



# ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

[www.stromuald.org](http://www.stromuald.org)

## dear Padre

### **Parish Office:**

Phone: 756-2356

Fax: 756-2099

Hours: Monday - Friday

8:00am - Noon, 1:00 - 3:00pm

Email: [stromuald@bbtel.com](mailto:stromuald@bbtel.com)

### **Pastoral Staff:**

*Pastor*, Father Brian Johnson

Email: [Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org](mailto:Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org)

*Deacon*, Tony Anthony

*Deacon*, Mike Wiedemer

*Administrative Asst*, Jane Haynes

*CRE: Adult*, Rosa Hockenberry

*CRE: RCIA*, Lyvenia Anthony

*CRE: 7-12*, Gayle Poole

*CRE: K-6*, Kim Brumfield

### **Pastoral Council:**

Dana Bland, Harry Mattingly,

Janet Bland, David Morton

Christi Brooks, Kevin Oelze

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Jerry Dowell, Gail Pollock

Betty Heavrin, Pam Pollock

### **St. Romuald**

### **Interparochial School:**

Phone: 756-5504

Website:

[www.stromualdschool.org](http://www.stromualdschool.org)

Principal, Rob Cox

### **School Board**

### **Representatives:**

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

Jennifer Payne

## Are non-Catholics eligible to be named saints?

"The cause of beatification and canonization regards a Catholic who in life, in death and after death has enjoyed a reputation of holiness by living all the Christian virtues in an heroic manner" (Sanctorum Mater, 4.1). In this process, the Catholic Church not only investigates the heroic virtues of a candidate, but confirms miracles attributed to them after their death, and ultimately declares a person to be a saint in heaven and worthy of veneration.

Moreover, the process is ecclesial: it is executed by the Catholic Church for the holiness of its members. "By canonizing some of the faithful, i.e., by solemnly proclaiming that they practiced heroic virtue lived in fidelity to God's grace, the Church recognizes the power of the Spirit of holiness within her and sustains the hope of believers by proposing the saints to them as models and intercessors" (CCC 828).

While there are non-Catholic saints worthy of canonization, the Church does not presume to canonize members of other churches (should they even be presented for validation); rather, the Church favors candidates who are in the same full communion of faith as the Catholics whose understanding of saints look to them as intercessors. As Kenneth Woodward wrote in *Making Saints*, "Catholic saints make sense only within a world where the 'body of Christ' is more than just a metaphor."

FR. BYRON MILLER, CSsR [sundaybulletin@liguori.org](mailto:sundaybulletin@liguori.org)

November 6, 2016 - Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

## Masses for the Week

November 7th - 13th

Tues	1:00 pm	Mary Anita Whitworth (Extended Care)
Wed	5:00 pm	Georganna Rhodes
Thurs	9:30 am	Charles & Becky Higdon (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	Mary Catherine Payne (DP)
Sat	8:00 am	Edwina Neel
	5:00 pm	Jasper & Anastasia O'Reilly RO)
Sun	7:00 am	Deceased Members of K of C
	10:00 am	Earl O'Donoghue

### CONFESSIONS

Wednesday 4:00-5:00pm

Saturdays 4:00 pm

## Readings for the Week

Sunday: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15/2 Thes 2:16--3:5/Lk 20:27-38 or 20:27, 34-38

Monday: Ti 1:1-9/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 17:1-6

Tuesday: Ti 2:1-8, 11-14/Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29/Lk 17:7-10

Wednesday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:3-6, 8, 11/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22

Thursday: Phlm 7-20/Ps 146:7-10/Lk 17:20-25

Friday: 2 Jn 4-9/Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18/Lk 17:26-37

Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8/Ps 112:1-6/Lk 18:1-8

Next Sunday: Mal 3:19-20a/Ps 98:5-9/2 Thes 3:7-12/Lk 21:5-19

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## Stewardship of Finance

### Last Sunday's Collection

Sunday Collection .....	\$8,114.50
Building Fund .....	\$25.00
Children .....	\$14.44
Loose change for the Poor.....	\$28.00
St. Vincent de Paul.....	\$1,641.61

### St. Romuald Parish Financial Summary

July-October, 2016

<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$177,800</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$173,200</b>
	<b>\$ 3,800</b>

Thank you for your financial stewardship!



## National Vocation Awareness Week

### November 12th & 13th

	Eucharistic Ministers	Lectors	Ushers	Servers	Rosary Leaders	Music Ministers
5:00 pm	Shelly Jefferies Whitney Roach	Youth	C-Evan Barr* C-Jamie Barr S-Harry Mattingly S-John Roach	Benjamin Barr Eric Barr Andrew Tate	Brenda Wheatley	Shannon
7:00 am	Anne O'Reilly Cara Wilson	Janet Board	C-Kevin Oelze* C-Stephen Oelze S-Don Payne S-Scott Wilson	Amber Woods Tabby Woods	Margie Wethington	
10:00 am	LaDonna Barton Ort Critchelow Sharon Hale Mona Hinton	Barbara Critchelow Nora Dailey	C-Ethan O'Donoghue* C-Ron O'Donoghue S-Chase Robbins S-Chuck Robbins	Parker Davis Tyler Davis	Kathryn Ables	Volunteer

Radio Minister: Joe Hess

Children's Liturgy: Jessica Phillips

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## Words from the Pastor

+JMJ+

In the time of Jesus, some people believed in resurrection and some didn't. Some things don't change, right? The Pharisees did believe. Of course, Jesus' disciples believed, as Jesus said "***I am*** the resurrection" in John 11:25. But the Sadducees did not believe in resurrection. So, they approach Jesus in today's reading to argue against any such resurrection of the dead. They came up with a clever argument to justify their disbelief. They ask Jesus a hypothetical question about the case of a woman who happens to have married seven brothers after the first six died suddenly after a brief marriage. The custom at the time was for a deceased man's brother to marry the widow, to receive the brother's estate, to provide her protection, and to allow for future children with her as a legacy of the family name. So the Sadducees ask, "In heaven, whose wife will she be and by whose side will she sit?" A first false flag for us is any suggestion of a *hypothetical situation*, as they tend mostly to be so unlikely as to border on a fantasy scenario. I give the Sadducees an "A" for being creative and clever for the sake of argument. Yet, their example doesn't fit at all into the radically changed circumstances of heaven! So, Jesus responds basically saying that they are comparing apples with oranges. They are imagining things in heaven to be just like how things are on earth. Two things so unlike each other, there is a 'world' of difference! Such comparing of two things/circumstances that are so radically different is a setup for confusion and misunderstanding. For example, imagine the case of a child who walked into a diner with her dad from a snow storm. She looked around the room, and watched one guy blowing on his cup of coffee ***to cool it off***, and then turned around and watched a man who just walked in blowing his nearly frozen hands ***to warm them up***. Which is it? The child was so confused: ***is breath warm or cold?*** One guy breathed on coffee to cool it off, and another blew on his hands to warm them up! But depending on the surrounding temperature, it is like apples and oranges! Or I remember being told by an electrician to watch out when we opened a wall outlet one time and I grabbed the black wire and commented, "Oh I remember on the lawn mower battery, red is always hot-live and black is negative-ground. ***AND***, he said '***No***, not here with AC, watch out because black is hot-active and white is neutral' (& green ground!). Ah-oh! DC and AC are very different! Both cases are matters dealing with two different things or circumstances. Apples and oranges! And Jesus points out that relations on earth and relations in heaven are also incomparably different!

Or considering one's frame of reference, what seems impossible to one person can seem very possible to another with a more expansive outlook or different experiences! For example, once we accept that God has intervened in human history and opened new horizons, then a whole new range of experiences becomes possible; what might not fit before suddenly becomes suitable, and maybe even to be expected! The Sadducees are so caught up in their old-world 'blue blood' earthly concerns, to keep their inherited privilege and pass along their upper class prestige

within their family line, that they cannot imagine heaven's divine inclusivity and equality. Their concern to stay on top of society (by even arranging political marriage dynasties) ***blinds*** them to the heavenly-reset we call resurrection. With resurrection in heaven where all people before God are equally in a familial relationship to Him and one another, the Sadducees lose their earthly edge over others. For Jesus, resurrection and the experience of eternal life beyond earth meant that the need for protective exclusivity among an individual family, or the bond between generations was unnecessary within the new horizon of heavenly communion among God and His people. The concept of family is so broadened and bonds of relationship are so expanded that generational divides and family boundaries are overcome. Think of what we mean today by '***communion of saints***', and the heavenly sharing of all things in common. Or what Jesus means when he says in Matthew 23:9 "For ***you have one Father, who is in heaven.***" Or when he says in Matthew 12:48-49 "Who is My mother, and who are My brothers?..... ***Whoever does the will of My Father in heaven is My brother and sister and mother.***" Jesus is pointing out that in heaven we are all family to one another. We belong to each other, and dwell in heavenly peace with everyone, living in mutual fidelity to each other. There is no need in heaven of exclusive, protective institutions such as marriage or the nuclear family. What is needed on earth is surpassed in heaven! In heaven God provides the grace of equality and a mutual sharing in all things, a perfect communion with all.

Sadly, a way of describing the Sadducees' shortsighted vision of life, is that their denial, of belief in the resurrection means that they are stuck on/in earth. They cannot imagine heaven. We can hope and pray that they came to believe. But regardless, the reading invites us to remember and offer God thanks for the world of possibility Jesus opened for us along with the grace that we do believe!

Here are some daily questions to consider in our prayer time!

**Sunday:** What message or word from God stayed with me, that I can share or discuss with someone else in this coming week? Ask someone else what they heard?

**Monday:** Take some extra time today to pray for our country. Have you asked for God's guidance yourself? Have I trusted God enough? Reflect before you elect!

**Tuesday:** Arguments often only alienate people further. Can I approach someone I disagree with, and offer a listening ear before sharing my position with them?

**Wednesday:** Do I think of heaven every day? Here is a good question to ask before every word said or action done: Does this bring me closer to heaven or farther away?

**Thursday:** God takes the patient long-view of life. Do I think of eternity, or just tomorrow?

**Friday:** Perform some sacrifice or service today as a thanks offering for God's forgiveness.

**Saturday:** Have I read over the readings for Sunday's mass as a preparation? Can I go early enough to offer the rosary with others for peace in the world?

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson



**Family Movie Night:** Join the fun on Saturday, November 19th as we venture into the world of "Alice Through the Looking Glass." Critics have called it "Clever, delightful and perfect family fun." Disney invites us to step through the looking glass and join Alice, the Mad Hatter, Cheshire Cat and the Red Queen on a wild journey back to Wonderland. Pull up a chair or pillow, grab a drink and popcorn, kick back and enjoy a night of good movie viewing!



**Gobble, Gobble...**It's time for our Senior Day Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 16th at 10:00 am. We invite seniors and any guest you would like to bring to share in a prayerful day of fellowship as we remember what we are thankful for. Saints to be discussed are St. Leo the Great, St.

Cecilia, and St. Catherine of Alexandria. We will be serving turkey and dressing with gravy, we ask that you bring a dish to pass as we come together and enjoy each other's company.

**Al-Anon Meeting:** Mondays 7:00 pm St Romuald Parish Hall. Come find support and understanding to recover a sense of serenity in your life.

## St. Romuald Altar Society News

St. Romuald Altar Society will be meeting on Wednesday, November 9th, at 5pm in the parish hall. Final preparations will be made for the Holiday Bazaar, and the annual Turkey Dinner. Tickets for the quilt raffle can be picked up at the office M-F from 8am til 3pm.

PIES,PIES, PIES! St. Romuald Altar Society annual Turkey Dinner is Thursday, November 17th. Again we are asking for 2 pies from Altar Society members and 1 pie from other members of the parish. Please bring all pies cut and ready to serve. The pies can be dropped off any time after 12:00 noon at the St. Romuald School Gym the day of the dinner. We appreciate and thank you for your support.

**St. Romuald Altar Society** quilt made by Thelma Jarboe is now on display at the Script Office. You may purchase \$1.00 raffle tickets at the Script Office along with pecan halves and almonds for \$8.00 a bag. Script office hours are Monday 8-2 and Friday 8-2. Envelopes for Altar Society sign-ups are still in the pews until the end of October, please consider joining us.

**St Vincent DePaul Report:** St Vincent DePaul conducts works of mercy for our community. The Society is thankful for the generosity of parishioners who contribute monthly to their outreach ministry. Their monthly report for September included the following services and help given: Assistance was provided to a total of 17 families amounting to 36 persons (of which 13 were children). The aid totaled just over \$990.00 given to help struggling families and individuals. May God continue blessing the generous donors and all of the recipients of their care.

## The Holy Year Popes History and Memorabilia 1300 – 2016.

This exhibit (assembled by Fr Pat Reynolds) can be seen September 16th through November 20<sup>th</sup> in the Brescia Administration Building Lobby (120 West 7th Street, Owensboro, Kentucky 42301). Open Monday through Friday from 7 AM – 6 PM. For groups of 20 or more, or weekend tours, please contact Sally Halbig at 270-686-4236.

**Marriage Help** – Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has helped thousands of couples who are disillusioned or even experiencing misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the January program beginning with a weekend on Jan 13, 2017, call 270-852-8346, or email: flelliot@audubon-area.com or visit the web site at [www.retrouvaille.org](http://www.retrouvaille.org)

## Family Day Retreat at Fathers of Mercy Monastery:

Jesus, the King of Mercy: A Family Conference, Saturday, November 19 at Monastery, 806 Shaker Museum Rd. Auburn, KY from 9:00am-5:30pm! Full day of prayer, talks and activities.

**FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP**—this is a call from the Holy Father. Pope Francis tells us, "The people are sovereign. I will only say: Study the proposals well, pray and choose in conscience." Prayer is the best "medicine" for our ailing political climate. St. Stephen Cathedral, the mother church of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Owensboro, invites all the faithful to join together for Eucharistic Adoration. We will offer this time in the real presence of our Lord and Savior as prayer for the elections, and for those who will be elected to office. We will begin with Holy Mass at 12:05PM, on Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, followed by Exposition and Adoration until 6:00PM, when the polls close. The church will be open to anyone who wishes to spend some time in prayer for the election process. But, if you are able to commit to a specific time, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office. You may sign up for 30 minutes or for an hour. 270/683-6525 or [beni.howell@pastoral.org](mailto:beni.howell@pastoral.org). Invite your friends and neighbors to pray for guidance during this election time. Please, vote!

## THIS WEEK:

Mon	1:00 pm	Blue Army Rosary
	6:00 pm	Holy Hour
	6:00 pm	Catholic Divorce Group
	7:00 pm	Al-Anon Meeting
Tues	10:00 am	Scripture Study
	1:00 pm	Mass (Extended Care)
	4-7 pm	Election Day Adoration
Wed	10:00 am	Year of Mercy Study Group
	4:00 pm	Confessions
	5:00 pm	Mass
	5:00 pm	Altar Society Meeting
Thur	9:30 am	Mass (Medco)
Fri	9:00 am	School Mass
	10:00 am	24 Hour Eucharistic Adoration
Sat	8:00 am	Mass
	9:00 am	Holiday Bazaar
	5:00 pm	Youth Mass
Sun	7:00 am	Memorial Mass for deceased of K of C
	11:30 am	7-12 Religious Education

## UPCOMING:

Nov 17	4:00 pm	Altar Society Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov 18	3:00 pm	1st Reconciliation Prayer Day

## **We Pray For:**

Jim Ball, Harold Beard, Gene Bennett, **Joe Bennett**, Bradley Berry, Ronnie Bruner, Juanita Burch, Jolene Bush, Joann Butler, Waylon Carman, Billy Carwile, Jerry Carwile, Russel Carwile, Janet Chambliss, Diane Charlebois, Sharon Church, Joan Clark, Mary Crook, Vonda Decker, Dean Dowell, Roger Dowell, Kenneth Dowell, Davye Duggins, Mary Catherine Edge, Rodney Elliott, Michael Ernest, Carroll Ferguson, Rhett Flener, Donny Flood, Ginny Flood, Shannon Ford, Andrea Fuqua, Barnard Gagel, Henrietta Gibson, Dorothy Greenwell, **Bill Greenwood**, Jerry Grimes, Sr., Laura Beavin Hawley, Davy Haycraft, Dale Henning, JoAnn Henning, Lisa Henning, Karen Herbert, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Doug Hinton, Shannon Hockenberry, Janet Hodson, Steve Hodson, David Horsley, Daniel Hoskins, Barbara Jarboe, Virginia Jeffries, Don Jerrell, Kiara Jo, Jerry Johnson, Jim Johnson, Mary Ann Johnson, Jack Jolly, Lovel King, Tracy King, Faith Klingsmith, David Lane, Angie Lawrence, Jennie Maiden, Mark Masterson, Keith McDaniel, Ann Medlen, **Kevin McHugh**, Richard Miller, Blaise Mills, John Moore, Barbara O'Connell, Don O'Donoghue, Eddie O'Donoghue, Joe Oelze, Earl O'Reilly, Libby Osborne, Rowan Palmer, Judy Popham, Bobby Potts, Doris Priest, Joe Priest, Robert Priest, Sandy Priest, Tracy Ralston, Penny Rannebarger, Jamie Riley, Rita Roach, Julie Robbins, Shirley Robbins, Suzanne Rose, Annelise Sebastian, **Judy Seelye**, Jerry Sosh, Lucye Stupak, Loretta Swink, Adalee Taul, Becky Taul, Beavin & Gina Thornsberry, Dorothy Tillberg, Paul Tucker, Brook Tyler, Bobby Upchurch, Gil Urban, Nancy Vincent, Buddy Weatherholt, Greg Weise, Greg Wethington, Millie Whittler, Judy Whitley, Jimmy Whitworth, Mary Rita Whitworth, Carolyn Wilcheck, Kevin Wilcheck, Robert D. Wilson, Shaun Winstead, Anne Wolfe, Sandra Zanone. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Jack Hayes, Stevie Higgs, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, SSgt Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Cody Simmons, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth



**Eucharistic Adoration Date Change for November:** Please note the weekend change date for 24 - hour adoration in November to the second weekend, Nov 12-13. We will still have actual First Friday mass 9:00 am and First Saturday mass 8:00 am, but the 24 hour adoration prayer will be the next weekend.

**Mercy Moment:** "The way of the Church is not to condemn anyone for eternity; to pour out the balm of God's mercy on all those who ask for it with a sincere heart. The way of the Church is precisely to leave her four walls behind and to go out in search of those who are distant, those essentially on the "outskirts" of life. It is to adopt fully God's own approach, to follow the Master who said: "Those who are well have no need of the physician, but those who are sick do; I have come to call not the righteous, but sinners" (Lk 5:31-32). (Pope Francis 2-15-2015)

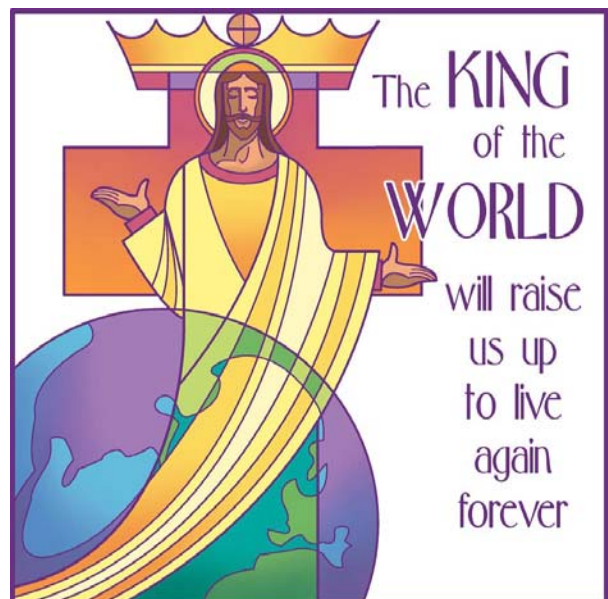
## **Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*"May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us everlasting encouragement and good hope through his grace, encourage your hearts and strengthen them in every good deed and word."*

To give our lives to him, who first gave his life for us requires faith and great courage. Let us pray for one another, that by God's grace, we may be strengthened to live for Christ by our words and our deeds. To learn more about discerning your vocation, contact the Vocations Office at 270-683-1545, [jason.mcclure@pastoral.org](mailto:jason.mcclure@pastoral.org), [www.owensborovocations.com](http://www.owensborovocations.com)



**Sympathy:** Please pray for the repose of the soul of Pete Flood and for his family to be comforted in their time of grief.



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The Knights of Columbus will be putting together Thanksgiving Baskets again this year. As in the years past, we will be accepting donations for sponsoring a family's Thanksgiving meal. It cost about \$25 per basket which includes an 11-13 lb frozen turkey, rolls, stuffing mix, sack of potatoes, corn, green beans, pumpkin with pie shells and cranberry jelly. If you would like to be a sponsor, please put your money in an envelope and drop in the collection basket or bring/mail it to the Parish office or hand it to Deacon Tony. Thank you so much for your continued generosity every year!  
Deacon Tony

**Knights of Columbus:** Brother Knights: Our Annual Memorial Service Mass for all deceased members of Council 2499 will be at the 7AM Mass at St. Romuald Parish on November 13th. Grand Knight O'Reilly extends a warm welcome and encourages all Knights with their families and deceased member families to attend.

**Christmas Card Sales:** The Fourth (Patriotic) Degree of the Knights of Columbus is again selling religious Christmas Cards. Cards are available after most Masses at St. Romuald until November 27 or until sold out. Funds raised from card sales are dedicated to support of local/national civil issues. Our most recent donation was to aid Catholic Military Chaplains. For information contact George Walz at 270-617-0468 or [walzes@bellsouth.net](mailto:walzes@bellsouth.net).

**Ministry Schedule:** The ministry schedule for December through February will be available by the end of November. If you would like to volunteer for a ministry or if you would like to be removed from the schedule, please call the church office by November 9th.

## All State Chorus Group



**Abortion Update:** Last week 47 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

**Pray to end abortion:** Join other Catholics and those from other faiths that gather each Saturday at 2nd and Market in Louisville from 7:00-8:00 am (EST) to pray for families entering the abortion clinic. Many children have been saved and mothers spared future grief by this prayer action and support. With God, all things are possible! Archbishop Kurtz is known to show up and pray with everyone too!

### **Prayer Services for November Elections:**

Fr Louis Caporiccio, CPM, Monday, November 7, from 6:30-8:00 pm leads prayers (Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet and a sermon message) for God's guidance and for our nation to turn to God for renewal and true justice and responsible liberty. The prayer services are held at Passionists monastery, Whitesville, KY (physical address 8564 Crisp Rd, Whitesville, KY 42378).

### **Food for the Poor Missionary-November 12-13:**

Please welcome our guest from Food for the Poor who will be with us November 12-13 to speak about their missionary work feeding the hungry of the world.

### **Bethlehem Olive Wood Carvings:**

The weekend of November 5-6, Olive Wood Religious Carvings will be with us to offer sales of crucifixes, statues and other wood carvings made from Holy Land-Bethlehem olive wood. They will have a set-up display in the Parish Hall after each mass.

**Holiday Bazaar:** This years Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday November 12 from 9 AM to 1 PM in the St. Romuald Gym. Booths are still available to rent for \$30.00. For more information contact Jessica Phillips at [jphillrdh@yahoo.com](mailto:jphillrdh@yahoo.com) or 270-863-1896. Thank you.

### **We thank our advertiser for making the bulletin possible!**

Please take a moment to read the back of the bulletin and note the generous advertisers from the business community who provide our bulletin each week! Each time you visit their business, let them know you are thankful for their support of our parish's weekly bulletin!

### **Advertiser of the week:**

**Marvin Mattingly General Contractors**  
**270-756-2417**

**Thank you for supporting St Romuald Church!**



**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2016**  
**THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**Ask and receive**

Today begins National Vocation Awareness Week, during which Catholics celebrate and encourage vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life. It's important for every Catholic to participate in creating what the bishops call a "culture of vocations," and that includes praying for vocations and proposing vocations to young people. Many priests, sisters, and brothers have said that they first considered a vocation when someone simply asked them if they would consider it. Do you know a special young person who might answer the call if you asked them the question?

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14; 2 Thessalonians 2:16—3:5; Luke 20:27-38 (156). "... they are like angels; and they are the children of God."

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7**  
**Lead the way**

Many of us have an opinion on how the Catholic Church should be led. We all have our favorite popes, our liturgical gripes, our preferred spiritual authors, and our hot-button issues. If it were up to us, we would know in which direction to point the church. But what if it really *is* up to us? Is it possible this clarity and certainty in your vision is a call from the Holy Spirit to seek a role of service through leadership? Consider the gifts that qualify you to lead.

TODAY'S READINGS: Titus 1:1-9; Luke 17:1-6 (491). "For a bishop as God's steward must be . . . hospitable, a lover of goodness, temperate, holy, just, and self-controlled."

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8**  
**Vote, vote, vote!**

Leadership is a responsibility that belongs to all of us. Even if we don't hold an office and title, we're tasked with choosing those who do. As Pope Francis has said, "We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: A good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: Good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern." The primary civic obligation we have is to cast our vote. Millions in this world have no vote and therefore no voice. Raise your voice with your vote today.

TODAY'S READINGS: Titus 2:1-8, 11-14; Luke 17:7-10 (492). "[Show] yourself as a model . . . with integrity in your teaching, dignity, and sound speech."

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9**  
**FEAST OF THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA**  
**Home sweet home**

The pope, in addition to being the head of the church, is also the bishop of Rome, whose cathedral is the Papal Archbasilica of St. John in Lateran. It is the oldest church in the West and the mother church of all Roman Catholics. So in addition to the local church that is your spiritual home, you have another that you share with the faithful everywhere. How fitting that this building has a feast day of its own. Celebrate it with prayer and gratitude for the world family it "houses."

TODAY'S READINGS: Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17; John 2:13-22 (671). "Zeal for your house will consume me."

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10**  
**MEMORIAL OF LEO THE GREAT, POPE, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH**

**Believe and let believe**

A few pope-saints are called "great" for significantly contributing to the growth of the faith, often by opposing heresy. Leo, in the fifth century, oversaw great development in the tenets of the Creed that we profess every Sunday morning, but which arose out of intense theological debate. If you ever feel the need to defend or justify your faith, wonderful, but don't become embroiled in arguments and defensiveness. Take a step beyond what you learned in religion class. Consult the *Catechism*; study reliable Internet sources, but do your homework—some websites that call themselves "Catholic" have a bias. Stand up for the faith, but know what you are standing for.

TODAY'S READINGS: Philemon 7-20; Luke 17:20-25 (494). "For behold, the kingdom of God is among you."

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 11**  
**MEMORIAL OF MARTIN OF TOURS, BISHOP**

Serve someone who has already served  
Consider this cartoon in two panels: The first—"The Unknown Soldier"—depicts flowers and wreaths placed before a monument. The second panel—"The Known Soldier"—shows a homeless, suicidal veteran with PTSD begging, completely ignored. Saint Martin is the patron of the archdiocese for U.S. military chaplains. Martin shared his cloak with a beggar, only to discover in a dream that the beggar was Christ. Ever seen Christ begging at a traffic light? Be like the military chaplains, who soldiers see as fellow warriors. You, too, can minister to vets. Let's all fight for their honor.

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 John 4-9; Luke 17:26 (495). "The commandment we have had from the beginning: let us love one another."

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12**  
**MEMORIAL OF JOSAPHAT, BISHOP, MARTYR**  
**Division doesn't add up**

Ukraine is in the news these days because of an East-West conflict being played out with Russia. Five centuries ago, the region was embroiled in another East-West conflict, this one between the western (Roman) and eastern (Orthodox) branches of Catholicism. Josaphat, an Eastern Rite bishop, is held up as a martyr for church unity because he died trying to bring part of the Orthodox Church into union with Rome. The unsung heroes of his story are some Jewish people who risked their lives to try to save Josaphat from the angry mob that killed him. Resist mob mentality wherever you encounter it—including in politics, the media, and online. Be a voice for unity, not division.

TODAY'S READINGS: 3 John 5-8; Luke 18:1-8 (496). "Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?"