

St. Mary's Catholic Church

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 17, 2019

Dear Parishioners:

An atheist was driving along a back country road when he came upon a priest and a Lutheran minister standing on the shoulder of the road having a conversation. Next to the clergymen was a big sign that read: Turn back, the **end** is near." The atheist took offense at the sign so he rolled down the widow of his car and shouted at the clergymen: "Don't preach to me. I don't need to hear that stuff!" A few seconds later the clergymen heard the screech of tires and then a splash. The minister turned to the priest and said: "I told you we should have just written: Danger: Bridge Out Ahead."



With the **end** of the Church's Liturgical Year only two weeks away, our Scripture readings for today's Liturgy direct our attention to the notion of the **end-time** (The Eschaton, The Apocalypse, The Parousia and Judgment Day.) In today's first reading the prophet Malachi reminds his people that "The Day of the Lord" would be coming and Yahweh would be passing judgment upon them. In our Gospel passage from St. Luke (which happens to be Jesus' final teaching to His apostles before His passion and death) Jesus advises His followers on how to prepare and make themselves ready for the **end-time**.

The prophet Malachi lived and preached about 470 years before the coming of Christ. Many Jews at that time had become apathetic about their religious duties and about keeping the Commandments. They lost all interest in worshipping and serving their God and so Malachi warns his listeners that the day of reward and punishment would be coming. He uses fire as a symbol to represent both reward and punishment. Fire will become a scorching heat (punishment) for all those who have not follow God's ways. However, fire will become a source of warmth and healing (reward) for those who have been faithful to God's ways.

Today's Gospel passage addresses the signs that should alert people to impending doom. These signs are demonstrations of upheaval. These signs include political unrest, violence, and disturbances in the natural world; all experiences that people believed would precede the end of the age. For Christians there will also be signs of persecution at the hands of governments, acquaintances, friends and even family members. However when these things do happen we should not panic, despair or become overly anxious but rather we should consider Jesus' words: "By your perseverance you will secure your lives." We can take comfort knowing that if we persevere, when the Day of the Lord comes, we will then be counted among the just and see God face to face and share in God's eternal life.

Love & prayers,
Fr. John

Weekend Masses

Sat Nov 16	4:00 p.m.	Fr. Dave Beck
Sun Nov 17	10:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sat Nov 23	4:00 p.m.	Ellen, Lillian and Richard VonLehmden George Donaldson
Sun Nov 24	10:00 a.m.	In Thanksgiving

Communion Service

Fri Nov 22 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$4,024.00	Loose \$757.00
Children	\$39.75	Total \$4,820.75

78 envelopes returned = 37%



*Thank you for your generosity!
Thank you also to those who give
electronically!!*

Assignments for November 23 & 24, 2019

Money Counters: Nick Recker and Deb Buck

4:00 p.m. – *please sign the sheet in the main entrance*

Greeters: Basil Meyer

Cantor: Dave Roby

Ushers:

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Edna Conkling, Basil Meyer, Bob Minto

Servers: Jacob Granger and Addison Businger

10:00 a.m.

Greeters: Deb Buck

Cantor: Choir

Ushers: Mike and Rhonda Maag

Lectors: Lisa Welch and Shannon Wannemacher

E.M.: Michelle Risner, John Schulte, Betty Gerten,
Jenna Kimmel, Linda Kinn

Servers: Kendal Giesege, Makayla and Jordan
Schweingruber

Readings for November 24, 2019

Feast of Christ the King

1st Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1 – 3

2nd Reading: Colossians 1:12 – 20

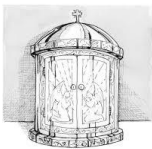
Gospel Reading: Luke 23:35 – 43

St. Mary's Catholic Church

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 17, 2019

Thank you to Mel Heitmeyer, Jerry Wehri, and Jerry Kahle for their help in moving the Tabernacle this week. Please note, the chapel will still be available for prayer and reflection, but the Blessed Sacrament is now at the front of the church.



Pray for our second graders and their parents. They will be celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, November 20.



Next Sunday, November 24, is the Solemnity of Christ the King. It is also the last Sunday of the Church year. The season of Advent is just two weeks away. Begin to think about how you will prepare your heart for Christmas.

Students attending CYSC will be hosting a bake sale fundraiser next Sunday,



November 24th, after Mass. Please plan ahead and consider helping them raise money to attend a joy-filled and incredible week of camp this summer!

Church Members – time to start baking! The Thanksgiving bake sale for Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio will be held in the lobby of Mennonite Memorial Home on Friday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a perfect opportunity for you to bake a few Christmas or Thanksgiving goodies early and put a few aside for this bake sale. The Service Group, who oversees the sale and is composed of members from local churches, is in need of cinnamon rolls, pies, cakes, cookies, breads and any other baked items that people like to serve at Thanksgiving. Items should be delivered to the lobby by 8:45 a.m. on Nov. 22.

It is also time to pre-order a hickory nut or black walnut pie. You can pre-order by calling 419-358-1015 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, until Nov. 25 for Thanksgiving and Dec. 19 for Christmas. Pies will be available for pick-up on Nov. 27 for Thanksgiving and Dec. 19, 20, 23 and 30 for Christmas and New Years. Proceeds from the sale are used to purchase items for the Mennonite Home Communities of Ohio.

Save the Date – the St. Nick Breakfast is Sunday, December 8 at 11:00 in the church hall. It is sponsored by high school youth group. Please come and support our youth!

Thanksgiving is Thursday, November 28th. We will have Mass at 9 a.m. Please plan to stay after and help switch out the missals. The work will go faster if everyone pitches in! Thank you in advance!

The Parish Office will be closed Thursday, November 28th and Friday, November 29th for Thanksgiving.



CARE, SHARE, and PRAYER

I would like to invite any individual or family who would like to join a special new program entitled **CARE, SHARE, and PRAYER**. This program will allow and enable us to get to know each other better. I would be willing to come and visit you at your home so that we could have a chat and pray together. You can share your faith and family stories with me while I share mine and also share the story of the Redemptorists with you. Together we can discover and discuss ways in which we can empower our St. Mary's Parish in becoming a more vibrant community in carrying Jesus' Gospel Message and Mission to all. We can also pray together and bless your home. If you are interested in participating in this program please contact the Parish Office (419) 358-8631 so that we can set up a date and time for my visit. God bless you and your families.

Peace, Fr. John

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10a.m. Mass

K-6: Class is this Wednesday, November 20th, from 6:30-7:30 p.m. First Reconciliation is also this Wednesday.

Jr High: Class is today, November 17, from 11:00 – 1:00



God Squad--High School Youth Group



God Squad High School Youth Class is today, November 17, from 11:00 – 1:00. Third Thursday is November 21st from 7 – 8:30 p.m.