

OFFICE AND CHURCH HOURS

The Parish Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. The Church is open daily 6:00 AM-8:30 PM. For more information, visit www.standrewparish.cc.

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 PM Sunday - 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:00 AM Weekdays - 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM Saturday Morning - 9:00 AM

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:15-4:15 PM or by appointment at 614-451-4290

To learn more about **SACRAMENTS**, call the Parish Office or visit our website, www.standrewparish.cc and select "Sacraments and Prayer."

For **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**, please contact a priest at the Parish Office.

We welcome **NEW MEMBERS!** To register or learn more about St. Andrew Parish, please contact our office by phone, or email Jen Wenzke at jwenzke@standrewparish.cc.

OUR MISSION

St. Andrew Church is a community of Catholics committed to serving God by living our faith. We exist to fulfill the mission of the Roman Catholic Church at the local level by continuing the saving work of Christ. We accomplish this through the celebration of the sacraments, proclaiming and living the Gospel, reaching out to others in justice and charity, and providing all parishioners abundant spiritual, educational, and social opportunities to be known as a faith-filled, engaged, and generous parish.



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STAFF DIRECTORY

CLERGY Msgr. Stephan Moloney, Pastor Rev. Lawrence Tabi, Parochial Vicar Deacon Thomas M. Berg, Jr. Deacon Daniel Dowler Rev. William DeVille, In Holy Service whd22@aol.com Rev. Paul Noble, In Residence, pnoble@columbuscatholic.org	614-451-4290 Ext. 4 Ext. 5
PARISH OFFICE STAFF	614-451-4290
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Tina White, Director	Ext. 304
Tina White, Director twhite@cdeducation.org Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF Joel Wichtman, Principal	Ext. 304
Tina White, Director twhite@cdeducation.org Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF Joel Wichtman, Principal jwichtma@cdeducation.org Jenni Duffy, Assistant Principal	Ext. 304 or Ext. 305 614-451-1626
Tina White, Director twhite@cdeducation.org Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF Joel Wichtman, Principal jwichtma@cdeducation.org Jenni Duffy, Assistant Principal jbucher@cdeducation.org Julie Strayer, Administrative Assistan	Ext. 304 or Ext. 305 614-451-1626 Ext. 234 Ext. 235
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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday:	Aug 26 Vigil, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
4:30 p.m.	Jim and Sue Barrett
Sunday:	Aug 27, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 a.m.	For the People of St. Andrew Parish
9:15 a.m.	Michael Murphy
11:00 a.m.	Don and Toni Stuhldreher
Monday:	Aug 28, St. Augustine, Bishop
6:30 a.m.	Gene Perry, Sr.
8:30 a.m.	Elda Cianelli
Tuesday:	Aug 29, Passion of St. John the Baptist
6:30 a.m.	Larry Call
8:30 a.m.	Emmett Reichley
Wednesday	: Aug 30, Weekday Mass
6:30 a.m.	For an Increase in Vocations to the Priesthood
8:30 a.m.	Polly Kubalak
Thursday:	Aug 31, Weekday Mass
6:30 a.m.	Gilia lafolla
8:30 a.m.	Samira Moussa
Friday: 6:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m.	Sep 1, Weekday Mass John and Rosemarry Persinger and Joseph and Katherine Reed Marie and Pat Cantwell
Saturday:	Sep 2, Weekday Mass
9:00 a.m.	Canonization of Blessed Frederic Ozanam
4:30 p.m.	Vigil, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Tom Lynch
Sunday:	Sep 3, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 a.m.	Charles Varda
9:15 a.m.	Joe and Louise Karam
11:00 a.m.	For the people of St. Andrew Parish

BAPTISMS

Eliana Hoy, daughter of Alexander and Giovana

BANNS OF MATRIMONY

Kristina Anderson and Sean Bedevelsky (1)

FORMED is a digital streaming service – available to St. Andrew parishioners free of charge – that provides amazing content 24/7 for you to grow in your faith. To register, visit **www.FORMED.org**, click on Sign Up (top right of page), enter NWWM42 (this is our parish access code). There is something for everyone: award-winning studies and parish programs, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming. Give it a try!

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

I am sure that you have seen news reports about the awful devastation and loss of life on Maui in the state of Hawaii, caused by out-of-control wildfires. The historic city of Lahaina has been almost completely destroyed. More than 100 are confirmed dead and many more are missing. Naturally, our impulse is to reach out and help. In today's bulletin, you will see a notice with an appeal from the Bishop of Honolulu with information about how you can donate to help the victims of this disaster recover. Also, please be assured than any donations received by St. Andrew Parish designated for this purpose will be forwarded to the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation.

This disaster is just one event in a long series of disasters, both natural and man made, which are occurring ever more frequently and with greater intensity and destructive force, such as hurricanes, extreme heat, floods, famine, earthquakes, chemical spills, volcanic eruptions, climate change and degradation of the environment. These things are happening all over the world and all around us. Perhaps its only a matter of time before some disaster strikes us here in Central Ohio, and we will be the ones pleading for help.

The frequency of these disasters can numb us to the need. We may suffer from "donor fatigue" because of frequent requests for help. In the past, when devastating disasters were less frequent, we often would take up a special collection every time there was a need. This is no longer the case – but the need is still there. So, while we may not pass the basket in church, I hope your heart will be moved to make a contribution to help the victims of the Maui disaster. Next time, it might be us who asks for help!

May God bless you all and reward you for your generosity!

Your Pastor,

Msgr. Stephan Moloney



WoSA SIP & SOCIAL

MONDAY, SEPT 11 7:00-8:30 PM NUGENT PARISH HALL

KICK OFF AUTUMN with Women of St. Andrew (WoSA) and join us in an evening of fun, friendship and learning along with wine, cheese and dessert!

Erin Cordle, the diocesan associate director of the Office for Social Concerns will discuss how we can learn and grow by understanding the "great women of the Bible."

In addition, WoSA will share our itinerary of planned events for 2023-2024.

We look forward to seeing old friends and meeting new friends in the St. Andrew community!

For more information and to RSVP for the event, email womenofstandrew@ gmail.com



WOMEN of ST. ANDREW

LECTIO PETER: THE CORNERSTONE OF CATHOLICISM

TUESDAYS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 12 7:15-9:15 PM BRYCE ECK CENTER

St. Peter is both inspiring and confounding to many of us. How could a stubborn and impulsive fisherman become the "rock" upon which Jesus would build His Church? Bringing together biblical accounts, historical evidence, Church teaching, classical art, and personal insights, Dr. Tim Gray gives a fresh perspective on Simon Peter that is immediately informative and relevant to our lives. After all, if Jesus could bring out the very best in someone like Peter, then there is hope for the rest of us! The weekly Bible Study includes a short video followed by small group discussions. The study guide, leader guide and videos for this study are available (free) on FORMED. More information will be provided on the first evening. If you wish to purchase the optional study guide, visit **ignatius.com/lectio-peterleader-guide-5pelgp/**.

If you have additional questions, please contact Kathy Miller at **Kathy.Miller725@gmail.com**.

SUNDAY OFFERING

	AUGUST 13	YT	D
ACTUAL	\$ 24,327	\$	184,128
BUDGET	\$ 32,212	\$	225,481
LAST YEAR	\$ 26,278	\$	180,987

Thank you to all who are responding generously to our financial need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

We encourage you to consider Online Giving, which is safe, secure and convenient. To sign up, visit **osvhub. com/st-andrew-parish/funds** or

contact Business Manager Thomas Conigy, **tconigy@standrewparish. cc** or 614-451-4290, ext. 6.



MAUI WILDFIRES – RELIEF, RECOVERY AND REBUILD: The Most Reverend Larry Silva, Bishop of Honolulu, has requested your prayers for all those affected by the wildfires that have ravaged Maui. Additionally, he has requested support for the Hawaii Catholic Community Foundation (HCCF), a 501(c) (3) nonprofit corporation, to rebuild lives and restore hope by aiding the relief efforts for parish and school communities. To make a tax deductible contribution, visit **tinyurl.com/MauiCatholic**.



SATURDAY, SEPT. 30 PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM 7625 North High Street Packet pickup: 7:30 AM // Start time: 9 AM

NEW THIS YEAR: St. Andrew Parish would like to have a team at the event. If you are interested in joining other parishioners for the Josephinum 4-miler, email Tony King at **standrewtrackandfield@gmail.com**. We will try to schedule a few opportunities beforehand to prepare for the race. On the day of the event, we will meet up at a specific location on the Josephinum campus before the race, as well. If there is enough interest this year, we will grow the program next year. For additional information about the event or to register, visit **m3ssports.com**.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration, on Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration is simply the act of being in Christ's real presence while the Eucharist is on the altar. Adorers may stay as briefly or as long as they would like.

Adoration will end with Compline (end of day prayers), followed by Benediction at 8:45 p.m.

MUSIC MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



There are abundant opportunities to become more involved in our parish music program and now is the perfect time! Rehearsals will resume in September and many of our ensembles now meet on a seasonal schedule, allowing for shorter-term commitments. Do you have a musical gift to share?

ST. ANDREW PARISH CHOIR rehearses on Thursday evenings and sings for the 9:15 Mass on Sunday mornings in addition

to other holy days and special occasions. There are currently openings for all voice parts.

ST. ANDREW HANDBELL CHOIR rehearses on Wednesday evenings. No previous ringing experience is needed to join this group, but a basic knowledge of music reading is helpful. Not sure if it's for you? Come try it out!

ST. ANDREW RESURRECTION CHOIR sings for all parish funerals throughout the year. This ministry is ideal for men and women who enjoy singing and have some flexibility with their daytime (especially morning) schedules. A meaningful way to honor our parishioners who have died, and to offer comfort to their loved ones.

For further information about any of these music ensembles, or if you're interested in joining one of them, please contact our Music Director, Phil Lortz, at **plortz@standrewparish. cc** or 614-451-1839.

HOME VISITS: If you or a family member are homebound and would like a visit from a priest or an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, please **call the parish office at 614-451-4290**. EMs bring Communion to the homebound on Sundays or as scheduled. Priests will see the homebound upon request, however, they usually cannot schedule home visits with Communion on Sundays.

GOD IS DOING SOMETHING NEW, AND CALLING YOU TO BE A PART OF IT!



We are excited to announce that, starting in October, St. Andrew will host the **Eucharistic Revival Small Study Groups**. The parish is looking for men and women to step forward and serve as small group leaders, to help with hospitality or parish outreach.

JOIN US on WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 6, at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall for a special evening focusing on EVANGELIZATION AND

TRAINING. The evening is open to all parish members who want to learn more about the National Eucharistic Revival and how we can implement this critical movement in our parish. From being a small

group table leader at the Parish-Wide Revival Study or best practices in sharing the faith with others, the time for parish revival is now.

To sign up for the evangelization and training, visit **tinyurl.com/SAP-ER-Training** or use the QR code here.



WHAT IS THE EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL?

The National Eucharistic Revival, a three-year

initiative sponsored by the Bishops of the United States, is preparing for Year Two – the Year of Parish Revival (2023-2024). The Eucharistic Revival is an historic and important national movement to help the faithful fall in love with Jesus, especially in the Eucharist, and be inspired and equipped to share that love with others.

The meeting will cover the major pillars of the Eucharistic Revival and how you can help through either helping with a small group, assisting with hospitality or joining in helping with a welcome committee.

SMALL GROUPS: JESUS AND THE EUCHARIST

These will be in the format of video and small group with prayer and discussion lasting approximately two hours per session. There will be a Kerygmatic Encounter focus that leads to a deeper devotion to the Eucharist. This series can be run at the parish or outside the parish in small or large group formats. Hospitality and a welcoming environment are encouraged as in the other Kerygmatic Encounter series.

We hope to have a great turnout for the seven-week small group gatherings and lay the groundwork for the parish mission with Dr. Sri on December 6, 2023.

Small study group meetings are scheduled for the following Tuesdays: October 9, 16, 23, 30, and November 6, 13 and 20. Meetings will be held in Nugent Parish Hall.

To RSVP for the small study group meetings, visit **tinyurl.com/SAP-ER-Meeting** or use the QR code here.





MASS IN HONOR OF ST. MONICA: In lieu of the monthly book club meeting, St. Andrew will host a special Mass on **Monday, August 28**, starting at 7 p.m. on the feast of St. Augustine, in honor of St. Monica and St. Augustine. Msgr. Moloney will celebrate this Mass, and we will host a small reception in the Parish Hall.

The intention of the Mass will be for those friends, family members, and former parishioners who have left the faith in the hopes that – through the intercession of Sts. Monica and Augustine – they return to the Church. For more information, contact Amy Tague at amyliss14@gmail.com.

[save the date

ST. ANDREW PARISH MISSION

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 6, 2023

Featuring Dr. Edward Sri, theologian, author and well-known Catholic speaker.



For more information about the Eucharistic Revival, upcoming adult faith events and evangelization, contact Emily Jaminet, 614-451-4290, ext. 9 or ejaminet@standrewparish.cc.



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES All activities take place at the Bryce Eck Center

All activities take place at the Bryce Eck Center unless otherwise noted.

SUNDAY, AUG. 27 First Called Youth Ministry (FCYM) Disciples 6:30 to 8:00 PM Leadership Team Meeting Be the FIRST CALLED to be our 2023-24 Disciples!

> TUESDAY, AUG. 29 FCYM Adoration and Exposition 6:00 PM Church

SUNDAY, SEP. 10 FCYM Kick-off Picnic 6:30 to 8:00 PM

Our theme this year is Friendship! Please join us to learn more about true friendship with Jesus.

FCYM at St. Andrew Parish is for teens in grades 6-12 who love Jesus and want to grow in faith and holiness through fellowship in small groups, service, Adoration, and prayer. FCYM meets weekly on alternating Sundays for HIGH SCHOOL and MIDDLE SCHOOL grades.



NEW THIS YEAR: Register Online! If you'd like to become involved in FCYM, please register at **tinyurl. com/FCYM23-24**. Registration includes completing an emergency medical and activity consent form. A \$50 registration fee is requested to help offset the cost of food and material for participants.

For more information about FCYM at St. Andrew, contact Maria Moore at 614-439-3571 (cell), 614-459-1402 (office), or **mmoore@standrewparish.cc.**

LITURGICAL VOLUNTEERS

SAT, SEP 2: Vigil, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:00 PM Mass

Kevin Carpenter
Elizabeth Carpenter
Cathy Covarrubias
Angela Bonfante
Jonathan Koeninger
lan McNair

EMHC - B1 EMHC - B2 Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server Altar Server

SUN, SEP 3: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:30 AM Mass

Deb McEllistrem	EMHC - B1
Kathy Cowen	EMHC - B2
John Pashke	Lector - A
John Schechter	Lector - B
Grant Davis	Altar Server
Lina Kaleta	Altar Server

9:15 AM Mass

David Tague Deborah McGlumphy Mike Luckett Jacob Decot Ciara Clarke Joseph Kaleta Kelly Koval

11:00 AM Mass

Rosie Brandon Jennie Statczar Marty Majka Wini Chuidian Gabrielle Martin Daniel Martin

To volunteer, visit **www.rotundasoftware. com/ministry/standrewcolumbus**, or use the QR code here. If you need help with your username or password, contact the Parish Office, 614-451-4290.



BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS: Send requests no later than Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the following weekend. Include a brief description, date, time, location and contact name and send to **bulletin@standrewparish.cc**. Bulletin requests may be edited for clarity or space.

ePOST WEEKLY EMAIL: To subscribe, contact Mary Beasecker, **mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc**. The ePost includes information about upcoming events and activities within the parish. To submit information, please email to Mary before Noon on Mondays. ePOST submissions may be edited for clarity or space.

- EMHC B1 EMHC - B2 EMHC - B CHOIR Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server Altar Server
- EMHC B1 EMHC - B2 Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server

Altar Server

Come as you are.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE

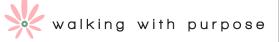
Make authentic connections with other women | Learn more about God

Join us for *Keeping in Balance* where we'll explore Biblical ideas for managing life's pace and pressure while living with calm and steadiness. Your lifestyle of health and holiness awaits.

> Bryce Eck Center 3880 Reed Rd, Columbus, OH 43220

Wednesdays beginning September 13, 2023 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM

Questions or to Register: Contact 614-893-7674 or wwpstandrewcolumbus@gmail.com



www.walkingwithpurpose.com



THE VISION OF MAN FULLY ALIVE

Are you looking to deepen your relationship with God? Be a better husband and a more loving father? Build friendships and seek to be the best man you can be?

In 2022, more than 50 men in the parish signed up for TMIY and the feedback was overwhelmingly positive about the impact on their relationships with family and friends!

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Saturday Mornings BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 9 Bryce Eck Center

SCHEDULE:

6:30 a.m. Breakfast 7:00 a.m. Video Presentation 7:30 a.m. Small group discussion 8:00 a.m. Session concludes

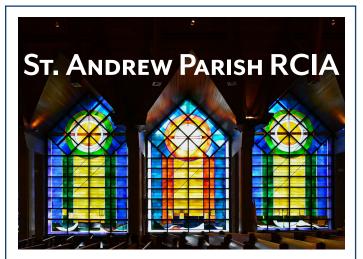
REGISTRATION:

For more information or to register, contact Colin Bellantis, 440-728-4166, or **colinbellantis@gmail.com**

DISCOVER:

• Eight new speakers, new personalities, and new topics, while still building on the foundation of the three base years of TMIY formation.

- The path to authentic spiritual freedom, the beauty of the Eucharist, and the power of the Holy Spirit in action from a passionate and dynamic Franciscan Friar.
- A deeper understanding of each of the four gospels from one of the best theologians in the world.
- An epic real life story from the underground mafia of London to the heights of spiritual freedom.
- The secrets of superabundant relationships from one of the world's experts on purity and chastity.
- The meaning of manhood through the example of Jesus Christ.



Are you interested in becoming Catholic?

RCIA* (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) at St. Andrew Parish offers you the unique opportunity to learn more about the Catholic faith within our welcoming parish community. Consider making St. Andrew your spiritual home.

SCHEDULE:

Within the St. Andrew RCIA program, men and women at all stages of their faith journey come together in a nonthreatening and welcoming atmosphere to learn more about the Catholic Church. The RCIA program includes weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. **The first meeting will be Wednesday, Sept. 27**.

DISCOVER:

- Learn about the Catholic faith.
- Learn how to pray.
- Learn about the Holy Mass.
- Come to love the Sacraments.
- Grow in Christian fellowship.
- Discern God's will in your life.
- Experience initiation with fellow parishioners at the Easter Vigil.

We would love to have you join us in the journey of becoming Catholic. If you have any questions or would like more information, contact Emily Jaminet, ejaminet@standrewparish.cc or call the Parish Office, 614-451-4290, ext. 10.

*Please note: RCIA will soon change to OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation for Adults).

To learn more, visit **WWW.TMIY.ORG**

THANK YOU

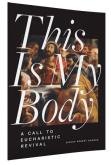
Dear Monsignor Moloney:

Prayerful greetings to you in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. I wanted to extend my heartfelt gratitude for giving me the opportunity to make a Mission Appeal in your parish. Your unwavering support and generosity have allowed me to share our mission's purpose with your congregation, and for that, I am truly grateful. Thank you for your great hospitality, time and love. Truly enjoyed the time being with you. Your guidance and encouragement throughout the process made it a memorable experience. Thank you for opening your doors to us and helping us share our mission needs of our diocese of Warangal, India.

On behalf of our bishop, Most Reverend Bala Udumala and the diocese of Warangal, we are very grateful to you and to all your faithful in your St. Andrew Parish, towards missionary assistance to spread the Good News. We greatly appreciate your missionary concern and financial assistance. Please be assured of our continued prayers.

With sincere appreciation,

Fr. Albeen Vatti



BISHOP BARRON'S NEW BOOK, written specifically to address the disaster of disbelief in the True Presence in the Eucharist is now available just for St. Andrew parishioners at no cost.

READ and SHARE. That's the plan. Every parishioner has been given the opportunity to evangelize through this little book. Keep one for yourself and give one to a friend. And, remember

to pray for the future of our Church and Eucharistic Revival.

If you are interested in learning more or would like to help with the Eucharistic Revival initiative, contact Emily Jaminet at **ejaminet@standewparish.com**.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON RETURNS FOR A NEW SEASON ON FRIDAY, SEPT. 1! Catholic men of the diocese are welcome to join us for this monthly event (September through June). The luncheon is held at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus and September's event will feature a talk by Attorney Don Brey and Dr. Michael Parker about the proposed Ohio Constitutional Amendment to expand abortion access in Ohio. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Jim Gernetzke at jimgernetzke@ noslumine.com. Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m., and the presentation by Mr. Brey and Dr. Parker. No reservations are necessary. \$12 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend!

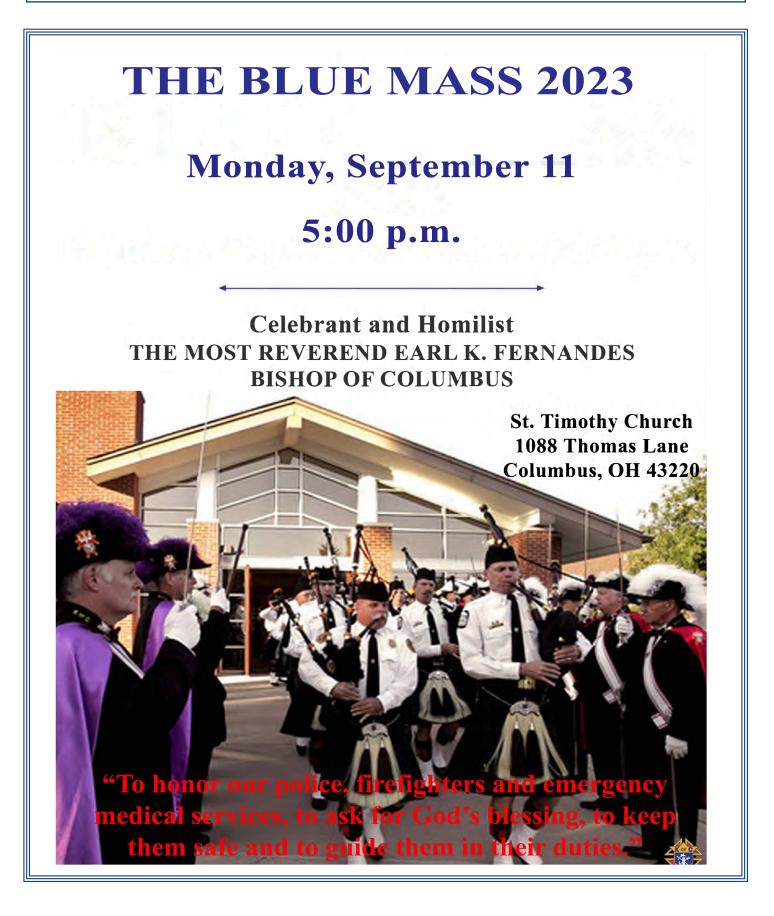
EARLY FALL RETREAT: Experience a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2023 the best year of your marriage by applying today! **The next weekend retreat in the Central Ohio area is September 8-10, 2023**. For more information or to apply, visit our website at **WWMEcolumbus.org**, or contact Paul and Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880. Early registration is highly recommended.

MYSTICAL ROSE MOTHER-DAUGHTER TEA: Womb to Tomb Ministry invites you on September 9, 2:00-4:00 p.m. to St. Catherine Parish Center for classic Tea and Boba. All girls, 5th grade and older, and their mothers, grandmothers, aunts, etc. are welcome. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$10 anyone under 18. Register by September 1 by emailing to lisareis06@gmail.com or by visiting www.stcatherine.com/tea.

ODU ANNUAL FALL LECTURE SERIES: Ohio Dominican University's Center for Dominican Studies will present four lectures this fall on the theme "Truths We Have Learned," which are free and open to the public, 3:30 p.m. in Sansbury Hall in the Colonial Room at 1216 Sunbury Road, Columbus, 43219. The first lecture will take place on Thursday, September 14. For details, visit **ohiodominican.edu**.

BIRTHRIGHT OF COLUMBUS will hold its **Annual Luncheon on Saturday, Sept. 23, 11 a.m., at Mozart's**, 4784 N. High Street. Tickets are \$50 for adults and \$20 for children. In addition to a delicious lunch, there will be a silent auction and raffle. For more information and tickets, contact Sue Wilson at columbusohmain@birthright.org or 614-313-5150. Thank you for your continued support of Birthright of Columbus!

AROUND THE DIOCESE





"Do This in Remembrance of Me" A Step-By-Step Walk Through the Mass

Fr. Luke Spannagel

Why is the Mass so important?

Why do we stand, sit, and kneel at specific times during the Mass?

Where did the prayers we say at Mass come from?

When does Jesus actually become present in his Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity?

How do I pray better at Mass?

These are just some of the many questions parishioners have asked me through the years. They're really great questions! The goal of this series is to explore the most common things Catholics want to know about the Mass.

What is the Mass?

The first question that we need to talk about, the one that underlies all the other questions you might have regarding the Mass, and the question you probably haven't asked yourself, is this: What is the Mass? This is a really important question, and we'll be deepening the answer to this throughout the series. However, as we begin, I want to give you for starters a way you can think about the Mass:

• The Mass is our participation in the one perfect Sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross.

• The Mass is our participation in true communion with God and one another.

• And the Mass is our taste on this earth of the full perfection we will experience in the Kingdom of Heaven.

The Mass is the perfect worship of the Father in heaven, and it is an inestimable source of gifts and blessings for us as well.

In this series, we will be exploring each of the parts of the Mass, beginning from that first moment when we walk through the church doors. So let's begin.

Part 1: Holy Water and Sacramentals

Holy Water

What is one of the first things you do when entering the body of a Catholic church? You reach down and dip your fingers in the holy water font and make the Sign of the Cross on yourself. We do this seemingly small gesture so often that sometimes we may not think about its meaning.

First, have you ever wondered why there are holy water fonts located near the entrance of the church? Msgr. Peter Elliott explains, "The holy water stoups [fonts] at the doors of the church are signs which recall the baptismal washing of the faithful" (Ceremonies for the Modern Rite, no. 44). In many traditional church layouts, the baptistry was located near the main door of the church. So just as the Sacrament of Baptism is our entrance into the life of God and the Christian Faith, it's symbolic that baptistries and fonts are located at the entrance of churches. Their location just inside the church doors recalls for us our entrance into the life of the Church when we were baptized with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit (the Sign of the Cross).

So as you enter the body of the church, you bless yourself with holy water to recall the sacrament through which you entered into God's family, the Church. When you enter the church for Mass, you are, we could say, entering the place of "family celebration." We have been given tremendous gifts as members of God's family, and holy water reminds us of these gifts. By blessing ourselves with holy water, we recommit ourselves to living holy lives in fidelity to Christ, and we prepare ourselves to participate fruitfully in the Holy Mass.

Sacramentals

Holy water is water blessed by a bishop, priest, or deacon and is among holy things that fall into the category called "sacramentals." The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that sacramentals "are sacred signs which bear a resemblance to the sacraments" (CCC, no. 1667). That means that these holy things or actions remind us of sacraments in some way. They help us recall the graces of the sacraments. They don't confer grace, but prepare us to receive grace and help us be ready to cooperate with those graces so we can grow in faith and holiness.

Beloved Children of the Father

I mentioned earlier that holy water recalls our Baptism. Dipping our fingers into the holy water and making the Sign of the Cross as we enter the church for Mass is certainly not the same as our Baptism, when water was poured upon us and baptized in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. However, intentionally blessing ourselves with holy water as we enter the church recalls the day that we were brought into God's family, and it reminds us we are beloved children of the Father.

As we prepare to join together with Christ in his perfect offering to the Father, this first gesture as we enter the body of the church helps us to know that we belong and that we have been invited to take part in the Sacrifice of Christ.

For Reflection:

1. After his Resurrection, Jesus Christ gave his disciples a mandate: "Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age" (Mt. 28:19-20). As you make the Sign of the Cross, consider the ways in which Christ fulfills his promise to remain with us, and ask for a greater awareness of God's presence in your life.

2. When were you baptized? Reflect on this gift of initiation into God's family, and look forward to your next visit to church.



Source: www.eucharisticrevival.org/blog

WHERE DOES IT SAY THAT?



THIS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT...

THREATENS PARENTAL RIGHTS

By using "individual" instead of adult or woman, anyone under the age of 18 could have an abortion or make any other reproductive decision without their parents' consent or notification.

PUTS WOMEN AT RISK

Current Ohio laws* require abortion providers to explain procedure risks and ensure access to hospital transfer if needed. These health and safety standards could be seen as a "burden" and be eliminated, making it even less safe for women seeking an abortion.

ALLOWS ABORTIONS THROUGH 9 MONTHS OF PREGNANCY

In U.S. law,** "health" includes age or physical, emotional, or psychological well-being. This means a woman's age or emotional health could be cited to justify aborting a full-term baby. An abortionproviding physician would decide when a baby could survive outside the womb, leaving no clear protections for preborn children.

IS MISLEADING

Referring to "miscarriage care" promotes a myth that a "right to abortion" is necessary to preserve care for miscarriages and ectopic pregnancies. This is false. Catholic hospitals have always provided comprehensive miscarriage care and will continue to do so regardless of the outcome of this vote.

ARTICLE I, SECTION 22

The Right to Reproductive Freedom with Protections for Health and Safety

- Every individual has a right to make and carry out one's own reproductive decisions, including but not limited to decisions on contraception, fertility treatment, continuing one's own pregnancy, miscarriage care, and abortion.
- 2. The State shall not, directly or indirectly, burden, penalize, prohibit, interfere with, or discriminate against either an individual's voluntary exercise of this right or a person or entity that assists an individual exercising this right, unless the State demonstrates that it is using the least restrictive means to advance the individual's health in accordance with widely accepted and evidence-based standards of care.
- 3. However, abortion may be prohibited after fetal viability. But in no case may such an abortion be prohibited if in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician it is necessary to protect the pregnant patient's life or health.
- 4. As used in this Section, "Fetal viability" means "the point in a pregnancy when, in the professional judgment of the pregnant patient's treating physician, the fetus has a significant likelihood of survival outside the uterus with reasonable measures. This is determined on a case-by-case basis"; and "State" includes any governmental entity and political subdivision.
- 5. This Section is self-executing.

* Ohio Revised Code, Sections 2317.56 & 3702.303 ** Based on Doe v. Bolton



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