

Garfield Heights, Ohio
Parish Office:
(216) 662-8685
Fax: (216) 662-1245
website: saintmonicachurch.net
St. Benedict: (216) 662-9380
Early Learning Center
(216) 475-3633
OCFCU (216) 663-6800

13623 Rockside Road

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Parish Office is open 8:00am-4:00 pm. Mon., Tues. & Thurs & 8:00 am- Noon on Wed. & Fri.

MASSES: 7 days a week Saturday: 4:00 p.m. Sunday: 9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. Monday-Friday: 8:00 a.m

Bulletin Announcements due to sshepka@saintmonicachurch.net by NOON on Friday

PARISH CLERGY

Rev. Thomas A. <u>Haren</u>, **Pastor**Rev. Theodore <u>Marszal</u>, **Senior Parochial Vicar**Rev. Thomas G. <u>Montavon</u>, **Retired**, **in Residence**Stan <u>Drozell</u>, **Deacon**

PASTORAL STAFF

Sister Helene Skrzyniarz SSJ-TOSF,

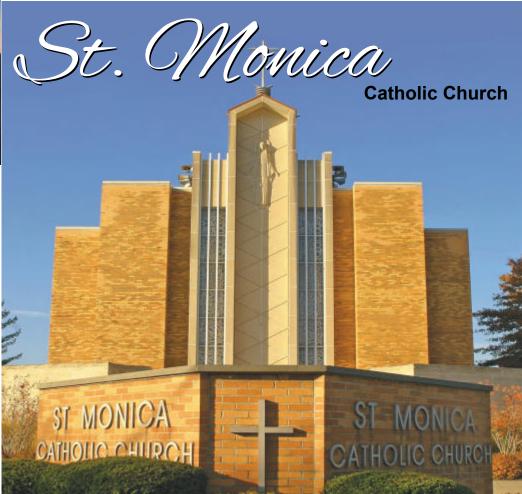
Parish Catechetical Leader srhelene@saintmonicachurch.net

Bob Soeder, **Director of Liturgy and Music**Stan Jakosh, **Business Mgr**

Susan Shepka, **Office Mgr**

Joseph Ungarsky **Pastoral Council Chairman**

Bill Simon Finance Council Chairman



PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: We, the parish of St. Monica, work to create a Christlike family, welcoming all people where one encounters a loving God, by serving the spiritual, educational and social needs of the community.

BAPTISM: Please make arrangements in advance. Baptisms are performed on Sundays, immediately following the 10:45 a.m. Mass. Pre-Baptismal instruction is required for parents. Please call the Parish Office for time of next scheduled class.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA): Adults and school-age children seeking full membership in the Catholic Church through the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist can make an appt. to continue their conversion process by calling the Parish Office.

RECONCILIATION: Opportunities to celebrate God's forgiveness in one's life are available on Saturday afternoons from 3:15-3:45 p.m. Individual appointments with a Priest can be arranged.

MATRIMONY: The Diocese of Cleveland requires a 6-month preparation period for marriage. Call the Parish Office to set your wedding date and plan your celebration.

CONFIRMATION: Any adult or high school student needing Confirmation, please call the Parish Office to schedule preparation.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Celebrated upon request. Call the Parish Office to make arrangements with one of our Priests.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please call the Parish Office to register.

ST. BENEDICT CATHOLIC SCHOOL: Provides Catholic education for students K-8. School hrs.: 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. *Before & After Care* available. Mrs. Lisa Oriti, *School Principal*

EUCHARIST FOR THE HOMEBOUND: Parish Team and Staff Members visit the homebound on a monthly basis. If you or someone you know is homebound and would like to receive communion, call the Parish Office.



LITURGY SCHEDULE

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m.

Sunday, August 15

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:00 People of the Parish

10:45 Irene Toma

Monday, August 16

Weekday

8:00 Helen Trsinar

Tuesday, August 17

Weekday

8:00 Mary Lou Folton

Wednesday, August 18

Weekday

8:00 Anthony, Rosa and Josephine Acino

Thursday, August 19

Weekday

8:00 Anthony, Rosa & Josephine Acino

Friday, August 20

Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

8:00 Josephina Migliante

Saturday, August 21

Saint Pius X, Pope

3:15 Confessions

4:00 Living & deceased members of Curtis & Cathy Lockhart Family

Sunday, August 22

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 People of the Parish

10:45 Anthony and Angeline Parasiliti

Please keep in your prayers the following members of our Parish Community:



Randy Peck, Anthony Weiskopf, Robyn Buckley, Anthony Lupica, Marge Netzband, John Spadaro, Lisa and Gaylene Bielawski, Joanne Reddinger, Toni Oden, Joan Kaczmarczyk, Algaheim Babies, Larry Piechowiak, Carol & Gerald DeLooze, Baby Harrison Justin. The names will remain in the bulletin for two weeks. Please call the parish office if your name or a loved one's

name needs to be added to the list. If you have a special intention you would like remembered in prayer, please call Lillian Neptune (216) 662-5464.



Our sincere sympathy and prayers are extended to the family and friends of **Kenneth J. Sable** who was buried this past week. May he rest in peace.

Pastoral Scene

The Assumption of Mary

Although the Assumption of Mary was declared a dogma in 1950, documentation of belief in the Assumption dates back to at least the 5th century (the 400ADs). The story is told that at the Council of Chalcedon, (451AD), when bishops from throughout of the Mediterranean world gathered in Constantinople, the Patriarch of Jerusalem was asked by Emperor Marcian to bring the relics of Mary to Constantinople where they were to be enshrined. The Patriarch explained that there were no relics of Mary in Jerusalem and, when opened, her grave was empty.

Nothing is said in the Bible about the end of Mary's life, but a tradition dating back to at least the 5th century says the twelve Apostles were miraculously assembled from their far flung missionary activity to be present at her death, and it is that scene we see normally depicted with the twelve apostles gathered round her bed in both ancient and medieval art.

Assumption, in both Eastern Orthodox and Roman Catholic theology, accepts the doctrine that Mary, the mother of Jesus, was taken (assumed) into heaven, body and soul, following the end of her life on earth. It differs from the Resurrection and the Ascension where Jesus rose and ascended to heaven by his own power. Theologians often explain Mary's death and Assumption as 'falling asleep in God's arms and being carried into heaven.'

At this point, I can almost hear Fr. Lukachinsky asking, "so how does this dogma apply to your life." Please let me answer that question! Too often we simply acknowledge that a dogma exists, but rarely think about why it is important and how it touches the essential tasks of our lives.

Mary's mission was to bring Jesus into the world. Mary's mission is ongoing when we live our faith as Mary did -- continue Mary's work of 'carrying Jesus' to others.

Mary is a model of prayer and dedication. She teaches us how to remain faithful to her son and to the vocation we have chosen in a world that often tries to send us down the wrong path. Scripture has shown that the devil has no power over Mary. Ask for her protection!

Mary is a mother, and in her role as the Mother of God, is our advocate with Jesus. Mary sees us as 'her' children, and there is nothing a 'Jewish mother' wants more than to see her sons and daughters happy, holy, safe, and successful.

Mary was always aware of what others needed. At the wedding feast at Cana, it was she who noticed the depleting wine. Mary continues her care for us by keeping a careful eye on the 'wines' we need during the challenging (and not so challenging) events in our lives.

The Assumption of Mary reminds us that our permanent home is heaven and that if we live a life that models her life, death will simply be falling asleep in the arms of God.

Sister Helene

Religion Question of the Week

What are the twelve "Fruits of the Holy Spirit"? (Answer on page 4)

Did You Know?

Did you know that next year our Church will be 70 years old?

One Liner

"Nothing ever comes to one, that is worth having, except as a result of hard work". (Booker T. Washington)

The Use of Symbolism and Hyperbole in Revelation

Have you ever used code words to communicate with a sibling or a good friend? Oh, you know, the nickname you have for a good dancer you call "Twinkle-Toes" or a very thin friend you call "Toothpick". Have you ever exaggerated just a bit in describing a situation by saying: "This bag weighs a ton!"; or "This is the worst day of my life."; or My dad will kill me when he sees the damage on the car!"? Yes, there is some truth in these statements but these figures of speech are not meant to be taken literally. Much of what you just read can be applied to the language in *Revelation*.

As explained earlier, speaking bluntly about those in power was never wise, so the early Christians identified whom they were speaking about in code. The four creatures are the four Evangelists symbolized by the lion, the eagle, a human figure, and an ox. Babylon was the synonym for Rome, and 'the Dragon' was the title given to Satan/Devil. When the term 'seven-headed Dragon was used' it referred to the seven hills of Rome, but not the Devil or the Emperor. The 'Beast of the Sea' was a term used to identify the ruling Roman Emperor, and the 'Second Beast of the Land' meant another local authority probably from Pergamum.

Revelation speaks of four horsemen who come from the four corners of the earth. The first horseman, a conqueror with a bow and crown, rides a white horse, which scholars sometimes interpret to symbolize Christ or the Antichrist. The second horseman wields a great sword and rides a red horse, symbolizing war and bloodshed. The third horseman carries a balance scale, rides a black horse, and symbolizes famine. The fourth horseman rides a pale (remember the pale green?) horse and is identified as Death.

On various feasts of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the reading in the Liturgy describes a Woman clothed with the sun, and 'in travail'. The 'dragon' waits for her to give birth so it can take with 'the Son of the Woman'. The child is taken to heaven immediately after his birth and his mother is whisked away to a safe place of refuge already prepared for her in the desert. Both figures are seen respectively as Mary and Christ.

Last, but not least, there are minor symbols that hold significant meaning in Revelation that influenced how the Early Christians saw the world: 'horns' signify power; 'eyes', knowledge; and 'the Bride of the Lamb', the Church. Although not in *Revelation*, the Old Testament refers to "the seeing tree." To us it is an unusual reference, but to the Jewish people and the Early Christians, it signified the almond tree – and its fruit that is shaped like our eyes. (another 'bigbucks' response for Jeopardy.). The next submission will address the "bunches of sevens" and the "eating of scrolls." Stay tuned! Hoping you are not overwhelmed! Sister Helene

Join us every
Thursday at 6:00
pm in Church as



we pray the Rosary. All are invited.

Tuition Aid and Other Special Help

The "Good Samaritan Fund" was established to help parishioners who need help with their Catholic School tuition, and for parishioners who need special help in other financial areas. Please contact the parish office if your family is in need of such aid.

Thought For The Week

Have you ever thought about why are you still a Catholic today? Why, when so many persons are leaving the Church, are you still actively practicing your Catholic Faith? You do have a reason. It might be very personal. What is it?

While many in our culture like to attack the Catholic Church, look at what the Catholic Church is doing in our society. Catholics all over America take care of the unfortunate through Catholic Charities and St. Vincent de Paul Society programs. The Catholic Church educates millions of students with sound moral teachings. The Catholic Church runs many hospitals to take care of the sick and elderly. The Catholic Church provides a moral compass for how to live decent lifestyles. The Catholic Church takes many stands like promoting the dignity of all human life, especially the unborn and the elderly. The Catholic Church opens its doors to all persons, and makes no distinctions about who are served. While many "authorities" talk about what they can do to make our country a better place, the Catholic Church puts its talk into action. The Catholic Church is not perfect. Many of our members are still sinners. But despite the many weaknesses of its members, the Catholic Church stands as a beacon for our world. This is because its mission is to represent its founder, Jesus Christ.

So why are you still a Catholic today? Maybe it has something to do with your desire to serve Jesus Christ in our world at this present time.

Fr. Thomas Haren

As our World struggles with tensions and disasters, our need for God grows more and more evident. You are invited to unite in prayer and pilgrimage at:

The Shrine of Our Lady of Czestochowa, Sunday August 15, 10:30 am Mass 12215 Granger Road, Garfield Heights

In the tradition of the Feast of the Assumption of Mary, flowers will be blessed.

Your are invited to bring lawn chairs. In case of rain, Mass will be in the Convent Chapel.

*Activities*CAL

MONDAY, August 16

4:15 p.m. Walking Group

TUESDAY, August 17

WEDNESDAY, August 18

4:00 p.m. RCIA (F)

5:00 p.m. Baseball Organization (bllfld)

7:00 p.m. G.A. (p)

THURSDAY, August 19

4:00 p.m. Zelie's Home (p) 4:15 p.m. Walking Group

6:00 p.m. Rosary (+)

FRIDAY, August 20

5:00 p.m. Baseball Org. (bllfld)

SATURDAY, August 21

8:00 a.m. Syriac Orthodox Church (J) 2:00 p.m. Baptist Bible Study (p)

SUNDAY, August 22

7:00 p.m. A.A. (sc1&2)

We Are on Radio 1260 AM

Radio 1260 AM The Rock will be broadcasting a show entitled "Where We Worship" hosted by Bob Tayek this Sunday, August 15th at 11:00 am, and again on Saturday, August 21st at 4:30 PM. The featured parish will be St. Monica Church. This is a half hour presentation about our parish, and about St. Benedict Catholic School., AM 1260 The Rock will be programming an interview with members of St. Monica Church and St. Benedict Catholic School Please take some time to "tune in" and support this program.

Novena to Saint Monica Begins August 19th



In response to the many prayer requests for adult children and other family members to return to the practice of the faith, AM 1260 The Rock invites our listeners and donors to join us for a Novena to St. Monica beginning August 19th. Each day at 3 PM, we will broadcast the novena prayers for the day (see separate insert). Prayers will be led by a variety of local clergy and AM 1260 The Rock program hosts.

The novena will run through Friday, August 27th, the Feast of St. Monica. We invite you to join us in prayer at a closing Mass at 7 PM at the Church of St. Monica, 13623 Rockside Rd. in Garfield Heights, with Most Rev. Roger Gries as the main celebrant and Fr. Doug Brown, Chaplain of AM 1260 The Rock and Pastor of Mary Queen of Peace as homilist.

Together, let us pray in charity for all those we love to return to the one true home, the Catholic Church. Any questions or for a copy of the novena prayers please visit www.AM1260TheRock.com or call us at 216-227-1260.

STEWARDSHIP

August 8, 2021

Regular Offertory	\$ 5,929.00
St. Monica Fund	\$ 945.00
Missionary Collection	\$ 2,123,00
Misc. Envelopes	\$ 397.00

Please continue to mail in your donations, donate online or drop off at the office. You can also drop your donation in the baskets in church. Thank you for your continued support.

Answer to This Week's Religion Question

What are the twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit?

Answer: These are supernatural works we can do in which we recognize the presence of God in the happiness we experience. We receive these "Fruits" at Baptism. These "Fruits" are: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, mildness, faith, modesty, continency, and chastity.

Legion of Mary 100th Anniversary 1921-2021



EUCHARISTIC PROCESSION

Saturday September 4, 2021 Holy Mass 11:00 AM - Procession 12:00 PM Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in downtown Cleveland, 1007 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114. contact@legionofmarynorthernohio.org facebook.com/legionofmarynorthernohio

St. Monica Homecoming Picnic & Raffle

Thank you to all of our sponsors of our event so far this year. We are grateful for their generous support: Ferfolia Funeral Home, Trinity High School, Ohio Catholic Federal Credit, Turfscape, Comfort Environmental, Latek & Rybicki Funeral Home, Church Budget Envelope Company, St. John Funeral Home, Golubski Deliberato Funeral Home, Fortuna Funeral Home, and Diocesan Holy Name Society. Hope to see everyone there!

Cafeteria positions available at Catholic elementary schools in your area!



Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent preferred. Previous foodservice experience a plus. Must pass BCI&I and FBI background check. Must complete employer provided VIRTUS training session within 30 days of hire. Excellent communication skills. For details and an application, call Carol Szabo at Catholic Diocese of Cleveland: 216-696-6525, ext. 3340 or email cszabo@dioceseofcleveland.org

Sisters of St. Joseph of the Third Order of St. Francis Saturday, August 21st, will be a special day for both Saint Monica Church and for 23 Jubilarians from the Sisters of Saint Joseph-Third Order of Saint Francis who will be celebrating their anniversaries of Investiture into this Community at a special 10:30 am Mass in our Church. These Jubilarians represent 50, 60, 70, 75, or 80 years of vowed consecrated religious life, as well as dedicated service to our area, and to many other communities in the United States and other areas of the world.

We are proud that our parish has been chosen as the site for their celebration! The Sisters of Saint Joseph were the first teachers of our children when the school was built. Let us ask God to bless all these Sister Jubilarians on their special day and for many years in the future!



"But I'm Not Dead Yet" - A Funeral Planning Workshop

Presented by Mary Hrich and Bob Soeder

St. Monica Church 13623 Rockside Rd. - Garfield Hts. OH 44125

Monday, September 20, 2021 - 2:00pm and 7:00pm

The death of a loved one can present overwhelming grief, but is often a time of grace as well. When funeral planning is left solely to our loved ones, it can make their loss even more difficult. Many times families and friends are uncertain or even unaware of their loved one's wishes.

We are reassured by our faith that this is not the end – and the funeral planning process can be a turning point in the faith journey of all involved.

This workshop will aid participants to achieve a better understanding and appreciation of the Catholic Funeral Rites and Funeral Liturgy preparation. In addition, we'll touch on topics such as trusts and wills, pre-planned and prepaid funerals, power of attorney, and living wills.

No sign-up or registration is required.

This workshop is presented under the auspices of



Visit us at http://sustainingtheiounsev.com

St. Benedict Daycare is continuing to grow by leaps and bounds! The daycare is hiring part time assistants, 20-25 hours per week to assist with infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. St. Benedict Daycare is open year round Monday through Friday. Flexible hours are available. Childcare experience preferred. Candidates will need to be Virtus trained and have an FBI/BCI background check completed. Interested candidates please submit a cover letter, resume, and three references to St. Benedict school principal, Mrs. Lisa Oriti at loriti@stbenedictohio.com.

Garfield Heights Knights of Columbus Wednesday Night Dinners: August

Reservations by Sunday, August 22..8PM

Wednesday, August 25 - \$10.00 per dinner Chicken Parmesan

Prepared by Lori's Custom Catering --phone 216-662-2277 --- MAILBOX # 2
Dinner Consists of:

1 Chicken Breast w/Pasta & fresh Mozzarella, Garlic Bread and Antipasta Salad

EVERYTHING IS PACKAGED - PRE-ORDER ONLY Curbside Pickup— Ready to heat -

NO BAKERY-SERVING TIME 4-6 PM

Pickup at 10806 Granger Road—CLUB 4130 Please leave your complete name, phone number and number of dinners you will be picking up. Please no changes day of. Thank you for your continued patronage. If someone else is picking up - leave their name also.



St. Monica Parish Homecoming Picnic & Raffle August 29,2021



Outdoor Mass at 12:30 p.m.
at the Parish Pavilion and tent.
Plenty of seats for all.
Please join us for this special liturgy.
(This is in addition to our normal Mass schedule)

Right after Mass, we will be selling picnic food at a nominal cost We will serve until we are sold out! Multiple Serving Lines

Hot Dogs • Hamburgers • Italian Sausage Pop • Water • Beer • Ice Cream





Entertainment Provided By Alex Bevan

Alex Bevan has been picking up his guitar and going to perform for audiences for over forty six years... singing primarily songs of his own crafting and supported mostly by his deft guitar picking and agile improvisational wit....

- Chinese Raffle Baskets
 "Spirit" Raffle
- Guessing Game All day 50/50 Raffles
- Drawing for the winners of the Parish Raffle at 5 p.m.

St. Monica Mass and Novena Join us to pray the Novena to St. Monica



Everyone knows someone who has left the church.

Join us August 19 through 27th at 3 PM to pray the Novena to Saint Monica. We will pray for our loved ones to return to their "True Home" the one holy Catholic Church. Each day a different guest will lead the Novena.

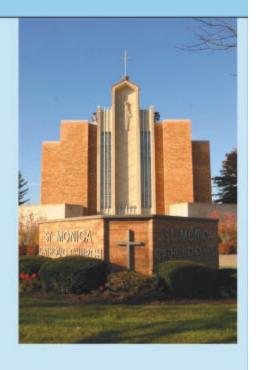
St. Monica's trust in the Lord and dedication to prayer helped her husband Patricius convert at the time of his death. Her son Augustine converted, became Bishop of Hippo and was canonized and named a Doctor of the Church.

For more information and to download or print the Novena, go to www.am1260therock.com



Join AM 1260 The Rock for the closing Mass of the Novena on the Feast of St. Monica!

St. Monica Church
13623 Rockside Road
Garfield Heights, OH 44125
Friday, August 27, 2021 at 7 PM
Most Rev. Roger W. Gries, Main Celebrant
Fr. Doug Brown, AM1260 Chaplain, Homilist



Praying the Novena to St. Monica

State the day's intention and then pray the Novena Prayers.

Daily Intentions

Day One

Today we pray for all God's people currently absent from our Home. May the Holy Spirit open their ears and hearts so they may hear this invitation to come home. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Two

Today we pray for those who were baptized Catholic but were not blessed with families to guide them to spiritual maturity. May the Holy Spirit guide them back to our Catholic family. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Three

Today we pray for those who have been hurt by someone in the Church. May those of us in the Church today be a source of healing. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Four

Today we pray for those who take issue with the Church's teachings. May the Holy Spirit open their hearts and minds to the truth and wisdom of those teachings. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Five

Today we pray for those whose sins make them feel unworthy to come to God. May they feel the warm embrace of Our Father's loving forgiveness. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Six

Today we pray for all those who believe in their hearts but are fearful of judgment or institutions. May they find the support and joy of belonging to our Church community. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Seven

Today we pray for those who are resisting Your call due to pressures from friends and family members. May the Holy Spirit give them strength in their convictions and may the Holy Spirit fill the hearts of their friends and family with love and support.

(Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Eight

Today we pray for those who feel abandoned by God. May they come to see God working in their lives, restore their faith in Him, and come home to His church. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Day Nine

Today we pray for those who are ready to come home and just need to be invited. May the Holy Spirit open our hearts and eyes to them that we may be the inviting and welcoming presence they seek. (Pray Novena Prayers)

Daily Novena Prayers

Exemplary mother of the Great Augustine, you perseveringly pursued your wayward son...not with wild threats but with prayerful cries to heaven. Intercede for all mothers in our day so that they may learn to draw their children to God.

Teach us to remain close to all God's children, even the prodigal sons and daughters who have sadly gone astray.

Dear St. Monica, troubled wife and mother, many sorrows pierced your heart during your lifetime. Yet, you never despaired or lost faith. With confidence, persistence, and profound faith, you prayed daily for the conversion of your beloved husband, Patricius and your beloved son, Augustine.

Grant me that same fortitude, patience, and trust in the Lord. Intercede for me, dear St. Monica, that God may favorably hear my plea for those for whom I am praying. Grant me the grace to accept His will in all things, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever. Amen.

Hail Mary (3 times) Glory Be (3 times)

St. Monica, pray for us

Novena courtesy of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Entrance Chant

 Mary, woman of the promise; vessel of your people's dreams, through your open, willing spirit waters of God's goodness streamed. Mary, Woman of the Promise (Journeysongs #477)

Mary, song of holy wisdom, sung before the world began. Faithful to the Word within, you carried out God's wondrous plan

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Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 45:10, 11, 12, 16

The Queen stands at your right hand arrayed in gold.

Test: Pushi 45. Music: Over Alstott. Copyright ©1977, 1990 by OCP Publications, Forthard OR. Reprinted with permission Lie. #RN298406.1. All rights reserved.

Offertory Chant:

On This Day (Journeysongs 479)

On this day, O beautiful Mother, on this day we give thee our love. Near thee, Madonna, fondly we hover, trusting thy gentle care to prove,

 On this day we ask to share, Dearest Mother, thy sweet care; Aid us ere our feet astray wander from they guiding way.

Queen of angels, deign to hear lisping children's humble prayer. Young hearts gain, O Virgin pure, sweetly to thyself allure.

Text: 77.77 with refrain; Bohr's Favorite Catholic Melodies, 1857. Music: Louis Lambillate, SJ, 1796-1855.

Communion Chant:

Bread of Life (Journeysongs #799

I myself am the bread of life. You and I are the bread of life, taken and blessed, broken and shared by Christ that the world might live.

- This bread is spirit, gift of the Maker's love, and we who share it know that we can be one: a living sign of God in Christ.
- Here is God's kingdom given to us as food.
 This is our body, this is our blood:
 a living sign of God in Christ.
- Lives broken open, stories shared aloud, become a banquet, a shelter for the world: a living sign of God in Christ.

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Sending Forth:

Immaculate Mary (Journeysongs #512)

Ave, Ave, Ave Maria! Ave, Ave, Maria!

Immaculate Mary your praises we sing.
 You reign now with Jesus, our Savior and King.

In heaven the blessed your glory proclaim;On earth we your children invoke your fair name.

Text: Jeremiah Cumulegs, 1814-1866. Masic: Grenoble, 1882...

Readings for 4:00pm Only

Reading I 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2

David assembled all Israel in Jerusalem to bring the ark of the Lord to the place which he had prepared for it. David also called together the sons of Aaron and the Levites.

The Levites bore the ark of God on their shoulders with poles, as Moses had ordained according to the word of the Lord. David commanded the chiefs of the Levites to appoint their kinsmen as chanters, to play on musical instruments, harps, lyres, and cymbals, to make a loud sound of rejoicing.

They brought in the ark of God and set it within the tent which David had pitched for it. Then they offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings to God. When David had finished offering up the burnt offerings and peace offerings, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14

R Lord, go up to the place of your rest, you and the ark of your holiness.

Behold, we heard of it in Ephrathah; we found it in the fields of Jaar. Let us enter his dwelling, let us worship at his footstool. **R**

May your priests be clothed with justice; let your faithful ones shout merrily for joy. For the sake of David your servant, reject not the plea of your anointed. **R**

For the LORD has chosen Zion; he prefers her for his dwelling. "Zion is my resting place forever; in her will I dwell, for I prefer her." R

Reading II 1 Cor 15:54b-57

Brothers and sisters: When that which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about: Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Lk 11:27-28

While Jesus was speaking, a woman from the crowd called out and said to him, "Blessed is the womb that carried you and the breasts at which you nursed." He replied, "Rather, blessed are those who hear the word of God and observe it."

Readings for 9:00am and 10:45am

Reading I Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab

God's temple in heaven was opened, and the ark of his covenant could be seen in the temple.

A great sign appeared in the sky, a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet, and on her head a crown of twelve stars. She was with child and wailed aloud in pain as she labored to give birth. Then another sign appeared in the sky; it was a huge red dragon, with seven heads and ten horns, and on its heads were seven diadems. Its tail swept away a third of the stars in the sky and hurled them down to the earth. Then the dragon stood before the woman about to give birth, to devour her child when she gave birth. She gave birth to a son, a male child, destined to rule all the nations with an iron rod. Her child was caught up to God and his throne. The woman herself fled into the desert where she had a place prepared by God.

Then I heard a loud voice in heaven say: "Now have salvation and power come, and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of his Anointed One."

Responsorial Psalm Ps. 45:10, 11, 12, 16

R. The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold.

The queen takes her place at your right hand in gold of Ophir. R.

Hear, O daughter, and see; turn your ear, forget your people and your father's house. R.

So shall the king desire your beauty; for he is your lord. R.

They are borne in with gladness and joy; they enter the palace of the king. R.

Reading II 1 Cor 15:20-27

Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end, when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father, when he has destroyed every sovereignty and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for "he subjected everything under his feet."

Gospel Lk 1:39-56

Mary set out and traveled to the hill country in haste to a town of Judah, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

And Mary said: "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me and holy is his Name. He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation. He has shown the strength of his arm, and has scattered the proud in their conceit. He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty. He has come to the help of his servant Israel for he has remembered his promise of mercy, the promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children forever."

Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

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