

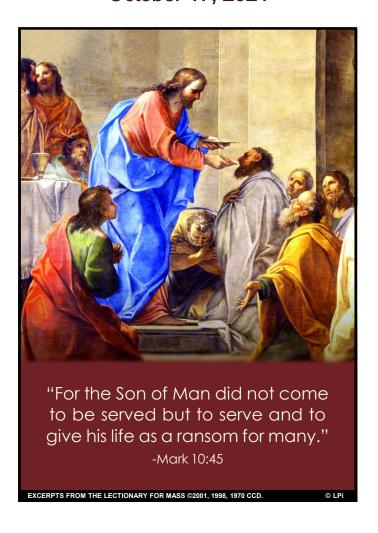
Christ Our Light Parish

Saint Benedict Catholic Church, Corner of North 7th Street & Gomber Avenue, Cambridge OH Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory, 136 East High Avenue, Lore City OH

Mailing: Christ Our Light Parish Office, 701 Gomber Avenue, Cambridge, Ohio 43725 Phone: (740) 432-7609 Fax: (740) 439-0800 Email: col_office@catholicweb.com

Website: www.christourlightparish.com

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 17, 2021



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Wednesdays from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. at St. Benedict Chapel. **BAPTISMS:** Families desiring baptism for their child must be registered in the parish. Parents must attend a preparation class. **BULLETIN DEADLINE:** Articles must be submitted in writing by noon on Wednesdays, inserts a week early, and are subject to approval by the pastor. Space is limited, so we reserve the right to edit.

FACEBOOK PAGE: Live-Streamed Mass every day. "Christ Our Light Parish, Guernsey County, OH."

HOSPITAL VISITATION: Please call immediately if you or a loved one is in the hospital.

MINISTRY TO THOSE IN NURSING HOMES, HOSPITALS, AND THE HOMEBOUND: If you or a loved one wishes to receive the Eucharist or have regular pastoral visits, please call the parish office.

RECONCILIATION:

St. Benedict Church - Saturdays at 4:00 p.m. Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory - Sundays at 11:45 a.m.

And by Appointment

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Parish School of Religion (PSR) classes for children in grades K through 8 are held Sunday mornings from September to May.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA):

Adult preparation for Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation. Call Fr. Hrezo for information.

SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS: Anyone wishing to schedule Masses on special days, especially weekends, should do so at least 6 months in advance.

WEDDINGS: Arrangements must be made six months in advance.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: Registration forms can be found at the church, oratory and parish office.

Pastor
Fr. Paul Hrezo phrezo@diosteub.org
Pastor Emeritus
Fr. Robert D. Borerrdaleb9940@gmail.com
Office Manager
Therese Terrell
Office Assistant
Nancy Bryancol_office@catholicweb.com
Pastoral Minister
Sister Sharon Paul 740-255-5912 (cell-740-680-1297)
Sacristan / Events Coordinator
Jacob Padden 740-421-1393, jpadden@muskingum.edu

	mitted at least one week early.
St. Benedict Church Social Ha	all 740-432-6751 x 123
Parish Offices	701 Gomber Avenue
Office Hours	9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Convent	319 North Seventh Street
Franciscan Sisters of Christian	Charity 740-255-5912
St. Benedict School	220 North Seventh Street
Phone	740-432-6751
Web Site	www.stbenedictschool.net
St. Vincent de Paul Society	
Web Sitewww.colsvdp.org	Phone 740-432-7609 x 207

Mass Intentions for the Week of October 17, 2021

Saturday, October 16	5:00pm	SB	† Bob Huffman (Birthday) by Aunt Bea Harper
Sunday, October 17 (Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)			
	8:00am	SB	† Deceased Members of the Christy, Kalill and Clemenson Families by Rosemary Christy Clemenson
	10:30am 12:15pm	SB SSPP	People of Christ Our Light Parish † Michael Duke by Eugene and Maria Duke
Monday, October 18	8:30am	SB	Intentions of Myron and Cynthia Law (70th Wedding Anniversary) by Family
Tuesday, October 19	8:35am 6:00pm	SB SSPP	† Agnes Lehotay by Family † Dorothy Bednarski by Betty and Butch Duche'
Wednesday, October 20	8:35am	SB	† Marjorie Mills by Linda Pawlowski
Thursday, October 21	8:35am 9:45am	SB SB	† Mike Long by Lila Webster † John and Anna Skeslock by Jim and Christine Larsen (School Mass, not open to the public at this time)
Friday, October 22	8:35am	SB	† Nick Yakubik by Ron and Jane Engott
Saturday, October 23	8:35am 5:00pm	SB SB	† William Coffey (Birthday) by Family † William, Nellie, Mark and Paul Bodner by Andy and Carol Yakubik
Sunday, October 24 (30th Sunday in Ordinary Time)			
	8:00am 10:30am	SB SB	† Mary A. Goffos by John and Kathleen Dinan † Lorraine Grace (Anniversary) by the Grubbs, Grace and Lohman
	12.15nm	SSPP	Families People of Christ Our Light Parish
	12:15pm	SSEE	1 copie of Christ Out Light I arish

Ministers of the Altar for Saturday and Sunday, October 23-24, 2021					
	Saturday (SB) 5:00 p.m.	Sunday (SB) 8:00 a.m.	Sunday (SB) 10:30 a.m.	Sunday (SSPP) 12:15 p.m.	
Eucharistic Ministers	Cheryl Minarchek (B)	Bud McCutcheon (B)	Loretta Balik (B)	Nina Highman (B)	
Lectors	Kathy Graham	Terri Poulos	Jeff Jeney	Betty Duche'	
Altar Servers	Ashlynn Kuklica	Samantha Delik	Kara Desjarlais	Ben Jackson	
	Elijah Kuklica	Patrick Ross	Chase Wojciechowski	Volunteer	
Ushers	Donald Poole	Victor Orange	Alan Bay	David Casasanta	
	John Jamail	Volunteer	Mark Anker	Ed McConkey	
	Jacob Padden	Volunteer	Gary Klamut	•	
	Will Trotti	Volunteer	Anna Pavlov		
Cantors	Folk Group	Sister Carol	Choir		
	-	David Speer			

The Catholic Women's Club will meet

this Tuesday, October 19th, with Mass at Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting to follow in the social hall. All women of the parish are invited to attend. The Mass is open to all parishioners.

Table of Plenty

Suggested food donations for October are canned fruit and canned vegetables. Thank you for your continued support. Please place your donations in the marked box in the Marian Room.



Schedule for This Week

	1.
Sunday, October	
Before Masses	•
	Scrip Sales (SB Marian Room)
After Masses	Picture Directory Photo Session
	Sign-Up (SB Marian Room)
	Parish School of Religion (SB Church)
	Confession (SSPP Oratory)
1:15pm	Picture Directory Photo Session
	Sign-Up (SSPP Oratory)
4:30pm	The Chosen, Episode 1 (SB Marian
	Room)
Monday, Octobe	r 18
9:00am	Rosary (SB Church)
Tuesday, Octobe	r 19
	Rosary (SB Church)
1:30pm	SVdP Meeting (SB Conference Rm)
6:00pm	Mass (SSPP Oratory)
	Catholic Women's Club Meeting
•	(SSPP Social Hall)
Wednesday, Octo	ober 20
	Rosary (SB Church)
	Eucharistic Adoration (SB Chapel)
_	Parochial Vicars Mtg. (SB Rectory)
_	Eucharistic Adoration Continues (SB
	Church)
4:30pm	Evening Prayer & Benediction (SB
	Church)
Thursday, Octob	,
	Rosary (SB Marian Room)
	RCIA (SB Social Hall)
Friday, October	
	Rosary (SB Church)
Saturday, Octobe	• ` '
	Rosary (SB Church)
	Confession (SB Church)
	Rosary (SB Church)
	Picture Directory Photo Session
0.00piii	Sign-Up (SB Marian Room)
4.00-6.30nm	St. Benedict School Book Fair (Gym)
Sunday, October	
Before Masses	
	St. Benedict School Book Fair (Gym)
	Scrip (SB Marian Room)
	Scrip (SB Marian Room) Picture Directory Photo Session
After Masses	Scrip (SB Marian Room) Picture Directory Photo Session Sign-Up (SB Marian Room)
After Masses 9:15am	Scrip (SB Marian Room) Picture Directory Photo Session Sign-Up (SB Marian Room) Parish School of Religion (SB Church)
9:15am 11:55am	Scrip (SB Marian Room) Picture Directory Photo Session Sign-Up (SB Marian Room) Parish School of Religion (SB Church) Confession (SSPP Oratory)
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The Chosen



Have you ever wondered what it was like to travel with Jesus as one of His disciples? Then join us for the first episode of "*The Chosen*" on **Sunday**, **October 17th**, from **4:30-6:00 p.m.** in the Marian **Room of St. Benedict Church**.

We'll continue this eight-week season with additional viewings of the entire first season of "The Chosen".

"The Chosen" is the first multi-season series about the life of Jesus. It offers the viewer a glimpse into what the daily and extraordinary life of Jesus Christ and His disciples might have looked like 2,000 years ago and invites the viewer into His story. Based on scripture and historical references, "The Chosen" makes the story of Jesus come to life.

Everyone is welcome. The episodes are in a series but they also can stand alone. So, if you can't come to all at least stop by to see an episode.

October 17 - Episode One: "You Are Called" We are introduced to Mary Magdalene, Nicodemus, Matthew and Simon (Peter) just before Jesus calls them to be His "chosen" disciples.

October 24 - Episode Two: "Shabbat"

Simon's deal with the Romans goes from bad to worse and Matthew secretly meets with Roman authorities to discuss spying on Simon. Mary of Magdala (Lilith) is seen in public completely healed and her transformation stuns Nicodemus who was powerless to help her. A restored and reformed Mary nervously hosts a traditional Jewish meal with a surprise and welcome guest.

Sundays at 4:30-6:00 p.m. St. Benedict Marian Room

Oct. 17 - Episode 1	Nov. 21 - Episode 5
Oct. 24 - Episode 2	Dec. 5 - Episode 6
Oct. 31 - Episode 3	Dec. 12 - Episode 7
Nov. 14 - Episode 4	Dec. 19 - Episode 8

The Chalkboard ST. BENEDICT SCHOOL Faithfully Educating God's Children Since 1911

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits. Books make wonderful birthday and Christmas presents.

The book fair is taking place <u>in the gym.</u> Please use the Steubenville Avenue parking lot.

- Saturday, Oct. 23: 4:00 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, Oct. 24: 9:15 a.m. noon

Book

Fair

If you are unable to attend the Fair in person, we invite you to visit our online Book Fair at https://

bookfairs.scholastic.com/
bf/stbenedictsch7

You will need to sign in to purchase books and have them put into St. Benedict School account.



October is the month of our Lady of the Rosary.

"If I could tell you my story in one single word, it would be the rosary." -Immaculee Ilibagiza, survivor of the 1994 Rwandan genocide that took the lives of nearly one million Tutsis.

She found shelter with seven other women in a 3 by 4 bathroom for 91 days, during which she daily prayed 27 Rosaries and 14 Divine Mercy Chaplets. Immaculee credits her life to these prayers, and she continues to pray the rosary daily which constantly renews and rewards her in every aspect of her life. Immaculee Ilibagiza is the author of *Left to Tell: Discovering God Amidst the Rwandan Holocaust*, and *the Rosary: The Prayer that Saved My Life.*

St. Benedict School Annual Auction / Raffle

It is almost time to start working on the 2021 St. Benedict School
Auction and Raffle. We are in need of a chairperson/co-chairpersons and volunteers to get preparations underway. Please contact Traci Mitchell at St. Benedict School at 740-432-6751 for additional information. Many hands make light work, and your participation is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your consideration.



Congratulations to Janet Kaneff, our Seventh \$50 Winner!

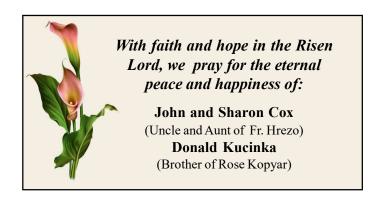
- **Grand Prize:** \$3,000 Prizes will be awarded Sunday, November 7, at St. Benedict social hall.
- \$50.00 Weekly drawings for 10 weeks
 Tickets go back into the drawing. You can win
 more than once!

8th Drawing Date: October 19, 2021

- Proceeds benefit St. Benedict School.
- Winners need not be present.

Would you like to help provide

prizes for the upcoming Reverse Raffle dinner and drawing? The only requirement is that gift cards be purchased from St. Benedict School's SCRIP program in amounts of \$25, \$50, or \$100, or you can make a donation of money for this purpose. Please put the card (or money) in an envelope **marked** *Reverse Raffle* and place it in the offertory basket at Mass or drop off your donation at the school office. Thank you in advance for your help in making this another successful year!



Please pray for <u>all</u> God's children who are ill, homebound or in nursing homes, and those who care for them.



Justin Allen, Richard Arnold, Dorothy Bates, Judy Beaver, Larry Beck, Whitney Benson, John Beros, Kathy Billi, Steve Bodner, Frank Booth, Brinley Boyd, Imelda Bruney, David Callihan, Diane Carkin, Patti Cartner, the Chesler Family, Karen Chumney, Lee Cline, Mrs. Theresa Cochran, Mike Cowgill, Anita Cox, Jennifer Cox, Lucy Davis, Maxine Davis, Linda Delik, Peggy Ditto, Mark Doerfler, Morgan Ann Downerd, Arya Downing, Karen Drabick, Carl James Duch, Patty Eibel, Lonnie Ellis, Liam Elliott, Mary Evans, Don Fairchild, Betty Fannin, Jen Fannin, Irene Feyko, Marsha Finley, Darlene Fitch, Fran Frohman, Greg Gibson, Pat Graven, Steve Hall, Dave Hanes, Stephen Hannum, Judy Hayes, Mark Hayes, Mary Ann Haynes, Karen Jakubisin Hinrichs, Ted Hoey, Angie Pruneski House, Sally and Payton Hubal, David and Paul Iten, Rachel Jirles, Josh Jones, Nate Kamban, William Kyser Jr., Dennis Landingham, Ron LaPage, Amara Larrison, Jane Larrison, Carol Latsch, Helen Laughman, Andrea May, Lisa McGregor, Joyce McPeak, Keagan Meek, Angela Merva, Haley Morris, Irvin Moxley, Florence Neff, Gerald O'Connor, Alice Orr, Mary Ann Pachuta, Dick and Frances Pavlov, Sally Pfalzgraf, Ben Pickenpaugh, Joe Ravak, Donald Robinson, Don Ross, Emma Ross, Jett Schmitt, Terri Scott, Vi Scott, Rosemary Sebek, Chris Seward, Steve Shedlock Jr., John Shipley, Pat Siegwarth, Joe and Joan Sikora, Carys Singler, Mallory Smith, Mike Smith, William Smith, John Sprouse, Louie Stahovec, Mark Stahovec, Leibert Stanko, Steve and Ethel Stasny, Mary Stoner, Ken Stump, Loran Stutz, Ed Symons, Debbie Tostenson, Margaret Urdak, Gerald Warner, JoMarie Wasik, James Weidlich, Theresa Welker, Matthew Wentzel, Bill and Cathy Whitmire, Diana Whitmire, Don and Grace Whitmore, Jodie Williams, Andrea Yakubik

We ask your prayers for all men and women serving in our armed forces and those who put themselves in harm's way to protect and serve others, especially those connected to our parish: Steven Barrows, Makenzi Carna, Becky Chesar,



Phillip Cram, Carl Duch, Scott Fearn, Josh Fletcher, Luke High, Travis Jackson, Jeremy Jones, Stephen J. Kraizel IV, Michael Kuhns, Joshua Lucas, Ryan McGough, Jeff McKnight, William Miller, J.C. Minarchek, Josh Norris, Anthony Stevens, Jesse Walters, Sean Weir, Steven Whaley, Zac Wilson, Ethan Wray

IN LYVING MEMORY

Christ Our Light Parish has received donations in memory of *Dr. Frank Shively and Msgr. Robert Kawa*.

Offertory for October 9-10, 2021

Collection	\$7,342.00
Miscellaneous	37.00
Religious Education	120.00

Weekly Budget Amount Needed.......\$9,000.00

READINGS FOR THE 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME October 24, 2021

As we gather on this autumn day, our Gospel reading speaks to us of the gift of sight that comes to us from our faith in God. In order to better prepare ourselves to celebrate these sacred mysteries, let us search

our hearts and ask God for mercy for the times we have wavered in our faith in God.

Our readings again focus on God's loving care expressed in real terms. In the reading from Jeremiah, he tells his people of the good news of their release from exile in Babylon. It is cause for joy and praise, especially for the blind, the crippled, those who are lost; all those who are weak. They will rejoice in God's loving intervention.

Jesus expresses this help for the blind in his healing of Bartimaeus. This story reveals its theme of ultimate salvation in the words,

"Teacher, I want to see!"
"You are healed, because you believe in me."

An interesting image in both the first reading and the Gospel is the road. Jeremiah tells us that God promised a straight road on which no one would stumble and fall. Mark tells us that Bartimaeus called out for pity as he was sitting

by the side of the road. When he receives his sight, he immediately follows Jesus on the road—a biblical symbol for the way to salvation.

Jeremiah 31:7-9

I will lead them to brooks of water, on a level road, so that none shall stumble.

What in my life is a "stumbling block" to my salvation?

Hebrews 5:1-6

You are a priest forever according

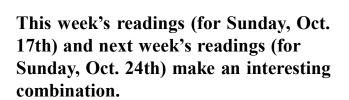
to the order of Melchizadek.

How do I witness my redemption in Christ Jesus?

Mark 10:46-52

Go on your way: your faith has saved you.

How strong is my trust and faith in the healing power of Jesus?



This week considers the reality of suffering. The kind of suffering into which the Lord asks us to enter is not a meaning*less* suffering. Rather, it is the suffering related to servant leadership. "Whoever wishes to be great among you will be your servant; whoever wishes to be first among you will be the slave of all" (Mark 10:44). And, the prophet Isaiah envisions the Messiah as one who embraces sufferings for the sake of lifting up and saving others: "through his suffering, my servant shall justify many, and their guilt he shall bear" (Isaiah 53:11).

Next week, especially in the 1st Reading and the Gospel, the readings invite us to rejoice in various forms of healing and restoration. We will read about healing and restoration not only for individuals but also for whole communities.

In the Gospel we read about a blind man named "Bartimaeus." Bartimaeus represents not only each of us individually and the kind of faith God wants us to

experience growing in our hearts, but also us as a community with steadfast faith and a deeper vision.

Bartimaeus was someone who needed to beg for assistance. Likely there were many others like him whose life situation had reduced them to this state. Evidently his family was not able to care for him. His family was known so that people called him the son ("Bar") of Timaeus. And, he evidently had to sit by the roadside to beg; presumably this is something he had to do regularly.

However, again, even though he was in this dire state of dependency on the generosity of others for physical sustenance, his faith in Jesus had grown. Even though he could not see Jesus physically, he was able to recognize that Jesus had the power to heal and restore. He could already see that Jesus had the authority that the Messiah would have. And this faith was a determined faith that could withstand people telling him to be quiet. In fact, the more people told him to be quiet, the more he kept calling out. When his pleading resulted in an opportunity to meet with Jesus, he sprang up enthusiastically. Once healed physically, he follows Jesus on the way. He represents the Church as the restored People of God, following Jesus on the way to eternal life.

This can be seen as a fulfillment of the prophecy cited from Jeremiah 31:7-9. This is a prophecy of restoration of the tribes of Israel after their exile, which was just beginning as Jeremiah was writing this prophecy. This gave the community great hope during their exile: "They departed in tears, but I will again restore them" (v. 9).

May we experience this same gift of faith in our Lord Jesus Christ growing stronger each day, both as a community and as individual disciples.



Holy Hikers Sunday, October 24

2:30 p.m.

(Gomber Ave. parking lot)

3:00 p.m.

(Salt Fork State Park Kennedy Stone House Trail)

Pastor's Letter

Next weekend is World Mission Sunday (October 24th). Each year we observe this to help us keep our connection both with Catholics throughout the world, especially those who need our outreach assistance, and with people throughout the world (both local and beyond) who have not yet truly heard the Gospel or who have not yet begun to know new life in Jesus.

Related to this, Pope Francis has asked that his Papal Intention for this month of October 2021 be that each one of us may be "missionary disciples." In other words, Pope Francis has asked that "every baptized person may be engaged in evangelization, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the flavor of the Gospel."

One way we have done this as a parish is through our growing friendship and connection with St. Elizabeth Parish in Caracol, Haiti. This week their pastor, Fr. Pierre Piquon, sent an email update of the situation in Haiti in general and in Caracol in particular.

On one hand, Caracol seems to be a bit of a haven along the north coast of Haiti. The number of COVID cases is low enough that they have continued to have Mass and other church activities. On the other hand, they still live with day-to-day uncertainty. For example, St. Elisabeth School has not yet been able to re-start their cafeteria for this school year. And one of Fr. Pierre's friends from seminary, Fr. Andre Sylvestre, was killed by bandits on motorcycles who tried to rob him as he came out of a bank in the nearby city of Cap-Haitien. So, the gang violence throughout Haiti has been keeping them on edge as well. Please keep them in prayer as they keep us in their prayers.

I'm looking forward to resuming the Holy Hikers next Sunday, October 24th. To keep it simple, I'd like to return to a trail we hiked in May, the Salt Fork State Park Kennedy Stone House trail. This will provide the opportunity to compare that trail's fall scenery with its springtime scenery. I plan to leave from the Gomber Avenue parking lot at 2:30 p.m. and meet at the Kennedy Stone House Trail parking lot at 3:00 p.m. This should be

about an hour-long hike so that I can return for Episode 2 of <u>The Chosen</u> that afternoon!

Thank you to all who are supporting St. Benedict School through the upcoming Reverse Raffle. Sr. Sharon has supplied me with a full page of new jokes for during the raffle. And our St. Benedict School students have also contributed quite a few good jokes. We will try to live-stream the drawing that evening of November 7th.

May Our Lord Jesus Christ help us to experience the transforming power of His mercy as He helps us to be always ready for the gift of eternal life in Heaven!

A very sincere thank

you to all who helped our CWC make the Christ Our Light Parish "Yard Sale/ Bake Sale/Lottery Tree



Raffle" at Sts. Peter and Paul last weekend such a success and wonderful experience. The total income received was \$1,521.40. Without the participation and dedication of our parishioners, family and community — we could not have pulled it off!

CONGRATULATIONS to our Lottery Tree Winner, Helen Chesar from Byesville. Once again thank you and have a wonderful week.

"Whatever you do, do it all for God's glory". 1 Cor. 10:31

Happy Anniversary!

Myron and Cynthia Law will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary on October 18, 2021. If you would like to send a card, their address is 53455 Seneca Lake Rd, Senecaville OH 43780-9649.



It's time for a New Directory!

Schedule your photography appointment in person after weekend Masses! ♦ St. Benedict Church Marian Room

♦ Sts. Peter and Paul Oratory

Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

You may schedule <u>online</u> Monday through Friday:

- Go to the Universal Church Directories website www.ucdir.com
- Enter the Church Code oh2427
- Enter the Church Password photos
- Click on the Enter button
- Follow the prompts to complete your registration

If you have questions, contact our Scheduling Administrator:
Rita Nolan, 740-260-1216

Photo Session Schedule:

- St. Benedict Conference Room:
 Wednesday, Nov. 17 3:00 to 9:30 pm
 Thursday, Nov. 18 3:00 to 9:30 pm
 Friday, Nov. 19 3:00 to 9:30 pm
 Saturday, Nov. 20 10:30 am to 5:00 pm
- Sts. Peter and Paul Social Hall: Monday, Nov. 22 - 2:00 to 8:30 pm Tuesday, Nov. 23 - 2:00 to 8:30 pm



Samaritan Center "Night In A Box" Fundraiser

Monday, October 18, 4:00pm to Tuesday, October 19, 8:30am 740.435.0333

We need your help to raise money for our area homeless individuals and families.

How can you help?

- Commit to spending the night of October 18 in a cardboard box on Wheeling Avenue with us. Ask family, friends, coworkers, businesses, etc. to pledge/donate to Samaritan Center. Pledge forms are available by calling the number above or by contacting a board member.
- Can't make it on October 18? Just grab a pledge form and collect donations for us. Donations can be mailed to Samaritan Center, PO Box 893, Cambridge, OH 43725.
- ♦ Make a group, school, business or corporate donation.

All money raised will be used by the Samaritan Center to help our area homeless.

Samaritan Center has been helping our homeless transition to permanent, safe housing since 2008.





The visible, public centerpiece of 40 Days for Life is a focused, 40-day, non-stop, round-the-clock prayer vigil outside a single Planned Parenthood center or other abortion facility. Each day during 40 Days for Life, individuals, churches, families and groups will be asked to join together in prayer for a specific request so the entire Body of Christ can unite around a common focus. (You are encouraged to check the website for more info ... 40daysforlife.com)

Devotional for Day 26, Sunday, October 17

Intention: Pray that those who have forgotten their purpose may discover it in God and therefore have the courage to choose life.

Scripture: These all wait for you, that you may give them their food in due season, what you give them they gather in; you open your hand they are filled with good. You hide your face, they are troubled; you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth your Spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the earth. — Psalm 104:27-30 **Prayer:** Beloved Father, remind us today that there is no truth but you. Do not let us fall prey to the evil one's lie that we may choose death. Remind us right now that you, who created all life, are in control of all life, and let us know right now that you who created all life, are in control of all life, and let us choose life always. Father, please let us hear your voice more today than yesterday. Keep lighting the pathway home, for us and for all who participate in this 40 Days for Life campaign. Father, we're on our way. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

<u>Devotional for Day 27, Monday, October 18</u> <u>Intention:</u> We pray for humility in our work for God's Kingdom. Scripture: Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus who, being in the form of God, did not consider it entitlement to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bond-servant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. — Philippians 2:5-8 **Prayer:** O Lord, help us follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Let us humbly and diligently work to restore legal protection for the unborn, the disabled, the medically dependent and all innocent children of God whose lives are threatened. Let us remember the old adage that "He can never lead who has not first learned to obey." And, Lord, grant us a peaceful heart as we labor in your name. Amen.

Devotional for Day 28, Tuesday, October 19

Intention: We pray for the conversion of abortionists and all abortion advocates.

Scripture: Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; Put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes, cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow. — Isaiah 1:16-17

Prayer: O God, our heavenly Father, give us courage and wisdom as we seek to eradicate the evil in our society. Help us to realize that your Holy Spirit alone can change hearts and minds so that all your human creatures may enjoy the fullness of life you intended for them. I pray this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Savior. Amen.

Devotional for Day 29, Wednesday, October 20

Intention: Praise God for His compassion in pardoning our sins and forgiving our transgressions. Give praise that He delights in showing mercy.

Scripture: Who is a God like You, pardoning iniquity and passing over the transgressions of the remnant of His heritage? He does not retain His anger forever, because He delights in mercy. He will again have compassion on us; and will subdue our iniquities.

—Micah 7:18-19

Prayer: Heavenly Father, eternal, changeless, and faithful Lord, we recognize that we are in need of forgiveness as a nation, for turning our hearts away from you. Hear our prayer of repentance, Lord, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. We praise you for your tender mercies and for your compassion that never fails. Lord, it is only by Your grace that we can live lives that are just and merciful. May Your Holy Spirit enable us to walk humbly in Your presence and may You be pleased to restore America so that a generation not yet born may praise you. In the name of Christ Jesus, who has done great things for us. Amen.

Devotional for Day 30, Thursday, October 21

Intention: That those tempted to abort may understand that their child is already present, and already a real person.

Scripture: And it happened, when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary that the babe leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. Then she spoke out with a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! But why is this granted to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For indeed, as soon as the voice of your greeting sounded in my ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

—Luke 1:41-44

Prayer: Jesus, open my eyes to your presence in the life of every child. Open my heart to joy in the birth of every child, a birth that reflects the joy of your own birth in Bethlehem. As you shared life in the womb of Mary, so now send your protection upon every child still in the womb, and grant to their mothers the strength and joy that comes from welcoming the gift of life. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Devotional for Day 31, Friday, October 22

Intention: For the medical community, that the truth they know about the human body may become awe and wonder at the God who made it.

Scripture: Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, the days fashioned for me, when as yet there were none of them. —Psalm 139:16

Prayer: Gracious God, help us to appreciate the wonder and beauty of Your creation. Help us to proclaim on behalf of every one of our fellow human beings, "I am fearfully and wonderfully made." May the knowledge that we are intimately known by You shape our lives and actions. Amen.

Devotional for Day 32, Saturday, October 23

Intention: As we pray for the end of abortion, let us pray for the expansion of the pregnancy help center movement worldwide.

Scripture: The dragon stood before the woman who was about to give birth, so that when she bore her child he might devour it. She gave birth to a male child, one who is to rule all the nations with a rod of iron, but her child was caught up to God and to his throne. — Revelation 12:4-5

Prayer: O God, from generation to generation, you have called your people to be the very aroma of life amidst a culture of death. Now it is our turn. Prepare me. Send me. Use me. I am eager to do my part. Stir your people everywhere to take up this great work. Amen.

"40 Days for Life is a life-changing experience, an exercise in sacrifice for the needs of others, an appeal to your heart to love the innocent, defend the helpless and embrace the needy. Babies waiting to be born are all these things as are their mothers. Expectant moms need more than lip service, and 40 Days for Life has given those gifts on the streets of this nation and in the homes of loving Americans."

Judie Brown, President, American Life League

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