

SAINT PETER'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

JUNE 21, 2020



104 WEST FIRST STREET • MANSFIELD, OHIO 44902
419.524.2572 | MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

Mass Schedule:

Saturday: 5:00 P.M.
Sunday: 7:30 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:30 A.M.
Monday & Friday 5:30 P.M.
Tuesday - Thursday 7:00 A.M.

Spanish Mass:

Resurrection Parish, Lexington

All Masses are cancelled until further notice.

Parish Office Hours:

Monday - Friday: 9:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.
Saturday and Sunday: Closed

Pastoral Care Contacts:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572
Hospital & Follow-up
Nursing Homes/Assisted Living &
Prayer Pipeline
Deacon John Reef 419.529.3694
Shut-ins/Homebound

Sacrament of Baptism:

Please contact the Parish Center to begin plans for the baptism of your baby or child.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday: 3:00 - 4:30 P.M.
Other times by appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage:

Arrangements should always be made at the **Parish Center office at least eight months** in advance of the ceremony. A wedding date is confirmed after the initial meeting with a priest.

Bulletin Deadline:

Friday, 12:00 noon. All requests must be submitted in writing or email and must receive prior approval.

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Ms. Kristi Reindl 419.524.2572 ext.2122

Pastoral Staff:

Fr. Gregory R. Hite, *Pastor*
Fr. Austin Ammanniti, *Parochial Vicar*
Mr. Bill Johnson,
Director of Music & Liturgy
Ms. Lynne Lukach, *Pastoral Associate*
Mrs. Elizabeth Wurm, *Director of*
Religious Ed. & Youth Minister

Deacon:

Mr. John Reef

St. Peter's School:

Mr. Jonathan Cuttitta
High School, Jr. High School
Mrs. Ashley Rastorfer
Elementary School and Montessori

Parish Business Manager:

Mr. Evan Mumea

Director of Development:

Mr. Jason Crundwell

A PARISH OF THE SAINT JUAN DIEGO DEANERY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO

POPE FRANCIS**ANGELUS**

*Saint Peter's Square
Sunday, 25 June 2017*

Dear Brothers and Sisters, Good Morning!

In today's Gospel (cf. Mt 10:26-33) the Lord Jesus, after having called and sent the disciples on mission, teaches them and prepares them to face the trials and persecutions they will have to endure. Going on mission is not like tourism, and Jesus cautions them: "you will find persecutions". So he exhorts them: "have no fear of them; for nothing is covered that will not be revealed.... What I tell you in the dark, utter in the light.... And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul" (vv. 26-28). They can only kill the body; they do not have the power to kill souls: do not fear this. Jesus' dispatch [of the disciples] on mission does not guarantee their success, just as it does not protect them from failure and suffering. They have to take into account both the possibility of rejection and that of persecution. This is somewhat frightening but it is the truth.

The disciple is called to conform his life to Christ who was persecuted by men, knew rejection, abandonment and death on the cross. There is no Christian mission marked by tranquility! Difficulties and tribulations are part of the work of evangelization and we are called to find in them the opportunity to test the authenticity of our faith and of our relationship with Jesus. We must consider these difficulties as the opportunity to be even more missionary and to grow in that trust toward God, our Father who does not abandon his children during the storm. Amid the difficulties of Christian witness in the world, we are not forgotten but always assisted by the attentive concern of the Father. For this reason, in today's Gospel, a good three times Jesus reassures the disciples, saying: "Do not fear!"

Even in our day, brothers and sisters, persecution against Christians is present. We pray for our brothers and sisters who are persecuted and we praise God because, in spite of this, they continue to bear witness to their faith with courage and faithfulness. Their example helps us to not hesitate in taking the position in favour of Christ, bearing witness bravely in everyday situations, even in apparently peaceful contexts. In effect, a form of trial can also be the absence of hostility and tribulation. Besides [sending us out] as "sheep in the midst of wolves," the Lord even in our times sends us out as sentinels in the midst of people who do not want to be woken from their worldly lethargy which ignores the Gospel's words of Truth, building for themselves their own ephemeral truths. And if we go to or live in these contexts, and we proclaim the Words of the Gospel, this is bothersome and they will look at us unkindly.

But in all this, the Lord continues to tell us, as he did to the disciples of his time: "Do not fear!" Let us not forget these words: always, when we experience any tribulation, any persecution, anything that causes us to suffer, let us listen to the voice of Jesus in our hearts: "Do not fear! Do not fear! Go Forth! I am with you!" Do not fear those who mock you and mistreat you and do not fear those who ignore you or respect you "to your face", but fight the Gospel "behind your back". There are so many who smile to our face, but fight the Gospel behind our backs. We all know them. Jesus does not leave us all alone, because we are precious to him. That is why he does not leave us all alone. Each one of us is precious to Jesus and he accompanies us.

May the Virgin Mary, example of humility and courageous adherence to the Word of God, help us to understand that success does not count in the witness of faith, but rather faithfulness, faithfulness to Christ, recognizing in any circumstance even the most problematic, the inestimable gift of being his missionary disciples.



Declaring ourselves for Jesus in the presence of others**Homily for the Twelfth Sunday of Year A****by Fr. Tommy Lane**

Thousands of pilgrims visit the Franciscan Monastery in Široki Brijeg every year, about one hour distant from Međugorje (Medjugorje). On February 7th 1945 the Communist soldiers arrived and said, "God is dead, there is no God, there is no Pope, there is no Church, there is no need of you, you also go out in the world and work." The communists forgot that the Franciscans were working, most of the Franciscans were teaching in the adjoining school. Some of the Franciscans were famous professors and had written books. The communists asked them to remove their habits. The Franciscans refused. One angry soldier took the Crucifix and threw it on the floor. He said, "you can now choose either life or death." Each of the Franciscans knelt down, embraced the Crucifix and said, "You are my God and my All." The thirty Franciscans were taken out and slaughtered and their bodies burned in a nearby cave where their remains lay for many years. Today they are buried inside the Franciscan church. (this account continues below) In our Gospel today Jesus said, "if anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven." The thirty Franciscan martyrs of Široki Brijeg are a powerful example of declaring oneself in the presence of others for Jesus. They lived something else Jesus also said in the Gospel, "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul in hell." (Matt 10:28)

We do not live under such difficult circumstances. But the Church in our time is also suffering greatly as it did in Herzegovina in 1945. We have lost our sense of right and wrong because we are drifting away from God. When we drift away from the Truth it follows naturally that we don't know the difference between truth and falsehood anymore. We do not know any more that sins are sins despite the fact that Paul wrote to the Romans that the whole human race has sinned as we heard in our second reading (Rom 5:12). A different type of martyrdom is needed now, dry martyrdom or we might say white martyrdom, showing by the way we live and by what we say that we are declaring ourselves for Jesus in the presence of others, that divine grace comes to us from Jesus as Paul wrote (Rom 5:15)

Sometimes we hear it said that someone is following the crowd. The crowd now is running away from God because it is uncool to be religious, and the martyrdom needed now is not to follow the crowd. The crowd thinks being religious limits one's freedom, curbs one's enjoyment of life. The crowd, looking for pleasure at every moment, has got lost unknown to itself and does not realize that freedom and pleasure are only achieved by following God's way. When Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time the crowd greeted him and threw palms on the road before him, some even put their cloaks on the road before him. A short time later the crowd asked for Jesus to be crucified and asked for Barabbas to be released. So much for the support of the crowd. Even the apostles gave in to the pressure of the crowd. When Jesus was arrested in Gethsemane they abandoned Jesus and fled. In our first reading too Jeremiah said his friends deserted him after he proclaimed a prophetic word from God.

Instead of following the crowd, the invitation to us in the Scripture readings this weekend is to be strong and stand up for Jesus and for what is right even if it is unpopular. Our happiness will not come from following the crowd because the crowd is not happy. Our happiness will come from following God's ways. Even if they think you are out of touch, odd, or old-fashioned because you go to Mass, because you respect marriage as a sacrament and you follow God's way, hold your head high. Remember on the last day they will not judge you, God will, and God will also judge them. Jeremiah, as we heard in our first reading suffered dreadful persecutions because he would not give in to following the crowd, but he was fully aware of the presence of God with him. He said, "the Lord is at my side, a mighty hero." (Jer 10:11) Remember the words of Jesus, "If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven."

Witnessing to Jesus and following God's way also helps others in the crowd who are lacking courage to follow Jesus. One of the soldiers in the firing squad at Široki Brijeg later said, "Since I was a child, in my family, I had always heard from my mother that God exists. To the contrary, Stalin, Lenin, Tito had always asserted and taught each one of us: there is no God. God does not exist! But when I stood in front of the martyrs of Široki Brijeg and I saw how those friars faced death, praying and blessing their persecutors, asking God to forgive the faults of their executioners, it was then that I recalled to my mind the words of my mother and I thought that my mother was right: God exists!" That soldier converted and now he has a son a priest and a daughter a nun. As I said, witnessing to Jesus and following God's way also helps others in the crowd who are lacking the courage to follow Jesus.

I conclude with the words of Jesus, "If anyone declares himself for me in the presence of men, I will declare myself for him in the presence of my Father in heaven." (Matt 10:32)



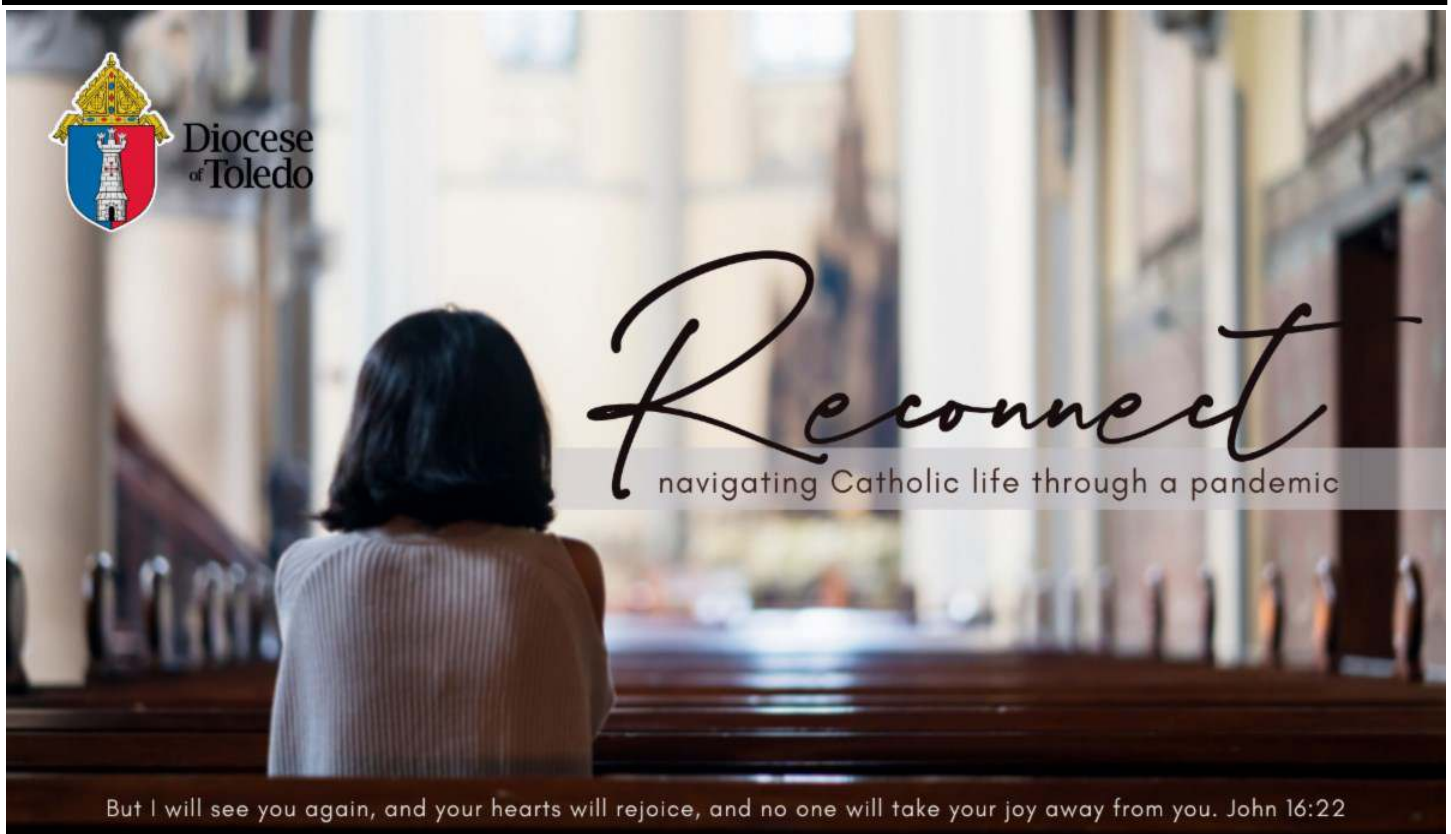
Franciscan Church and Monastery in Široki Brijeg. Courtesy of Wikimedia Commons.

Lectio Divina**Order of Brothers of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary of Mt. Carmel****Matthew 10: 24:33 (Excerpted for Today's Gospel)**

- Today's Gospel presents to us various instructions of Jesus on the behavior that the disciples have to adopt in the exercise of their mission. What strikes most in these instructions are two warnings: (a) the frequency with which Jesus refers to the persecutions and suffering which they will have to bear; (b) the insistence repeated three times to the disciples not to be afraid.
- Matthew 10:24-25: Persecutions and sufferings which mark the life of the disciples. These two verses constitute the final part of a warning of Jesus to the disciples concerning persecutions. The disciples should know that, because of being disciples of Jesus, they will be persecuted (Mt 10:17-23). But this should not be a reason for worry, because a disciple should imitate the life of the Master and share the trials with Him. This is part of discipleship. "A disciple is not greater than the teacher or a servant greater than his master; it is sufficient for the disciple to grow to be like his teacher and the servant like his master." If they called Jesus Beelzebul, how much more will they insult His disciples? In other words, the disciple of Jesus should be worried if, in his life, there are no persecutions.
- Matthew 10:26-27: Do not be afraid to tell the truth. The disciples should not be afraid to be persecuted. Those who persecute them pervert the meaning of the facts and spread calumnies which change truth into lies. But no matter how great the lie, the truth will triumph at the end and will make the lie crumble down. This is why we should not be afraid to proclaim truth, the things which Jesus has taught. Every day, the means of communication pervert the meaning of things and the people who proclaim the truth are considered as criminals; they make our system appear as just and it perverts the meaning of human life.
- Matthew 10:28: Do not be afraid of those who kill the body. The disciples should not be afraid of those who kill the body, who torture, who strike and cause suffering. Those who torture can kill the body, but they cannot kill liberty and the spirit in the body. They should be afraid, yes, that the fear of suffering may lead them to hide or to deny the truth, and that this will lead them to offend God, because anyone who draws away from God will be lost forever.
- Matthew 10:29-31: Do not be afraid, but trust in Divine Providence. The disciples should not fear anything, because they are in God's hands. Jesus tells them to look at the birds of the air. Two sparrows are sold for a penny, but not one of them will fall to the ground without the Father knowing. Every hair on your head has been counted. Luke says that not one hair falls without our Father wanting it (Lk 21:18). And so many hairs fall from our heads! Because of this "Do not be afraid. You are worth more than many sparrows." This is the lesson which Jesus draws from the contemplation of nature.
- Matthew 10:32-33: Do not be afraid to be the witnesses of Jesus. At the end Jesus summarizes everything in this sentence: "If anyone declares himself for Me in the presence of human beings, I will declare Myself for him in the presence of My Father in heaven; 33: the one who instead will disown Me in the presence of human beings, I will disown him in the presence of My Father in heaven." Knowing that we are in God's hands and that God is with us, at every moment, we have the necessary courage and the peace to render witness and to be disciples of Jesus.

4) Personal questions

- What are you afraid of? Why?
- Have you ever been persecuted because of your commitment to announce the Good News of God which Jesus announced to us?
- Persecution is not comfortable. There can be many small persecutions throughout a day. Do you ever deny Jesus in little things to make your life more comfortable and not make trouble? How is this important?



Introducing the Reconnect Campaign & Website

We are launching a campaign called *Reconnect* to assist parishes and the faithful as we continue to navigate Catholic life during COVID-19 and through the next phases of re-opening. One part of the campaign is a website with resources for parishes and the public. ReconnectToledo.org has resources to help the faithful, including spiritual resources and good news stories. Another portion of the website is resources for parishes. These will continue to be populated with information in the upcoming week.

If you have any questions about the Reconnect campaign, website, or general social media/Communications questions, please contact alust@toledodiocese.org.



PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

Meet the four men of the Diocese of Toledo will be ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, June 27, 2020.



Deacon Michael Bialorucki

Hello, my name is Deacon Michael Bialorucki. My home is Holy Angels Parish, part of the Sandusky Catholic Community in Sandusky OH. I graduated from Perkins High School in 2006 and Bowling Green State University in 2010 with a Bachelor's of Science in Education. During college and the years after, I wrestled with whether or not God was calling me to the priesthood. With the help of many great priests, I finally took a chance and entered seminary at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in the Fall of 2013. I have been blessed with the formation I received at St. Meinrad. I look forward to beginning my service in the priesthood to the people of the Diocese of Toledo who have been so gracious and kind in their support. Please know of my continued prayers for all of you!



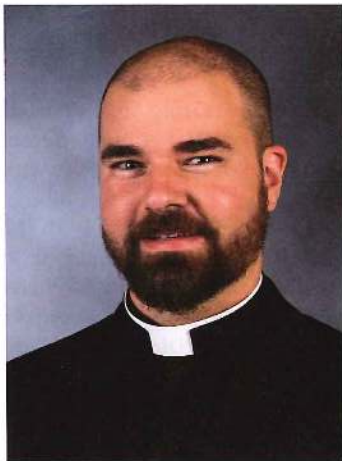
Deacon Zach Brown

Hello! My name is Deacon Zachary Brown. I am from Our Lady of Hope Parish in Attica, Ohio. My immediate family includes my parents, Dave and Maryann, as well as my two sisters, Jenni and Katie. I attended Seneca East Public School in Attica for my K-12 education and graduated from Seneca East in 2011. Years prior to my graduation my grandparents prayerfully encouraged me to consider a possible vocation to the priesthood. I was accepted as a seminarian in 2011 and attended the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio for college seminary and the Pontifical North American College in Rome, Italy for major seminary. Throughout my nine years of seminary I knew I could count on the continued prayers and support of so many people from the diocese. Thank you for your support these past years of formation, it is greatly appreciated. I humbly ask you to continue to pray for all priests and seminarians of the diocese and for an increase to the vocation of diocesan priesthood.



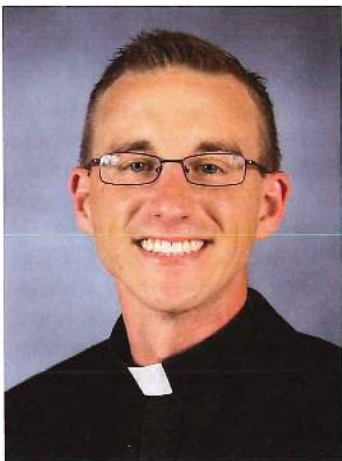
PRIESTHOOD ORDINATION

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Deacon Peter Grodi

My name is Deacon Peter Grodi. I was born in Warren, OH but spent most of my childhood in Steubenville and Dresden, OH. My parents converted to Catholicism soon after I was born. I have an older brother, JonMarc, and a younger brother, Richard. We were mostly homeschooled, we helped our father take care of a small piece of farmland. I graduated from Franciscan University of Steubenville in 2013 with a degree in Philosophy. I took a job in Bowling Green, OH as the Director of Worship for St. Thomas More University Parish. After a year, I discerned that God was calling me to apply for Seminary. I studied at Saint Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology for 6 years until my graduation in 2020. I have so many people to thank for supporting my journey to the priesthood. I ask for your continued prayers for myself, my fellow transitional deacons, and all the Church. God bless you and draw you deeper into the heart of his Son, Jesus Christ.



Deacon Kevin Moebius

Hello Diocese of Toledo! My name is Deacon Kevin Moebius. I'm a parishioner at Most Blessed Sacrament Parish. After graduating from CCHS, I attended UT before transferring to U of M where I graduated with a degree in Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering. Although feeling called at a young age, it wasn't until working overseas and a visit to Fatima that I truly responded to the call. Thank you Mary! I spent 6 years at Mount Saint Mary's and 2 years in between discerning with the Jesuits. Thank you for all of your prayers and looking forward to serving you!

This morning I saw it. It was just for a moment, but what I saw was the shadowy figure of a small rodent running across my living room floor. Anyone who knows me knows I am completely terrified of God's smaller creatures.

We moved within the past year, and in the old farm house we came from, it was not unusual to have four or five catches of mice per day. You would think I would be used to the situation, but in our new home I have fostered in my head a false sense of security.

Because my children were just waking up and I didn't want to frighten them, I mustered some courage as only a mother can and calmly texted my husband only one word, "MOUSE."

I started on my MRP (Mouse Reaction Plan). (Yes, everyone should have one.)

Step 1: Don't look down. If I don't see it, it doesn't see me, and if I don't see it, it doesn't exist.

Step 2: Clorox down the house until you cannot breathe. And sweep, mop, vacuum, take out the trash, wipe off all the counter tops, and in general make it a most unwelcome place for the rodent to want to be.

Step 3: Crazy bag up every nonperishable food item in the house and attempt to shove it all into the refrigerator so as to offer no temptation for our little friend to stay around.

The goal of the trifacta plan was hoping to make it so difficult for the mouse to live in our home that he would go in search of greener pastures.

As I was performing this thorough, yet irrational mouse eradication process, it made me stop and think.

How many times do I replicate this behavior in my overall life, just because I don't want to see what is there? If I am truthful with myself, the answer is probably a lot.

What stood out to me was that this mouse was probably in our home for weeks, perhaps months, before I saw him. I had an inkling he was there by a quiet rustling here or a trace of him there, but as long as I didn't see him, I could pretend he wasn't and his presence didn't impact my life. That mouse finally got brave or desperate enough to put down its guard to pop out one morning, and when he did, I became uncomfortable.

Everything I did that morning was a quick fix to the problem. It might have made him unwelcome, but it didn't get him out of the house or give an answer to how he got in.

All that cleaning and bagging of things did not solve the problem. It made things look cleaner, I'll grant you. It made me feel better as if I had helped change the situation in some way, but at the end of the day, it had no substantial end result.

We live in a country with a lot of wonderful people in it, but so often we do the same thing: fix something with knee-jerk reactions, clean up a situation and make it look prettier, make ourselves feel better for helping, even if we haven't really solved any problems in the long term. We don't see those who are marginalized often or well enough, sometimes because we choose not to look, sometimes because we don't fully understand. But not seeing them doesn't mean that they are gone, or that the difficulties they face have disappeared.

As Catholics we are called not only towards charity but towards justice, working to make systematic changes that will lead to the greater good. As Saint Oscar Romero stated, "Each one of you have to be God's microphone." This sums up our call to Catholic Social Teachings, to take care of immediate needs through charity, but to also look for long term changes.

If you are not familiar with them there are great videos on YouTube through Catholic Relief Services that are short and really speak to our roles as Catholics. Another great resource is the Catholic Social Teaching portion of the USCCB website. With so much going on in the world right now, and with so many people wanting to make a positive difference, these two resources are a great place to start to find out how you can more fully exemplify the meaning of the Body of Christ!



Elizabeth Wurm
Director of Religious Education
and Youth Director

MASS INTENTIONSMonday, June 22 *Weekday*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Mary and Charles Eaton

Tuesday, June 23 *Weekday*

7:00 am Parish

Wednesday, June 24 *Solemnity of the Nativity of
Saint John the Baptist*

7:00 am Parish

Thursday, June 25 *Weekday*

7:00 am Joe Reindl

Friday, June 26 *Weekday*

5:00 pm Rosary

5:30 pm Marilyn Mertler

Saturday, June 27 *Vigil of the Thirteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

5:00 pm Julie Krous

Sunday, June 28 *Solemnity of the Thirteenth Sunday in
Ordinary Time*

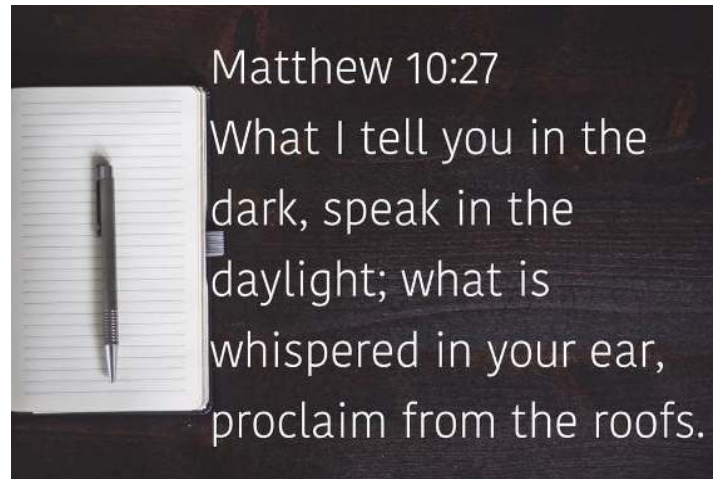
7:30 am Parish

9:30 am Robert Sutter

11:30 am William Cruz

MASS ON THE 4TH OF JULY

With the 4th of July falling on a Saturday this year, we will not be having Mass at 9:00 AM, as we usually do on a holiday. Mass on July 4 will be at 5:00 PM, per our regular Mass schedule.

**TIFFIN ST. JOSEPH GRAB AND GO
FESTIVAL**

Get all your raffle tickets online (www.tiffinstjoseph.org) or in person (36 Melmore Street) at the Tiffin St. Joseph "Grab & Go" Festival on July 11 & 12, 2020! Our 68th annual festival will look a little different this year due to COVID-19. Saturday's hours will be 2:00-8:00 PM and Sunday, 11:00 AM-7:00 PM. Both days will feature the Main Raffle (Grand Prize - \$10,000), Super Raffle (with over 75 prizes for all ages), 50/50 Raffle and Instant Bingo and area food vendors/trucks will offer a variety of sandwich and snack items for your enjoyment. On Sunday, our World Famous Chicken Dinners will be offered take-out style and must be pre-ordered and paid by Monday, July 6 through the St. Joseph parish website or by calling the parish office at 419-447-5848. Unfortunately, many favorites won't be available, such as the Cake Wheel, Bingo or adult gambling, and there won't be games or rides for the younger group, but we plan to bring them all back next year! If you are looking for great used items, the General Store will be in the St. Joseph Activity Center Gym on June 26-27 from 9:00 AM-5:00 PM. So come to the St. Joseph Festival, get your tickets, and grab some great food to go! And if you can't make it, all raffle tickets are available on our parish website: www.tiffinstjoseph.org.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Bill Ruhl, Jeannie Burkhalter, Aaron Blank, Cindy Lassen, Dina Riley, Eliana Nelson, MaKaya Butler, Sharon Valdry, Maria Loschinkohl, John Ziegler, Marlene Ziegler, Kim Rucker, Dorothy Trinter, Marti Selby, JoAnn Marbaugh, Gwen Yockey, Mary Ann and Mel Switzer, Louise Steggall, Tammy Dudley, Keith Combs, Mady Ziegler, Elaine Johnson, Cindy Jasnek Cartier, Jeannine Klotz, Marilyn B. Williamson, Tom Powell, Chief Master Sergeant Joseph Basting, Peggy Basting Taylor, Kathy Carcione, Carol Pittenger, Charlie Henrich, Jill McMillen, Gary Caldwell, Jeffrey Davis, Willie "Frank" Williams, Catherine R. Liston, Pius Schell, Krista Marshall, Maggie Caldwell, Michael Davis, Michael Krempel, Marilyn Miller, Annette Togliatti, Rose Saul, Charlene Arthur, Alan Gallaway, Marty Moritz, Logan Page, Maxine Shannon, Gracie Shannon, Pam Schopieray, Jacob Randall.

Names will only be listed for 4 weeks. If you wish to have additional time, contact the Parish Center at 419.524.2572.

IN GOD'S ARMS...

Jerry "Bud" Grega

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD.



FOR ALL OF THE CURRENT IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ST. PETERS PARISH OPERATIONS DURING THESE TROUBLED TIMES, PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:

WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG

THERE YOU WILL ALSO FIND DEVOTIONAL MATERIALS FOR USE AT HOME FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

ADULT FAITH ENRICHMENT

ALL ADULT FAITH CLASSES ARE ON HOLD UNTIL "NORMAL" PARISH CENTER HOURS AND OPERATIONS RESUME.



RECYCLING—NEXT DATE: JULY 10, 2020

FOOD COLLECTION: July 11 & 12

PRISON MINISTRY CORNER

All Catholic services and programming at ManCI and RiCI are suspended for now. Please keep our brothers in prayer. Fortunately, many of them are able to watch Mass on WMFD, just as we are. They expressed their gratitude and greatly enjoyed being able to see the interior of our beautiful church.

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT

The First Eucharist Retreat for all young people who prepared to receive their sacrament this year will be taking place on Saturday, July 11th, from 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. in the church. Please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org or 419.524.2572 ext. 2114 for more details.

PARISH CENTER OFFICE HOURS

Regular Parish office hours will be from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Monday through Friday. We respectfully request that all business that can be done by phone continue in that manner, and ask, as well, that all visitors to our parish offices demonstrate social distancing guidelines.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School has been cancelled for this year. We do look forward to seeing you next summer! Thank you for all who donated to VBS... those donations, barring the perishable food items that might expire, will be kept until next year's event. We look forward to seeing you soon!

THANK YOU

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish during this pandemic. Every sacrificial gift is accepted in the Lord's eyes.

Please remember to include our parish in your estate planning.

SUNDAY OFFERING

*Year to Date
May 31, 2020*

Sunday and Holy Day Collections

Sunday Collection & Holy Day Collection:	\$770,164
Total Budgeted Sunday Collection To Date:	\$780,285

Sunday Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$10,121)
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School Collection

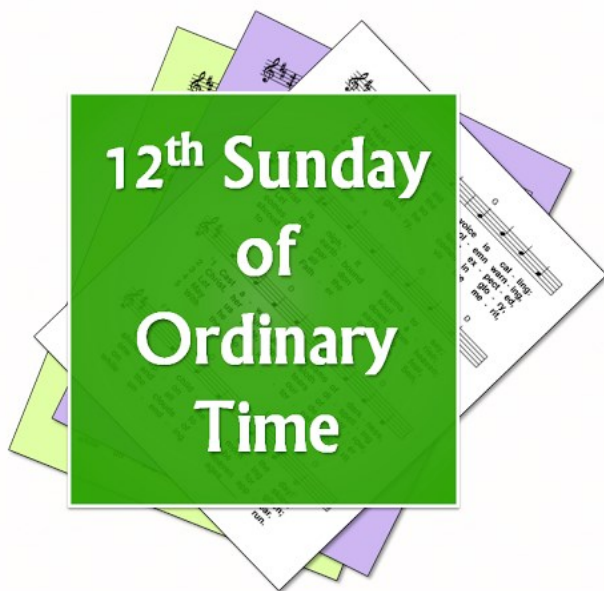
Total School Collection To Date:	\$126,033
Total Budgeted School Collection To Date:	\$132,000

School Collection Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$5,967)
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PSR CATECHIST NEEDED

Are you looking for an amazing way to serve your parish and the future Church? Look no further! We are looking for someone to become a catechist in our PSR program for the 2020- 2021 school year. The commitment is minimal... once a week for about two hours from September- April. . The requirements include someone who is willing to share their faith with our younger disciples and also complete the requirements of our safety program for children. If you are interested or need more information, please contact Elizabeth Wurm at wurm.elizabeth@myspartans.org. We would love to have you as a part of our amazing ministerial team! You have so much of your faith to share... please share it with us!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES OF ST. PETER'S PARISH BY MAILING IN YOUR OFFERING ENVELOPES OR VISITING THE WEBSITE, WWW.MANSFIELDSTPETERS.ORG, TO LEARN ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTRONIC GIVING. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT DURING THESE DIFFICULT DAYS!



ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL UPDATE

The 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal Campaign is underway with a campaign goal of \$3 million. We can assure the continued existence of many important programs that help tens of thousands in our Diocese each year; education of our seminary students, care of the sick and needy are among them. We ask you once again for your help; we have to work together. Please respond generously when you are asked to make your pledge. Thank you for your attention and thank you for being my parish family. For more information, visit the Diocesan website at Toledodiocese.org/ACA.

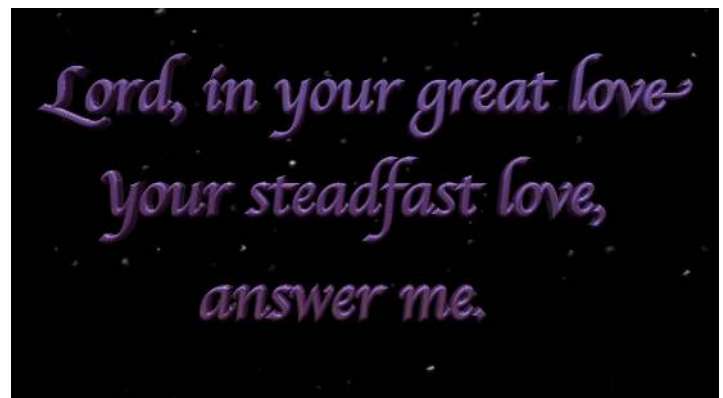
Our parish goal is \$55,00.00 so far we are at \$32,308.10 with pledges from 249 households or 58.74%. Thank you for your support of our diocesan ministries and the help you provide to our seminarians and deacons who are in formation to serve our parish's future.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES ASSISTANCE

We continue to provide our client assistance to individuals in Richland County. Anyone seeking assistance with housing, food, medical bills or prescriptions, please contact us at 419.524.0733.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOOD COLLECTIONS

We will resume Food Collections for the H.O.P.E. pantry at Catholic Charities on the second weekend of the month. We encourage donations of non-perishable canned and boxed food and personal care items. You can also donate with cash or a check to Catholic Charities. You can place in the weekend collection or mail to our parish center office and we will make sure it goes to Catholic Charities (or you can mail a check directly to them at Catholic Charities 2 Smith Ave. Mansfield, OH 44907) The collection weekends for the remainder of 2020 are: June 13-14, July 11-12, August 8-9, September 12-13, October 10-11, November 14-15, and December 12-13.



Daily Prayer



Sunday, June 21, 2020

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

✠ Lord, in your great love, answer me.

Psalm 63

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Reading

Matthew 10:28–33

[Jesus said to the Twelve:] “Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father.”

Reflection

It seems to be part of human nature to fear the unknown. As a child, it might have been the darkness; as an adult it may be any unfamiliar event or task that is in our future. Jesus addresses the Twelve as a parent might console a child. He encourages his followers to put their trust in his word and in his friendship for them. He assures them that the Father’s love is as tender as that for a sparrow, and as deliberate as knowing the number of hairs on their head. Strange comparisons, but we are that precious in the sight of God.

Prayers

others may be added

In your love, O Lord, we trust as we pray:

◆ **Faithful God, hear our prayer.**

That leaders of nations enact policies that protect the most vulnerable, we pray to the Lord: ◆ That parish communities provide special care for those who live with disabilities, we pray to the Lord: ◆ For those who live with fear for their well-being, and for those who care for them, we pray to the Lord: ◆ That fathers in our community and in our families be blessed with joy and fulfillment in their vocation, we pray to the Lord: ◆

Our Father . . .

O God, eternal Father,
you have always given courage and
strength to those who are fearful
and never turned them away from
your mercy.

May we never forget your kindness
and the unconditional love you have
bestowed upon us
through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

✠ Lord, in your great love, answer me.

ENTHUSIASM AND GRAMMAR

There is a good reason that the writings of St. Paul don't show up as examples in grammar textbooks. Today's reading is a case in point. It begins with one of those long Pauline run-on sentences that leave lectors gasping for breath. So what? Take a closer look at how Paul's fervor for his subject matter derails the grammar. There is something admirable about being so caught up in his convictions that the words cannot come fast enough to express them, much less in an orderly fashion. Scripture scholars usually take this grammatical ineptness as a sign of a passage's early importance in the Christian community, something they were so ardent about that their language never got refined.

What leaves us in this condition? Re-telling the plot line of an action movie or the play-by-play of a sporting event? When was the last time any of us was so excited by our faith in Christ that we were left grasping for words, stumbling over our own errors in speech? It may be bad grammar, but it is an excellent way to inspire others with the message of Christ!

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SAINT JOHN FISHER (1469-1535) AND SAINT THOMAS MORE (1477-1535)

June 22

From Robert Bolt's classic "A Man for All Seasons" to Showtime's edgy "The Tudors", Saint Thomas More endears himself still: lawyer-statesman of impeccable integrity, remarried widower and affectionate father delighting in a lively household—four children, a pet monkey, even a paid jester! And challenges still: humanist-reformer, yet champion of Catholic faith and papal primacy. Pope Saint John Paul II named him Patron of Statesmen and Politicians, citing More's generous work, both as a lawyer and in government service, on behalf of the poorest and most marginalized people of his time, as well as his promotion of education for all sectors of society. More's decision for principle over politics, conscience over convenience prompted his final words: "I die the king's good servant, but God's first." Alone among England's bishops, Saint John Fisher dared challenge Henry VIII's divorce and repudiation of the papacy. When the Pope named the imprisoned Fisher a cardinal, Henry thundered: "Don't bother sending Fisher's red hat here; I'll send Fisher's head to Rome!" Whose "good servants" are we first? Isn't a right conscience worth the pain of standing alone?

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The LORD has rescued the poor from the clutches of the wicked (Jeremiah 20:10-13).

Psalm — Lord, in your great love, answer me (Psalm 69).

Second Reading — The grace of God overflows for all (Romans 5:12-15).

Gospel — All who acknowledge Jesus before others will likewise be acknowledged by Jesus before the Father (Matthew 10:26-33).

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5

Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9b-11, 14-21, 31-35a, 36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11;

Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wednesday: Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17

Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15;
Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80

Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Mt 7:21-29

Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps 137:1-6; Mt 8:1-4

Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:5-17

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a; Ps 89:2-3, 16-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11;
Mt 10:37-42

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