

World Mission Sunday: Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If life ceases to be recognized as a fundamental value, what future can our societies have?"

Can a community that casts into the shadows the unborn child, the elderly, the sick, those who suffer in silence, or those who depend entirely on the care of others be called fully just?

The defense of human life is neither a partisan issue nor a confessional interest: it is a goal of civilization.

Every human life must be recognized and safeguarded from conception to its natural end, in every circumstance of its existence.

When this certainty is obscured, the most vulnerable are the first victims, and the law loses its deepest meaning: to serve and protect every person.

For this reason, the moral greatness of a nation is manifested, above all, in its capacity to accompany, protect and love those lives that are most fragile."

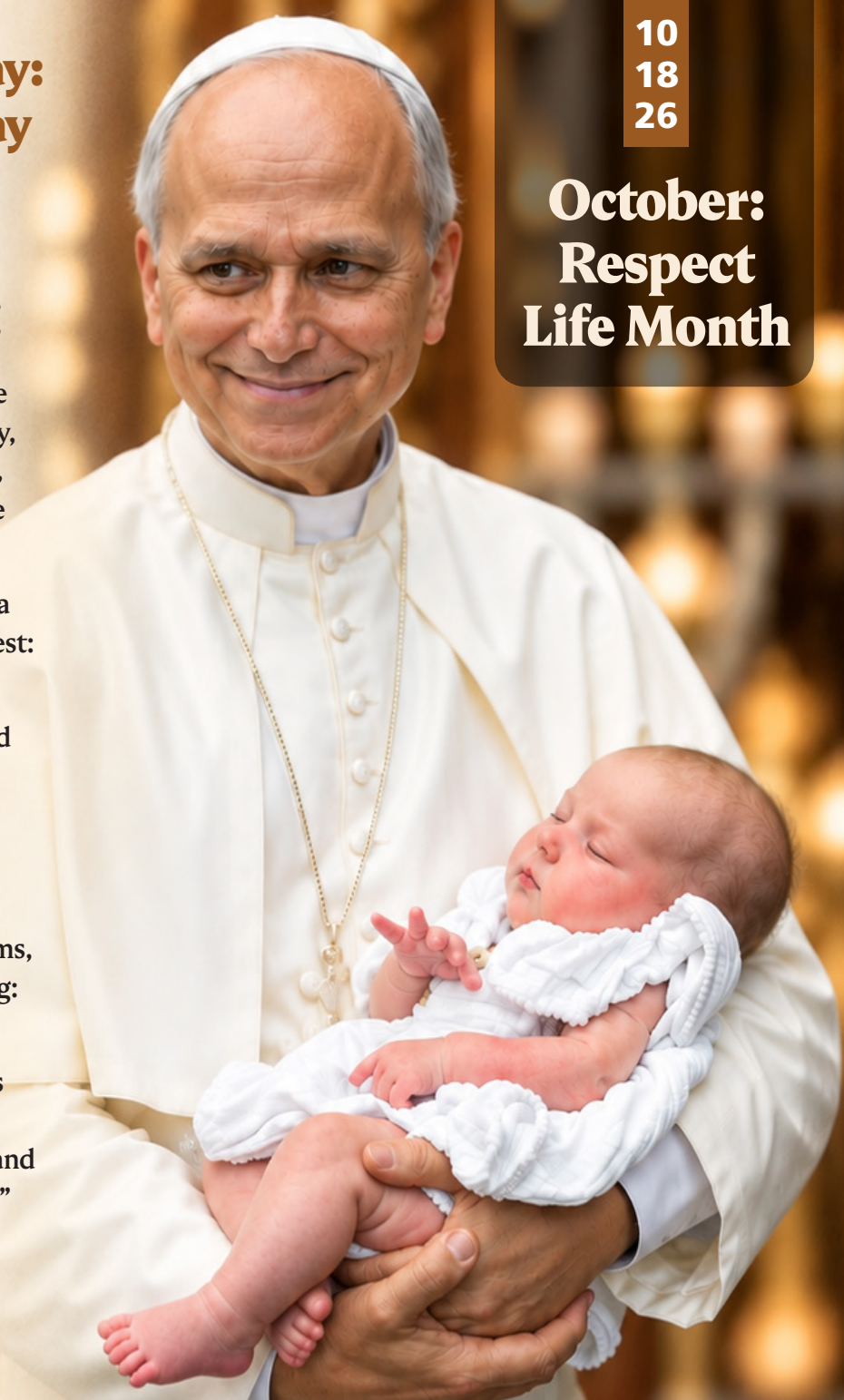
~ Pope Leo XIV ~

June 8, 2026

Meeting with Spanish Parliament
Madrid, Spain

10
18
26

October:
Respect
Life Month



It's Kairos Cookie-baking Time

Kairos Prison Ministry will be passing out cookie bags and instructions this weekend, Oct 17/18 (details on page 18.)

It's Coffee & Donuts Sunday

Join our Knights of Columbus Ministry as they host Coffee & Donuts in the Davidson Rooms after 8:45 & 10:45 AM Masses.

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


**Saint
Brendan**
THE NAVIGATOR

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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:

For online form/payment, visit <https://tinyurl.com/massintent> or, include \$10 cash/check in the Mass Intention envelope w/form (in the Church Gathering Area.)

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:

Parish @stbrendanhilliard
School @saintbrendanschool
Vine @stbvine
Roots @stb_theroots
Young Adults @stbaya

Livestream: Parish YouTube – [SaintBrendantheNavigatorHilliard](https://www.youtube.com/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: aboyd@cddeducation.org or 614-274-1922



From Our Pastor

ON THIS TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, we joyfully recognize the historic 100th World Mission Sunday, a monumental centennial celebration within the global Church. Established in 1926 by Pope Pius XI, this profound day has united every Catholic parish for a century to support over 1,100 young, growing, or poor mission territories through prayer and financial sacrifices. Reflecting on this centennial milestone, themed *"One in Christ, United in Mission,"* Pope Leo XIV beautifully reminds us that our spiritual and practical contributions directly help to foster missionary communion and bring God's love to those most in need.

Today, we offer our deepest praise and thanksgiving for the tireless priests, religious sisters, permanent deacons and catechists who serve on the front lines of faith around the world. We increasingly recognize the critical value of their work right here in the United States, and most acutely within our own Diocese of Columbus. As we navigate a deeply felt shortage of priests locally, the witness of international clergy and missionary hearts serving our parish communities – including our own Father Weldit, here at St. Brendan and in his Eritrean Catholic Community – in our schools, hospitals, and elsewhere has become an indispensable blessing, ensuring that the Sacraments and the love of Christ remain available to our flocks.

As members of the vibrant parish family of Saint Brendan the Navigator, this centennial call carries a profound and active meaning for each of us. Pope Leo XIV challenges us to recognize that our individual vocations are meant for service, urging us to contribute to the work of evangelization according to the gifts we have received. Like our patron saint who courageously navigated uncharted waters to spread the Gospel, we must leave the comfort of the shoreline. It is our baptismal call to be living beacons of Christ's love in our neighborhoods, workplaces, and homes – sailing together in unity to seek out those who are lost or hurting.

As Pope Leo XIV expressed in his homily for this day: *"...being 'one in Christ' calls us to keep our gaze fixed on the Lord, so that He may truly be at the center of our lives and communities, the center of every word, action and interpersonal relationship, leading us to say with amazement: 'It is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me' (Gal 2:20). By constantly listening to His word and through the grace of the Sacraments, it will be possible for us to become living stones in the Church. Today, the Church is called to take up the fundamental themes of the Second Vatican Council and the subsequent Papal Magisterium, in particular that of Pope Francis. In fact, as Saint Paul says, 'we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord' (2 Cor 4:5). For this reason, I reiterate the words of Saint Paul VI: 'There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promises, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God are not proclaimed' (Apostolic Exhortation EVANGELII NUNTIANDI, 22). This process of genuine evangelization begins in the heart of every Christian in order to reach all of humanity. Therefore, the more united we are in Christ, the better able we will be to carry out together the mission that He entrusts to us"* (Homily excerpt, Pope Leo XIV, 100th World Mission Sunday, 2026).

As our Holy Father made note, our call to missionary discipleship extends directly into our local community this month as we also celebrate Respect Life Month. True missionary discipleship requires us to look out for the vulnerable under this sacred umbrella of life, in all ages and stages of life. We are called to be fierce advocates and comforting hands for infants in the womb, the ill and infirm facing difficult diagnoses, our cherished aged parishioners who deserve dignity in their twilight years, and all persons who are "walking the walk" alongside those in various situations providing them with their love, compassion, and support. Folks, let us expand our hearts this World Mission Sunday, heeding Pope Leo XIV's call for unity in Christ as we courageously protect, cherish, and witness to the sanctity of every human life, from conception to natural death.

IN THIS BULLETIN, we delve into the issues related to abortion and how we, as missionary disciples, can and should reach out to help those in need with our love, compassion and support, walking the journey with them so that the infant in their womb is recognized as a child of God, and should be accorded the level of dignity and love that all human beings – as children of God and brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus – that we, ourselves, would want and hope for, knowing that we are not alone. In this bulletin is an extensive list of resources to help those in need to support the life in their womb.

SPEAKING OF EXPANDING OUR MISSION, I cannot thank everyone enough for your outpouring of support for Father Joe Callahan and his parish of Our Lady of Lourdes in Cleveland. Through the charitable minds and hearts of Saint Brendan parishioners, nearly \$20,000 was raised from our special second collection last Sunday. Though the parish only needed \$6,000 to cross the finish line to attain the matching grant to provide masonry and other repairs to their beautiful old Church on Cleveland's east side, the added monies from our collective generosity will go to an added list of repairs. Father Joe did not know that this special collection was taking place; he was very surprised at this collective gesture. God bless, everyone, who reached out to help Father Joe and the people of Our Lady of Lourdes on East 53rd Street in Cleveland!

Fr. Mike

Fr. Michael Lumpe, Pastor



Our Lady of Fatima and the Call to Pray the Rosary Daily

Article by Father Michael Lumpe

In the spring of 1917, amid the devastating landscape of the First World War, heaven broke through the clouds of human history in an obscure pasture known as the Cova da Iria in Fatima, Portugal. The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three humble shepherd children, Lucia dos Santos and her cousins, Francisco and Jacinta Marto,

bringing a message that was at once a sobering warning and an anchor of hope. Across six apparitions, stretching from May to October, the Mother of God revealed a path to peace, conversion, and spiritual renewal. At the very center of this prophetic message was a specific and repeated instruction: the daily recitation of the Holy Rosary (*Memoirs of Sister Lucia*).

To understand why we should heed this message today, we must look to the unique identity the Blessed Virgin claimed for herself during her final appearance on October 13, 1917. She did not merely declare herself a messenger; she announced, *"I am the Lady of the Rosary."* This title was a heavenly summons. It signaled that the Rosary is a uniquely powerful spiritual weapon and a privileged means given by God to help draw a fractured world back toward Christ.

October: The Month of the Most Holy Rosary

As a parish community of the faithful, we find ourselves in the midst of October, the Month of the Holy Rosary. This season invites us to enter more deeply into the heart of Mary's message. On October 7th, we celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. This feast was established in thanksgiving for the Christian victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571, a victory that Pope Saint Pius V attributed to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary invoked through the faithful praying of the Rosary by those who were facing overwhelming odds.

October serves as our annual reminder that the Rosary is not a passive tradition, but a living encounter with Jesus Christ through the eyes of His Mother. When we hold the beads, we carry a legacy of faith, a quiet path back to God, and a powerful means of spiritual renewal in troubled times.

The Heart of the Fatima Message: Prayer & Reparation

In each of her appearances, Our Lady of Fatima explicitly requested that the children pray the Rosary daily. In her first apparition on May 13, she entreated them, *"Say the Rosary every day to obtain peace for the world and the end of the war"* (*Memoirs of Sister Lucia*). She repeated this charge in subsequent months, making it clear that authentic peace requires more than political solutions and military strength. God works through the prayers of His people, and the humble petitions of the faithful play a profound role in His providential care for nations.

The message of Fatima is ultimately a message of hope. It calls the world to conversion, prayer, and trust in God's mercy. The Blessed Mother did not come to inspire fear, but to lead souls more deeply into the saving love of her Son.

The Fatima Prayer: A Plea for Divine Mercy

During her second apparition on June 13, 1917, Our Blessed Mother taught the children a new prayer specifically intended to be added to the Rosary. She instructed: *"And after each one of the mysteries, my children, I want you to pray in this way: 'O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell. Lead all souls to heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy.'"*

This brief but profound petition – known universally as the "Fatima Prayer" (but truly is the "Decade Prayer," one of five "Fatima Prayers") – carries remarkable theological depth. By inserting it directly between the "Glory Be..." and the next "Our Father," Our Lady permanently linked our contemplation of the Gospel mysteries with an active plea for divine mercy.

The prayer consists of four spiritual movements:

- **"O my Jesus, forgive us our sins..."** This opening is an exercise in profound humility. Before we pray for the world, we acknowledge our own personal brokenness and our absolute reliance on Christ's cleansing mercy.
- **"...save us from the fires of hell."** In an era where the reality of eternal damnation is frequently downplayed or ignored, this phrase serves as a striking wake-up call. It echoes the terrifying vision of hell that Our Lady showed the three shepherd children in July 1917, reminding us of what is genuinely at stake in our earthly life.
- **"Lead all souls to heaven..."** This is the great manifestation of Christian charity. The prayer leaves no one out; it expands our hearts to desire the salvation of every human being, transforming the Rosary from a private devotion into a universal rescue mission.
- **"...especially those in most in need of Thy mercy."** With these concluding words, we ask Our Lord to target His grace toward the most hardened hearts, the dying, and those who have no one else to pray for them.

Through this prayer, our vocal recitation of the Rosary transitions from a simple rhythm of words into a powerful shield, pulling souls back from the precipice of eternal ruin through the intercession of the Immaculate Heart.

The ultimate purpose of the Fatima message is conversion. Our Lady revealed the reality of hell precisely because she desired that no soul be lost and that all would come to know the mercy of her Son. Through this prayer, the Rosary becomes far more than mere repetition of familiar words. It becomes an act of intercession for the salvation of souls and a continual plea for God's mercy upon the world.

The Other Four "Fatima Prayers"

To fully understand the spiritual landscape of Fatima, it is important to incorporate the other four prayers given to the children at Fatima — the first three by the Angel of Peace in 1916, and the final one by Our Lady in July 1917:

- **The Theological Prayer:** *"O Most Holy Trinity, I adore You! My God, my God, I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament."* Mystically infused into the children's hearts during the Angel's first appearance, this interior cry highlights the reality of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist.

- **The Pardon Prayer:** *“My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love You! I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You.”* Taught by the Angel who prostrated himself on the ground, this prayer emphasizes our call to act as intercessors for an unbelieving and indifferent secular culture.
- **The Angel’s Prayer of Reparation:** *“Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore You profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And, through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners.”* This complex and deeply liturgical prayer establishes the standard for Eucharistic reparation.
- **The Sacrifice Prayer:** *“O Jesus, it is for love of You, for the conversion of sinners, and in reparation for the sins committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary.”* Taught by Our Lady on July 13, 1917, this short offering is meant to be prayed whenever we offer up personal sufferings, trials, or daily duties to God.

Together these prayers reveal the principal themes of Fatima: adoration, reparation, conversion, sacrifice, Eucharistic devotion, and concern for the salvation of souls.

First Saturdays Devotion: Consoling the Immaculate Heart

To provide a concrete path of reparation and conversion, Our Lady later requested the First Saturdays Devotion, which she more fully explained to Sister Lucia in 1925. This devotion is observed on five consecutive First Saturdays and includes:

- Making a good confession with the intention of reparation.
- Receiving Holy Communion worthily on the First Saturday.
- Praying five decades of the Rosary.
- Meditating for 15 minutes on one or more mysteries of the Rosary.

Two of these four elements are directly connected to the Rosary, highlighting its central place within the Fatima message. Through both vocal prayer and meditation, we accompany Mary as she leads us more deeply into the mysteries of her Son.

The Witness of the Popes

The supreme pastors of the Church have consistently recognized the power and importance of the Rosary. Pope Leo XIII, often called the “Rosary Pope,” devoted numerous encyclicals to promoting this prayer and urged the faithful to turn confidently to the Blessed Virgin during times of social upheaval, moral confusion, and spiritual crisis. In his encyclical *Supremi Apostolatus Officio* (1883), he presented devotion to the Rosary as a powerful means of obtaining Mary’s intercession for the needs of the Church and the world.

Following him, Pope Pius XII repeatedly encouraged the faithful to pray the Rosary, particularly within the family. In *Ingruentium Malorum* (1951), he urged Christians to seek the assistance of the Blessed Virgin through the Rosary amid the trials and uncertainties of the modern world.

In his landmark Apostolic Letter *Rosarium Virginis Mariae* (2002), Pope Saint John Paul II beautifully described the Rosary as a prayer that is “at heart a Christocentric prayer” and one that contains “all the depth of the Gospel message in its entirety, of which it can be said to be a compendium.” He further wrote: “To recite the Rosary is nothing other than to contemplate with Mary the face of Christ.”

When Pope Saint John Paul II traveled to Fatima in 1982 to thank Our Lady for saving his life after the assassination attempt of May 13,

1981, he emphasized that the call to prayer, penance, and conversion remains an enduring message for every generation.

The Theological Imperative: Fr. John Hardon, S.J.

The noted Jesuit theologian and Servant of God, Father John Hardon, dedicated much of his priestly ministry to explaining the enduring significance of Fatima. He observed that modern society often fails to appreciate Fatima because it fails to appreciate the seriousness of sin and the need for conversion.

Father Hardon emphasized that the Rosary serves as a daily school of prayer, discipline, and contemplation. By praying the mysteries of Christ through the eyes of Mary, we gradually become more conformed to the Lord whom we seek to follow and imitate in thought, word and deed.

He also stressed the importance of perseverance in prayer and the grace of a holy death. Every time we pray, *“Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death,”* we entrust our lives and our eternal destiny to the maternal intercession of Our Lady.

Living the Message of Fatima Today

The message of Fatima remains profoundly relevant. Sister Lucia warned that the final spiritual battle would focus heavily upon marriage and family life. We can see signs of this struggle in the weakening of family bonds, confusion regarding human dignity, the erosion of moral truth, and the growing anxiety that burdens so many hearts.

Yet Fatima is, above all, a message of hope. Our Lady does not leave her children helpless. She points us toward prayer, conversion, penance, the sacraments, and trust in God.

Many Catholics sincerely desire a deeper prayer life but find themselves overwhelmed by work responsibilities, family obligations, illness, or discouragement. Our Lady does not call us to perfection overnight. She invites us to begin – now, today. If a full Rosary seems difficult, start with a decade.

You can also break up praying the Rosary throughout the day – e.g. pray the first decade in the morning, the second decade late morning, third decade early afternoon, fourth decade late afternoon, fifth decade in the evening perhaps before going to bed.

If consistency has been a challenge, begin again today. The Mother who appeared at Fatima is not a harsh taskmaster, but a loving mother who gently leads her children to Jesus Christ.

Heeding Our Lady’s message means accepting her maternal invitation and embracing one of the most powerful spiritual remedies heaven has offered for our times. This October, let us renew our commitment to pray the Rosary, participate in the First Saturdays Devotion, and place ourselves under the care of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.

As we look upon a world wounded by war, conflict, confusion, immorality, hedonism, sin and spiritual distress, we recall the words widely attributed to Saint Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio): *“The Rosary is the weapon for these times.”*

At Fatima, Our Lady did not ask for extraordinary accomplishments. She asked for prayer, penance, conversion, and trust in God. The Rosary places all four within the reach of every believer. In every age, Mary leads souls to Jesus. The message of Fatima reminds us that she continues to do so today. Let us therefore take up the Rosary today, tomorrow, and every day, trusting that through this humble prayer the Lady of the Rosary will lead us individually and collectively ever closer to her Son.

JANUARY 10, 2026 THROUGH JANUARY 10, 2027

Jubilee Year of St. Francis



Saint Francis: Visionary of Life

Courtesy of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops - Secretariate for Pro-Life Activities. (Copyright © 2026. All rights reserved.)

***"Hold fast to the memory of our father and brother, Francis, for the praise and glory of Him who made him great among us and glorified him in the sight of the angels."*¹**

Saint Francis, the poor man of Assisi, is a powerful model for us in building a world and culture that is authentically pro-life. This 13th century saint was a visionary of the radiant goodness of human life.

Early in Saint Francis' conversion, he was riding through the countryside and came across a person suffering from leprosy. Despite being repelled by the appearance and smell, he came down from his horse and kissed the hand of the leper, who returned his kiss of peace, filling Francis with joy. He could see the invaluable dignity of every person, even amidst utter poverty, the disfigurement of disease, and the stain of sin.

Saint Francis is well-known for his radical imitation of Christ and his love for all creation. This is evident in his prayer, "The Canticle of the Creatures," which praises God for all He has created: the sun, moon, and stars; wind, water, and fire. Francis proclaims that the created world reveals the glory of God himself. This is particularly true for the human person, created in the image of God, whose life from conception to natural death is to be honored and protected. Among all creation, the human person has the unique capacity to praise God, highlighting the distinctive dignity of human life.

Strikingly, Francis uttered his "Canticle" while lying half-blind on his deathbed. In welcoming "Sister Death," Francis could no longer physically see the beauty of creation, yet still he praised God for the created world around him.

Oftentimes we, too, are blinded to the goodness of life. Our vision may be blurred by hardships such as poverty, fragility, or suffering, all of which Saint Francis experienced in his earthly life. In the face of such challenges, Saint Francis is a powerful intercessor, opening our heart and eyes to the gift of life even in the most trying circumstances. Francis had a particular devotion to the Lord's own vulnerability – in the manger, in the Eucharist, and on the Cross – highlighting God's presence in the most defenseless among us.

Pope Leo XIV has decreed that for 2026 "a special Year of Saint Francis shall be proclaimed, in which every faithful Christian, following the example of the Saint of Assisi, shall become a model of holiness of life and a constant witness of peace."² The taking of innocent human life through abortion, assisted suicide, and other acts of violence destroys peace in our world.³ We are called to be witnesses of peace by boldly proclaiming the dignity of the human person and working for the protection of all human life.

In this Year of Saint Francis, may he help us to see the beauty of life in all of creation, in particular, in the weakest and most vulnerable among us. Together, let us pray for the protection of human life and the courage to defend it.

***"Most High, glorious God, enlighten the darkness of my heart and give me true faith, certain hope, and perfect charity, sense and knowledge, Lord, that I may carry out Your holy and true command."*⁴ ~ Saint Francis' "Prayer before the Crucifix"**

¹ Angelo Cardinal De Donatis, "Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary on the occasion of the Eighth Centenary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi, by which a special Jubilee Year is proclaimed, with associated Plenary Indulgences, 16.01.2026," (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2026).

² Ibid.

³ Pope Leo XIV, "Address to Participants in the 'One Humanity, One Planet' Conference," Jan. 31, 2026 (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2026).

⁴ Armstrong, Regis J., O.F.M. Cap., J. A. Wayne Hellmann, O.F.M. Conv. & William J. Short, O.F.M., eds., Francis of Assisi: Early Documents – The Saint (New York, NY: New City Press, 2001), 40.



Save the Date: All Souls' Mass of Remembrance, November 2

Our All Souls' Day Mass of Remembrance will take place on Monday, November 2 at 5:30 PM Mass. This liturgy is for those who have experienced a loss in the past year as well as for all who want to pray for the departed souls precious to them. A candle will be lit with the names of each of our parishioners who have died this past year or have had a funeral here at St. Brendan Parish. All are encouraged to attend. A *Book of the Dead* will be available in the Church Gathering Space for you to write the names of your loved ones who have passed away. Let us remember all the souls of the faithful departed in prayer.

October: Month of the Rosary

Pray a Rosary for Life Using the Mysteries & Decades of the Rosary

Pope Saint John Paul II called the Rosary a powerful spiritual weapon and a prayer directed toward peace, family protection, and the protection of all human life. You can offer any Rosary for many aspects of human life, along with specific decades of the Rosary. Below are suggestions for praying a Rosary for Life on your own, or as a group of the faithful.

THE JOYFUL MYSTERIES

The Annunciation by the Angel Gabriel: For parents facing an unexpected pregnancy, that they lovingly accept the precious life God has entrusted to their care.

The Visitation to Mary by Elizabeth: That the family and friends of expectant parents might reach out and support them as they prepare to meet their child face to face.

The Nativity of Jesus Christ: That the love of the Blessed Mother and the Christ Child may be a source of strength for every expectant mother, especially mothers living in poverty, and that they both will be surrounded by joy and love.

The Presentation of Jesus in the Temple: That fathers of young children will model St. Joseph in devoutly practicing their faith, so that they lead their children to God by their words and example.

The Finding of Jesus in the Temple: For all children who have been lost and forgotten, that they may be led to a place where they are treasured, protected and loved.

THE LUMINOUS MYSTERIES

The Baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan: That all baptized Christians will be open to the Holy Spirit and bear witness to the sanctity of life.

The Wedding Feast at Cana: For all husbands and wives, that they treasure the priceless gift of married love by generously accepting children through procreation and adoption.

The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God: That those who pray and work for greater respect for human life will be guided by the Beatitudes and reveal the face of Christ to others.

The Transfiguration of Jesus on Mount Tabor: That our world will be transfigured by the witness of faithful Christians so that all may understand the priceless value of every human being.

The Institution by Jesus of the Eucharist: That through our worthy reception of the Eucharist and frequent Eucharistic Adoration, Jesus will teach us to love sacrificially the least and neediest among us.

THE SORROWFUL MYSTERIES

The Agony of Jesus in the Garden: For all who are suffering from abandonment or neglect, that compassionate individuals will come forward to offer them comfort and aid.

The Scourging of Jesus at the Pillar: That the victims of violence, torture and slavery will be delivered from their suffering, find healing and know that God is close to them.

The Crowning of Jesus with Thorns: That the persecution of Christians will end in a new era of tolerance and respect for the religious freedom and conscience rights of all.

Jesus Carries the Cross: For all who labor under burdens that seem too great to bear – due to illness, age, poverty, cruelty or injustice – that our prayers and aid will lighten their crosses.

The Crucifixion of Jesus Christ: For an end to the death penalty and for the release of all prisoners of conscience and all who have been wrongfully convicted.

THE GLORIOUS MYSTERIES

The Resurrection of Jesus: For all who have lost loved ones, and especially for parents of a child who was miscarried, aborted or stillborn, that they will find peace in the promise of the Resurrection.

The Ascension of Jesus: For all who struggle with addictions, that through Christ's triumph and ascent into glory, they may triumph over their temptations, and gain strength and peace.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost: That the Holy Spirit will open the minds and hearts of those who now reject the Gospel of Life and allow them to be convinced of the truth and goodness of all that the Church professes concerning human life.

The Assumption of Mary: For mothers who have died at the hands of abortion providers, that they may experience reconciliation and together with their children know God's peace.

The Coronation of Mary, Queen of Heaven and Earth: For all mothers, that they might come to know the wonder of their vocation.

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

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* via the QR code or at www.bit.ly/Bulletin-Prayer-List. If someone was deleted from the list but is still ill, fill out a new request, or if you would like a pastoral visit, call 614-876-1272

THOSE HOSPITALIZED/ILL:

Sean Grier	Steve Strait	Andy Ryan Hesselbart
Ken Weitmarshen	Tonya Prickett	Nichole Otayco
Margie Hiam	Bailey Curtis	Bill Reinking
Curt Thayer	Andrea Gigliotti	Michael Nguyen
Bertha Torok	Brenda Bazan	Dixon Aarellano
Ilona Owens	Dochia Finsterbusch	Patrick Podobnik
Joseph Rienhard	Hannah Kelley	Richard Torok
Dave Boyd	Mariann Chilton	Jerry Price
Lisa Lynch	Suzzette Briones	Dolores Lynch
Chris Carrino	Karen Zappitelli	Sarah Ortlieb
Elliott Verrilli	Francis Drlik	James Jimenez

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY:

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



A Scriptural Rosary

The Luminous Mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary

(Traditionally prayed on Thursdays)

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

The Apostles' Creed

ALL: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

The "Our Father"

Leader: Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy name;
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

ALL: 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.

The "Hail Mary"

Leader: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee, blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

ALL: Holy Mary Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The "Doxology"

Leader: Glory be to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
ALL: as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The "Fatima Prayer"

ALL: O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven,
especially those in most need of Thy mercy.

The First Luminous Mystery + The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River

1. John the Baptist said, "I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" (Jn 1:23)
2. And John preached, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the thong of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie." (Mk 1:7)
3. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire." (Mt 3:11)
4. John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (Jn 1:29)
5. Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan, to John, to be baptized by him. (Mt 3:13)
6. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" (Mt 3:14)
7. But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then John consented. (Mt 3:15)
8. And when Jesus was baptized, he went up immediately from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. (Mt 3:16)
9. And behold, a voice from heaven, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased." (Mt 3:17)
10. The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan. (Mk 1:12-13)

The Second Luminous Mystery + The Wedding Feast at Cana

1. There was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. (Jn 2:1)
2. When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." (Jn 2:3)
3. And Jesus said to her, "O Woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come." (Jn 2:4)
4. His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you." (Jn 2:5)
5. Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. (Jn 2:6)
6. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them to the brim. (Jn 2:7)
7. He said to them, "Now draw some out and take it to the steward of the feast." (Jn 2:8)
8. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from, the steward of the feast called the bridegroom. (Jn 2:9)
9. And the steward of the feast said to the bridegroom, "Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." (Jn 2:10)
10. This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory, and his disciples believed in him. (Jn 2:11)

The Third Luminous Mystery + The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

1. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God (Mk 1:14)
2. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. (Jn 1:4-5)
3. Jesus said, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel." (Mk 1:15)
4. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them . . . and he was preaching the word to them. (Mk 2:2)
5. And when they could not get near Jesus because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. (Mk 2:4)
6. "Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, pick up your pallet and walk?'" (Mk 2:9)
7. "But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins" he said to the paralytic. I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." (Mk 2:10-11)
8. And Jesus called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every infirmity. (Mt 10:1)
9. These Twelve Jesus sent out charging them . . . to preach . . . "The kingdom of heaven is at hand." (cf. Mt 10:5 & 7)
10. And when Jesus had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (Jn 20:22-23)

The Fourth Luminous Mystery + The Transfiguration of the Lord on Mount Tabor

1. Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. (Lk 9:28)
2. And Jesus was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his garments became white as light. (Mt 17:2)
3. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. (Mt 17:3)
4. Moses and Elijah . . . spoke of Jesus' exodus that he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. (Lk 9:31)
5. Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is well that we are here; if you wish, I will make three booths here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." (Mt 17:4)
6. As Peter said this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were afraid as they entered the cloud. (Lk 9:34)
7. And a voice came out of the cloud, "This is my Son, Whom I have chose; listen to Him!" (Lk 9:35)
8. And suddenly looking around they no longer saw any one with them but Jesus only. (Mk 9:8)
9. Jesus charged them to tell no one what they had seen, until the Son of man should have risen from the dead. (Mk 9:9)
10. So they kept the matter to themselves, questioning what the rising from the dead meant. (Mk 9:10)

The Fifth Luminous Mystery + The Institution of the Most Holy Eucharist

1. On the first day of Unleavened Bread, the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Where will you have us prepare for you to eat the Passover?" (Mt 26:17)
2. Jesus said, "Go into the city to a such a one, and say to him, 'The Teacher says, My time is at hand; I will keep the Passover at your house with my disciples.'" (Mt 26:18)
3. And when the hour came, he sat at table, and the apostles with him. And he said to them, "I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer." (Lk 22:14-15)
4. And as they were eating, he said, "Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me." (Mt 26:21)
5. Judas, who betrayed him, said, "Is it I, Master?" (Mt 26:25)
6. Jesus took bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." (Mt 26:26)
7. And he took a chalice, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Mt 26:27-28)
8. For as often as you eat this bread and drink the chalice, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (1 Cor 11:26)
9. "I am the living bread which comes down from heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live forever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is my flesh." (Jn 6:51)
10. "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him at the last day." (Jn 6:54)

Concluding the Rosary:

ALL: HAIL, HOLY QUEEN, Mother of Mercy, our life, our sweetness and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve; to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley of tears. Turn then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us, and after this our exile, show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb, Jesus. O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary!

ALL: Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

ALL: Let us pray. O God, whose only begotten Son, by His life, death, and resurrection, has purchased for us the rewards of eternal life, grant, we beseech Thee, that meditating upon these mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary, we may imitate what they contain and obtain what they promise, through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

For step-by-step directions on how to pray the Rosary, visit www.rosarycenter.org

Saint Brendan the Navigator Parish • 5575 Dublin Road • Hilliard, Ohio 43026

(614) 876-1272 • www.stbrendans.net

Community Calendar

Monday, October 19

6:30 AM Daily Mass
 8:00 AM Daily Mass
 9:00 AM Catholic Way: The Book of Revelation
 9:00 AM Church Cleaning
 5:30 PM Daily Mass
 6:00 PM-10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 6:00 PM Seek & Root Family Session
 6:00 PM Melchizedek Project
 7:00 PM Adult Study: The Bible Timeline

Tuesday, October 20

6:30 AM Daily Mass
 6:30 AM Esto Vir Men's Ministry
 8:00 AM Daily Mass
 8:30 AM-10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 9:30 AM Elizabeth Ministry: The Upper Room
 6:30 PM OCIA Immaculate Conception Cohort Mtg.
 6:30 PM OCIA Vigil Cohort Meeting
 7:00 PM Adult Study: Introduction to Prayer

Wednesday, October 21

5:30 AM Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry
 6:30 AM Daily Mass
 7:00 AM-5:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 1:30 PM Prayer Shawl Ministry Monthly Meeting
 5:30 PM Daily Mass
 6:00 PM Adoration with Confession
 6:45 PM KofC Monthly Member Mtg.
 7:00 PM VINE Formation
 7:15 PM Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, October 22

6:30 AM Daily Mass
 8:00 AM Daily Mass
 8:30 AM-10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 8:45 AM Women's AM Studies: Chosen 5
 6:30 PM Communion/Liberation School of Community
 6:45 PM Women's PM Studies: Chosen 5

Friday, October 23

6:30 AM Daily Mass
 8:00 AM Daily Mass
 8:30 AM-10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 6:30 PM Date Night for Young Couples, by KofC

Saturday, October 24

5:30 AM Fit Shepherds Men's Ministry
 6:30 AM Men's Ministry: Esto Vir Meeting
 8:00 AM Daily Mass
 8:30 AM-1:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 9:00 AM Confession
 9:00 AM Kairos Ministry: Formation Meeting
 9:00 AM SVdP Monthly Conference Meeting
 9:30 PM VINE Bible Studies
 5:30 PM Vigil Mass
 6:30 PM Men's Ministry: Esto Vir Dinner

Sunday, October 25

7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM, 5:30 PM Sunday Masses
 During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass POD Nursery
 During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass Children's Liturgy of the Word
 12:00 PM Baptisms
 6:30 PM-10:00 PM Eucharistic Adoration
 6:30 PM VINE Night
 6:30 PM The ROOTS
 7:00 PM Grief Support Group

Adoration Chapel
 Church
 Wellnitz, Room 1
 Church & Chapel
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Davidson, Rms. A & B
 School Library
 School Cafeteria

Adoration Chapel
 Davidson, Room A
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Childcare Center
 Davidson, Room B
 Davidson, Room A
 School Library

Campus Parking Lot
 Adoration Chapel
 Adoration Chapel
 Wellnitz, Room 2
 Church
 Church
 Wellnitz, Rms. 1 & 2
 School Library
 Church

Adoration Chapel
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Davidson, Rms. A & B
 Wellnitz, Room 2
 Davidson, Rms. A & B

Adoration Chapel
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Davidson, Rms. A & B

Campus Parking Lot
 Davidson, Rms. A & B
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Confessional
 Davison, Room A
 Wellnitz, Room 1
 School Library
 Church
 Davidson, Room A

Church
 Childcare Center
 Adoration Chapel
 Church
 Adoration Chapel
 Davidson, Rms. A & B
 School Gym
 Wellnitz, Room 1

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 weekly on Mondays at 9 AM in the church for light cleaning. Supplies are provided. Questions? Email Lisa at lisaploug@gmail.com

Prayer Shawl Workshop – Meet 1st Saturdays & 3rd Wednesdays in Wellnitz, Room 2. Lessons and yarn are provided. To join, email: Kathy at kendrizz@aol.com or Karen at kkessmith@yahoo.com

M.A.S.T. – (Mature Active Singles Together) for single/widowed/divorced, age 45+. To join, email Chris: chrishauk0522@gmail.com

St. Brendan Young Adults

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

SVdP Sandwich Making

Meet in Wellnitz: 1st Thursdays at 10 AM; 3rd Thursdays at 7 PM

Grief Support Lunch – Meets monthly, 2nd Thursdays at 1 PM at La Chatelaine in Dublin. Questions? edmuch@me.com

Grief Support Study – Meets 1st & 4th Sundays monthly in Wellnitz, Room 1 at 7 PM to learn about grief care. Questions? Email Nell at doconnell@stbrendans.net

OUR PARISH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON OCTOBER 20

Our Parish Office will be closed Tuesday, Oct. 20, as some staff will be participating in a pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation in Carey, Ohio.

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC:

5:30 PM, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays
 5:30 PM, Sundays

Masses with contemporary music will utilize the screens.

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 October – a Marian Month – is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary

"Many of the problems facing contemporary families, especially in economically developed societies, result from their increasing difficulty in communicating. Families seldom manage to come together, and the rare occasions when they do are often taken up with watching television. To return to the recitation of the family Rosary means filling daily life with very different images, images of the mystery of salvation: the image of the Redeemer, the image of his most Blessed Mother. The family that recites the Rosary together reproduces something of the atmosphere of the household of Nazareth: its members place Jesus at the center, they share His joys and sorrows, they place their needs and their plans in His hands, they draw from Him the hope and the strength to go on." +POPE SAINT JOHN PAUL II

Monday, October 19 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Saints John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions, Martyrs

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:13-21 Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to share the inheritance with me." He replied to him, "Friend, who appointed me as your judge and arbitrator?" Then he said to the crowd, "Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions."

Then he told them a parable. "There was a rich man whose land produced a bountiful harvest. He asked himself, 'What shall I do, for I do not have space to store my harvest?' And he said, 'This is what I shall do: I shall tear down my barns and build larger ones. There I shall store all my grain and other goods and I shall say to myself, "Now as for you, you have so many good things stored up for many years, rest, eat, drink, be merry!"' But God said to him, 'You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you; and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?' Thus will it be for the one who stores up treasure for himself but is not rich in what matters to God."

Meditation: Why does Jesus call this wealthy landowner a fool? Jesus does not fault the rich man for his industriousness and skill in acquiring wealth, but rather for his egoism and selfishness - it's mine, all mine, and no one else's. This parable is similar to the parable of the rich man who refused to give any help to the beggar Lazarus (ref. Luke 16:19-31). The rich fool had lost the capacity to be concerned for others. His life was consumed with his possessions and his only interests were in himself. His death was the final loss of his soul! What is Jesus' lesson on using material possessions? It is in giving that we receive. Those who are rich towards God receive ample reward - not only in this life, but in eternity as well.

Prayer: O God, who chose to manifest the blessed hope of your eternal Kingdom by the toil of Saints John de Brebeuf, Isaac Jogues and their companions and by the shedding of their blood, graciously grant that through their intercession the faith of Christians may be strengthened day by day. 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: Where is your treasure? What is your treasure? Who is your treasure? Treasure has a special connection to the heart, the place of desire and longing, the place of our will, our drive and our focus. The thing we most set our heart on is our highest treasure. What do you treasure above all else? Most importantly, whom do you treasure above all others?

About Saint Isaac Jogues, Saint John de Brébeuf and Companions: French Jesuits were the first missionaries to go to Canada and North America after J. Cartier discovered Canada in 1534. Their mission region extended from Nova Scotia to Maryland. Isaac Jogues, John de Brebeuf, Gabriel Lalemant, Noel Chabanel, Charles Garnier, Anthony Daniel, Rene Goupil and John de Lalande (the first six Jesuits, the last two laymen) preached the Gospel to the Iroquois and Huron Indians, and after being tortured, they were

martyred in the area of what is now Auriesville, New York. The martyrdoms took place between 1642 and 1649. Ten years after the martyrdom of St. Isaac Jogues, Kateri Tekakwitha was born in the same village in which he died. These martyrs are co-patrons of Canada. The missionaries arrived in Canada less than a century after its discovery by Cartier in 1534, in the hope of converting the Indians and setting up "New France." Their opponents were often the English and Dutch colonists. When Isaac Jogues returned to Paris after his first capture and torture, he said to his superior: "Yes, Father, I want whatever our Lord wants, even if it costs a thousand lives." He had written in his mission report: "These tortures are very great, but God is still greater, and immense."

Tuesday, October 20 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Paul of the Cross, Priest

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:35-38 Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your loins and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants."

Meditation: This story illustrates the amazing generous spirit, servant-hearted love, and profound humility of God who is the exalted Lord and Master over all he has created. The Father sent his only begotten Son to become a man for our sake who shed his blood for us on the cross to ransom us from slavery to sin, Satan, and death. Saint Paul the Apostle tells us that Jesus who was equal with the Father, nonetheless, humbled himself and became a servant for our sake (Philippians 2:5-8). Saint Paul of the Cross, whose feast we celebrate today, said: "If you correspond to the designs of God, He will make a saint of you. Be generous, and remember that we ought to walk in the footsteps of Jesus crucified. The servant of God who is not crucified with Jesus Christ, what is he? He is unworthy of divine contemplation who has not fought and conquered some great temptation. God has suffered much for me; ought I not suffer something for Him?" Ah, yes – the reciprocity of love. Do you love Christ as much as he loves you? If not, why not?

Prayer: May the Priest Saint Paul, whose only love was the Cross, obtain for us your grace, O Lord, so that, urged on more strongly by his example, we may each embrace our own cross with courage. 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: Just as Jesus was faithful and ready to obey his Father in everything - even to the point of laying down his life for us on the cross - we, too are called to be faithful and ready to do whatever our heavenly Father's commands us. How can we serve as Jesus served and be faithful to the end of our days? Only the love "which God has poured into our hearts through the Spirit which has been given to us" (Romans 5:5) can transform us and fill us with joy and courage in offering our lives in humble service to God and to one another.

Wednesday, October 21 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:39-48 Jesus said to his disciples: "Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

Then Peter said, "Lord, is this parable meant for us or for everyone?" And the Lord replied, "Who, then, is the faithful and prudent steward whom the master will put in charge of his servants to distribute the food allowance at the proper time? Blessed is that servant whom his master on arrival finds doing so. Truly, I say to you, he will put him in charge of all his property. But if that servant says to himself, 'My master is delayed in coming,' and begins to beat the menservants and the maidservants, to eat and drink and get drunk, then that servant's master will come on an unexpected day and at an unknown hour and will punish the servant severely and assign him a place with the unfaithful. That servant who knew his master's will but did not make preparations nor act in accord with his will shall be beaten severely; and the servant who was ignorant of his master's will but acted in a way deserving of a severe beating shall be beaten only lightly. Much will be required of the person entrusted with much, and still more will be demanded of the person entrusted with more."

Meditation: Jesus calls us to be vigilant in watching for his return and to be ready to meet him when he calls us to himself. The Lord gives us his Holy Spirit so that we may have the wisdom, help, and strength we need to turn away from sin to embrace God's way of love, justice, and holiness. The Lord's warning of judgment causes dismay for those who are unprepared, but it brings joyful hope to those who eagerly

wait for his return in glory. God's judgment is good news for those who are ready to meet him. Their reward is God himself, the source of all truth, beauty, goodness, love and everlasting life.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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: Safe it to say that all of us want to get to heaven and spend eternity there with Christ. But the question becomes "What am I doing to get to heaven?" Do I live my life according to the way of God and his son, Jesus Christ? Or do I live my life according to the way of the world? Do I follow the divine laws of God? Or do I follow the all-too-human legal rulings of the U.S. Supreme Court, most of which are contrary to the laws of God? Do I actively engage in the Corporal Works of Mercy (six of which are outlined in Matthew 25:31-40)? Or do I live my life focused entirely on myself, not caring about the needs of others? There is only one Savior, and his name is Jesus Christ, the son of God. He has given us everything we need to get to share in his eternal life – his teachings (the "Good News") and his sacraments, all of which nourish us in mind and in body. He also gave us his very life on the cross. What did any supreme court justice do to get you on the path to eternal life with Christ? Nothing. U.S. president, member of congress, library board member? Nothing. What about any advocacy group? Nothing as well, although adhering to the rhetoric and "cause" of some groups actually encourages people to stray from God. So we're back to that original question: "What am I doing to get to heaven?" Turn away, folks, from the way of the world which will lead to eternity, but not with Christ. Turn instead to Christ, our Lord, Savior, and Redeemer – the Good Shepherd who died for our sake, and whose entire life was spent teaching us the way, and the truth, and the life we are invited to live on this earth so that we might live with him for all eternity.

Thursday, October 22 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Pope Saint John Paul II

For a complete collection of Pope Saint John Paul II's encyclicals, messages, homilies, and more, visit the Vatican web page:

<http://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en.html>

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:45-53 Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided, three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law."

Meditation: Jesus challenges his disciples in today's Gospel – and us as well – to examine who they love first and foremost. A true disciple loves God above all else and is willing to forsake all for Jesus Christ. Jesus insists that his disciples give him the loyalty which is only due to God, a loyalty which is higher than spouse or family member. It is possible that family and friends can become our enemies if the thought of them keeps us from doing what we know God wants us to do. If you think that is impossible, think about the times, perhaps, you were on a family vacation or gathering and Sunday rolled around – some chose to worship God during Mass on Sunday, others chose to worship themselves by going to saint mattress of the springs. Arriving back home from Mass the inevitable discussion comes around that "we usually can't make it to Mass." Someone asks "why?" The usual responses "Oh, we're so tired from working all week..." or "our son or daughter has sports practice that day or a game and we need to go to those..." or "we usually go to brunch on Sunday and don't have time to get to Mass..." or "Sunday is family-time day so we usually do something together..." And so it begins – our loyalty to God and our loyalty to following the commandment "Keep holy the Sabbath" goes out the window as we seek personal comfort, the god of sports, or whatever reason people may give for not going to Mass on Sunday. Upon deeper reflection, then, we find that we are not "on fire" for Christ, we do not love God above all things, our faith may be lukewarm at best, and even though the love of Jesus Christ compels us to put God first in all that we do (ref. 2 Corinthians 5:14) we sometimes fail. While this may be the case in one way or another, or on one level or another, this mindset, this way of life is fixable. It begins by recognizing that we are the source of division, sin and separation since we chose people or things over Christ. Now all we need to get back to living a life where we choose God above all things and live a life in Christ by following him instead of a ball (football, soccer ball, basketball, baseball, golf ball, volley ball, tennis ball, rugby ball, meatball, or even the occasional musings that come from that semi-circular ball that rests on top of our neck).

Prayer: O God, who are rich in mercy and who willed that Saint John Paul II should preside as Pope over your universal Church, grant, we pray, that instructed by his teaching, we may open our hearts to the saving grace of Christ, the sole Redeemer of mankind. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: When Jesus spoke about division within families he likely had in mind the prophecy of Micah: "a man's enemies are the men of his own household" (Micah 7:6). The essence of Christianity is loyalty to Jesus Christ - the Son of God and Savior of the world - a loyalty that takes precedence over every other relationship. The love of God compels us to choose who will be first in our lives. To place any relationship (or anything else like sports) above God is a form of idolatry, and we have been told "You shall not have false gods before me." Let's keep all of this in mind the next time we are tempted to do something contrary to the way of God and his son Jesus Christ.

Friday, October 23 ~ Twenty-Ninth Week in Ordinary Time

Saint John of Capistrano, Priest

Holy Gospel: Luke 12:1-7 Jesus said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west you say immediately that it is going to rain—and so it does; and when you notice that the wind is blowing from the south you say that it is going to be hot—and so it is. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of the earth and the sky; why do you not know how to interpret the present time?"

"Why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? If you are to go with your opponent before a magistrate, make an effort to settle the matter on the way; otherwise your opponent will turn you over to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the constable, and the constable throw you into prison. I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny."

Meditation: We all stand in need of God's mercy, grace, and protection. The Lord Jesus is our physician and healer and he is ready to set us free from any sinful patterns of thinking, acting, and speaking. If we give our lives over to him he will fill us with his Holy Spirit and give us a new heart and a transformed mind that is filled with his truth, love, and goodness. If you want lasting peace and joy with God, then allow the Lord Jesus to transform every area of your life, your home, your work, your relationships, and possessions so that he may truly be the Lord and Giver of abundant life. Are you ready to surrender all to him, in order to receive all from him? If not, what is holding you back?

Prayer: O God, who raised up Saint John of Capistrano to comfort your faithful people in tribulation, place us, we pray, under your safe protection and keep your Church in everlasting peace. Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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: Our need for accurately discerning the spiritual condition and moral climate around us is vital if we want to avert spiritual crisis and moral disaster. The Lord to transform our lives by offering us his kingdom of righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17). But we can miss it if we allow a permissive attitude that takes sin lightly or puts off repairing wrongdoing before it is too late to get reconciled.

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

frlumpe:2026



October: Respect Life Month

The Sanctity of Human Life

A CATHOLIC CALL TO TRUTH, COMPASSION, HOPE AND HEALING

Article by Father Michael Lumpe

Every human being is a unique and unrepeatable gift from God, created in His image and likeness and called to eternal life (Gen 1:26–27). From the first moment of existence until natural death, every person possesses an inherent dignity that does not depend on age, ability, health, achievement, or circumstance. In Jesus Christ, who came that we might have life, the Church proclaims both the truth about the dignity of every human person and the mercy that meets all who suffer, struggle, or carry wounds. This Gospel of life calls us not only to defend the vulnerable, but also to accompany one another with courage, tenderness, and hope.

A Consistent Christian Witness

From the earliest days of Christianity, believers recognized the sacredness of unborn life. The early Christian document known as the *Didache* instructed believers: “You shall not murder a child by abortion nor kill that which is born” (*Didache* 2:2). This conviction flows from the Fifth Commandment: “You shall not kill” (Ex 20:13; Deut 5:17). More precisely, the commandment forbids the unjust taking of innocent human life. *The Catechism of the Catholic Church* teaches: “Human life is sacred because from its beginning it involves the creative action of God and it remains forever in a special relationship with the Creator” (CCC 2258).

The Church’s teaching is rooted in God’s revelation, not in any political party, ideology, or mere human opinion. Every human life is a gift entrusted to our care by God the Creator. As Pope Saint John Paul II wrote in *Evangelium Vitae*, “The Gospel of life is at the heart of Jesus’ message.” To receive that Gospel is to let Christ shape not only our thoughts and convictions, but also our speech, our choices, our laws, and our care for every vulnerable neighbor.

What the Church Teaches About Human Life Before Birth

Sacred Scripture speaks of God’s loving knowledge of the human person even before birth: “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you” (Jer 1:5). And “You knit me together in my mother’s womb” (Ps 139:13).

Modern science confirms that at fertilization a new, distinct human organism begins to exist, possessing its own unique genetic identity and directing its own development. Because this new human life is a member of the human family, the Church teaches that it must be treated with the respect owed to every human person.

The Catechism states: “Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception” (CCC 2270); it further teaches: “Direct abortion, that is, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law.” (CCC 2271). The Church recognizes that personal responsibility may be affected by fear, coercion, psychological distress, ignorance, or other circumstances. Nevertheless, abortion always involves grave moral matter, and Christ continually calls every person to conversion, healing, and the fullness of life in Him (see CCC 1735).

The Incarnation Reveals the Dignity of Life in the Womb

The mystery of the Incarnation gives profound insight into

the dignity of unborn life. At the Annunciation, when the Blessed Virgin Mary freely accepted and embraced God’s plan (Lk 1:38), by the power of the Holy Spirit the eternal Son of God truly took on our human nature and began His earthly life within her womb. The Word Incarnate chose to enter the world as an unborn child; we can never treat life in the womb as insignificant.

Scripture beautifully records the meeting of the unborn Christ and the unborn John the Baptist: “When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the infant leaped in her womb” (Lk 1:41).

Jesus Christ did not suddenly appear in the world as a grown man. He is the eternal Son of God, one Divine Person who possesses both a divine and a human nature. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, He took flesh in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary and embraced every stage of human life, including life before birth. In the mystery of the Incarnation, God reveals the profound dignity and worth of every human person from the very beginning of life.

Because the Son of God chose to enter our world as an unborn child, Christians are called to honor, cherish, and defend the sanctity of human life in the womb. His hidden life before birth invites us to approach every unborn child with reverence, love, and gratitude.

Compassion for Mothers, Fathers, Families

The Church’s concern for unborn children is inseparable from her concern for mothers, fathers, and families.

Women facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies often encounter fear, isolation, financial hardship, health concerns, relationship pressures, and uncertainty about the future. The Christian response cannot be judgment or abandonment. It must be compassion, practical support, friendship, prayer, and accompaniment.

As Saint Paul reminds us: “Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ” (Gal 6:2).

No woman should feel alone. No man should feel isolated. No family should face a crisis pregnancy without support. The Church is called to walk with both mother and child, offering tangible help, emotional support, and spiritual care.

Authentic pro-life ministry means loving both lives, serving both lives, and defending the dignity of both lives.

Walking with Families Facing Challenges

Parents may receive a prenatal diagnosis indicating a disability, a serious medical condition, or a shortened life expectancy for their child. Such news can bring fear, grief, confusion, and difficult medical decisions. Families deserve clear information, compassionate care, and time to ask questions without pressure. The Church seeks to accompany them with prayer, practical assistance, and respect for both the child and the parents.

You are not alone in your journey; we will walk with you. The Church recognizes special needs in these situations and encourages families to seek medical, emotional, and spiritual support. At the same time, the value of a child's life is never determined by health, ability, productivity, or predicted lifespan. Scripture teaches: "The members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable" (1 Cor 12:22). The *Catechism* likewise insists: "Those whose lives are diminished or weakened deserve special respect" (CCC 2276).

Every human life possesses equal dignity because every person – every person – is loved by God. Children with disabilities are beloved children of God whose lives have immeasurable worth, and they and their families deserve welcome, friendship, practical assistance, and enduring support from the Christian community.

The Church also remembers families who have suffered miscarriage, stillbirth, or the death of a child through illness or other tragic circumstances. Such losses often bring profound grief and questions that are difficult to express. The Lord, who wept at the tomb of Lazarus (Jn 11:35), walks with those who mourn. The Christian community is called to accompany grieving parents with prayer, compassion, and enduring support.

Civil Law and Our Moral Responsibility

The Church recognizes the distinction between civil law and moral law. While civil laws vary across times and cultures, the moral truth about human dignity does not change.

The *Catechism* teaches: "The inalienable right to life of every innocent human individual is a constitutive element of a civil society and its legislation" (CCC 2273).

Throughout history, societies have sometimes failed to recognize the rights of vulnerable human beings. Christians therefore have a responsibility to advocate for laws and policies that uphold the dignity of every human person, especially those who cannot defend themselves.

This witness should always be conducted with charity, respect, and humility. Our goal is not merely to win arguments but to build a culture in which every human life is welcomed, protected, and loved.

Hope and Healing After Abortion

The Church teaches that abortion is a grave moral wrong because it ends the life of an innocent, vulnerable human being. Yet the Church also proclaims with equal conviction that God's mercy is greater than every sin.

Many people carry deep wounds from a past abortion, including mothers, fathers, grandparents, siblings, friends, coworkers, medical professionals, and others affected by the experience.

Men may also carry deep emotional and spiritual wounds related to abortion. Some encouraged or pressured a decision they now regret; others felt powerless to protect their child or have silently carried grief for years. The mercy of Jesus Christ is offered to fathers as well. The Church desires to accompany them with compassion, prayer, counseling, and the grace of the Sacraments so that they may find healing and peace.

To all who carry such burdens, the words of Christ remain true: "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest" (Mt 11:28).

If you have experienced an abortion personally, encouraged one, or been affected by one in another way, know that you are not beyond God's love. Jesus Christ desires your healing and peace. You may begin by speaking confidentially with a

priest, contacting Project Rachel, or seeking other trustworthy pastoral and professional support. For Catholics conscious of grave sin, the Sacrament of Reconciliation offers Christ's forgiveness and restores communion with God and the Church. Healing may unfold gradually through sacramental grace, prayer, compassionate accompaniment, spiritual guidance, and appropriate counseling (see the *Project Rachel contact information at the end of this article*).

If it has been decades since you or someone you know was involved in an abortion, do not let fear, shame, or the passage of time keep you from seeking Christ's mercy. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the first step toward profound healing, forgiveness, and restoration. While direct participation in abortion can constitute grave sin, no sin is beyond the reach of God's mercy when a person turns to Him with sincere repentance. As Pope Francis wrote, "There is no sin that God's mercy cannot reach and wipe away when it finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with the Father" (*Misericordia et misera*, 12).

The Church desires every wounded heart to experience Christ's mercy. A priest can help address any spiritual or canonical questions that may arise and offer the forgiveness of Christ through the Sacrament. Even if many years have passed, do not allow fear, shame, or discouragement to keep you from seeking the Lord. Confession often becomes the beginning of a path toward deeper healing, peace, and renewed hope.

If you feel ready to take this step toward healing, you are welcome at our regular confession times or may schedule a confidential appointment with one of our priests. If approaching the Sacrament feels overwhelming, you may first contact a priest or Project Rachel for a confidential conversation. Remember: "Forgiveness is the most visible sign of the Father's love, which Jesus sought to reveal by his entire life. Every page of the Gospel is marked by this imperative of a love that loves to the point of forgiveness. Even at the last moment of his earthly life, as he was being nailed to the cross, Jesus spoke words of forgiveness: 'Father, forgive them; for they know not what they do' (Lk 23:34)" (*Misericordia et misera*, 12).

An Examination of Conscience for Healing

An Examination of Conscience before Confession is not meant to be a tool of condemnation. Instead, think of it as a gentle inventory of the current state of your soul, letting God show you what needs to be brought into His healing light. When returning after decades, it is best to focus on the big picture rather than stressing over exact dates or precise numbers – that's a challenge for most people to remember anyway. Work with the priest in the Confessional, and he will help you.

Take a few quiet moments with the following reflections:

- **Your Relationship with God:** Have I hidden from God out of fear, anger, or shame? Have I doubted His ability to love and forgive me? Have I allowed the memory of past choices to keep me away from Mass or the Sacraments?
- **Your Relationship with Yourself:** Have I refused to forgive myself, holding on to a burden that Christ already paid to lift? Have I neglected my own spiritual or emotional well-being out of a sense of guilt or self-punishment?
- **The Healing of the Heart:** Am I ready to hand over my grief, anger, or secret pain regarding the abortion to Jesus? Am I willing to ask Him to give me the grace to let go of the past and accept His mercy?

When you enter the confessional, begin by telling the priest how long it has been since your last confession. If you have had an abortion, helped procure an abortion, deliberately cooperated in one, or supported abortion in another manner (e.g. supported State Issue One in 2023, supported abortion clinics), say so simply and honestly. If you previously concealed a grave sin in confession, tell the priest that as well; he will guide you with compassion and mercy. You need not remember every date or circumstance, but confess mortal sins by kind and approximate number as far as you are able.

You might say, "Father, I had an abortion many years ago, and I am deeply sorry." With sincere contrition and a willingness to receive the Lord's mercy, you can trust the priest to help you make a good confession.

Please remember, as the *Catechism* reminds us: "There is no offense, however serious, that the Church cannot forgive" (CCC 982). No sin is greater than God's mercy when we turn to Him with trust, humility, and a truly contrite heart: "My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit; a contrite, humbled heart, O God, you will not spurn" (Ps 51:19).

Building a Culture of Life

Supporting human life, in all stages and ages of life, involves far more than opposing abortion. It means affirming the dignity of every human person at every stage and age of life. It means supporting mothers and families, caring for the poor and vulnerable, accompanying those who suffer, helping and supporting the incarcerated, welcoming children, defending people with disabilities, and honoring the ill, the infirm, the elderly and the dying.

As Jesus teaches: "Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me" (Mt 25:40).

A truly pro-life society is one in which every person knows they are valued, loved, and never abandoned. As disciples of Jesus Christ, let us commit ourselves to speaking the truth in love (Eph 4:15), defending life with courage, serving those in need with generosity, and extending God's mercy to all.

May the Blessed Virgin Mary, who carried the Savior of the World within her womb, intercede for mothers, children, families, the vulnerable, the aged and infirm, the forgotten, and all who work to build a culture of life rooted in love, truth, compassion, and hope.

Diocesan and Catholic Accompaniment Ministries

- **Walking with Moms in Need** (www.columbuscatholic.org/walking-with-moms/) Diocese of Columbus Office of Pro-Life Ministries: A parish-based initiative coordinated through the diocese. Parishes provide direct volunteer companionship, connecting women with mentors, meal trains, baby registries, and local Catholic community support.
- **Mommies Matter** (<https://mommiesmatter.org>): A Catholic-supported outreach serving Central Ohio specifically designed for single, pregnant women. It pairs every expectant mother with a volunteer "Ally" to walk through pregnancy and postpartum, offering housing advocacy, financial counseling, legal guidance, and community baby showers.
- **Women's Care Center** (<https://www.womenscarecenter.org/contact/>): Operating multiple centers across the Columbus metro area with strong diocesan backing. They provide free pregnancy testing, ultrasounds, licensed clinical

consultations, ongoing parenting education, and a crib/supply boutique that supports moms through toddlerhood.

- **Project Rachel** (<https://columbuscatholic.org/prolife-resources/projectrachel/>): For anyone who carries the hidden trauma of a past abortion, Project Rachel offers confidential counseling and spiritual healing, reminding every soul that God's mercy is limitless.
- **Safe Surrender & Ohio's Safe Haven law** (<https://www.shbb.org>): A parent in crisis who is unable to care for a newborn may have a lawful option for confidential surrender. Eligibility, age limits, approved surrender locations, and procedures are governed by current Ohio law, so anyone considering this option should confirm the latest requirements through an official state or local public-safety source; call emergency services if a child is in immediate danger. A Safe Haven Baby Box has been identified at **Prairie Township Fire Department**, Station 241, 123 Inah Avenue, Columbus. This Safe Haven Baby Box was blessed earlier this year by Fr. Dan Moloney.

Regional Pregnancy Help Centers and Direct Care

- **Pregnancy Decision Health Centers** (<https://www.pdhc.org/>): Serves Franklin and neighboring counties with helpline support, ultrasound services, professional guidance, and material assistance for parents. Because services, hours, contact information, and locations may change, readers should consult PDHC's current official information before visiting.
- **Birthright of Columbus** (<https://birthright.org/columbusohmain>): Provides nonjudgmental friendship, maternity clothes, layettes, formula, referrals to local medical and social welfare programs.
- **Elizabeth's Hope Women's Centers** (<http://ehprc.org>): Serving the southern counties of the Columbus Diocese (Ross, Pickaway, Pike, and Jackson) with medical mobile units, ultrasounds, and earn-while-you-learn parenting mentorship.
- **Heartbeats of Licking County and Muskingum County** (<https://columbuscatholic.org/prolife-resources/>): Offers local medical exams, emergency material assistance, and dedicated peer mentors for rural eastern diocesan communities.

Parish and Practical Assistance

- **Society of St. Vincent de Paul (Diocesan Conferences)**: Many local parish conferences, including our own Conference here at Saint Brendan, provide emergency rent assistance, gift cards, utility support, groceries, and other necessities for mothers and families facing financial or other hardship; Email: danigriff@aol.com
- **Option Line (24/7 Toll-Free Support)**: Offers round-the-clock text and phone accompaniment (Call 800-712-4357 or text HELPLINE to 313131) to link callers instantly to their closest local clinic or parish advocate.
- **Our Parish Clergy**: Call the Parish Office during regular business hours – (614) 876-1272; after business hours call the parish office number and press the option for the Sacramental Emergency Line to speak with the on-call priest.

Respect Life Novena, Oct. 22-30

Pray with thousands of Catholics across the country for the protection of human life from conception to natural death. Get the daily prayers by email or text message!
<https://www.respectlife.org/respect-life-month-novena>

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, OCTOBER 19

6:30 AM Cecilia Dunasky †
8:00 AM For the needs of our parishioners as they begin the week
5:30 PM Barbara Thissen †

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20

6:30 AM Michael Kaminski †
8:00 AM Charles D. Heilen †

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

6:30 AM Sue Devore †
5:30 PM Placid Gomez †

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

6:30 AM Irma Morlani & Lillian Trombetti †
8:00 AM Nicky McCoy †

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23

6:30 AM Kevin Sharkey †
8:00 AM Intention for Sarah Lightle

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

8:00 AM For the deceased of Knight of Columbus #1208 +
5:30 PM Virginia Keiffer †

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:15 AM For the People of St. Brendan Parish
8:45 AM For The Eugenio & Valencia Family †
10:45 AM Fred Buerkle †
5:30 PM Robert Boyd, Sr. †

(† Intention is for someone deceased.)

Eucharistic Adoration

Visit stbrendan.weadorehim.com to sign up & sign in at the Kiosk upon arrival.

MONDAY 6 PM–10 PM

TUE./THU./FRI. 8:30 AM–10 PM
(First 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 & treasure. For all you do, **THANK YOU!**

Offertory, Oct. 11 2026 \$55,900

(Cash, checks, online giving)

Weekly Budgeted \$55,375



Give online via PushPay by scanning the QR code.

Preparing for Health Emergencies and Life's Final Journey with Faith, Nov. 8

Join us Sunday, November 8 following the 10:45 AM Mass (room TBD). Planning for the end of life can feel overwhelming, but preparing ahead is one of the greatest gifts we can give ourselves and those we love. Join us for an informative and faith-filled gathering as we explore important decisions surrounding estate planning, Catholic funeral arrangements, local Catholic cemeteries, and the sacraments available at the end of life. Together, we will learn how thoughtful preparation, guided by our Catholic faith, can provide peace of mind, ease the burden on loved ones, and help us approach life's final journey with confidence, dignity, and hope in God's promise of eternal life. **All are welcome!** Whether you are planning for yourself, helping aging parents, or simply looking to better understand these important topics, this event offers valuable guidance for every stage of life. Lunch will be provided. Questions? Email Nell at doconnell@stbrendans.net. Register via the QR code or at <https://tinyurl.com/stbplan4peace>



Women's Retreat, Nov. 14-15

The *Hearts on Fire* 2026 Women's Retreat is held at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein. Through worship, reflection, prayer and conversation, women of all ages are invited to rekindle their passion for God. Cost of \$145 includes: private room with bathroom, 3 meals and snacks/drinks. Take \$10 off if you register/pay by **October 27**. Add Friday night for an additional \$80. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/women26retreat> to register/pay online or, pay by check/paper form (on the Welcome Desk) with a check made out to St. Brendan Church with "Women's Retreat" in the memo line and mail to: Chris Hauck, 2121 Jervis Rd., Columbus, OH 43221. Questions? Email Chris at chrishauck0522@gmail.com



Advent by Candlelight

Our Pastor, Fr. Mike is the guest speaker this year! Sign up as a table hostess and provide linens, Advent decor and place settings for your table, or as a guest and be welcomed at one of the tables on Nov. 30 PM! A catered dinner will be served in the School Gym. Cost is \$30/person. Save the date and look for sign-up info coming soon! Questions? Email slsbd04@gmail.com

ABIDE IN ME, AND I IN YOU.

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

John 15:4

Save the dates! 100 St. Brendan women volunteers will be needed on **Feb. 20, 2027**, as St. Brendan will serve again this year as a host parish for the Columbus Catholic Women's Conference. Training will take place on **Feb. 6, 2027**. More details to come!

Prayerful Women:

Seven Sisters Apostolate ensures that a Holy Hour is prayed daily, M-F, for the intention of a specific deacon, priest or bishop for his deeper conformity to Christ. We are looking for 21 women to pray for our parish deacons – ideally in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament in an Adoration Chapel or in front of a Tabernacle. Email Wendy at wferkany@stbrendans.net

Our Final Dementia Series Session Is Nov. 19

Explore medical, safety and emotional resources for Alzheimers and dementia. Our final free session is Thursday, November 19, 5:30-7 PM in a classroom right off of the School Cafeteria (follow the signs). Speaker Laurie Schier discusses *Resources Beyond the Home*. Questions? Email Nell: doconnell@stbrendans.net. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/dementia4part>



Attention, Veterans!

Veterans and their families are invited to a Veterans Day Dinner hosted by our Knights of Columbus on Saturday, November 14 from 7-9 PM in the School Cafeteria. Food and drinks are provided. Guest speaker is Subha Lembach, an eyewitness to 9/11. RSVP by November 10 to Fred Kerner at joc93@yahoo.com or 614-946-7733



Bake Cookies for Kairos!

St. Brendan Kairos Prison Ministry will spend four days at London Correctional facility, Nov. 5-8. Each resident will receive one dozen cookies as a message of love from our parish. We are also raising money to pay for the volunteer and residence meals that weekend. Cookie bags will be passed out this weekend at all Masses, **October 17/18** and cookies will be collected until **November 1**. Cash donations for meals can be made at <https://tinyurl.com/kairos-donation> or, make checks out to "Kairos of Ohio." Questions? Tim: tireno04@gmail.com

Esto Vir Events...

Join us for fellowship and to bolster your faith! Questions? Email Grant: ricekris8813@att.net

Saturdays, 6:30 AM Esto Vir:

Gather in the Davidson Rooms to experience content from *Jesus - The Way, the Truth and the Life, The Chosen*: season 5 & *Sharing Our Story*.

Tuesday 6:30 AM study:

Meet weekly in the Davidson Rooms for study series on Scripture, early Church Fathers, lives of the saints & fellowship.



Become a Knight!

St. Brendan Knights of Columbus Council 11208 would like to invite our parish men (age 18+) to become a Knight. If you're interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in your faith, or having exclusive access to top-rated insurance protection for your family, then the Knights of Columbus is for you! You can join online in just 5 minutes at kofc.org/joinus and your initial annual dues are waived when signing up online with Agent Referral Code: **GANDERSON**. For questions or for more details, email Council Membership Director, Dean Pfirrmann at pfirrmann56@gmail.com

The Melchizedek Project Begins Oct. 19

Helping young men discern priesthood.

First meeting at St. Brendan is Monday, **October 19**, at **6-7:30 PM** in the School Library (dinner provided). Email Fr. Sam at frseverance@stbrendans.net to let him know you plan to attend. Future meetings dates are: **Nov. 30, Jan. 25, Feb. 22, March 15 and April 26**



Sweets for the Craft Show

This year, we would like to implore the baking talents of our parishioners in providing baked goods to sell at the **St. Brendan 2026 Fall Craft Show**. Please individually package and label your treats (noting any common allergens such as nuts, eggs, dairy or gluten-free). The baked goods can be dropped off on: **Rack by POD Nursery – Nov. 6, 8:30 AM-4 PM;** **Rack by School Gym – Nov. 6, 4-8 PM & Nov. 7, 7-10 AM.** Sign up to donate your baked goods at <https://tinyurl.com/bake4stb> or via the QR code. Questions? Email Steve Day: lday1@columbus.rr.com



Our 80-booth St. Brendan Fall Craft Show sponsored by Knights of Columbus is November 7, 9 AM-3 PM throughout the school – Free admission/parking, hot foods and sweets. Get all your Christmas shopping done early! Find more information at www.stbrendans.net/events and email Eric at stbcraftshow@gmail.com with questions.



Trunks & Treats Are Needed!

Sign up your "trunk" (decorated vehicle) to pass out candy or donate "treats" (individually wrapped) at <https://stbrendan.ccbchurch.com/goto/needs/public> or via the QR code above (*Note: Trunks should arrive to the parking lot by 5:30 PM to set up.*) **Candy is needed in large quantities for this event**, so please consider dropping off candy donations this month in the marked box in the Gathering Area when you come to Mass.

VINE & ROOTS Youth Groups

ROOTS FOR MIDDLESCHOOLERS (GRADES 6-8)

Join them weekly on Sundays, 6:30-8:30 PM.

Questions? Email Anna at amarino@stbrendans.net

Oct. 18: "How to Share the Gospel" (in Davidson)

Oct. 25: "Friendships" (in the School Gym)

VINE FOR HIGHSCHOOLERS (GRADES 9-12)

Join them weekly on Sundays, 6:30-8:30 PM.

Questions? Email Kara at kshand@stbrendans.net

Oct. 18: Trivia Night (in the School Gym)

Oct. 25: "Why does God feel distant?" (in Davidson)

Next Date Night Is Oct. 23

The next Knights of Columbus *Date Night for Young Couples/Young Parents* is Friday, Oct. 23, 6:30-8 PM to build stronger Catholic marriages, families and friendships. We will watch your children (6 mos.-5 yrs.) as you enjoy dinner and discussion in the Davidson Rooms. **RSVP** Chuck: 224-612-1557, chuck436@att.net

POD Nursery Volunteers

Our nursery, for kids 6 mos.-4 yrs. old, is in need of volunteers **during 8:45 & 10:45 AM Sunday Masses**. To sign up to help, email nursery@stbrendans.net (Ages 18+ must be Safe Environment compliant.)



Sacrament Preparation

If your child is of age for first Reconciliation, first Communion, or Confirmation (usually 2nd or 8th grade or older), and is not enrolled in Family Faith Formation or St. Brendan School, contact Jacob Doran in the parish office (jdoran@stbrendans.net or 614-876-1272, ext. 231).

Family Faith Formation

SEEK & ROOT FAMILY SESSION: Monday, Oct. 19, 6-7:30 PM

FIRST RECONCILIATION FAMILY SESSION: Sunday, Nov. 8, 9:45-11:15 AM

CONFIRMATION FAMILIES: The Confirmation weekend retreat at Damascus is November 20-22. Contact Jacob Doran if you have not yet registered your 8th grader at jdoran@stbrendans.net or 614-876-1272 ext. 231. All registrations must be submitted by Friday, November 6.

CONTINUED GROWTH FAMILY SESSION: Sunday, Nov. 8, 9:45-11:15 AM (in the School Gym.)

School Scholastic Book Fair Ends Oct. 22

Our school will host a Scholastic Book Fair through October 22. Family Night is 1-7 PM on October 22. Did you know that 25% of every online purchase directly benefits our school? Orders over \$35 ship FREE. Explore our Book Fair website to purchase titles online at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/stbrendanschool4>

Damascus Summer Camp Discount...

2027 Summer Camp Pre-Order registration is open now for early access to 90 reserved spaces to receive a \$100 discount (up until Oct. 31, 5 PM.) Pre-register for Week 1, June 6-11 with our group code **BRENHILL27**:

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

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

1. When asked about payment, select "Pay in full"
 2. Type our discount code **BREN100HILL27** into the promo code box
 3. Click the checkbox for your reservation, enter payment & submit
- For questions, email Jacob Doran at jdoran@stbrendans.net

Elizabeth Ministry Events

Mothers with young children are invited each month to meet in the Childcare Center for... **Playgroup** – 1st Tuesdays at 9:30 AM; **The Upper Room** – 3rd Tuesdays, 9:30 AM; **FIAT Hour** – 4th Fridays, 10-11 AM (Adoration for moms with childcare provided.) Questions? Email Regina at thelonggears@gmail.com



Register for Winter Athletics

Registration is open for St. Brendan Basketball and Cheer. Please note: We have recently switched to a new registration software. When you open the registration page, scroll down the list of Parishes to find St. Brendan Basketball and Cheer. Get access to the initial registration link and find more details at: www.stbrendans.net/ministries/athletics

Seniors NOW (Navigating Our Way)

NOVEMBER 6, 8 AM – First Friday Mass followed by breakfast at Crème de la Crème in Hilliard (5311 Westpointe Plaza)

NOVEMBER 9, MONDAY, 12 PM – Thanksgiving Luncheon at Der Dutchman, SR-42, Plain City

Be an OCIA Sponsor!

Our OCIA 2027 Easter Vigil Cohort has recently begun and there exists a need for parishioners who are willing to accompany and sponsor three of our catechumen/candidates who are exploring the Catholic faith. Meetings are Tuesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 PM in the Davidson Rooms. Sponsors will attend all the OCIA sessions and Rites with their candidates, a commitment of approximately 6 months. No special training is needed. If God is calling you to this rewarding role, fill out the Sponsor form found on our Welcome Desk or at <https://tinyurl.com/stbOCIA> Contact Wendy: 614-876-1272, ext. 291 or wferkany@stbrendans.net with questions.

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Happening Around Our Diocese...

YCP On Artificial Intelligence, Oct. 21
Join YCP Columbus Wednesday, Oct. 21, 7-9 PM at St. Joseph Cathedral. The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes will lead a conversation on Pope Leo XIV's encyclical on artificial intelligence and will explore AI through the lens of faith, human dignity and Catholic moral teaching. Free food and drinks. Register at <https://ycp.glueup.com/event/189752/register/>

Hope for Healing Retreat, Nov. 6-8
This sacred and confidential retreat on November 6-8 at Newark, Ohio is for post-abortive women, including those who have experienced an abortion or have been involved in facilitating one. Through testimonies, prayer, group sharing, Mass, spiritual direction with a priest, and the support of women who have experienced healing in Christ, encounter God's mercy, peace, and healing. Meals and lodging are provided. For registration, call/text 740-527-0730, healing@secondfire.org

Sacred Heart Congress Retreat, Nov. 7
Sacred Heart Enthronement Network is the host on Saturday, Nov. 7 at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church in Westerville for the Congress, themed "Come to Me" – a call to the faithful to bring the love of Christ into their homes, parishes, schools and communities. Speakers are Bishop Donald Hying (Diocese of Madison) and Annie Mitchell (Son Rise Morning Show.) Bishop Earl K. Fernandes will celebrate Holy Mass. A children's program follows the Mass. Register at www.welcomehisheart.com

St. Margaret Christmas Cookie Sale
St. Margaret Women's Club is having their 3rd annual Christmas Cookie Sale! Select from beautifully arranged cookie trays in two sizes. Orders will be taken Oct. 31-Nov. 30 and pick up is Dec. 12-13 after St. Margaret of Cortona Masses in Kulp Hall or by previous arrangement. Funds will go toward a new playground for the Preschool! Questions? email womensclub.stmargarets@gmail.com Order at <https://tinyurl.com/stmcookies>

2026 CCYA Conference, Oct. 24
Those ages 19-35 can join us Saturday, October 24 for the Columbus Catholic Young Adult Conference at St. Paul Parish in Westerville – a day of faith, fellowship, fun and food with inspiring Catholic speakers, breakout sessions, exhibitors, Adoration, vigil Mass and dinner. Register at www.ccyac.org

Bishop Watterson Happenings...

- **BWHS Trick-or-Treat:** Bring the little ones for Trick-or-Treat, Sunday, Oct. 25 from 3-4:30 PM; free for children 10 and under. Register at bishopwatterson.com
- All Bishop Watterson moms are invited to **Mothers' Club's annual Fall Dinner** on Thursday, November 5 at Brookside Country Club at 6 PM with social hour, raffle, silent auction and dinner at 7 PM. Details/register at bishopwatterson.com
- **Bishop Watterson's Open House** for prospective students is Sunday, November 22, 1-3 PM. Save the date!



Diocese of Columbus: Mother Cabrini Sunday at St. Brendan, Nov. 8

Join *Springs of Love* for Mother Cabrini Sunday on November 8, after the 10:45 AM Mass in the Davidson Room to learn how all Catholics can support those touched by fostering and adoption. *Springs of Love* helps families discern the call to foster or adopt, and offers ways for everyone in the Church to get involved. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Mother Cabrini Sunday is inspired by St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, whose legacy of welcoming vulnerable children with love, faith, and dignity continues to inspire the Church today. On that same Sunday, churches across the country will observe *Pure Religion Sunday*, an initiative of the *Christian Alliance for Orphans*. *Springs of Love* invites Catholic parishes to join this shared Christian witness under the patronage of Mother Cabrini.

Springs of Love is a national Catholic apostolate based in the Diocese of Columbus, to help parishes welcome and support foster, adoptive and kinship families. They help parishes build a culture of fostering and adoption by raising awareness, accompanying families through Care Teams, and hosting small groups for foster and those considering foster care or adoption. Questions? Contact Christine Ellerbrock at christine@springsoflove.org

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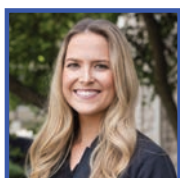
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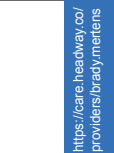


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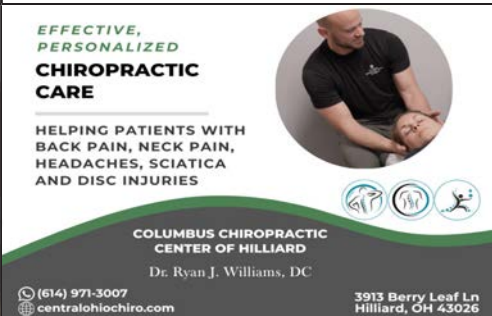
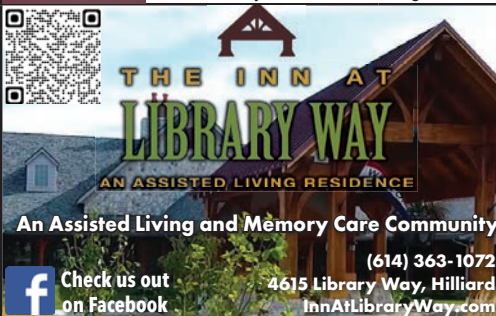
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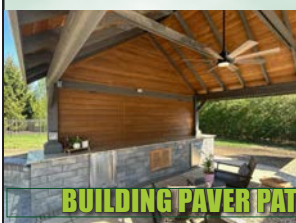
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