

07
19
26

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

*The kingdom of heaven is like
a mustard seed that a person
took and sowed in a field.*

*It is the smallest of all the
seeds, yet when full-grown
it is the largest of plants.*

*It becomes a large bush,
and the 'birds of the sky come
and dwell in its branches.'*

~Matthew 13:24-43

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

TUE./THU./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.

**Regular Mass and
Confession times may
change due to events/
funerals/Holy Days.
Find this week's parish
calendar in our bulletin
or on our website.*



**Saint
Brendan**

THE NAVIGATOR

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

Coffee & Donuts, July 19

The Parish Festival Committee is hosting Coffee & Donuts this Sunday after the 8:45 & 10:45 AM Masses in the Davidson Rooms. They will share information about how you can support our festival this year!

**FR. DAN MOLONEY
WELCOME RECEPTION**
Stop by Coffee & Donuts
this Sunday to greet our
new Parochial Vicar!

Mac & Cheese Assembly

After Coffee & Donuts (at 12:15 PM) join our Knights of Columbus in the School Cafeteria to help assemble Mac & Cheese packets to support the Hilliard Food Pantry! Fill the "need" in ParishStaQ or just show up!

Please bring all Festival Giving Tree items in by end of day, July 19

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.

ANointing 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@cdeducation.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

Lisa Guzzo, Parish Administrator Assistant
ext. 285, lguzzo@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@cdeducation.org

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

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

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

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



From Our Pastor

ON THIS SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, Jesus once again uses the simplest images from nature to teach us the profound mysteries of the Kingdom of God – the mustard seed. Jesus tells us that although it is the smallest of all seeds (see this bulletin cover), when it grows, it becomes the largest of garden plants, a great tree where the birds of the air can find shelter. This tiny seed represents the divine life of grace planted within each of us at our Baptism. It reminds us that God does not look for grand, spectacular displays to begin His work. He begins in the quiet, hidden spaces of our hearts. The true wonder of the Christian

life is how something so small – a simple act of faith, a moment of silent prayer, a quiet choice to do good and avoid sin and evil – can be transformed by God into a towering tree of holiness that gives life, comfort, and shelter to everyone around us. Living this parable to the fullest means trusting that no moment in our daily lives is too small for God to use. We often tempt ourselves into thinking that holiness is only for the extraordinary, or that we must do massive things to please God; the mustard seed teaches us otherwise. This seed invites us to embrace a spirituality of “the everyday.” When we offer our ordinary, everyday tasks to God, we are watering that tiny seed, allowing it to germinate, take deep root, and blossom into a beautiful witness of His love, mercy and compassion. The parable of the mustard seed reminds us of a slow but sure and steady process – patience and perseverance are key. The mustard seed does not become a tree overnight. It requires time, care, and the right conditions to grow and flourish. Similarly, our spiritual life and the impact we have on others are not the result of grand nor frantic efforts, but of a constant, steady and trusting relationship with God and His Son, Jesus Christ, aligning our will with the Divine will of God.

LOOK AT THE CHURCH: When Jesus first gathered a small handful of fishermen and regular workers in Galilee, the movement looked tiny and unimportant to the great empires of the world. Yet, that tiny group held the very life of God within it. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* highlights this beautiful mystery: “*The Church is the seed and beginning of the Kingdom. Its core is hidden inside the person of Jesus, who came to serve and give His life*” (CCC 764). Over 2,000 years later, that initial, tiny seed has broken through the soil of human history. The Catholic Church has expanded across every continent, language, and culture, and continues to grow, thrive, and bear much fruit – fruit that will last.

LOOK AT THE SACRAMENTS: A central way we cultivate this growth is through the grace of the Sacraments. The Sacraments are the primary channels through which God pours His very life into our souls, turning our tiny efforts into supernatural growth. While the “gateway sacrament” of Baptism plants the seed, the Eucharist nourishes us week after week, giving us the spiritual food we need to keep pressing forward. Confirmation strengthens us with the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and the other Sacraments sustain us through the specific vocations and seasons of our lives. However, as we walk this path, our human weaknesses often cause us to falter. The weeds of sin, selfishness, and pride can easily choke the young growth of the mustard seed. That is why Jesus Christ, in His infinite compassion, love and mercy, gave us the Sacrament of Reconciliation (ref. John 20:19-31). In the Confessional, we encounter the same radical, unconditional love, mercy and forgiveness that Jesus extended from the Cross. When the priest – *acting in persona Christi* (in the person of Christ) – gives us absolution, our sins are completely washed away, and the soil of our hearts is made fertile once again. But this profound gift of mercy also carries with it a sacred responsibility. In the Lord’s Prayer, we pray the challenging words: “*Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.*” This is not just a polite phrase; it is a spiritual law. To ask God for mercy while holding onto a grudge is like locking the door to our own hearts. When we pray this, we acknowledge that the mercy we receive in Confession must flow through us to others. We are called to forgive as Christ forgives us – completely, unreservedly, without keeping score. Pope Saint John Paul II emphasized this essential link between Divine and human mercy, noting that “*Forgiveness is the fundamental condition for every reconciliation, between man and God, and between man and man*” (*Message for the World Day of Peace*, January 1, 1997). Forgiveness can often be a tiny, painful seed of a choice, but when we make that choice, then plant the seed, it blossoms into a peace that surpasses all understanding.

LOOK AT EVERYDAY HOLINESS: Holiness is not found in escaping the world, but in transforming our daily routines, aligning them to the heart and mind of Christ. It is found in a parent patiently listening to a child after a long workday. It is found in a worker doing their job with honesty and excellence. It is found in a kind word to a lonely neighbor, or a silent prayer offered for someone who has hurt us. As the spiritual author Father Jacques Philippe reminds us, faith does not need to be massive to be powerful; it simply needs to be *alive*. He connects the parable of the mustard seed to our daily lives, writing: “*Faith is the root of our cure and our liberation, the start of a life-giving process that heals the death engendered by sin. This is why Jesus lays such stress on faith. 'If you have faith as a grain of mustard seed...'*” (*Interior Freedom*, Part One: “The Theological Virtues”). Father Philippe notes that we must stop waiting for a dramatic, giant burst of spiritual energy. Instead, we must trust that the tiny, initial act of believing acts as a “seed” that initiates a slow, unstoppable process in each of our souls that germinates, takes root, grows and bears much fruit – fruit that will last.

FINAL THOUGHTS: None of us should ever feel discouraged by the perceived limitations or smallness of our resources. Instead, let’s cultivate our “mustard seeds” so that we grow in holiness and grace; let us bring to Him our small acts of patience and kindness, our moments of daily quiet prayer, our efforts to forgive others, and our regular participation in the Sacraments. Let us trust that the Holy Spirit will take these offerings and multiply them, transforming ourselves, our families, and our wonderful parish community into a place of abundant life in Christ. Let the unique mustard seeds of *our* specific life grow into the specific tree that God designed it to be. Our true self is found when we align our daily actions with the will of God and the teachings of His Son, Jesus Christ, as “doers of the word, not hearers only” (James 1:22).

Fr. Mike

Fr. Michael Lumpe, Pastor



BEGINNING SMALL LIKE THE MUSTARD SEED:

Living the Virtue of Humility

In order for us to grow in holiness, grace and virtue, we must begin small – like the mustard seed. First and foremost, we must work on growing in our friendship with the Lord through daily prayer. Thus, we commit to praying more deeply. We begin with five minutes of meditation, then grow to ten minutes, to fifteen minutes; as we grow we strive to 30 minutes of quiet prayer each day. And from this time of prayer flows the

grace to live in virtue and holiness. We begin small by living the virtues in our daily lives – small acts of love, kindness, and patience throughout the day; joyfully serving our spouse, giving extra attention to our children, doing our work well, letting someone go ahead of us in traffic, being patient with others, serving one another out of gratitude and love. This humility echoes Jesus Himself, “who came not to be served, but to serve” (Mark 10:45). It’s the opposite of spiritual pride. As we consciously practice these small acts of love, each day God’s grace increases in us. Virtue becomes stronger than vice. Our desire for holiness becomes stronger. All of this unfolds because the seeds of God’s grace grow in us and eventually transform us. The mustard seed of God’s grace, planted in our souls, becomes the large plant of a holy life, radiating God’s presence to others. This is how the kingdom of God spreads.

THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH:

Humility is the Foundation of a Solid Spiritual Life

The Catechism focuses heavily on how humility connects our hearts to God, especially when we pray.

- **The Foundation of Prayer:** The Catechism famously states that “humility is the foundation of prayer” (CCC2559). It teaches that if we try to talk to God with a proud heart, our prayers mean nothing.
- **Beggars Before God:** The Catechism quotes St. Augustine, stating that “man is a beggar before God” (CCC2559). This means we must realize that we cannot save ourselves and that everything good we have is a gift from God.
- **The Antidote to Envy:** In its teachings on the Tenth Commandment, the Catechism notes that a baptized person fights off envy and jealousy by practicing goodwill, trust in God, and humility (CCC2554). Humility helps us rejoice in other people’s success instead of wishing it were ours.
- **Poverty of Spirit:** The Catechism ties humility closely to Jesus’ promise, “Blessed are the poor in spirit” (CCC2546). Choosing a humble life means emptying ourselves of sinful pride (versus a healthy sense of pride) so God can fill us with His love and grace.

FROM THE DIDACHE:

Practical, Everyday Humility

Written in the first century, *The Didache* served as a practical handbook for early Christian communities; its wisdom remains instructive and useful today. *The Didache* explains how humility looks in everyday actions and community life.

- **The Way of Life:** The book divides choices into the “Way of Life” and the “Way of Death.” Humility is an absolute requirement to stay on the path of life.
- **Avoiding High-Mindedness:** In Chapter 3, *The Didache* explicitly warns: “Do not be high-minded, nor give audacity to your soul. Your soul shall not be joined with the lofty, but with the just and lowly shall you walk.” It tells believers not to spend time with arrogant, powerful people, but to stay close to the humble.
- **Accepting God’s Plan:** *The Didache* teaches that whatever happens to us, good or bad, we should accept it humbly, knowing that God is ultimately in control of everything.

NOTABLE QUOTES ON HUMILITY:

- **Saint Teresa of Calcutta:** “If you are humble nothing will touch you, neither praise nor disgrace, because you know what you are.”
- **Saint Bernard of Clairvaux:** “It is no great thing to be humble when you are brought low; but to be humble when you are praised is a great and rare achievement.”
- **Saint Vincent de Paul:** “The most powerful weapon to conquer the devil is humility.”
- **Saint Alphonsus Liguori:** “He who wishes to be saved must be humble of heart, because pride is the root of all sin.”
- **Saint Francis de Sales:** “True humility consists in being content with what we are in the eyes of God, and in not wishing to appear greater than we are.”
- **Pope Saint John Paul II:** “The secret of holiness is very simple: a total surrender to God, driven by deep humility.”
- **Pope Benedict XVI:** “God is attracted by humility. When He sees a humble heart, He is drawn to it.”
- **C.S. Lewis:** “Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it’s thinking of yourself less.”
- **Father Thomas Merton, OCSO:** “Pride makes us artificial and humility makes us real.”

EXAMINING OUR CONSCIENCE

Here is a practical Daily Examination of Conscience based on the teachings of Father Thomas Merton, OCSO, and Catholic spiritual tradition. It is divided into four simple parts to help you break down the masks of the false self and soften the soil of your heart.

SPOTTING THE FALSE SELF (HONESTY WITH YOURSELF)

- Did I twist the truth today to make myself look better, smarter, or more successful to others?
- Did I spend time daydreaming about being praised, honored, or noticed?
- Did I get angry or upset when someone else got the credit for something I did?
- Did I hide my true mistakes because I was too afraid of what people would think of me?

CHECKING THE INNER SOIL (RECEPTIVITY TO GOD)

- Did I make time for quiet prayer today, or did I rely entirely on my own energy and human cleverness?
- Did I rush through my day without inviting the Holy Spirit to guide my actions?
- When things went wrong, did I complain immediately, or did I trust that God is in control?
- Did I push away God's corrections when I felt a poke in my conscience?

INTERACTING WITH OTHERS (CHARITY & COMPARISON)

- Did I compare myself to someone today, either feeling better than them or jealous of them?
- Did I speak badly about someone else just to make myself look better by comparison?
- Did I listen patiently to others, or did I interrupt because I thought my thoughts were more important?
- Did I judge someone harshly in my mind instead of remembering that we are both loved by God?

WELCOMING THE TRUTH (ACCEPTING WEAKNESS)

- Did I get discouraged and grumpy when I failed, or did I gently hand my weakness over to God?
- Did I accept advice or correction from others with a peaceful heart, or did I get defensive?
- Did I try to control everything around me instead of letting go and trusting God's plan?
- Did I thank God for the good things I did today, recognizing that the good came from Him?

USE THE EXAMEN EVERY NIGHT

1. **Quiet Down:** Sit in silence for two minutes to step out of the busyness of your day.
2. **Pick a Section:** Do not try to answer every one of these questions perfectly every night. Pick those that would be of the greatest benefit – be honest with yourself in doing so; don't avoid what needs attention.
3. **Say a Simple Prayer:** End with a simple prayer like, "Lord, help me let go of the facade of my false self so I can be honest with who I truly am and rest in Your true love."

Pray the Litany of Humility. This Litany is widely considered one of the most challenging yet beautiful prayers in Christian tradition because it directly attacks the "false self" that Father Thomas Merton warns about. A regular prayer often asks God for things we want; this Litany asks God to deliver us from the things that our sinful pride craves.

THE LITANY OF HUMILITY

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

O Jesus, meek and humble of heart, hear me.

From the desire of being esteemed, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being loved, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being extolled, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being honored, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being praised, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being preferred to others, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being consulted, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the desire of being approved, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being humiliated, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being despised, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of suffering rebukes, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being calumniated, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being forgotten, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being ridiculed, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being wronged, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

From the fear of being suspected, *deliver me, O Jesus.*

That others may be loved more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be esteemed more than I,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That, in the opinion of the world, others may increase and I
may decrease, *Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.*

That others may be chosen and I set aside,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be praised and I go unnoticed,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may be preferred to me in everything,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

That others may become holier than I,
provided that I may become as holy as I should,
Jesus, grant me the grace to desire it.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Graces of Offering Daily Prayers for Others

Article by Sherry Antonetti courtesy the Catholic Exchange.

Saint Paul urges us to “pray without ceasing,” though the translation from Greek means, not that we pray without stopping, but that we keep returning to prayer. We constantly rededicate ourselves to talking with and listening to God.

Most of us start with the rote prayers: Grace before meals, a Hail Mary, Our Father, or the occasional Rosary – sometimes small, short prayers the size of a mustard seed. Some of us also pray like chain smokers when there’s a crisis, one Rosary after another. However, dedicating your prayer life to others requires something other than an organic response to others’ needs. It must be *willed*.

Last year, as a method of deepening my own prayer, of forcing me to go beyond the ordinary and the organically inspired, I offered to pray for whosoever asked, every day on my Facebook feed. Admittedly, I felt more than a little awkward, posting the question, “May I pray with you?” I knew I had friends who were atheists, friends who didn’t pray, and folks who were friends of friends, who didn’t think much of religion, much less prayer.

As with all things with God, what we receive is always more than we asked, and in excess of what we expect.

I had planned to just post the link each day during Lent, but the needs kept coming, such that the practice became almost expected. Over the course of the first forty days, the asking grew easier every time I asked, and harder those times I forgot. Acquaintances became friends, friends grew closer, and people I’d not known well became people I wished I’d known better sooner. People who didn’t pray, asked for prayers.

People who met only because of the petitioning, began praying for each other. When a crisis occurred (and several did), people rallied, both in tangible and spiritual acts of prayer for those they never met in real life, except through the daily dialogue of Facebook. It became a virtual community.

Some days, the stories hurt; a son struggling with mental illness, a suicide, a car accident, a flood, a divorce, an incurable disease, a death. Other times, the petitions rang like songs; for graduates, weddings, babies and birthdays.

A year later, I stopped posting daily but it felt like I’d left a critical part of my day off the to-do list. Something in me refused, despite discovering friends, watching the fruit of answered prayers and knowing we should be praying with and for each other constantly, to continue the practice except when inspired. Like a runner who stops running, and finds the need to lessen after a time, I found myself slack.

My own will remained insufficient to the task to restart the habit. Finally, it came to my dimmed soul, to ask for help praying. To ask my guardian angel to pray, ask my Confirmation saint, ask favorite saints, ask those I love who died before me. Ask those who prayed with me during the year. Even the Gospel that week reminded me, “Hey, doofus, ask!” It grew easier, but it wasn’t until I received the gift of someone else’s prayers that I understood something of what that year meant to those who asked for petitions for themselves.

That particular week included a car accident, a trip to the ER for one child, and the normal turmoil parents endure from adolescents (three different ones) on three different nights. We faced worry, frustration, and no small amount of exhaustion. I felt beyond spent. My heart wailed.

The words, “They are out of wine,” floated up into my head, and I knew it in my bones. I typed, “May I pray for you today?” into a post, wondering if I could manage a few Hail Mary prayers for whoever posted. Several people typed “Yes,” and added that they would pray for me. I had said nothing about needing prayer. Here was the Holy Spirit offering consolation, telling their hearts to minister to mine.

The next day, in the mail, came a card from a friend I’ve only known online. She’d spent an hour in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament for my family. She didn’t know all the scrapes and emotional bruises of my week, but the Holy Spirit tapped her on the heart to pray for me, and she’d prayed. I felt so grateful, that little card buoyed me all day and into the next three. I looked at it and reread it, and considered the reality, what a gift she’d given.

We cannot know all the crosses each person carries, but we can help carry them, like Simon, by our prayers.

We cannot heal every ill, or solve every problem, but we can minister to those suffering like Veronica, with our petitions. We can weep with the women who wept. We can stay awake in the garden with the one who feels alone, even if it’s only online. One almost feels giddy at the idea of countless people, offering their prayers for people’s sufferings, for their cares. Imagine if we all knew that other people were praying for us, for our lives to be blessed. Prayer for others is the gift of time, it is the gift of love. It is always an offering of self, willing the good, willing God’s will for someone else.

The prayer card from my friend remains in my purse. Her gift brought me back to my own weakness. I needed to cease needing to feel it, in order to do it daily.

The understanding came while encouraging my twelve-year-old daughter to study for exams. **I told her, “None of us want to take tests, all of us endure them.”** Most preparation for any test involved being willing to put in the time. Leaving her to her studies, I thought about other disciplines: exercise, cleaning up, reading, writing, parenting, relationships. Everything in life of deeper value, required a form of daily discipline, irrespective of feeling.

I could almost see Saint Peter rolling his eyes at me and giving a not-so-subtle clearing of the throat to point out where the defect in my own prayer life lay. Most of what is required of any of us in cooperating with God’s will is willing our will to be His.

“Be serious and sober minded so that you will be able to pray.” “Be serious.” I thought about the discipline of exercise, study, and writing. People who are serious about fitness worked out daily, no matter what. People serious about scholarship, researched beyond the minimum. Writers wrote daily, inspired or not. No excuses. People serious about

a friendship with God, they need to talk and listen daily. "Be sober," was a not-so-subtle hit over the head, not to dwell in the land of feeling with respect to my relationship with God and willingness to pray. I needed to "just do it."

Praying with others and for others, changes how one prays and why one prays. We begin by praying for the person's intentions, we grow in prayer to the point of praying for the person his or herself. Pray even when you don't feel it because this world aches and bleeds and mourns. This world needs more prayer, not less, more people praying the good of others, not fewer.

Trust the Holy Spirit to bring great good out of all that we offer and know that offering and actually engaging in prayer for others fulfills both the mission and creates the missionary community. God uses prayer as a means to bring us always into deeper relationship with Him, and each other.

An Intercessory Prayer

Dear God, please give me a heart that is small and humble. I offer You a tiny speck of faith today, like a mustard seed. Please take my small prayer for [NAME OF PERSON(S)] and turn it into something helpful to him/her/them. Surround him/her/them with Your comforting presence and grant him/her/them the strength to endure whatever storms he/she/they are walking through. When he/she/they feel weak, be the Divine source of strength, perseverance, and place of refuge. In times of confusion, give him/her/them clarity and wisdom. Ease any anxiety or fear in his/her/their heart, and replace it with Your peace that surpasses all understanding. May Your graces shower him/her/them in their time of need. Amen.

BEGINNING SMALL LIKE THE MUSTARD SEED:

What it Means to Forgive Others

Article available courtesy of My Catholic Life!

***"If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions."* Matthew 6:14-15**

It's truly amazing how often our Lord exhorts us to forgive. Much of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, from which we have been reading all week, continually calls us to offer mercy and forgiveness to others. And in the passage above from the end of today's Gospel, Jesus offers us the consequences of not heeding His exhortations.

This passage is a sort of addendum to the "Our Father" prayer which immediately precedes it. The Our Father prayer gives us seven petitions, one of them being "forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." It's interesting to note that as soon as Jesus taught us this prayer with its seven petitions, He then re-emphasized one of those petitions by stating it again as is seen in the passage quoted above. This added emphasis should assure us of the seriousness of this petition.

At first, Jesus simply tells us to pray for forgiveness "as we forgive." But He then makes it clear that if we fail to do so, we will not be forgiven ourselves. This should highly motivate us to make every effort possible to completely forgive others from the deepest depths of our hearts.

Who do you need to forgive? Forgiveness can be a confusing endeavor at times. The act of forgiveness gets confusing when our feelings do not reflect the choice we make in our will. It is a common experience that when we make the interior choice to forgive another, we still feel anger toward them. But these disordered feelings should not deter us nor should we allow them to cause doubt in what we need to do. Forgiveness is first an act of the will. It's a prayerful choice to say to another that you do not hold their sin against them. Forgiveness does not pretend that no sin was committed. On the contrary, if there were no sin committed, then there would be no need for forgiveness. So the very act of forgiving is also an acknowledgment of the sin that needs to be forgiven.

When you make the choice to forgive another, and if your feelings do not immediately follow after, keep forgiving them in your heart. Pray for them. Try to change the way you think about them. Do not dwell upon the hurt that they have inflicted. Think, instead, about their dignity as a person, the love God has for them and the love you must continue to foster for them. Forgive, forgive and forgive again. Never stop and never tire of this act of mercy. If you do this, you may even discover that your feelings and passions eventually align with the choice you have made.

Reflect, today, upon any lingering feelings of anger you experience. Address those feelings by the free and total choice to forgive the person with whom you are angry. Do so now, later today, tomorrow and on and on. Go on the offensive against anger and bitterness by overwhelming it with your personal act of forgiveness and you will find that God will begin to free you of the heavy burden that a lack of forgiveness imposes.

A Prayer to Help Me Forgive Others

My forgiving Lord, You offer the perfection of forgiveness to me and call me to do the same toward others. I pray for Your forgiveness in my life. I am sorry for my sin and beg for Your mercy. In exchange for this holy gift, I pledge to You today to forgive everyone who has sinned against me. I especially forgive those with whom I remain angry. Free me from this anger, dear Lord, so that I may reap the full benefits of Your mercy in my life. Jesus, I trust in You.

Community Calendar

MONDAY, JULY 20

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
9:00 AM	Church Cleaning	Church & Chapel
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 21

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 Middleschool 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 22

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 Formation	Wellnitz, Room 1 & 2
7:15 PM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	Church

THURSDAY, JULY 23

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

FRIDAY, JULY 24

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, Rooms 1 & 2
7:00 PM	Summer VINE	Wellnitz, Rooms 1 & 2

SATURDAY, JULY 25

5:30 AM	Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry	Campus Parking Lot
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-1:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM	Confession	Confessional
9:00 AM	SVdP Monthly Conference Meeting	Wellnitz, Room 1
5:30 PM	Vigil Mass	Church

SUNDAY, JULY 26

7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM, 5:30 PM	Sunday Masses	Church
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	POD Nursery	Childcare Center
12:00 PM	Baptisms	Church
6:30 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel

CONTEMPORARY 5:30 PM, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays • 5:30 PM, Sundays
MUSIC SCHEDULE: 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

"Safeguard the warmth of the family, because all the warmth of the world will not make up for it." +SAINT SHARBEL (CHARBEL) MAKHLŪF

Monday, July 20 ~ Sixteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Optional Memorial: Saint Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Matthew 12:38-42 Some of the scribes and Pharisees said to Jesus, "Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you." He said to them in reply, "An evil and unfaithful generation seeks a sign, but no sign will be given it except the sign of Jonah the prophet. Just as Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights. At the judgment, the men of Nineveh will arise with this generation and condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and there is something greater than Jonah here. At the judgment the queen of the south will arise with this generation and condemn it, because she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon; and there is something greater than Solomon here."

Meditation: It was characteristic of the Jewish people to demand "signs" from God's messengers to authenticate their claims. Jesus faulted them for one thing: spiritual adultery. The image of adultery was often used in the scriptures for describing apostasy or infidelity towards God. When the religious leaders pressed Jesus to give proof for his claims, he says in so many words that he is God's sign and that they need no further evidence from heaven than his own person. The Ninevites recognized God's warning when Jonah spoke to them, and they repented (Jonah 3:5). And the Queen of Sheba recognized God's wisdom in Solomon (1 Kings 10:1-9). Jonah was God's sign and his message was the message of God for the people of Nineveh. Unfortunately the religious leaders were not content to accept the signs right before their very eyes. They had rejected the message of John the Baptist and now they reject Jesus as God's Anointed One (Messiah) and they fail to heed his message. Simeon had prophesied at Jesus' birth that he was "destined for the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that inner thoughts of many will be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35). Jesus confirmed his message with many miracles in preparation for the greatest sign of all – his resurrection on the third day.

Prayer: Direct your faithful, Lord, in the way of eternal salvation, which the Bishop Saint Apollinaris showed by his teaching and martyrdom, and grant through his intercession, that we may so persevere in keeping your commandments as to merit being crowned with him. 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 Lord Jesus through the gift of his Holy Spirit offers us freedom from sin and ignorance and he gives us wisdom and understanding so that we may grow in knowledge of God and his ways. Do you thirst for God and for the wisdom which comes from above? James the Apostle says that the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity (James 3:17). A double-minded person cannot receive this kind of wisdom. If we wish to be wise in God's ways, then we must humble ourselves before him, like attentive students who wish to learn, and submit our heart and mind to his will for our lives. The single of heart and mind desire one thing alone – God who is the source of all wisdom, goodness, truth, and knowledge. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill you with the wisdom which comes from above and to free your heart from all that would hinder God's loving action in your life.

Tuesday, July 21 ~ Sixteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Optional Memorial: Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Matthew 12:46-50 While Jesus was speaking to the crowds, his mother and his brothers appeared outside, wishing to speak with him. Someone told him, "Your mother and your brothers are

standing outside, asking to speak with you.” 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 us the greatest of relationships – union of heart, mind, and spirit with himself, 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 of persons (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 relatives to recognize that God is the true source of all relationships. God wants all of our relationships to be rooted in his love.

Prayer: O God, who for the glory of your name and the salvation of souls bestowed on the Priest Saint Lawrence of Brindisi a spirit of counsel and fortitude, grant, we pray, that in the same spirit, we may know what must be done and, through his intercession, bring it to completion. 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 is God's love incarnate – God's love made visible in human flesh (1 John 4:9-10). That is why Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep and the shepherd who seeks out the sheep who have strayed and lost their way. God is like the father who yearns for his prodigal son to return home and then throws a great party for his son when he has a change of heart and comes back (Luke 15:11-32). Jesus offered up his life on the cross for our sake, so that we could be forgiven and restored to unity and friendship with God. It is through Jesus that we become the adopted children of God – his own sons and daughters. That is why Jesus told his disciples that they would have many new friends and family relationships in his kingdom. Whoever does the will of God is a friend of God and a member of his family – his sons and daughters who have been ransomed by the precious blood of Christ.

Wednesday, July 22 ~ Sixteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time Feast of Saint Mary Magdalene

Holy Gospel: John 20:1-2, 11-18 On the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb early in the morning, while it was still dark, and saw the stone removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and to the other disciple whom Jesus loved, and told them, “They have taken the Lord from the tomb, and we don’t know where they put him.”

Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping. And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb and saw two angels in white sitting there, one at the head and one at the feet where the Body of Jesus had been. And they said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken my Lord, and I don’t know where they laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus there, but did not know it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” She thought it was the gardener and said to him, “Sir, if you carried him away, tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni,” which means Teacher. Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I am going to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and then reported what he told her.

Meditation: How easy it is to miss the Lord when our focus is on ourselves! Mary Magdalene did not at first recognize the Lord because her focus was on the empty tomb and on her own grief. It took only one word from the Master, when he called her by name, for Mary to recognize him. Mary's message to the disciples, I have seen the Lord, is the very essence of Christianity. It is not enough that a Christian know about the Lord, but that we know him personally. It is not enough to argue about him, but to meet him. In the resurrection we encounter the living Lord who loves us personally and shares his glory with us. The Lord gives us “eyes of faith” to see the truth of his resurrection and victory over sin and death (Ephesians 1:18). The resurrection of Jesus is the foundation of our hope -- the hope that we will see God face to face and share in his everlasting glory and joy. Without having seen him you love him; though you do not now see him you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy. As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls (1 Peter 1:8-9). Do you recognize the Lord's presence with you, in his word, in the “breaking of the bread” and in his church, the body of Christ?

Prayer: O God, whose Only Begotten Son entrusted Mary Magdalene before all others with announcing the great joy of the Resurrection, grant, we pray, that through her intercession and example we may proclaim the living Christ and come to see him reigning in your glory. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Saint Mary Magdalene has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love. So we might ask ourselves: How do I embrace the truth of God's love for me and for others? Through my actions and interactions with others, do I always bear witness to that same level of love?

About Saint Mary Magdalene: The feast of St. Mary Magdalene is considered one of the most mystical of feasts, and it is said that of all the songs of the saints, that of Mary Magdalene is the sweetest and strongest because her love was so great. That love was praised by Jesus Himself who said that because much was forgiven her, she loved much. She was from Magadala, a small fishing town on the Sea of Galilee. She was known to be a "great sinner" – a woman of the streets who heard Jesus speak of the mercy and forgiveness of God and changed her life completely. Her matter-of-fact witness to the Resurrection moved Peter and John to go and see for themselves: "I have seen the Lord and these things he said to me." Jesus had chosen her to bring the news to them and she simply told them what had happened. She has always been the example of great love and great forgiveness, one of those close to Jesus who grasped the truth of God's love for human beings and spent her life bearing witness to that love.

Thursday, July 23 ~ Sixteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time **Optional Memorial: Saint Bridget of Sweden, Religious**

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:10-17 The disciples approached Jesus and said, "Why do you speak to the crowd in parables?" He said to them in reply, "Because knowledge of the mysteries of the Kingdom of heaven has been granted to you, but to them it has not been granted. To anyone who has, more will be given and he will grow rich; from anyone who has not, even what he has will be taken away. This is why I speak to them in parables, because *they look but do not see and hear but do not listen or understand*. Isaiah's prophecy is fulfilled in them, which says:

You shall indeed hear but not understand, you shall indeed look but never see. Gross is the heart of this people, they will hardly hear with their ears, they have closed their eyes, lest they see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their hearts and be converted and I heal them.

"But blessed are your eyes, because they see, and your ears, because they hear. Amen, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it."

Meditation: Saint Augustine of Hippo once said: "I believe, in order to understand; and I understand, the better to believe." Both faith and understanding are gifts of the Holy Spirit that enable us to hear God's word with clarity so we can know God better and grow in the knowledge of his love and truth. Jesus, however, had to warn his disciples that not everyone would understand his teaching. The prophet Isaiah had warned that some would hear God's word, but not believe, some would see God's actions and miracles, and remained unconvinced. Ironically some of the greatest skeptics of Jesus' teaching and miracles were the learned scribes and Pharisees who prided themselves on their knowledge of scripture and the law of Moses. They heard Jesus' parables and saw the great signs and miracles which he performed, but they refused to accept both Jesus and his message. How could they "hear and never understand" and "see but never perceive"? They were spiritually blind and deaf because their hearts were closed and their minds were blocked by pride and prejudice.

Prayer: O God, who guided Saint Bridget of Sweden along different paths of life and wondrously taught her the wisdom of the Cross as she contemplated the Passion of your Son, grant us, we pray, that, walking worthily in our vocation, we may seek you in all things. 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: There is only one thing that can open a closed, confused, and divided mind – a broken heart and humble spirit! The word disciple means one who is willing to learn and ready to submit to the wisdom and truth which comes from God. Psalm 119 expresses the joy and delight of a disciple who loves God's word and who embraces it with trust and obedience. "Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all the day. Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is ever with me. I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your testimonies are my meditation" (Psalm 119:97-99). God can only reveal the secrets of his kingdom to the humble and trusting person who acknowledges their need for

God and for his truth. The parables of Jesus will enlighten us if we approach them with an open mind and heart, ready to let them challenge us. If we approach God's word with indifference, skepticism, and disbelief, then we, too, may "hear but not understand" and "see but not perceive." God's word can only take root in a humble and receptive heart that is ready to believe. If we want to hear and to understand God's word, we must listen with openness, humility, reverence and faith – nothing else will suffice. Do you believe God's word and do you submit to it with trust and reverence?

Friday, July 24 ~ Sixteenth Week in the Season of Ordinary Time
Optional Memorial: Saint Sharbel (Charbel) Makhlūf, Priest

Holy Gospel: Matthew 13:18-23 Jesus said to his disciples: "Hear the parable of the sower. The seed sown on the path is the one who hears the word of the Kingdom without understanding it, and the Evil One comes and steals away what was sown in his heart. The seed sown on rocky ground is the one who hears the word and receives it at once with joy. But he has no root and lasts only for a time. When some tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, he immediately falls away. The seed sown among thorns is the one who hears the word, but then worldly anxiety and the lure of riches choke the word and it bears no fruit. But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold."

Meditation: This parable of Jesus is a warning to those who hear and who preach the word of God. What makes us ineffective and unresponsive to God's word? Preoccupation with other things can distract us from what is truly important and worthwhile; letting our hearts and minds be consumed with material things can easily weigh us down and draw us away from the treasure that lasts for eternity. God's word can only take root in a receptive heart which is ready to hear what God has to say. One lesson is clear: the harvest is sure. While some seed will fall by the wayside and some fall on shallow ground and never come to maturity, and some be choked to death by the thorns; nonetheless a harvest will come. The seed that falls on good soil, on the heart that is receptive, will reap abundant fruit. Are you teachable and eager to learn God's truth?

Prayer: O God, who called the Priest Saint Sharbel Makhlūf to the solitary combat of the desert and imbued him with all manner of devotion, grant us, we pray, that, being made imitators of the Lord's Passion, we may merit to be co-heirs of his Kingdom. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The word "harden" means "to become hard, obstinate, and stubborn." When scripture speaks of hardening our hearts, it is referring to our becoming insensitive to the Word of God. When our heart becomes hard, then we set up a resistance to His Word. Many times without knowing it God's people become defiant to God's Word, and they resist any conviction God brings in their life. When they refuse to hear, they refuse to change, then they resist conviction. They have hardened their hearts to God's will and His way. These have closed their minds to anything God would speak to them. They want to follow their own will, and go their own way. In doing this, they allow God no access to their lives. The heart of a disciple is malleable, not hard, and is open to always receiving the Word. Is your heart malleable?

About Saint Sharbel (Charbel) Makhlūf: Joseph Makhlūf was born in 1828 at Beqa-Kafra, Lebanon. His family lived a strong faith, were attentive to the Divine Liturgy, and had a great devotion to the Mother of God. At the age of 23, Charbel (the name he chose when entering Novitiate) left his closely knit family to enter the Lebanese-Maronite Monastery called Notre-Dame de Mayfouk. Following studies and profession at St. Cyprian de Kfifane Monastery, he was ordained in 1859. For the next seven years, Charbel lived in the mountainous community of Anaya. After that he spent the next twenty-three years in complete solitude at Sts. Peter and Paul Hermitage near Anaya. He died there on Christmas Eve, 1898. Charbel had a reputation for his austerity, penances, obedience, and chastity. At times, Charbel was gifted with levitations during prayer, and he had great devotion to the Most Blessed Sacrament. In all things, Charbel maintained perfect serenity.

Make a Pilgrimage: Visit the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Lebanon located in North Jackson, Ohio, just west of Youngstown. For information visit www.ourladyoflebanonshrine.com, or call (330) 538-3351.

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner. Prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011; information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

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

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Thomas Dye	Kale Grunenwald	Connor Olson
Aaron Huesman	Cody Longstreth	Dan Severance
Sam Imwalle	Jackson Maassel	Trevor Pfirman
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. Learn more about the Inviting Catholics Home Ministry at stbrendans.net/ich

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, JULY 20

- 6:30 AM Mr. & Mrs Albert Bagnoli †
- 8:00 AM For the needs of our parishioners as they begin the week
- 5:30 PM Charles Johnson †

TUESDAY, JULY 21

- 6:30 AM Intention for Mrs. Bunny Bagnoli
- 8:00 AM Mitzie Toth †

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22

- 6:30 AM Steve Dimoff †
- 8:00 AM Return of lapsed Catholic loved ones
- 5:30 PM Philip Martin †

THURSDAY, JULY 23

- 6:30 PM Gerald Dimoff †
- 8:00 AM Jean Morris †

FRIDAY, JULY 24

- 6:30 PM Intention of The Sizemore Family
- 8:00 AM Peter & Linda Giuliani †

SATURDAY, JULY 25

- 8:00 AM Eileen Condikey †
- 5:30 PM Rev. Robert Park †

SUNDAY, JULY 26

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:15 AM Cornelia Albert †
- 8:45 AM Irma Morlani & Lillian Trombett †
- 10:45 AM Laura Koserelski †
- 5:30 PM For the People of St. Brendan Parish

(† Intention is for someone deceased.)

MASS INTENTION AVAILABILITY:

We currently have dates open on our Mass Intentions Calendar beginning in July, 2026.

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



Flowers for the Altar

In memory of Ann Yezzi & Eva May Graham



Congratulations ON THE BAPTISM OF:

Rome Jack Gagliardi

Eucharistic Adoration

Sign up for adoration at stbrendan.weadorehim.com When you arrive to adore, please sign in at the Kiosk, even if signing in as a guest or staying less than an hour.



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

Financial Stewardship

St. Brendan Parish is sustained by the generosity of our parishioners through time, talent, and treasure. For all that you do, **THANK YOU!**

Offertory, July 12, 2026 \$43,478

(Cash, checks, online giving)

Weekly Budgeted \$55,537

Scan the QR code to give online via your PushPay account.





Mission Appeal, July 25/26

This year's mission appeal is by the **Cardinal Lourdusamy Foundation**. Vincent Marin, Managing Director of the Foundation, will join us at all Masses next weekend. As Secretary of Propaganda Fide for 14 years, Archbishop Lourdusamy was a force behind Mother Teresa sending her sisters all over the world for their services. As a member of the Dicastery for Causes of Saints, Cardinal Lourdusamy championed Mother's cause for sainthood, and he was Pope St. John Paul II's representative for Mother's funeral. This appeal is to support the request for 25,000 illustrated Catholic Bibles in local languages from sisters of St. Teresa of Calcutta, formally known as Missionaries of Charity, to give to non-Christians they serve. Our generous support will be our direct participation in the missionary work of the church, which all of us are called to do by Jesus Himself.

Weekly/Monthly Groups

Esto Vir Men's Ministry – Scripture studies at 6:30 AM in the Davidson Rooms, **Saturdays** or **Tuesdays**. Questions? Email 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, email Nick Hasou at njhasou@gmail.com

Church Cleaning – Meet Mondays at 9 AM in the church for light cleaning. Supplies are provided. Email Lisa at lisaploug@gmail.com

M.A.S.T. (Mature Active Singles Together) a social support group for parishioners, ages 45 or over, who are single, widowed or divorced. To join, email Chris: chrishauck0522@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Workshop – Meet 1st Saturdays & 3rd Wednesdays in Wellnitz, 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 at jfreydesigns@gmail.com

Highlights From Our Totus Tuus Summer Youth Camp

Our children had a wonderful week at Totus Tuus learning more from the missionaries about the Luminous mysteries of the Rosary and the Ten Commandments. Through the week they also attended Mass daily, watched skits, sang songs, and made new friends! Please continue to pray for our Diocesan Totus Tuus missionaries as they continue on to more parishes this month.



Extraordinary Ministers Recommissioning

All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who serve at Mass and those who bring Holy Communion to the homebound are invited to participate in our recommissioning at the 5:30 PM Mass on Saturday, August 15 and the 8:45 AM Mass on Sunday, August 16. Ministers are asked to attend one of these Masses to renew their commitment to this important ministry.

If you are unable to attend either recommissioning Mass, please contact Nell O'Connell at doconnell@stbrendans.net

Sacramental Insight: Anointing of the Sick

Anointing of the Sick is one of the two Sacraments of Healing. It was once called Extreme Unction, which means "the last anointing," and has been referred to as part of the "last rites." The Church now refers to it as "the Anointing of the Sick," (CCC 1511). It is a powerful and effective sign of Jesus' presence that brings strength and healing to the sick, the elderly and the dying.

Catholics should notify the hospital of their faith upon admission to ensure they receive proper sacramental care, such as Anointing of the Sick or Holy Communion, and to ensure their care aligns with Catholic medical directives. Hospitals do not automatically know a patient's religion, so informing the staff ensures a Catholic Chaplain or parish priest is contacted for Anointing of the Sick, if needed. Informing the hospital helps the staff to respect your preferences regarding end-of-life care, bioethics, and other Sacraments. During the admission process, state that you are Catholic or, tell the nursing staff once admitted, or if an illness progresses during a hospital stay and the patient is moved into ICU (Intensive Care Unit). You, your spouse or family member may request that the hospital's "Spiritual Care" or "Pastoral Care" department be notified that a Catholic patient is requesting a priest. If it is possible, call the parish office before a life-threatening hospital stay or major surgery to arrange that Anointing of the Sick Sacrament be performed.

St Brendan OCIA **NOT CATHOLIC BUT CURIOUS?**

O.C.I.A. (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults) is a process where adults have the opportunity to explore faith questions and learn the traditions, beliefs and practices of the Catholic Church. If interested, email Wendy at wferkany@stbrendans.net

St. Monica Prayer Boards are Available

The Inviting Catholics Home St. Monica Prayer Boards are now up in the Gathering Space by the Welcome Desk for you to write the first name of loved ones no longer practicing their Catholic faith. We will pray for their return back to the Church at our annual St. Monica Mass on August 27.



Mr./Mrs. Ward, 50th Wedding Anniversary

This past weekend Father Mike gave a blessing to our parishioners, Fred and Candy Ward, who celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary!



FESTIVAL NEWS & NEEDS

VOLUNTEER: Visit <https://tinyurl.com/26festival> to volunteer or, to bake sweets for our Cake Bingo, sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/26cakes>

Volunteers,
Sign up
HERE...



Bakers,
Sign up
HERE...



DISCOUNTED RIDE WRISTBANDS: Purchase ride wristbands online **July 18–August 5** for the discounted price of \$28 ea. (reg. \$30) at <https://stbrendanchurch.square.site/>

RIDE TICKET/WRISTBAND CHAIRPERSON: A "Ride Chairperson" is needed to coordinate volunteers selling ride tickets, wristband sales and presale pick-up. They will train volunteers on the iPad/Square devices for credit card purchases and track ticket/wristband sales. All training is provided. Please call Pat Hamrock (614-961-2117) or Nick Astalos (440-781-9538)

FESTIVAL SPONSORS: Time is almost up for corporate sponsorships, so sign up now at <https://tinyurl.com/sponsor4stb> or email Kevin Quinn at kquinn323@gmail.com

RAFFLE TICKETS are \$20 each for a chance to win \$13,333 or 4 other cash prizes. Please return your tickets/money to the parish office soon! Find more festival news and needs at <https://stbrendans.net/about/parish-festival/>

Festival Silent Auction

SILENT AUCTION TREE ITEMS ARE DUE!

Please drop off all Silent Auction item donations to the tables by the Welcome Desk by the end of the day, Sunday, **July 19**. Questions? Call Jackie at 419-450-1888.

**2026-27 REGISTRATION
IS NOW OPEN!**



**Family
Faith
Formation**



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



POD Nursery Volunteers

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.

Summer VINE

SUMMER FRIDAYS, 7-9 PM

7/24 Christmas in July, Wellnitz

7/31 Nature Hike, Batelle Darby Creek Park

8/7 Parish Festival, St. Brendan Campus

APOLOGETICS WEDNESDAYS, 7-8:30 PM

7/22 Purgatory, Wellnitz

8/12 Spiritualities, Wellnitz

For questions, contact Kara Shand at kshand@stbrendans.net or follow [@stbvine](https://www.instagram.com/stbvine) on Instagram to stay updated.

Roots Summer Bible Study

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.

Fall Athletics Registration

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

St. Brendan Golf Outing, July 31

Spend time with family and friends on the golf course or become a sponsor or volunteer by visiting <https://e.givesmart.com/events/P5W/>

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 is available for anyone who needs to update their fingerprinting. No appointment necessary. The PGC class is at 6-9 PM. Sign up for the class at tinyurl.com/StBrendanPGClass

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 inter-generational 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

ELIZABETH MINISTRY / MOMS AT THE METRO:

Join the Elizabeth Ministry for a summer social series *Moms at the Metro*. Bring the kids to the Glacier Ridge Metro Park (by playground) on Saturdays: **August 15 & September 19 for: 9 AM Nature Walk; 10 AM Craft/Playtime; 11 AM Wrap-up.** Please RSVP to Regina at 330-754-8028 or, Alyssa at 406-781-1396.



St. Brendan Kindergarten Registration

You can find St. Brendan Kindergarten information for the 2026/2027 school year, schedule a tour, and register at www.stbrendans.net/school

St. Margaret of Cortona Preschool

St. Margaret of Cortona Preschool has open enrollment for the 2026-27 school year for part or full-day classes (for ages 3-5 this fall). Questions? Email aboyd@cdeducation.org. Register at www.bit.ly/preschool2026

Easy Fundraising with Kroger Rewards

Link your Kroger Loyalty Rewards Card to St. Brendan Parish by visiting www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards and search for "St. Brendan Church." Click on "save" to connect your loyalty card. Then, simply swipe your card at checkout and our parish is rewarded!

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Seniors NOW (Navigating Our Way)

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 8 AM – First Friday Mass followed by breakfast at Der Dutchman on SR 42 in Plain City.

First Friday Adoration, August 7

The next First Friday Adoration is Friday, August 7, 9 AM through Saturday, August 8 at 1 PM. Adorers are needed, especially during the overnight hours. Sign up now at <https://stbrendan.weadorehim.com>



Red Cross Blood Drive, August 14

The next St. Brendan Knights of Columbus sponsored Red Cross Blood Drive is Friday, August 14, from 12-6 PM in the Davidson Rooms. Give the gift of life by signing up today at www.redcrossblood.org or 1-800-Red-Cross (1-800-733-2767).

Crafters Wanted for Our Craft Show

Our Knights of Columbus **Fall Craft Show** is Saturday, November 7. Only 30 vendor booths are still available! To find vendor information and to register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/events4stb> (click on "Craft Show"). Questions? Email Eric at stbcraftshow@gmail.com

ST. MARGARET FESTIVAL: JULY 24 & 25

St. Margaret of Cortona's Festival (1600 N. Hague Ave.) is July 24, 6 PM-midnight & July 25, 5 PM-midnight! Enjoy live music (below), homemade food, beer, games, silent auction, kid's area and rides.

The image is a colorful, artistic illustration of a festival scene at night. In the background, a large, modern church building is illuminated with warm lights. In the foreground, there are tents, trees, and a grassy area. Overlaid on the image is the entertainment schedule for the St. Margaret Festival. The schedule is organized by day and time slots. On Friday, July 24, Cami Nyx performs at 6:00, and Funky Uncles at 9:30. On Saturday, July 25, LA Chic performs at 9:30, Rich Byrnes at 5:45, and Dismet Notes at 7:30. The text 'ALTROCK MIXTAPE' is also visible. At the bottom, the text 'Parish Festival '26 ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE' is written in a stylized font.

6:00 Cami Nyx **FRI | 07/24**

ALTROCK MIXTAPE **7:30** **FUNKY UNCLES** **9:30**

SAT | 07/25 **9:30** **LA Chic** **5:45** **Rich Byrnes** **7:30** **Dismet NOTES**

Parish Festival '26
ENTERTAINMENT SCHEDULE

Around Our Diocese

Mommies Matter "Tippy Tea," August 4

Mommies Matter is excited to introduce our inaugural Tippy Tea, taking place on Tuesday, August 4 at Asterisk Supper Club in Uptown Westerville, 4-6 PM. Join us to support the ever-growing housing needs for single, pregnant mothers in Central Ohio to help offset rental costs and secure stable housing for the moms we serve. Mommies Matter provides group and one-on-one mentoring support, as well as housing, educational, employment and financial assistance to brave, single, pregnant moms. For details, visit <https://mommiesmatter.org/tippy-tea-party>

Marriage Conference, Sept. 19

Married and engaged couples are invited to the annual *Together in Holiness* marriage conference on September 19, 8:30 AM-4 PM at St. Catharine Catholic Church in Columbus (presented by Saint John Paul II Foundation & Diocese of Columbus) to strengthen your relationship with your spouse and discover God's plan for your family. Cost is \$64 per couple & \$5 per child for childcare. Register at <https://forlifeandfamily.org/events/th26-cmoh/>

Cradling Christianity Benefit Dinner, Sept. 17

Preserving Christianity in the Holy Land Through Education annual benefit dinner in support of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land is Thursday, September 17. Mass begins 5 PM with reception and dinner to follow at Our Lady of Victory Church & Parish Hall (1559 Roxbury Rd., Columbus). Keynote Speaker: Bishop A. Elias Zaidan, Chairperson of the USSCB Committee on International Justice & Peace. For questions, email CradlingChristianity@gmail.com and for ticket pricing, information and payment, visit FFHL.org/Regions/Columbus/RSVP

Pilgrimage: Beatification of Fulton Sheen

Join Father Jonathan Wilson for a pilgrimage to St. Louis from September 22-25 for the Beatification of Fulton J. Sheen. This four-day journey includes daily Mass, visits to sacred sites and participation in the historic Beatification Mass at The Dome at America's Center. For more information and to register, please visit <https://stcharlespilgrimages.com/sheen>

Volunteer @ Open Door Women's Recovery

At Open Door Women's Recovery Alliance, volunteers walk alongside women rebuilding their lives after addiction and exploitation. Through friendship, encouragement and a consistent presence, lives are transformed. No experience is needed. Learn more at www.opendoorwomensrecovery.org or, email info@opendoorwomensrecovery.org

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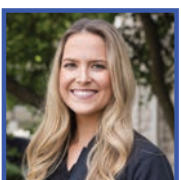
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