

# THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF ST. AUGUSTINE

*A Samaritan Church with a Missionary Heart*

2486 West 14th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio 44113  
(216) 781-5530  
(216) 781-1124 Fax

**Website:** [www.StAugustineCleveland.Org](http://www.StAugustineCleveland.Org)

## Parish Office Hours:

Monday thru Friday: 9 AM to 5 PM  
Saturday: 9 AM to 4 PM  
Sunday: 9 AM to 2 PM

## Community Cupboard:

Wednesdays: 5 PM to 7 PM  
Saturdays: 11 AM to 2 PM

## Mass Schedule: IN WALSH HALL

Monday thru Friday: 5:30 PM  
(Civic holidays at 10 AM)

Saturday: 4:15 PM\*  
Sunday: 8:30 AM\* and 11 AM\*

\*Interpreted for the Deaf

**Confession:** Saturdays 3:30 PM – 4 PM or  
by appointment

**29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**Sunday, October 16, 2022**



## Staff and Ministry Directory

For all Parish emails, add [@StAugustineCleveland.org](mailto:@StAugustineCleveland.org)

Administrator: Rev. William O'Donnell, C.P.P.S., *email:* WODonnell

Parochial Vicar: Rev. Ben Jimenez, SJ, *email:* BJimenez

Permanent Deacon: Chris DePenti, *email:* [CDePenti@DioceseofCleveland.org](mailto:CDePenti@DioceseofCleveland.org)

Parish Life Administrator: Bob Duda, *email:* BDuda

Finance Manager: Aldo Fierro, *email:* AFierro

Office Manager: Doris Everetts, *email:* DEveretts

Office Support: Kimberly Ambro, *email:* KAmbro

Director of Rainbow Camp and Volunteers: Jessica Neuhart, *email:* JNeuhart

Religious Education: Kathleen Ulintz, *email:* PSR

Deaf Ministry: *email:* DeafMinistry

Blind Ministry: *email:* BlindMinistry

Mental Health Ministry: MentalHealth

Outreach Ministry: *email:* Outreach

Augustine Rainbow Camp: *email:* ARC

Signing Choir: *email:* SigningChoir

General Information: *email:* Info



**Parish Registration** – Welcome new members! Please register by calling the parish office. Parishioners who are moving are asked to contact the office to update their information

**Baptism** – Baptisms may be scheduled at any time. Please call the parish office to make baptismal arrangements.

**Funerals** – Please call the parish office to schedule funerals prior to publishing any information.

**Matrimony** – Call the parish office to meet with a priest. Diocesan regulations require a minimum of 6 months preparation time.

**Care of the Sick** – Notify the parish office of those who are hospitalized or homebound. Arrangements can be made for pastoral visits, the Sacrament of the Anointing or the Sick. We can also bring Holy Communion to the homebound.

## Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The Holy Spirit draws our community to this place each Sunday, where we encounter Christ in the word of God, in the Eucharist, and in each other. This weekly celebration of the Mass is the center of the Church's life, and it renews and strengthens us in our faith and our mission. Nourished by Christ's body and this gathering of the body of Christ, may we go forth and give witness to our faith.



### Mass Intentions for the Week

#### Masses will be in Walsh Hall- Basement of School Building

Saturday, October 15 <sup>th</sup> - 4:15 PM	† Steven Dulik Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ
Sunday, October 16 <sup>th</sup> - 8:30 AM	† Frank Kordel, Jr. Fr. Joe McNulty
Sunday, October 16 <sup>th</sup> - 11 AM	† Henry Oden Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S
Monday, October 17 <sup>th</sup> - 5:30 PM	† Ann Szymczak <i>St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr</i>
Tuesday, October 18 <sup>th</sup> - 5:30 PM	† Mary Schepis <i>St. Luke, Evangelist</i>
Wednesday, October 19 <sup>th</sup> - 5:30 PM	† Barbara Ryba Sts. John de Brébeuf and Isaac Jogues, Priests, and Companions and Martyrs.
Thursday, October 20 <sup>th</sup> -	No Mass <i>St. Paul of the Cross, Priest</i>
Friday, October 21 <sup>st</sup> - 5:30 PM	† Robin Zarembski
Saturday, October 22 <sup>nd</sup> - 4:15 PM	† Bob Bencic Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S
Sunday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 8:30 AM	† Gerry Bastaich Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ
Sunday, October 23 <sup>rd</sup> - 11 AM	† Members of Mary's Rosary Guild of the Deaf

#### **Responsive Prayer for Justice**

*Pray for those who are hungry.*

*Pray harder for those who will not feed them.*

*Pray for those who struggle each week to pay their bills.*

*Pray harder for the wealthy who do not care.*

*Pray for those who are homeless.*

*Pray harder for those who deny them shelter.*

*Pray for the sick and lonely.*

*Pray harder for those who will not give them comfort.*

*Pray for those who cry out for dignity.*

*Pray harder for those who will not listen.*

*Pray for those oppressed by unjust wages.*

*Pray harder for those who exploit them.*

*Pray for those who bear the yoke of prejudice.*

*Pray harder for those who discriminate against them.*

*Pray for those whose basic needs are denied.*

*Pray harder for public officials who cater to the greedy and ignore  
those bound unjustly. Amen*

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Eph 2:1-10; Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4ab, 4c-5;  
Lk 12:13-21

Tuesday: 2 Tm 4:10-17b; Ps 145:10-11, 12-13,  
17-18; Lk 10:1-9

Wednesday: Eph 3:2-12; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6;  
Lk 12:39-48

Thursday: Eph 3:14-21; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 11-12,  
18-19; Lk 12:49-53

Friday: Eph 4:1-6; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6;  
Lk 12:54-59

Saturday: Eph 4:7-16; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4ab, 4cd-5;  
Lk 13:1-9

Sunday: Sir 35:12-14, 16-18; Ps 34:2-3, 17-18,  
19, 23; 2 Tm 4:6-8, 16-18; Lk 18:9-14

### Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church, no matter your personal history, age, income, background, gender, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity or spirituality, or marital situation. No matter your own self-image of holiness or virtue. You are invited, accepted, and respected here at St. Augustine Parish.

*Loving God,*

*For all who feel on the margins,  
but who are at the center of your heart,  
we ask you to open our hearts.*

*Help us to become a church and a nation  
where:*

***All lives have dignity,  
All people are loved  
And all are welcome.***

*Amen*

## Love Without Measure

Pope Francis on October 11 marked the opening of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Second Vatican Council – a three year period that launched landmark reforms in the Catholic Church’s relationship to the world around it and the church’s own liturgy and practices by pleading for the Church to “overcome all polarization and preserve our communion.”

In a Mass at St. Peter’s Basilica, which served as the council’s meeting place during the 1962-1965 meetings, Francis said the council, which was inaugurated by Pope St. John XXIII, was one great response to the question “do you love me?” posed by Christ to his disciples.

“To rekindle her love for the Lord, the church, for the first time in her history, devoted a council to examining herself and reflect on her nature and mission. She saw herself once more as a mystery of grace generated by love; she saw herself anew as the people of God, the body of Christ, the living temple of the Holy Spirit.”

Yet while the ecumenical council revisited many areas of Catholic doctrine, reassessed its relationship with other Christian communities and religions, revised Catholic liturgy to allow for the vernacular, and reconfigured church structures to allow for greater participation of the laity, In the 60 years that have followed, it also proved to be a flashpoint among various ecclesial circles.

During the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mas, Francis lamented that those changes had sometimes led to deep division within the church.

“How often in the wake of the council, did Christians prefer to choose sides in the church, not realizing that they were breaking their mother’s heart! How many times did they prefer to cheer on their own party rather than being servants of all? To be progressive or conservative rather than being brothers and sisters?”

“To be on the ‘right’ or ‘left’ rather than with Jesus? To present themselves as ‘guardians of the truth’ or ‘pioneers of innovation’ rather than seeing themselves as humble and grateful as all God’s children made in his image and members of the Church?” “That is not how the Lord wants us to be. We are his sheep, his flock, and we can only be so together and as one.”

While the work of the council and the years that followed radically altered the Catholic Church’s relationship with the rest of the world and realigned itself with a more open posture to it, in marking its anniversary, Francis also warned against the temptation of “worldliness.”

“Let us be careful: both the ‘progressivism’ that lines up behind the world and the ‘traditionalism’ that longs for a bygone world are not evidence of love, but of infidelity,” the pope cautioned. “They are forms of Pelagian selfishness that puts our own tastes and plans above the love that pleases God, the simple, humble and faithful love that Jesus asked of Peter.”

Throughout the Pope’s homily, Francis revisited many of the central themes from his own nearly decade long papacy, especially his call for church committed to evangelization and prioritizing the needs of the poor.

“You are not here to shepherd yourselves,” the pope said to the hundreds of clergy present in St. Peter’s, “but others – all others – with love. And if it fitting to show a particular concern, it should be for those whom God loves most: the poor and the outcast. The church is meant to be , as Pope John Paul put it, ‘the church of all, and particularly the church of the poor.’”

The council, the pope said, calls for a church that is “madly in love with its Lord and with all the men and women whom he loves” and “that is rich in Jesus and poor in assets” and a “church that is free and freeing.”

“A church in love with Jesus has no time for quarrels, gossip and disputes,” the pope added. “May God free from being critical and intolerant, harsh and angry! This is not a matter of style but of love. For those who love, as the Apostle Paul teaches, do everything without murmuring.”

In recent years, Francis has dedicated particular attention to continued liturgical reforms in the church, arguing that these are necessary for the embrace of the reforms of the council, which he has said are “irreversible.” More recently, some of the pope’s top advisors have expressed concern that some of the resistance to the Francis papacy is rooted in resistance to Vatican II.

During the mass, the pope once more reiterated his support for the reforms of Vatican II.

“How timely the council remains. It helps us reject the temptation to enclose ourselves within the confines of our own comforts and convictions.”

As the pope conclude his homily, he a gain issued a clarion call for church unity.

“You who desire that we be a united flock, save us from the forms of polarization that are the devil’s handiwork,” “And we, your church with Peter and like Peter, now say to you: ‘Lord, you know everything: you know that I love you.’”



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### Join us at the annual St. Augustine Benefit

The annual St. Augustine Benefit hosted by our sister parish, St. Noel, will take place **this Thursday, October 20<sup>th</sup>** at the St. Noel Banquet Center in Willoughby Hills. We hope that you will be able join us for an evening of fellowship and much needed support.



Reservations can be made by contacting the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

## Mission Appeal October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>

This weekend (October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>), Mr. Tom McGuire will speak about the mission of the US-China Catholic Association (USCCA) and how we Catholics in the U.S. can financially and prayerfully support our brothers and sisters of the Catholic Church in China. Mr. McGuire is Chair of the Board of USCCA, with experience as a missionary in Hong Kong. He is married to Florence Tsang. They live in Chicago. Few realize that China has over 12 million Catholics. They live under strict government regulation, yet under these repressive circumstances they continue to witness to their faith and serve their church and society. The USCCA is the only national nonprofit organization dedicated to building ties between U.S. Catholic with Catholics in China. If you would like more information about our work in China, please go to our website at [www.uscatholicchina.org](http://www.uscatholicchina.org)

### Church Renovation

Our much-anticipated church renovation began this past Monday. For approximately the next four weeks new carpeting and tile will be installed, the pews will be sanded and stained, the sanctuary and high altar will be repainted. Due to the renovations **all weekday and weekend Masses will be temporarily celebrated in Walsh Hall (basement of former school building).**

Thank you for your patience and understanding of any inconvenience this may cause.



### Parish School of Religion

St. Augustine's Parish School of Religion is currently registering students for faith formation and sacramental preparation.

**Classes continue this MONDAY from 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM.** Students from pre-

school through eighth grade are welcome. Visit St. Augustine Parish website at [www.StAugustineCleveland.org](http://www.StAugustineCleveland.org), email us at [PSR@staugustinecleveland.org](mailto:PSR@staugustinecleveland.org), or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

### Inspiration for the Week

Does God finally answer our persistent prayers to stop us from bothering Him? The thought that persistent prayer can be disturbing or upsetting to God does not ring true with the images of God as compassionate, understanding, merciful, and loving that our tradition conveys. Yet, Jesus tell his disciples to "pray always without becoming weary." Maybe the type of prayers necessary to endure the trials of discipleship and the challenges and criticisms of Christian teaching goes beyond words. We need to tend to the realities of human life. The persistent prayer of which Jesus speaks is the prayer of the heart. This contemplative, silent, loving prayer gives us the vision to see God in all things, especially in each human soul. Desiring God alone and not only what we want God to do for us places this love relationship foremost in our minds, hearts, and souls. As we breathe in and exhale out, the Divine Life flows. This alone can provide the strength of endurance to confront anything contrary to the truth of faith.

## Say It in Sign

The sign language class for beginners will continue this Wednesday, October 12 at 4:30 PM for more information on the fall class, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 or at [BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org](mailto:BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org).



### Pray the Rosary

We invite you to join us **every weeknight** (Monday thru Friday) at **6 PM** in Walsh Hall as we pray the rosary. If you are unable to join us in person, we encourage you to join us on livestream.

### Never Give Up

Years ago there was a young man in Illinois with only six months of formal school education. His mother home-schooled him and taught him to have a dream and to keep trying to realize that dream, relying on the power of persistent prayer. First he ran for an office in the legislature and was beaten. Next, he entered business but failed at that, too, and spent the next 17 years paying the debts of his worthless partner. He fell in love with a charming young lady and they became engaged. But she died which led the young man to a short-term nervous breakdown. Next, he ran for Congress and was defeated. He then tried to obtain an appointment to the U.S. Land Office, but didn't succeed. With strong belief in the power of prayer, he ran for U. S. Vice Presidency and lost. Two years later he was defeated again for the office of Senator. He ran for office once more and was elected the 16th President of the United States, thus realizing his dream by the power of persistent prayer. He was Abraham Lincoln. It took Winston Churchill three years to get through the eighth grade, because he couldn't pass English – of all things! Ironically, he was asked many years later to give the commencement address at Oxford University. His now famous speech consisted of only three words: "Never give up!"

*And that is the message of today's Gospel parable of the poor widow and the corrupt judge. In praying, we show our confidence that our God hears, and cares, and acts. When we pray for something as essential as "daily bread," we are making a rather amazing statement of Faith in the Goodness of a loving and providing God. Jesus calls us, with the example of the widow and the unjust judge, to have Faith, to trust that God in his Goodness will bring about the Justice we all seek, the blessing we all require. But we should continue in prayer for these things until they happen, as an expression of our trusting Faith and dependence on God. Thus, the purpose of all our prayers is the augmentation of our trusting Faith in a loving and caring God who is our Father.*

### St. Augustine Signing Choir

The Signing Choir will continue practicing for their upcoming Christmas performances this **Wednesday at 6:30 PM** in the Deaf Center.

### Stewardship of Treasure

We are deeply grateful for your generosity in your weekly contribution to St. Augustine Parish. Your kindness and support enable us to provide for the needs of our parish and community. The collection for the weekend of October 9, 2022 was \$2,063.07. Thank you for your generosity.



The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** is **open** on **Saturdays** from **11 AM - 2 PM** and **Wednesdays** from **5 PM - 7 PM**.

As we continue to serve the needs of our neighbors, we are seeking volunteers to assist in restocking shelves and assisting shoppers on the days we are open. In

addition, we are in need of the following items:

- |                   |                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Toilet Paper      | Canned Meat               |
| Paper Towels      | Ketchup                   |
| Laundry Detergent | Mustard                   |
| Dish Soap         | Mayo                      |
| Coffee            | Dog Food                  |
| Tea               | Deodorant (Men and Women) |
| Sugar             | Hand Soap (Pump Bottles)  |
| Creamer           | Body Wash (Men and Women) |
| Flour             | Shampoo                   |
| Kleenex           | Boxed Potatoes            |

We have also created an **Amazon Wish List** which can be found on our parish website, [www.StAugustineCleveland.org](http://www.StAugustineCleveland.org).

For more information, please contact the parish office by calling (216) 781-5530.



We live stream the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass, the 11 AM Mass on Sunday, and the weekday Rosary on the parish website, Facebook Page, and YouTube Channel. A live audio feed will be available for the Saturday 4:15 PM Mass the 11 AM Sunday Mass, and the praying of the

Rosary. To access the audio feed, please call (216) 270-6331 prior to mass and enter code 2020 when prompted.

### World Mission Sunday

We celebrate World Mission Sunday Together Next Week! Next week, we join Catholics around the world for the celebration of World Mission Sunday. We are called to offer our prayers and financial help for the Church's missionary work in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands and parts of Latin America and Europe. Please be as generous as you are able in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for Missions. Thank you!

### Sunday Thought

In today's Gospel, Jesus provides us in the persistent woman a wonderful example of faith. Our faith tells us that even when it seems like everyone else has forsaken us God will never do so. God can even use ungodly people and difficult situations to come our aid if the need is there. We encounter God by persistent prayer. We will continue to encounter Him by returning to prayer frequently in difficult times. Difficult times are used by God to refine our hearts and strengthen our desires to serve Him more faithfully. He will show us His love in a million different and unexpected ways; Ways that we could have never experienced if we had given up praying. God wants our hearts and He will go to great lengths to gain them. Let us look to Him in all our needs.

### Respect For Life Month

By: *Gabino Zavella*

Pope Francis designated the month of September to praying for the "global end of abolition of the death penalty." The Holy Father invited all to pray "that the death penalty, which attacks the dignity of the human person, may be legally abolished in every country." "Capital punishment offers no justice to victims, but rather encourages revenge," Pope Francis warns. The Pope expresses his happiness that rejection of the death penalty is increasing throughout the world, something which he has said is a sign of hope for the Church and humankind.

Pope Francis' words remind us that capital punishment continues cycles of harm and violence and perpetuates a culture of death. It is important for us to look at some salient statistics about the death penalty:

- In 2021, there were approximately 2,474 people on death row in the United States.
- California has the largest death row population, totaling approximately 700 people. Florida train is next with 338, and Texas is third with 198 individuals on death row.
- As of August 2022, 190 people have been exonerated from death row.
- Oklahoma has recently announced they will execute 25 people in the next 24 months.
- 144 countries have abolished the death penalty in law or practice. Countries that still have the death penalty include: China, Egypt, Iran, Iraq, North Korea, Saudi Arabia, and the United States.

Each October, the Church in the United States celebrates Respect for Life Month. As Catholics we are called to cherish, defend and protect those who are most vulnerable, from the beginning of life to its natural end, and at every point in between. During this month the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life. In light of Respect for Life, let us pray with Pope Francis for an end to the death penalty:

*God of Compassion, You let your rain fall on the just and unjust. Expand and deepen our hearts so that we may love as You love, even those among us who have caused great pain by taking life. For there is in our land a great cry for vengeance as we fill up death row and kill the killers in the name of justice and peace. Jesus, our brother, You suffered execution at the hands of the state, but You did not let hatred overcome You. Help us to reach out to victims of violence so that our enduring love may help them heal. Holy Spirit of God, You strengthen us in the struggle for justice. Help us to work tirelessly for the abolition of state-sanctioned death and to renew our society in its very heart so that violence will be no more, Amen.*

*(A Prayer to Abolish the Death Penalty, Sr. Helen Prejean, CSJ)*

### Parish Pastoral Council

Parish Council will meet on Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in Walsh Hall.



## Time for RCIA Invitations

Each year we have a number of individuals receiving the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. That is made possible because of our parishioners who invited them or suggested their names. We are hoping for your help again as we form the next class of 2023. So, if you know someone who ... has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic, or was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist, please let us know. We come together in a small group to learn more about our faith through study, reflection, sharing, discussions and prayer. For more information or to give a name, please contact the parish office at (216) 781-5530.

## St. Augustine Seniors 50 and over

St. Augustine Seniors will meet Thursday, October 27th at 12 Noon in the Deaf Center. Come in your best Halloween costume and you just may win a prize. New members are always welcome.

## Amazing how they made it!

An A&E survey of the top ten most influential people or leaders of the past 1000 years yielded the following list: 10) Galileo 9) Copernicus 8) Albert Einstein 7) Karl Marx 6) Christopher Columbus 5) William Shakespeare 4) Charles Darwin 3) Martin Luther 2) Isaac Newton 1) Johann Gutenberg. Without exception, each one of the remarkable persons named by the survey met with total resistance, complete rejection, and absolute failure whenever he attempted to impress his unique new visions upon the world in which he lived. Despite the fact that these individuals represent diverse insights and radical advancements in science, politics, literature, religion, and technology, they're all tied together by a common trait. Each of these historically exalted individuals was widow-like in persistence, exhibiting unflinching endurance in the face of seemingly insurmountable opposition. But the parable that Jesus gives in today's Gospel is not just about persistence. It's about persistence coupled with prayer. When you yoke persistence with prayer, you get revolution.

*We need to combine formal prayers with action prayer: It is ideal that we start our prayers by reading from the Bible, especially the Psalms and the Gospels. Formal, memorized and liturgical prayers are also essential for the Christian prayer life. Personal prayer is of great importance in our life of prayer. Talking to God in our own words-praising Him, thanking Him and presenting our needs before Him- transforms our whole life into prayer. We should perfect our prayers by bringing ourselves into God's presence during our work several times during the day and by offering all that we are, that we have and that we do to God. This will help us to bring all our successes and failures, joys and sorrows, highs and lows to God in prayer. Along with formal and memorized prayers, this type of prayer life enables us to pray always and pray with constancy and trusting perseverance.*

## Family Perspective

Today Jesus is teaching us about the persistent widow. It helps us to see how important it is that we keep searching for justice. He continues on pointing us in the direction of persistent prayer for our troubled family members. We are to persevere and always pray for the grace to handle our personal strife with ailing family members or lack of harmony. Jesus points us in the way that we should also live as we pray- *Lord, please help us to take action and continue to persevere in prayer with great fortitude. Help us to see widows and outsiders with a lens of mercy.*

## Organ Restoration Update

Restoration on our organ continues to progress nicely and is still on schedule for a January 2023 completion. Leek Organ Company recently updated us on the progress and we wanted to share the information with you.

Scope of the Project	% of completion	Status
Complete dismantling of organ	100%	Complete
Thorough cleaning of all pipework and components	75%	Complete
Repair damaged pipes as needed	100%	Complete
Respray facade pipes (OSI)	100%	Complete
Overhaul Mechanical action of entire organ (replace where needed)	20%	In progress
Rebuild/releather/replace organ components at shop	45%	In progress
Repair wind chests/windlines/pipework	70%	In progress
Restore Console Keyboards & pedalboard ("rebuild pedal board and replace worn keys on keyboards")	50%	In progress
Refinish organ and console case	10%	In progress
Purchase custom, new 2' Fifteenth rank (Schopps)	100%	Complete
Determine custom specs for blower motor and purchase new motor and build enclosure box	100%	Complete
Provide regular and shareable updates (photos/videos) on the project.	50%	In progress

To view the work being done, please visit <https://www.staugustinecleveland.org/organ-restoration>.



Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** in Walsh Hall. Cursillistas are invited to gather, pray, and share personal stories about living a life in God's Grace on the second Saturday of every month.

### **The widow gets a hearing**

*The parable of the persistent widow and the judge. Luke 18: 1-8*

So the widow's persistence finally pays off. The judge finally grants her a hearing. So how did it go? The judge listens to her case and finds that she indeed has been wronged. He calls into court the party who wronged her and directs that restitution be made. A just decision. But the judge may hear her complain but find her story incomplete. He poses questions that she never considered; he may ask for additional evidence to support her claim. Come back when you have a better grasp of the facts, the judge orders. A prudent decision.

The judge may find that her situation is beyond the scope of the law. He sympathizes with her, but there is no legal remedy to her situation. He suggests that she turn to other agencies or groups who can help her — he even offers to make a contact on her behalf. A compassionate decision.

Or the judge hears her out, asks questions, calls in witnesses, reviews the evidence — and concludes that it's the woman who is at fault: that her lack of understanding of the law, her anger and her self-interest led to the conflict. The judge directs her to make amends to those who suffered because of her actions. He instructs her and her "adversary" to negotiate a solution in good faith. It's not the decision the woman sought, but it's fair and just and settles the matter. A principled decision.

Whatever the outcome of her case, justice is rendered because she has been heard (Finally) by the judge.

*Like the persistent widow, we come before God with our prayers of petition and pleas for help. And God, like the judge, listens and responds. The "finding," however, is not always what we hope for. The parable of the persistent widow challenges how we approach God in prayer: we don't pray trying to wring favors from a curmudgeonly God but we pray to determine how God calls us to act in this set of circumstances. We don't pray trying to move God to our will but to let God move us to God's will. So may we learn to "pay attention" to God speaking to us in the clamor around us, who reveals his wisdom in the wise and prudent souls who bless our lives, who speaks to us in the most quiet and holiest places within our hearts and minds. God's "judgment" may not be what we hoped for or expect, but if we listen with humility and trust, it will be our next step in the direction of justice and compassion.*

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### **On the Lighter Side**

Two guys are walking through a game park & they come across a lion that has not eaten for days. The lion starts chasing the two men. They run as fast as they can and the one guy starts getting tired and decides to say a prayer, "Please turn this lion into a Christian, Lord." He then looks to see if the lion is still chasing them and he sees the lion on its knees. Happy to see his prayer answered, he turns around and heads towards the lion. As he comes closer to the lion, he hears it saying a prayer: "Thank you Lord for the food I am about to receive." ☺

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### **Finance Council Meeting**

Members of the Finance Council will meet on Monday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in Walsh Hall

### **The Persistent Widow in our Midst**

It may be a spouse's Parkinson's disease, a parent's Alzheimer's, a sister's breast cancer, a child's leukemia. The illness of a loved one, a catastrophe striking their family, the suffering of someone dear to them transforms these moms and dads and sons and daughters and friends into dedicated advocates and determined guardians. They fight hospitals and insurance companies for the critical medical care needed by their loved one. They take on the most obstinate bureaucracies for the assistance and services their child is entitled to but denied. They work tirelessly to raise awareness, raise money, and, when necessary, raise Cain, so that their loved one may live as fully a life as possible, so that a cure might be found, so that other families will not have to experience the pain and anguish they have known.

These dedicated men and women are the Gospel widow in our midst. They face down the "dishonest judges" of arrogance and avarice; they take on the "fearful judges" of insensitivity and unawareness; they go toe-to-toe with the "judges who fear neither God nor respect any human being," save themselves. Their love for the sick and suffering enables them to carry on "day and night;" their faith and conviction in the rightness of their cause empowers them to carry on despite the frustration and inaction they face. The very compassion of God is their hope and assurance that their prayer will be heard.

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### **Family Day at the Seminary**

The Diocese of Cleveland and the seminary communities invite families of the Diocese to join the seminarians and faculties of Borromeo and St. Mary Seminaries on November 6<sup>th</sup> for an evening of prayer, fellowship and tours of the seminary. The day begins at 3:30 PM and includes tours, prayer, Eucharistic adoration, appetizers, pizza, and testimonials. Space is limited! Register by calling (440) 943-7631.

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### **National Black Catholic Congress XIII Day of Reflection**

October 29, 9:00 am – 3:30 pm at the Center for Pastoral Leadership, Wickliffe. Under the theme, "Write the Vision: A Prophetic Call to Thrive," The Congress invites the Black community to listen to God's voice through scripture, and become a prophetic people who move towards a vision to thrive. For more information, visit our website: <https://tinyurl.com/DOC-African-American>.

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### **Synod Update**

The National Synthesis, which marks the end of the diocesan phase of the Synod on Synodality is now available on the USCCB website: <https://usccb.org/synod> in English and Spanish. The Synthesis is, among other things, an expression of what we as a Church have heard each other say when asked about our deepest preoccupations and hopes for the Church of which, by the grace of God, we are all a vital part. The publication of this document is not a concluding moment, however; it is a reflective, forward-moving moment. It is an invitation to listen, to discuss together, and to discern together as the Church, about how best to understand and act upon those matters that sit deeply in the hearts and minds of Catholics in the U.S.

### **The persistent Widow in our Midst**

We feel for her. Her child was killed in one of the many mass shootings that plague our schools. She's driven by both anger and grief — she refuses to let another family go through the horror she and her family endured. She speaks to parents' groups. She helps organize rallies and demonstrations. She meets with legislators. Despite well-financed opposition, she continues to seek justice for the child she lost and for the children whose lives are in front of them.

We avoid her. She survived a serious illness that changed her life and lifestyle. She's lost weight; she's stopped smoking; she avoids alcohol; she exercises and radically changed her diet. Good for her; we're happy for her. But if you eat a brownie or a slice of pizza in her presence, you're in for a ten-minute lecture on healthy eating. If she comes by while you're waiting for the elevator, she'll push you up the stairs. She feeds her friends' phones and laptops with an endless stream of articles on health and diet. She means well. She wants others to avoid the mistakes she made. We admire her. We love her. We want her to go away.

We often hear stories about families like hers. A loved one's illness has drained the family's savings. Her life is a constant battle with doctors and insurance companies and human service agencies. Door after door is shut to her as her spouse or child or parent's condition deteriorates — they don't qualify for help for some technical reason, the funds are not budgeted, they live in the wrong city or state. Our hearts ache for her — but families like hers are quickly reduced to statistics when public policies are debated and budgets are made up.

They are the widow of today's Gospel who live among us in our own time and place — and more often than we realize, we can be the “judge” who can “deliver” justice for them.

Today's Gospel challenges us to recognize the “persistent widows” in our midst: to realize the wisdom they have gained in their struggles that we overlook or diminish. The widow of Jesus' parable lives among us: she is the poor, the struggling, the ignored, the forgotten, the victimized and the vulnerable whose sense of her own dignity and worth enables her to fight on. Christ promises that the Father hears the worthy prayer of the Gospel widow in her many guises and that her perseverance in faith will one day be rewarded — and Jesus challenges us to put aside our obliviousness and self-absorption and see her. In her many guises, she is Christ in our midst.

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### **Perseverance of Olympians!**

Most of us will never be Olympians no matter how hard we work. We haven't inherited the right combination of endurance, potential, speed and muscle. But given equal talent, the better-trained athlete can generally outperform the one who did not give a serious effort, and is usually more confident at the starting block. The four years before an Olympics, Greg Louganis probably practiced each of his dives 3,000 times. Kim Zmeskal has probably done every flip in her gymnastics routine at least 20,000 times, and Janet Evans has completed more than 240,000 laps. Training works, but it isn't easy or simple. Swimmers train an average of 10 miles a day, at speeds of 5 mph in the pool. That might not sound fast, but their heart rates average 160 the entire time. Try running up a flight of stairs, then check your heart rate. Then imagine having to do that for four hours! Marathon runners average 160 miles a week at 10 mph. Two important training principles must be followed: Progressively increase the amount and intensity of the work. Train specifically. Persevere with prayer till you realize your dream.

### **Hispanic Heritage Month Reflection Contribution to American Catholicism**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops said: “We consider the Hispanic presence in our country a great resource given to us by the Lord himself for our struggle against the culture of death... We called upon our Hispanic brothers and sisters to share with us the prophetic witness of an identity forged by the Catholic faith. The fact is that the future of the Church in the United States will be greatly affected by what happens to Hispanic Catholics, who constitute a large percentage of its members.” What are some of the salient features of Hispanic Catholics that are contributing to the US Catholicism?

According to Timothy Matovina, professor of theology and co-director of the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame, the Hispanic Catholics have brought with them many important Catholic practices. We mention just four of these:

*One: Hispanics have deep devotion to Jesus and to his Eucharistic presence as well as many popular devotions.*

Nearly half the shrines dedicated to miraculous images in colonial Mexico are focused on an image of Christ. Most popular Hispanic traditions during the seasons of Advent and Christmas and the Triduum during Holy Week center on key moments of the life of Jesus. There are many other expressions of popular piety, especially Marian devotions, processions on various feasts, etc. Many of the popular practices of Catholicism are rooted in the home where there will be an altar which is the center of the religious life of the family and of the communities. In many ways the grandmothers, rather than the priests, are the primary ministers who look after the spiritual well-being of the people, for the simple reason that there were not enough priests in Latin America. Spain established the Cursillo de Cristiandad (Short Course in Christianity)

*Two: Hispanics founded the most influential retreat movement in the country.*

Eduardo Bonnín and other laymen in Mallorca, Spain established the Cursillo de Cristiandad (Short Course in Christianity) in the wake of World War II. In 1957 two of their countrymen assigned to a Waco, Texas, military base collaborated with local priest Fr. Gabriel Fernández to lead the first Cursillo weekend retreat in the United States. Over the ensuing two decades nearly every diocese in the United States introduced the Cursillo movement. Cursillo is the most influential weekend retreat movement in the United States.

*Three: Hispanics pioneered the faith-based model of community organizing.*

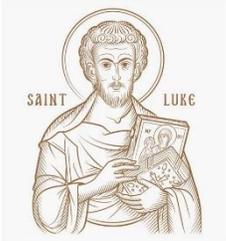
The first predominantly Hispanic faith-based community organization, San Antonio's Communities Organized for Public Service (COPS), played a key role in transforming Saul Alinsky's organizing model to root it more deeply in local congregations and the faith of their members.

*Four: Hispanics have the largest percentage of lay Catholics in faith formation and pastoral leadership programs.*

They do the bulk of everyday ministry as catechists, youth leaders, prayer group leaders, fundraisers, community organizers, spiritual advisors, translators, immigrant advocates, and much more. Thus it is true to say that a breath of fresh air and renewed energy is profoundly transforming the entire U.S. Catholic experience from the ground up in many ways, thanks to the fast-growing Hispanic presence.

## St. Luke

Feast Day: October 18<sup>th</sup>



Saint Luke, sometimes called the Evangelist, is the author of the third Gospel and the Acts of the Apostles and a physician. There is some debate about how he came to Christianity, though many believe he was a gentile convert. Tradition holds him to be a native of Antioch, Syria, possibly a slave. Most of what we know of

Luke comes from Scripture, he was an eloquent and proficient writer, penning with accuracy the events he recounted. He is viewed as one of the best historical sources of the time.

Luke was a close companion of Paul's, joining him at Traos about year 51 and going with him to Macedonia and Philippi. Their paths diverged and met again as they journeyed to spread the Good News. Luke remained with Paul until the latter was martyred in Rome.

Saint Luke's Gospel is viewed as one of social justice, giving special attention to the poor. He also emphasizes gentiles hearing the message of Christ. It is the only Gospel with Mary's Magnificat, and spends the most time illuminating the lives of the other women around Jesus.

Accounts of Luke's death are conflicting, some say he was martyred shortly after Paul others that he lived a long life completing his Gospel in Greece and dying at 84. He is the patron saint of physicians.

## This Week's Events of the Parish

Monday: Parish School of Religion: 5:30 PM (School Building)  
Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)  
Rosary: 6 PM (Walsh)  
Parish Council Meeting: 7 PM (Walsh)  
AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Tuesday: AA Meeting: 9:30 AM (Walsh Hall)  
Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)  
Rosary: 6 PM (Walsh)  
AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Wednesday: LINKS: 3 PM  
Community Cupboard: 5PM-7PM  
Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)  
Rosary: 6 PM (Walsh)  
AA Meeting: 6 PM (Mylott Hall)  
Signing Choir Practice: 6:30 PM (Deaf Center)  
Sign Class for Beginners: 4:30 PM (Parish Offices)  
Signing Hands: 6:30 PM (Walsh Hall)

Thursday: No Mass  
No Live Rosary  
St. Noel Benefit Dinner: 6 PM (St. Noel- Willoughby Hills)  
Boy Scouts: 6:30 PM (Second Floor)  
AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)

Friday: LINKS: 3 PM  
Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)  
AA Meeting: 7:30 PM (Mylott Hall)

Saturday: Community Cupboard: 11 AM – 2 PM  
Mass: 4:15 PM (Walsh)

Sunday: Mass: 8:30 AM and 11 AM (Walsh)

\*\*Walsh Hall is located in the basement of the school building\*\*

<b>October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup></b>			
	<b>Saturday 4:15 PM</b>	<b>Sunday 8:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday 11 AM</b>
<b>Priest Deacon</b>	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Joe McNulty (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H)
<b>Lectors</b>	Migdalia Santiago-White	Ed Zubek	Colleen Cassidy Dan Lotz
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament</b>	Theresa Ortiz	Maria Rivera Marissa Davila	Dawn Dingeldein
<b>October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup></b>			
	<b>Saturday 4:15 PM</b>	<b>Sunday 8:30 AM</b>	<b>Sunday 11 AM</b>
<b>Priest Deacon</b>	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.PP.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Joe McNulty (H) Deacon Chris DePenti
<b>Lectors</b>	Rick Toth	Debbie Sollars	Jean Mendis Pat Takacs
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament</b>		Maria Rivera Marissa Davila	Bob Duda

H: Homilist