



Our Lady of Hope

ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISH

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021 TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS SCHEDULE:
Saturday: Vigil 4:00pm
Sunday: 11am
Monday, Tuesday &
Friday 8am

CONFESSIONS:
Saturdays 3:00 p.m. or
anytime by appointment.

BAPTISM: For
information, please
contact the Rectory at
440-232-8166 during
office hours.

MARRIAGES: Limited
to registered parishioners
only. Arrangements for
date and time must be
made six months in
advance. Final
preparations should be
made five weeks before
the wedding date.

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY
ORDERS
(PRIESTHOOD/
DIACONATE):** For
information please contact
the Diocese at 216-696-
6525. .

**PARISH SCHOOL OF
RELIGION:** Please call
Rectory office.

REGISTRATION: If you
are new in the parish, please
register at the rectory or
online at our website. If you
moved out of the parish,
please notify the rectory.

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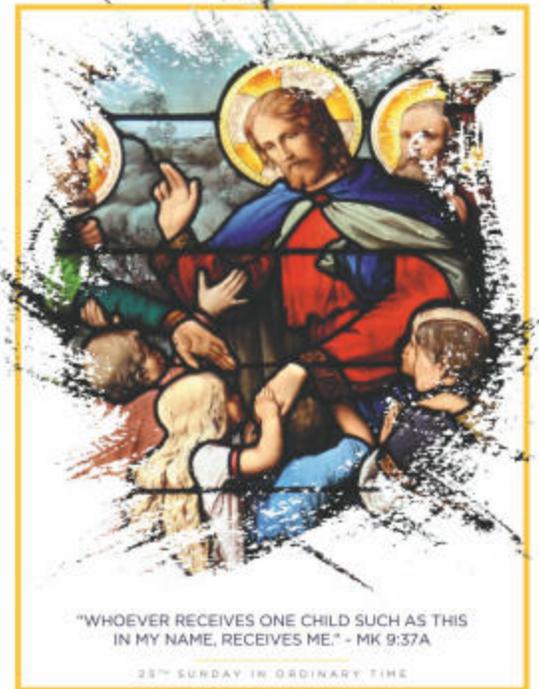
Fr. Joe Seebauer—Pastor
—jseebauer.ccofbedford@gmail.com
Fr. Isidore Munishi—Pastoral Associate
—216-394-7374
Verna J. Hudak—Secretary
Bob Vano—Business Manager
Bob Cooke—Maintenance Coordinator
Chris McGilton—Music Director

Office—(440) 232-8166

Parish Website:
www.ourladyofhopebedford.org

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS

Mondays & Fridays,
8:30am –12 noon and 12:30—2:30pm.
Tuesdays work from home.



There is something about being first. Whether it be first in line, first to be picked for the team, or the first one to finish their work, great satisfaction is achieved. Our egos love being first. It somehow sets us apart from everyone else, gives us a sense of pride and positions us to feel better than others. When we are first, we can glory in our efforts, skills, and achievements. Isn't that what really matters? After all, we are taught from a very young age to be proficient, stay on top, be the best at what we do, and win the praise and esteem of others. This is the stuff that makes us successful and provides us with a comfortable, satisfying life.

Jesus wants none of it. All of the details we anguish over mean little to the kingdom of God. You want to be first? Then, be a servant and welcome a child. All of this is the opposite of our often vehement pursuits. If we are serious about following Jesus and living the Gospel, then we must put the needs of others before our own. If we continue to listen only to the noise of the world, we are going to continue to believe the illusions we inherit. Those illusions come in many forms, but all have things in common: me before you, being on top and not the bottom, us versus them, personal security over universal harmony and peace. When are we going to learn that always striving to be the best and first is an empty pursuit in our struggle for happiness? While satisfying our ego with this momentary boost of esteem may feel good for a moment, is it what we really desire?

If we can break from the world's noise and create a space of sacred silence in our lives, we can begin to listen and see that we are being called in another direction. What we really desire is not the bolstering of our egos but the innocence we lost somewhere along the way. When we can be playful, joyful, and even somewhat carefree, life is good. We want our relationships to work, a place to call home, and to live peaceful lives with our sisters and brothers. Only a servant can do this. The servant's prayer seeks to detach from self-concern in order to be used by God. Rather than worrying about being first and coming out on top, we can be inspired, guided, empowered, and led to do good works. Stop worrying about being first and put greater energy into feeling joy.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Saturday, September 18

3:00 p.m..... Confession
 4:00 p.m..... Irma Falorio

ST. MARY & OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Sunday, September 19

Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SM—9:15 a.m..... John E. Taylor
 OLH—11:00 a.m..... John & Bernice Aspery

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Monday, September 20

8:00 a.m..... Living & Deceased Parishioners

Tuesday, September 21

8:00 a.m..... Dorothy Koutnik
Novena of the Miraculous Medal after Tuesday Mass.

ST. MARY CHURCH:

Wednesday, September 22

8:00 a.m..... Ursula Rae Dielman

Thursday, September 23

8:00 a.m..... Living & Deceased Parishioners

OUR LADY OF HOPE CHURCH:

Friday, September 24

8:00 a.m..... Marcia Kalcic

Saturday, September 25

3:00 p.m..... Confession
 4:00p.m..... Lillian & Gino Zavarella, Sr. &
 Frank Bordonaro

ST. MARY & OUR LADY OF HOPE:

Sunday, September 26

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

SM—9:15 a.m..... Kelly Katzenmeyer
 OLH—11:00 a.m..... Charles & Frances Gagliano

2021 & 2022 MASS INTENTIONS

There are still many Mass intentions available in our 2021 Mass Book. We are now taking Mass Intentions for the 2022 Mass Book. To book intentions for someone who is ill, deceased, etc., please call or stop in either parish office during office hours. The offering for a Mass intention is only \$10.

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YOUR PRAYERS ARE NEEDED . . .

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick in our parish and families, especially: Jim Waple, Virginia Vitale, Daniel Baran, Berta Uguccini, Carmen Whaley, Bernie Sylvester, Lil Kalal, Andy Mizsak, Matthew Reeve, Albert Finn, Ronald Richnavsky, Joe McElhone, Laverne Krempasky, Patricia Zak, Matthew J. Zamiska, Daisy Darus, Gerry Lantos, Louise Dragan, Ken Hudak, Maria Spears, Frank Richnavsky, Eileen Salupo, Jim Gersmeyer, Shirley Manning, Anthony Sava, Dolores Hustack, Thomas Wagner, Florence Cartellone, Rosalie Skocaj, Jim Tench, George Klem, Eleanor Phillips, Special Intention, Deacon Bill Starkey, Mary Ann Seebauer, Michele Kierer, Nancy Lachowski, Joanne Kamm, Clara Rizzo, Genevieve Cercek, Madeline Scarfo, Mary Ann Friedman, and all those affected by the coronavirus throughout the world...



In today's Gospel Jesus called the Twelve, and said to them, "If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Taking a child, he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it, he said to them, "Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me; and whoever receives me, receives not me but the One who sent me."

Your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will help hungry children feel the arms of Jesus around them.

We would like to thank all those who give up their personal time to show up on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month at our St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry located at Our Lady of Hope parish to help those in need. Their work includes sorting the food, bagging the food, and taking it to their cars. This is a wonderful gift of service! There are many in our surrounding community who cannot meet the needs of their families and know, that with your help and kindness, they will have food on the table!!

OFFERTORY CONTRIBUTIONS

The offertory contributions for September 4/5, 11/12, & 18/ 19 will be published in the next bulletin We always appreciate your generosity!!

MASS COUNT

September 11 & 12, 2021

OLH: 4pm—81; 11am—69; Total—150
STM: 4pm—84; 9:15am—84; Total—168

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



Dear Parishioners,

Every year the Diocesan Mission Office sends a missionary to Our Lady of Hope and Saint Mary parishes. Last year, the trip that was scheduled by the Claretian Missionaries was canceled due to the Covid pandemic. It's hard to believe that over a year later we are dealing with the same insidious virus and that we are wearing masks again. This year, the missionary trip by Father Sam Samuel of the Vincentian Congregation from the province of Kerala, India was not canceled as Father Samuel speaks at all the Masses this weekend. I'm sure Father Samuel will tell us of the many struggles that the coronavirus has caused India and his missionary congregation. The Church has always been called to have a missionary spirit beginning with Christ's call at the end of Matthew's Gospel: *"The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, 'All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. 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 28:16-20).

It's interesting to note that the Apostles still doubted after the death and resurrection of Jesus and all of his post-resurrectional appearances. When we think of doubting Apostles, Thomas is the first one who comes to mind. But Thomas the Apostle was a man of great faith and courage, and Church tradition tells us that he went to India after Jesus ascended into Heaven and evangelized many there before he was martyred. From the time of Christ, missionary activity was always a focal point of church ministry. One of the major documents that came out of Vatican Council II back in 1965 was *Ad Gentes Divinitus, the Decree on the Church's Missionary Activity*. According to that document, missionary activity is nothing else, and nothing less than the manifestation of God's plan in the world. "Through preaching and the celebration of the sacraments, of which the Holy Eucharist is the center and summit, missionary activity makes Christ present, who is the author of salvation." May we all do our best in spreading the Gospel message.

Blessings,
Father Joe

VISITING MISSIONARY This Weekend

We welcome Father Sam Samuel (V.C.), a Vincentian Missionary Priest from India, to our parish this weekend to participate in our Annual Missionary Cooperation Plan. He will share his missionary experience at all the Masses this weekend, and he will make an appeal on behalf of the Vincentian Missions. The Vincentian Missionaries need our help to carry out their many missionary, educational, and charitable activities in their missions. They also request our special financial support to respond to the deadly Covid-19 outbreak in India.

The pandemic has taken a serious toll on their missions, impacting their overall health and well-being as well as their financial stability. There will be special collection today to help the Missionary work of the Vincentian Missionaries. We urge you to be very generous in your mission offering since these Missionaries need our help. If you did not have an opportunity to make an offering today or would like to make an additional offering, you may make your offering through the general parish collection next weekend in a specially marked envelope. Thank you very much for your prayers and generous financial support. The Vincentian Missionaries keep the parish communities of Our Lady of Hope and Saint Mary in their prayers and Masses.

HEARING GOD'S VOICE

Join SS. Cosmas & Damian Charismatic Prayer Group and Team on October 2nd from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. for this praise and worship filled retreat. Jesus said, *"My sheep hear my voice"* John 10:27. Do you want to? In these times it is more important than ever to be able to discern God's voice. Cost is \$25 for breakfast and lunch. Speakers to include: Fr. Michael Stalla and Denny Carleton. For registration contact Brenda at brendaquinn70@yahoo.com or 330-310-2595 before September 25, 2021.

ANNUAL WALK TO REMEMBER

During October, the month of the Most Holy Rosary, Catholic Cemeteries Association invites families to participate in a **half-mile walking Rosary** on October 3rd from 1:00 –2:00 p.m. in honor of departed loved ones. At the end of the Rosary, there is a brief candle lighting ceremony in remembrance of our dearly departed. **Registrations are from now until October 3rd**. Whether walking or not, you can also honor your departed loved ones on our **"In Remembrance" Wall**. **Submit names by September 30th** to be included for the month of October. Register and/or submit remembrance names by phone at 216-930-4866, email rabrums@clecem.org.

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