



ST. ROMUALD CATHOLIC CHURCH

394 N HWY 259 · HARDINSBURG KY 40143

January 21, 2018 - Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

dear Padre

Parish Office:

Phone: 756-2356

Fax: 756-2099

Hours: Monday - Friday

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

Email: stromuald@bbtel.com

www.stromuald.org

Pastoral Staff:

Pastor, Father Brian Johnson

Email: Brian.Johnson@pastoral.org

Deacon, Tony Anthony

Deacon, Mike Wiedemer

Administrative Asst, Jane Haynes

CRE: Adult, Rosa Hockenberry

CRE: RCIA, Marie Rose

CRE: 7-12, Gayle Poole

CRE: K-6, Kim Brumfield

Pastoral Council:

Dana Bland, Kevin Oelze,

Janet Bland, Danny O'Reilly

Chris Brumfield, Don Payne,

Gera Jarboe, Gail Pollock

Harry Mattingly, Pam Pollock

Joellen McGary, Mark Rhodes

St. Romuald

Interparochial School:

Phone: 756-5504

www.stromualdschool.org

Principal, Rob Cox

School Board

Representatives:

Jamie Barr, Amy Flood,

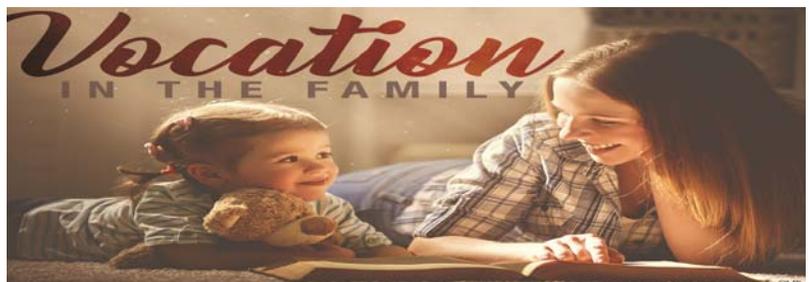
Jennifer Payne

Whenever I try to pray, I'm plagued with a thousand distractions. How can I learn to control my mind better?

Maybe you're trying too hard. You've heard how some baseball hitters press when they're trying to come out of a slump. Their very effort to overcome their problem makes them tighten up more. They are so worried about the mechanics of their swing, stance, or grip that they can't hit the ball. That's why their coach might advise them to stay loose in the batter's box. We could use the same advice in our approach to prayer. Do your best to pray well, but don't be too upset if your prayer is not "perfect."

Some scrupulous Catholics will repeat a prayer if their mind wanders the first time through, but this isn't advisable. I suggest that you make a good intention, say your prayer and, even if your mind wanders, don't repeat it. Remember that distractions are as natural as breathing, and even the saints couldn't pray without them. When a distraction comes, treat it as you would a fly buzzing around your head. Occasionally shoo it away, but don't spend all your time and concentration on it. The good Lord can read your heart. He loves you just as you are, distracted mind and all.

From Understanding Scrupulosity by Fr. Thomas Santa, CSSR, © 2017 Liguori Publications



Masses for the Week

January 22nd - 28th

| | | |
|-------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Tues | 1:00 pm | W.J. Word (NW) |
| Wed | 5:00 pm | Martha Matthews |
| Thurs | 9:30 am | Sharron Meyers (CC) (Medco) |
| Fri | 9:00 am | Barbara Masterson |
| Sat | 5:00 pm | Tommy Himmelhaver |
| Sun | 7:00 am | Kevin Oelze Family (KofC) |
| | 10:00 am | Roy H. Bennett |

Stewardship of Finance

Last Sunday's Collection:

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Sunday Collection..... | \$8,866.50 |
| Building Fund..... | \$357.00 |
| Children..... | \$1.00 |
| Loose Change for the Poor..... | \$51.50 |

Parish Financial Summary

July-December, 2017

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Total Income | \$291,700 |
| Total Expenses | \$256,500 |
| | \$ 35,200 |

Thank you for your financial stewardship!

Worship and Sacrament

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing of the Sick is celebrated with the parish community every first Wednesday at 5:00 pm Mass. Yet, anytime, anointing is available for illness, preparation for surgery or for recovery, by calling Fr Brian.

Baptism: Congratulations on the birth of your child! Your Church Family is excited about your family growing and our family growing! We look forward to celebrating your child's baptism! Preparation for new parents or those new to the parish is held by appointment. Call Fr Brian.

Marriage: Congratulations on your engagement! Your Church Family wishes to help you fully prepare spiritually and walk with you into this lifetime commitment to each other. In order to allow sufficient time, couples must contact the parish office at least 6 months before the anticipated wedding date.

Confession/Reconciliation: Every Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm; every Saturday 4:00-5:00 pm, every first Saturday after 8:00 am Mass, or anytime by simply asking or calling Fr Brian for appointment.

Visitation of the Sick: Please notify Father or the office upon admission of a family member into nursing homes or hospital. Often we rely upon word from the family about illnesses of a member. Please call.

RCIA: Interested in the Catholic Faith? The RCIA process is a "spiritual journey" that fully initiates those who are not baptized or who have baptism from another tradition and wish to join fully the Catholic Church. Classes are offered through the year culminating at Easter! Please call the office for details!

Membership in the Parish: Welcome to all new families or persons moving into our parish. We are glad that you are joining the parish community. We want to visit with you and help you settle into the church. Please register in the parish office as soon as possible.

Ministers of the Liturgy - January 27th & 28th

| | Eucharistic Ministers | Lectors | Ushers | Servers | Rosary Leaders | Music Ministers |
|---|--|----------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 5:00 pm | Jerry Jarboe Shelly Jeffries | Jennifer O'Reilly Jenny Pile | C-Arnold O'Reilly* C-Chris Brumfield S-Davy Brumfield S-Volunteer | Claire O'Donoghue Haley Weise | Karen Huddleston | Pippa |
| 7:00 am | Tobias Curran Kelley Kennedy | Patty Curran | C-Michael Kennedy* C-Chuck Hardesty S-Kevin Oelze S-Stephen Oelze | Joseph Curran Lydia Kennedy | Mary Vessels | Pippa |
| 10:00 am | Sally Hinton Sandra Hinton Mike Wiedemer Tabetha Walz | Alvin Mattingly Betsy Anthony | C-Greg Hinton* C-Drew Hinton S-Mike Hinton S-Tyler Hinton | Alyssa Shaw Logan Walz | Susan Arnold | Volunteer |
| Radio Minister: Joe Hess Children's Liturgy: NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY | | | | | | |



Bad News: John is arrested! Good News: Jesus begins announcing the 'Kingdom has Come! As John is removed from the public stage, Jesus appears 'center stage'. Jesus announces, "**This** is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel" (Mark 1:15). Jesus is saying, "**The time is NOW!**" Change time is **NOW!** If not now, never! And Jesus personally addresses the call to each of us, "**YOU!**" If not you, who? I find that John's arrest (leading to his death) adds

increased urgency to his message of preparation, and now, with Jesus' announcing 'the Kingdom Come', that clinches the conclusion that it is 'zero-hour!' Mount-up and let's roll!

That urgent 'call to action' reminds me of the saying, "If not you, who? And if not now, when?" It has been attributed to so many people (too many to list), yet the oldest source of it goes back to the time just before Jesus! A Jewish Rabbi named Hillel the Elder (110-10 BC) is recorded to have taught "If I am not for myself, who will then be for me? Also, when I am for myself, what am **I**? And if not now, when?" It sounds selfish to us today to be so focused on oneself, but what Hillel is saying 'If I am going to do something, **I** better get to it! 'I am I, no one else'. No one can stand me up to stay, without me acting too. **Hillel is being responsible. I need to do it!** That is healthy and responsible independence, as nothing can even be passively received that is not **actively** sought. The hand has to be actively opened to even receive something passively. Of course, after Jesus' historical coming we would add 'by the grace and will of God'. Hillel means that if he is to do good, it will have to be HIMself who decides, commits and follows through with the good work. No one else can do it for him. For it to be his good, he has to be involved! We can try sitting back and waiting for the good to fall out of the sky on us, but when do we figure that will happen? So first, it is now, and secondly, it takes each one of us! God's Kingdom comes through the individual response of us each one, repenting and believing! Again, it starts now as St Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 6:2 "Behold, **now** is a very acceptable time; behold, **now** is the day of salvation." And it starts with you/me! Deuteronomy 30:13-14 tells us that the command of God "is not in the heavens, that you should say, "**Who will go up to the heavens to get it for us** and tell us of it, that we may do it?" Nor is it across the sea, that you should say, "**Who will cross the sea to get it for us** and tell us of it, that we may do it?" No, it is something very near to you, already in your mouth and in your heart, to do it." So what is the call? Jesus says to everyone, "1) Repent and 2) Believe the Gospel".

Yet, if our saving fulfillment comes through our repentance and following/believing Jesus' gospel, what does that involve? What does it mean to 'repent'? What does it mean to 'believe Good News'? If we think of it as two steps, **first** we 'repent', 'change and turn back to Jesus'. We let go of anything that holds us back or distracts us from staying with Jesus. We refocus or reframe our view and life to look more closely to Jesus'. Unhelpful behaviors have to go, and we add/build on better ones. We commit to improve our lives, bringing them into line with Jesus and God's will for us.

Secondly, we accept and believe the Good News! God who made us, loves us and wants the best for us! We trust that change in our life is possible, that God can work His grace in us and that the way things happen to be is not the way they have to be. Ask Peter, Andrew, James and John. It is as if Jesus told them, you are good at fishing, you have had a good season, yet, turn and come with me, and I have

unimaginable, greater catches in store for you. Again, two steps, 'repent, change and turn with me' and believe in the greater, more blessed things to come! Notice how those first apostles set an example for us. Peter and Andrew leave their nets. James and John leave their nets, boat, hired hands, and father Zebedee. They all may have hesitated asking themselves, "But, now what? Am I ready to leave this good business, this plentiful fishing hole, this great boat and good crew(father)?" Yet, right at this point, the second step kicks in which moves us to trust, and believe that God will work through all our worries. If we follow Jesus, he will provide. James and John may have worried about their father, they were leaving in the boat. But we have to remember who is calling? Jesus, the good shepherd, is not going to let a father be neglected, whose children have trustingly followed him into greater missions. Perhaps that is why the 'hired hands' were mentioned; they may be long standing employees almost like family themselves who remain and be there for Zebedee's care. Yet, again, our action of turning and following Jesus, needs to be matched by our trusting and believing that God will work out all that needs lining up to fulfill his providential will. As 1 Thessalonians 5:24 says "The One who calls you is faithful, and He will do it" and Hebrews 13:21 also says God will "equip you with all that is good, that you may do his will." One time in the gospel of Luke, I think Jesus sensed his followers beginning to hesitate or pull back and he reminded them "When I sent you out without purse or bag or sandals, did you lack anything?" "Nothing," they answered." (Lk 22:35). Jesus who calls us also cares for us and he completes with us His commission! We need only to 1) Repent, turning to Him, and 2) Trusting, believe in His provision! Even when we do not see the way ahead, Jesus will lead and bring about our fulfillment! It is His Will and His Kingdom!

I share again Thomas Merton's famous prayer of trust found in his writings, "Thoughts in Solitude". "*Lord, I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. **But I believe** that the desire to please you does in fact please you. **And I hope** I have that desire in all that I am doing. **I hope** that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, **though I may know nothing about it**". Lead on Lord, as we fall in behind, trusting and taking these steps always hoping in You!*

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

Sunday: What word or thought stays with me after mass today? How can I act upon it this week or put it into practice?

Monday: What does 'repent' mean to me? I could need 'repenting' every day for my faults and failings. Do I make a daily practice of making an examination of conscience and praying an act of contrition?

Tuesday: Jesus calls us all to follow Him. Do I listen in my prayer to His call to duty for me each day?

Wednesday: With Jesus, do I count the cost? Do I look back to what I have left behind or do I trust Him to provide and guide me?

Thursday: Have I ever felt like Zebedee, left behind to cover home base while others go on mission? Home needs taking care of by someone, so am I content to remain behind and take care of less exciting matters?

Friday: Perform an act of sacrifice or penance for the good of another person in thanksgiving for Christ's sacrifice for us.

Saturday: Plan to come to mass early and pray the Rosary for world peace and God's guidance of our nation's leaders.

Peace and Prayers, Fr Brian Johnson

PARISH NEWS & EVENTS



Are you or someone you know interested in knowing more about the Catholic faith or considering becoming a Catholic???

If yes, please contact Fr. Brian, Deacon Mike, Deacon Tony or Marie Rose at 756-2356 anytime throughout the year!

Youth Mark your Calendars:

Youth 2000 Conference March 9-11, 2008 Brescia University Campus

Eucharistic



Adoration

First Friday 24-hour Adoration:

Following the 9:00 am Mass on February 2nd we begin the 24 hour adoration until Saturday morning mass at 8:00 am. We are blessed with dedicated adorers for each hour, but can use extra people for some hours. Please call Minnie Nimmo 270-617-0297 or Patsy Whitfill 270-617-2557 to volunteer spending an hour in prayer with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.

Celebration

ANNIVERSARIES:

Mack & Dolores Mattingly, Jan 24th 59 years
Jim & Mary Rita Whitworth, Jan 27th 59 years
Logan & Judy Tivitt, Jan 30th, 53 years

BIRTHDAY: Betty Payne, Jan 26th and Alice Bland, Jan 31st.

A Lenten Journey: Journey with Dr. Lawrence V. McCrobie, Catholic Liturgist and Religious Educator as he leads us on a journey through Bishop Robert Barron's program in exploration of the lasting influences of these *Pivotal Players*. CATHOLICISM: *The Pivotal Players* showcases a handful of saints, artists, mystics, and scholars who not only shape the life of the Church but changed the course of western civilization. Our parish journey begins on Tuesday, February 13th at 10:00 am and at 6:00 pm, and for the next five Tuesdays during Lent. No charge for this 6 week program, you must fill out a registration form. For more information please contact Rosa Hockenberry at 270-863-0117 or stop by the parish office for registration forms. All forms must be turned in no later than Monday, February 5th to ensure ordering of materials. Thank you!

Family Movie Night: "All Saints" is a powerful story that's heartrending and entertaining. Pastor Michael is on fire for God. When a group of Burmese Karen Anglican refugees show up at his church, his heart goes out to them. Praying about how to feed them, Michael hears from God that they should turn the beautiful land around the church into a farm. He convinces the church council to give him until January to make a go of the farm. A movie of strong Christian faith, the story is very uplifting. Join us on **Friday, January 19** at 6:00 pm for an evening of great entertainment, popcorn and drinks will be served.

Senior Day: Happy New Year to all! Come join us on Thursday, January 25 as we welcome in the New Year. We'll be serving up some fried chicken and rolls, we ask that you bring a dish to pass. Let's put on our hats and toot our horns as we welcome in the new year senior style (which means lots of fun). We'll play some bingo and give away a few prizes. Saints of the month are, Sts. Timothy and Titus and St. Marianne Cope. Hope to see you there.

Parish Council & Finance Committee Reports:

At their last meeting, parish council discussed how best to communicate with the parish matters that are discussed at meetings. Please find multiple copies of their meeting minutes in addition to the detailed monthly financial reports posted on the bulletin boards. They will be always be available there or just take a copy with you.

This Week at St. Romuald

| | | |
|--------------|----------|--------------------------|
| Mon | 1:00 pm | Blue Army Rosary |
| | 7:00 pm | Al-Anon |
| Tues | 10:00 am | Scripture Study |
| | 1:00 pm | Mass (Extended Care) |
| | 4:00 pm | Rosary |
| | 6:00 pm | Pastoral Council |
| Wed | 4:00 pm | Confessions |
| | 5:00 pm | Mass |
| Thur | 9:30 am | Mass (Medco) |
| | 10:00 am | Senior Day |
| | 5:15 pm | Finance Committee |
| | 6:00 pm | Family Holy Hour |
| Fri | 9:00 am | School Mass |
| | 6:00 pm | Family Movie Night |
| Sun | 8:30 am | K-6 Religious Ed Classes |
| Upcoming | | |
| Jan 28/Feb 3 | | Catholic Schools Week |

PRAYER AND SPIRITUALITY

A Word from Pope Francis:

"Devotion to Mary is not spiritual etiquette; it is a requirement of the Christian life. Looking to the Mother, we are asked to leave behind all sorts of useless baggage and to rediscover what really matters. The gift of the Mother, the gift of every mother and every woman, is most precious for the Church, for she too is mother and woman. While a man often abstracts, affirms and imposes ideas, a woman, a mother, knows how to "keep", to put things together in her heart, to give life. If our faith is not to be reduced merely to an idea or a doctrine, all of us need a mother's heart, one which knows how to keep the tender love of God and to feel the heartbeat of all around us. May the Mother, God's finest human creation, guard and keep this year, and bring the peace of her Son to our hearts and to our world." (Homily 1-1-2018)

Called by Name Program: Every young Catholic man should consider all vocations, including whether or not God is calling him to priesthood. However, if not invited or encouraged to think about priesthood, it may never be considered. Many young men may have the burning question within of God calling them to priesthood, but they may be waiting for a confirmation from someone else, to nudge them into seriously pursuing God's priestly call for them. Do you know a faithful young man who may have a vocation to the priesthood? We believe that our future priests will come from our own parishes and schools, but we need your help to identify them. We're looking for high school students and older. Any man you recommend will receive good information from the Vocation Office about discerning his vocation, as well as invitations to discernment retreats and other events. Tell Fr Brian, Deacon Mike or Deacon Tony, to approach them or to invite the vocation director to reach out to them.

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!

Abortion Update: Last week 60 women went into EMW Clinic for abortions at 2nd and Market Street in Louisville. **Please pray to end abortion.**

Need Marriage Help-Try Retrouvaille: The word 'Retrouvaille' (pronounced Retro- Vie' is a French word meaning rediscovery. The program offers tools needed to rediscover a loving marriage relationship. Thousands of couples headed for cold, unloving relationships or divorce have successfully overcome their marriage problems by attending the program. Next Program is January 12-14, 2018 5:00 pm at Maple Mount, St Joseph. Please call Joe Bland in Family Life Office to register, 270-683-1545.

Readings for the Week

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

| | |
|------------|--|
| Monday: | 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22 |
| Tuesday: | 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28 |
| Wednesday: | 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6 |
| Thursday: | 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12 |
| Friday: | 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19 |
| Saturday: | 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21 |
| Sunday: | Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31; Mk 1:14-20 |

New Missalettes With Mass Prayers in Front Cover:

Please note that the missalettes now contain on the inside front cover the longer prayers we offer at Mass, similar to the old Mass cards that were in the pew holders. The company beginning to offer those prayers in a more accessible place conveniently replaces now those older cards that were showing so much wear and tear. But like a good Rosary, Bible or Prayer Book that shows tattered edges and wearing, it is a good sign of them being used so much! More Prayer, More Grace, More Good!

Knights of Columbus News

Basketball Slam Sweepstake Tickets:

Parishioners: the Knights of Columbus are selling Basketball Slam Sweepstake tickets. They are \$10.00 each (buy two and get the third one free). By purchasing two tickets you get a FREE ticket online! Go to www.basketball.com/free to redeem. Free tickets will be emailed to you. TEAMS: There are 24 teams, the ticket holder scratches off the box on front of the ticket to reveal their four teams for the entire tournament. Team codes are listed on back of the ticket. If any team(s) do not make it into the tournament, alternate teams will be assigned and posted on www.basketballsweeps.com by March 15, 2018. PRIZES; \$2600 Total Cash Prizes will be awarded. Prizes are based on the total cumulative score of each 4-team combination. HIGHEST and LOWEST 4-Team totals win prizes! In case of ties, prizes are combined and split. WINNERS are posted after the tournament and prizes are mailed out to the winners. It makes no difference on how many games your 4-teams play, or whether teams win or lose. Go to the website to check results starting April 4th. Ticket sale monies support the Knights of Columbus Disaster Relief Program. Deadline for ticket sales are **Mar 1st**. Contact me at 1-270-617-0754 for ticket purchases and more info. Pat O'Reilly, Grand Knight

PRAYER REQUESTS

We Pray For:

Gilbert Abel, Don Alexander, Paula Anthony, Baby Barr, Gene Bennett, Roy Bennett, Lorena Bland, Becky Brown, Mary Brown, Ava Bruner, Juanita Burch, Brian Butler, Anna Carrico, Billy Carwile, Jerry Carwile, Kayla Christian, Mallorie Collins, Debbie Critchelow, Rick Dale, Amanda Douthitt, Marolyn Dowell, Kenneth Dowell, Treyten Drake, Debbie Dubree, Davye Duggins, Sammy Duggins, Lottie Eauer, Tessa Farris, Carroll Ferguson, Ginny Flood, Cindy Getz, Dorothy Greenwell, Bill Greenwood, Linda Greenwood, Susan Griffin, Kay Harris, Dale Henning, JoAnn Henning, Lisa Henning, Patricia Miller Henning, Tommy Henning, Kitty Himmelhaver, Bill Hinton, Doug Hinton, Johnny Howard, Lori Howard, Rick Hurley, Merri Hurt, Braddock Inman, Robert Jackey, Virginia Jeffries, Mary Ann Johnson, Linda Justice & Family, Brenda Kelly, Louise Kennedy, Angie Lawrence, Jewell Lawson, Parker Leslie, Annette Lucas, Junior Lucas, Margaret Lyons, **Bill Mattingly**, Walter Manning, Bevan Michael Miller, Elaine Miller, Richard Miller, Blaise Mills, Sharon Morgan, Emma Nottingham, Don O'Donoghue, Joe Oelze, Patsy Oelze, Earl O'Reilly, Janet O'Reilly, Libby Osborne, Martha Payne, Brian Phillips, Peggy Phillips, Joe Priest, Robert Priest, Sandy Priest, Stella Prewitt, Jack Purcell, Tracy Ralston, Mary Jo Rankin, Kay Ray, Melvin Roach, Rita Roach, Shirley Robbins, Lincoln Roberts, Suzanne Rose, Carri Roth, Eric Severs, Rex Lee Sheets, Haley Sloan, Beth Smith, Steve Smith, Jerry Sosh, Virginia Stanford, Lucye Stupak, Pam Sturgeon, Phillip Sturgeon, Loretta Swink, Adalee Taul, Gina Thornsberry, Rufus Tivitt, Calla Stiith, Tessa Wadsworth, Fallon Wen, Greg Wethington, Raymond Wethington, Judy Wheatley, Jimmy Whitworth, Mary Rita Whitworth, Carolyn Wilcheck, Kevin Wilcheck, Robert D. Wilson, Anne Wolfe, Sandra Zanone. **Serving in the Armed Forces:** Mandie Adams, Kevin Arnold, Fred Barham, Austin Brown, Timothy Cashen, Ryan Critchelow, Cody Garst, Parker Findlay, James Hanor, Christian Hansen, Jack Hayes, James Howard, Charles Kuhlman, Bradford O'Reilly, Jordan Pate, Liana Tindle, Chase Upchurch, Garrett Wadsworth



Sympathy: Please pray for the eternal rest and peace for Joe Lee Bennett, who passed away. Please keep all of the family in your prayers, too, for their

comfort and strength.



Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.

Catholic Schools Week
January 28th—February 3rd.

AROUND AND ABOUT

Catholic Faith Information: Please check out and pick up any of the free pamphlets and booklets in the back of church about Catholic teaching and practices. They are excellent resources from the Knights of Columbus about our faith beliefs!

Please take note of the new arrival of different titles on the CD rack. Check them out and listen to the great topics on apologetics, prayer and spirituality.

February Men's Conference: Mark your calendars- February 17th at RiverPark Center, Owensboro 8:30-4:30. Speakers will be national catholic evangelists Christopher West and Doug Barry, to order tickets visit www.kycatholic.com or email msullivan@smsmlaw.com

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 Vincent DePaul December 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. In December, a total of 37 families amounting to 130 persons (of which were 70 children), were assisted. Aid totaling \$3,853.76 was given to help struggling families and individuals. May God continue blessing the generous donors and all of the recipients of their caring gifts.

AUCTION FOR SEC TOURNAMENT TICKETS: St. Paul School in Leitchfield, KY is hosting a raffle to give away 2 tickets to the entire SEC tournament, which takes place on March 7-11 at the Scottrade Center in St. Louis, MO. These are lower level tickets that are good for every single game of the tournament. Come and watch UK, or whoever your favorite team may be, as they advance through this tournament. These tickets, worth roughly \$1500 each, are hard to get at any price. Raffle tickets are \$10 each, and can be purchased by calling St. Paul School at 270-242-7483, or by emailing stpaulgrayon@windstream.net. The drawing will be on Friday, March 9.

DRF Update for St. Romuald, Hardinsburg: Thank you for your generosity toward our parish goal target: as of **12/12/2017**
St Romuald Parish Target Amount: \$12,069.67
Pledged for year: \$9,467
Paid Contributions so far: \$5,834.50



Sunday, Jan 21, 2018

**THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
It's not the end of the world**

If there's one thing we can use less of, it's negative attitudes. After a brief perusal of daily headlines, we might be forgiven for thinking that the next six wars are preloaded, our food supply is toxic, strangers may be killers, and all leaders are

liars. Yet our sacred story declares that human hearts can change. The future can be anything we want it to be. All we have to do is choose. Decide today to walk the road of hope.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Jonah 3:1-5, 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20 (68).* "Jonah began his journey . . . announcing, 'Forty days more and Nineveh shall be destroyed.'"

Monday, Jan 22, 2018

Change is gonna come

Those first disciples called by Jesus "immediately" left everything and followed him. Often we're inspired by a Sunday sermon or something we read in the paper or hear on the news. Then we feel the need to change our lives in some way in order to become better people. Yet change is hard when so much holds us in place: our families, our jobs—all our responsibilities. Yet there is always a need to leave something behind in order to gain something better. What must you let go of today in order to answer the Lord's call to fulfillment?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 5:1-7, 10; Mark 3:22-30 (317).* "Jesus said, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him."

Tuesday, Jan 23, 2018

**MEMORIAL OF MARIANNE COPE, VIRGIN
Follow an inspiring example**

Many of us have heard of Father Damien, famous for his work with those with leprosy, but Sister Marianne Cope, at the age of 45 likewise volunteered for the Hawaiian mission at Molokai. She served girls and women with leprosy, emphasizing "pride and fun" and dignity in the colony. Soon after her death, a local woman wrote in the *Honolulu Advertiser* that she was "a woman [who devoted] every hour of 30 years to the mothering of people isolated by law from the rest of the world. She risked her own life in all that time, faced everything with unflinching courage, and smiled sweetly through it all." Who can you help today, right at home, to see beyond the harshness of life?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 6:12b-15, 17-19; Mark 3:31-35 (318).* "Who are my mother and my brothers?"

Wednesday, Jan 24, 2018

**MEMORIAL OF FRANCIS DE SALES, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
Be the retiring type**

Saint Francis de Sales (1567-1622) led a full life, both before and after his relatively late decision to join the priesthood. In his era, a life of holiness was considered the domain of monks and nuns, certainly not of laypeople. But he believed God could and should be found in everyday life and was one of the first great religious teachers to offer spiritual direction to lay Catholics living and working in the world, such as in his book *Introduction to the Devout Life*. His advice to those busy with the world's affairs is as valid today as it was then: "Retire at various times into the solitude of your own heart, even while outwardly engaged in discussions or transactions with others, and talk to God." Practice a little "early retirement" today!

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 7:4-17; Mark 4:1-20 (319).* "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear."

Thursday, Jan 25, 2018

FEAST OF THE CONVERSION OF SAINT PAUL THE APOSTLE

The impossible is possible

Have you or someone you know ever experienced a conversion? Conversion can take many forms. Someone turns their life around—recovering from an addiction, bouncing back from an illness or a setback and going at life in a whole new way. The amazing thing about Saint Paul's conversion was that he went from persecutor of Christians to a devout Christian himself. The change in him was so incredible not everyone believed it at first. How could this person who was out to imprison and kill Christians suddenly be one of them? For God all things are possible. With God's help, that makes a lot of things possible for us, too.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Mark 16:15-18 (519).* "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?"

Friday, Jan 26, 2018

**MEMORIAL OF TIMOTHY AND TITUS, BISHOPS
Be a living example**

Timothy and Titus were companions and coworkers of the apostle Paul. We call them bishops because Christian tradition sees them as the first leaders of the churches in Ephesus (Greece) and Crete. They carried the gospel to the world in the earliest days of the church. They show us that the best way for our faith to live and grow is to live it. All Christians, not only leaders, bear a responsibility to take part in the mission of the church. To spread the faith, make yourself a living example of it.

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Timothy 1:1-8 OR Titus 1:1-5; Mark 4:26-34 (520; Gospel 321).* "To what shall we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it?"

Saturday, Jan 27, 2018

MEMORIAL OF ANGELA MERICI, VIRGIN, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

Share and share alike

Saint Angela Merici didn't set out to form a typical religious community of women. An orphan herself, she began by simply giving religious instruction to the poor and uneducated children of her neighbors. Before long, other women were attracted to join her. By the time she was 50, prompted by a heavenly vision, she began a community of women called the Ursulines who embraced virginity, poverty, and obedience. But they took no formal vows. They didn't formally congregate as a religious community, either, but stayed at home to evangelize to their family, friends, and neighbors. Evangelism can begin with even the tiniest seed. With whom will you share a bit of the Good News today?

TODAY'S READINGS: *2 Samuel 12:1-7a, 10-17; Mark 4:35-41 (322).* "Why are you terrified? Do you not yet have faith?"

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