

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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StAndrewUA

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CLERGY	614-451-4290
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•	EXt. 103
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Rev. Paul Noble, In Residence,	
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Amanda Carter, Preschool Director	Ext. 1
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Pat Carroll, Facility Manager

pcarroll@standrewparish.cc

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday: Aug. 24 Vigil, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:30 p.m. Dr. Joseph Banks

Sunday: Aug. 25, 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:30 a.m. For the People of St. Andrew Parish

9:15 a.m. Greg Freisner 11:00 a.m. Lloyd Rinehart

Monday: Aug. 26, Weekday Mass

6:30 a.m. Special Intention 8:30 a.m. Frank Kreber

Tuesday: Aug. 27, St. Monica 6:30 a.m. Paul McNamara, Jr. 8:30 a.m. Dan Clevenger

Wednesday: Aug. 28, St. Augustine

6:30 a.m. Mary Ferencik 8:30 a.m. Roberto Aldana

Thursday: Aug. 29, Passion of St. John the Baptist

6:30 a.m. Larry Call

8:30 a.m. Angela Massenelli

Friday: Aug. 30, Weekday Mass

6:30 a.m. Gary Sterling 8:30 a.m. Lloyd Mallet

Saturday: Aug. 31, Weekday Mass

9:00 a.m. Jim Saffell

Vigil, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:30 p.m. Gilia Iafolla

Ext. 3

Sunday: Sep.1, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 a.m. Pat and Marie Cantwell 9:15 a.m. Harold Simmons

11:00 a.m. For the People of St. Andrew Parish

BAPTISMS

Carina Isabella Rodriguez Mazariegos,

daughter of William and Jessica

Celeste Ann Bucher,

daughter of Justin and Brianna

BANNS OF MARRIAGE

Shelby Fulton and Mitchell Tulley (3)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILY OF...

Phyllis Shanahan

FACILITIES AND ROOM RESERVATIONS

If you would like to reserve one of the meeting spaces or halls at St. Andrew Parish, please contact Jen Wenzke, jwenzke@standrewparish.cc, or Greg Price, gprice@standrewparish.cc. The event calendar can be viewed at standrewparish.cc/calendar.

MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

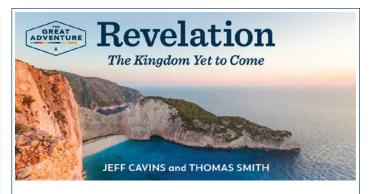
School started this past week at St. Andrew and I am happy to see the children once again. Their presence is a sign of hope and assurance because we know that the faith is being passed to the next generation. I feel the same way about seeing children in church. Lately, I have been watching the people in church from the vantage point of the back of church, especially during Communion time (obviously when I'm not the celebrant of the Mass). I enjoy watching the families with young children as they pray, as they go together in the Communion procession, as they return to their pews. I see parents patiently teaching their little ones to kneel, to make the Sign of the Cross, to follow along in their prayer book or to sing along with the Communion song. I like to see the moms and dads gently guiding their children and lovingly teaching them to participate in the Mass. I see those who are too young to receive Communion eagerly seeking a blessing from the priest or deacon. I like to see the toddlers with too much energy running back and forth in the vestibule while exasperated parents watch over them. Sometimes a young child will shriek or cry loudly during Mass. I am not bothered by this in the least. That sound is the sound of life! I am a strong believer that young children should be brought to Mass and always be included in the worshipping community. That way, they grow up being familiar with the Mass and appreciating its beauty and mystery. And their presence gives us older folks hope and assurance, as we see the faith being passed to the next generation!

Your Pastor,

Monsignor Stephan Moloney



SAINT MONICA CLUB RESUMES MONDAY, AUG. 26 6:00-7:00 PM // PARISH HALL



TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY BEGINS TUESDAY, SEPT. 3 7:15-8:30 PM // NUGENT PARISH HALL

Unpack the Mysteries of Revelation. Perhaps no book of the Bible fascinates people more than Revelation. Yet relatively few people have studied it, especially from a Catholic perspective. *Revelation: The Kingdom Yet to Come* shows how the kingdom established by Christ in His Church is intimately connected with the kingdom of heaven.

Study presenter Jeff Cavins pulls back the veil on the rich symbolism present in Revelation. Discover what the mysterious figures and images of Revelation mean and see how Revelation is more than an apocalyptic vision of the "end times." Explore the Church's teaching on the Second Coming of Christ and the Last Judgment. Understand how God, the Divine Bridegroom, and the Church, His spotless bride, enter into a heavenly, holy, and mystical marriage every time we celebrate Mass.

Each evening session includes small group discussion of the weekly study questions (from an optional but recommended study guide) and a video presentation which contains expert commentary. This is an 11-week study that continues through Tuesday, Nov. 12.

If interested, the study guide and optional online access to the videos is available to purchase at **tinyurl. com/SAP-Revelation-2024**.

For more information, contact Kathy Miller at **kathy.** miller725@gmail.com.

Give up worry and turn to prayer with the Saint Monica Club! We meet on the fourth Monday of each month, August through May. All are welcome. St. Monica represents persistent, unfailing prayer for fallen-away family members. The Saint Monica Club includes all devoted parents who have experienced the pain of a child leaving the faith and have prayed ceaselessly for their return. For more info and to RSVP, contact **Amy Tague**, at **amyliss14@gmail.com**.

MASS IN HONOR OF ST. MONICA: On Tuesday, Aug. 27, we will celebrate St. Monica's Feast Day with Mass at 6 p.m. 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 St. Monica, they return to the Church. Following Mass, we will continue with Adoration and Exposition.

SUNDAY OFFERING

	AUG 11	YTD		
ACTUAL	\$ 72,448	\$	210,621	
BUDGET	\$ 32,692	\$	196,152	
LAST YEAR	\$ 24,327	\$	184,128	

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 at tconigy@standrewparish.cc or 614-451-4290, ext. 106.



SCAM WARNING: FAKE EMAILS FROM MSGR. MOLONEY

It's the season for scams. If you receive (or have already received) an unexpected email from Msgr. Moloney, please double-check the sender's email address. If the sender's email address IS NOT **smoloney@ columbuscatholic.org,** it is a scam. Do not respond to the message.

ROSARY FOR LIFE: ALL ARE WELCOME!

Join us every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. to pray the Rosary for Life. Mass begins at 9:00 a.m. At the conclusion of the Mass, we pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet. We provide prayer aid booklets and materials.

On the first Saturday of each month, the St. Andrew Council Knights of Columbus lead the Rosary and Chaplet. On all the other Saturdays, the women of the parish lead the prayers.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION NEWS

WE ARE STILL ACCEPTING PSR REGISTRATIONS! If you want to enroll your child in PSR, please complete the registration and enrollment forms found at **tinyurl.** com/2024-PSR-Forms as soon as possible. This allows us to properly plan for and place staff members. You can return the forms by mail or drop them off at the parish office.

JOIN THE PSR TEAM! We are looking for a few people to fill some available positions within the department:

- First-grade Catechist
- Classroom Aides
- PSR Administrative Assistant

MORE INFORMATION? Contact **DRE Kathy Dowler** at 614-451-2855, ext. 305 or **kdowler@standrewparish.cc**.



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 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. At 8:45 p.m., Adoration concludes with Compline (end of day

prayers) followed by Benediction. Make time to be in Christ's presence and open yourself to the graces that flow from the Eucharist!

Weekly Adoration Hosts: Parish Council (first Tuesday); St. Vincent de Paul (second Tuesday); Women of St. Andrew (third Tuesday); Men of the Parish (fourth Tuesday).

WELCOME OUR BLESSED MOTHER INTO YOUR HEART AND YOUR HOME!



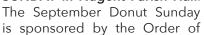
We ask you to prayerfully consider welcoming the pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima into your home to pray the Rosary with your family. There are many sign-up opportunities to have the Blessed Mother statue in your home for prayer and devotion.

Each week begins on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and ends the following Saturday at 4:30 p.m. The statue is dropped off and picked up each week in the St. Andrew Chapel. Use the QR code or visit our SignUpGenius page to view upcoming available dates and learn more: tinyurl.com/ourlady2024.

For more information, contact Deb McEllistrem, 614-309-4645 or **dmcellistrem@yahoo.com**.

DONUT SUNDAY NEXT WEEKEND!

Join us Sunday, Sept. 1, after ALL morning Masses for DONUT SUNDAY in Nugent Parish Hall.





Christian Initiation of Adults (formerly known as RCIA), That Man Is You!, Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study, and Women of St. Andrew (WoSA). All parishioners and guests are welcome to stop by and enjoy donuts, coffee, and tea and learn more about the sponsors and other St. Andrew organizations, activities, and ministries.



walking with purpose

WALKING WITH PURPOSE (WWP) is a women's ministry with a mission to help every Catholic woman encounter Jesus Christ through Bible study. WWP Bible studies combine personal study and small group discussions that are designed to connect everyday challenges with solutions found in the teachings of Christ and the Catholic Church. Weekly group sessions are held on Wednesdays beginning in September.

Opening Your Heart is a 22-week Bible study for those who are new to WWP. Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 11, we will offer a daytime session from 9:30-11:00 a.m. in the Multipurpose Room, and an evening session from 7:30-9:00 p.m. at the Bryce Eck Center.

Reclaiming Friendship is a six-week study for women who have already completed Opening Your Heart. Beginning Wednesday, Sept. 11, we will meet from 7:30-9:00 p.m. in the Bryce Eck Center. In November, we will introduce Rooted and Radiant (more details to come).

For more information and to register, use the QR code or contact Rosie at 614-893-7674 or



wwpstandrewcolumbus@gmail.com.

MEN'S WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY: Join us as we discuss the first and second books of the Maccabees each Friday from 7:00-8:00 a.m., in the Parish Office Lower Level Meeting Room. Learn more about the Maccabees, martyrdom, intercession, and persecution in this 31week Bible study series for men of all ages! The study combines commentary from renowned theologian Scott Hahn with time-tested interpretations from the fathers of the church. No homework or reading is required between meetings. Coffee is provided. For more information, contact John Schechter at 614-565-0824 or jedwardschechter@gmail.com.

BACK TO SCHOOL WITH FORMED BACK TO SCHOOL WITH FORMED! Kick off the school year with more great content

from FORMED, a digital streaming service - available to St. Andrew parishioners free of charge – that provides amazing content 24/7 for you and all of your family members to grow in your faith. You can also download the FORMED app on any Apple or Android phone.

MUSIC MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES



Seasonal rehearsals of our parish music ensembles begin soon and new members are invited to join our ministry community! Do you have talents to share, or musical interests and abilities yet to be explored? Are you looking to reawaken your skills from music lessons long ago? Can you make a short eight-week commitment to participate in one of our parish choirs? Here are some options to consider:

THE ST. ANDREW CHOIR provides music for the 9:15 Sunday Mass (September-June) in addition to other Holy Days, holidays, and special occasions. The group is open to men and women of high school age and beyond, and rehearsals are typically held on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. While music reading ability is helpful, it is not required in order to become a choir member. You must simply be able to match pitch, blend your voice with others, be available for rehearsals as well as liturgies, and have a desire to help others pray and praise God through music. The choir season consists of four "quarters" and singers may sign up for any (or all) of the sessions as they are available throughout the year. Rehearsals begin in mid-September.

THE RESURRECTION (FUNERAL) CHOIR serves the parish by singing for our parish funerals throughout the year. This choir is an especially good option for those who enjoy singing and have some flexibility with their daytime (especially morning) schedules, but are unable to make the commitment of the Sunday choir. New members (both men and women) are always welcome. This choir is a meaningful way to honor our parishioners who have died, and to provide consolation to their loved ones in their time of loss.

THE ST. ANDREW HANDBELL CHOIR is the newest addition to our parish music ministry program. A basic knowledge of music reading is helpful for this group, but no previous ringing experience is necessary, and no singing is required! The Handbell Choir typically rehearses on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Introductory and tutoring sessions are offered, as needed, for those who would like to learn the basics of ringing. Now is the time to start!

For more information about these opportunities, or to sit in on a rehearsal to discern the group that may be the best fit for you, contact Music Director Phil Lortz at plortz@standrewparish.cc or 614-451-1839. All are welcome!



THE 2024 HOLIDAY BAZAAR

is scheduled for **Saturday**, **Nov. 9**, **from 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.** As always, you'll find unique gifts and crafts for everyone on your Christmas shopping list.

We have space for more crafters and vendors. Nothing beats

finding a perfectly unique gift for someone special. Perhaps YOU can offer the special gift someone is looking for! We have a variety of tables/booths available for rent. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming a vendor, visit **tinyurl.com/SAP-Bazaar-2024**. For more information, contact **Judy Brown** at **judyzumba09@gmail.com** or leave a message at 614-446-4812.



SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM 7625 NORTH HIGH STREET

Event parking provided at Crosswoods Center I office park located at 100 Crosswoods Blvd.

Jessing Center parking may be used by those with small children, or mobility challenges.

Packet pickup: 7:30am | Start time: 9am Swag: All participants receive bread and a bottle of wine, or bread and a jar of Trappist Monastery jam.

Family rate:

Save \$5 per person when registering at least 3 participants at one time.

PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM

THANK YOU, BULLETIN SPONSORS! Thanks to our sponsors & Dee Printing, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish.

ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN! Please help support our parish by advertising in our bulletin. Contact Kati at Dee Printing 614.777.8700 or kati@deeprinting.com.

LITURGICAL VOLUNTEERS

SAT, AUG 31: Vigil, 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:30 PM Mass

Kathi Theado	EMHC-B - B1
Rita Medaglia	EMHC-B - B2
Tim Terveer	Lector - A
Angela Bonfante	Lector - B
VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Altar Server
Drew Busch	Altar Server

SUN, SEP 1: 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 7:30 AM Mass

Darla Reed	EMHC-B - B1
Megan Bellantis	EMHC-B - B2
Randy Doherty	Lector - A
David Varda	
Owen Poulton	Altar Server
Izzy Poulton	Altar Server

9:15 AM Mass

Debbie Caranna	EMHC-B - B1
David Hiser	EMHC-B - B2
Jane Dickson	EMHC-B - B CHOIR
Linda Daley	EMHC-C - C1
David Tague	EMHC-C - C2
Mark Pardi	EMHC-C - C3
John Schechter	Lector - A
Joseph Chatlos	Lector - B
Andrew Thornton	Altar Server
Natalie Moffo	Altar Server

11:00 AM Mass

Jennie Statczar	EMHC-B - B1
Corso Padova	EMHC-B - B2
Judy Kjellandar	Lector - A
Ann Pratt	
Agatha Foley	Altar Server
Kolbe Krzeczkowski	

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 by Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the following weekend. Include a brief description, date, time, location, contact name, and send to **bulletin@standrewparish.cc**. Submissions may be edited for clarity or space.

ePOST EMAIL MESSAGES: To subscribe, contact Mary Beasecker, **mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc**. The ePOST includes information about upcoming parish events and activities. To submit information, email Mary before noon on Mondays. Submissions may be edited for clarity or space.





THE FIGHT OF FAITH

FEATURING 10 DYNAMIC PRESENTERS!

DISCOVER:

- New speakers, new personalities, and new topics, while still building on the foundational years of TMIY formation.
- A battle and calling that is much greater than yourself with a US Naval Officer.
- Epic battle stories from the New Testament and Old, including the greatest battle story ever told with The Dynamic Deacon.
- The calling to great sanctity and the support of Christian brotherhood.
- A life and a marriage on the brink of collapse from two TMIY Core Team Leaders.
- Discipleship as the counter solution to lukewarm Christianity.
- An intimacy with The Father as his beloved sons and heirs to his Kingdom.
- A Lenten Journey with Steve Bollman into the secrets of Christ's heart.
- An adventure filled with Scripture revealing the keys to interpreting reality.

SPEAKERS:









UL GEORGE SEAN DA





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DELORENZO,
MCGENI MERITURI
DESIGNINE N





RICK CAMBRE JO IMP

STEVE BOLLMAN
PRIMITION DE

PROGRAM INFORMATION:

Saturday mornings from September 7th to December 7th Bryce Eck Activities Center 3880 Reed Road

SCHEDULE:

6:30 Doors open for breakfast food 7:00 Video program begins 7:30 Small-group discussion 8:00 Adjourn

REGISTRATION:

Not needed; just show up! For more information, contact: Colin Bellantis (440) 728-4166 or colinbellantis@gmail.com _



The Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus recognizes four primary areas of service (Faith, Family, Community & Life), in which all local councils can participate through their programs and events. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024, members of St. Andrew Council #11275 donated over \$28,000 to charitable causes in all four areas.

Members volunteered nearly 800 hours of service in 2023 in the areas of Faith, Family, Community & Life.

On behalf of all members of Council #11275, we wish to say THANK YOU to St. Andrew parishioners for your generous financial support of our programs and fund-raising activities! As always, 100% of your donations are contributed to our charitable & faith-based causes.

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Faith Activities		Family Activities		
"Support Our Seminarians" program	\$ 5,119 *	Food baskets for OLG clients	\$	6,463
Direct seminarian support	\$ 1,000	Breakfast with Santa	\$	865
Bereavement	\$ 569	Donut Sunday events	\$	783
Catholic Men & Women's Conferences	\$ 500	Donation to St. James the Less Food Bank	\$	600
"Matching Funds" for Catholic Education	\$ 350	"Keep Christ in Christmas" billboard	\$	350
Sponsorship for PCJ run/walk	\$ 350	Donation to St. Lawrence Haven	\$	200
Religious Appreciation dinner	\$ 320	Annual K of C family picnic	\$	219
Sponsorhip of TV Mass	\$ 200	Total Family Activities	\$	9,480
Miscellaneous	\$ 350			_
Total Faith Activities	\$ 8,758			
Community Activities		Life Activities		
"Measure Up" collection for developmentally				
disabled	\$ 3,460	Donations - "ASAP" program	\$	2,339
8th Grade Essay Contest	\$ 561	Sponsorship - "2024 March for Life"	\$	540
Donation	\$ 500	Donation - Bethesda Healing Ministry	\$	500
Candy for Easter Egg Hunt	\$ 358	Donation - "Mommies Matter"	\$	500
St. Andrew Eagle Scout project	\$ 300	Supreme K of C "Culture of Life" fund	\$	129
Festival sponsorship	\$ 250	Total Life Activities	\$	4,008
Veterans' support	\$ 100		<u>-</u>	
Miscellaneous	\$ 239			
Total Community Activities	\$ 5,768	Total Program Expenses & Donations	\$	28,014

^{*} Includes \$2,598 collected after Masses and \$1,335 in free-will donations from the Pancake Breakfast, all which was donated to "SOS"

AROUND THE DIOCESE

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED DONATIONS TO BIRTHRIGHT OF COLUMBUS. Birthright relies

90% on donations. Because of you and generous people like you, Birthright has been helping pregnant women and new mothers for 52 years in Columbus. We are an all-volunteer organization that spends your entire donations on maintaining our one office and helping clients. A Birthright volunteer receives so many hugs and smiles for helping her when she truly believes no one cares. Birthright wishes we could send these hugs and smiles back to you. Even if it is only maternity clothing, a package of diapers and wipes or even a new outfit to bring the baby home from the hospital, you are there with your love. Please know because of limited space, we can only accept clothing up to 24 months.



Unite Your Heart to His Heart

Thursday, Sept. 5, 7-8 PM Lower Level Room 3

All are welcome to join us for 6:15 Mass then attend the Sacred Heart monthly meeting. Emily Jaminet, author of Holy Habits From the Sacred Heart, will discuss the ninth promise of Jesus' 12 promises to those who keep a loving devotion to His Most Sacred Heart - "I will bless every place where an image of My Heart is exposed and honored."

Visit welcomehisheart.com to learn more about the Sacred Heart devotion and enthronement of your home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.





Preserving Christianity in the Holy Land Through Education

A Benefit Dinner for the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land

Mass, Reception & Dinner Thursday, September 12, 2024

Our Lady of Victory Parish Hall 1559 Roxbury Road | Columbus, OH 43212

Scheduled Mass Celebrant & Keynote Speaker



His Eminence Christophe Cardinal Pierre

Pope Francis' Ambassador to the United States of America



For table package information and purchase, scan the QR code or visit ffhl.org/regions/columbus/rsvp.

For additional inquiries, email <u>CradlingChristianity@gmail.com</u>.

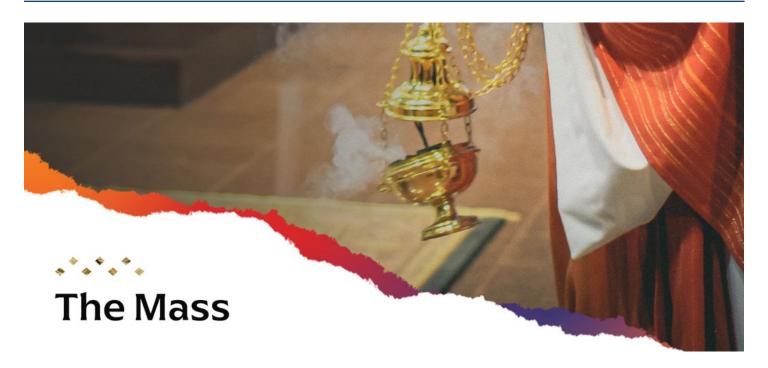


CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON CLUB returns

from summer break on Friday, Sept. 6, at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. The luncheon will feature a talk by Don Schlegel, entitled, "The Catholic Record Society – 50 Years of Keeping Diocesan History." Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m., followed by lunch and presentation at 12:10 p.m. No RSVP is needed. The lunch/meeting cost is \$12. Bring a friend! Our next luncheon is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 4. Bishop Earl Fernandes will give his annual address to the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club. (October luncheon is sponsored by the Catholic Foundation.)

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION is hosting a one-day bus trip to South Bend, Indiana, for the Notre Dame vs. Stanford football game on Saturday, Oct. 12, at 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$225/person. This includes bus, game ticket, sandwiches, snacks, soft drinks. Children accompanied by parent are welcome. Only 42 spots available. For more information, contact Julius Palazzo at **Jmpalazzo@juno.com** or 614-946-5729.

In addition, Reynolds Travel (handles the Notre Dame trip) is also offering a Browns vs. Bengals one-day bus trip to Cleveland on Sunday, Oct. 20, at 1:00 p.m. Cost is \$269 and includes bus, game ticket, snacks, and soft drinks. Only 50 spots available. For more information, contact lke Reynolds 614-847-8008 or **ike@reynoldstravel.net**, or visit **www.reynoldstravel.com** to sign up.



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



+ Part 38: Incense +



As we continue through the Offertory of the Mass, we now come to the point where **incense** can be used. Some of us may like the incense, and others may not. Do you know what incense is made of and why we use it?

What is incense, and where does it come from?

According to the Catholic Source Book, "Frankincense... is the main ingredient in the incense used in today's liturgies. A resin produced by a family of desert trees that grow in southern Arabia, it is derived from a sap that dries, forming crystalline lumps of an amber/gold color. For Christians, it has a rich prayer and purification symbolism. From the earliest Christian days, it has been associated with Christ, beginning with the Magi's gift (Matthew 2:10-11). Even before that, the Jews regarded its rich spicy scent as a pure offering, pleasing to God" (p. 307). Charles Belmonte adds, "Incense is a resinous substance which, when placed upon glowing charcoal, gives off a balsamic odor as it burns. It had a place in Israelite worship; in fact, the psalmist compares our prayers to the smoke of incense, rising up to heaven. In the Book of Revelation, it is seen as a symbol of the prayers of the saints" (Understanding the Mass, p. 50).

Where is incense mentioned in the Bible?

Besides the Book of Revelation, incense is mentioned in the Book of Numbers 7:14 as part of an offering for the dedication of the altar. Deuteronomy 33:10 makes reference to "the smoke of sacrifice." Exodus 30:34-38 describes blending aromatic substances with pure frankincense in equal parts, even describing how it should be ground into fine dust. In Revelation 5:8, St. John tells us the elders had "gold bowls filled with incense, which are the prayers of the holy ones." In another reference, Revelation 8:3-4 describes an

angel with a gold censer: "He was given a great quantity of incense to offer, along with the prayers of all the holy ones... The smoke of the incense along with the prayers of the holy ones went up before God..."

Hopefully, it is clear from these passages that there is a connection between incense and prayer and sacrifice. When incense is used in the Mass, there are times when it is clearly used to reverence people and things, which is especially clear when incense is used during the Offertory of the Mass. Referring to this part of the Mass, *The General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says, after the bread and wine are placed on the altar, "the Priest may incense the gifts placed on the altar and then incense the cross and the altar itself, so as to signify the Church's offering and prayer rising like incense in the sight of God. Next, the Priest, because of his sacred ministry, and the people, by reason of their baptismal dignity, may be incensed by the Deacon or by another minister" (GIRM, 75). As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, "this particular incense shows a connectedness between the altar of sacrifice, those offering the sacrifice, and those uniting themselves to the sacrifice. Before being incensed we bow not only as a sign of reverence but as a sign of affirmation that, like the incense, we offer our lives to God and pray they be lifted up and transformed" (*A Study of the Mass*, p. 12).

Why is incense used at Mass?

One older priest once said to me that he loves using incense to honor holy people and holy things. As he sees the smoke rising, he is mindful that we are gathered together as God's people in the Mass, joining Jesus in offering the perfect sacrifice to the Father. In the Mass, our prayers are joined together, and the incense gives us a visual reminder of those prayers being offered to God. He also mentioned he places one, two, or three spoons of incense (from the little container called an incense boat) onto the burning charcoal in the censer (sometimes called a thurible). For him, one spoonful calls to mind the Oneness of God; two spoonfuls point to the two natures of Christ (human and divine); and three indicate the three persons of the Trinity. For that priest, this is a simple way to recall core truths about God as we pray together in the Mass.

To summarize for us, Fr. Oury notes that incensing "is a mark of honor paid to the offerings that are going to become the Body and Blood of Christ. The honor extends to all the people participating in the celebration and to their offerings, which represent their life and work. Incensing is also a kind of petition, a deeply meaningful one. Through it we pray that the Church's offering and the Church's prayer may mount to heaven, to the presence of God above, like a veritable cloud of incense" (*The Mass*, p. 87).

For Reflection:

- 1. Read and pray with one or all of the Old Testament uses of incense Father Luke cites (Numbers 7:14, Deuteronomy 33:10, and Exodus 30:34–38). As you reflect on what you read, allow the historical uses of incense to enrich your understanding of the role of incense in the holy sacrifice of the Mass.
- 2. Reflect on the role of incense in Revelation 5:8 and 8:3-4. As you pray, privately or liturgically, imagine your prayers rising to God like incense.

Source: www.eucharisticrevival.org/blog



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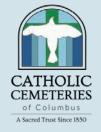
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