

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

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, October 9, 2022

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:

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



Staff and Ministry Directory

For all Parish emails, add @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

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-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We come together today to give praise and glory to God in a spirit of gratitude. We are grateful to God for the gift of faith that blossoms within us and for God's healing presence in each one of us and in the world, which makes us whole again. During the pandemic there have been times when collectively or individually we have not been able to gather together. We are especially grateful whenever we can do so once again. Let us maintain our gratitude for God's blessings always.



Mass Intentions for the Week

Saturday, October 8 th - 4:15 PM Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S	† Robin Zarembski
Sunday, October 9 th - 8:30 AM Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S	† Frank Kordel, Sr.
Sunday, October 9 th - 11 AM Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ	† Gladys Revelt
<u>Mass will be in Walsh Hall-Basement of School Building</u>	
Monday, October 10 th - 5:30 PM	† Fr. Jack Valley
Tuesday, October 11 th - 5:30 PM <i>St. John XXIII, Pope</i>	† Fred and Bridgett Lepka and Anthony Masterson
Wednesday, October 12 th - 5:30 PM	† Leigh Lugo
Thursday, October 13 th - 5:30 PM	† Ed Loeffler
Friday, October 14 th - 5:30 PM <i>St. Callistus I, Pope and Martyr</i>	† Anderson Family
Saturday, October 15 th - 4:15 PM Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ	† Steven Dulik
Sunday, October 16 th - 8:30 AM Fr. Joe McNulty	† Frank Kordel, Jr.
Sunday, October 16 th - 11 AM Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S	† Henry Oden

Wedding Banns



Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Shane and Angela Melvin who were married on Friday. May God the eternal Father keep you of one heart in love for one another, that the peace of Christ may dwell in you and abide always in your home.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gal 4:22-24, 262-7, 31-5:1; Ps 113:1b-2, 3-4, 5a and 6-7; Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday: Gal 5:1-6; Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48; Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday: Gal 5:18-25; Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6; Lk 11:42-46
Thursday: Eph 1:1-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6; Lk 11:47-54
Friday: Eph 1:11-14; Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13; Lk 12:1-7
Saturday: Eph 1:15-23; Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7; Lk 12:8-12
Sunday: Ex 17:8-13; Ps 121:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8; 2 Tm 3:14-4:2; Lk 18:1-8

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

Church Renovation

Love Without Measure

In little over a month from now, the nation will hold the midterm elections. They will take place on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Historically, the turnout for the primary elections held this past summer across the country was low. Every election is important and midterms may determine who will be the majority in the Senate and the House of Representatives. While the midterms will not be a time to vote for candidates for president and vice-president, there are many other important federal, state and local races taking place across the country. Additionally, there are important ballot measures and propositions. Take time to review the races, reflect on the issues, and carefully consider what is at stake in our democracy at this moment in our national life.

In these final days before Election Day, we are being overwhelmed with confusing dishonest, distorted and many fraudulent ads. Candidates and others spend billions on ads because they work at convincing the electorate. Please be careful and discerning in evaluating what you see and hear in the media. So what can we learn in evaluating the candidates, ballot propositions and measures. What gospel values such as those found in Matthew 25:34-40 should we support?

For I was hungry and you gave me food...

Which candidates and ballot measures support those who need food assistance?

I was thirsty and you gave me drink...

Which candidates, ballot measures, and propositions support safe drinking water and hold those businesses accountable for the contamination of water supplies?

A stranger and you welcomed me...

Which candidates, ballot measures and propositions support and stand for just and comprehensive immigration reform?

Naked and you clothed me...

Which candidates, ballot measures and propositions support assistance to those who are truly in need an support an increase in the minimum wage?

Ill and you cared for me...

Which candidates, ballot measures and propositions support affordable health care for all?

In prison and visited me...

Which candidates, ballot measures and propositions support prison reform and oppose the death penalty?

“It is now more than ever, necessary that political leaders be outstanding in honesty, integrity and commitment to the common good.” Pope Francis



We are pleased to share with you some excellent news for our parish family and the generations to come. Over the last several months plans have been underway for church renovations. The proposed renovations were presented to and approved by the Parish Council and Parish Finance Council. A request was then submitted to Bishop Malesic for approval which was granted.

We will begin the highly anticipated renovation of new carpeting, new tile under the pews, sanding and re-staining the pews, and painting of the sanctuary to **begin THIS MONDAY, October 10th**. This process is expected to take approximately 5 weeks to complete.

Due to the renovations **beginning on Monday, October 10th all weekday and weekend Masses will be held in Walsh Hall (basement of former school building).**

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

Join us at the annual St. Augustine Benefit

The annual St. Augustine Benefit hosted by our sister parish, St. Noel, will take place on **Thursday, October 20th** 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 15th and 16th

Next weekend (October 15th and 16th), 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

Say It in Sign

A weekly sign language class for beginners will begin this Wednesday, October 12 at 4:30 PM in the Parish Offices (former rectory). To register or for more information on the fall class, please contact Bob Duda at (216) 781-5530 or at BDuda@StAugustineCleveland.org.



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, email us at PSR@staugustinecleveland.org, or call the parish office at (216) 781-5530 for more information.

Inspiration for the Week

Expressing gratitude is a sign of a loving heart. When we have received a gracious gesture, the appreciation experienced forms a bond between the giver and the receiver. This can only happen when abundance and kind gestures are seen as gifts and not something to which we are entitled. The power of gratitude is more profound when we realize all that we are and all we are given do not have a human source but are of God. Walking around believing that our glass is only half full leaves us always wanting more. We are never satisfied. We become nothing more than entitled pursuers of whatever we can get. Instead, the one who is eager to count their blessings and appreciate the wonder and beauty of the gift of life itself is at peace. Before they take another step or venture off on another journey, they bow in gratitude to the presence of God himself. They are most keenly aware that all would cease to be without God.



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.

Gratitude is an Attitude

Perhaps the most grateful person I've ever heard of was an old woman in an extended care hospital. She had some kind of wasting disease, her different powers fading away over the march of months. A student of mine happened to meet her on a coincidental visit. The student kept going back, drawn by the strange force of the woman's joy. Though she could no longer move her arms and legs, she would say, "I'm just so happy and grateful to God that I can move my neck." When she could no longer move her neck, she would say, "I'm just so glad and thankful I can hear and see." When the young student finally asked the old woman what would happen if she lost her senses of hearing and sight, the gentle lady said, "I'll just be so grateful that you come to visit." (Rev. John Kavanaugh S. J.)

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. Anyone interested in joining the choir, with or without experience is invited to join us on Wednesday evening.

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 2, 2022 was \$2,475.06. Thank you for your generosity.



The **St. Augustine Community Cupboard** (Food Pantry) 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.**

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

First Step Program

Attempting to pick up the pieces of one's life after the tragedy of divorce is an area that can impact a person's relationship with God and the Church. One of the significant issues that a person faces is their place in the church. Does the Church still care about me even though I am divorced? Am I allowed to go to Mass? Can I receive communion? How can the Church help me heal? If I decide to marry again, what do I have to do?

The Tribunal has trained special ministers to work with those who desire to submit a case to the Tribunal. They received specialized instructions to better assist people with the presentation and processing of the cases. The role of these special ministers as well as their contact information will be discussed at the First Step Program which will be held on Tuesday, September 27, 2022 at St. Ambrose Parish, Brunswick at 7 PM. For more information on taking the "first step" please contact Fr. Ben at (216) 781-5530.

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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.



Annual Blanket Sunday

The Annual Blanket Sunday appeal kicks off this weekend, October 8th and 9th.

Your kindness will help neighbors in need this fall and winter as thousands of blankets will be purchased and given directly to the homeless and social service agencies assisting those in need.

Donations can be made using the envelopes located at the Church entrances and dropped in the collection baskets. You can also donate securely online at <https://donate.svdpcle.org/blanket-sunday-donations/>.

Sunday Thought

We should not miss Jesus' point today in our Sunday Gospel. In His dealing with the ten men suffering from leprosy, Jesus is not trying to teach us a point of etiquette about saying "thank you!" Jesus' intention is more profound. He is speaking about a fundamental attitude of gratitude expressed in one's style or manner of living. The healed man was set free from a terrible disease. It was a disease that cut him off from his family and the entire community. When Jesus healed him, he was literally saved from complete isolation and loneliness. We have common ground with the healed man. In Jesus, we have been saved from the eternal separation merited by our sins. With His forgiveness, we are not only reunited with Him, but with the whole Body of Christ, the Church. In gratitude for His forgiveness, we should respond in gratitude by the way we love and care for one another

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.

Family Perspective

"Ten were cleansed were they not? Where are the other nine?" Today's Gospel leads us to understanding that while 10 were cleansed and healed of their affliction only one had a change of heart. Jesus shares that this one that returns, who is a Samaritan, isn't only cleansed of his skin but his faith was impacted and he is on the journey to a new life. When has Jesus touched your heart? How deep does it go? Are we like the 9 that return to our lives or are we like the tenth that experiences conversion? We pray- Lord; please help us to open our eyes to the times that you have touched our hearts, that we may embrace that touch and have a more lasting conversion.

In the Land of Dementia

[One of the lepers], realizing he had been healed, returned glorifying God in a loud voice, and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan.

Luke 17:11-19

Novelist Suzanne Finnamore's 86-year-old mother Bunny has dementia. Bunny's diagnosis a decade ago was devastating to Bunny and her family — but over time, Suzanne has come to see Dementia as a place: "a land where my mother lives . . . not who she is." Suzanne Finnamore writes in a New York Times essay [May 11, 2022]: "Thinking of it this way allows for magic to happen — for [Mom] to remember my name suddenly and to know my husband — and for there to be a boundary between me and the treacherous drop of despair. Each time I go to see her, it's different. I've learned to set expectations aside, like an umbrella on a sunny morning."

Suzanne visits her mom and her stepfather, Ron, twice a week. While it can be beautiful one day and grim the next, Suzanne and her husband, Tom, have realized unexpected gifts. "I'm grateful that she's been able to stay in her own home, to keep living with her husband, instead of moving to a nursing home, where her life expectancy would have likely been far shorter. And the more time I spend in Dementia, the more I pay attention to my own mortality. I prize this and have rearranged my priorities to include less screen time and more joy in experiencing the real world, putting nothing off. "My mother was recently approved for home hospice care, and her nurse and chaplain are unspeakably kind. They are teaching me about the beauty of dying on one's own terms, surrounded by family. They are showing us how to let go . . ."

Finnamore writes that her mother has brought all the same grace and joy she has lived all her life with her to Dementia. The "sacred core" of her mom's essence remains "untouched." "And if that's true for her, it's true for everyone. Suzanne is learning a great deal from her mother's cheerful spirit and disposition in the face of her illness. "I take notes," Suzanne writes, "for when my own demise comes. This is how it's done. "There is dignity in Dementia if we say there is. There is wisdom and humor and radiance if only we can see it. I make the effort because my mother does and because it is what she deserves after a long life well lived, harming no one. I am astonished by her courage, even now. Especially now."

For women and men of faith, gratitude is a practice, a way of approaching life, that asks Where is God in this? Despite Bunny's illness, her daughter and family are able to see reasons for thankfulness, to realize the "unexpected gifts" of "wisdom and humor and radiance" regarding aging and death. We too can realize that our blessings far outweigh our struggles, that we have been cured despite our brokenness, that we have reason to rejoice and hope despite the sadness and anxieties we must cope with. If we approach life with a perspective of gratitude, we come to realize the love of God in our midst at every stage of our lives, in every "state" we live.

St. Augustine Seniors

50 and over

St. Augustine Seniors will meet Thursday, October 13th at 12 Noon in the Deaf Center. New members are always welcome.

On the Lighter Side

A distraught woman tried many times to contact her pastor only to discover that it was his day off. She made contact with him the next day and scolded him severely. "Father, I needed you yesterday," she said, "and you were not there for me. You have let me down. I cannot believe you would take a day off when so many people like me need you." Then she added, "The devil never takes a day off." The priest, a little irritated and with tongue in cheek, responded, "And if I didn't take a day off, I would be just like him, wouldn't I?" ☺

Cleveland Catholic Women's Conference

The 4th annual CCW Conference, is Saturday, October 15th, at St. Albert the Great parish in North Royalton. Speakers include: Catholic author and professor Lisa Lickona; Sister Elizabeth of the Franciscan Sisters, TOR of Steubenville; Lindsay Fullerman of Fit From Faith; and musicians Jeff Botos & Patricia Allerton. The day will also include Mass with Fr. Damian Ference, Q & A with Bishop Malesic, and opportunities for prayer, confession, Eucharistic Adoration, and forming friendships with other women of faith. To register or for more information, visit, <http://clecatholicwomen.org>.

Expressing Gratitude

In 1976 Louise Fletcher was awarded an Oscar for best actress for her role as Nurse Ratched in the movie One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. She had given up acting for eleven years to raise her children before she won that role after five big-name actresses had turned it down. In accepting her Academy Award, Louise Fletcher did a very dramatic thing. With her voice breaking with emotion she faced a national television audience and said: "For my mother and my father, I want to say thank you for teaching me to have a dream. You are seeing my dream come true." Louise Fletcher delivered the message in sign language at the same time, because both of her parents were deaf and were watching from their home in Alabama.

Today's gospel recounting the thankfulness of the cleansed Samaritan leper is narrated only in Luke's gospel and provides an instance of Jesus holding up a non-Jew (Luke 17:18) as an example to his Jewish contemporaries. Moreover, it is the faith in Jesus manifested by the foreigner that has brought him salvation (Luke 17:19. (New American Bible notes). Here a Samaritan is presented as the model of faith and gratitude. Luke was himself a Gentile, a foreigner and so he delights in recounting stories of foreigners whom God has blessed. A Samaritan is the hero of this episode. The thanks and praise of the Samaritan was a natural response to the free and undeserved mercy of God. The Samaritan knew that he was in the right place at the right time, and such an opportunity might never occur again for him. The Samaritan had not earned the kindness of God. He simply asked for it--and it was freely given. He knew he couldn't earn it; he was an outcast, a Samaritan. Having accepted God's grace, thanks and praise was his natural response. Both the author of 2 Kings and the Evangelist Luke wanted to make an important theological point about outsiders. No story in all the Gospels so poignantly shows man's ingratitude. The lepers came to Jesus with desperate longing, and the merciful Lord cured them. But nine of them never came back to give thanks.



Cursillistas will gather for Ultreya on **Saturday, November 12th 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.

Empty bag of gratitude

There is an interesting story about two Angels who were sent to Earth. The cries and petitions of the people reach the door steps of heaven constantly. So once God decided that he should send the angels to the Earth to collect them directly from the people. Thus two angels were sent to the Earth with carry bags. One was commissioned to collect all the petitions, and the other was asked to collect gratitude. The angel that was collecting the petitions found her bag full in minutes and she flew up to heaven many times. But the angel that was collecting gratitude could not even fill a bag.

We need to learn to be thankful to God and to others. Often we are ungrateful to God. Although we receive so much from Him, we often take it for granted, without appreciating His gifts. We allow the negatives of our lives to hide from ourselves the blessings we have received -- minor negatives like some health problems, financial worries, conflict with a neighbor or co-worker or spouse. Besides, we are often thankful only when we compare ourselves with less fortunate people. In times of need, we pray with desperate intensity; but as time passes we forget God.

Many of us fail to offer a grace before meals or allot a few minutes of the day for family prayer. God gave us his only Son, but we seldom give Him a word of thanks. Often we are ungrateful to our parents and consider them a nuisance, although in the past we were dependent on them for literally everything. Similarly, we owe a great debt of gratitude to our friends, teachers, doctors, pastors -- but we often fail to thank them. Hence, in the future, let us be filled with daily thanksgiving to God and to others for the countless gifts we have received. Let us show our gratitude to our forgiving God by forgiving others, and to a loving God by radiating His love, mercy and compassion to others.

"I can't tell you how much your letter meant to me!"

In the book, A Window on the Mountain, Winston Pierce tells of his high school class reunion. A group of the old classmates were reminiscing about things and persons they were grateful for. One man mentioned that he was particularly thankful for Mrs. Wendt, for she, more than anyone, had introduced him to Tennyson and the beauty of poetry. Acting on a suggestion, the man wrote a letter of appreciation to Mrs. Wendt and addressed it to the high school. The note was forwarded and eventually found the old teacher. About a month later the man received a response. It was written in a feeble longhand and read as follows: "My dear Willie, I can't tell you how much your letter meant to me. I am now in my nineties, living alone in a small room, cooking my own meals, lonely, and like the last leaf of fall lingering behind. You will be interested to know that I taught school for forty years and yours is the first letter of appreciation I ever received. It came on a blue, cold morning and it cheered me as nothing has for years. Willie, you have made my day." Let us remember the words of the Apostle Paul: "Rejoice always, pray constantly, give thanks in everything; for this is the will of God in Christ concerning you" (Philemon 4: 4).

The nine other stories

So what happened to the other nine lepers who had been healed? Human nature being what it is, we can imagine: One of the now-clean lepers went off to build a new life for himself. He busied himself seeking work, finding a new place to live, putting down roots for himself and, maybe someday, a family. Work became the driving force of his new life.

But another one of the lepers was overcome with anxiety: What do I do now? I can't beg anymore. I have to find work — but I haven't any skills. I've never learned to do anything. Who'll hire me? How will I eat? So worried and fearful was the once unclean leper for his future that he was paralyzed from doing anything and remained huddled at his old place by the city gate.

Still another leper, realizing that he was now clean, wanted revenge on the many passersby who rejected him, condemned him as sinful and evil and inflicted so many cruelties and indignities on him because of his illness. They'll pay for what they did to me! he vowed. In the end, having the "last laugh" wasn't as satisfying as he imagined.

But one of the lepers, finally freed from his sufferings, ran as far away from that place as he could. All he wanted to do was forget his old life — and everyone and everything about it. He tried to make himself deaf to the cries of the suffering of others — but he could never run away far enough not to hear them. Far greater a disability than his leprosy was his lack of compassionate understanding for other lepers and those suffering similar illnesses. He could have been a source of solace and hope to others, but instead remained a leper to his self-absorption.

And, of course, there was one leper who went out and celebrated . . . and celebrated and celebrated. His newfound joy lasted as long as the spirits did. But once the wine and the camaraderie who came with it disappeared, he had to face a new life completely lost and alone.

There was one leper who didn't believe he was made clean. Why would anyone — least of all God! — want to do this for him? There had to be a catch. So he did nothing; he just waited and waited for his leprosy to return. As far as he was concerned, he was never healed. And he wasn't.

And so the nine lepers went their separate ways. But without a sense of gratitude for the miracle they had experienced, the miracle didn't last very long, for their fears, their angers, their repressions, their skepticisms, their misplaced hopes and values just made them lepers all over again.

God has breathed his life into us and set us on this wonderful life. We did not nothing to merit or earn this life — we are all the recipients of our Creator's love. The only fitting response we can make is to stand humbly before God in quiet, humble thanks. Such a sense of gratitude can transform cynicism and despair into optimism and hope and make whatever good we do experiences of grace. But too often we let our obsessions with money and fame, our worries and fears, our disappointments and hurts overwhelm any sense of gratitude. Like the Samaritan who gives thanks for the miracle that has taken place, we, too, can be transformed by such joyful gratitude to God once we realize that, in Christ, we have been "made whole," "made clean," "restored" to completeness in his hope and love.

We are still in the Hispanic Heritage Month

Currently, 60 million people in the United States identify as Hispanic or Latino. This represents 18% of the population, becoming the minority with the largest presence. It was President Lyndon B. Johnson who, in 1968, began the Hispanic Heritage celebrations, although it started out as just one week; in 1989, the Reagan administration increased it to a whole month. Since then, the country celebrates Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15. It is a month that celebrates the contribution of Hispanics to the United States in all fields: history, culture, economy, and art. We can see the cultural contribution of the Hispanic/Latinos in many ways: spread of the Spanish language (in 41 million homes), cuisine (tacos, tortillas etc. have gained great popularity), festivities (Cinco de Mayo, piñatas), music (salsa, merengue, trap, reggaeton), politics, etc. But here, we focus on the Hispanic contribution to the US Catholicism.

Bishop Arturo Cepeda, auxiliary bishop of Detroit and president of the Commission for Cultural Diversity in the Church, says: "Celebrating our heritage is essential for our new generations, and that's why these celebrations are very meaningful for us, for our Church, and for our society, which also needs to learn and value what Hispanic Catholics bring to our country." According to the executive director of the Commission for Cultural Diversity in the Church, Mar Muñoz-Visoso, "Few people know that Hispanics have been responsible for about 70% of the growth of the Catholic Church in the U.S. in the last 35-40 years. And that today, already more than 50% of all Catholics in the U.S. under the age of 18 are Latinos, the vast majority born and raised here." (<https://aleteia.org/2022/09/20/Hispanic-heritage-in-the-us-is-all-about-the-catholic-faith/>)

Catholicism came to the United States through Spaniards, long before the 13 colonies even existed. The first evangelization, especially in the south and west of the United States, was carried out in Spanish and by missionaries from Spain, Mexico, and the Caribbean. The Spaniards founded missions and towns and built chapels and churches. Their apostolic zeal led them to be very creative in order to spread the gospel message among the natives. The entire national territory, particularly in the south and west (Florida, Texas, New Mexico, Colorado, Arizona, California) is full of names of towns and villages and institutions that reflect the great legacy of the Hispanic and Latin American heritage in the country, both socially and ecclesiastically. The establishment of the missions gave rise to settlements that today are some of the great cities of the American West, and that still bear their names (San Diego, Los Angeles, Santa Rosa, Santa Clara, San Antonio in Texas). There are now over 5000 parishes in the US covering Masses and other sacramental help to the Hispanic Catholics. "Hispanics are a major force in the ongoing evolution of the U.S. Catholic parish from the ethnic enclave to the shared or multicultural congregation," says Timothy Matovina, professor of theology and co-director of the Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame.



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 6th 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.

St. John XXIII

Feast Day: October 11th

Saint John XXIII was born Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli on November 25, 1881, in a small village in Italy. He was ordained in 1904 and later earned a doctorate in canon law. During World War I he served as a stretcher-bearer and chaplain for the Italian army. Beginning in 1925 he served as a Vatican diplomat, first in Bulgaria, then in Greece and Turkey. From 1935 through the Second World War he helped save thousands of Jewish people. In 1944 he was named papal nuncio to France. He was named cardinal and appointed patriarch of Venice in 1953. A quiet pastoral life passing into retirement, however, was not in God's plan for the saint.

Angelo Giuseppe Ronalli was elected Pope in 1958 and took the name John. His papacy was short, but full of action. He transformed the Vatican, calling for openness, a spirit of ecumenism, the setting aside of politics. He called the Second Vatican Council in the fall of 1962, the first meeting of its kind in almost a century, setting the agenda to work for the spiritual regeneration of the Church. His efforts changed the face of the Catholic Church. At the same time worked diligently and publicly to ease tensions during the Cuban missile crisis, pleading with leaders for the end of the Cold War.

St. John XXIII's kindness, sense of pastoral care, and works of reconciliation and peacemaking made him beloved not only to Catholics but to people around the world. He died on June 3, 1963. He was beatified in 2000 by St. John Paul II, and canonized by Pope Francis in 2014.

This Week's Events of the Parish

Monday: *Church Renovation Begins*
 Central West Deanery Meeting: 12 Noon
 Parish School of Religion: 5:30 PM (School Building)
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)
 Rosary: 6 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: St. Augustine Seniors: 12 Noon (Deaf Center)
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Walsh)
 Rosary: 6 PM (Church)
 Boy Scouts: 6:30 PM (Second Floor)
 AA Meeting: 7 PM (Mylott Hall)

Friday: LINKS: 3 PM
 Mass: 5:30 PM (Church)
 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

October 8th and 9th			
	Saturday 4:15 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 11 AM
Priest Deacon	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S (H) Deacon Chris DePenti	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)
Lectors	Michelle Rivera	Matthew Cook	Jeannie Rawlings Sr. Regina Fierman, CSA
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament			Rosanne Barnhart
October 15th and 16th			
	Saturday 4:15 PM	Sunday 8:30 AM	Sunday 11 AM
Priest Deacon	Fr. Ben Jimenez, SJ (H)	Fr. Joe McNulty (H)	Fr. Bill O'Donnell, C.P.P.S (H)
Lectors	Migdalia Santiago-White	Ed Zubek	Colleen Cassidy Dan Lotz
Extraordinary Ministers of the Blessed Sacrament	Theresa Ortiz	Maria Rivera Marissa Davila	Dawn Dingeldein

H: Homilist