



St. Michael Catholic Church Mission of St. Dominic

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21st Sunday of Ordinary Time **August 23rd, 2020**

Dear friends:

Last week I reminded our parishioners of the primacy of the Presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist and the Sacrament of Confession. These are the fundamentals of a Christian life. These are the Sacraments that the Lord has given us so that we have the food we need for our journey through this pilgrimage of life and the healing balm of His mercy for when we fall. Hear the call of the Holy Spirit! The Lord waits patiently, his heart wounded with love for his people. How He longs for your participation in these mysteries of his redemptive love!

Now for Politics..... As you know, we are in an election year. The battle is heating up. I call it a battle because many in the world of politics have lost all civility, manners and good will. What is a VERY noble responsibility has become a constant cat fight between adults who are acting like they had no parents to raise them. Indeed, that may be exactly the problem.

And that thought is pertinent to what we are facing in an election season. Those whom we vote into office will be leading our country for better or for worse. It is my contention that as we observe the breakdown in our public square, we must take responsibility for what is happening. The right to vote is also a responsibility. Do you vote? If not, ask yourself, "why not?" Living in a democratic system, we contribute to the common good by voting with our Catholic principles.

Yes, we are to guide our choices according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, not party politics or the media! The reason we have politicians who act like adolescents and advocate for ideas that are anti-Christ, is because many Christians are not informing their choices with the teaching of Christ. Admittedly we are often choosing between the lesser of two evils, but that is when it is particularly important to assess whether God would be pleased with the morality of our electoral decisions.

Again, yes, our voting has a moral value either for or against the common good and our Christian values. The decisions we make in the voting booth (or our willful neglect to vote) will render us participants in the choices and decisions that are made in the public arena of law, justice and leadership.

Holy Mary, pray for us! Fr. Martin Flum

**"In the presence of the angels I will sing your praise;
I will worship at your holy temple."**

(Psalm 138:2)

*The parish and mission are being called to become **centers of Eucharistic love**. These hours are not yet filled:*

Fridays: 1-2 PM

Saturdays: 1-2 PM, 4-5 PM

Once you have signed up for a weekly holy hour, you are committed to having at least one family member in the Church adoring Jesus for the entirety of that hour. If you would like to be on our substitute list, call the office at (240) 681-3551. *Your guardian angel will rejoice!*

Pope Francis on human dignity

"Nowadays efforts are made to deny them [unborn children] their human dignity and to do with them whatever one pleases, taking their lives and passing laws preventing anyone from standing in the way of this. Frequently, as a way of ridiculing the Church's effort to defend their lives, attempts are made to present her position as ideological, obscurantist and conservative. Yet this defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development" -- Pope Francis, Apostolic Exhortation "The Joy of the Gospel," November 24, 2013.

Voter registration

To check your registration status, go to:

www.CheckYourVoterRegistration.com

To obtain a national voter registration form:

www.eac.gov/voters/national-mail-voter-registration-form

"Every Catholic is a missionary of the Good News of human dignity redeemed through the cross. While our personal vocation may determine the form and style of our witness, Jesus calls each of us to be a leaven in society, and we will be judged by our actions. No one, least of all someone who exercises leadership in society, can rightfully claim to share fully and practically the Catholic faith and yet act publicly in a way contrary to that faith." (US Bishops, *Living the Gospel of Life*, 1998, n.7).

Parish Seafood Dinner

Saturday, September 26th, 2020

How would you like to help out at the parish dinner? It will be lots of fun!

Call (301) 440-4295

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	08/22/20	5:00 PM	Alene Martin +
Sunday	08/23/20	8:00 AM	Deacon Leonard Cain +
Sunday	08/23/20	10:00 AM	Agatha He +
Sunday	08/23/20	11:30 AM	Parishioners
Monday	08/24/20	7:00 AM	Josh & Katie Coffin
Tuesday	08/25/20	8:00 AM	Ann Proctor +
Wednesday	08/26/20	7:00 AM	Jackie Chapman +
Thursday	08/27/20	8:00 AM	Ann Proctor +
Friday	08/28/20	7:00 AM	Nathan Cortes-Peck +
Saturday	08/29/20	8:00 AM	Fr Thomas Marrow

Please PRAY for our SICK

For those who suffer from chronic illness, especially Austin Aley, Joe Aviles, Christopher Becker, Arlene Bloom, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Aldrin Castillo, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Jayne Cassella, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Greg Connick, Leah Danielson, Leo Dixon, Marysa Dixon, David Dixson, Dorothy Dunston, Angela Farmer, Kathy Fisher, Patricia Gray, Mabel Hamilton, Barbara Harding, Florence Henderson, Amanda Hubbard, Crystal Johnson, Bernice Kirby, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Betty Lindsay, Kenny Lindsay, Adam Lumpkins, Mr. Maida, John Martone II, Michael Mohun, Claire Mason, Ralph and Regina Nasatka, Fannie Newman, Yvette Parker, Carolyn Parson, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Betty Proctor, Gary Reinhardt, Marsha Reinhardt, Shawn Reinhardt, Dawn Russo, Frances N. Sewell, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie Stewart, Tom & Patricia Stuart, George Thomas, Marion Walzel, Shirley Watson, Ken Wilson, Skip Wilson, Terry Wilson, Vivian Wimbish, and Belinda Windsor, may their crosses be joined to the Cross of Jesus.

CCD Registration Open!

Do you have a child in 1st-8th grade who is not receiving instruction in the faith or preparation for the sacraments at Catholic school? Or are you a high schooler who hasn't yet received baptism, first communion, or confirmation? Time to register for CCD class: Confraternity of Christian Doctrine classes! We will be meeting in person, in the parish hall, with space for social distancing in class. **Parents** are welcome and encouraged to come to RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) class while their children are in CCD, to delve more deeply into their faith, as well. *Don't wait any longer; NOW is the time to prepare your whole family for Heaven.* Registration can be done online, or at the parish office. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call us at (240) 681-3551.

Becoming Catholic...?

Are you or is someone you know interested in Catholicism? Or perhaps you grew up Catholic, but then drifted away from the Church, and are now considering coming back. Maybe you are an adult Catholic but have not received all the sacraments of initiation: Baptism, First Communion, or Confirmation? Anyone who fits into one of these categories should come to RCIA class (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). Even if you are not already decided about converting/returning to Catholicism, we encourage you to come. There is no pressure on those who attend; this is simply a chance to get more information about what it truly means to "be Catholic" and what we actually believe. We invite those interested to come at least just once, and then decide if you would like to come back again to learn even more! Just take it one step at a time. Call the Parish Office (240)681-3551 to let us know you would like to participate, and/or for more information.



"When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi' (which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' He said to them, 'Come and see.'" - John 1:38-39a

Ride for Vocations in Southern Maryland on Saturday, Oct. 17th, 2020

The Bike Ride will start at Sacred Heart in La Plata continue to 10 area catholic churches stopping to pray, rest & refuel. There will be a Century (100 mile) ride as well as a 55-miler. Those that would rather ride a bike trail can ride the Three Notch Trail in St. Mary's County (11 miles one way). To register: <https://dcpriest.org/register-to-ride> Each rider agrees to raise a minimum of \$250 for the 2020 Ride for Vocations. Daily prayers for the seminarians will be emailed each day, focusing on praying for one of the seminarians and for vocations. Please join us each day to pray for our future priests!

Our world needs holy priests!



YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS - August 16, 2020

St. Michael	Offertory Collection	\$ 5,086.00
St. Dominic	Offertory Collection	\$ 1,002.00

Parish Seafood Dinner – Curbside Pick-up

This year the Parish dinner will be strictly curbside pick-up with no dining in. As a parish community, we will miss the opportunity to greet each other and share stories and play horseshoes! The main area of the hall will be set up for assembly of the dinners which will be ordered curbside and delivered by runners. **And there will be CRAB CAKES!!!** Most of the desserts will be outdoors and the raffle tickets will be available when dinners are ordered. Our raffle will include a 50/50, a hand-painted glass window and a dinner prepared and shared with Fr. Flum.