

ORA ET LABORA

"Pray and Work"

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time + Labor Day Weekend

09
06
26



LABOR DAY IS MONDAY, SEPT. 7 | NO SCHOOL + PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED



Holy Mass*

SAT. VIGIL 5:30 PM
SUNDAY 7:15 AM,
8:45 & 10:45 AM,
5:30 PM

Daily Mass*

MON. 6:30 & 8 AM, 5:30 PM
TUE./ THU./ FRI. 6:30 & 8 AM
WED. 6:30 AM, 5:30 PM
SAT. 8 AM

Reconciliation*

WED. 6-7 PM (during Adoration)
SAT. After 8 AM Mass
Or, schedule Confession by
calling the parish office.

**Regular Mass
and Confession
times may
change. Find
this week's
calendar in
our bulletin
or website.*

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

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Information Center

Parish Office Hours
M-F, 8:30 AM-12 PM & 1-4 PM

Church Hours
M-F & Sunday, 6 AM-10 PM;
Saturday, 6 AM-6 PM

St. Brendan School
Phone: 614-876-6132,
Fax: 614-529-8929

New Members: Please visit
stbrendans.net/welcome
and fill out a New Member
Registration form or call the
parish office at 614-876-1272.

Marriage: Fill out a Marriage
Request form at least six
months prior to your wedding.
Marriage prep is required.
Questions? Email Valerie Scheel
weddingplanner@stbrendans.net

Baptisms: 12 PM most
Sundays. For details, visit
stbrendans.net/baptism
or for questions, email
baptism@stbrendans.net.
Baptism Preparation Class:
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 mos.-4 years old)
Questions or to volunteer:
nursery@stbrendans.net

**OCIA (Order of Christian
Initiation of Adults):** Curious
about the Catholic faith?
Contact Wendy Ferkany at
wferkany@stbrendans.net
614-876-1272, ext. 291 or

**Ministry of Evangelization
& Catechesis (Family Faith
Formation):** Contact Jacob
Doran: 614-876-1272, ext. 231

Marketing/Bulletin Request:
stbrendans.net/marketing or
marketing@stbrendans.net

Mass Intentions:
Fill out the online form at
<https://tinyurl.com/massintent>
or a Mass Intention envelope
(found in the Church Gathering
Space) with \$10 cash/check.

Candle Donations: \$2 for large
candles and 25¢ for small votives.

Flowers for the Altar: Visit
<https://tinyurl.com/flowers4altar>
to remember a loved one or for a
special intention (published in
the bulletin.) \$75 donation. Actual
cost is \$109 so, extra is welcomed!

**Ministry of Care for the
Homebound:** To receive
Eucharist at home or a facility,
email Nell O'Connell at
doconnell@stbrendans.net

Protecting God's Children:
Register at www.virtus.org or
tinyurl.com/StBrendanPGC

Navigator News/ParishStaQ
Visit stbrendan.ccbchurch.com to
receive or weekly e-newsletter 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, email
ministryscheduler@stbrendans.net
for liturgical scheduling questions.

Facebook: StBrendanofHilliard

Instagram:
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School @saintbrendanschool
Vine @stbvine
Roots @stb_theroots
Young Adults @stbya

Livestream: Parish YouTube –
SaintBrendantheNavigatorHilliard
OR Facebook: facebook.com/StBrendanHilliardyoutube.com/c/
Mass Livestream schedule:

- Sunday, 10:45 AM
- Mon./Wed., 5:30 PM
- Tue./Thu./Fri./Sat., 8 AM

Share your Parish 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 and social media!

St. Margaret of Cortona Preschool
Contact Andrea Boyd, Director/
Lead Teacher, at 614-274-1922 or
aboyd@cdeducation.org



From Our Pastor

ON THIS TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, we give thanks for the dignity of human work and for all who build up our families, parish, and society. For Catholics, Labor Day invites us to reflect on the Benedictine motto *Ora et Labora* – “Pray and Work.” Prayer and work belong together: our labor becomes prayer when offered to God, and prayer sanctifies the work of our hands. In this bulletin, I invite you to read the articles on labor, prayer, balance in daily life, and the ways we can treasure and use our God-given gifts, abilities, and talents. The cover art’s top panel depicts a family praying before a simple Catholic home altar. When I was growing up, many Catholic

homes had a small home altar in the family room or dining room, and holy water fonts were often found in bedrooms. I am glad to see this beautiful practice beginning to return. This bulletin includes an article on how to make a simple Catholic altar for your home, for your own spiritual benefit and for the benefit of your children and grandchildren. I encourage you to consider making this beautiful practice part of your own home.

This Sunday’s readings challenge us to examine how we work, live, and care for one another in Christ. In Ezekiel, God appoints the prophet as a watchman for Israel, holding him responsible for warning those who have gone astray. This reminds us that faith is never merely private; true charity sometimes asks us to labor for the spiritual well-being of those around us and to speak the truth with humility rather than choose comfortable silence. The Responsorial Psalm gives us the posture we need: “*If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*” Work, family obligations, and daily routines can wear us down and slowly harden our hearts. We can become so consumed by *labora*, our work, that we neglect *ora*, our prayer. For that reason, we need a holy balance in our lives, one that keeps our hearts open and loving and draws our human hearts into deeper communion with the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Most Chaste Heart of Saint Joseph.

As we move from this weekend’s reflection on prayer and work to our national remembrance of 9/11, we are reminded that gratitude, humility, and service belong together. We give thanks for those whose work protects, heals, builds, teaches, feeds, and serves others; and we pray for the grace to make our own daily labor an offering of love.

25TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11: This week, we mark a solemn and painful anniversary in our nation’s history – the 25th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Many of us who are old enough to remember that day can vividly recall where we were, who we were with, and what we were doing when we first heard the news and watched the events unfold. For us as Americans, this anniversary is a day of remembrance, prayer, and honor for those who died, along with gratitude for the courage of the first responders, service members, families, and ordinary citizens who helped carry our nation through that terrible day and beyond. In a special way we honor and remember, too, those who became sick or died in subsequent years from illnesses connected to search and rescue efforts and the clearing of debris at the attack sites. The City of New York alone estimates that more than 91,000 people assisted in total, the majority of whom were exposed to a toxic mixture of dust, smoke, and chemicals from the wreckage and debris. This week, we honor these men and women with profound gratitude and fervent prayers. May the Lord grant eternal rest to all who died; consolation to their family members, friends, and colleagues; healing to those who still suffer; and courage to all who continue to serve the common good. For the record:

- † **World Trade Center:** 2,753 people died (including 343 FDNY firefighters, 23 NYPD officers, 37 Port Authority police officers, persons in the surrounding area);
- † **The Pentagon:** 184 people died: 125 Pentagon personnel, and 59 passengers and crew on American Airlines Flight 77.
- † **Shanksville, Pennsylvania:** 40 passengers and crew died aboard United Airlines Flight 93;
- † **Total Related Deaths:** More than 6,800-8,000 individuals have died from 9/11-certified illnesses and cancers.
- † **First Responders:** The Fire Department of New York (FDNY) has lost over 370 members to 9/11-related illnesses;
- † **Diagnoses:** Roughly 140,000 responders and survivors are currently enrolled in monitoring programs; more than 10,000 have been diagnosed with cancers, pulmonary issues, and severe mental health conditions, including PTSD.

NEXT SUNDAY IS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS & THE ELDERLY: After all Masses, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available to those who are eligible. Please read the catechetical article in this bulletin to learn whether you are able to receive this Sacrament. We are glad to make this Sacrament available in conjunction with the World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly. Please invite your Catholic grandparents and senior friends to Mass next Sunday to celebrate this World Day of Prayer.

WE BID A FOND FAREWELL TO SARAH PENNINGTON of our Faith Formation and *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* teams, along with our prayers and congratulations on her recent engagement which is taking her to her new home in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Sarah has been a true joy to work with, and we thank Sarah for her contributions to our Parish and Parish Youth – she will be missed. **WE ALSO WELCOME CATHY JOHANNI** to our Parish, who will be taking over our new *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* program, along with other Faith Formation duties. Cathy is the expert on *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* in our Diocese, and is sought out nationally as well. She is a blessing to our Parish and to the families and children who will be involved in this wonderful faith formation program. If you have not yet registered your children for *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd*, please check this bulletin (on page 19) for information and details.

Fr. Mike

Fr. Michael Lumpe, Pastor

"Ora et Labora" - Achieving the Harmony in Life We Desire

Article by Fr. Michael Lumpe

A Blueprint for a Joyful Life – We all desire a life that feels whole, peaceful, and filled with purpose. Yet, in the middle of our busy, modern world, we often feel like we are walking a tightrope. On one hand, we have the honorable duty to provide for ourselves and our loved ones – working hard to put a secure roof over our heads, clothes on our backs, and good food on the table. On the other hand, we have a deep spiritual hunger to grow closer to God and nourish our souls.

Too often, we look at these two paths as opposites. We tell ourselves that work takes away from our faith, or that taking time to pray means neglecting our practical duties.

But what if your daily job and your spiritual life weren't rivals? What if they were actually designed to lift each other up? As Pope Saint John Paul II beautifully reminded us in his encyclical *Laborem Exercens*: *"Work is a good thing for man – a good thing for his humanity – because through work man not only transforms nature, adapting it to his own needs, but he also achieves fulfillment as a human being and indeed, in a certain sense, becomes 'more a human being.'"*

The Wisdom of Saint Benedict – Fourteen centuries ago, Saint Benedict offered the Church a durable pattern for human happiness that is still alive today. Later Benedictine tradition captured this wisdom in the simple, uplifting phrase **"Ora et Labora"** – **"Pray and Work."** Saint Benedict understood that God did not create us to live divided lives. He did not mean for us to find God *only* when we are kneeling in a church pew, and then leave Him behind when we punch the clock at work.

Instead, Saint Benedict showed the world that providing for life's necessities is a beautiful, holy calling. In his famous *Holy Rule*, Saint Benedict taught that even the most ordinary physical tools of the monastery should be treated with the highest respect, writing that monks must: *"...look upon all utensils and goods of the monastery as sacred vessels of the altar."*

When we wrap our daily efforts in this spirit of gratitude, our work becomes a real partnership with God. Every honest task becomes an opportunity to love, to grow in holiness, and to bring a little bit of heaven into the ordinary moments of daily living.

Inspiring Ways to Build the Balance – Achieving this beautiful harmony doesn't mean adding hours of extra chores to your day. It is about infusing the time you already have with light, joy, and intention. Saint Josemaría Escrivá, a modern saint who focused entirely on finding God in everyday life, beautifully expressed this: *"Understand this well: there is something holy, something divine, hidden in the most ordinary situations, and it is up to each one of you to discover it... Sanctify your everyday life. Sanctify your work, and sanctify others through your work."*

Here is how you can step into that more balanced, inspired routine this week:

1. Begin with a Morning Offering – Before you look at your phone or start worrying about your to-do list for the day, give your day to God. A simple morning prayer changes your whole perspective: *"Lord, I offer You every phone call, every email, every chore, and every dollar earned today. Let it all be for Your glory."* This simple habit turns your entire shift into a continuous act of love.

2. Take the Next Step: Morning Prayer – Begin each day with daily Scripture using the *Lectio Divina* that I write and provide in each bulletin. Personally, attending Morning Mass is a great way to begin each day – Weekday Masses are celebrated at 6:30 and 8 AM here at Saint Brendan.

Here are some morning prayers to consider praying from your heart as you begin your day:

- **Prayer of Saint Benedict:** Gracious and Holy Father, give us the wisdom to discover You, the intelligence to understand You, the diligence to seek after You, the patience to wait for You, eyes to behold You, a heart to meditate upon You, and a life to proclaim You, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.
- **Prayer of Saint Francis of Assisi:** Lord, help me to live this day, quietly, easily; to lean on Your great strength, trustfully, respectfully; to wait for the unfolding of Your will, patiently, serenely; to meet others, peacefully, joyfully; to face tomorrow, confidently, courageously. Amen.
- **Saint Teresa of Ávila:** Lord, grant that I may always allow myself to be guided by You, always follow Your plans, and perfectly accomplish Your Holy Will. Grant that in all things, great and small, today and all the days of my life, I may do whatever You require of me. Help me respond to the slightest prompting of Your Grace, so that I may be Your trustworthy instrument for Your honor. May Your Will be done in time and in eternity by me, in me, and through me. Amen.
- **Prayer of Saint Thomas Aquinas:** Grant me grace, O Merciful God: to desire ardently, to examine prudently, to acknowledge truthfully, and to accomplish perfectly, all that is pleasing to You for the praise and glory of Your name. Amen.
- **Prayer of Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa):** Heavenly Father, You have given us the model of life in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Help us, O Loving Father, to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace and joy reign. May it be deeply contemplative, intensely Eucharistic, revived with joy. Help us to stay together in joy and sorrow in family prayer. Teach us to see Jesus in the members of our families, especially in their distressing disguise. May the Eucharistic Heart of Jesus make our hearts humble like His and help us to carry out our family duties in a Holy Way. May we love one another as God loves each one of us, more and more each day, and forgive each other's faults as You forgive our sins. Help us, O Loving Father, to take whatever You give and give whatever You take with a big smile. Immaculate Heart of Mary, cause of our joy: Pray for us. Saint Joseph: Pray for us. Holy Guardian Angels, be always with us, guide and protect us. Amen.

3. Pause in Gratitude – Throughout your workday, look for moments to pause and recognize God's goodness. This changes the entire weight of our responsibilities. As the Trappist monk Father Thomas Merton, OCSO, beautifully observed: *"To be grateful is to recognize the Love of God in everything He has given us – and He has given us everything. Every breath we draw is a gift of His love, every moment of existence is a grace, for it brings with it immense graces from Him."*

When a project goes well, when a coworker smiles, or when you complete a difficult task, take five seconds to pause and to say a quick, silent prayer of thanksgiving to God: *"Thank You, Lord,*

for giving me the strength and the ability to do this work." These little moments of gratitude act like sunlight breaking through the clouds, keeping your soul refreshed.

4. Re-Creating Ourselves Through True Recreation – True balance in the Benedictine tradition requires one more vital element that our modern world desperately needs: intentional rest. Saint Benedict's Rule gives careful attention to a humane rhythm of prayer, work, reading, meals, and sleep, reminding us that the body and mind need restoration for God's service. In our fast-paced culture, we often confuse "rest" with mindless screen scrolling or other distractions. Instead, we are called to seek genuine *recreation*.

If we look closely at that word, it means *re-creation* – the act of allowing God to rebuild, renew, and re-create us in His image. When we step away from our financial worries to enjoy a walk in God's creation, share down time with friends, read an inspiring book, or play a game with our children, we are not wasting time. We are cooperating with the Holy Spirit to restore our souls, reminding ourselves that we are beloved children of God, not "machines" built for production.

5. Creating Harmony and Peace at Home – The desire to find this peaceful balance does not stop when we leave the workplace. In fact, one of the biggest challenges modern families face is the whirlwind of children's schedules. Between overlapping sports practices, weekend tournaments, music lessons, and various extracurricular activities, families can find themselves living in their cars. While these activities can be wonderful for growth, they can also quietly consume the family routine, leaving little room for rest, family dinners, or the priority of giving praise, worship and thanksgiving to Jesus at Sunday Mass. Achieving Benedictine balance means asking, with wisdom and courage, what truly serves the good of the whole family. It means remembering that our children's spiritual formation is a lasting gift, and intentionally pacing our schedules so that activities strengthen family unity rather than crowding it out.

The beauty of *Ora et Labora* shines brightest when it is shared with the people we love. As Pope Francis regularly reminded us, our work has a direct impact on the dignity of our family life: "*Work is necessary, work is part of the plan of love of God... Work gives us dignity! Work makes us similar to God, who worked and still works, who always acts.*"

You can use this inspiring rhythm to make your family home a joyful sanctuary:

- **The Celebration of Provision:** Look at the dinner table not just as a quick meal, but as a beautiful victory lap. The food on that table is the tangible proof of God's goodness and your hard work. Turn dinner into a joyful, screen-free celebration of family life, starting with a heartfelt prayer of praise.
- **Growing Together in Service:** Instill in your children the joy of living together as a family, with each one contributing to making your house a home by looking after your home. Frame chores – doing laundry, vacuuming the floors, cleaning different rooms, cleaning the kitchen, mowing the lawn, raking leaves, shoveling snow, et cetera – as cheerful ways we take care of the beautiful blessings God has given us; show pride in a job well done!
- **The Noble Example of Saint Joseph:** Remind your family that when we work hard – as a family – to provide, we are walking in the exact footsteps of the Holy Family. Just as Saint Joseph felt immense joy providing for Jesus and Mary through his carpentry, your daily labor is a living testament of your love for one another.
- **The Family that Prays Together...:** Look for opportunities to pray together at home, such as a family Rosary after dinner with each member of the family leading a decade, or make time to come to the Parish for the Wednesday evening Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions following the 5:30 PM Mass.

When we unite our prayers and our work, life loses its heaviness. We stop just trying to survive the week, and we begin to truly thrive – experiencing the deep, lasting peace of a life completely aligned with God.

Make It Happen – This week, choose one or two small places to begin: offer your work to God, pause in gratitude, protect one or two moments of genuine rest, gather your family for prayer before and after a meal. The harmony we seek usually begins not with a dramatic change, but with small, faithful acts repeated in love.

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- 6:30 AM John & Dolores Scheel †
8:00 AM For the needs of our parishioners as they begin the week
5:30 PM Mark Petty †

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- 6:30 AM Intention Jimmy Eleuterio
8:00 AM Intention The Sizemore Family

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 6:30 AM Stephen & Josephine Puskac †
5:30 PM Fred Maldonado, Sr. †

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- 6:30 AM Don Azelvandre †
8:00 AM Bruce Selhorst †

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 6:30 AM Anna D'EHorre †
8:00 AM For al the 911 Victims

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

- 8:00 AM Irene & Tom Welch †
5:30 PM Richard Boyd †

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:15 AM Ann Yezzi †
8:45 AM For the People of St. Brendan Parish
10:45 AM Fred Laver †
5:30 PM Jean Morris †

(† Intention is for someone deceased.)



Marriage Banns

We joyfully announce the marriage of **Beck Zwilling** and **Jennilyn Martinez**! They received the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Sept. 5, 2026 at St. Brendan Church. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin their married life together.



Flowers for the Altar

In Memory of our Son
Brandon Tanner



Congratulations

ON THE BAPTISMS OF:

William Robert Ryan
Peter Thomas Washburn
Camden Paul Wozniak

Labor Day & the Virtue of Work

Article by James Bemis courtesy of the Catholic Exchange.



Fittingly, Labor Day has its roots in the union movement. The idea was the brainchild of Peter McGuire, leader of the Knights of Labor. He suggested that while there were holidays commemorating religious, civil and military observances, none represented “the industrial spirit – the great vital force of every nation.”

The first Labor Day celebration took place in New York on September 5, 1882, and featured a march around Manhattan’s Union Square by 10,000 workers. Later, there were picnics, dancing, fireworks and, naturally, speeches extolling the virtues of the working class. So successful was the event that unions called for its annual celebration, designating the first Monday in September as Labor Day.

The idea caught on. From its union roots, Labor Day began honoring the broader contribution made by all workers to life in these United States. Oregon first recognized Labor Day on February 21, 1887. Within a few years, Labor Day became a federal holiday, fulfilling Peter McGuire’s dreams.

The Church View

Catholic social teaching has long stressed the value of work in developing the dignity of each person. As the great Pope Leo XIII said in his 1891 encyclical, *Rerum Novarum*, “gainful occupations are not a mark of shame to man, but rather of respect, as they provide him with an honorable means of supporting life.”

In his 1981 encyclical *Laborem Exercens* (*On Human Work*), Pope Saint John Paul II wrote, “Work is a good thing for man – a good thing for his humanity – because through work man not only transforms nature, but he also achieves fulfillment as a human being and indeed in a sense becomes more a human being.”

Much of our thinking in this country about the value and dignity of a good day’s labor comes from what sociologist Max Weber called “the Protestant work ethic,” a term you don’t hear much anymore. Under Weber’s thesis, American settlers brought an attitude of hard work and thrift as religious and moral obligations.

For earlier generations of Americans, work was considered a calling, a way of honoring God. Thus, any legitimate work had inherent value, no matter how menial or low-paid. Laura Ingalls Wilder’s “Little House” books – among this country’s

greatest literary works – provide some of the best portrayals of the old American work ethic. Her parents’ self-reliance and industriousness would shame today’s hardest-working entrepreneurs.

Time-Honored Work Ethic

Although the welfare state has undercut much of this work ethic, belief in the value of industry in building character and responsibility remains strong. Our own self-image and spiritual well-being are still directly tied to how productively we spend our waking hours – no different than in Laura Wilder’s day.

Today, of course, Labor Day signals the final breath of summer, the end of vacation, the last bit of fun before school starts. But it’s also fitting that we pause to pay tribute to the simplest, as well as the most complex of human endeavors: the time-honored notion of good, honest labor that earns its daily bread.

A Life's Work

Pushing her cart loaded with fresh-smelling towels and sheets, tiny bars of fragrant soap and miniature shampoo bottles to a quiet stop, she raps delicately on the hotel door, taking care not to intrude upon anyone inside.

Keys jingle as she slowly unlocks the door, propping it open with a rubber stop. She enters noiselessly, moving with the grace of a wary cat.

As she leans over to make the bed, a small crucifix falls from her blouse. She smiles as she works, as if a pleasant tune is running through her head, reminding her of childhood dreams and innocent pleasures. Time moves quickly, and soon the trash is removed, the bedroom vacuumed and cleaned, and the bathroom scrubbed and freshened.

Before leaving, she adjusts the air conditioning to comfort the occupants upon their return. For them, it seems like a new room has been created out of the untidiness of the old – as if a wizard stopped by and performed his magic while they were gone.

For guests, it is magic; for her, a life’s work. Closing the door firmly, she moves on to the next room, knocking softly, not wanting to disturb.

It’s easy to take for granted the labors of those like the humble hotel maid, whose efforts make civilized life possible, and to miss their subtle skill, diligence, and just plain decency. From priests to police officers, grocery clerks to gardeners, machinists to mothers, we tend to appreciate the product without acknowledging the producer.

Once a year, though, we’re reminded to tip our caps to those who make the world better, safer, easier or just more fun. This is the great significance of Labor Day – a time to slow down, relax, and think about the debt we owe our fellow employees – and employers, as well.

JANUARY 10, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 10, 2027

Jubilee Year of St. Francis



Manner of Working

Article by Brother Casey Cole, OFM courtesy of breakinginthehabit.com

When many people think of Saint Francis, there are two things that generally come to mind: preaching to the animals and praying (if you do a quick Google image search, these are basically the only things that will come up).

After that, many will point out his poverty and will picture a begging Francis with a ripped habit among the lepers.

But what about work? Did Francis spend his entire day in prayer, then beg for food when he was hungry? Is that what we do today? That's my question for this week on *Ask Brother Casey*.

One of the first things Francis did, even before the Order was formed, was to rebuild fallen churches. Francis worked with his hands. He saw the need for manual labor and a hard day's work. This is why when the Order was actually formed and he had to write a rule of life, Francis tells the brothers that, while they should not be ashamed to beg, as "our Lord made Himself poor in this world" (ch. 6), work should come first: "Those brothers to whom the Lord has given the grace of working may work faithfully and devotedly so that, while avoiding idleness, the enemy of the soul, they do not extinguish the Spirit of holy prayer and devotion which all temporal things must attribute" (*Rule of Saint Francis*, ch. 5)

And the early friars did work, just as the poor worked. They did not have big trusts of money or salaried positions, they worked as day laborers, earning a living by their efforts in the fields and cities. That was their primary call. When this was not enough or when it seemed fit to give what they had earned to those less fortunate than themselves, they resorted to begging, taking only enough for them to survive.

Francis makes it very clear that he worked and that he desires all the brothers to work. Manual labor was an ideal and a value to him. Francis never seemed to expect of others that which he himself did not do. "Whoever is truly earnest about reform begins with self and not with others" (*Rule of Saint Francis*, p. 138). Francis seemed open to any kind of work, moreover, as long as it did not give scandal and would therefore fit in with poverty and humility. The Franciscan Thomas of Celano tells of the brothers: "During the day those who knew how labored with their hands, staying in the houses of lepers, or in other decent places, serving all humbly and devotedly. They did not wish to exercise any position from which scandal might arise, but always doing what is holy and just, honest and useful, they led all with whom they came in contact to follow their example of humility and patience (1 Celano, 39).

Today, friars continue this emphasis on work, and are known to engage in any number of careers. While other religious orders have a charism to a particular ministry, say, teaching or missionary work, the friars have never had this; we use the gifts that God has given us to spread the Gospel and care for the poor, whatever those gifts may be. For many of us, that means becoming a parish priest and earning a stipend for our work, but for others, that means any number of things: art, architecture, farming, law, formation, care of the sick and elderly, photography, cooking, cleaning, teaching, writing... there are more than a few ways to live and spread the Gospel!

"Led by the spirit of Saint Francis, the friars, like those who are truly poor, are to consider work and service as a gift of God. For this reason they are to present themselves as little ones of whom no one is afraid, because they seek to serve and not to dominate. Recognizing that work is the ordinary and chief way of providing what is needed, each and every friar should serve and 'should work faithfully and devotedly,' fleeing idleness which is 'the enemy of the soul'" (*OFM Constitutions Article 76*).

In many ways, then, this is exactly like the rest of the world: we work to make a living, only relying on asking for help when we can't make ends meet (or more likely, when we are trying to take care of the poor as well). But unlike the rest of the world, we work not to make money or to get rich, but because it is our vocation to do so. All money that we make is shared with the other friars and the poor.

Today our most distinctive task as Franciscans is to maintain that inner spirit about which Francis speaks. We need to be true to our own inner self by representing the figure of Christ. Each of us is to be brother (*frater*) to all men. We are to seek out especially those who have strayed from the Lord. We are to become the lesser (*minores*), or even the least, of all men so that we can draw all from every class and condition to the love of the Father. We, like Francis, must exemplify the emptying of Christ! Francis' own prayer captures all that has been said:

Almighty, eternal just and merciful God, grant us in our misery that we may do for your sake alone what we know you want us to do, and always want what pleases you; so that, cleansed and enlightened interiorly and fired with the ardor of the Holy Spirit, we may be able to follow in the footprints of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and so make our way to you, Most High, by your grace alone, you who live and reign in perfect Trinity and simple unity, and are glorified, God all-powerful, forever and ever. Amen (*Letter to the General Chapter*, 50-52).

Setting Up a Catholic Home Altar: Building the Domestic Church

Article by Fr. Michael Lumpe.

Growing up we had a small home altar in the corner of our family room. There my parents would gather us after dinner to read the *Children's Bible* and to do other prayers on different occasions. It seemed as if all the Catholic homes when I was growing up had a small home altar as a focal point for prayer. If you are not familiar with this, you are not alone. As with many things in the 1980s and beyond, people stopped having a small home altar.

The good news is that having a home altar is getting revisited. In a busy, anxious world, a dedicated prayer space in the home signals that faith comes first. A simple home altar becomes a refuge during stress, a gathering place for family, and a quiet witness to Jesus and our Catholic Faith. This visual center in the household is designed to orient daily individual and family life toward God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. As the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* notes, while the parish church is the center of liturgical life, personal and familial devotion flourishes in a dedicated prayer space: *"For personal prayer, this can be a 'prayer corner' with the Sacred Scriptures and icons, in order to be there, in secret, before our Father. In a Christian family, this kind of little oratory fosters prayer in common"* (CCC2691).

Choosing and Preparing the Location

You do not need an entire spare room to establish a reverent home altar. Simplicity, dignity, and accessibility for all family members are the primary goals.

- **Select a Quiet, Visible Space:** A side console table in the living room or family room, the top of a low bookshelf, a mantelpiece, a wall-mounted floating shelf, or a quiet corner of a dining room or den works well.
- **Keep It Accessible:** If you have children, keep the space low enough so they can see the images and place their own prayer intentions, or designate sturdy items within reach while keeping candles and delicate statues secure.
- **Foundation Cloth (Altar Linen):** Cover the tabletop or surface with a clean white runner or linen. You can use a classic white cloth with embroidered motifs (such as the traditional IHS monogram) or rotate colored cloths matching the liturgical calendar – purple for Advent/Lent, white/gold for Christmas/Easter, green for Ordinary Time, red for Pentecost, Apostles, Martyrs. You can also use white with blue trim or symbols for Marian specificity.

Essential Elements: What to Place on the Altar

A home altar remains simple and prayerful when anchored by a few traditional sacramentals and devotional objects. These can include:

- **The Focal Point (Crucifix):** Place a freestanding crucifix in the center or mount a traditional wall crucifix directly above the table. The crucifix draws eyes immediately to Christ's sacrifice and love.
- **Statues and Framed Art:** Add one or two reverent statues or classic fine-art prints. Popular devotions include:
 - † **Our Lady:** A statue of Our Lady of Grace, the Immaculate Heart, or Our Lady of Fatima.
 - † **Sacred Heart & Divine Mercy:** An image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus or the Divine Mercy.
 - † **Patron Saints & The Holy Family:** Statues or framed paintings of Saint Joseph, the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Holy Family, Saint Michael the Archangel, Sacred Heart of Jesus, Immaculate Heart of Mary, Chaste Heart of Saint Joseph, or any number of saints.

- **Sacred Scripture:** A Catholic Family Bible displayed open on a bookstand to the Sunday Gospel, the daily Mass readings, or the Book of Psalms invites active engagement with God's Word. You could also use the *Lectio Divina* provided in each Sunday bulletin.
- **Blessed Candles:** Flank the crucifix with two beeswax or blessed candles. Lighting them during prayer serves as a sensory reminder of Christ as the Light of the World. (*Battery-operated LED candles can be used, especially if you have young children, or if you are in a condo/ apartment/residence that does not allow open flames*).
- **Rosaries and Rosary Dish:** Keep the family's rosaries in a decorative bowl or hung neatly on small wooden pegs so they are always within reach for group prayer.
- **Holy Water Font or Container:** A small tabletop Holy Water vessel or hanging wall font allows parents and children to bless themselves upon entering the space or beginning morning/evening prayers and other devotional prayers. Placing a Holy Water font in each bedroom is also a good idea. We have Holy Water available for you to take home – it is in the large Holy Water container opposite the Church Sacristy.
- **Vase for Fresh Flowers:** A small vase of fresh blossoms placed near Mary or the crucifix expresses honor and reverence to God's creation. It need not be big or fancy – a budvase or two will do just fine.

Benefits of a Home Altar for the Family

Creating an altar sanctifies the home, reinforces religious habits, and acts as a quiet haven away from digital noise.

- **Centers the "Domestic Church":** The Second Vatican Council and the popes have repeatedly emphasized the sanctity of family life as the foundation of the Church: *"Do you say the family Rosary together? And you, fathers, do you pray with your children, with the whole family, the 'domestic community' – at least sometimes? Your example of honesty in thought and action, joined to some common family prayer, is a lesson for life for your children, an act of worship of singular value. In this way, you bring peace to your home"* (Pope Saint John Paul II, *Familiaris Consortio* 59-60).
- **Teaches Children by Habit and Reverence:** When children witness parents kneeling before an altar, reverence is caught rather than merely taught. It provides a physical reference point where children can bring small written petitions, floral crowns during the month of May, or personal drawings. *"The Christian family is the first place of education in prayer. Daily prayer and the reading of the Word of God strengthen it in charity"* (CCC 2685).
- **Provides an In-House Place of Prayer and Peace:** Having a visible place of prayer offers an immediate visual cue to pause and recollect oneself throughout a busy day. *"Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you, all things are passing away: God never changes. Patience obtains all things. Whoever has God lacks nothing; God alone suffices"* (Saint Teresa of Ávila).



How to Use the Space Daily

- **Morning & Evening Offering:** Gather for 10 minutes before leaving for school/work, before or after dinner, in the evening, or before bedtime, to make the Sign of the Cross, pray an Our Father, and recite the Guardian Angel prayer before going to bed.
- **Spiritual Reading:** This is an ideal location to read Scripture or your favorite spiritual or religious books, *Lives of the Saints*, *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, and other religious reading material.
- **Pray the Rosary:** Pray a full family Rosary, a scriptural Rosary (full or one decade at a time), or a single decade at different times throughout the day. You can also pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet and Angelus Prayer.
- **Liturgical Living:** Change small elements with the Church calendar – displaying a Nativity scene in Christmastide, a Crown of Thorns in Lent, or statues of feast day saints throughout the year.

For a definitive, book-length manual on creating a "little oratory," look for the classic book *The Little Oratory: A Beginner's Guide to Praying in the Home* by David Clayton and Leila Marie Lawler. It details the art layout, laundering cloth types, and syncing your home space to the Divine Office.



TO THE FAMILIES OF
Daniel "Dan" Francis
Richard Smith

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:

Sean Grier
Ken Weitmarshen
Margie Hiam
Jimmy Gutierrez
Curt Thayer
Bertha Torok
Ilona Owens
Joseph Rienhard
Dave Boyd
Lisa Lynch
Chris Carrino
Eliott Verrilli
Steve Strait
Tonya Prickett
Bailey Curtis
Andrea Gigliotti
Brenda Bazan
Evie Scoville
Hannah Kelley
Mary Reed
Alan LaForrest
Mariann Chilton
Amelia Black
Suzzette Briones
Andy Ryan Hesselbart
Gregg U'sellis
Esthelind Gutierrez
Sue Devore
Amiee U'sellis
Nichole Otayco
Bill Reinking
Ed Cooley
Michael Nguyen
Dixon Aarellano
Patrick Podobnik

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY:

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

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

Eucharistic Adoration

Sign up at stbrendan.weadorehim.com
Upon arrival, please sign in at the Kiosk, even if as a guest or there under an hour.

MONDAY 6 PM–10 PM

TUE./THU./FRI. 8:30 AM–10 PM
(1st Fridays, 8:30 AM–Saturday, 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, August 30, 2026 \$36,995
(Cash, checks, online giving)

Weekly Budgeted \$44,300



To give online via your PushPay account, please scan the QR code.

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

BLUE OAK PATIO & LANDSCAPE

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick

Article by Fr. William Saunders courtesy of the Catholic Education Resource Center.

QUESTION: *Recently, when I was in the hospital, a lady came to give me the Anointing of the Sick. She said she was sanctioned by the "Healing Ministry" of my parish to do this. When a priest came to anoint me, I told him that I had been anointed by a lady from my parish. He said that lay people cannot anoint, nor can deacons, so I did not receive the Sacrament? If my first anointing was not a sacrament, why does my parish have "healing ministers"?*

The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick (formerly known as *Extreme Unction*) is administered only by a priest, or, of course, a bishop. A deacon, religious sister or lay person **cannot** administer this sacrament. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* specifies, "Only priests (bishops and presbyters) are ministers of the Anointing of the Sick" (No. 1516). The *Code of Canon Law* likewise asserts, "Every priest, and only a priest, validly administers the Anointing of the Sick" (Canon 1003).

The reason for the restriction to priests is because the "anointing of the sick" and the effects of the sacrament are inherently related to the Priesthood of Christ. During His public ministry, Jesus healed people – the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf and mute, the hemorrhaging and the dying. His healing touched both body and soul. In most of the accounts of the healing miracles, the ill person comes to a deeper conviction of faith, and the witnesses know that "God has visited His people" (Luke 7:16). These healings, however, foreshadow the triumphant victory of our Lord over sin and death through His own Passion, death and Resurrection.

Our Lord entrusted His healing ministry to His apostles. He instructed the Apostles and sent them out on mission: "With that, they went off, preaching the need of repentance. They expelled many demons, anointed the sick with oil, and worked many cures" (Mk 6:12-13). At the Ascension, Jesus echoed this instruction to the apostles and declared that "the sick upon whom they lay their hands will recover" (Mk 16:18). At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit conferred great gifts upon the Church, including healing; St. Paul recognized, "Through the Spirit one receives faith; by the same Spirit another is given the gift of healing, and still another miraculous powers" (1 Cor 12:9-10).

The apostle St. James provided a clear teaching regarding the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick: "Is there anyone sick among you? He should ask for the priests of the Church. They in turn are to pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. This prayer uttered in faith will reclaim the one who is ill, and the Lord will restore him to health. If he has committed any sins, forgiveness will be his" (James 5:14-15). In all, the Church has been continually mindful of our Lord's command, "Heal the sick" (Matthew 10:8). *(The Council of Trent cited these passages to refute the charges of the Protestant leaders that Christ had not instituted this sacrament and had not conferred His healing ministry to priests.)*

The administration of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is also restricted to a Priest because the major effect is tied to the ministry of Priests, namely, the forgiveness of sins. The sacrament not only provides the sick person with the forgiveness of sins but also the completion of Christian penance (Council of Trent, "Doctrine on the Sacrament of Extreme Unction").

Given this basis, a deacon or lay person who acts as "healing minister" or "hospital chaplain" should never give the impression that he or she is administering the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. They should never anoint a person with an oil, blessed or otherwise, that would suggest that he or she is anointing the person with the Oil of the Infirm, which is used in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. We must never mislead a person, albeit unintentionally, into thinking that he or she has received the graces of this most important sacrament of healing, when in fact he or she has not. A person's soul could be in jeopardy because of some symbolic anointing that does nothing.

We must be very careful never to do anything that simulates a sacrament. When a loved one is seriously ill or near death, please call for a Catholic priest who alone can administer the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, which provides graces for healing both body and soul.

A Prayer for the Chronically Ill

Lord, help people who are chronically ill with the quiet reassurance of Your eternal love. Seeing many days of struggle and pain ahead, it is easy to lose sight of the good in life and to be filled with feelings of anger, fear, depression, and anxiety. Lord help all people with chronic illnesses to develop and retain hope, through their faith in You, that their lives can improve. Help those who suffer to help themselves through acceptance of their illness and through the many organizations, support groups, and self-care techniques now available. Help those who care for people with chronic illnesses to have true compassion as well as skill in treatment. Help all of us to become more knowledgeable about chronic illnesses and more aware of the ways we can love and care for those who suffer. Amen

A Prayer in Time of Sickness or Trial

O good Jesus, I accept willingly this sickness [or trial] which it has pleased You to lay upon me. I confide all my pains to Your Sacred Heart, and beg You to unite them with Your bitter sufferings, and thus perfect them by making them Your own. Since I cannot render You the praise due to You because of the multitude of my sorrows and afflictions, I ask You to praise God the Father for all I suffer, with the same tribute of praise You offered Him when Your agony on the Cross was at its height. As you thanked Him with all the powers of Your soul for all the sufferings and injustice which He willed You should endure, so, I pray You, give Him thanks for my trials also. Offer my sufferings, physical and spiritual, to Him together with Your most holy pains to His eternal honor and glory. Amen.

Anointing of the Sick – Sept. 12 & 13

Given next Sunday is World Day of Prayer for Grandparents and the Elderly, the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available for those who are eligible at Saint Brendan the Navigator Parish immediately following all Masses Sept. 12 & 13. Also, join us for a special Coffee & Donuts after the 8:45 & 10:45 AM Masses to honor all grandparents.



FROM THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

The Rite of Anointing tells us there is no need to wait until a person is at the point of death to receive the Sacrament. A careful judgment about the serious nature of the illness is sufficient. The Sacrament may be repeated if the sick person recovers after the anointing but becomes ill once again, or if, during the same illness, the person's condition becomes more serious. A person should be anointed before surgery when a dangerous illness is the reason for the intervention (*cf. Rite of Anointing, Introduction, nos. 8-10*).

Moreover, "old people may be anointed if they are in weak condition even though no dangerous illness is present. Sick children may be anointed if they have sufficient use of reason to be comforted by this sacrament... [The faithful] should be encouraged to ask for the anointing, and, as soon as the time for the anointing comes, to receive it with faith and devotion, not misusing the sacrament by putting it off" (*Rite of Anointing, nos. 11, 12, 13*).

Community Calendar

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL / PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

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
6:30 PM	OCIA Immaculate Conception Cohort Mtg.	Davidson, Room B
7:00 PM	OCIA Vigil Cohort Meeting	Davidson, Room A

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

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
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00 PM	Adoration with Confession	Church
7:00 PM	Vine Formation	School Library
7:00 PM	Young Adult Men's Group	Wellnitz, Room 1
7:00 PM	Young Adult Women's Group	Off-Site
7:15 PM	Parish Choir Rehearsal	Church

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM	Women's AM Studies: Table Leaders Mtg.	Davidson, Room A
1:00 PM	Grief Support Group Luncheon (Off-site)	La Chatelaine, Dublin
6:30 PM	Communion & Liberation School of Cmty.	Wellnitz, Room 2
7:00 PM	Women's PM Studies: Table Leaders Mtg.	Davidson, Rms. A/B

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:30 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
5:30 PM	M.A.S.T. First Friday Book Club	Wellnitz, Room 1

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

5:30 AM	Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry	Campus Parking Lot
6:30 AM	Men's Ministry: Esto Vir Meeting	Davidson, Rms. 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, SEPTEMBER 13 SPECIAL SECOND COLLECTION FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM, 5:30 PM	Sunday Masses	Church
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	POD Nursery	Childcare Center
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	Coffee & Donuts	Davidson, Rms. A & B
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Adoration Chapel
9:45 AM	Continued Growth Family Sessions	School Gym
12:00 PM	Baptism Preparation Class	Wellnitz, Rms. 1 & 2
12:00 PM	Baptisms	Church
6:30 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
6:30 PM	The ROOTS Kickoff	Campus Outdoors
6:30 PM	The VINE Kickoff	Wellnitz Parking Lot
6:30 PM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
6:45 PM	Sacrament Preparation Parent Night	Church & Davidson Rooms A & B

**Remembering, Honoring & Praying
on this 25th Anniversary of 9/11**

World Trade Center – <https://www.911memorial.org/>

Flight 93 – <https://www.nps.gov/flni/index.htm>

Pentagon – <https://www.pentagonmemorial.org/>

MESSAGE OF POPE (SAINT) JOHN PAUL II

Delivered on September 12, 2001 + Saint Peter's Square + Vatican City

I cannot begin this audience without expressing my profound sorrow at the terrorist attacks which yesterday brought death and destruction to America, causing thousands of victims and injuring countless people. To the President of the United States and to all American citizens I express my heartfelt sorrow. In the face of such unspeakable horror we cannot but be deeply disturbed. I add my voice to all the voices raised in these hours to express indignant condemnation, and I strongly reiterate that the ways of violence will never lead to genuine solutions to humanity's problems.

Yesterday was a dark day in the history of humanity, a terrible affront to human dignity. After receiving the news, I followed with intense concern the developing situation, with heartfelt prayers to the Lord. How is it possible to commit acts of such savage cruelty? The human heart has depths from which schemes of unheard-of ferocity sometimes emerge, capable of destroying in a moment the normal daily life of a people. But faith comes to our aid at these times when words seem to fail. Christ's word is the only one that can give a response to the questions which trouble our spirit. Even if the forces of darkness appear to prevail, those who believe in God know that evil and death do not have the final say. Christian hope is based on this truth; at this time our prayerful trust draws strength from it.

With deeply felt sympathy I address myself to the beloved people of the United States in this moment of distress and consternation, when the courage of so many men and women of good will is being sorely tested. In a special way I reach out to the families of the dead and the injured, and assure them of my spiritual closeness. I entrust to the mercy of the Most High the helpless victims of this tragedy, for whom I offered Mass this morning, invoking upon them eternal rest. May God give courage to the survivors; may he sustain the rescue-workers and the many volunteers who are presently making an enormous effort to cope with such an immense emergency. I ask you, dear brothers and sisters, to join me in prayer for them. Let us beg the Lord that the spiral of hatred and violence will not prevail. May the Blessed Virgin, Mother of Mercy, fill the hearts of all with wise thoughts and peaceful intentions.

Today, my heartfelt sympathy is with the American people, subjected yesterday to inhuman terrorist attacks which have taken the lives of thousands of innocent human beings and caused unspeakable sorrow in the hearts of all men and women of good will. Yesterday was indeed a dark day in our history, an appalling offence against peace, a terrible assault against human dignity.

I invite you all to join me in commending the victims of this shocking tragedy to Almighty God's eternal love. Let us implore his comfort upon the injured, the families involved, all who are doing their utmost to rescue survivors and help those affected.

I ask God to grant the American people the strength and courage they need at this time of sorrow and trial.

PRAYER

***O Lord Jesus, remember our deceased and suffering brothers before Your Father.
Remember us also, as we begin to pray with Your words: Our Father . . .***

***O Almighty and merciful God, You cannot be understood by one who sows discord,
You cannot be accepted by one who loves violence: look upon our painful human condition
tried by cruel acts of terror and death, comfort Your children and open our hearts to hope,
so that our time may again know days of serenity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.***

Amen.

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 September is dedicated to Our Lady of Sorrows

"The real hope is not in something we think we can do, but in God, who is making something good out of it in some way we cannot see." ~FATHER THOMAS MERTON, OCSO

Monday, September 7 ~ Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time
~ Labor Day ~

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:6-11 On a certain sabbath Jesus went into the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. The scribes and the Pharisees watched him closely to see if he would cure on the sabbath so that they might discover a reason to accuse him. But he realized their intentions and said to the man with the withered hand, "Come up and stand before us." And he rose and stood there. Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful to do good on the sabbath rather than to do evil, to save life rather than to destroy it?" Looking around at them all, he then said to him, "Stretch out your hand." He did so and his hand was restored. But they became enraged and discussed together what they might do to Jesus.

Meditation: There go the scribes and Pharisees again with their legalistic approach to life. Here we see Jesus coming upon a man "whose right hand was withered." Jesus having the ability to cure the ill and infirm did just that, even though it was the sabbath. Jesus, out of love for the man, cured him; this was not an act of work, but an act of love. But the scribes and Pharisees were foolish to try, yet again, to "discover a reason and accuse him." Sunday is the sabbath for us. Would we refuse to help someone in need on Sunday simply because it is the Lord's day? I hope not! Doing work that is unnecessary on Sunday is one matter, but to ignore the needs of someone whom we can help is altogether a different situation.

Prayer: O God, who through human labor never cease to perfect and govern the vast work of creation, listen to the supplications of your people and grant that all men and women may find work that befits their dignity, joins them more closely to one another and enables them to serve their neighbor. 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: Why do Christians celebrate Sunday as the *Lord's Day*? Most importantly, we celebrate it to commemorate God's work of redemption in Jesus Christ and the new work of creation accomplished through Christ's death and resurrection (2 Corinthians 5:17). God's action is a model for us. If God "rested and was refreshed" on the seventh day, we, too, ought to take our sabbath rest as a way of expressing honor to God for all that he has done for us. Such "rest" however does not exempt us from our love for our neighbor. If we truly love the Lord above all else, then the love of God will overflow to love of neighbor as well. Saint Augustine of Hippo once said: "The charity of truth seeks holy leisure; the necessity of charity accepts just work." But how can we make Sunday a day holy to the Lord? First, by attending Mass, giving fitting praise and worship to God our Father and to be nourished in both word and sacrament. Second, refrain from unnecessary work and from activities that hinder the worship we owe to God. We can also perform works of mercy, such as humble service of the sick, the infirm, and the elderly. And we ought to seek appropriate relaxation of mind and body as well. The joy of the Lord's Day is a great gift to refresh and strengthen us in our love of God and of neighbor (Nehemiah 8:10). Do you know the joy of the Lord and do you find rest and refreshment in celebrating the Lord's Day?

Tuesday, September 8 ~ Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time
Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Holy Gospel: Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 The Book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham became the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers. Judah became the father of Perez and Zerah, whose mother was Tamar. Perez became the father of Hezron, Hezron the father of Ram, Ram the father of Amminadab. Amminadab became the father of Nahshon, Nahshon the father of Salmon, Salmon the father of Boaz, whose mother was Rahab. Boaz became the father of Obed, whose mother was Ruth. Obed became the father of Jesse, Jesse the father of David the king.

David became the father of Solomon, whose mother had been the wife of Uriah. Solomon became the father of Rehoboam, Rehoboam the father of Abijah, Abijah the father of Asaph. Asaph became the father of Jehoshaphat, Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, Joram the father of Uzziah. Uzziah became the father of Jotham, Jotham the father of Ahaz, Ahaz the father of Hezekiah. Hezekiah became the father of Manasseh, Manasseh the father of Amos, Amos the father of Josiah. Josiah became the father of Jechoniah and his brothers at the time of the Babylonian exile.

After the Babylonian exile, Jechoniah became the father of Shealtiel, Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel, Zerubbabel the father of Abiud. Abiud became the father of Eliakim, Eliakim the father of Azor, Azor the father of Zadok. Zadok became the father of Achim, Achim the father of Eliud, Eliud the father of Eleazar. Eleazar became the father of Matthan, Matthan the father of Jacob, Jacob the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Of her was born Jesus who is called the Christ.

Now this is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet:

Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us."

Meditation: People often ask about the significance of Matthew's genealogy, listing names of many unfamiliar people. This genealogy is arranged in three sections portraying three great stages in the spiritual history of the people of the old covenant. The first stage begins with Abraham, the father of the chosen people, and ends with David, God's anointed King. The second stage takes us to the exile of God's people in Babylon. This is the period of Israel's shame and disaster due to her unfaithfulness. The third stage takes us to Jesus, God's anointed Messiah. Jesus the Messiah is the direct descent of Abraham and David, and the rightful heir to David's throne. God in his mercy fulfilled his promises to Abraham and to David that he would send a Savior and a King to rule over the house of Israel and to deliver them from their enemies.

Prayer: Impart to your servants, we pray, O Lord, the gift of heavenly grace, that the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin may bring deeper peace to those for whom the birth of her Son was the dawning of salvation. 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: On this Feast we are called to remember that Mary was asked to assume in faith a burden of tremendous responsibility. It had never been heard of before that a child could be born without a natural father. Mary was asked to accept this miraculous exception to the laws of nature. That required faith and trust. Second, Mary was not yet married. Pregnancy outside of wedlock was not tolerated in those days. Mary was only espoused to Joseph, and such an engagement had to last for a whole year. She was asked to assume a great risk. She could have been rejected by Joseph, by her family, by all her own people. Mary knew that Joseph and her family would not understand without revelation from God. She nonetheless believed and trusted in God's promises. Joseph, a just and God-fearing man, believed the message given to him to take Mary as his wife and to accept the child in her womb as the promised Messiah. Like Mary, Joseph is a model of faith for us. He is a faithful witness and servant of God's unfolding plan of redemption. Are you willing to trust and obey the Lord on the same level and in the same manner that Mary and Joseph did? If not, why not?

Wednesday, September 9 ~ Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time **Memorial: Saint Peter Claver, Priest**

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:20-26 Raising his eyes toward his disciples Jesus said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for the Kingdom of God is yours. Blessed are you who are now hungry, for you will be satisfied.

Blessed are you who are now weeping, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude and insult you, and denounce your name as evil on account of the Son of Man.

Rejoice and leap for joy on that day! Behold, your reward will be great in heaven. For their ancestors treated the prophets in the same way. But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

But woe to you who are filled now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who laugh now, for you will grieve and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for their ancestors treated the false prophets in this way."

Meditation: Luke's version of *The Beatitudes* is less familiar than that of Matthew (Mt 5:1-12a) but the message remains the same. When you encounter misfortune, grief, or tragic loss, how do you respond? With fear or with faith? With passive resignation or with patient hope and trust in God? We know from experience that no one can escape all of the inevitable trials of life - pain, suffering, sickness, and death. When Jesus began to teach his disciples he gave them a "way of happiness" that transcends every difficulty and trouble that can weigh us down with grief and despair. Jesus began his sermon on the mount by addressing the issue of where true happiness can be found. The word *beatitude* literally means *happiness* or *blessedness*. Jesus' way of happiness, however, demands a transformation from within - a conversion of heart and mind which can only come about through the gift and working of the Holy Spirit. At some point in our lives we come to recognize that true happiness can only be fulfilled through God and his Son, Jesus Christ. But in relation to today's Gospel, how can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? If we want to be filled with the joy and happiness of heaven, then we must empty ourselves of all that would shut God out of our hearts. Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God alone as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and oppression.

Prayer: O God, who made Saint Peter Claver a slave of slaves and strengthened him with wonder charity and patience as he came to their help, grant, through his intercession, that, seeking the things of Jesus Christ, we may love our neighbor in deeds and in truth. 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: God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises his disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles and hardships they can expect in this world. Saint Thomas Aquinas once said: "*No person can live without joy. That is why someone deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures.*" Do you know the joy and happiness of hungering and thirsting for God, and God alone? Explore this, and you will discover a life of true joy, peace and happiness.

Thursday, September 10 ~ Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 6:27-38 Jesus said to his disciples: "To you who hear I say, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who mistreat you. To the person who strikes you on one cheek, offer the other one as well, and from the person who takes your cloak, do not withhold even your tunic. Give to everyone who asks of you, and from the one who takes what is yours do not demand it back. Do to others as you would have them do to you. For if you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? Even sinners do the same. If you lend money to those from whom you expect repayment, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, and get back the same amount. But rather, love your enemies and do good to them, and lend expecting nothing back; then your reward will be great and you will be children of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as also your Father is merciful.

"Stop judging and you will not be judged. Stop condemning and you will not be condemned. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give and gifts will be given to you; a good measure, packed together, shaken down, and overflowing, will be poured into your lap. For the measure with which you measure will in return be measured out to you."

Meditation: What makes Christians different and what makes Christianity distinct from any other religion? It is *grace* - treating others, not as they deserve, but as God wishes them to be treated, with love, kindness, compassion, mercy and forgiveness. God is good to the unjust as well as the just. His love embraces saint and sinner alike. God seeks our highest good and teaches us to seek the greatest good of others, even those who hate and abuse us. Our love for others, even those who are ungrateful and selfish towards us, must be marked by the same kindness and mercy which God has shown to us. It is easier to

show kindness and mercy when we can expect to benefit from doing so. How much harder when we can expect nothing in return.

Prayer: O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, help us to imitate your Son, Jesus Christ, so that we may show love, compassion, mercy and forgiveness to others as he shows to us. 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: Saint Augustine of Hippo describes in a sermon Jesus double precept to *give and forgive* as two essential wings of prayer: "*Forgive and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given you.* These are the two wings of prayer on which it flies to God. Pardon the offender what has been committed, and give to the person in need. Let us graciously and fervently perform these two types of almsgiving, that is, giving and forgiving, for we in turn pray the Lord to give us things and not to repay our evil deeds."

**Friday, September 11 ~ Twenty-Third Week in Ordinary Time
+ Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of 9/11 + Remember, Honor, Pray**

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD. AND LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.

MAY THE SOULS OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED, THROUGH THE MERCY OF GOD, REST IN PEACE.

Holy Gospel: John 6:37-40 Jesus said to the crowds: "Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me. And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

Prayer of then-Pope John Paul II for the Victims of 9/11: Almighty Father, we commend the victims of this shocking tragedy to Your eternal love. We implore Your comfort upon the injured, the families and friends involved, and all who are doing their utmost to rescue survivors and help those affected. We ask You, Father, to grant the American people the strength and courage they need at this time of sorrow and trial. We beg you, Jesus, to send Your legions of heavenly Angels, led by Saint Michael the Archangel, to protect the United States from additional attempts of destruction. If supernatural means are required to foil these plots, we humbly implore you to suspend natural laws to save innocent lives and souls. Holy Spirit, we are a sinful nation, and we beg you to send us Your authentic spirit of repentance. We are also a nation capable of great charity and justice, so look not on our sins, Heavenly Spirit of Mercy, but upon our sorrow and resolve to turn from evil, to fight evil, and procure victory over evil. Illuminate the minds and souls of our citizens and especially our leaders so we can see the error of our ways, and give us the sweet grace required to turn to God with pure hearts. Immaculate Mary, Humble Virgin, Mother of our Church, and protectress of our nation, we ask you to go before the Throne of the Holy Trinity and intercede for the United States at this critical juncture in our history. Gently place your mantle upon our land, upon our people, upon our allies, upon our fighting men and women, as you once wrapped our Savior in swaddling clothes in a manger. We have no words that rightly express what we on earth cannot understand or ever truly fathom, the Love of God, so we turn with childlike faith to the words that Jesus Himself taught us to pray: "Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen!"

Saint Michael the Archangel, *protect us!*

Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, *pray for us.*

Saint Katharine Drexel and Saint Elizabeth Anne Seton, *pray for us.*

Saint Thomas More, Patron of Politicians, *pray for us.*

Saint Joseph, *pray for us.*

Immaculate Mary, Patroness of the United States, *pray for us.*

Jesus Christ, King of Kings, *have mercy on us!*

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From the Organ Bench...



My journey in church music began at 16 when I walked into church, where my minister met me at the door with a hymnal. He said, "Here's the hymn list; pick something to play for prelude, and something to play for postlude. I'll see you upstairs in ten minutes for prayer." I about had a heart attack!

Since then, God has led me on a grace-filled path... meeting and marrying a Catholic, converting to the Catholic faith, serving as the pianist for the Newman Center (St. Thomas More) at Purdue University, working at a multicultural parish in Georgia, serving a Franciscan parish in Illinois, and ministering to several parishes and a campus ministry here in Columbus. Along the journey, I have worked with some amazing priests, musicians, cantors, and volunteer choir members. Most recently, at Our Lady of Peace, my role was the Director of Liturgy & Music. I'm looking forward to my new role here at St. Brendan where I can concentrate my efforts solely on music.

For me, music at Mass is always meant to support the prayer of the parish and draw us more deeply into the Eucharist. Music is not the star of the Mass – the Eucharist is. I like to tell my choirs that in terms of music for Mass, the choir is like the Pips and the Eucharist is Gladys. (If you don't recognize that music group; then I guess I am dating myself!).

I look forward to sharing my gifts in service to the parish and school communities at St. Brendan!

~ Julie Cottrill

OCIA Easter Vigil Cohort Begins Sept. 8

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. Our Easter Vigil Cohort begins September 8 and meets Tuesdays, 6:30-8:30 PM in Davidson Room A through Easter. If you need a sponsor, we have several available to journey with you! If interested, email Wendy at wferkany@stbrendans.net or, fill out an OCIA form found at the Welcome Desk and turn it in to the Parish Office.

Cub Scout First Pack Meeting, Sept. 11

St. Brendan Cub Scout Pack 859 has their first fall pack meeting on Friday, September 11, 7-8 PM in the School Cafeteria. St. Brendan Cub Scouts is open to all boys in grades K-5 (as of fall, 2026). Pack meetings are once a month during school and the dens meet every other week. If you missed our sign-up event held on August 26 or if you have questions, contact our Cubmaster, Caleb Longgear at caleblonggear@gmail.com



Seniors NOW (NAVIGATING OUR WAY) FOR AGES 65+

SEPTEMBER 14, MONDAY, 12 PM – Luncheon at Weaver Park, Norwich Pavilion in Hilliard. Bring your lunch, drink and a chair.

SEPTEMBER 16, WEDNESDAY, 9:30 AM – Anthony Thomas Chocolates day trip followed by lunch at Freddy's, 1719 Hilliard Rome Rd. Meet at Saint Brendan parking lot. RSVP Jerry at 614-805-6792 or PRICEJ62@gmail.com

Next Dementia Series Session, Sept. 17

Explore the medical, safety, emotional and community-resource aspects of Alzheimer's disease and dementia. All are welcome to this informative free series, 5:30-7 PM, 3rd Thursday monthly through November in the School Library. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/dementia4part> or via to register or scan the QR code. Questions? Email Nell at doconnell@stbrendans.net



SEPTEMBER 17: Kelly Lambert: *Emotional Aspects of Being a Caregiver*

OCTOBER 15: Tonya Kreml: *Safety at Home While Caregiving*

NOVEMBER 19: Laurie Schier: *Resources Beyond the Home*

Support Catholic Radio & Fr. Sam on Sept. 18!

Fr. Sam is taking aim on Friday, September 18 at 3:45-4:30 PM in the St. Gabriel Radio AM 820 Priest Axe Throwing Challenge to support local Catholic radio AM 820. Every early donation earns extra throws for the participating priests. Show your support for Fr. Sam and the mission of Catholic radio across Central Ohio by making a gift today at StGabrielRadio.com. Help Fr. Sam hit the bullseye while keeping faithful Catholic programming on the air!

The Melchizedek Project Begins Sept. 28

Is Jesus calling you to become a priest? Every young Catholic man should ask themselves that, and The Melchizedek Project can help you to discern the answer. The first meeting at St. Brendan will be Monday, Sept. 28, 6-7:30 PM in the School Library (dinner provided). Learn more via the QR code or contact Fr. Sam at frseverance@stbrendans.net to let him know you plan to attend. Meeting dates the rest of the season are: Oct. 19, Nov. 30, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 15 and April 26.



SVDP 5th Sunday Collection Is Rescheduled for September 12/13

Due to the emergency "Spirit of Hope" diocesan 2nd Collection last weekend, our 5th Sunday Collection for our St. Vincent de Paul Society, originally scheduled for last weekend will be NEXT weekend instead, September 12 & 13, to help those close to our parish who are in need. You may also mail your gift to the church office, attention to: St. Vincent de Paul, 4475 Dublin Rd., Hilliard, OH 43026 or, make your gift online via the QR code.



Elizabeth Ministry Updates...

The Elizabeth Ministry's final **Moms at the Metro** at Glacier Ridge Metro Park on **September 19** has been canceled. Join the Elizabeth Ministry in the Childcare Center for these monthly events: **Playgroup** on the first Tuesdays at 9:30 AM, **The Upper Room** on third Tuesdays at 9:30 AM, and **FIAT Hour** (Adoration time for moms while their kids are watched in the Childcare Center) on fourth Fridays, 10-11 AM. Questions? Contact Regina at thelonggears@gmail.com

Weekly/Monthly Parish Ministries

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

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

St. Brendan Young Adults – Those in their 20s & 30s meet monthly on 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7-9 PM. Women meet off-campus. Men meet on campus in Wellnitz Hall, Room 1. To join, email Jorden at jfreydesigns@gmail.com

SVDP Sandwich Making for the Homeless – Meet in Wellnitz Hall twice monthly: First Thursdays, 10 AM and 3rd Thursdays, 7 PM.

Grief Support Study – Meets the 1st Sundays monthly at 7 PM in Wellnitz, Room 1 to learn grief care information and support. Questions? Email Nell at doconnell@stbrendans.net

Attn. Men: Join Kairos Prison Ministry!

Kairos Prison Ministry is looking for men to bring the love and grace of Jesus Christ to the residents of London Correctional Institute. Retreat weekend is Nov. 5-8 and formation meetings begin Sept. 25. To help bring men to Christ in a holy experience, contact Tim: 614-312-7388, tireno04@gmail.com or, Chuck: 224-612-1557 chuck436@att.net

Men's Fall Esto Vir Scripture Studies

Questions? Email Grant Rice at ricekris8813@att.net

Saturday morning Esto Vir (Be a Man) Starting September 12 at 6:30 AM in the Davidson Rooms, we will gather to break bread, build community, bolster our knowledge of faith, and pray. Men will experience content from *Jesus - The Way, the Truth, and the Life*, *The Chosen* season 5, and *Sharing Our Story* sessions.

Tuesday morning study – Join us Tuesdays, starting September 8 at 6:30 AM in the Davidson Rooms, for in-depth study series on Scripture, early Church Fathers, lives of the saints and fellowship.

St. Brendan and the Knights of Columbus host date nights:
6:30-8PM
Sept. 18, Oct. 23, Nov. 20, Jan. 15, Feb. 12, March 12, April 16, May 21

Join us for Date Night, Sept. 18

Date Night is back! St. Brendan and the Knights of Columbus host *Date Night for Young Couples/Young Parents* to build strong Catholic marriages, families and friendships. Share stories and learn from other Catholic couples about the joys and challenges of marriage and raising children. A strong, loving marital relationship in Christ is the cornerstone of a lifelong joyful family life. We'll take care of the kids in the Pod Nursery (6 mos.-5 years) while you enjoy a lovely dinner, on the house, and friendship with other couples in the Davidson Rooms on Friday, September 18, 6:30-8 PM. **RSVP by September 11** to Chuck Heinlen: chuck436@att.net, 224-612-1557.

2026 FOOD TRUCK TAILGATE
OSU @ USC
SAVE THE DATE 10/31
FOOD, FOOTBALL, AND FAMILY FUN!



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Begins Sept. 15

St. Brendan Parish is offering the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* method of faith formation for the three to six-year-old children of our parish beginning this fall, September 15 & 16. The classes are in a special environment for the children, which is called **the Atrium**. Two CGS class days/times will be offered this fall for children 3-6 years old at St. Brendan, held in the Carter Center on **Tuesdays, 5:30-7 PM** and **Wednesdays, 10 AM-12 PM**. Children must be fully potty-trained. **Our enrollment priorities are:**

1. Families already registered for Family Faith Formation or St. Brendan School
2. Other parishioners
3. Non-parishioners

Registration is open at <https://bit.ly/stb2026cgs> or via the QR code below. Our capacity per class is 10 children. If we are able to offer additional times during the week, we will let you know via email. If our current offering does not work for your family's schedule, please reach out to let us know what would work better for you.



For more information about the *Catechesis of the Good Shepherd* method of faith formation, visit www.CGSUSA.org. Questions? Email Jacob Doran at jdoran@stbrendans.net, Cathy Johanni at cjohanni@stbrendans.net, or call 614-876-1272.



Families with children grades 1-8, not attending a Catholic school should enroll in Family Faith Formation. Register via the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/FFFstB> (late fees now apply.) Questions? Call Jacob Doran at 614-876-1272, ext. 231 or email jdoran@stbrendans.net



FAMILY FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEERS – No need for a theology degree to help with religious education. All you need is a love for Jesus, the Church, and a desire to share His love with others. Our world doesn't offer the love of Christ, but you can. Anyone in sixth grade or older can help! We need table leaders for parent small group discussion, too. Even if helping with a children's session isn't something you're interested in, we still need help creating hospitality and intercession teams.

Please pray about how God is calling you to support other Parish families (18+ must be Safe Environment compliant). Contact Jacob Doran at jdoran@stbrendans.net or 614-876-1272 for more details.



Reserved Spots for 2027 Now Open!

Damascus Summer Camp 2027 Pre-Order registration opened up on September 1. Because our parish placed a Pre-Order, our campers have early access to our reserved spaces before general registration opens. Register by October 31, 5 PM. After that, any unregistered Pre-Order spaces will be released and made available the general public.

Week 1: June 6-11 (Group Registration Discount Code is **BREHILL27**)

High School (grades 9-12): <https://tinyurl.com/HSdamascus>

Middle School (grades 6-8): <https://tinyurl.com/MSdamascus>

St. Brendan is offering a \$100 sponsorship for 90 families. Follow the instructions below to redeem our parish's sponsorship.

1. Go through the registration process
2. When asked about payment, select "Pay in full"
3. Type the code into the promo code box
4. Click the checkbox next to your reservation
5. Enter payment information which is a requirement for the system
6. Submit the registration

Questions? Contact Jacob Doran at jdoran@stbrendans.net

Roots & Vine Youth Groups Kick Off Next Sunday!

ROOTS FOR MIDDLESCHOOLERS (GRADES 6-8)

Join middleschoolers on Sunday nights, 6:30-8:30 PM. Questions? Contact Anna Marino at amarino@stbrendans.net
September 13: Roots Kickoff – St. Brendan outdoor campus
September 20: "Hearing God in Prayer" – Davidson Rooms
September 27: "Identity in Christ" – School Gym

VINE FOR HIGHSCHOOLERS (GRADES 9-12)

Join highschoolers on Sunday nights, 6:30-8:30 PM. Questions? Contact Kara Shand at kshand@stbrendans.net
September 13: Vine Kickoff – St. Brendan lower parking lot
September 20: "Why Care About God?" – School Gym
September 27: "How to Talk to God" – Davidson Rooms

Fall Adult Scripture Studies

Sign up for one of our fall adult studies listed down below by visiting our Adult Faith Formation parish web page at <https://tinyurl.com/ff4adults> or by scanning the QR code.



Women's CHOSEN, Season 5: Sept. 17

Season 5 of *The Chosen* covers the first five days of Jesus' final week in Jerusalem during Passover. Jesus enters to cheering crowds, cleanses the Temple, delivers final public teachings, shares the Last Supper with His apostles, and is betrayed and arrested in Gethsemane. This 8-week study is for women only. (Men: see column to the left for *Esto Vir's CHOSEN* for men.) The study begins **Thursday, September 17** (no session Oct. 29). The **AM Session is 8:45-10:45** and the **PM Session is 6:45-8:45** in the Davidson Rooms (babysitting provided for AM session). No cost for materials. Register by **Sept. 10**. Questions? Email Wendy Ferkany at wferkany@stbrendans.net



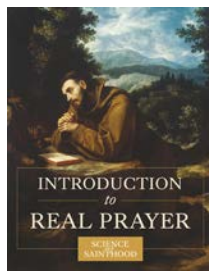
The Bible Timeline: Begins Sept. 21

This Story of Salvation is a 25-week co-ed study, **Mondays beginning Sept. 21, 7 PM** in Wellnitz, Room 1. Watch videos featuring prominent Bible Teacher Jeff Cavins followed by discussion led by Bryan Moore. This study takes you on a fascinating journey through the entire Bible, focusing on the fourteen books that present the basic narrative of salvation history. Using the unique color-coded Bible Timeline Learning System, you will identify the twelve timeline periods and the events important in each one. Materials cost is \$30. Questions? Email Bryan at chov911@gmail.com



Intro to Real Prayer: Begins Sept. 22

Offered again! This 9-week co-ed video, discussion and prayer series begins **Tuesday, Sept. 22 at 7 PM** in the School Library. Hosted by evangelist Matthew Leonard, *Introduction to Real Prayer* introduces participants to the basics of prayer, its necessity, and how to make it a part of our daily lives. Matthew guides viewers through the ins and outs of vocal, meditative, and contemplative prayer, showing not just what they are, but how to do them. He also covers the three stages of the spiritual life, as well as steps to make progress in your spiritual life, in an easy to understand style. No cost. Questions? Email Bryan Moore at chov911@gmail.com



Intro to Real Prayer: Testimonial

We are meant to have a life of prayer. I think intuitively all Catholics know this. But what does this mean? How do we "really" pray? Isn't receiving the sacraments enough to have a close relationship with God? I believe the answer to this question is "no". While the sacraments are very important, we are also called to a life of prayer. Imagine having a relationship with your best friend and you never spoke to each other. This would be ridiculous. The same applies with God. We must speak with Him in order to have a close relationship with Him.

In chapter seven of the Gospel of Matthew, when addressing those who will be able to enter the kingdom Jesus says, *"On that day many will say to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many deeds of power in your name?' 23 Then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; go away from me, you evildoers.'"*

We need to make sure God knows us. Of course, God knows us. He knows us better than we know ourselves (see Psalm 139). However, we must develop a relationship with Him by having a personal dialogue with Him. When describing prayer, St. Teresa of Ávila described it as: *"Mental prayer is nothing else than a close sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us."* Again, the stress is on a relationship between friends.

If this weren't enough, the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2650) highlights the discipline needed to cultivate this practice: *"Prayer cannot be reduced to the spontaneous outpouring of interior impulse: in order to pray, one must have the will to pray. Nor is it enough to know what the Scriptures reveal about prayer: one must also learn how to pray."*

We are called to "learn how to pray". The upcoming *Introduction to Real Prayer* class (beginning on September 22) will teach you how to pray. This program changed my prayer life and subsequently, changed my life. This course is a "nuts and bolts" approach to prayer, teaching us the importance of prayer but more importantly, **how** to pray. From basic vocal, petitionary prayer to the depths of the contemplative life, it is all explained in a way that us, average Catholics, can understand. I truly hope you will join us for this course. It will change how you pray and strengthen your relationship with our Holy Father.

In Christ,
Bryan Moore



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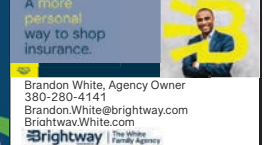
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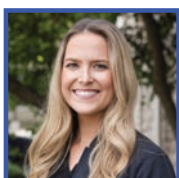
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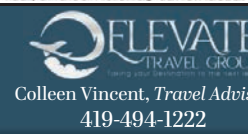
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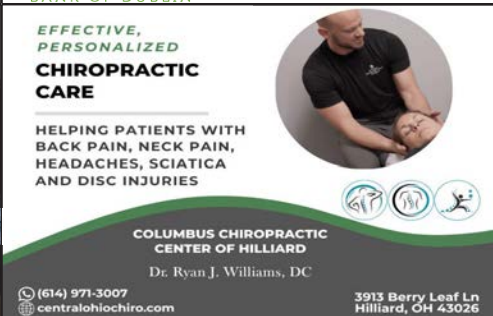
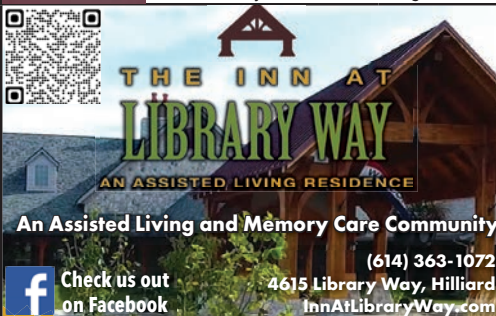
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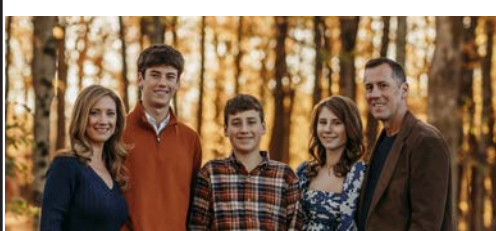
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