

## ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

From the Pastor's Desk

There are a few things that need to be brought to your attention for the week. This week, on Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> we observe the *Feast of All Saints*. This is a *holy day of obligation*. Please note the times for mass. On Friday morning Mass will be offered at 8:10 a.m. This will allow the students from both Bishop Rosecrans and Bishop Fenwick schools enough time to check in at school and walk down the hill to the church in time for mass. If we do not start exactly at 8:10 please be a little patient as the students file into the church. With the help of Fr. Dreese, mass will also be offered on Friday evening at 7:00 p.m.

On Saturday we observe All Souls' Day. On this day we recall those who have gone before us in faith. Most especially we recall those who have died since last All Souls' Day. It is good for us to pray for our deceased relatives and friends. In fact, it is our duty to pray for them. It is an act of love. The observance of All Souls' Day brings this to mind for all of us. In honor of All Souls' Day, **I will** have a Saturday Morning Mass at 9:00 a.m. In the prayers of the faithful we will call to mind those members of our parish who have passed away this past year. We will do this also at all the masses this weekend. You are most welcome to join us Saturday morning.

At this writing, last Tuesday morning, I am waiting for Bovard Studios to arrive and start our window project. At last word they were supposed to be here yesterday or today. My first thought was again to look to Murphy's Law. They are late and it is raining! According to Murphy, this is exactly the way to start an outdoor project.

In the midst of my waiting for their arrival, we just received a phone call. The crew who is supposed to be here is finishing up a project in Illinois and will not be here until next week. Of course, we are supposed to be understanding because we are the Church. This follows another principle when working for the Church... "Close enough for Church work". Just the same, we had a serious conversation about our expectations. The project will get done. We will be patient even though we are disappointed.

On the bright side of things: we have exceeded our goal in making up our 25% of the overall project. This is great since we do not have to deplete our Capital Improvement Fund. We extend a big Thank You to all who have stepped up with generous contributions for the window project. I am humbled by your generosity. Your thoughtful support is greatly appreciated by the parish. Please keep the Capital Improvement Fund in mind for the future. I am confident that other needs with surface.

As we come to the end of October and enter the last couple weeks of the Liturgical year our Gospel readings begin to direct us to the Last Things. Presently we are in the middle of a sequence from the Gospel of Luke that reveals a doctrinal point of the author. For the twenty-ninth through the thirty-first Sundays we have three passages that are only found in the Gospel of St. Luke. These passages are found in Chapters 18 and 19. In review last week we read the parable of the dishonest judge and the persistent widow. Today we read the about the Pharisee and the tax collector. Next week we read the story of Zacchaeus. In closely looking at these unique passages we get a glimpse into St. Luke's doctrine and even a key to the overall Gospel.

Last Sunday's and today's Gospels concern the importance of prayer. The persistence of the widow is an act of faith. She believed in justice and was persistent in seeking it. The

passage concludes with "When the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?" Persistence in prayer is an act of faith. Faith in Justice is faith in God. In the end, when the Son of Man comes, the truth of faithfulness will be revealed.

Today, the Pharisee is filled with pride. He proclaims all that he has done over and above this tax collector; a sinner. In his eyes he is superior to the tax collector: he is self-justified. However, the conclusion to the story Jesus says the tax collector went home "justified" and the other did not, because "*everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted.*" True and honest prayer, an act of faith, is an act of humility.

Next Sunday we will read the story of Zacchaeus who climbed the tree to see Jesus. Because of his encounter with the Lord, he has a conversion and promises to repay anyone whom he has swindled as a tax collector. Jesus declares that "*Salvation has come*" to Zacchaeus' house. And that he too is a "*descendent of Abraham.*" Jesus declares that "*The Son of Man has come to seek and to save what was lost.*"

These three passages, unique to the Gospel of St. Luke point to the teaching doctrine in his gospel: they speak of justification that comes from faith granted to one who does not rely on his own merits but humbly opens himself to the merciful grace of God.

For St. Luke this is the true image of God. God does Justice for the defenseless widow because he is Justice. (Her faith in justices is faith in God.) God justifies those who humble themselves. (The tax collector humbles himself in prayer.) God saves sinners. (Zacchaeus)

The path St. Luke lays out for us these days, before we get into the end times which come in the last Sundays of the liturgical year, is one of faithful persistent prayer, humility before God and being open to his merciful grace that justifies us and brings us salvation. The teaching doctrine in St. Luke is the Good News that the Son of Man who is close to the poor, the widow, the weak and the humble. He is the friend of tax collectors and sinners. The Son of Man has come to seek and find the lost bringing them the gracious gift of salvation. This is the Good News presented by St. Luke.

Have a great week.  
Father Ralko

Note Well: On another unrelated note, next weekend we will be moving our clocks back one hour as Day Light Savings Time ends. In the meantime, we await the windows!



**This week we pray Week II of the Liturgy of the hours.**

*We pray for those who have died recently:  
Gary E. Joseph, Sr.*

*We welcome into the church the recently baptized:  
Spencer David Fandrey son of  
Mr. Darin & Mrs. Carly (Andrews) Fandrey*

*The altar flowers this weekend are in memory  
of the wedding anniversary of:*



*Thomas Paul*

All First Communion students and their parents please note that the meeting originally scheduled for **Tuesday, October 29<sup>th</sup>** has been rescheduled for **Sunday November 17<sup>th</sup> at Noon in the Church Basement.**

**The Women's Spirituality Group** will meet **Monday, October 28**, at the parish office at 3:30 p.m. Please enter through the courtyard door. If you have any questions, please call Judi Peterson at 740-453-5288.

#### **Cemetery Visit and Bonfire at Mt. Olive Cemetery**

All are invited to join us on **Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.** as we remember those who have died. Our time together will include an opportunity for private grave visitation and prayer. We will then gather around the fire for the recitation of the names of the parishioners who have died within the past year followed by the Rosary. The evening will end with a wiener roast. The parish will provide hotdogs and buns, condiments, hot chocolate, apple cider and water. Please bring your rosary (if you don't have one, no worries we will have extra) lawn chairs, roasting sticks, flashlights, and whatever additional snacks you would like i.e. chips, marshmallows, smores supplies, etc.

#### **Bishop Rosecrans Athletic Boosters**

It's time again to purchase your Booster Mania tickets for the upcoming year. \$25 each or three tickets for \$60, January 1 is the first drawing. Tickets make a good gift. Questions contact Marvin Paul at 740-819-3429.

**The 2019 Bishop Rosecrans Holiday Bazaar** will be held **Saturday, December 7** from 9:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. at the high school We are still accepting vendors for this event. To be a vendor please contact Holly Marsh 740-408-2705, Melissa Wilson 740-260-2519 or email [holidaybazaarbrhs@gmail.com](mailto:holidaybazaarbrhs@gmail.com)

#### **2019 ST. NICHOLAS CHURCH BAZAAR**

Just a reminder our 2019 bazaar is **November 9<sup>th</sup>**. We will again be accepting gift cards from any restaurants, stores, gas stations, etc. for a raffle prize. Just put in an envelope marked bazaar and drop in the collection basket. Donations may be left beside the steps downstairs. Thanks to everyone who helps us out in any way; working, donating, or purchasing. God bless. Questions? Call Mary at 740-607-6386.

#### **RESURRECTION CHOIR**

**Love to Sing? Want to be involved in a ministry to help grieving families? Join the Resurrection Choir!** The Resurrection Choir is made up of members of all four of the Catholic Churches in Muskingum County. We sing for funerals at St. Nicholas, St. Ann and St. Mary Churches. There are no auditions and no practices. If you're available when there is a funeral you attend and sing in the choir. We need a few more people to help with this ministry. To join this worthwhile ministry, contact Debbie Lovensheimer, 740-828-2594.

#### **HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

Members of the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary will host their annual style show and tea on **Thursday, November 7** in the Army gym, 515 Putnam Ave. Doors will open at 11:00 a.m. for silent auction preview followed by a noon luncheon and a style show 1:00 p.m. Proceeds are used to purchase over 600 coats annually for Muskingum County school children Kindergarten through high school. To reserve a seat, mail a check for \$28 to Beth Archer at 1140 Ellen Dr., Zanesville. You do not need to fill out a reservation slip.

#### **Film depicts St. Faustina's mission of Divine Mercy**

For one night only, the incredible true story of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska comes to the big screen. Love and Mercy: Faustina, the story of the humble Polish nun responsible for the Divine Mercy devotion familiar to many practicing Catholics, will be shown on **Monday, Oct. 28** at 774 theaters throughout the United States. Cinemark Theater at Colony Square is one of them. Showtime is **7:00 p.m.**

Many Catholics already know the story of Jesus appearing to the humble nun in 1931 in a small town in Poland. He asked her to paint an image of him as he appeared to her with pale red and white rays of light to represent blood and water emanating from his merciful heart. At the bottom of the painting, he wanted the words "Jesus, I trust in you." Christ also revealed His desire for His mercy to be known throughout the world and told Faustina to confide in a confessor who would assist her. Blessed Father Michael Sopocko, a devoted and scholarly priest, became her spiritual director and confessor. He is responsible for prompting Sister Faustina to write down her revelations in a diary which has become one of the most popular spiritual books in the world. In addition, he assisted with securing a local artist to paint the Divine Mercy image and then, after Faustina died, spent the rest of his life promoting the important work she started.

There is much more about the story in the Oct. 20 issue of *The Catholic Times*.

#### **PORK, SAUERKRAUT & BOHNEN BRIE DINNER**

St. Mary's in Fulda will serve its annual sauerkraut and pork dinner on **Nov. 3** from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the church. The menu will include sauerkraut/pork, bohnen brie, homemade noodles, mashed potatoes, cooked apples, dessert and drink. Bingo begins at 1:00 p.m. and a drawing will be held at 3:00 p.m. Crafts will also be available. The public is invited to attend. The church is located seven miles east of Caldwell, off State Route 564 on County Road 15.

#### **GRIEF MINISTRY**

Grief by definition is deep sorrow caused by loss. Grief can appear as sadness, pain, it can even make us physically ill. Grief can be indescribable. The St. Nicholas Grief Support Program provides monthly meetings which are offered twice in one day to afford the maximum number of participants. Meetings are held at 1:00 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Meeting Room. The first meeting is **Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>**. The topic will be "Who are You Grieving For?" Perhaps you have lost someone or know someone who is grieving and would like to learn how to help them. Please join us. The program is free and open to all.

**30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE**

It is your responsibility to find a substitute if needed.

**November 1, 2019**

**All Saint's Day (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Friday, November 1 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Cantor: Sandy Black  
Lectors: Diane Hoffer, Maggie Wright  
Servers: Will Bernath, Mason Harmon  
Eucharistic Minister – Coord: John Haswell  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Jennifer Burnett, Laurie Harmon  
Eucharistic Ministers: Linda Haswell, Dan Sylvester, Gerald Tiberio, Joshua Wright

**November 3, 2019**

**31st Sunday In Ordinary Time**

**Saturday, November 2 @ 5:15 p.m.**

Cantor: Sr. Bernadette Selinsky  
Lectors: Nichole Hannahs, Mike LaPlante  
Servers: Luke Pratt, Libby Pratt  
Eucharistic Minister – Coord: Judy Hamilton  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Jim Pottmeyer, Karen Robinson  
Eucharistic Ministers: Jon Calendine, Mary Calendine, Margaret Kronenbitter, Susan Pratt

**Sunday, November 3 @ 8:15 a.m.**

Cantor: Janet Moses  
Lector: Bernard Budde, Patti Logan  
Servers: David Eppley, Caiden Hogue  
Eucharistic Minister- Coord: Dodi Sealock  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Theresa Hogue, Marvin Paul  
Eucharistic Ministers: Peggy Hill, Jim Hillis, Sue Hillis, Philip Kocoloski

**Sunday, November 3 @ 10:45 a.m.**

Cantor: Jim Gable  
Lectors: Wendy Hart, Othello Repuyan  
Servers: Nathan Hart, Justin Hart  
Eucharistic Minister - Coord: Mary Mirgon  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Jim McKee, Mike Musselman  
Eucharistic Ministers: Carolyn Arnold, Kolby Knox, Danielle Knox, Erin Roush

*Our thoughts and prayers remain with those serving our country currently and with their loved ones at home. We pray for a safe homecoming and that the world may one day be at peace.*

*Please join us each Monday at the St. Nicholas Parish Office Chapel at 2:00 p.m. as we gather to pray the Rosary asking Our Lady's Intercession for the many needs of our nation, community, and parish.*

***What's Happening in Our Parish***

**MONDAY, October 28, SS. Simon & Jude**

8:00 a.m., Mass: Roger Eppley, Church

**TUESDAY, October 29**

8:00 a.m., Mass: Florence Schoeppner, Church  
9:30 p.m., Tuesday Morning Bible Study, Parish Office

**WEDNESDAY, October 30**

8:10 a.m., School Mass: Bertha Haren, Church  
7:00 p.m., R.C.I.A., Parish Office

**THURSDAY, October 31**

**NO MASS**

**FRIDAY, November 1, All Saint's Day**

All day until 4:00 p.m., Eucharistic Adoration  
8:10 a.m., Mass: Tran & Nguyen families and all poor souls in purgatory, Church  
7:00 p.m., Mass: Pauline Archer, Church

***31st Sunday in Ordinary Time***

**SATURDAY, November 2, All Soul's Day**

9:00 a.m., Mass: Gene & Mary Lou Staker, Church  
4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m., Confessions, Church  
5:15 p.m., Mass: Bill Fleer, birthday, Church

**SUNDAY, November 3**

8:15 a.m., Mass: St. Nicholas Parishioners, Church  
9:15 a.m., Religious Education, Bishop Fenwick School  
10:45 a.m., Mass: Kathy Shawger, anniversary, Church  
Mass: Bob Wahl, anniversary, Church

***Readings for Week of October 28***

Mon. . . . .	Eph 2:19-22	Lk 6:12-16
Tues. . . . .	Rom 8:18-25	Lk 13:18-21
Wed . . . . .	Rom 8:26-30	Lk 13:22-30
Thurs. . . . .	Rom 8:31b-39	Lk 13:31-35
Fri. . . . .	Rv 7:2-4, 9-14	Mt 5:1-12a
Sat. . . . .	Wis 3:1-9	Rom 6:3-9
Sun . . . . .	Wis 11:22-12:2	Lk 19:1-10

**Church Support**

OCTOBER 20, 2019	
OFFERTORY	\$9,854.00
Diocesan Tax	\$(770.00)
Fenwick Subsidy	\$(2,635.00)
Rosecrans subsidy	\$(485.00)
Available for Parish Operations	\$5,965.00
Parish Operating Expenses	\$(7,825.00)
Religious Education Expenses	\$(890.00)
Other Income	\$1,855.00
Weekly deficit	\$(895.00)

**May God bless you for supporting your parish!**