



Holy Cross

CATHOLIC CHURCH

A COMMUNITY CALLED TO BE A WITNESS TO THE GLORIOUS VICTORY OF THE CROSS

WELCOME

CONTACT US

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Very Rev. Fr. Emery Longanga, PhD, VF
Pastor

Rev. Fr. Jesus Martinez
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Rick Zeitler
Permanent Deacon

WELCOME MESSAGE

We the welcoming family of Holy Cross are delighted to have you join our parish family. Whether you are new to the area, seeking a new parish home, or returning to the practice of your Catholic faith, we hope you come and spend some time with us at Mass and in prayer and adoration. We seek to offer as many opportunities as possible for parishioners to come together as a family of faith. We pray that you may find warmth and spiritual growth here at Holy Cross!



30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. - Mk 10:51-52

Entonces le dijo Jesús: "¿Qué quieres que haga por ti?" El ciego le contestó: "Maestro, que pueda ver". Jesús le dijo: "Vete; tu fe te ha salvado". Al momento recobró la vista y comenzó a seguirlo por el camino. - Mc 10, 51-52

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2021 | 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

DEAR FRIENDS,

Fortitude is a virtue and fruit of the Holy Spirit. Time and again we hear Jesus utter this word that could sound magical at times. However, if the master ceaselessly comes back to it, it is because He knows how much worrisome life is and the extent of our fear when it comes about facing the challenges of discipleship.

In today's gospel reading we see correlation between two attitudes: courage and trust. The young man in the gospel faces both human and social challenges. The human challenge is the fact that he is blind. He cannot see. This alone could have knocked him down, and resign from every effort to fight for better life and condition. He would have said, as we very often do, all is over and there is nothing to wish or to hope for. His trust and hope that tomorrow would be somehow better is the key for his courage. The latter is even strengthened when He hears that Jesus is passing by. He screams and cries out. This faith and trust in the saving and healing power of Jesus makes him face every obstacle and rebuke. He persists and perseveres knowing that nothing would stop Him from embracing the Lord, the Healer.

Like Bartimaeus, we face different kinds of obstacles on our life and faith journey. These can be illness, misunderstanding, rebuke, social denial, and so on. These obstacles can at times raise the feeling of discouragement and the desire to throw everything away and give up. We are reminded today that no matter the thickness of the obstacle that prevents us from seeing the light of Christ, if we take up our courage with trust, determination and trust in the Lord, nothing will push us back as to refrain us from experience the love of Christ and his healing power.

Like Bartimaeus, we are called to total trust in Christ. When he hears that Christ is calling him, the young man abandons everything and runs towards the Master. He knows that nothing can hold him once he has found the Lord and source of eternal joy. Sure of our identity as God's adopted children, we are reminded that it is only with Him that we can find true solace and comfort. Today's words from the Letter to the Hebrews should always resonate in our ears and hearts when we face any kind of obstacles or challenges in our life journey: "You are my son; today I have begotten you." Remember that you belong to Him, and He will never give up on you. Like with Bartimaeus, Jesus stops today and calls us to Him. He feeds us with His words and Body to heal us from our blindness. If we listen to Him there will be nothing to worry about. "Take courage; Jesus is calling you," because you belong to Him.

Let us throw away all that we rely on and embrace only Jesus who will give us true peace, true consolation and full healing. And let us continue to pray for one another and for our parish family.

QUERIDOS AMIGOS,

La fortaleza es una virtud y un fruto del Espíritu Santo. Una y otra vez escuchamos a Jesús pronunciar esta palabra que a veces puede sonar mágica. Sin embargo, si el maestro vuelve incesantemente a ello, es porque sabe lo preocupante que es la vida y la extensión de nuestro miedo cuando se trata de enfrentar los desafíos del discipulado.

En la lectura del evangelio de hoy vemos una correlación entre dos actitudes: coraje y confianza. El joven del evangelio enfrenta desafíos tanto humanos como sociales. El desafío humano es el hecho de que es ciego. El no puede ver. Esto solo podría haberlo derribado y renunciar a todos los esfuerzos para luchar por una vida y una condición mejores. Habría dicho, como solemos decir, que todo ha terminado y que no hay nada que desear ni esperar. Su confianza y esperanza de que mañana sería mejor de alguna manera es la clave de su valentía. Este último se fortalece incluso cuando escucha que Jesús pasa. Grita y llora. Esta fe y confianza en el poder salvador y sanador de Jesús lo hace enfrentar todos los obstáculos y reprimendas. Él persiste y persevera sabiendo que nada le impedirá abrazar al Señor, el Sanador.

Como Bartimeo, enfrentamos diferentes tipos de obstáculos en nuestra vida y camino de fe. Estos pueden ser enfermedades, malentendidos, reprimendas, negación social, etc. Estos obstáculos pueden provocar en ocasiones el sentimiento de desánimo y el deseo de tirar todo por la borda y rendirse. Hoy se nos recuerda que no importa el grosor del obstáculo que nos impide ver la luz de Cristo, si nos animamos con confianza, determinación y confianza en el Señor, nada nos hará retroceder como para abstenernos de experimentar el amor de Cristo y su poder sanador.

Como Bartimeo, estamos llamados a tener una confianza total en Cristo. Cuando oye que Cristo lo llama, el joven lo abandona todo y corre hacia el Maestro. Sabe que nada puede detenerlo una vez que ha encontrado al Señor y la fuente del gozo eterno. Seguros de nuestra identidad como hijos adoptivos de Dios, se nos recuerda que solo con Él podemos encontrar verdadero consuelo y consuelo. Las palabras de hoy de la Carta a los Hebreos siempre deben resonar en nuestros oídos y corazones cuando enfrentamos cualquier tipo de obstáculo o desafío en el camino de nuestra vida: "Tú eres mi hijo; hoy te he engendrado ". Recuerda que le perteneces y Él nunca se rendirá contigo. Al igual que con Bartimeo, Jesús se detiene hoy y nos llama a Él. Él nos alimenta con sus palabras y su cuerpo para sanarnos de nuestra ceguera. Si lo escuchamos, no habrá nada de qué preocuparse. "Armarse de valor; Jesús te está llamando ", porque le perteneces.

Desechemos todo aquello en lo que dependemos y abracemos solo a Jesús, quien nos dará verdadera paz, verdadero consuelo y plena curación. Y sigamos orando unos por otros y por nuestra familia parroquial.

READINGS

FIRST READING

JER 31:7-9

Thus says the LORD: Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The LORD has delivered his people, the remnant of Israel. Behold, I will bring them back from the land of the north; I will gather them from the ends of the world, with the blind and the lame in their midst, the mothers and those with child; they shall return as an immense throng. They departed in tears, but I will console them and guide them; I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble. For I am a father to Israel, Ephraim is my first-born.

SECOND READING

HEB 5:1-6

Brothers and sisters:
Every high priest is taken from among men and made their representative before God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He is able to deal patiently with the ignorant and erring, for he himself is beset by weakness and so, for this reason, must make sin offerings for himself as well as for the people. No one takes this honor upon himself but only when called by God, just as Aaron was. In the same way, it was not Christ who glorified himself in becoming high priest, but rather the one who said to him: You are my son: this day I have begotten you; just as he says in another place: You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL

MK 10:46-52

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging. On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me." And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he kept calling out all the more, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you." He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

MASS SCHEDULE

MON, TUE, THURS & FRI

8:00 am & 12:00 pm

WEDNESDAY

8:00 am, 12:00 pm
& 7:00 pm *(Spanish)*

SATURDAY

8:00 am
4:00 pm *(Vigil)*

SUNDAY

8:00 & 10:00 am
12:30 pm *(Spanish)*

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Wednesday & First Friday 8:30 - 11:30 am

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

First Friday 12:00 pm

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Saturday 3:00-3:45 pm & Sunday 11:30 am-12:15 pm

MASS INTENTIONS

SAT, OCT 23

8:00 am
4:00 pm †

ROM 8:1-11/LK 13:1-9

Mary Lou Spellman
Decd members of the Soto Family

SUN, OCT 24

8:00 am †
10:00 am †
12:30 pm

JER 31:7-9/HEB 5:1-6/MK 10:46-52

Tomas Reyes Pagan
Holy Cross Parishioners
Cartagena Family

MON, OCT 25

8:00 am †
12:00 pm †

ROM 8:12-17/LK 13:10-17

Jonathan Toledo
Jerome Garrett

TUES, OCT 26

8:00 am †
12:00 pm †

ROM 8:18-25/LK 13:18-21

Rafael Alonso & Marisol Ponce
Maria Teresa Varela

WED, OCT 27

8:00 am †
12:00 pm †
7:00 pm †

ROM 8:26-30/LK 13:22-30

Vocations
Mike & Trish Sinwelski
Marta Lucia Balaguera

THURS, OCT 28

8:00 am †
12:00 pm

EPH 2:19-22/LK 6:12-16

Rafael Alonso & Marisol Ponce
Fr. Jesus Martinez

FRI, OCT 29

8:00 am †
12:00 pm

ROM 9:1-5/LK 14:1-6

Jack Speakman
Shirley Schuler

SAT, OCT 30

8:00 am †
4:00 pm †

ROM 11:1-2A, 11-12, 25-29/LK 14:1, 7-11

Rafael Alonso & Marisol Ponce
Kim Jenkins

SUN, OCT 31

8:00 am †
10:00 am †
12:30 pm †

DT 6:2-6/HEB 7:23-28/MK 12:28B-34

Holy Cross Parishioners
Joseph Edward McHugh, III
Ricardo Hernandez Cerda

PARISH NEWS

BINGO				
2	21	32	46	66
15	30	44	58	70
5	29	FREE SPOT	48	74
6	16	33	52	68
10	26	45	53	63

BINGO

Please join us for Monday evening BINGO! Doors open at 4pm. First games start at 5:45pm. Bring a friend or two! \$12 to start. Three jackpots. Hotdogs, snacks, pastries, and drinks for sale. A big thank you to all of our generous volunteers! See you there!

WOMEN'S CLUB MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Holy Cross Women's Club is having their annual membership drive during the weekend of November 6 & 7, after all Masses. Please be sure to say hello to a member and find out what the mission of the Women's Club is all about!

2022 MASS BOOK

The Mass book for 2022 is now open!

BALANCED HEALTH (JACARANDA) GIFT DRIVE

Please drop your donations off for Balanced Health Nursing Home on **Sunday, November 21, in the narthex**. We are in need of white t-shirts (L or XL), white socks, ball caps, sugar free cookies, playing cards, and lap robes (approx. 30" x 36"). Thank you so much!

USHERS NEEDED

We are in need of ushers for the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass. Please call the parish office for more information or to volunteer. Thank you for your willingness to help!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Sunday, October 24

Eucharistic Ministers: 8am—P Jones, Sr Patrick, 10am—M Branesky, A Branesky, **Lectors:** 8am—A Convery, 10am—L Reale, 12:30pm—Adrian, Alicia, Rigo, Belen

Monday, October 25

Lectors: 8am—L Reale, 12pm—K Noakes

Tuesday, October 26

Lectors: 8am—K Noakes, 12pm—T Chaoui

Wednesday, October 27

Lectors: 8am—L Reale, 12pm—L Lapointe, 7pm—Norma

Thursday, October 28

Lectors: 8am—M Taylor, 12pm—L Shields

Friday, October 29

Lectors: 8am—A Convery, 12pm—L Ferreira

Saturday, October 30

Eucharistic Ministers: 4pm—K Hossley, R Vidro,

Lectors: 8am—A Convery, 4pm—L Ferreira

Sunday, October 31

Eucharistic Ministers: 8am—M Aguirre, V Aguirre, 10am—S Ferreira, M Jones, **Lectors:** 8am—D Ashcroft, I Ashcroft, 10am—S Michalski, J Michalski, 12:30pm—Elizabeth, Susana, Belen, Maria Rojas



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please note that names will be automatically removed from this list after three months. Please call the parish office to add a name to this list.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING

José, Rose, Andrew, Sonny, Allison, Marty, Roia, Rose, Jim, John, Carol, Anna, Virgil, Gus, Dianne, Rebecca, Barbara Lilly, Elaine, Jacob, Donald, Mitchell, Faith, Mary, Meghan, Paul, Edith, Peggy Anne, Sylvia, Jean Ann, Felicitas, Adolfo, Jesus, Ileana, William, Jacob, Jeremy, Miranda, Lydia, Annette, Angela, Cecelia, Christine, Jill, Finnley, Jim, Lupita, Jeremiah, Jared, Phyllis, Natalie, Virginia, Jenn, Joe, Rick, Bud, Donna, Susan, Denise, George, Carmelita, Margaret H., Gianna, Tina, Laura, John, Edward, Gail, Karon, Beth Anne, Joe, Evelyn, Gerry, Ben, Mr. & Mrs. Verstappen, Victor, Karen, Rose Marie, John, Maureen, Colin, Paul, John, Joseph, Peggy, Kami, Katie, Anne-Marie, Simo, Josephine, Terry, Bill, Maria, Edward H., Holly, Doris, Zima, Craig, Sharon, Mike, Robert, Phyllis, Elaine, Jodi, Carly, Ann, Sharon, Beverly, Emily, Lynn, Mary Lou, Catherine, Roger, Maria, Alfredo, Eleanor, Dayana, Janet, Marilyn, Mary Ann, Bobby, Charlie, Christina, Peggy H., Mark, Renee, Glenn, Mary, Lynn, Sandra, Sally, Nick, Frank, Ed M., Paulette, Frank, Bozana, Mary Ellen, Sharon, Patty, Carlos, Maria Julia, Paula, Pam, Catherine, Amanda, Pat, Dennis, Lauren, Grace, Heidi, Scott, Lisa, Dawn Marie, Declan, Bodhi, Zora, Marie, Miguel, Nick, Sharon, Frankie, Kathy, Lisa, Pam, Frank, Sara, Nick, Lynn, Sarah Kristen, Joseph & Theresa, Pierotti Family, Sarah, Maggie, Dyllan, Elba, Artie & Halai, Annie, Marie, Jeanie, Anne, Lynn, Chuck, Carl, Bella, Bill, Montana, Eli, Susan, Karen, Fran, Diane & Troy & Family, Lori, Patricia & Anthony, Paul, Kathy, Maryann, Mario, Anthony, Christina, Joseph & Lucy, Chuck, Robert, Missa, David, Chuck, Sue Ann, Tina, Angie, Don, Justine

STEWARDSHIP: GIVING AS GOD DOES

Ask yourself this question — what would you pray for if you really believed God could and would do anything for you? In my experience, we all have something. We all have that miracle we're afraid to request, afraid we will be disappointed.

Do we doubt God's readiness to give because we ourselves have such an imperfect understanding of charity and love? Maybe if we had better faith in God we would be more ready to give of ourselves — and maybe if we were more ready to give of ourselves, we would understand more clearly the ways of God.

Because we're not really afraid that God can't do something. We know He can do anything. What we're afraid of is that He will do what He always does: give us what we need, not what we want.

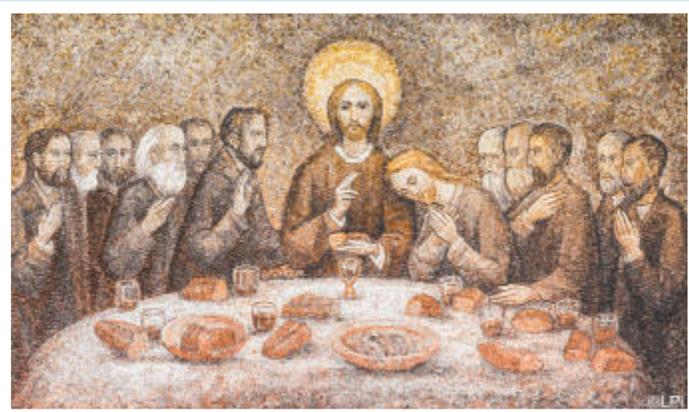
Have you ever had a friend in need and you just wanted to give them something — a meal, a phone call, a text? Not because you knew it would help, but simply because you wanted to reach out. And have they ever said to you: It wasn't so much what you gave, but the fact that you did. You gave them what they needed even if it wasn't what they specifically asked for.

When we give in this manner, we are giving as God

does. Sometimes we are afraid to ask because we don't want to be disappointed. But remember, the blind man on the road got what he asked for, but he would have gotten what he needed even if his answer had been the opposite. God's generosity is always reckless, and it's always perfect.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Weekend of October 16—17, 2021

Envelopes: 142 (out of 730 families)
Online Giving: \$ 708.50 (from 21 donors)
Weekly Total: \$ 6,037.38
Annual Budget: \$ 291,200.00

2021 APA

As of October 4, 2021

Goal: \$ 69,248.00
Pledged: \$ 58,409.00
Paid: \$ 56,087.50
Pledges: 230 (out of 730 families)

APA Pledging

Many people feel that they can participate at a sacrificial gift level if they make payments over a period of time. We currently work with monthly and annual pledge cycles. Donors who pledge will receive reminders according to their designated payment schedule.

APA One-Time Gifts

If donors prefer, a one-time gift can be paid at the time of commitment or payment can be scheduled for later.

APA Electronic Giving

All major credit and debit cards (MasterCard, American Express, Visa and Discover) as well as direct debit payments are accepted. Donor managed online giving is available through the diocesan website at:

<https://s.dosp.org/give>

APA Checks

Please **do not** combine APA and Offertory in one check.



ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers for the altar, the tabernacle, and Our Lady this week are a gift from Carmen Cartagena in honor of the Cartagena Family.

SANCTUARY LAMP

The sanctuary lamp this week is a gift from Carmen Cartagena in honor of the Cartagena Family.

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

The altar bread and wine this week is a gift from Carmen Cartagena in honor of the Cartagena Family.

LEARN ABOUT THE YEAR OF SAINT JOSEPH

ENCOURAGING DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF HIS LIFE & VIRTUES

THE VIRTUE OF PERSEVERANCE

“To become a saint, it is not enough to be courageous and patient and to practice the other virtues for a few days or a few months, or even for a few years. Our perseverance must persevere in these dispositions to the end of our life, never yielding to fatigue, discouragement, or laxity. This is the crucial point for, as St. Thomas says, “to apply oneself for a long time to a difficult task—and virtue is almost always difficult—constitutes a special difficulty” (Summa Theologica IIa IIae, q.137, a.1, co.); and it is only by overcoming this difficulty that we shall be able to reach perfection. We are not angels, we are human beings. The angel, a pure spirit, is stable by nature; if he makes a resolution, he holds to it; but this is not the case with us. We, being composed of spirit and matter, must suffer the consequences of the instability and fluctuations of the latter. As stability is characteristic of spirit, so instability is characteristic of matter; hence it becomes so difficult for us to be perfectly constant in the good. Although we have formed good resolutions in our mind, we always feel handicapped by the weakness of the sensible part of our nature which rebels against the weariness of sustained effort, and seeks to free itself from it, or at least to reduce it to a minimum. Our bodies are subject to fatigue; our minds are disturbed by emotions which are always fluctuating. That which at one moment fills us with enthusiasm may, at the next, become distasteful and annoying to such a point that we

think we can no longer endure it. This is our state while on earth and no one can escape it. However, God calls us all to sanctity, and since sanctity requires a continual practice of virtue, He, who never asks the impossible, has provided a remedy for the instability of our nature by giving us the virtue of perseverance, the special object of which is the sustaining of our efforts. Though fickle by nature, we can by the help of grace become steadfast.”
Rev Gabriel of St Mary Magdalen, OCD

PRAYER TO SAINT JOSEPH FOR THE VIRTUE OF PERSEVERANCE

Great Saint Joseph, who are the director, the friend, and the protector of those souls who desire to be perfect, you who did learn from Jesus and Mary how to conquer the powers of hell, and to practice all virtues, obtain for me the grace of PERSEVERANCE. Beloved Saint Joseph, my father, my guide, and my model, you who have so much zeal for the glory of Jesus Christ, and for my sanctification, please listen to my petition. I have the sweet confidence that you will not reject it. Your goodness will supply that which is lacking in my fervor, and according to the depth of your love for me, and of your power with Him Who has deigned to be called your Son, you will favorably hear me.
Amen.

ORACIÓN A SAN JOSÉ POR LA VIRTUD DE LA PERSEVERANCIA

Gran San José, quien es el director, el amigo y el protector de aquellas almas que desean ser perfectas, tú que aprendiste de Jesús y María cómo conquistar los poderes del infierno, y practicar todas las virtudes, obtén para mí la gracia de PERSEVERANCIA. Amado San José, mi padre, mi guía y mi modelo, tú que tienes tanto celo por la gloria de Jesucristo y por mi santificación, por favor escuche mi petición. Tengo la dulce confianza de que no lo rechazará. Tu bondad suplirá lo que falta en mi fervor, y según la profundidad de tu amor por mí, y de tu poder con Aquel que se ha dignado ser llamado Hijo tuyo, me escucharás favorablemente.
Amén.



Very Rev. Emery Longanga, PhD
Pastor

Rev. Fr. Jesus Martinez
Parochial Vicar

Rev. Mr. Rick Zeitler
Permanent Deacon

Michele Williams
Parish Manager

Marie Meza
Parish Secretary

Neil Guan
Director of Faith Formation

Shirley Schuler
Housekeeper

Bunny Harmon
Evangelization & Worship

Angelica Bañuelos-Espino
Weddings & Quinceañeras

Millie Haylock
Baptisms

FAITH FORMATION

WHAT DOES CATHOLIC MEAN?

Hmmmm..... Have you ever wondered what the word Catholic means?

Yes, I am serious, what does it mean? The word "catholic" actually comes from the Greek word, which means "universal." Just imagine that instead of saying "I am Catholic" you actually say, "I am universal." Jesus in the scriptures wanted his disciples to spread the truth throughout the whole world. Is it not fitting that we fulfill this command by calling ourselves "Catholics?" When we proclaim our faith as universal, we belong to a faith of believers from all over the country, the continent, and the world. We are one family united in Christ.

DID YOU KNOW...

That our diocese offers Mass in several different languages. In the Diocese of St. Petersburg, we have Mass in Spanish, Portuguese, Polish, Korean, Latin, Nigerian, Haitian-Creole, French, Indonesian, Vietnamese, and Tongan! Now that's what I call Catholic!

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

Don't Forget to continue bringing your certificates of Baptism and



First Communion! They are a must for your child to receive their

sacraments! You can drop off anything for the Faith Formation during our regular office hours.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

During these 40 Days for Life (ends October 31), we will recite the rosary every Friday at 1pm in the chapel. Please join us as we pray for the protection of the unborn!

FORMED WATCHLIST

This week's FORMED weekly watchlist is *St. Teresa of Avila*, A powerful epic mini-series shot on

location in Spain that tells the story of one of the most amazing women in history. Visit holycrossrcc.com to watch this amazing series for free on FORMED.org!

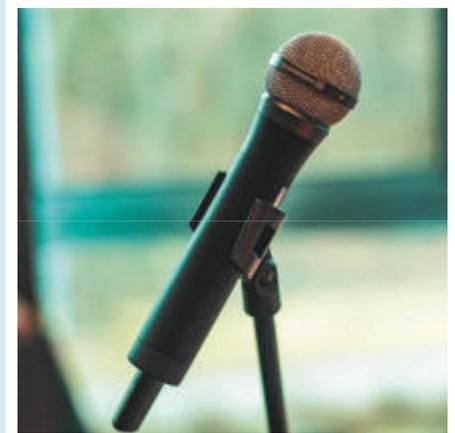
SAINT QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"But you, my dearly beloved, be mindful of the words which have been spoken before by the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ: Who told you that in the last time there should come mockers, walking according to their own desires in ungodlinesses ... But you, my beloved, building yourselves upon your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, Keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ." *Saint Jude*



BENEFIT PERFORMANCE FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please join us for a benefit performance supporting the Lynn Bartolotta USF Endowed Memorial Scholarship. The concert will be held on Sunday, November 21, at 3:00 pm at St. Matthew's. A free will offering will be collected. The musicians will be our very own Fr. Victor Bartolotta (Lynn's father and the founder of the scholarship fund), and his brother, Steve Bartolotta (Lynn's uncle).



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