

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

The Apostle Paul also urges us to love in the Second Reading from the Letter to the Romans. We find outlined in this passage the itinerary of life of a Christian community, whose members are renewed by love and strive to renew themselves ceaselessly, to discern God's will always and not to relapse into conformity with a worldly mindset. God's love that is expressed in love of neighbor. Now when Saint Paul writes to the Christians of Rome: "Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord." Impelled by love, he was able to plan a new city which then sprung up around the Marian Shrine, as if to be the radiation of the light of her faith and hope. It became a citadel of Mary and of charity, but not one that was isolated from the world not, as people say "a cathedral in the desert" but rather integrated into the territory of this valley to redeem and advance it. The Church's history, thanks be to God, is rich in experiences of this kind and also today a great number can be counted in every part of the world. These are experiences of fraternity, that show the face of a different society, placed as leaven within the civil context. The power of love, in fact, is irresistible: it is love that truly drives the world onwards!

Let us now reflect on the Gospel passage. It is the text about the legitimacy of the tribute to be paid to Caesar which contains Jesus' famous answer: "render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's". But, before reaching this point there is a passage that can be applied to those who have the mission of evangelizing. Indeed, those who are speaking with Jesus — disciples of the Pharisees and the Herodians — compliment Him, saying "we know that you are true, and teach the way of God truthfully, and care for no man". It is this affirmation itself, although it is prompted by hypocrisy, that must attract our attention. The disciples of the Pharisees and Herodians do not believe in what they say. They are only affirming it as a *captatio benevolentiae* to make people listen to them, but their heart is far from that truth; indeed, they want to lure Jesus into a trap to be able to accuse him. For us, instead, those words are precious: indeed, Jesus is true and teaches the way of God according to the truth, and stands in awe of none. He himself is that "way of God", which we are called to take. Here we may recall the words of Jesus himself in John's Gospel: "I am the way, the truth, and the life".

In this regard Saint Augustine's comment is illuminating: "It was necessary for Jesus to say 'I am the way, the truth, and the life', when knowing the way by which he went they had to learn where He was going. The way led to truth, it led to life.... And where are we going, but to Him, and by what way do we go, but by Him? The new evangelizers are called to walk first on this Way that is Christ, to make others know the beauty of the Gospel that gives life. And on this Way one never walks alone but in company, an experience of communion and brotherhood that is offered to all those we meet, to share with them our experience of Christ and of his Church. Thus testimony combined with proclamation can open the hearts of those who are seeking the truth so that they are able to arrive at the meaning of their own life.

Sincerely yours in Christ,  
*Father Newcomb*



*Next Saturday at the 4pm Mass, 24 children will be Confirmed.  
 Please pray that the Holy Spirit continues to guide them.*



Holy Hour has commenced on Mondays in the Chapel. Confessions will be heard from 5:30pm until 6:15pm. Adoration will be from 5:30 pm until 6:30pm.

Our Avon fundraiser will begin October 14th to raise funds for the bus to Washington, DC in January for the March for Life. If you would like see a catalog, please stop by the parish office. Various items besides makeup available for purchase. Start your Christmas shopping early! You can also place your orders online at

*[Avon.com/fundraiser/stmaryspj](http://Avon.com/fundraiser/stmaryspj)*

Little Lambs is doing a Krispy Kreme fundraiser! Please stop by the parish office to place your order before October 19th. Coffee and Specialty donuts will be available as well.

Due to a large Confirmation class this year, Confessions will be heard on Saturday, October 24th from 2pm until 3pm. Other times, Confessions can be heard by appointment.

**The 2021 Mass book is now open.**

St. Mary's Food Pantry is still available to all in our local and area communities. The next date will be Friday, October 30th from 10am until noon. If you or anyone you know is in need of food, please have them come during those times.



It's SOCKTOBER! Every night in the U.S. over 500,000 people live on the streets or in a homeless shelter. The Junior Catholic Daughters of St. Mary's Church know that even the smallest acts of love, like donating a pair of new socks, can make a difference in the lives of our homeless neighbors. Did you know that every day the Catholic Church feeds, clothes, shelters, and educates more people than any other organization in the world? During the month of October there will be a box in the narthex for you to place new socks, hats, and gloves to donate to local warming stations. Please help the JCDA make a difference and donate.



St. Mary's will continue the tradition of providing those in need within our community with food baskets for Christmas. It has expanded to include additional foods considering children are off from school and normally that is where they get a daily meal. You will find bins in the narthex where you can

place non perishable items or stop by the parish office. Children in the Religious Ed. program are encouraged to bring items to their classrooms. Thank you in advance.

**Announced Masses**

- Monday, October 19 (John deBrebeuf & Isaac Jogues, priests & companions, martyrs)  
9:00am Tony Conetta, by Rosa Fiorillo  
Int. of Alice Cavanagh, by Dan Kavanagh
- Tuesday, October 20 (Paul of the Cross, priest)  
9:00am Bartholomew Lissner, ny Dr. and Mrs. Craig Onofry  
Hannah Babey, by Grandma & Grandpa
- Wednesday, October 21  
9:00am Francisco Cianciatta, by Deacon Rich & Joanne Marino
- Thursday, October 22 (John Paul II, pope)  
9:00am Marion Cole, by her children
- Saturday, October 24  
4:00pm For the Confirmandi
- Sunday, October 25  
8:30am Susan Hinkley, by James & family  
11:30am The parishioners of St. Mary's  
1:00pm Grace & Neil Vicidomini, by Paul and Rosemary Brislin

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK:** Debi Cotugno, Michael Bello, Michael Barnes, William Lincoln, Jeannine Lincoln, James Lincoln, Charles Hildebrandt, Maureen Hildebrandt, Walter Szpakowicz, Aedan Roach, Robin Radzikowski, James Roach, John F Flynn, Jr., Catherine Simons, Jose Ramos, Michael Medaglia, Robert Witherow, Theresa Fuller, Allen Lynch, Enid Decker, Jackie Mundy, Chris Marion, III, Allan Garcia, Eric Hildebrandt, Stephen A. Odrechowski, Scott Robertson, Eva Scopino, Jan Kaminski, Ellen Pentland, Leticia Nuestro, Christina Nuestro, Alice Drew, Catherine Scopino, Amelia Quinn, Tonya Addy, Jackie Hamilton, Brandon Ulrichs, Helen Eckes, Gloria Hicks, Stephanie Gaide, Elizabeth Startup Jones, MaryLynn Beam, Nancy Crumley, Carol Gomillion, David Lisker, and Donald Wolff.

*The Cardinal's Appeal* is still ongoing. Our goal is \$34,500. We have received pledges totaling \$18,905 from 95 donors. You can visit [Cardinalsappeal.org](http://Cardinalsappeal.org). All Donations can be mailed directly to : The Cardinal's Appeal PO Box 4020 NY, NY 10261. Our Parish number is 518.

The collection for October 10th/11th was \$5,610. Thank you for your continued generosity.