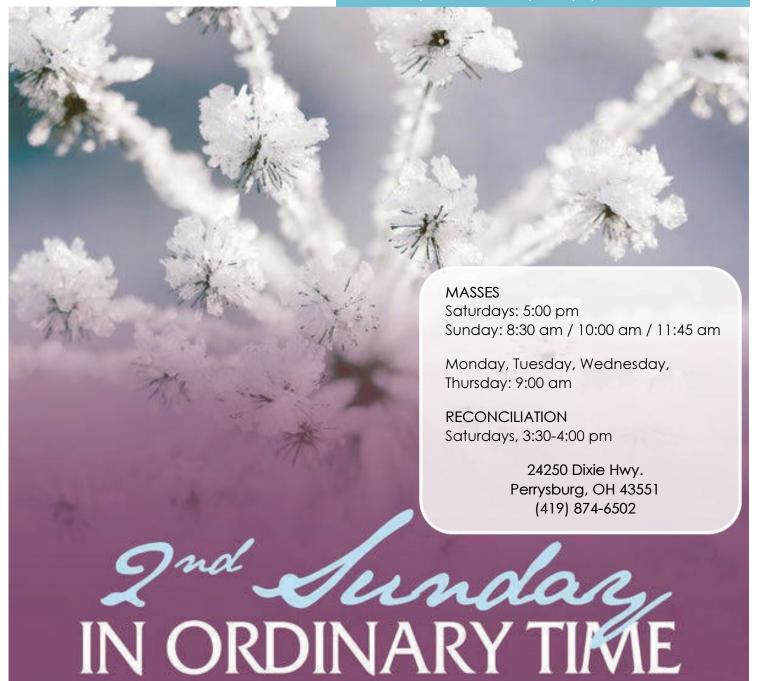


a place for discipleship | JANUARY 16, 2022



Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come." - Jn 2:4

welcome

Welcome to all who are with us today, either in person or through the technology of live-streaming! We are happy to have you with us.

Please be patient as we await the day we can gather totally and not fear infecting someone else around us. Until then, I want to invite each person to think of being part of a community, even if you are sitting alone, in church or at home.

We also say a special word of welcome to those who have come to explore our parish. This is happening even during these COVID days. Please feel at home and don't hesitate to ask auestions.

Again, welcome!

OUR STAFF



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Saturdays, 3:30-4:00 p.m.

BAPTISM, RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

For more information on preparation for Baptism, Reconciliation, or First Eucharist, contact Hilary Lemon.

CONFIRMATION

For information about the Sacrament of Confirmation, please contact Erin Nagy MARRIAGE

For Marriage preparation, contact Fr. Herb SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/SICK

Sick or reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, contact Fr. Herb.

RCIA

Please contact Fr. Herb



FR. HERB WEBER

Pastor

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this week.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sat.	1/15	5:00pm	Parish
Sun.	1/16	8:30am 10:00am 11:45am	James Trybus John Buckenmyer Parish
Mon	1/17	9:00am	Parish
Tues.	1/18	9:00am	Patricia Katafias
Wed.	1/19	9:00am	Parish
Thurs.	1/20	9:00am	Parish
Sat.	1/22	5:00pm	Parish
Sun.	1/23	8:30am 10:00am 11:45am	Rick Hartman Parish Parish

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

As our parish grows larger, we become more and more aware of how many parishioners face surgery, undergo treatment, and are sick because of other causes. Please keep one another in prayer.

CONDOLENCES AND PRAYERS

We prayerfully remember in prayer: Cindy Getz who has been a long-time parishioner; Jan Senter, mother of Jenell Wittmer; Richard Dean, the father of Ted Dean; and Gail Lambert, sister of Teresa Barnhart. May these loved ones be brought into eternal life, and may their families find comfort.





JANUARY DATES

Every January there are some special dates to keep in mind.

From January 18 to January 25, we observe a week of prayer for Christian Unity.

On January 21, the anniversary of the Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision, the church has a National Day of Prayer for Life.

Of course, we are now in the year of Luke (Cycle C of our lectionary). So you will have during the days that follow the Baptism of the Lord (next week), we also are reminded to pray for Religious Vocations when we hear about the call of the apostles.

This year we have two full months (and a bit more) before Ash Wednesday (March 2) and Lent begin, a good time to really get into the flow of the Lucan account of Jesus' ministry.

It's also a time to jump head-first into the programs and activities of the parish. Be sure to look at what is happening for you and your family.

our community

Pastor's Note: CONSISTENT RESPECT FOR LIFE

On Saturday of this week, January 22, we observe the 49th anniversary of the Roe v Wade Supreme Court decision (January 22, 1973). Both the decision and its annual observance cause people to stop and think about the value of life.

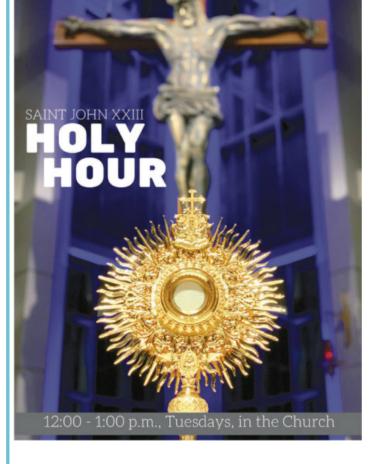
In 1995, Pope John Paul II wrote the famous *Evangelium Vitae*, The Gospel of Life. Much of it reflects what one can also find in the official Catechism of the Catholic Church. In this encyclical, the Pope writes about the profound need to respect and value life at all levels, with great emphasis on the need to understand the value of the life of the unborn.

I am proud of our church for supporting the value of life and opposing abortion. I also note that the Pope, in this encyclical, addressed the need for society to overcome those circumstances that lead someone towards choosing abortion: societal pressures, fear, poverty, and more.

It is not uncommon for someone who takes the position of being pro-life to only address the very real tragedy of abortion in our world, in our country. Pro-life, to be truly honest, also means addressing any other aspect of the 'culture of death,' as Pope John Paul would say. That includes issues like war, genocide, poverty and malnutrition of children, capital punishment, and disregard for the environment. Our present pope, Pope Francis, has also made it clear that these issues are all connected.

For me, it seems clear that we have to respect life at all levels or we will fail to respect it at all. Certainly, some will focus their energy on addressing one issue or another. But any time we make allowances that say some life does not have value, we have opened the door for others to say other life has less or no value.

This week I ask you to observe a deep respect for all life.



SACRIFICIAL COMMITMENT

Our Sunday offering for last week was \$25,285. Thank you very much.

We have begun a new year. May I ask people to use this as a time to re-assess their giving patterns? Personally I have found the beginning of the calendar year to be a good time to look at what I give to the church and other charities and match it against my income. Then comes the hard question: am I giving out of surplus or from what I want to give, off the top, before paying other bills? Try this and see where it takes you. Thanks.

GIVING DIRECTLY

It's very easy for parishioners to elect to give electronically, transmitting funds from their accounts to the church, using our ACH service. You control the amount and the time of the month for the transmission of funds. There are forms at the Connection Center desk that you can use. Please submit a completed form with a voided check, for routing purposes, to the parish office. Thank you.

faith & family

'SYNODAL CHURCH' GATHERINGS.

You are invited to participate in any of the following prayer, discernment and discussion sessions to be held in our Diocese as part of the Preparatory Phase for the Pope's 'Synod on Synodality.'

(Note: if you are questioning this, 'synodality' is a concept that grew from Vatican II and helps look at the church in a more collaborative and de-centralized model. These sessions are a part of phase one, taking place throughout the world.-hw)

All gatherings will begin in the Church with reflection, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and evening prayer, followed by dialogue and discussion. A couple of sessions have already taken place. Here are the remaining sessions:

-January 27 at St. Joan of Arc, Toledo

6:30 p.m. to no later than 9:00 p.m.

-February 3 at St. Anthony, Milan

6:30 p.m. to no later than 9:00 p.m.

-February 10 at St. Mary, Tiffin

2:00 p.m. to no later than 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to no later than 9:00 p.m.

A gathering will be cancelled if there is a level 2 or 3 snow emergency in the county where the city, listed above, is located. If one or more of the above dates are cancelled, an alternate gathering will be held on February 17 from 6:30pm to no later than 9:00pm at St. Michael, Findlay.

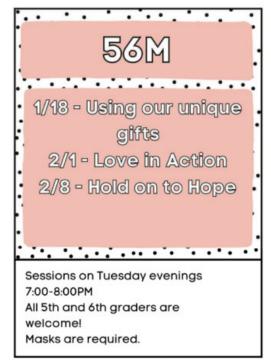
Please register to assist us in making appropriate preparations for the gatherings at www.reconnecttoledo.org/synodality.

WANT TO BECOME A MASS SERVER?

We are excited that we are re-building our team of Mass servers after the last two years! Anyone in grade four and up who may be interested in becoming a server, we ask that you sign up at 23.church for one of the training sessions. After that you will be scheduled according to your family's schedule. Parents, we need your support and we require a parent signature for this ministry.

Training for new servers will be at the following times (attend one of them): 11:00 a.m., Saturday, February 5; or 6:30 p.m., Monday, February 7. Allow 30-45 minutes for each session. Questions? Contact Fr. Herb.







Questions? Contact Erin Nagy

CONNECTION POINT!

We had a wonderful turn-out of parishioners for last Sunday's Connection Point. The next one will take place at 1:00 p.m., March 13.

People often ask how to sign up to become parishioners here at St. John XXIII. Your first step is to join us at Mass on a regular basis. Then we ask that you come to the next Connection Point. At that time you will have a chance to see how this parish functions and what its mission is. Only then, with an awareness of who we are, we invite you to register if you choose.

If you want to be a member of St. John XXIII, we ask that you attend the next Connection Point. Go to 23.church to sign up to be with us at that time.

Want to join our church? Start here. Convection Point Connection Point is a casual and conversational environment where you can get to know Saint John XXIII, our programs, services, mission and message. This is also where you may take the next step and become a member of our porish. Now taking reservations for March 13 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

A LOOK AHEAD

lan 17

It's good to have a long look to see all that is happening. Here is what is coming up in the next few weeks.

K of C Meeting

Jan 17	K of C Meeting
Jan 17	Bible Study
Jan 18	Prayer for Christian Unity
	begins
Jan 18	Tuesday morning Bible
	Study
Jan 18	RCIA
Jan 18	56M
Jan 19	First Communion Class
Jan 20	78M
Jan 21	National Prayer for Life
Jan 22-23	Coffee Sales
Jan 23	Confirmation meeting
Jan 24	Book Discussion
Jan 25	RCIA
Jan 26	First Communion Class
Jan 29	Wedding
Feb 2	First Communion Class –
	Parent Session
Feb 3	Together Women Rise
Feb 5	Server Training
Feb 5-6	St. Vincent de Paul
	Collection
Feb 7	Server Training
Feb 9	First Communion Class
Feb 14	St. Vincent de Paul
	Meeting
Feb 16	First Communion Class
Feb 21	K of C Meeting
Feb 23	First Communion Class –
	Parent Session
Mar 2	Ash Wednesday
Mar 6	(RCIA) Rite of Enrollment

SOULCARE

Join Julie Parkins to nourish body, mind and soul with SoulCore - a prayer experience that combines the prayers of the rosary with core strengthening, stretching and functional movement. No fitness level or experience required.

Where: St. John XXIII - Classroom 102 Time: 7:00-8:00 Dates: 1/17, 1/24,1/31, 2/7, 2/14, 2/21.

There is a suggested donation of \$5 per class, for those who are able, with all proceeds will being donated to Heartbeat of Toledo. Dress in comfortable clothing or sportswear and bring a fitness mat. Text Julie Parkins at 419-351-2338 for additional information.



Easter

First Holy Communion

Apr 17

May 1

THE EUCHARIST - FORMS OF PRESENCE

(This is the first installment of an occasional series about the Eucharist. – hw)

For a number of years I have been hearing about surveys that indicate a high percentage of Roman Catholics do not believe in the real presence, the true presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. I personally suspect we have several issues at play here: a) what does 'real presence' really mean? b) how is the question being asked and c) is this simply an intellectual question or is it something people fail to experience for themselves? Only when we address these issues can we start to address an appropriate response and a good catechesis to help people understand.

Today I am simply addressing the question of 'presence.' Later I will take up a more nuanced explanation of real Eucharistic presence.

I have stated many times that I think the COVID pandemic, which has caused people to stay away from church gatherings, has hurt the Catholic Church more than many other denominations. It's not that we don't stream our Masses. In fact, many times we do quite well.

But the Catholic Church is a church about presence. The assembly - that is, the people at Mass - are a true element of the liturgy. They are NOT an audience. Our rituals that cause us to recite responses, to stand or kneel, and to gather as a community helps us realize that **being there** is essential. We are not simply watchers.

The same thing is true for the Liturgy of the Word. We can watch closely. The priest may even know how to address the camera so it feels like he is talking directly to each person. But in reality, the Word is meant to be proclaimed to the community. We experience the power of the Scriptures *together*. And we process, through the homily, the significance of the Scriptures *together*.

Presence, then, is essential to our worship. Even more so, when we talk about the Real Presence, we will see how our liturgy goes beyond symbolism and abstract thought to something very concrete.

EUCHARISTIC REVIVAL

The Bishops of the United States are calling for a three-year grassroots revival of devotion and belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. They believe that God wants to see a movement of Catholics across the United States, healed, converted, formed, and unified by an encounter with Jesus in the Eucharist—and sent out in mission "for the life of the world."

These three years will culminate in the first National Eucharistic Congress in the United States in almost fifty years. Almost a hundred thousand Catholics will join together in Indianapolis for a once-in-a-lifetime pilgrimage toward the "source and summit" of our Catholic faith.

The time-line is as follows:

June 19, 2022 - Feast of Corpus Christi: Launch of the Eucharistic Revival

June 19, 2022 – June 11, 2023: Diocesan Year of Eucharistic Revival

June 11, 2023 – July 17, 2024: Parish Year of Eucharistic Revival

July 17 – 21, 2024: National Eucharistic Congress, Indianapolis, Indiana

July 17, 2024 – Pentecost 2025: Year of Going Out on Mission

You can start now by going to the official website, for the National Eucharistic Revival, which is now live! Learn more about the story of the revival, watch a free course from Bishop Cozzens, and receive important updates about the revival over the coming months. Go to: <u>EucharisticRevival.org</u>.



upcoming events

K OF C FREE THROW COMPETITION

The Saint John XXIII Knights of Columbus would like to invite all kids ages 9-14 years old to compete in the annual K of C Free Throw Championship Competition. This year's event will take place in conjunction with St. Rose Council 7978 on Sunday, January 16, 2022 at St. Rose's Gym in Perrysburg, Ohio.

Times are scheduled per age group as follows: Ages 9-10 at 6:30 p.m. Ages 11-12 at 7:00 p.m.; and Ages 13-14 at 7:30 p.m.

Registration is <u>REQUIRED</u>. You can sign your child up to compete by going to http://tiny.cc/free-throw. A parent or guardian must attend with the child.

Official Free Throw Championship basketballs will be provided (no personal basketballs will be allowed). One boy and one girl will be chosen as the winner from each age group and be eligible to compete at the District Level Competition. Good luck to all our participants!





50^NORTH JANUARY OUTING

50^Northers, did you enjoy the Christmas decorations at Wildwood Manor House last month? Or haven't you ever seen the house at all? Either way, you really haven't seen the RE-AL Manor House in all its year-round beauty! Here's your chance!

All parishioners 50 and older are welcome to a 50^North private tour of the Stranahan estate at Wildwood Metropark. On Sunday, January 30, you will be able to tour the home with your own docent who will explain how the home came to be and the importance of the Stranahan family to the Toledo community.

You won't want to miss this opportunity, so go to 23.church or the Connection Center to find more information and sign-up opportunities. Hurry, space is limited!

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS

On behalf of the Knights of Columbus Council 14502 and the American Red Cross, we would like to thank all who participated in the blood drive on Wednesday, January 5. Once again our drive was a big success. We collected 71 total units of blood, making this one of our largest drives. Our donors helped us save many lives by their selfless donation. As part of this drive, we also held our famous chili cook-off. For all those who are wondering, the winner of this year's competition was Daryl Brunswick's "Brisket, Brats, and Beer Chili". Congratulations, Daryl on being this year's people's choice winner. Our next blood drive will be held on Wednesday, April 6, and is open now for scheduling at 23.church. Please claim your preferred donation time now.



this is us

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

Where are you on the continuum? There are some who have not yet returned to inperson Mass attendance but follow each Sunday on-line with great fidelity. There are some who may or may not follow us on-line and may or may not show up in person.

In addition, there are those who may not read these words because they have slipped away from ACTIVE participation since COVID struck. Their hearts still long for the Word and Sacrament, but they are clouded from figuring out how to move forward.

And finally, there are those who have returned to weekly participation at Mass. Some have come back recently after family members have been vaccinated. Others returned as soon as they could last year.

The only thing we know is that as a parish community, we want everyone to MOVE FORWARD, supporting each other from wherever your starting point is.

The next few months we want to a) continue to do our best to keep people safe while in church; and b) encourage people to find creative and consistent ways to stay connected with their church. We believe that this is how we will get through what continues to be challenging times.

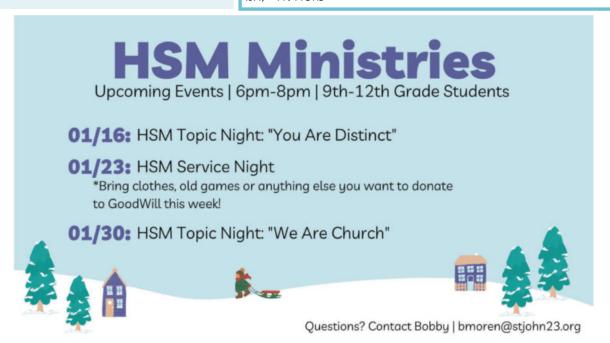
THANK YOU

Last Thursday, January 6, I sent out a Flocknote regarding Mass attendance and the recent surge of the Coronavirus. Thank you to all who responded so favorably, both in words and in choosing to wear masks to protect those around them. In case you missed the note I sent, here it is again. I am very hopeful that in a few weeks our city, county, and state will be beyond this present upswing. So please help make this happen by your own caution and care of each other. – Fr. Herb On January 6, I wrote:

"Because of the present surge of the Coronavirus in this county and state, people have been asking about Sunday Masses this weekend. Here are our thoughts:

- -We will have the regular schedule of Masses (5:00 Saturday; 8:30, 10:00, and 11:45 Sunday)
- -We will continue to have some sections of the church and the side chapel with restricted seating (every other pew)
- -As always, if you have symptoms or do not feel well, it would be wise to stay home
- -Even if you have been vaccinated and even if you have been coming regularly, WE STRONGLY ENCOURAGE YOU, at this time, to plan to wear a mask during Mass. It's only about an hour and it not only protects you, but also protects those around you. This is not a new normal but a response to a challenging situation.
- -As always, all Masses will be streamed. If you watch from home, we know it's not the same and you cannot receive the Eucharist. We do hope, however, that you and your family truly participate from home as much as possible.

With sincere concern for the health of all members of this parish, - Fr. Herb"









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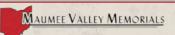
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