

# TWENTYFIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 22, 2019

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*JMJ*

Dear Parishioners,

The next few blurbs will be on end of life issues as we prepare for the month of October dedicating to protecting the sanctity of human life, from natural conception to natural death.

In principle, there is an obligation to provide patients with food and water, including medically assisted nutrition and hydration for those who cannot take food orally. This obligation extends to patients in chronic and presumably irreversible conditions (e.g., the "persistent vegetative state") who can reasonably be expected to live indefinitely if given such care.

Pope Saint John Paul II prompted the eventual revision when he addressed the 2004 international congress on "Life-Sustaining Treatments and Vegetative State:"

The administration of water and food, even when provided by artificial means, always represents a natural means of preserving life, not a medical act. Its use, furthermore, should be considered, in principle, ordinary and proportionate, and as such morally obligatory, insofar as and until it is seen to have attained its proper finality, which in the present case consists in providing nourishment to the patient and alleviation of their suffering.

What specifically then does this revision mean and what conclusions can we draw from it?

(1) Clinical protocols that would indiscriminately withhold or remove ANH from patients, leave death by starvation or dehydration as the logical outcome. In the words of Saint John Paul such an omission could constitute "true and proper euthanasia."

(2) Provision of food and water are to be considered a part of normal care giving (not an "extraordinary means"), even when provided artificially as with the assistance of a gastric feeding tube.

(3) This teaching extends beyond the specific case of persons in PVS to include any patient suffering a pathology that makes them unable to assimilate food and water without artificial assistance, such as advanced Alzheimer's disease or acute dementia.

(4) We might ask then, under what circumstances can ANH be withheld or withdrawn from patients. ANH is not obligatory when it cannot reasonably be expected to prolong life, when it is judged to constitute an "excessive burden" for the patient (as in the rare instance that it might cause "significant physical discomfort") or when the patient can no longer assimilate food and water (as when death is imminent). Determining if and when ANH can be removed will often require responsible parties, especially those designated as healthcare proxies for their incapacitated loved ones, to consult with care-givers, other family members, the attending physicians and a priest or ethicist trained in the Church's moral teaching on these matters.

(5) Catholics considering end-of-life decisions should adhere to these moral truths; it would be immoral for them to indicate in their "living wills" or advance medical directives an across-the-board desire to forgo or have withdrawn -- without any further consideration -- the provision of food and water if they should suffer some severe cognitive impairment.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*

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## *Liturgical Ministers for September 28/29, 2019*

<b>Mass</b>	<b>Lector</b>	<b>Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	<b>Altar Servers</b>
4:00pm	J. SMITH	K. BOBISH, H. ECKES	M. FEDRIZZI
8:30am	J. HENDRICK	S. RIORDAN, J. TAYLOR	T. LAMOREAUX, D. GERARDO
11:30am	M. ESLING	T. MARION, N. SMITH	K. EPPS, M. AND A. LAUTURE



Join us next Sunday, September 29th for the All You Can Eat Breakfast!  
\$8 adults/ \$6 kids under 12/  
under 5 FREE

*There will be a 2nd collection next weekend for St. Joseph's Seminary. Please give it your prayerful consideration.*

Anyone interested, or know of anyone, that would like to be initiated into the Catholic faith or complete their sacraments, is encouraged to contact Deacon Rich Marino in the parish office 845-856-8212 ext 113. RCIA classes are held in the St. Peter & St. Paul meeting room located at 50 Ball Street at 6:30pm.

*Fr. Newcomb will be doing the Blessing of the animals on Sunday, October 6 at 1:30pm in the Church parking lot.*



Choir practice has commenced. The children's choir will begin at 6pm on Wednesdays, followed by the adult choir rehearsal at 7pm. All are welcome. *When we sing we pray twice.* For more information contact Jimrae Lenser at 845-820-4284 or email jimrael@yahoo.com.



Little Lambs will be having a Touch a Truck event on Monday, October 14th from 10am-2pm. It is sensory friendly. Cost \$10/per family. Sensory friendly.



St. Mary's day for the 40 Days for life is Saturday, Sept 28th on Coach Drive in Goshen. Please see Nancy in the Narthex to sign up or call 856-4610.

The 3rd annual Rosary Rally will be on Saturday, October 12th. More information forthcoming.

We are happy to announce that the 3rd annual Port Jervis Area Life Chain is scheduled for Sunday, October 13th from 1:00-2:30 PM.

We are fundraising to help defray the cost of the bus to Washington, DC for the March for Life- White Ribbon precious feet campaign. Pins with baby feet are being sold.. Requested donation \$3. They will be available at the parish office.

## Announced Masses

- Monday, September 23 (Pius of Pietrelcina, priest)**  
9:00am Blaise Joseph Zorich, by Dr. Jane Brooks  
Helen Odrechowski, by Stephanie Gaide
- Tuesday, September 24**  
9:00am Donna Holmberg, by Helen and Ed Eckes
- Wednesday, September 25**  
9:00am Violeta Smadbeck, by Dr. Jane Brooks  
Mauree Bryden, by the Sierra family
- Thursday, September 26 (Cosmas and Damian, martyrs)**  
9:00am Joseph and Lilyan Mulvaney, by Jack and Dorean Reilly
- Saturday, September 28**  
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's
- Sunday, September 29**  
8:30am Mary Jean Sullivan, by the Bell family  
11:30am Nick Marinaro, by Helen Marinaro  
1:00pm Mary and Claire Brislin, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Donald Wolff, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, Nancy Parsons, Debi Cotugno, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Andrea Fedoruk, Walter Szpakowicz, Carmella Balsamello, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, Catherine Simons, Brendan Carmody, Joe Formisano, Nico Nicolette, Jaryd Viserta, Steven Gaesser, Kacey Warner, Sandra Ramsey, Lorraine Mannarino, Antonino Mazzara, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Mary Lynn Beam, Jose Ramos, Carmen Ramos, Mercedes Rodriguez, Jose Brito, Michael Medaglia, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Cody Bain, Robert Cinerar, Robert Witherow, Susan Upton, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Carmella Balsamello, Barbara Lindsay, Robert Ackerman, Wayne DeMarco, Pat Essing, Ryan O'Connor, Elizabeth Brennan, Jerri Kavanaugh, and Allan Garcia.

*Banns of Marriage*  
*Michelle Becker ~ Colin O'Connell*



*To date our parish has received 113 pledges totaling \$17,853. Our goal is \$35,500. Any amount is welcome.*

The collection for September 14/15 was \$4,761.70.  
Thank you for your continued generosity.