

Diocese of Columbus
**The Community of
Saint Joseph Cathedral and Holy Cross Church**
“Growing the Catholic Faith in the Heart of Columbus”



SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

THE MOTHER CHURCH
OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

212 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
Phone: (614) 224-1295
Fax: (614) 224-1176
www.sjchcc.org
www.cathedralmusic.org

**ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL AND
HOLY CROSS OFFICE HOURS**
OFFICE IS LOCATED AT THE
CATHEDRAL

Monday-Thursday – 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Friday – 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Closed Saturday, Sunday & major holidays

CATHEDRAL LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sunday – 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 5:15 p.m.
Monday-Friday – 12:05 p.m.

Masses on Holy Days of Obligation and Holidays:
Will be listed in the bulletin, as they occur

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONS

Tuesday & Thursday – 10:45-11:45 a.m.
Sunday – 9:15-10:00 a.m.

**EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT
WITH CONFESSIONS**

Wednesday: 5:00-6:00 p.m.

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

THE FIRST CATHOLIC CHURCH IN
COLUMBUS

204 South Fifth Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
www.sjchcc.org

LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Sunday – 9:00 a.m.
Saturday – 11:30 a.m.
followed by Adoration and Confessions



FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME • FEBRUARY 4, 2024

SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL & HOLY CROSS CHURCH

+ Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes
Bishop of Columbus
+ Most Reverend Frederick F. Campbell
Bishop Emeritus of Columbus
+ Most Reverend James A. Griffin
Bishop Emeritus of Columbus

PRIESTS

Reverend JCP Sullivan
Cathedral Rector
Reverend Michael Hinterschied
Parochial Vicar

HOLY CROSS/CATHEDRAL STAFF

Mr. Michael P. Agriesti
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SCHEDULING MASS INTENTIONS

One of the greatest acts of charity is to pray for the living and the dead, and the greatest and most powerful prayer we have is the Mass since the fruits of the Mass are the very fruits of Jesus' redemption. Mass stipends (offerings) are \$10.00 each; only one offering per Mass. All Masses are scheduled by calling the Parish Office. Contact the Cathedral office at 614-224-1295.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION OF POPE FRANCIS: FEBRUARY

For the terminally ill

We pray that those with a terminal illness, and their families, receive the necessary physical and spiritual care and accompaniment.

MASS INTENTIONS

Holy Cross:

Sunday, February 4

9:00 a.m. The Intention of the Priest

Cathedral:

Sunday, February 4

10:30 a.m. Souls of Helen & Joseph Pizzuti

12:30 p.m. Soul of Juanita Walker

5:15 p.m. The People of St. Joseph Cathedral and Holy Cross Church

Cathedral:

Monday, February 5

12:05 p.m. For the Healing of Theresa Murdick

Tuesday, February 6

12:05 p.m. Intention of Mandy Gillespie

Wednesday, February 7

12:05 p.m. Soul of Robert Wagoner

Thursday, February 8

12:05 p.m. Soul of Jerzy Greliic

Friday, February 9

12:05 p.m. Soul of Agnes Dawson

Holy Cross:

Saturday, February 10

11:30 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Cullinan Family

WEEKLY READINGS

Sunday, February 4, 2024 ~

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Job 7:1-4, 6-7; 1 Corinthians 9:16-19, 22-23; Mark 1:29-39

Monday, February 5, 2024 ~ Saint Agatha

1 Kings 8:1-7, 9-13; Mark 6:53-56

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

1 Kings 8:22-23, 27-30; Mark 7:1-13

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

1 Kings 10:1-10; Mark 7:14-23

Thursday, February 8, 2024 ~ Saint Jerome Emiliani and Saint Josephine Bakhita,

1 Kings 11:4-13; Mark 7:24-30

Friday, February 9, 2024

1 Kings 11:29-32; 12:19; Mark 7:31-37

Saturday, February 10, 2024 ~ Saint Scholastica

1 Kings 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mark 8:1-10

THIS SUNDAY'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE				
FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ FEBRUARY 4				
	9:00 a.m. HCC	10:30 a.m. SJC	12:30 p.m. SJC	5:15 p.m. SJC
Altar Servers	John Feher	Zachary Smith	Antonio Tomasi	Ed Hueckel
		Lisa Emrich	Trevor Foley	
		JP Pacis		
Lector – One	Kelly Wagoner	Donna Lent	Marilyn Tomasi	Linda Ruth
Lector – Two		Thom Gall	Lisa Ernst	
Eucharistic Minister	Pat Kern Davis Claire Miller	Fritz Harding	Marilyn Tomasi	
Hospitality/Ushers	Ann Seren	Steve Horner	Jim Pierce	Gordian Igwilo
		Evelina Horner		Robert Schoenfeld
		Sandy Strover		

OUTREACH TO HELPING THE HOMELESS AND NEEDY IN DOWNTOWN COLUMBUS

Twice-Daily Food Distribution at Saint Joseph Cathedral ~ (614) 224-1295

Saint Lawrence Haven, on the grounds of Holy Cross Church ~ Heather Swiger at hswiger@columbuscatholic.org

Joint Office for Inner-city Needs (J.O.I.N.) ~ (614) 241-2530

SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL MUSIC

Cathedral Concert Series ~ JOSHUA STAFFORD, ORGANIST, Sunday, February 11, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Office of Compline ~ 9:00 p.m. on the first Sunday of the Month. The next one is February 4, 2024

OFFICES, PROGRAMS AND SERVICES OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS

For Diocesan offices, please call (614) 228-2457 during regular business hours or visit www.columbuscatholic.org.

LOW-GLUTEN* HOSTS will be served at **All Masses**. Worshipers can receive low-gluten Holy Communion from the center aisle (please identify yourself to the Celebrant.) *Contains less than 0.01% gluten content and meets the standard set by the Holy See and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

Please Keep These Parishioners in Your Prayers

Tim Acton, John Ankrom, Ed Chong, Barbara Cicua, Christopher Clark, Dorothy Deems, Sherri Dembinski, Larry Edwards, Robert & Peggy Halley, Edith Ingram, Dr. Lianna Goetz, Jerzy Grelik, Brittany Grinder, Kim Haring, Ruth Harper, Chris and Anna Katanyuta, Denise Lager, Teresa Mallon, Colleen Olson, Kathy Perkins, Marie Naseman, Maria Paras, Linda Pauley, The Pemberton Family, Maribeth Riepenhoff, John Ryan, Susan Bateman Severs, David Simmons, Sarah Stollenwerk, Sandra Valencia, and Dora Zweydorff

HOLY CROSS CHURCH

+ **PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS** our home-bound parishioners, and those who are ill: Theresa Elliott, Peter Garrett's Mother and James Worley.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Please contact Carol at the Cathedral, 614-224-1295.

SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Please email Mandy at weddings@saintjosephcathedral.org.

NEW PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

For Holy Cross & The Cathedral

Welcome to Saint Joseph Cathedral, the Mother Church of the Diocese of Columbus! We are glad that you are here and invite you to become part of our parish family to be nourished by both Word and Sacrament, and also to become involved in one or more of our parish ministries. To become a registered member, you can pick up a form by the main entrance of our historic church, visit our web site, or contact us through the Parish Office. Welcome!

FUNERAL MINISTRY

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

For parishioners who have died, the family should contact the rector at St. Joseph Cathedral at (614) 224-1295 before meeting with the funeral director.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

(Holy Cross & Cathedral)

Those wishing Holy Communion in the Home due to illness, confinement or visits to the hospital or nursing center, please call 614-224-1295.

How Do We Even Begin to Love Our Enemy?

JEANNIE EWING



I really only love God as much as I love the person I love the least.

– Dorothy Day

Many of us wonder how we can resolve our inner conflicts involving speaking truth in charity. How can we maintain our values and, in fact, *evangelize*, without succumbing to secular chatter and division, both of which distract and discourage others?

If we are doing our best to journey toward Heaven, we have already heard this verse:

Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

—*Matthew 5:44*

What does this look like in our modern day? Most of us don't consider ourselves to be participants in the verbal vitriol spewed at each other like venom, but we might reflect a bit about who we are and what we stand for.

First, consider your personal values. These could be moral/religious convictions, political beliefs, or even social mores influenced by your family and cultural background. Write them down, maybe in a prayer journal. Under each one, jot down reasons why you believe as you do. You can substantiate this with science, logic, life experience, scripture, the Catechism, and Tradition.

Second, ask yourself what triggers strong emotional responses when someone who believes or lives differently than you acts or speaks out? Are you prone to anger? Do you feel personally offended? Are you disappointed or afraid? Your reasonings likely go deep and are affected by your temperament, life events, and your own weaknesses and vices.

Suppose you are instantly incensed when you read an article online in which a prominent theologian supports abortion. Your initial reaction is to share it on your social media feed with an angry statement, which you label as “righteous anger.” Maybe you also pass it along to family and friends, furthering your frustration.

If you really want to begin loving your “enemy” and praying for those who persecute you, you must always begin with introspection through prayer. (I highly recommend spiritual direction and confession at least monthly as part of this process.)

Daily, if possible, sit quietly and listen to your emotional responses to people or events or world issues. Then ask God to reveal to you the wounds that influence your inability to encounter people who struggle with something you find offensive or sinful. What makes you believe you are “right” and they are “wrong?” Of course, objective truth comes into play here, and you are correct in considering that.

But what appears to be the sickness of our current culture is that we have lost the art of approaching another with openness and receptivity. We do not know how to listen, because we are guarded and stiff-necked. We have hearts of stone. We have been hurt by those “on the other side,” so we cannot fathom looking into the eyes of a person who identifies with a particular political party or religious group without feeling prickly.

Loving our enemies requires us to shed the illusion that people are our enemies. Revisiting another verse tells us that we are battling forces of evil, not humanity:

For our struggle is not with flesh and blood but with the principalities, with the powers, with the world rulers of this present darkness, with the evil spirits in the heavens.

– *Ephesians 6:12*

Remember that Satan operates through division and chaos. He wants to perpetuate the polarization happening in your life and in your heart.

After you create a habit of a daily examen through prayer, make an effort to reach out to those who believe differently than you do. Often, this is a simple exercise in extending an invitation to an estranged family member or neighbor. We need not look far. Usually, God will place people in your path who need a smile, assurance, or just a listening ear. Practice this often.

When you become aware that you are struggling with judging or labeling a person, ask the Holy Spirit to break open your heart, that you might see this person with genuine love. Often this happens in conjunction with a recognition of our own sins and brokenness. When we admit that each of us is broken in some way, it’s easier to love those who seem unlovable.

Finally, remember that our wounds often shape how we live, what we say, and what we believe. But God can—and does—redeem these wounds. He might be asking you to be the vessel that carries hope and healing to an unlikely person, the one you have considered an enemy up until now.



THIS ARTICLE IS MADE AVAILABLE COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC EXCHANGE

Preparing for Lent: A Reflection on Psalm 90

JEANNIE EWING



Lord, you have been our refuge
through all generations.
Before the mountains were born,
the earth and the world brought forth,
from eternity to eternity you are God.
You turn humanity back into dust,
saying, "Return, you children of Adam!"
A thousand years in your eyes
are merely a day gone by,
Before a watch passes in the night,
you wash them away;
They sleep,
and in the morning they sprout again like an herb.
In the morning it blooms only to pass away;
in the evening it is wilted and withered.

Psalm 90: 1 – 6

My paternal grandmother, like many who are dying, wanted one of us to read to her from her worn Bible. The Psalms were a particular comfort to her, and it gave us something to do as we stood by her bedside, helplessly watching her fade from this earth.

Lent reminds us that we were created from nothing, and that God's breath, His essence, is what gave us life and keeps us alive. Dust and ash, earth and sinew—these are vivid metaphors to sober us when we forget who we are, and Whose we are.

It is not macabre or hopeless to consider ourselves composites of dust and ashes. So much can emerge from meditating on our smallness and finitude, in light of God's vastness and infinity. Lent is a liturgical season that beckons us to return to the Source of our being, to remember the cyclic nature of life and death, and to meditate on our own mortality with great hope. It is God's mercy that upholds us.

The Psalmists knew this well. Psalm 90 begins with a recollection that God is eternal and has created all things: “Before the mountains were born, the earth and the world brought forth, from eternity to eternity you are God.” We would do well to begin our Lenten journey with this in the forefront of our minds.

Begin each prayer with appreciation for God’s eternal nature and the gift of His choice to enter into time and become one of us. Think upon the beauty that surrounds you as you go about your day—the woods nearby your home, the varieties of birds migrating this time of year, the flowers beginning to sprout above the earth.

We can then move to meditating upon God’s infinite mercy and goodness. Though we are a mere breath away from being extinguished—“remember you are dust and to dust you shall return”—God sustains us. He gives us chance after chance. Dawn reminds us that, as the sun ascends above the horizon, so we have also been given a new day to make things right where we have sinned the day before.

There is still time to make amends. It is now.

The Psalmist begins with acknowledging God’s vast nature that cannot be plumbed by human thought or word. Then he moves us to the jarring reality of our mortality, that we have a beginning and an end—“you turn humanity back to dust.” Again, the image of time passes before the reader with the next phrase—“a thousand years in your eyes are merely a day gone by”—where we can only begin to fathom what a thousand years might be for us, who only live about a hundred years.

To God, time is neither long nor short, because He exists *outside* of time. He *created* time. Yet He chooses to enter into time for our sake, for the sake of *love*. That is a mercy beyond imagining.

We then read that those thousand years are “washed away” before “a watch in the night” passes by. We slumber, not knowing what transpires while our conscious mind drifts away. The Psalmist is building the tension for us, as we imagine our own lives as a fleeting wind, here and then gone without notice.

This section concludes with the cycling back to life from death: “in the morning they sprout again like an herb. In the morning, it blooms only to pass away; in the evening it is wilted and withered.” Just like delicate blossoms unfurl with the morning sun, they wither with the first frost of autumn.

Lent gives us pause to consider that we are like these flowers and herbs, the passage of time within every beat of our hearts. We “sprout” at birth as wrinkly pink newborns teeming with a full life ahead, but our lives fade – some sooner than others. One person’s “evening” of life may be very young, while another lives well into her nineties.

But all of us bloom, and all of us wither. Lent places us into the Passion story, so that our souls are awakened from their long spiritual slumbers. We are given a chance to be the vigilant virgins who awaited their bridegroom, rather than the foolish ones who fell asleep. When we live with souls earnest to receive the Holy Spirit, we come alive again and again when He stirs us to move.

He may sleep, or He may act, but we can open ourselves to whatever He wills, when He wills.



THIS ARTICLE IS MADE AVAILABLE COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC EXCHANGE

Called to Mission

MARCELLINO D'AMBROSIO, PH.D.



The Bible is not just for Churches and Synagogues. Portions of it are read as literature, even in secular university classrooms. Invariably, when you look at the syllabus of such courses, you find Job.

It's not hard to see why. Job poignantly expresses what all human beings experience at one time or another—the feeling that life is a burden, that our daily routine is drudgery, that our suffering is meaningless, that there's not much hope for our future (Job 7:1-7).

Things are tough all over—in Job's day, in ours, in Peter's. It's all about trying to earn a living and raise a family with taxes, government, disease, and unexpected tragedies yapping at our heels.

The Gospel (Mark 1:29-39) shows us such a world that is suddenly turned upside down by someone who breaks all the rules. Demons that normally inspire terror themselves run away in fear. Fevers flee. Incurable illnesses yield. Instead of talk about the burden of the law with its innumerable regulations, Good News is announced that gives people hope again. The Good News is that God is on the move, that he, not the Emperor, is King, and he is not slave-master but Father. The someone responsible for all this commotion happens to look like one of them, and indeed is one of them, but does things that only God can do. As He speaks, they begin to feel as if the world may have meaning, that life may actually be worth living. They want to be with him, to hear his electric words and see his astonishing deeds. So, they won't leave him alone. Crowds gather outside the door of the humble place where he is staying.

What happens next is instructive. Knowing his need for communion with his Heavenly Father, he rises early next morning to seek solitude and a few moments in prayer. But they need him. So, they send the apostles to track him down. When they find him, he is not annoyed. He does not protest that it is his day off, tell them to come back tomorrow or sometime next week. He has come to bring Good News, to bring light to those in darkness, healing to the suffering. Many are desperate, so his mission is urgent. He gets up, but doesn't return to Capernaum. Instead, he moves on to other towns. Those who wish to enjoy the excitement of his company must join him in his mission.

St. Paul has the same sense of urgency as his master (1 Cor. 9:16-19). He is aware of being entrusted with an awesome responsibility. It is not an option for him to share the gospel. What he has received as a gift, the most precious gift imaginable, he must give as a gift. And he must give it not only to those he likes, or those with whom he has some natural bond. He must not do it only when it suits him, when it is convenient. No, he must exert himself. He must seek common ground with all, Jew, Greek, weak, strong, educated, uneducated—so as to express the gospel to them in a way that they can understand. And this mission led him to cover more ground than even his master—not just Judea and Galilee, but what is now Turkey, Greece, and Italy.

Not all are called to be traveling preachers like our Lord and St. Paul. But the Church teaches unequivocally that membership in the one, holy, Catholic and apostolic church is not just about being saved and enjoying God's company. There is a suffering world out there that desperately needs the saving truth and healing touch of Christ. Notice that **immediately** upon being healed, Peter's mother-in-law began working. Baptism is completed by confirmation, an anointing to serve. You can't be fully a member of the apostolic church without participating in the apostolic mission.

This is offered as a reflection upon the readings for the 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time, liturgical cycle B (Job 7:1-4, 6-7; Psalm 147, 1 Cor. 9:16-19; Mark 1:29-39). It is reproduced here with the permission of the author.

image: Apostle Paul Preaching on the Ruins by Giovanni Paolo Panini

THIS ARTICLE IS MADE AVAILABLE COURTESY OF THE CATHOLIC EXCHANGE

Returning Love for Love: A Pilgrimage to the Heart of Jesus

MAY 31 – JUNE 9, 2024

SACRE COEUR



To commemorate the 350th anniversary of the revelations of the Sacred Heart of Jesus at Paray-le-Monial, a Jubilee Year has been declared, beginning on 27 December 2023 and continuing through 27 June 2025, the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart.

Please consider joining the Diocese of Columbus and Bishop Fernandes on this extraordinary pilgrimage to France during the Jubilee Year.



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Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

“What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?” ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

The month of February is dedicated to the Holy Family.

"Be good, love the Lord, pray for those who do not know Him. What a great grace it is to know God!" +SAINT JOSEPHINE BAKHITA

Monday, February 5 ~ Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Mark 6:53-56 After making the crossing to the other side of the sea, Jesus and his disciples came to land at Gennesaret and tied up there. As they were leaving the boat, people immediately recognized him. They scurried about the surrounding country and began to bring in the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. Whatever villages or towns or countryside he entered, they laid the sick in the marketplaces and begged him that they might touch only the tassel on his cloak; and as many as touched it were healed.

Meditation: Faith is an entirely free gift which God makes to us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Believing and trusting in God to act in our lives is only possible by the grace and help of the Holy Spirit who moves the heart and converts it to God. The Holy Spirit opens the eyes of the mind and helps us to understand, accept, and believe God's word. How do we grow in faith? By listening to God's word with trust and submission. Faith also grows through testing and perseverance. The Lord wants to teach us how to pray in faith for his will for our lives and for the things he wishes to give us to enable us to follow him faithfully and serve him generously. Jesus gave his disciples the perfect prayer which acknowledges God as our Father who provides generously for his children. The *Lord's Prayer* teaches us to seek first the kingdom of God and to pray that God's will be accomplished in our lives. The Lord in turn, gives us what we need to live each day for his glory. The Lord is never too distant nor too busy to meet us and to give his blessing. Do you pray to the Father with confidence that he will show you his will and give you what you need to follow him? Ask the Lord to increase your faith and gratitude for his merciful love and provision for your life.

Prayer: May the Virgin Martyr Saint Agatha implore your compassion for us, O Lord, we pray, for she found favor with you by the courage of her martyrdom and the merit of her chastity. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Do you recognize the Lord's presence in your life? The gospel records that when Jesus disembarked from the boat the people immediately recognized him. What did they recognize in Jesus? A prophet, a healer, the Messiah, the Son of God? For sure they recognized that Jesus had power from God to heal and to make whole bodies, limbs, minds, and hearts that were beset with disease, affliction, and sin. What happened when they pressed upon him and touched the fringe of his garment? They were made well. The Lord Jesus is ever ready to meet our needs as well. Do you approach him with expectant faith?

Tuesday, February 6 ~ Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:1-3 When the Pharisees with some scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, they observed that some of his disciples ate their meals with unclean, that is, unwashed, hands. (For the Pharisees and, in fact, all Jews, do not eat without carefully washing their hands, keeping the tradition of the elders. And on coming from the marketplace they do not eat without purifying themselves. And there are many other things that they have traditionally observed, the purification of cups and jugs and kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and scribes questioned him, "Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?" He responded, "Well did Isaiah prophesy about you hypocrites, as it is written: *This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines human precepts.* You disregard God's commandment but cling to human tradition." He went on to say, "How well you have set aside the commandment of God in order to uphold your tradition! For Moses said, *Honor your father and your mother,*

and *Whoever curses father or mother shall die*. Yet you say, 'If someone says to father or mother, "Any support you might have had from me is *qorban*"' (meaning, dedicated to God), you allow him to do nothing more for his father or mother. You nullify the word of God in favor of your tradition that you have handed on. And you do many such things."

Meditation: The Scribes and Pharisees accused Jesus' disciples of breaking their ritual traditions. Jesus deals with the accusation by going to the heart of the matter – by looking at God's intention and purpose for the commandments. Jesus explains that they void God's command because they allow their hearts and minds to be clouded by their own notions of religion. Jesus accuses them specifically of two things. First of all, hypocrisy. Like actors, who put on a show, they appear to obey God's word in their external practices while they inwardly harbor evil desires and intentions. Secondly, he accuses them of abandoning God's word by substituting their own arguments and interpretations of what God requires us to do. They paid more attention to their own legal arguments rather than God's word. Jesus refers them to the prophecy of Isaiah (29:31) where the prophet accuses the people of his day for honoring God with their lips while their hearts were far away from choosing and doing what God asked of them. If we listen to God's word with faith and reverence, it will both enlighten our mind and purify the hearts - thus enabling us to better understand how he wants us to love and obey him.

Prayer: O God, strength of all the Saints, who through the Cross were pleased to call the Martyrs Saint Paul Miki and companions to life, grant, we pray, that by their intercession we may hold with courage even until death to the faith that we profess. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus and his disciples apparently upset some of the religious leaders of Jerusalem who had invited them over for dinner. What did they do wrong? They apparently neglected the Jewish custom of washing their hands before eating. Such an offence was not only bad table manners, but it also caused ritual impurity for the religious-minded Jews. Jesus was publicly scolded as a rabbi who should have known better to instruct his disciples to keep themselves ritually clean. Jesus' response, however, caught his hosts off guard. Jesus turned the table on his accusing hosts by chiding them for their uncleanness of heart. The Lord invites each of us to draw near to him and to feast at his banquet table. Do you approach with a clean heart and mind? Ask the Lord to cleanse and renew you with the purifying fire of his Holy Spirit.

Wednesday, February 7 ~ Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:14-23 Jesus summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." When he got home away from the crowd his disciples questioned him about the parable. He said to them, "Are even you likewise without understanding? Do you not realize that everything that goes into a person from outside cannot defile, since it enters not the heart but the stomach and passes out into the latrine?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) "But what comes out of the man, that is what defiles him. From within the man, from his heart, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile."

Meditation: Remember the story of Cain and Abel, when Cain became jealous of his brother Abel and God warned Cain to guard his own heart: "Sin is couching at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it" (ref. Genesis 4:7). Unfortunately, Cain did not take God's warning to heart. He allowed his jealousy to grow into spite and hatred for his brother, and he began to look for an opportunity to eliminate his brother altogether. When jealousy and other sinful desires come knocking at the door of your heart, how do you respond? Do you entertain them and allow them to overtake you? Do you slam the door to keep these sinful desires out? Fortunately God does not leave us alone in our struggle with hurtful desires and sinful tendencies. He gives us the grace and strength we need to resist and overcome sin when it approaches the door of our heart.

Prayer: Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ wants to set us free from the burden of guilt and from the destructive force of sin in our personal lives. He wants to purify our hearts and renew our minds so that we can love and act in every situation as he would love and act. The Lord is ready to change and purify our hearts through the grace and help of the Holy Spirit who dwells within us. Like a physician who examines the wound before treating it, God through his Word and Spirit first brings sin into the light that we may

recognize it for what it truly is and call upon his mercy and grace for pardon and healing. The Spirit of truth is our Consoler and Helper. His power and grace enables us to choose what is good and to reject what is evil. Believe in the power of God's love to heal, change, and transform your heart and mind! The beginning of Lent – Ash Wednesday – is one week from today. Use this Lenten Season to transform your life, to turn away from sin and instead turn toward the Lord and grow closer to him.

Thursday, February 8 ~ Fifth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Jerome Emiliani, Priest; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:24-30 Jesus went to the district of Tyre. He entered a house and wanted no one to know about it, but he could not escape notice. Soon a woman whose daughter had an unclean spirit heard about him. She came and fell at his feet. The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by birth, and she begged him to drive the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, "Let the children be fed first. For it is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She replied and said to him, "Lord, even the dogs under the table eat the children's scraps." Then he said to her, "For saying this, you may go. The demon has gone out of your daughter." When the woman went home, she found the child lying in bed and the demon gone.

Meditation: This passage describes the only occasion in which Jesus ministered outside of Jewish territory. (Tyre and Sidon were fifty miles north of Israel and still exist today in modern Lebanon.) A Gentile woman – an outsider who was not a member of the chosen people – puts Jesus on the spot by pleading with him to show mercy to her daughter who was tormented with an evil spirit. At first Jesus seemed to pay no attention to her, and this made his disciples feel embarrassed. Jesus very likely did this not to put the woman off, but rather to test her sincerity and to awaken faith in her.

Prayer ~ Saint Jerome Emiliani: O God, Father of mercies, who sent Saint Jerome Emiliani as a helper and father to orphans, grant through his intercession, that we may preserve faithfully the spirit of adoption, by which we are called, and truly are, your children. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Prayer ~ Saint Josephine Bakhita: O God, who led Saint Josephine Bakhita from abject slavery to the dignity of being your daughter and a bride of Christ, grant, we pray, that by her example we may show constant love for the Lord Jesus crucified, remaining steadfast in charity and prompt to show compassion. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus praises a Gentile woman for her persistent faith and for her affectionate love. She made the misery of her child her own and she was willing to suffer rebuff in order to obtain healing for her loved one. She also had indomitable persistence. Her faith grew in contact with the person of Jesus. She began with a request and she ended on her knees in worshipful prayer to the living God. No one who ever sought Jesus with faith – whether Jew or Gentile – was refused his help. Do you seek Jesus with expectant faith?

About Saint Jerome Emiliani: A careless and irreligious soldier for the city-state of Venice, Jerome was captured in a skirmish at an outpost town and chained in a dungeon. In prison Jerome had a lot of time to think, and he gradually learned how to pray. When he escaped, he returned to Venice where he took charge of the education of his nephews—and began his own studies for the priesthood. In the years after his ordination, events again called Jerome to a decision and a new lifestyle. Plague and famine swept northern Italy. Jerome began caring for the sick and feeding the hungry at his own expense. While serving the sick and the poor, he soon resolved to devote himself and his property solely to others, particularly to abandoned children. He founded three orphanages, a shelter for penitent prostitutes and a hospital. Around 1532 Jerome and two other priests established a congregation dedicated to the care of orphans and the education of youth. Jerome died in 1537 from a disease he caught while tending the sick. He was canonized in 1767. In 1928 Pius XI named him the universal patron of orphans and abandoned children.

Prayer to Saint Jerome Emiliani: O St. Jerome Emiliani, our country is in such need of your powerful intercession before the throne of God. So many children are orphans of broken homes, some are missing and others have been used for evil purposes on our city streets. Even worse than this, people are killing children before they are even born. Inspire parents to adopt orphans. Help us to have your fervor for all children, especially those in most need. Finally, we ask you to transform us into children so that we may one day enter the Kingdom of Heaven and with you praise the Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit forever. Amen.

About Saint Josephine Bakhita: For many years, Josephine Bakhita was a slave, but her spirit was always free and eventually that spirit prevailed. Born in Olgossa in the Darfur region of southern Sudan, Josephine was kidnapped at the age of seven, sold into slavery and given the name Bakhita, which means fortunate. She was resold several times, finally in 1883 to Callisto Legnani, Italian consul in Khartoum, Sudan. Two years later he took Josephine to Italy and gave her to his friend Augusto Michieli. Soon Bakhita became babysitter to Mimmina Michieli, whom she accompanied to Venice's Institute of the Catechumens, run by the Canossian Sisters. While Mimmina was being instructed, Josephine felt drawn to the Catholic Church. She was baptized and confirmed in 1890, taking the name Josephine. Josephine entered the Institute of Saint Magdalene of Canossa in 1893 and made her profession three years later. In 1902, she was transferred to the city of Schio (northeast of Verona), where she assisted her religious community through cooking, sewing, embroidery and welcoming visitors at the door. She soon became well loved by the children attending the sisters' school and the local citizens. On the occasion of her beatification, Pope John Paul II praised her for "leaving us a message of reconciliation and evangelic forgiveness in a world so much divided and hurt by hatred and violence. She, that was the victim of the worst injuries of all times, namely slavery, herself declared: 'If I was to meet those slave raiders that abducted me and those who tortured me, I'd kneel down to them to kiss their hands, because, if it had not been for them, I would not have become a Christian and religious woman'."

Prayer to Saint Josephine Bakhita: God of goodness and mercy, rewarder of the humble, you blessed St. Josephine Bakhita of Sudan with charity and patience. May her prayers help us, and her example inspire us to carry our cross and to love you always. (*Mention your intention here.*) Pour upon us the spirit of wisdom and love with which you filled St. Josephine Bakhita. By serving you as she did, may we please you by our faith and our actions. St. Josephine Bakhita, pray for us. Amen.

Friday, February 9 ~ Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Mark 7:31-37 Jesus left the district of Tyre and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, into the district of the Decapolis. And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him off by himself away from the crowd. He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting, touched his tongue; then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" (that is, "Be opened!") And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. He ordered them not to tell anyone. But the more he ordered them not to, the more they proclaimed it. They were exceedingly astonished and they said, "He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Meditation: When Jesus approaches a man who is both deaf and a stutterer, Jesus shows his considerateness for this man's predicament. Jesus takes him aside privately, not doubt to remove him from embarrassment with a noisy crowd of gawkers. Jesus then puts his fingers into the deaf man's ears and he touches the man's tongue with his own spittle to physically identify with this man's infirmity and to awaken faith in him. With a word of command the poor man's ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.

Prayer: Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care, that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace, they may be defended always by your protection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Jesus never turned anyone aside who approached him with sincerity and trust. And whatever Jesus did, he did well. He demonstrated both the beauty and goodness of God in his actions. Pope Saint Gregory the Great comments on this miracle: "The Spirit is called the finger of God. When the Lord puts his fingers into the ears of the deaf mute, he was opening the soul of man to faith through the gifts of the Holy Spirit." The Lord treats each of us with kindness and compassion and he calls us to treat one another in like kind. The Holy Spirit who dwells within us enables us to love as Jesus loves. Do you show kindness and compassion to your neighbors and do you treat them with considerateness as Jesus did?

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of the Catholic Culture web site.

frlumpe:2024



~ **TAKING PLACE IN THE CATHEDRAL PARISH** ~
BANNS OF MARRIAGE: St. Joseph Cathedral happily announces the coming nuptials of Genevieve Harding and Christian Bray on March 23, 2024. Please keep them in prayer as they prepare for their wedding.

WE INVITE YOU TO BE PART OF THE BEAUTIFUL LITURGIES AT HOLY CROSS & ST. JOSEPH CATHEDRAL. Consider joining the Liturgical Ministry Volunteers as altar servers, lectors, and hospitality ministers. Please fill out a form in the sacristy or email the form to JP at sjcministryscheduler@gmail.com.

CATHEDRAL BIBLE STUDY: Cathedral Bible study meets every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. There is interest in having a daytime Bible Study as well. If you are interested in joining either session, please contact Carol at 614-224-1295 or at cathedral@sjchcc.org.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO ASSIST WITH COFFEE MAKING AND SETTING UP FOR FELLOWSHIP SUNDAYS. Please Contact Ed Hueckel, Emmett2381@yahoo.com.

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JOINT ORGANIZATION FOR INNER-CITY NEEDS, JOIN, is an agency of the Diocese's Catholic Charities Office, located at 578 E. Main Street in downtown Columbus. Sharing God's love and word through the assistance provided to our brothers and sisters is our daily aspiration. Because of the generosity, throughout our Diocese, JOIN is able to help our neighbors with their essential needs such as food, personal care, household items and diapers. We can also assist with more complicated issues such as prescriptions, utilities, birth certificates and transportation. The Ash Wednesday collection of your church and others, is instrumental in our mission to serve our neighbors with these various needs and more. All donations go directly to improve the quality of life for those we serve. It is a modest but significant way to begin Lent, for you and the community. On behalf of all of us here at JOIN, and from the neighbors we serve, thank you for all you do through your ministries that serve our brothers and sisters. You are always welcome to visit JOIN or feel free to call or email me, Lisa Keita, director of JOIN, any time 614-241-2530 or lkeita@columbuscatholic.org. God bless you with His grace and Peace!



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN FOR THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE, which will be held Saturday, February 17, 2024. Get registered TODAY at www.columbuscatholicwomen.com/.

ST. PADRE PIO RELIC AT THE COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE: The glove of St. Padre Pio will be displayed for veneration at the upcoming Columbus Catholic Women's Conference in February. Scan the QR code to register for the conference.



FEBRUARY IS THE MONTH WHEN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS TRADITIONALLY BEGIN FOR THE PRINT EDITION OF THE CATHOLIC TIMES, the information source for the Diocese of Columbus. In the past, payment for new subscriptions and renewals were collected through the parish, but an online system is now in place to make the process easier. Simply visit *The Catholic Times* website, catholictimescolumbus.org, and access the subscribe tab at the top of the home page to sign up for a new subscription, a renewal or a gift. Current subscribers also will receive a paper statement in the mail that can be returned to *The Catholic Times*, Diocese of Columbus, 197 E. Gay Street with a check for \$26.00 or paid online at the website. Or, if necessary, drop an envelope marked "Catholic Times" in the regular collection at Sunday Mass with name, address and payment. Please consider supporting Catholic journalism and keeping up on the events in the diocese, especially during these changing times.



THE FUTURE OF OUR FAITH: As retirement nears, there are opportunities to make broader plans for assets that have carefully accumulated over a lifetime. A planned gift is an intention that can be made when you are updating insurance beneficiaries; when you are meeting with your lawyer to update your will; or when you are meeting with your financial planner about your IRA. No gift is too small to make a meaningful, lasting impact on St. Joseph Cathedral. For more information on how you can incorporate St. Joseph Cathedral into your estate planning and leave a legacy that will be felt forever, please contact Campbell Smith at 614-443-8893 or csmith@catholic-foundation.org.



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Serra Club of North Columbus meetings include the Rosary, lunch, and a speaker at 11:30 on the 1st Tuesday of every month at the Jessing Center at the Josephinum. Downtown Serra Club meetings include lunch and a speaker at noon on the 2nd Friday of each month at the Cavello Center at St. Charles Preparatory School.

Check out our website
SERRACOLUMBUS.ORG
 for more information and scheduled events.

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SAINT JOSEPH CATHEDRAL

Updated January 30, 2024

2023 Appeal Report

Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 42,645.24
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 64,290.57
Exceeds Diocesan Goal by	\$ 21,645.33,

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.
Percent of Parishioner Participation – 16.6%

Offertory for Saint Joseph Cathedral

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Mail-in	\$ 250.00
Collection	\$ 2,108.01
8% Diocese	(\$ 302.40)
TOTAL	\$ 3,477.61
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HOLY CROSS CHURCH

Updated January 30, 2024


2023 Appeal Report

Goal established by the Diocese	\$ 21,018.43
Enhanced Goal	\$ 26,018.43
TOTAL PLEDGES TO DATE	\$ 21,018.43
Diocesan AMOUNT STILL NEEDED	\$ 00.0

Thank you all for your Generosity and may God bless you.
Percent of Parishioner Participation – 18.7%

Offertory for Holy Cross

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8% Diocese	(\$ 235.44)
Net to Parish	\$ 2,707.56

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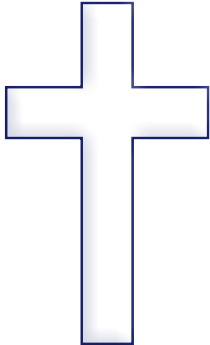
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