



## SAINT ANDREW PARISH

1899 McCoy Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43220  
Parish Office (614) 451-4290  
[www.standrewparish.cc](http://www.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.

 [facebook.com/standrewparishua](https://www.facebook.com/standrewparishua)

 [standrewparishua](https://www.instagram.com/standrewparishua)

 [StAndrewUA](https://www.youtube.com/StAndrewUA)

### 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](http://www.standrewparish.cc).

### MASS AND CONFESSION 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, 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](http://www.standrewparish.cc) and select "Sacraments and Prayer."

For **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**, please call the Parish Office and choose "Sacramental Emergency" from the list of options or press 3.

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](mailto:jwenzke@standrewparish.cc).



## STAFF DIRECTORY

### CLERGY

614-451-4290

Mmgr. Stephan Moloney, Pastor Ext. 101  
 Rev. Lawrence Tabi, Parochial Vicar Ext. 103  
 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

### PARISH OFFICE STAFF

614-451-4290

Thomas Conigy, Business Manager Ext. 106  
 tconigy@standrewparish.cc  
 Jen Wenzke, Parish Secretary Ext. 100  
 jwenzke@standrewparish.cc  
 Joe Tomlinson, Accounting Ext. 105  
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 Mary Beasecker, Communications Ext. 104  
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 Emily Jaminet, Adult Faith/RCIA Ext. 110  
 ejaminet@standrewparish.cc  
 Greg Price, Buildings Superintendent  
 gprice@standrewparish.cc  
 Philip Lortz, Director of Music 614-451-1839  
 plortz@standrewparish.cc

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

614-451-2855

Kathy Dowler, Director Religious Ed. Ext. 305  
 kdowler@standrewparish.cc

### SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF

614-451-1626

Joel Wichtman, Principal Ext. 234  
 jwichtma@cducation.org  
 Jenni Duffy, Assistant Principal Ext. 235  
 jbucher@cducation.org  
 Julie Strayer, Administrative Assistant Ext. 223  
 jstrayer@cducation.org  
 Heather Roush, School Secretary Ext. 228  
 hroush@cducation.org  
 Kyletta Scheirmann, Latchkey Ext. 105  
 kscheirmann@cducation.org

### BRYCE ECK ACTIVITY CENTER

614-459-1402

Amanda Carter, Preschool Director  
 acarter@cducation.org  
 Karen McCurdy, Facility Manager  
 kmccurdy@cducation.org

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday: Sept. 14 Vigil, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 4:30 p.m. Mary Pizzola

**Sunday: Sept. 15, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 7:30 a.m. For the People of St. Andrew Parish  
 9:15 a.m. John E. Prunte  
 11:00 a.m. Special Intention

**Monday: Sept. 16, St. Cornelius and St. Cyprian**  
 6:30 a.m. Gene Perry, Sr.  
 8:30 a.m. Living and Deceased members of the Mallett and McCort Families

**Tuesday: Sept. 17, Weekday Mass**  
 6:30 a.m. Gary Sterling  
 8:30 a.m. Special Intention

**Wednesday: Sept. 18, Weekday Mass**  
 6:30 a.m. Edmund and Barbara Herb  
 8:30 a.m. Robert and Anna Mae Jones

**Thursday: Sept. 19, Weekday Mass**  
 6:30 a.m. Margaret and Ed Cantwell  
 8:30 a.m. Ray Van de Weghe

**Friday: Sept. 20, St. Andrew Kim Tae-Gon and St. Paul Chong Ha-Sang**  
 6:30 a.m. Gene Perry, Sr.  
 8:30 a.m. Living and Deceased Members of the Reider/Thoman Family

**Saturday: Sept. 21, St. Matthew**  
 9:00 a.m. Jim Saffell

**Vigil, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 4:30 p.m. Diane Nester

**Sunday: Sept. 22, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 7:30 a.m. Julie Kottenstette  
 9:15 a.m. For the People of St. Andrew Parish  
 11:00 a.m. Michelle Pappa

### BAPTISMS

**Luke George Irby,**  
 son of Justin and Amanda  
**Amelia Jo Davis,**  
 daughter of AJ and Trisha  
**Brynn Claire and Brooke Charlotte Hill,**  
 daughters of Nathan and Sarah  
**Antonia Donna Mughan,**  
 daughter of Tomos and Victoria

### BANNS OF MARRIAGE

**Megan Shanahan and Anthony Valentino (1)**

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

This past Tuesday, Sept. 10, the priests of the Northwest Columbus Deanery met here at St. Andrew for our regular meeting. We meet about six times a year. We pray together, have a lunch, discuss matters of common concern, and coordinate common pastoral activity. This time, we discussed how the priests in the deanery would provide more consistent coverage for emergency sacramental calls at Riverside Hospital. That was a worthwhile exercise and the result should be a more reliable and consistent response to emergency calls from Riverside for critically ill patients needing a priest for the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick or Last Rites.

We also had another discussion regarding evangelization. We were asked to discuss this question: "What are the characteristics of a healthy, evangelizing parish that is on mission?" The priests present mentioned the following: OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults); a strong Catholic school and PSR program; outreach to non-Catholic school students and families to draw them to the Catholic faith; vocations to the priesthood and religious life; and well-organized parish groups offering Bible study or spiritual support for men and women (what we call "adult faith formation").

These ideas expressed by the priests during the meeting make me realize just how strong and vibrant St. Andrew Parish is in terms of fulfilling the mission to evangelize – to form people in the Gospel of Christ! I could add more: the preparation and formation of those to be baptized, those receiving First Communion, Confirmation, and all their families. The sheer number of baptisms, weddings, anniversaries, and even funerals is a sign of a vibrant parish, where those of all ages grow in faith, hope, and love. Many ministries and many evangelizers combine to instill the Gospel and to welcome those seeking truth and meaning.

Thanks to all who make St. Andrew Parish a welcoming, healthy, evangelizing parish that is on mission!

Your Pastor,

Monsignor Stephan Moloney

## REGISTRATION WEEKEND: SEPTEMBER 14 & 15

*Do you attend Mass at St. Andrew but you've never registered? Are you new to the community and you'd like to become a parishioner?*

Registration Weekend is the perfect opportunity to learn more and register. St. Andrew Hospitality Ministry members will be in the vestibule before and after Masses to answer questions and help you complete the registration process.

For more information or to get involved in the Hospitality Ministry, contact **Jake and Ciara Decot** at [jdecot284@gmail.com](mailto:jdecot284@gmail.com).

## MILLIONS OF MONICAS

MONDAY, SEPT. 16 // 6:00-7:00 PM // CHURCH

All women of the parish are welcome to join the Millions of Monicas Prayer Ministry. Millions of Monicas is a group of women who come together in prayer to lift up our children of all ages. Many of us have children who struggle with their Catholic faith or have left the faith entirely. For information about Millions of Monicas, visit [www.millionsofmonicas.com](http://www.millionsofmonicas.com). For information about this St. Andrew prayer ministry, contact **Amy Tague** at [amyliss14@gmail.com](mailto:amyliss14@gmail.com).

## CALLING ALL KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS!

MONDAY, SEPT. 16  
6:30-8:00 PM // PARISH HALL



All are welcome to our monthly Knit and Crochet Meeting.

We have needle workers of all levels. Please bring your own knitting needles (size 7 or 8) and/or crochet hooks (size G or H). Each monthly meeting includes fun and laughter while we make items for those in need. Easy patterns are provided and experienced knitters and crocheters are available to answer questions and provide guidance. For more information, contact **Darla Reed** at [drdjreed@outlook.com](mailto:drdjreed@outlook.com).

## SUNDAY OFFERING

	SEP 1	YTD
<b>ACTUAL</b>	\$ 22,843	\$ 302,886
<b>BUDGET</b>	\$ 32,692	\$ 294,230
<b>LAST YEAR</b>	\$ 38,315	\$ 269,914

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](https://osvhub.com/st-andrew-parish/funds) or contact Business Manager Thomas Conigy at [tconigy@standrewparish.cc](mailto:tconigy@standrewparish.cc) or 614-451-4290, ext. 106.



## EUCCHARISTIC 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).



Congratulations to the St. Andrew Parishioners who took part in the 2024 Jubilee of Anniversaries on Saturday, Sept. 7, at St. Joseph Cathedral. We are grateful and honored by your example of Christ's love and your act of ongoing faith and commitment.

Parishioners **Emery and Sylvia Lombardi – married for 71 years** – were tied for the second-longest anniversary of those registered for the Mass. Other parishioners who celebrated anniversaries include:

60 years  
Paul & Maureen Breen

50 years  
Leslie & CaSandra Payne  
David & Judy Shiddenhelm

40 years  
Deacon Tom & Donna Berg

30 years  
Mark & Amira Del Tosto

25 years  
Martin & Jeanne Majka

Blessings to all who celebrated anniversaries at the jubilee Mass and to all married parishioners celebrating milestone anniversaries. To see pictures from this year's event, visit [columbuscatholic.org/marriage-family/marriage/jubilee](https://columbuscatholic.org/marriage-family/marriage/jubilee).



## THE ST. ANDREW CONFERENCE OF THE ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY (SVdP)

will be at the church exits after Masses on September 21/22 to accept donations for the **Annual Friends of the Poor Walk**. This year's walk is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 28, at DeSales High School. This annual event represents our commitment to helping the less fortunate throughout the Columbus Diocese. In August, the St. Andrew conference helped three neighbors in our area, which included helping one neighbor avoid becoming homeless. For more information, contact **John Seguin** at [seguinj@yahoo.com](mailto:seguinj@yahoo.com).

**OUR THANKS** to all who regularly and generously donate clothing and food using the SVdP bins in the church parlor. Our members take the food to the St. James the Less Food Pantry for distribution and the clothing to the SVdP Free Clothing Center on Main Street just east of downtown.

Currently, **WE ARE LOW ON FUNDS** that help our neighbors with utility bills and avoid becoming homeless. Please consider donating before our traditional 5th Sunday request on Sunday, Sept. 29.

If you'd like to make a donation, scan the QR code or visit [tinyurl.com/SAP-SVdP](https://tinyurl.com/SAP-SVdP). You can also send a check to the parish office (1899 McCoy Rd. 43220) payable to St. Andrew SVdP. Thank you for your expression of faith in action as we respond to Christ's message.





Order of Christian Initiation for Adults

**Are you interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? Were you baptized Catholic, but never received all the Sacraments of Initiation? Curious? Not sure?**

Join us at our **FALL MEET UP** after the 11:00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday, Sept. 29**, in the **Multipurpose Room**. We'll explain more about OCIA and upcoming events and activities.



## OCIA KICK-OFF MEETING

Beginning Wednesday, Oct. 2  
7:00 p.m. // Multipurpose Room

OCIA (Order 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.

Within the St. Andrew OCIA program, men and women at all stages of their faith journey come together in a non-threatening and welcoming atmosphere to learn more about the Catholic Church. The OCIA program includes weekly meetings on Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

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

For more information, contact the Director of Adult Faith/OCIA **Emily Jaminet**, 614-451-4290, ext. 110, or [ejaminet@standrewparish.cc](mailto:ejaminet@standrewparish.cc).



## VOLUNTEER TRAINING AT ST. ANDREW THURSDAY, OCT. 3 6:00 PM VIA ZOOM

If you are 18 years or older and interested in volunteering with youth activities at St. Andrew Parish, you must complete ALL of the following before you can volunteer:

1. Attend a PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN training session.
2. Provide a clear background check.
3. Sign the code of conduct.
4. Complete a volunteer application.

For full details, visit [www.standrewparish.cc/parish-involvement/volunteers/](http://www.standrewparish.cc/parish-involvement/volunteers/).

To register for the St. Andrew training session, visit [www.virtusonline.org](http://www.virtusonline.org). **PLEASE NOTE:** Registration is limited to 75 people and will be **open EXCLUSIVELY** to **St. Andrew Parish and School volunteers until September 20**. After that date, registration will open to ANYONE in the DIOCESE. Spaces will go quickly. For more information, contact **Mary Beasecker**, 614-451-4290 or [mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc](mailto:mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc).



## PRO-LIFE BOOT CAMP

SUNDAY, SEPT. 29 // BRYCE ECK CENTER // 7:00 PM

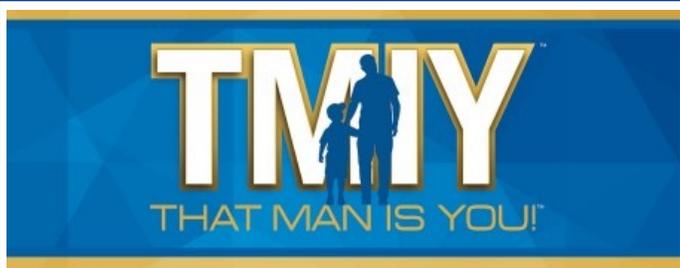
Come to learn the fundamentals of empowering pregnant women to choose life, including best practices, basic apologetics, and local resources.

## 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 leads the Rosary and Chaplet. On all the other Saturdays, the women of the parish lead the prayers.

**FACILITIES & ROOM RESERVATIONS:** If you would like to reserve one of the meeting spaces at St. Andrew Parish, please contact Jen Wenzke, [jwenzke@standrewparish.cc](mailto:jwenzke@standrewparish.cc), or Greg Price, [gprice@standrewparish.cc](mailto:gprice@standrewparish.cc). The event calendar can be viewed at [standrewparish.cc/calendar](http://standrewparish.cc/calendar).



**THE FIGHT OF FAITH** equips and enables men to engage in the cosmic, spiritual battle raging in our day. Biblical identities will emerge to inspire heroic lives of service to a calling greater than ourselves. Uncover the ultimate truth that sheds light on all things: God’s own identity. Fight the good fight of faith to win an imperishable crown of glory.

**JOIN US SATURDAY MORNINGS** at the Bryce Eck Center. Doors open at 6:30 a.m. for fellowship and breakfast, followed by a presentation and group discussion at 7:00 a.m. Each session ends by 8:00 a.m. For information or to register, contact **Colin Bellantis** at 440-728-4166 or [colinbellantis@gmail.com](mailto:colinbellantis@gmail.com). To learn more about THAT MAN IS YOU!, visit [www.TMIY.org](http://www.TMIY.org).

**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 31-week 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](mailto:jedwardschechter@gmail.com).



**REVELATION: THE KINGDOM YET TO COME**

All parishioners are welcome to join as we unpack the mysteries of Revelation in this video-based series. **We meet each Tuesday through November 12 from 7:15-8:30 p.m., in the Parish Hall**. Sessions include a 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. The optional study guide and online access to the videos is available to purchase at [tinyurl.com/SAP-Revelation-2024](http://tinyurl.com/SAP-Revelation-2024). For more information, contact Kathy Miller at [kathy.miller725@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.miller725@gmail.com).

**LITURGICAL VOLUNTEERS**

**SAT, SEP 21: Vigil, 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
4:30 PM Mass**

- Mike Miller..... EMHC-B - B1
- Don McNeal ..... EMHC-B - B2
- Cathy Covarrubias..... Lector - A
- Mary Frecker ..... Lector - B
- James Patti ..... Altar Server (Sub req.)
- George Patti ..... Altar Server (Sub req.)

**SUN, SEP 22: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time  
7:30 AM Mass**

- Sudie Mitchell ..... EMHC-B - B1
- Deb McEllistrem ..... EMHC-B - B2
- Carson Reider ..... Lector - A
- Tom Levenick ..... Lector - B (Sub req.)
- Myles Ezell..... Altar Server
- Trevor Ezell..... Altar Server

**9:15 AM Mass**

- Abigail Meyers..... EMHC-B - B1
- Deborah McGlumphy..... EMHC-B - B2
- Mike Lockett..... EMHC-B - B CHOIR
- Rosie Brandon ..... EMHC-B - B3
- Debby Murphy ..... EMHC-C - C1
- Linda Daley ..... EMHC-C - C2
- David Varda..... EMHC-C - C CHOIR
- Megan Bellantis..... EMHC-C - C3
- Jennifer Schaefer ..... Lector - A
- John Schechter..... Lector - B
- Seth Reilly..... Altar Server
- Calvin Flowers ..... Altar Server

**11:00 AM Mass**

- MaryAnn Sylvester ..... EMHC-B - B1
- Martha Radtke..... EMHC-B - B2
- Damion Faulkner ..... Lector - A
- Ann Pratt ..... Lector - B
- Peyton Niangoran ..... Altar Server (Sub req.)
- Parker Maurer..... Altar Server

To volunteer, visit [www.rotundasoftware.com/ministry/standrewcolumbus](http://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 AND EPOST ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Send requests by Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the upcoming issues. Include a brief description, date, time, location, contact name, and send to [bulletin@standrewparish.cc](mailto:bulletin@standrewparish.cc). Submissions may be edited for clarity or space.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**JOIN IMMEDIATE NEEDS:** JOIN and St. Francis Evangelization Center are in need of several items as they reach those in our communities who suffer from poverty. Diapers (sizes 4, 5 and 6), shampoo, lotion, deodorant, soap, toilet paper, shaving cream, razors, toothpaste, multi-purpose cleaners, dish soap (not dishwasher soap, please), laundry pods and sponges are most-needed. For information about where to take donations, contact **Lisa Keita** at **lkeita@columbuscatholic.org** or 614-241-2530, ext. 3128.

**SERRA NOW MORE THAN EVER: NO PRIEST, NO EUCHARIST!** We are looking for new members to join the Serra Club. Serrans ensure the future of the Catholic Church by creating a culture of vocations in our Columbus Diocese. We also affirm and encourage our priests and supporting vocations to the priesthood and religious life. Serrans assist and encourage one another to respond to God's call to holiness. For more information, you'll find Serra Club brochures in the vestibule and church entrances. Or, visit our website, [serracolumbus.org](http://serracolumbus.org), for details about upcoming events.

### YOUNG CATHOLIC PROFESSIONALS (YCP) SEPTEMBER EVENTS:

#### •YCP Executive Speaker Series

**Wednesday, Sept. 18**

**7:00 p.m.**

St. Christopher Catholic Church (Grandview)  
*Join us or networking, free food, beverages and an insightful talk delivered by Joe Hamrock on "Seeing the Guardian Angel in the Rearview Mirror."*

#### •YCP Belong Members BBQ and Bonfire

**Friday, Sept. 27**

**6:30 p.m.**

*This event will be held at a private residence. The location will be provided in the sign-up confirmation. To register, visit [www.YCPColumbus.org](http://www.YCPColumbus.org).*

### BRIAN MUHA FOUNDATION ANNUAL NIGHT OF CHAMPIONS DINNER AND AUCTION

will be held on

**Saturday, Oct. 12**, at St. Charles Preparatory School.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. For more information, buy tickets, become a sponsor, and browse auction items, visit **[www.bidpal.net/25years](http://www.bidpal.net/25years)**.

## THE GARDEN OF THE HOLY INNOCENTS

CATHOLIC  
CEMETERIES  
of Columbus  
A Sacred Trust

### ABOUT US

The Garden of the Holy Innocents is a unique burial section within the Catholic Cemeteries of Columbus. Located near the entrance of Resurrection Cemetery, this one-of-a-kind space provides families with a peaceful, prayerful place for healing at a time of heartbreaking loss. It serves our entire Central Ohio area by providing a dignified and sacred resting place for infants who were miscarried or full-term infants who were cremated, and is the final resting place for nearly 4,000 babies. The Garden of the Holy Innocents is available to any parent free of charge.

### JOIN US IN THIS MISSION

This sacred area was in need of renovations after years of wind and weather. You can help a mourning family by donating to the beautification of this peaceful place. Please join us in supporting the Garden of the Holy Innocents at Resurrection Cemetery.

Additional funds are needed to add a new statue depicting "Our Lady with Child," engraving of memorial bricks, and additional landscaping. So far, we have raised \$47,000 towards the project budget of \$110,000, which includes an added fund created to pay for continued upkeep of the space and expansion.



Please access our online donation form to make a one-time or recurring gift. Use the QR code at the left or visit our website: [catholiccemeteriesofcolumbus.org/about-us/donations](http://catholiccemeteriesofcolumbus.org/about-us/donations).



SUMMER 2023



SUMMER 2024



# The Mass

## ***“Do This in Remembrance of Me”*** **A Step-By-Step Walk Through the Mass**

Fr. Luke Spannagel

### ✚ **Part 41: The Prayer over the Offerings** ✚

Our next “stop” in this journey through the Mass is the **Prayer over the Offerings**. Similar to what we saw with the Collect at the beginning of Mass, the Prayer over the Offerings gives us a summary of our offering and points our minds and hearts to the coming Eucharistic Prayer. The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* says, “Once the offerings have been placed on the altar and the accompanying rites completed, by means of the invitation to pray with the Priest and by means of The Prayer over the Offerings, the Preparation of the Gifts is concluded and preparation made for the Eucharistic Prayer. At Mass, a single Prayer over the Offerings is said, and it ends with the shorter conclusion, that is: *Through Christ our Lord*. If, however, the Son is mentioned at the end of this prayer, the conclusion is: *Who lives and reigns for ever and ever*. The people, joining in this petition, make the prayer their own by means of the acclamation *Amen*” (*GIRM*, 77).

#### **Offering Prayers, Receiving Graces**

What are we praying about at this point in the Mass? Generally speaking, if we look through these prayers, we find the following familiar words: prayers, gifts, offerings, sacrifices, and oblations. We also

ask God to sanctify, accept, and transform these gifts. Fleshing out the content of these Prayers over the Offerings, Charles Belmonte writes, “we usually acknowledge our incapacity to offer to God gifts adequate to his goodness and power. We ask God to accept what we offer with sincerity. We ask some grace in connection with the mystery celebrated on that particular day, in return for the material gifts. We notice an ascending or upward-striving rhythm in the progress of the liturgical action. If we contrast this prayer with the Collect, we can perceive an increase in fervor and assurance. We know that our gifts to God will be returned to us multiplied a hundredfold” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 116).

Hearing mention of sacrifice, we recall one of the great truths about the Mass: it truly is the one sacrifice of Christ. In the Mass, the perfect sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is re-presented to us. In the traditional understanding of a sacrifice, we need a priest, a victim/offering, and an altar. For Christ’s perfect sacrifice, Jesus is both the priest and victim/offering; that is, he offers himself in sacrifice on the altar of the cross. The Mass is our access to that sacrifice and its many fruits. How amazing: the sacrifice of Jesus is right there before us. No wonder the Mass is such a powerful prayer!

### **Uniting Our Offerings with Christ’s Sacrifice**

Of course, we are not just spectators at the Mass; we don’t just sit back and watch what Jesus does. We have been invited to take part and to unite with Christ in offering our own sacrifices. As we have been reflecting on this part of the Mass, we are able to join our prayers and offerings to the perfect offering of Jesus. As Charles Belmonte says, “St. Paul exhorted the first Christians to offer every action to God. ‘Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God’ (1 Cor. 10:31), and never say or do anything except ‘in the name of the Lord Jesus’ (Col 3:17). The Second Vatican Council [in the Constitution on the Church, *Lumen Gentium*, 34] encourages ordinary Christians to make their daily offering united to the [E]ucharistic sacrifice: For all their works, prayers and apostolic endeavors, their ordinary married and family life, if patiently borne—all these become ‘spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ’ (1 Pet. 2:5). Together with the offering of the Lord’s body, they are most fittingly offered in the celebration of the Eucharist” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 116–117). Belmonte goes on to suggest that we make offerings to God each day as an anticipation of joining in this Prayer over the Offerings. If you are up for it, I invite you to consider his challenge. Resolve to make offerings each day this coming week, and then bring those offerings to be spiritually joined to the sacrifice of the Mass on Sunday. Hopefully, you will experience deeper union with Jesus, especially the next time you are at the Mass!

### **For Reflection:**

1. Join Father Luke’s challenge to make conscious, daily sacrifices or offerings and to bring those efforts to Mass. During the Prayer over the Offerings, unite your sacrifices of the past day(s) with Christ’s sacrifice on the altar.
2. When you face an unexpected difficulty today or this week, call to mind the Prayer over the Offerings and ask for the grace to respond to this opportunity according to God’s will. Take strength for perseverance by offering this experience “through Christ our Lord.”

Source: [www.eucharisticrevival.org/blog](http://www.eucharisticrevival.org/blog)





Every detail. Every Possibility. **Dan Pardi, Principal**  
www.ph7architects.com



**Austin Goare**  
Sales Associate

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