may reach the mountain which is Christ. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer to Our Lady of Mount Carmel: O Most beautiful flower of Mount Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this my necessity. O Star of the Sea, help me and show me herein You are my Mother. O Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech You from the bottom of my heart to succor me in this necessity. There are none that can withstand Your power. O show me herein You are my Mother. O Mary conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to Thee. (3 times) Sweet Mother, I place this cause in Your hands (mention your request now).

Contemplation: God did not intend for us to be alone, but to be with others. That is why he gives us virtually unlimited opportunities for developing relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Why does Jesus seem to ignore his own relatives when they pressed to see him? His love and respect for his mother and his relatives (and for all people) is unquestionable; we must live accordingly.

About the Memorial to Our Lady of Mount Carmel: Sacred Scripture celebrated the beauty of Carmel where the prophet Elijah defended the purity of Israel's faith in the living God. In the twelfth century, hermits withdrew to that mountain and later founded the Carmelite order devoted to the contemplative life under the patronage of Mary, the holy Mother of God. Devotion to Our Lady of Mount Carmel is worldwide, and most Catholics are familiar with the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, also known as the Brown Scapular. Mary appeared to St. Simon Stock on July 16, 1251, and gave him the scapular with the following words, which are preserved in a fourteenth century narrative: "This will be for you and for all Carmelites the privilege, that he who dies in this will not suffer eternal fire." The feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel was instituted for the Carmelites in 1332, and extended to the whole Church in 1726.

About the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel: If you have not already done so, have a priest enroll you in the Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, or popularly known as the "Brown Scapular" and begin wearing it as a sign of your love for Our Lady. A priest enrolls people in the Brown Scapular only once. The Scapular can then be replaced afterwards by other scapulars or the scapular

medal, which has on one side the image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and on the other, the image of Mary. The medal needs to be blessed by a priest, but the cloth scapulars do not require a blessing (separate from enrollment). Wearing the Brown Scapular is not an automatic guarantee of salvation. It is not a magical charm, nor is it an excuse to live in a way contrary to the teachings of Jesus Christ and his Catholic Church. It is a sacramental which has been approved by the Church for over seven centuries and is a sign of one's decision to follow Jesus as did Mary, the perfect model of all the disciples of Christ. The Sabbatine Privilege is associated with faithfully wearing the Brown Scapular, and carries with it certain requirements. In addition to being an introduction into the Family of Carmel, the Brown Scapular is an expression of our belief that we will meet God in eternal life, aided by the intercession and prayer of Mary. While sacramentals prepare us to receive grace if we are in the right disposition, the Church emphasizes that only sacraments can confer sanctifying grace (see *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, No. 1670). Read "The Scapular of Carmel: A Treasure for the Church" by Pope Saint John Paul II by going to this web page: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/library/view.cfm?recnum=3525>

Friday, July 17 ~ Fifteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Matthew 12:1-8 Jesus was going through a field of grain on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry and began to pick the heads of grain and eat them. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to him, "See, your disciples are doing what is unlawful to do on the Sabbath." He said to the them, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry, how he went into the house of God and ate the bread of offering, which neither he nor his companions but only the priests could lawfully eat? Or have you not read in the law that on the Sabbath the priests serving in the temple violate the Sabbath and are innocent? I say to you, something greater than the temple is here. If you knew what this meant, I desire mercy, not sacrifice, you would not have condemned these innocent men. For the Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath."

Meditation: What does the commandment "keep holy the Sabbath" mean for us? Or better yet, what is the primary intention behind this command? The religious leaders confronted Jesus on this issue. The "Sabbath rest" was meant to be a time to remember and celebrate God's goodness and the goodness of his work, both in creation and redemption. It was a day set apart for the praise of God, his work of creation, and his saving actions on our behalf. It was intended to bring everyday work to a halt and to provide needed rest and refreshment. Jesus' disciples are scolded by the scribes and Pharisees, not for plucking and eating corn from the fields, but for doing so on the Sabbath. In defending his disciples, Jesus argues from the scriptures that human need has precedence over ritual custom. In their hunger, David and his men ate of the holy bread offered in the Temple. Jesus also quoted of the Sabbath work involved in worship in the Temple. This kind of work was usually double the work of worship on weekdays. Jesus then quotes from the prophet Hosea (6:6): I desire mercy and not sacrifice. While the claims of ritual sacrifice are important to God, mercy and kindness in response to human need are even more important.

Prayer: O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The message of today's gospel can be complimented by contemplating on this prayer by Saint Francis of Assisi: "Lord, make us to walk in your way: Where there is love and wisdom, there is neither fear nor ignorance; where there is patience and humility, there is neither anger nor annoyance; where there is poverty and joy, there is neither greed nor avarice; where there is peace and contemplation, there is neither care nor restlessness; where there is the fear of God to guard the dwelling, there no enemy can enter; where there is mercy and prudence, there is neither excess nor harshness; this we know through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."

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frlumpe:2026



Mass Intentions

MONDAY, JULY 13

6:30 AM Robert Paoni †
8:00 AM For the needs of our parishioners as they begin the week.
5:30 PM Rick Zengler †

TUESDAY, JULY 14

6:30 AM Fred & Lillian Burns †
8:00 AM Jean Morris †

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

6:30 AM Intention for Branden Cullinan
8:00 AM Intention for Bill & Jerry Cain
5:30 PM Jean Morris †

THURSDAY, JULY 16

6:30 PM Holy Souls in Purgatory †
8:00 AM Special Intention

FRIDAY, JULY 17

6:30 PM Linda Abraham †
8:00 AM Intention for Michael & Mary Jo Halko

SATURDAY, JULY 18

8:00 AM Harriet Fuller †
5:30 PM Placid Gomez †

SUNDAY, JULY 19

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:15 AM Sue Homan McDowell †
8:45 AM John G. D'Amico †
10:45 AM Ann Yezzi & Eva May Graham †
5:30 PM For the People of St. Brendan Parish
(† Intention is for someone deceased.)

Thanks to Our Sponsors...

Thanks to Dee Printing and our sponsors, our bulletin is provided weekly at no cost to the parish. To place an ad in our bulletin, contact Kati at kati@deepprinting.com or 614-777-8700.
SPONSOR-OF-THE-WEEK: Verena at Hilliard

Green Bin Donations...

All donations in the Green Bin (in the Gathering Space) are now designated to go to Hilliard Food Pantry Plus since JOIN has become a part of Catholic Social Services. Please drop your food donations in the left side; the right side is for personal care items. Both sides of the Green Bin donations will now be delivered to one place, the Hilliard Food Pantry!



Prayer List

If you would like our parish to pray for loved ones who are **ill at home, hospitalized, or are active duty military**, fill out our *Bulletin Prayer Request Form* at www.bit.ly/Bulletin-Prayer-List, via the QR code, or call the Parish Office. The list is updated every 3-6 months; if someone you added was deleted but is still ill, please fill out a new prayer request.



If you or a loved one is hospitalized or ill at home and would like a pastoral visit, call 614-876-1272.

Please Pray for...

THOSE HOSPITALIZED OR ILL

Pamela Theado	Chris Carrino	Mary Reed
Sean Grier	Robert William	Sarah Ortlieb
Brenda Bezan	Elliott Verrilli	Alan LaForrest
Ken Weitmarshen	Steve Strait	Gib Bickel
Shirley Buswell	Tonya Prickett	Amelia Black
Margie Hiam	Don Azelvandre	Suzzette Briones
Kathleen Carlson	Bailey Curtis	Gregg U'sellis
Ken Weitmarshen	Daffine Papaly	Esthelind Gutierrez
Jimmy Gutierrez	Evie Scoville	Sue Devore
Curt Thayer	Hannah Kelley	Amiee U'sellis
Daniel Francis		Nichole Otayco

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Thomas Dye	Kale Grunenwald	Connor Olson
Aaron Huesman	Cody Longstreth	Dan Severance
Sam Imwalle	Jackson Maassel	Trevor Pfirmman
Christopher Keck	Rick Shonkwiler	Zackery Reed
Robert Carollo	Luke Stumphauzer	Robbie Hite
Kyle Mullins	Thomas Noel	Nathanial Mattson
Joe Alverson	Addison A.	Ross McDonald

...we pray for all our men and women in service to our country, healthcare workers and first responders.

THOSE AWAY FROM THE CHURCH

St. Brendan Inviting Catholics Home Ministry prays daily for those no longer practicing our Catholic faith. stbrendans.net/ich

EUCCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND: Ministers are available to bring Holy Communion to those unable to attend Mass in person. If you or a loved one are homebound, even if it is for a short-term illness or an injury, and would like to receive the Eucharist at home, please email Nell O'Connell at doconnell@stbrendans.net

Eucharistic Adoration

Sign up for adoration at stbrendan.weadorehim.com and when you arrive to adore, please remember to sign in at the Kiosk.

MONDAY 6 PM–10 PM

TUE./THU./FRI. 8:30 AM–10 PM 1st Fridays, 8:30 AM until Sat., 1 PM

WEDNESDAY 7 AM–5 PM Holy Hour, 6-7 PM with Confession

SATURDAY 8:30 AM–1 PM

SUNDAY 6:30 PM–10 PM

8 AM Wednesday Mass Offered All Summer!
(Until school Mass starts back up, August 26, 2026.)

Feast Day, July 16: Clothed in Maternal Protection

OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL AND THE GIFT OF THE BROWN SCAPULAR

Every year on **July 16**, the Catholic Church celebrates the **Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**. This beautiful feast day honors the Blessed Virgin Mary as the patroness and protector of the Carmelite Order. It also celebrates one of the most beloved sacramentals in Catholic history: the **Brown Scapular**.

For centuries, millions of Catholics have worn this small piece of brown cloth. It serves as a sign of their consecration to Mary and a reminder of her powerful intercession. Far from being a simple historic custom, the devotion remains a vibrant beacon of hope and spiritual defense for the modern faithful.

PART I: THE HOLY MOUNTAIN & THE HEAVENLY PROMISE

The Roots on Mount Carmel

The story begins on **Mount Carmel**, a beautiful mountain range in northern Israel. In the Old Testament, the great prophet Elijah defended the true faith of Israel on this very mountain. Centuries later, in the 12th century, a group of Christian hermits settled on Mount Carmel to live a life of silent prayer and contemplation. They built a chapel in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary and became known as the **Carmelites**.

Eventually, political turmoil in the Holy Land forced these hermits to flee to Europe. Moving to a new land brought massive trials. The order faced fierce opposition, institutional oppression, and a struggle to adapt to their new surroundings.

The Vision of Saint Simon Stock

During this dark time, a holy English Carmelite named **Saint Simon Stock** served as the Superior-General of the order. He poured out his heart to Our Lady, begging her to preserve and protect his struggling community.

Heaven answered his prayers on **July 16, 1251**. Tradition holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to Saint Simon Stock in a brilliant beam of light, surrounded by choirs of angels. In her hands, she held the long, brown apron-like garment that monks wore over their shoulders, known as a **scapular**. Presenting it to him, Mary made a profound promise: *"Receive, my beloved son, this scapular of thy order; it is the special sign of my favor... whoever dies clothed in this shall not suffer eternal fire."*

Initially, this promise was given directly to the Carmelite friars. However, over time, the Church extended this precious privilege to the laity. This allowed everyday Catholics to wear a miniature version of the Carmelite habit and share in its immense spiritual blessings.

PART II: UNDERSTANDING THE SACRAMENTAL

What the Scapular Is – And Is Not

To fully embrace this devotion, it is vital to understand what a scapular actually is. The word comes from the Latin word *scapulae*, meaning **"shoulders."** The lay version consists of two small squares of brown wool cloth connected by long cords. It is worn over the head so that one square rests on your chest and the other rests on your back.

The Catholic Church categorizes the Brown Scapular as a **sacramental**. According to teachings found in Catholic Answers Guides, a sacramental does not automatically grant grace the way a Sacrament (like Baptism or Confession) does. Instead, it prepares our hearts to receive God's grace and inspires us to live holy lives.

The Carmelites and Church authorities stress that the scapular is **not a magical charm**, an amulet, or an automatic ticket to heaven. It does not give a person permission to sin or ignore the teachings of Christ. Instead, it is an outward sign of an inward commitment to follow Jesus through the perfect model of Mary.

The Deep Symbolism of the Garment

When a Catholic puts on the scapular, they are wrapping themselves in deep spiritual symbolism:

- **The Shield of Protection:** It is a spiritual armor against temptation and a pledge of Mary's help in times of danger.
- **The Uniform of Service:** It represents the "gentle yoke of Christ" that Mary helps us carry every single day.
- **The Clothing of Virtue:** It is a daily reminder to clothe ourselves in Mary's virtues, such as humility, purity, and constant prayer.

PART III: THE GRACES & GUIDELINES FOR THE FAITHFUL

The Scapular Promises

The primary reward of this devotion is Mary's promise of **final perseverance**. This means that for those who wear the scapular with genuine devotion, Mary will intercede at the hour of death to ensure they die in a state of sanctifying grace.

Additionally, historical Church traditions speak of the **Sabbatine Privilege**. Rooted in a decree by Pope John XXII, this tradition states that Mary will swiftly deliver the holy souls of faithful scapular wearers from Purgatory, particularly on the Saturday after their death.

Gaining the Sabbatine Privilege of the Brown Scapular

As noted, the basic requirements to receive the promise of the Brown Scapular are enrollment by a Priest, wearing the scapular, and living a committed Christian life. In addition, there is the Sabbatine Privilege, so named because the Blessed Mother promised that "she herself would graciously descend on the Saturday (Sabbath) after their death and liberate and conduct to heaven all who were in purgatory." The Sabbatine Privilege is traditionally connected with Pope John XXII in 1322.

Gaining the Sabbatine Privilege is contingent on two additional and traditional requirements:

- **Observe chastity** – i.e., in conformity with the Sixth and Ninth Commandments – according to your state in life.
- **Recite daily** the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary or the Liturgy of the Hours/Divine Office; or abstain from meat on Wednesdays and Saturdays (an exception is made for Christmas) in addition to the fast days prescribed by the Church.
- **Disclaimer:** In more modern times, the Church has granted priest confessors the faculty to commute the condition of

abstinence into other good works, e.g., a daily Rosary of five decades. (Those bound to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, namely clerics and consecrated religious, fulfill this condition by praying the Divine Office.) In addition, a Priest confessor is free to choose any suitable good work as the daily substitute for a lay person. For example, the commutation of Carmelite confessors has traditionally been to say seven of the following prayers: *Our Father*, *Hail Mary*, and *Glory Be to the Father*. Some also join a scapular confraternity, sharing in the prayers and good works of the Carmelite Order.

How to Practice the Devotion

To officially participate in these graces, a Catholic must follow a few simple steps:

1. **Formal Enrollment:** A Catholic must be formally enrolled in the Confraternity of the Brown Scapular. This is a quick, one-time ceremony done by a Catholic priest using a special blessing. The first scapular you receive must be blessed by a Priest who then places the Brown Scapular on the devotee while reciting the following prayer: *"Receive this blessed scapular and ask the Most Holy Virgin Mary, on her merits, that you may wear it without any stain of sin and that she guard you from all adversity and bring you unto everlasting life."*
2. **Continuous Wearing:** Once enrolled, the faithful should wear the scapular continuously under their clothing. It can even be worn during sleep and daily personal care. If a scapular wears out or breaks, you do not need a priest to bless the new one; you simply replace it.
3. **Living a Holy Life:** Wearers must strive earnestly to live out their Christian calling. This includes practicing chastity according to their state of life and maintaining a strong daily prayer life.

A Call to Modern Evangelization

Wearing the Brown Scapular is also a subtle and beautiful way to evangelize. When others learn about it, it often prompts questions, opening a door to share the beauty of Catholic tradition and the profound maternal love of the Blessed Mother.

The Brown Scapular can be given to a non-Catholic. A dying man was reportedly brought to St. Simon Stock Hospital in New York City. A nurse noticed he was wearing the Brown Scapular and called a priest. As prayers were said over him, the man regained consciousness and told the priest that he wasn't Catholic but wore the scapular as a promise to his friends. The priest asked the man if he wanted to become Catholic, and before he died the man was Baptized and received the Anointing of the Sick.

As we celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel on July 16, let us accept this heavenly garment with open hearts. By wearing the Brown Scapular faithfully, we place ourselves securely under the mantle of the Queen of Heaven, walking hand-in-hand with her toward her Divine Son, Jesus Christ.



PARISH FESTIVAL

ST. BRENDAN THE NAVIGATOR

2026

AUGUST 7 & 8

6-11 PM

FAMILY FUN HOURS:

SATURDAY, 3-6 PM



PARISH FESTIVAL NEWS

TAKE A FESTIVAL YARD SIGN TO HELP ADVERTISE:

Available now in the church gathering area while supplies last. Find all our updated festival needs and news at <https://stbrendans.net/about/parish-festival/>

RIDE TICKET/WRISTBAND CHAIRPERSON NEEDED:

The Festival Committee is currently in need of a "Ride Chairperson" to coordinate the volunteers doing ride ticket sales, wristband sales, and wristband presale pick-up. This effort can be led by one person across both Friday and Saturday, or split between a couple of individuals. The Ride Chairperson will be responsible for training volunteers on the use of the iPad/Square devices for credit card purchases and tracking ticket and wristband sales. Call Pat Hamrock at 614-961-2117 or Nick Astalos at 440-781-9538 if interested and to learn more about this opportunity.

RAFFLE TICKETS: Sell all six of your raffle tickets by **July 13** and you will receive two free entries!

FESTIVAL SPONSORS: Sponsorship opportunities and sign-up is found at <https://tinyurl.com/sponsor4stb> or email Kevin Quinn at kquinn323@gmail.com

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: It takes many volunteers for our parish festival to run successfully! Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/26festival> or, to bake sweets for Cake Bingo, visit <https://tinyurl.com/26cakes>

Festival Silent Auction Donations

SILENT AUCTION TREES, JUNE 27: "Trees" with donation tags for items that are needed to fill baskets for the Silent Auction are up in the gathering spaces. Take a tag or two or "build" your own basket! Please drop off all Silent Auction Tree tag item donations by **July 19**. Questions? Contact Jackie at 419-450-1888.

AMAZON WISHLIST: Purchase items online for our Silent Auction baskets through our Amazon Wishlist via the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/amazon26festival>





Family Faith Formation

Any family with a child in grades 1-8 not attending a Catholic school should enroll in Family Faith Formation which includes at-home Family Meetings plus regular at-church Family Sessions to support parents, teach our children and build community. To get started, visit <https://tinyurl.com/FFFstB> or scan the QR code. Register by August 17. Questions? Contact Jacob Doran: 614-876-1272, ext. 231 or jdoran@stbrendans.net



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Application deadline: July 17

Attn: Parish Young Men!

St. Brendan is covering registration fees for any young men (Grades 9-12) who would like to attend this summer's Quo Vadis Retreat. Do you ever feel uncertain about God's plan for you in this life? The retreat strikes a balance between prayer, learning, activities, sports, games, and fellowship – all designed to help you clear your mind as you listen for God's call. Retreat runs July 27-30 at The Pontifical College Josephinum. Notify St. Brendan of your registration and we'll reimburse your fees! Register by July 17 at vocationscolumbus.org/quovadis

Summer VINE for High Schoolers

SUMMER FRIDAYS, 7-9 PM

7/17 Worship Night, Wellnitz
7/24 Christmas in July, Wellnitz
7/31 Nature Hike, Batelle Darby Creek Park
8/7 Parish Festival, St. Brendan Campus

WEDNESDAYS, 7-8:30 PM

7/15 Angels & Demons, Wellnitz
7/22 Purgatory, Wellnitz
8/12 Spiritualities, Wellnitz
(Follow @stbvine on Instagram)

Roots Bible Study for Middle Schoolers

A Summer Bible study for middle schoolers is offered after the 8 AM Mass (8:30-9:30 AM) on Tuesdays throughout the summer, **until July 21** in Wellnitz, Room 1. All materials needed (plus Timbits!) are provided.

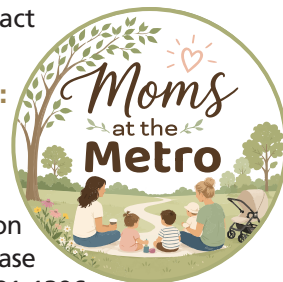
Volunteers Needed for Elizabeth Ministry

The Elizabeth Ministry is seeking volunteers to help provide childcare while mothers spend time with Our Lord in Eucharistic Adoration in the chapel. In the beautiful intergenerational spirit of the Elizabeth Ministry, grandmothers and spiritual mothers are especially encouraged to share their time, wisdom, and love by supporting young moms in this meaningful way. (Note: Volunteers must complete Protecting God's Children training and a BCI background check before serving.) Dates that volunteers are needed are: **September 25, October 30, January 29, 2027, February 26, 2027, April 30, 2027.**

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Regina Longgrear at thelonggrears@gmail.com

JULY 18 MOMS AT THE METRO: QUARRY TRAILS:

Join the Elizabeth Ministry for a summer social series *Moms at the Metro*. **Moms at the Metro on July 18 will be at the Quarry Trails playground** across from the Mountain Bike Trail. (Entrance is at the intersection with the stop light at Dublin Rd. & Roberts Rd.) Please RSVP to Regina at 330-754-8028 or, Alyssa at 406-781-1396.



Protecting God's Children Class, Aug. 3

The next PGC class at St. Brendan is scheduled for August 3 in the Davidson Rooms. Fingerprinting is 5-6 PM and the PGC class is 6-9 PM. Sign up for the class at tinyurl.com/StBrendanPGClass

POD Nursery Volunteers Needed

The POD Nursery, for children 6 mos.–4 years old, is in need of volunteers during the 8:45 & 10:45 AM Sunday Masses, especially during the summer. Email nursery@stbrendans.net to let us know you can help. Volunteers 18+ must be Safe Environment compliant and are scheduled through Parishstaq.

Fall Athletics Registration Is Open

Registration is open for St. Brendan K-3 Soccer, Cheer and Field Hockey. Sign up and find details at <https://stbrendans.net/ministries/athletics>

St. Brendan Golf Outing, July 31

Whether you'd like to golf, sponsor, volunteer, or simply help spread the word, we'd love to have you involved. Spend time with family and friends. Register, sponsor or volunteer at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/P5W/>



St. Margaret Parish Festival, July 24 & 25

Don't miss the St. Margaret of Cortona Festival (at 1600 N. Hague Ave.) on July 24 & 25 with music, homemade food, beer, games, silent auction & rides!



Feed the Hungry Mac & Cheese

The Knights of Columbus are holding another Mac & Cheese packet assembly on July 19. Let us know by filling the need in ParishStaq by scanning the QR code or, just show up at 12:15 PM in the School Cafeteria on Sunday after coffee & donuts (in the Davidson Rooms). Help us assemble Mac & Cheese kits that have everything needed/ready to make, to donate to the Hilliard Food Pantry Plus.



Seniors NOW (Navigating Our Way) For those age 65+

MONDAY, JULY 13, 12 PM – Lunch at Weaver Park (in Norwich Pavilion).

Bring a chair, your lunch and a drink. RSVP to Jerry at price62@gmail.com

Crafters Wanted for Our Craft Show

Our Knights of Columbus annual **Fall Craft Show** is November 7. Many vendor booths are still available! Visit <https://tinyurl.com/events4stb> to find vendor details (click on "Craft Show"). Questions? Email Eric at stbcraftshow@gmail.com

Weekly/Monthly Groups & Ministries

Esto Vir Men's Ministry – Scripture studies at 6:30 AM in the Davidson Rooms, **Saturday or Tuesday**. No RSVP! Questions? ricekris8813@att.net

Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry – Meet in the parish parking lot on Wednesdays and Saturdays at 5:30 AM to workout with other men of faith. To join us, email Nick Hasou at njhasou@gmail.com

Church Cleaning – Meet Mondays at 9 AM in the church for light cleaning. Supplies provided or bring your own. Questions? Email Lisa: lisaplong@gmail.com

M.A.S.T. (Mature Active Singles Together) for single/widowed/divorced parishioners ages 45 or over. To join, email Chris at chrishauck0522@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Workshop – Meet 1st Saturdays & 3rd Wednesdays in Wellnitz Hall, Room 2. Yarn and free lessons provided! Email Kathy at kendriz@aol.com or Karen at kkessmith@yahoo.com

St. Brendan Young Adults – Those in their 20s & 30s meet monthly 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 7-9 PM. Women meet off-campus. Men meet on campus (check the parish calendar for details). To join, email Jorden Frey at jfreydesigns@gmail.com

Spiritual & Mental Care & Support

iTHIRST Spiritual Companions – We have three iThirst Spiritual Companions at our parish to support you! For details, visit opendoorwomensrecoveryorg/ithirst or for questions, email info.ithirstcolumbus@gmail.com

Lumin Counseling – A private practice of therapists with Catholic and Christian backgrounds with their main office in Westerville and a satellite office on our parish campus. Find more details at <https://lumin-therapy.com/>



Our Parish Progress...

Our parish is abundantly blessed to have surpassed our diocesan goal for the 2026 Appeal and are currently at \$362,277 in pledges. Fr. Mike is grateful for the generous parish families who have made their gift and humbly encourages more families to commit their pledges. Participation is currently at less than 20% of families so far, with 496 families having pledged.

Since we have eclipsed the diocesan goal, we now set our sights on the extended, total goal of \$520,538.

Every dollar donated is now returned to our parish for our parking lot expansion project. With everyone's participation, we are certain to increase access and safety to our campus. **Thank you for your reliable generosity.**



Scan the QR code to make your gift to The Appeal

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450

425

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375

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325

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250

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25

HAPPENING AROUND OUR DIOCESE...

Catholic Social Services July Street Fair, July 12 & 13
Catholic Social Services (CSS) of Columbus joins with USA Catholic Charities agencies on Sunday, July 12 & Monday, July 13, to host *People of Hope: Faith-filled Stories of Neighbors Helping Neighbors*, a storytelling museum that amplifies the impact of Christian service. This free street museum and fair is 10:30 AM-2:30 PM at N. 5th & E. Broad (next to St. Joseph Cathedral) offering food, music, vendors and children's activities. Questions? Call 614-221-5891.

Catholic Schools Reunion Lunch, July 17, 11 AM-3 PM
Join us in the St. Charles HS Valley Dale Ballroom for Alumni (and family members) of Central Ohio Catholic High Schools who graduated before 1977 (schools that closed in the 50s, 60s and 70s and those open today!) Cost of \$40/person includes lunch, DJ "Music of the Times," souvenir program and memorabilia. For details, visit www.stcharlesprep.org (find "Catholic High School Luncheon"). Questions? Contact: Lou Nobile at Ingolf57@att.net, 614-313-5889 or Louis Fabro at lfabro@scprep.org, 380-209-2233.

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