



# ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

[www.stromuald.org](http://www.stromuald.org)

## dear Padre

### **Parish Office:**

Phone: 756-2356

Fax: 756-2099

Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Email: [stromuald@bbtel.com](mailto:stromuald@bbtel.com)

### **Pastoral Staff:**

*Pastor*, Father Brian Johnson

Email: [Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org](mailto:Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org)

*Deacon*, Tony Anthony

*Deacon*, Mike Wiedemer

*Administrative Asst*, Jane Haynes

*CRE: Adult*, Rosa Hockenberry

*CRE: RCIA*, Lyvenia Anthony

*CRE: 7-12*, Gayle Poole

*CRE: K-6*, Kim Brumfield

### **Pastoral Council:**

Dana Bland, Harry Mattingly,

Janet Bland, David Morton

Christi Brooks, Kevin Oelze

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Jerry Dowell, Gail Pollock

Betty Heavrin, Pam Pollock

### **St. Romuald**

### **Interparochial School:**

Phone: 756-5504

Website:

[www.stromualdschool.org](http://www.stromualdschool.org)

Principal, Rob Cox

### **School Board**

### **Representatives:**

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne

*My husband is buried in a public cemetery, which is not consecrated ground. Am I permitted to be buried next to him, and can the priest bless and consecrate our final resting place?*

I commend your care in this matter. The Catechism stresses that "the bodies of the dead must be treated with respect and charity, in faith and hope of the Resurrection. The burial of the dead is a corporal work of mercy" (CCC 2300). However, it makes no reference to the place of burial—only the manner in which our bodies are treated after death (that is, conditions for autopsy, organ donation, and cremation).

Canon law "earnestly recommends that the pious custom of burying the bodies of the deceased be observed"; by doing so properly and receiving an ecclesiastical funeral, you honor your body, witness to our belief in the resurrection of the body, and bring "the solace of hope to the living" (Canon 1176). It later specifies that "where possible, the Church is to have its own cemeteries or at least areas in civil cemeteries that are designated for the deceased members of the faithful and properly blessed. If this cannot be achieved, however, then individual graves are to be properly blessed" (Canon 1240). Given this, it would seem that there is no objection to your being buried in the grave next to your husband or any difficulty in requesting that the priest bless your final resting place.

FR. TOM SANTA, CSsR [sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

November 13, 2016 - Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Masses for the Week

November 14th - 20th

Tues	1:00 pm	Edwina Neel (MB) (Extended Care)
Wed	5:00 pm	Aughey Henning (DW)
Thurs	9:30 am	Martha Matthews (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	Mary Catherine Payne (DP)
Sat	5:00 pm	Ron Wilcheck (CW)
Sun	7:00 am	Georganna Rhodes
	10:00 am	Bob Roach (LC)

### CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

Saturdays 4:00 pm

## Readings for the Week

Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-9/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19  
 Monday: Rv 1:1-4; 2:1-5/Ps 1:1-4, 6/Lk 18:35-43  
 Tuesday: Rv 3:1-6, 14-22/Ps 15:2-5/Lk 19:1-10  
 Wednesday: Rv 4:1-11/Ps 150:1-6/Lk 19:11-28  
 Thursday: Rv 5:1-10/Ps 149:1-6, 9/Lk 19:41-44  
 Friday: Rv 10:8-11/Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131/Lk 19:45-48  
 Dedication: Acts 28:11-16, 30-31/Ps 98:1-6/Mt 14:22-33  
 Saturday: Rv 11:4-12/Ps 144:1-2, 9-10/Lk 20:27-40  
 Next Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3/Ps 122:1-5/Col 1:12-20/Lk 23:35-43  
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## Stewardship of Finance

### Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection .....	\$10,721.50
Building Fund .....	\$325.00
Children .....	\$2.00
Loose change for the Poor.....	\$56.37

### St. Romuald Parish Financial Summary

July-October, 2016

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$177,800</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$173,200</b>
	<b>\$ 3,800</b>

Thank you for your financial stewardship!



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Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,  
 with the harp and melodious song.  
 — Psalm 98:5

## November 19th & 20th

	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Servers	Rosary Leaders	Music Ministers
5:00 pm	Pat O'Reilly Janet O'Reilly	Stefan Cesarz Jenny Pile	C-Tony Critchelow* C-Davye Duggins S-Joey Flood S-Paul Shalosky	Lola Allen Phillip Shalosky	Volunteer	Pippa
7:00 am	Amelia Anthony Janet Bland	Patty Curran	C-Blake Flood* C-Byron Flood S-Michael Flood S-Tom Winchell	Darrian Flood Morgan Tabor	Raymond Wethington	Pippa
10:00 am	Lori Carwile Lisa Kennedy Cindy Payne Rhonda Walz	Dolores Mattingly Carlos Matthews	C-Drew Hinton* C-Mike Hinton S-Tyler Hinton S-Zack Payne	Charlie Mattingly Spencer Wilson	JoAnn Henning	Deacon Tony

Radio Minister: Randy Howard

Children's Liturgy: Danny Shain

**Words from the Pastor****+JMJ+**

Over the years, I have been asked several times, "From your reading of the Bible, and your prayer, do you think we are living in the end times?" Mass readings like today's come to my mind. When Jesus himself is asked such questions, he always redirects people to focus on **the moment now**, and what is going on **here at this minute**. We humans have a tendency to live ahead of ourselves, or to dwell in our past instead of attending fully to this present moment. We should entrust the past and future to God's providential will. One of Jesus' most direct answers to the question of when the END is coming, is found in Mark 13:32. He says, "But as for that day or hour, **no one knows**, not even the angels in heaven, **nor the Son, (himself)** but only the Father." Even Jesus, as the ever-present, eternal Word, is not pre-occupied with past or future, because such distraction would lead him off-task from His work of the Father's mission, now. He says in John 6:38 "For I have come down from heaven, **not to do My own will**, but to do the will of Him who sent Me." So, to be caught up in speculation about the events and timing of some apocalyptic end takes us away from doing right now what we should do, the will of God. To me, Jesus' words are a relief & comfort! The past: let it go! The future: Who knows! Perhaps seeking some inside information about the end-time, is like playing-God. We try to gain some upper-hand-control over what belongs to God to direct: we should simply trust God. What comforts me specifically in the reading today is Jesus telling us **not to be deceived and not to fear!** In Luke 21: 8-9, Jesus' words are "See that you **not be deceived**, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' **Do not follow them.** And when you hear of wars and insurrections, **do not be terrified.**" Two traps to avoid are 1) scaring ourselves and 2) fooling ourselves. What helps us with both is 'Trust'. God is in control, not me!

But, okay, as a curiosity, what if we did try to pull some specific date or condition revealing the End-Time from Jesus' words? Even looking at his precise words for some kind of timeline, I point out that even then, he moves around the goal-post on us. For example, he says that first, talk will come of wars and insurrections breaking out (verse 9). You might think that is the end, but not yet. Then might come 2) earthquakes, plagues, famines, and sights in the sky (verse 11). But, still not yet, because before or while such signs show up, 3) you may be seized by kings and governors, and led before courts for persecution (verse 12). And for our defense in front of powers of this world, Jesus tells us to trust and not prepare beforehand some clever argument. Jesus says he will provide our speech of wisdom (v.15) and he will protect us that not a hair of our heads will be lost (v.18). So, God will let us know then, when we need to know!

Do you wonder why Jesus mentioned his followers being dragged in front of **governors** and **kings**? Don't forget that end-times predictions are a

power-serving and money-making industry! Keep in mind the boldness of human pride to even challenge God's place. Not just with trying to calculate the last day of the world, but all the time, there are powers in this world that calculate life's term and length of days. For example, do we think that deciding who lives out of the womb or not, or who receives medical treatment or not, or whose body is frozen or cloned for future use or not, and or who can be killed or not depending on their home country? Do we think that these examples are not proof that everyday some among us (or we) decide for God, what belongs to God alone to determine?

We have all lived through times when some 'prophet' popularly predicts the end of the world, only for that day to come and pass with nothing happening. Then the prediction is reset to another future day. Isn't it a wonder that we even give a second's thought to any such prediction? Thinking of all the shifting dates and the more shifty excuses the trickster-prophets give as to why the date changes, makes me think of a bedtime game my brothers and I played when mom would send us to bed. The game was to keep total silence and stillness, with no talking, no moving, no single sound, not even sniffing or coughing. Well, the deal breaker and fight starter was when we started arguing, "When do we actually begin the 'total stillness'?" We brothers spent a complete hour determining when we would start. For example, say someone said, "Total Silence, Go to Sleep, starting **NOW.**" Then another of us would pipe in, "No, why do you get to start it? We really begin, with No more sounds from starting Now--ON!" Then one of us says, "You broke it already by adding "ON"-We start **NOW!**" then someone asks, "No, wait what if one of us has to throw up?" So, this back and forth continues until one of us fell off to sleep, or until mom or dad had had enough and shut us down! I think of all end-time predictions the same way! Attempts at control and Silly Games! So we should simply do what is our responsibility to do. Whatever task is right in front, pressing on us, do it & let the end come!

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

**Sunday:** Did I hear God speak to me through a song, prayer or scripture reading today?

**Monday:** How will I keep my faith alive each day, and make Sunday guide my every day?

**Tuesday:** What can I do today to grow my trust in God? Have I turned my will over to Him?

**Wednesday:** Am I **keeping serenity** about both past and future times, events or concerns?

**Thursday:** 'The easiest person to fool is yourself.' What steps do I take to not mislead or fool myself? Who or what is in my life to prevent me deceiving myself?

**Friday:** Perform some sacrifice or service today as a thanks offering for God's forgiveness.

**Saturday:** Do I have a special intention or prayer request to offer at Mass this weekend?

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

**Family Movie Night:** Join the fun on Saturday, November 19th as we venture into the world of "Alice Through the Looking Glass." Critics have called it "Clever, delightful and perfect family fun." Disney invites us to step through the looking glass and join Alice, the Mad Hatter, Cheshire Cat and the Red Queen on a wild journey back to Wonderland. Pull up a chair or pillow, grab a drink and popcorn, kick back and enjoy a night of good movie viewing!



**Gobble, Gobble...**It's time for our Senior Day Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 16th at 10:00 am. We invite seniors and any guest you would like to bring to share in a prayerful day of fellowship as we remember what we are thankful for. We will be welcoming Dale DePoyster as our guest speaker. Dale writes a column for the Herald News which will be his topic of discussion. He will also be discussing his Top 10 interesting and convincing Catholic teachings. So don't forget to mark the date. Bring your appetite and a dish to pass as we join together for a day of fellowship.

## St. Romuald Altar Society News

Tickets for the quilt raffle can be picked up at the office M-F from 8am til 3pm.

PIES,PIES, PIES! St. Romuald Altar Society annual Turkey Dinner is Thursday, November 17th. Again we are asking for 2 pies from Altar Society members and 1 pie from other members of the parish. Please bring all pies cut and ready to serve. The pies can be dropped off any time after 12:00 noon at the St. Romuald School Gym the day of the dinner. We appreciate and thank you for your support.

**St. Romuald Altar Society** quilt made by Thelma Jarboe is now on display at the Script Office. You may purchase \$1.00 raffle tickets at the Script Office. Script office hours are Monday 8-2 and Friday 8-2.

## Celebration

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Mike & Brenda Elder will be celebrating 40 years of marriage on November 20th and George & Nancy Walz will be celebrating 51 years of marriage on November 20th.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Tommie Priest, November 16th

## The Holy Year Popes History and Memorabilia 1300 – 2016.

This exhibit (assembled by Fr Pat Reynolds) can be seen September 16th through November 20<sup>th</sup> in the Brescia Administration Building Lobby (120 West 7th Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301). Open Monday through Friday from 7 AM – 6 PM. For groups of 20 or more, or weekend tours, please contact Sally Halbig at 270-686-4236.

**Marriage Help** – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on Jan 13, 2017, call 270-852-8346, or email: [flelliot@audubon-area.com](mailto:flelliot@audubon-area.com) or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

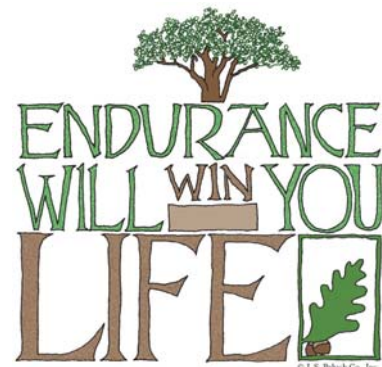
## Family Day Retreat at Fathers of Mercy

**Monastery:** The Fathers of Mercy are hosting a Family Conference to end the Jubilee Year of Mercy on Saturday, November 19th, 2016 from 9:00am-5:30pm entitled "The King of Mercy." It is a Free Event! The Whole Family is invited- children and youngsters to grandparents! Bring your friends & extended family. Conference talks and activities will be given by the Fathers of Mercy (Auburn, KY), the Nashville Dominican Sisters, the EWTN Franciscan Friars (Irondale, AL), and many more! The Day will include Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Confessions, the chanting of the Divine Mercy Chaplet and veneration of the First Class Relics of: St. Faustina, St. Maria Goretti, St. Augustine and the Relic of the TRUE CROSS! The Cost is Free and Lunch will be provided. Please pick up a flyer in the back of the Church or visit [familyvocations.com](http://familyvocations.com) for more information and to register. God bless you!

## Christmas Open House at Breckinridge

**Memorial Hospital:** Saturday, November 26th, from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Free hot chocolate, cider, cookies and pictures with Santa Claus!!!

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.



## THIS WEEK:

Sun	11:30 am	7-12 Religious Ed
Mon	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	6:00 pm	Catholic Divorce Group
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting
Tues	10:00 am	Scripture Study
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
Wed	10:00 am	Senior Day
	4:00 pm	Confessions
	5:00 pm	Mass
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
	4:00 pm	Altar Society Thanksgiving Dinner
	6:00 pm	Family Holy Hour
Fri	9:00 am	School Mass
	3:00 pm	1st Reconciliation Prayer Day
Sat	6:15 pm	Family Movie Night
Sun	1:00 pm	1st Reconciliation

## UPCOMING:

Nov 24 8:00 am Thanksgiving Day Mass

## We Pray For:

Gene Aldridge, Jim Ball, Harold Beard, Gene Bennett, Joe Bennett, Bradley Berry, Ronnie Bruner, Juanita Burch, Joann Butler, Waylon Carman, Billy Carwile, Jerry Carwile, Russel Carwile, Janet Chambliss, Diane Charlebois, Sharon Church, Joan Clark, Mary Crook, Vonda Decker, Roger Dowell, Kenneth Dowell, Davye Duggins, Mary Catherine Edge, Rodney Elliott, Michael Ernest, Carroll Ferguson, Rhett Flener, Donny Flood, Ginny Flood, Shannon Ford, Andrea Fuqua, Barnard Gagel, Henrietta Gibson, Dorothy Greenwell, Bill Greenwood, Jerry Grimes, Sr., Laura Beavin Hawley, Davy Haycraft, Dale Henning, JoAnn Henning, Lisa Henning, Karen Herbert, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Doug Hinton, Shannon Hockenberry, Janet Hodson, Steve Hodson, David Horsley, Daniel Hoskins, Barbara Jarboe, Virginia Jeffries, Don Jerrell, Kiara Jo, Jerry Johnson, Jim Johnson, Mary Ann Johnson, Jack Jolly, Lovel King, Tracy King, Faith Klingsmith, David Lane, Angie Lawrence, Jennie Maiden, Mark Masterson, Keith McDaniel, Ann Medlen, Kevin McHugh, Richard Miller, Blaise Mills, John Moore, Barbara O'Connell, Don O'Donoghue, Eddie O'Donoghue, Joe Oelze, Earl O'Reilly, Libby Osborne, Rowan Palmer, Judy Popham, Bobby Potts, Doris Priest, Joe Priest, Robert Priest, Sandy Priest, Tracy Ralston, Penny Rannebarger, Jamie Riley, Rita Roach, Julie Robbins, Shirley Robbins, Suzanne Rose, Annelise Sebastian, **Judy Seelye**, Jerry Sosh, Lucye Stupak, Loretta Swink, Adalee Taul, Becky Taul, Beavin & Gina Thornsberry, Dorothy Tillberg, Paul Tucker, Brook Tyler, Bobby Upchurch, Gil Urban, Nancy Vincent, Buddy Weatherholt, Greg Weise, Greg Wethington, Millie Whittler, Judy Whitley, Jimmy Whitworth, Mary Rita Whitworth, Carolyn Wilcheck, Kevin Wilcheck, Robert D. Wilson, Shaun Winstead, Anne Wolfe, Sandra Zanone. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Jack Hayes, Stevie Higgs, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, SSgt Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Cody Simmons, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth



**Eucharistic Adoration Date Change for November:** Please note the weekend change date for 24 - hour adoration in November to the second weekend, Nov 12-13. We will still have actual First Friday mass 9:00 am and First Saturday mass 8:00 am, but the 24 hour adoration prayer will be the next weekend.

**Mercy Moment:** "Lasting change is not something that one day results from any one political decision or substitution of a person in political office. We know from painful experience that changes of structure which are not accompanied by a sincere conversion of mind and heart sooner or later end up in bureaucratization, corruption and failure. There must be a change of heart. That is why I like the image of a "process", processes, where the drive to sow, to water seeds which others will see sprout, replaces the ambition to occupy every available

## Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute."*

Have you ever felt held back from pursuing a deeper commitment to the faith because of what other people might say? This is by no means an uncommon feeling. Many of the great saints and prophets, had the same fear, wondering if they were the right person for God to send, because he had no gift for speaking. Our Lord reminds us, however, that He is with us, and through the Holy Spirit, gives us wisdom and courage to follow His will. To learn more about discerning your vocation, contact the Vocations Office at 270-683-1545, [jason.mcclure@pastoral.org](mailto:jason.mcclure@pastoral.org), [www.owensborovocations.com](http://www.owensborovocations.com)



**Sympathy:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Dean Dowell (Cindy Payne's father) and for his family to be comforted in their time of grief.



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\*Congratulations to our 15 newly Confirmed. It was a great night and there are so many to thank for making the night special for our youth and families. Father Brian for working with our youth to prepare them for the sacrament and spending so many Friday afternoons with us. Father Brian, Deacon Tony and Deacon Mike for presiding over mass with Bishop Medley. Shannon Barr for providing the beautiful music. Deacon Mike for hanging the banners in church and also setting up and cleaning the parish hall for the reception. Gale Hinton for preparing the main course for our meal and to all parishioners that helped to prepare side dishes it is greatly appreciated. Rosa Hockenberry for calling on parishioners and members of the Altar Society to help with the meal and leading a team to serve the meal to the families. Toby Keenan, Linda Mattingly, Rita Greenwell, Pam and Shelbi Pollock for helping to serve cake and punch and for assisting with the meal too. Kim Brumfield for taking pictures during the sacrament and after. Jane Haynes for being at my beck and call when I need a labels, receipts or all my last minute to dos. I appreciate everyone that has a part in making the night so special.

\*Breck County Catholic Youth got together Sunday November 6 to prepare and package meals. We delivered these meals to individuals or families in town just as a "thinking of you" service project. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> time of doing this project and I must say that the youth along with the families we deliver to are very touched by this activity. We often surprise our families as we knock on their doors with a meal, we receive hugs, take pictures and say a prayer with them. We then returned to St. Romuald and had an outdoor movie and supper for our youth. It was a great night and thank you to Duane and Samuel Flood for the firewood and getting the fire started for us and as always to Amy Flood and Pam Pollock for being so active with our youth.

## Confirmation



**Abortion Update:** Last week 56 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

**Pray to end abortion:** Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

**Food for the Poor Missionary-November 12-13:** Please welcome our guest from Food for the Poor who will be with us November 12-13 to speak about their missionary work feeding the hungry of the world.

**Christmas Card Sales:** The Fourth (Patriotic) Degree of the Knights of Columbus is again selling religious Christmas Cards. Cards are available after most Masses at St. Romuald until November 27 or until sold out. Funds raised from card sales are dedicated to support of local/national civil issues. Our most recent donation was to aid Catholic Military Chaplains. For information contact George Walz at 270-617-0468 or [walzes@bellsouth.net](mailto:walzes@bellsouth.net).



The Knights of Columbus will be putting together Thanksgiving Baskets again this year. As in the years past, we will be accepting donations for sponsoring a family's Thanksgiving meal. It cost about \$25 per basket which includes an 11-13 lb frozen turkey, rolls, stuffing mix, sack of potatoes, corn, green beans, pumpkin with pie shells and cranberry jelly. If you would like to be a sponsor, please put your money in an envelope and drop in the collection basket or bring/mail it to the Parish office or hand it to Deacon Tony. Thank you so much for your continued generosity every year!  
Deacon Tony

**We thank our advertiser for making the bulletin possible!** Please take a moment to read the back of the bulletin and note the generous advertisers from the business community who provide our bulletin each week! Each time you visit their business, let them know you are thankful for their support of our parish's weekly bulletin!

**Advertiser of the week:**  
**Hardinsburg Animal Clinic**  
**270-756-2230**

**Thank you for supporting St Romuald Church!**



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2016**

**THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
It all works out in the end**

The fantastic creatures and cataclysms common in readings in Advent can seem like we're being frightened into conversion! But the message is not "The end is near!" It is "Christ is near!" Dreams and visions are a kind of biblical writing called "apocalyptic literature," meant to encourage persecuted Christians that God has not forgotten them. Written in the name of some long-ago great prophet or seer, these "predictions" saw in cosmic terms that we'd triumph in the end. What dominates your spiritual life, a sense of fear or hope?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachi 3:19-20a; 2 Thessalonians 3:17-12; Luke 21:5-19 (159)*. "Not a hair on your head will be destroyed."

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 14**

**Stand firm**

It's hard to speak up when you know that what you have to say won't be popular or well received. It is even harder if you are criticized and told to be quiet. But if you hold firm and try to pursue the good, and if you listen to the inner voice of conscience that nudges you to say what is right, then you are exercising the moral virtue of fortitude. Pray for the ability to form your conscience to know what is right and what God wants you to do. Pray as well for the grace to speak the truth of your conscience with conviction and compassion.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 1:1-4; 2:1-5; Luke 18:35-43 (497)*. "Those in the lead sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out all the more."

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

**MEMORIAL OF ALBERT THE GREAT, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

**Walk a mile in his boots**

A couple of years ago a German bishop gave the hierarchy a bad name by spending \$43 million renovating his private residence, gaining the nickname the "bishop of bling." Albert the Great served as a bishop in Germany for a few years beginning in 1260. The "bling" of the day was to have your own horse to carry you around. But Albert refused to ride a horse, in keeping with the dictates of his Dominican order, and chose to traverse his diocese on foot, earning himself the more honorable nickname "Boots the Bishop." It's not enough to talk the talk. We have to walk the walk.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 3:1-6, 14-22; Luke 19:1-10 (498)*. "Today salvation has come to this house."

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16**

**MEMORIAL OF MARGARET OF SCOTLAND**

**Keep the Sabbath in your own way**

Margaret of Scotland was something of a wonder woman. An 11th-century queen, she was also a wife and mother of eight who spent a great deal of time in personal prayer while caring for the poor as well as her family. She is said to have washed the feet of the poor each day before she joined her family at dinner. Margaret also used her clout to encourage Scots to reconnect with the universal church, among others things restoring the practice of keeping the Sabbath. In Margaret's honor, resolve to help someone in need today. And plan to truly rest from anything but solitude next Sabbath day.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 4:1-11; Luke 19:11-28 (499)*. "You showed yourself capable in small matters."

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

**MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, RELIGIOUS**

**Give the hungry a royal welcome**

Far from the typical image of a queen, Elizabeth of Hungary wore simple clothes and brought bread to those who gathered at the gates of the castle. Members of the royal court derided Elizabeth for her good deeds, trying continuously to foil her plans. Bearing their objections with patience, she spent her royal fortunes serving those most in need. She knew her royal title put her in a position to make a difference. No matter who people might think you should be, strive, like Elizabeth, to be who God has called you to be.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 5:1-10; Luke 19:41-44 (500)*. "If this day you only knew what makes for peace—but now it is hidden from your eyes."

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

**MEMORIAL OF ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE, VIRGIN**

**Teach us how to fail**

She was the patron saint of failure. Philippine Duchesne wanted to be a nun, deceiving her family to enter a cloister. But the French Revolution scattered the nuns and turned the cloister into a prison. When it ended, Philippine reopened the cloister, but the former nuns declined to return. Joining the Sacred Heart order, Philippine sailed to America hoping to be a missionary but spent decades as an administrator of failing schools. A mutiny by her sisters removed her from leadership. Shouldering disappointment, she died a ragged holy figure at the margins. The test of fidelity is in how we endure failures.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 10:8-11; Luke 19:45-48 (501)*; or for the Memorial of the Dedication, *Acts 28:11-16, 30-31; Matthew 14:22-33 (679)*. "Go, take the scroll . . . it will turn your stomach sour, but in your mouth it will taste as sweet as honey."

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19**

**MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**

**We believe**

What do Catholics believe? The most succinct answer is the Nicene Creed, the profession of Christian faith that is recited at Mass. It simply states what the Catholic Church teaches about the nature of God and the realities of Jesus' life. It's an affirmation of belief in the church itself and in humanity's full reconciliation with God at the end of time. That's a lot to cover in a few short lines that most Catholics know by heart. Don't reduce to rote repetition this wonderful, worshipful, prayerful dictate for life.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Revelation 11:4-12; Luke 20:27-40 (502)*. "He is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive."

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