

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

Since it is the month of November. I thought I would reflect on purgatory for the next two blurbs. In purgatory, the souls of many of those who have died in God’s grace undergo purification so that they may enter heaven. The Prayer of St. Gertrude, below, is one of the most famous of the prayers for souls in purgatory. St. Gertrude the Great was a Benedictine nun and mystic who lived in the 13th century. According to tradition, our Lord promised her that 1000 souls would be released from purgatory each time it is said devoutly.

Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Most Precious Blood of Thy Divine Son, Jesus, in union with the masses said throughout the world today, for all the holy souls in purgatory, for sinners everywhere, for sinners in the universal church, those in my own home and within my family. Amen.

Many of the Fathers of the Church, such as St. Augustine and St. John Chrysostom, considered prayers for souls in purgatory to be essential. The church has endorsed the doctrine of purgatory from the Councils of Florence and Trent in the 15th and 16th centuries right up through Vatican II in the 1960’s.

The most famous scriptural reference, among others, concerning these prayers comes from the Old Testament where it is called “a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins” (2 Macabees 12:46).

While the souls in purgatory can do nothing for themselves, their purification "pays for the damages" of their sins. It makes whatever restitution remains for these sins to God. For another good way to look at it, think of your soul at baptism as being bright white. In your daily life it picks up bits of grime from sin, much like snow in Port a few days after a winter storm.

Even with frequent confession many of us still need purgatory to really get our souls really spotless. Purgatory is more than just some sort of Divine Detergent, however. It prepares souls for their heavenly home!

Purgatory has been described, at times rather poetically, as a “cleansing fire” that burns away the dross of sins on our souls. St. Paul wrote those of being saved “yet so as through fire” (1 Cor 3:15), and whether or not the soul endures a literal fire, its purification does involve suffering.

Thus, when it comes to purgatory the expression “No pain, no gain!” seems apt. The time each soul spends there, and the severity of the pains it experiences, varies.

However, our prayers for these souls can help alleviate their sufferings and help them reach heaven more quickly. Although they can no longer pray for themselves, they can and do pray for us as well out of gratitude! In addition to saying prayers for souls in purgatory such as these, we can help them by having masses said for the departed and by engaging in works of charity and sacrifice on their behalf.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb



S.M.A.R.T. members are now taking orders for Apple and Pumpkin Pies. You can also place your order in the parish office. All pies are \$10 each.



Liturgical Ministers for November 17th/18th, 2018.

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	B. HECKMAN	H. ECKE, N. SMITH	J. MARCONE, K. CASE
8:30AM	P. CAL	A. WITKOWSKI, S. RIORDAN	E. AND A. WITKOWSKI
11:30AM	M. ESLING	T. MARION, D. LIVINGSTON	Z. ADAMCIK, M. LAUTURE, S. BHIKARRY

In Observance of Veteran's Day, the parish office will be closed on Monday, November 12.



We have begun collecting non-perishable food items for the **Christmas Food Baskets**. Please deposit food items in the red bins in the Narthex or stop by the parish office during the week. We are hoping to fill 100 boxes this year!

Take advantage of access to **Formed** for another year! You can create your own account **FREE** of charge at: www.Formed.org and use our parish access code **WXXVJT** to gain access to multiple programs, movies, ebooks, and audios.

SAVE THE DATE! for *St. Mary's Little Lambs' annual St. Nicholas Faire!* Join us Sunday, December 2 from 9:30am to 2:00pm in St. Mary's Most Sacred Heart Hall. With so many amazing vendors you'll find something for everyone on your list! We have consultants from Mouse Works Handmade Crafts, Ildiko Vass's Hungarian Food, Dawn's Eternal Roses, Brischler Creations, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Renewal by Anderson, and more! Kids can meet St. Nick and visit our **FREE** Children's Craft Table while you shop! Breakfast served beginning at 9:30. Lunch served beginning at 11:15. Bake Sale all day! All proceeds benefit St. Mary's Little Lambs Early Childhood Learning Center.

**Advent Family Wreath Making
A Time for Watching and Waiting**
F.A.I.T.H. Families Actively Interacting Through Him
Saturday, November 17th
12:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Most Sacred Heart Hall
\$12 per wreath made

We will begin with a heartwarming lunch prepared by the Knights of Columbus. Then create an advent wreath to grace your home with for the season. Invite grandparents, aunts and uncles, etc. Please RSVP by Friday, November 16th to danilegyoungliving@gmail.com or stop by the Parish Off.

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St. Mary's Church F.A.I.T.H. - Advent 2018 Registration

Last Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email/Tel _____

#: _____

(In case of inclement weather please provide a form of contact)

Number of people attending: _____

Registration Fee: \$12 per family/per wreath made (non-refundable)

Payment can be made in cash (exact change) or check prior to or at the event.

Please make checks payable to: St. Mary's Church, and return to the Parish office.

Office Use Only: Date Paid ____ Paid by: Cash ____

Check ____ Check# _____

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ANNOUNCED MASSES

- Monday, November 12 (Josaphat, bishop and martyr)**
9:00am Charles Tarkett, by Cathy Jo and John Ewanciw
- Tuesday, November 13 (Frances Xavier Cabrini, virgin)**
9:00am Jennifer A. McBean, by Thomas and Barbara Collins
Mario Martinez, by the family
- Wednesday, November 14**
9:00am James Pizzo, by Denise O'Brien and Rosemary Conklin
- Thursday, November 15 (Albert the Great, bishop and doctor of the Church)**
9:00am Daniel Dwyer, by Sharon, Maureen, Barbara, and Dan
Joseph Portella, by Carol and Mike Braun
- Saturday, November 17**
4:00pm John Oliver, by the family
- Sunday, November 18**
8:30am John Lawrow, by Mary Rimlinger
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's

Please Pray For the Sick: Angela Portella, Joann Wilcox, Walter Szpakowicz, Elizabeth Brennan, Michael Medaglia, Jackie Mundy, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Louis Harford, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Donald Wolff, Ramonita Irizarry, Debi Coughtno, Theresa Fuller, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Helen Andreano, Tito Rivera, Neil Stasilli, Josefina Rodriguez, Joseph Hinkley, Toni Sorrentino, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Susan Upton, Chris Marion III, Loretta Olenick, Layla Grace Foster, Roderick T. Esling, James Lincoln, Danielle Devore, Wayne DeMarco, Marge O'Connor, Mindy Walsh, Arieal Walsh, Raquel Maldonado, Tyrell Davis, Eppie Harford, Christine Nowak, Jesivel Abreu, Stacie Holman, Cody Bain, and Robert Cinerar.

Next weekend, our second collection will be for the Catholic Charities Campaign for Charity and Justice. Countless families in the Archdiocese live in poverty. Last year this collection helped parish/community-based effortsto help the poor all across the Archdiocese. By supporting this collection you give people a helping hand. Learn more about the collection at www.catholiccharitiesny.org.

The collection for November 3/4 was \$5,300. Thank you for your continued generosity.