

Mass Intentions

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 *Luke 9:46-50*

Sts. Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs

8:30am Mariana Castillo (4th Anniversary in Heaven)

12:10pm Susan Kohut

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022 *Luke 9:51-56*

St. Vincent de Paul, Priest

8:30am Private Intention

12:10pm Private Intention

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2022 *Luke 9:57-62*

St. Wenceslaus; St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions

12:10pm Ubaldina Moran

7:30pm Humberto Silva & Anita Parodi

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2022 *John 1:47-51*

Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael, Archangels

8:30am Private Intention

12:10pm Ted Maghacot

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2022 *Luke 10:13-16*

St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

8:30am Private Intention

12:10pm Private Intention

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022 *Luke 10:17-24*

St. Therese of the Child Jesus, Virgin & Doctor of the Church

8:30am Alexandra Quevedo

5:00pm George Dascher

Linda Brogle

Juan Antonio Germosen

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2022 *Luke 17:5-10*

Respect Life Sunday

7:45am Anna & Michael Apollo (Living)

9:00am Felix DeGuilla, Sr.

Audrey Sue Caparelli

Jerry Sullivan

11:00am Nora & Michael Brennan

Jesus Colindres & Eric Hoyer

Carlos Reyes

Denis P. Connolly

1:00pm Parishioners of Holy Name of Mary



Next Sunday's Liturgy—October 2

Readings for 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4 Trust in the vision; remember it and wait on it.

Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 The Lord may speak today, but will anyone be listening?

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 Courage is given to the one who serves God—and courage will be needed.

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10 More faith isn't the answer. Genuine faith is all you need.

FOCUS: Christ helps us grow in faith and in the ability to act in His name.

Courage, a gift from the Holy Spirit, lies at the heart of today's Scripture - the courage to be faithful to Christ and the Gospel in all things and in all places. Like the disciples, we should be unafraid to ask Jesus for an increase in faith, for He reminds us that even with the smallest amount of faith we have the ability to do great things in His name.

Almighty and eternal God, protect the men and women who serve in our military. Protect them with the shield of Your strength and keep them safe from all evil and harm. May the power of Your love enable them to return home in safety, that with all who love them, they may ever praise You for Your loving care. Amen.

Eucharistic Adoration

You are invited to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday following the 12:10pm Mass, until 6pm; and every Saturday from 7pm - 8pm.



Priest Schedule of Masses

Saturday, October 1, 2022

5:00 pm Fr. Edmund Ani

Sunday, October 2, 2022

7:45 am Fr. Edmund Ani

9:00 am Fr. David Regan

11:00 am Fr. David Regan

1:00 pm Fr. Jose Tenas

*Presider
Subject
To
change*



...Fr. David Regan

“There was a great battle in heaven, Michael and his angels fought with the dragon, and the dragon fought and his angels: And they prevailed not, neither was their place found any more in heaven.” (Rev. 12:7-8) This fight at the end of time mirrors the battle in heaven at the beginning of time.

Mi-cha-el – “Who is like God?” – was the war-cry with which the Archangel led the attack on Lucifer and the rebel angels. Satan wanted to be like God, not just the greatest in the order of His creation, but God Himself. Michael’s fight, therefore, was significant not because he battled over the highest place amongst the angels, but because he was the first to assume the fight for God’s honor and glory.

From the beginning, the angels had perfect knowledge of all creation of the natural order. But as God started to reveal His supernatural order to them, and particularly His plan concerning the Incarnation – that the Word will become flesh, take the form of a creature and that the Son would sit on the right hand of the Father in all eternity – Satan was struck with envy and pride. “*Non serviam!*” cries the one, who wants the place of the Son of God for himself, and thus led a host of angels to join the rebellion. “*Non serve!*” he also whispered to Eve to drag the entire human race down with his own fall and thus even prevent the Incarnation he so feared.

But after being miserably defeated by St Michael, one humiliation follows the next. In the marvelous designs of God, it is not human armies, nor the most illustrious soldiers of all time that make war on the devil for the eternal fate of humanity, but a humble handmaid whose “*Fiat!*” opens the way to the redemption of fallen men. What could be more humiliating to the devil than being defeated anew by one word of a humble virgin? Not only did this Virgin conceive the Son who assumed the place he desired on the right hand of the Father, but who also redeemed the human race which the devil had managed to lead out from paradise.

Nevertheless, Satan continues to battle over each soul until the end of time. His demons are confronted by our angels – who again are subject to St Michael. He is the chief of all individual guardian angels who fight to deliver each one of us from the demons until the last moment of our earthly life.

We must be infinitely grateful to our guardian angels not only for protecting us by fighting the demons who joined Lucifer in his revolution against God, but also because they joined St Michael in the decisive battle and were certainly part of this tremendous victory. It should, therefore, be a great consolation to us in all our earthly struggles that we have for assistance an angel from the army whose victory over evil has been assured!

St Michael, being the commander of all angels is also a most powerful protector of the Church. There could be no better

guardian for the Church Militant than the Captain of God’s celestial army.

Of all the angels named in scripture, we know most about St. Michael. Based on these revelations, the Catholic Encyclopedia lists four particular offices attributed to him:

- 1) To fight against Satan. (Daniel 10:13)
- 2) To rescue the souls of the faithful from the power of the enemy, especially at the hour of death. (Daniel 12)
- 3) To be the champion of God’s people, the Jews in the Old Law, the Christians in the New Testament; therefore, he is a patron of the Church, and of the orders of knights during the Middle Ages. (Epistle of St Jude)
- 4) To call away from earth and present the souls of men for judgment. (Rev. 12:7)

Having cast the demons out of heaven, St Michael has an important role in exorcisms, casting demons out from the souls of men. In the traditional form of the *Confiteor*, he is invoked immediately after Our Lady. This reflects the prominence given to St Michael and his power to deliver us from our enemy who “as a roaring lion, goeth about seeking whom he may devour.” (1Pt 5:8)

From 1886, the protection of St Michael was invoked at the end of every Low Mass throughout the world. This well-known prayer was composed by Pope Leo XIII after a vision in his private chapel, which he described to those who accompanied him at the time, “What a horrible picture I was permitted to see!” In this vision, the Holy Father saw that Satan was given the choice of one century in which to do his worst work against the Church and he chose the twentieth century. The prayer to St Michael to be recited by the faithful after each Low Mass was the Holy Father’s response to his prophetic vision.

The Angel of Peace, who heralded the apparition of Our Lady at Fatima is widely identified as St Michael. And in 1929 the Leonine Prayers after Mass were offered for the conversion of Russia.

Today, St. Michael must remain our special patron in the fight against the powers of evil. It was his humility as an angel from the lower ranks which allowed St Michael to unite himself perfectly to the will of God and cast down Lucifer in his pride. Therefore, let us never cease to implore St Michael in our current battle in the world and in the Church. May he help us fight evil and train us in purity, humility and the zealous love for God which is necessary to serve Him faithfully and fight for His glory.

St Michael, Prince of the Heavenly host, pray for us!
Holy Mary, Queen of Angels, pray for us!



...P. David Regan

“Hubo una gran batalla en el cielo, Miguel y sus ángeles peleaban con el dragón, y peleaba el dragón y sus ángeles; y no prevalecieron, ni se halló más lugar para ellos en el cielo.” (Ap. 12:7-8) Esta lucha al final de los tiempos refleja la batalla en el cielo al principio de los tiempos.

Mi-cha-el – “¿Quién es como Dios?” – fue el grito de guerra con el que el Arcángel dirigió el ataque contra Lucifer y los ángeles rebeldes. Satanás quería ser como Dios, no solo el más grande en el orden de Su creación, sino Dios mismo. La lucha de Miguel, por lo tanto, fue significativa no porque luchó por el lugar más alto entre los ángeles, sino porque fue el primero en asumir la lucha por el honor y la gloria de Dios.

Desde el principio, los ángeles tenían un conocimiento perfecto de toda la creación del orden natural. Pero a medida que Dios comenzó a revelarles su orden sobrenatural, y particularmente su plan con respecto a la Encarnación, que la Palabra se haría carne, tomaría la forma de una criatura y que el Hijo se sentaría a la diestra del Padre por toda la eternidad. Satanás fue golpeado por la envidia y el orgullo. “*Non serviam!*” clama el que quiere el lugar del Hijo de Dios para sí mismo, y así llevó a una hueste de ángeles a unirse a la rebelión. “*¡No servir!*” también le susurró a Eva que arrastrara a toda la raza humana con su propia caída y así incluso evitar la Encarnación que tanto temía.

Pero después de ser derrotado miserablemente por San Miguel, una humillación sigue a la siguiente. En los designios maravillosos de Dios, no son ejércitos humanos, ni los más ilustres soldados de todos los tiempos los que hacen la guerra al diablo por la eterna suerte de la humanidad, sino una humilde esclava cuyo “*Fiat!*” abre el camino a la redención de los hombres caídos. ¿Qué podría ser más humillante para el diablo que ser derrotado nuevamente por una palabra de una virgen humilde? Esta Virgen no sólo concibió al Hijo que asumió el lugar deseado a la diestra del Padre, sino que también redimió al género humano que el demonio había logrado sacar del paraíso.

Sin embargo, Satanás continúa batallando por cada alma hasta el final de los tiempos. Sus demonios son confrontados por nuestros ángeles, quienes nuevamente están sujetos a San Miguel. Él es el jefe de todos los ángeles guardianes individuales que luchan para librar a cada uno de nosotros de los demonios hasta el último momento de nuestra vida terrenal.

Debemos estar infinitamente agradecidos con nuestros ángeles de la guarda no solo por protegernos luchando contra los demonios que se unieron a Lucifer en su revolución contra Dios, sino también porque se unieron a San Miguel en la batalla decisiva y ciertamente fueron parte de esta tremenda victoria. Por lo tanto, ¡debería ser un gran consuelo para nosotros en todas nuestras luchas terrenales que tenemos por asistencia a un ángel del ejército cuya victoria sobre el mal está asegurada!

San Miguel, siendo el comandante de todos los ángeles es también un poderoso protector de la Iglesia. No podría haber

mejor guardián para la Iglesia Militante que el capitán del ejército celestial de Dios.

De todos los ángeles nombrados en las Escrituras, el que más conocemos es San Miguel. Con base en estas revelaciones, la Enciclopedia Católica enumera cuatro oficios particulares que se le atribuyen:

- 1) Para luchar contra Satanás. (Daniel 10:13)
- 2) Para rescatar las almas de los fieles del poder del enemigo, especialmente en la hora de la muerte. (Daniel 12)
- 3) Ser el campeón del pueblo de Dios, los judíos en la Ley Antigua, los cristianos en el Nuevo Testamento; por lo tanto, es patrón de la Iglesia y de las órdenes de caballeros durante la Edad Media. (Epístola de San Judas)
- 4) Para llamar lejos de la tierra y presentar las almas de los hombres para el juicio. (Apocalipsis 12:7)

Habiendo expulsado los demonios del cielo, San Miguel tiene un papel importante en los exorcismos, expulsando los demonios del alma de los hombres. En la forma tradicional del *Confiteor*, se le invoca inmediatamente después de Nuestra Señora. Esto refleja la prominencia dada a San Miguel y su poder para librarnos de nuestro enemigo que “como león rugiente, anda buscando a quien devorar”. (1 Pedro 5:8)

Desde 1886, la protección de San Miguel se invoca al final de cada misa rezada en todo el mundo. Esta conocida oración fue compuesta por el Papa León XIII después de una visión en su capilla privada, que describió a quienes lo acompañaban en ese momento: “¡Qué imagen tan horrible se me permitió ver!” En esta visión, el Santo Padre vio que a Satanás se le dio a elegir un siglo para hacer su peor obra contra la Iglesia y eligió el siglo XX. La oración a San Miguel para ser recitada por los fieles después de cada Misa rezada fue la respuesta del Santo Padre a su visión profética.

El Ángel de la Paz, que anunció la aparición de Nuestra Señora en Fátima, es ampliamente identificado como San Miguel. Y en 1929 se ofrecieron las Oraciones Leoninas después de la Misa por la conversión de Rusia.

Hoy, San Miguel debe seguir siendo nuestro patrón especial en la lucha contra los poderes del mal. Fue su humildad de ángel de rango inferior lo que permitió a San Miguel unirse perfectamente a la voluntad de Dios y abatir a Lucifer en su orgullo. Por eso, no dejemos nunca de implorar a San Miguel en nuestra batalla actual en el mundo y en la Iglesia. Que nos ayude a combatir el mal y nos capacite en la pureza, la humildad y el fervoroso amor a Dios que es necesario para servirle fielmente y luchar por su gloria.

¡San Miguel, Príncipe de las huestes celestiales,
ruega por nosotros!

¡Santa María, Reina de los Ángeles,
ruega por nosotros!

Respect Life Sunday

Sunday, October 2 is Respect Life Sunday. As we celebrate Respect Life Sunday, we are reminded that the assaults on human dignity come in many forms. The Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics is charged with deepening our already strong commitment to pro-life activities and parish education. Please support this vital work through participation in the special Respect Life envelope collection. Your prayers and assistance are greatly appreciated.



Domingo Respeto a la Vida

El Domingo, 2 de octubre es dedicado a celebrar el Respeto a la Vida. Celebrando este Domingo del Respeto a la Vida, recordamos que asaltos a la dignidad de la vida humana esta ocurriendo de muchas maneras. La Oficina al Respeto a la Vida Humana esta a cargo de seguir llevando este profundo compromiso de Pro-Vida a todas las actividades de educación de las Parroquias. Por favor apoye este importante y vital trabajo participando con su colecta en el sobre especial para Respeto a la Vida. Muy agradecidos con nuestras oraciones por su colaboración.

BACKPACK & SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

The Family Life Ministry would sincerely like to thank all parishioners who donated backpacks & school supplies for the families in need in our parish. A special thank you to the 8th grade boys from our Religious Education Program and members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for their time and hard work in assembling the supplies and backpacks. *Thank you!*




**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2022
AT 3:00PM, HNM CHURCH**

Who may receive this sacrament?

- +Adults & children living with physical illness such as; cancer, Parkinson's, heart condition, Alzheimer's, diabetes, stroke, arthritis, etc.
- +adults & children living with disabilities
- +anyone recuperating from surgery or about to have surgery
- +anyone living with mental illness
- +anyone experiencing difficulties because of advanced age

This sacrament provides a special grace and strength to all those who receive it. One does not need to be in danger of death to be anointed. The anointing is done during a special Mass and is always a very meaningful experience.

Family and friends are welcome, as well as caregivers, who are so very important in the lives of the aging, sick and disabled. All caregivers will be remembered at the Mass and will receive a special blessing for strength and courage in their ministry.



Check out what's new at Holy Name of Mary School!



Welcome Back to School!

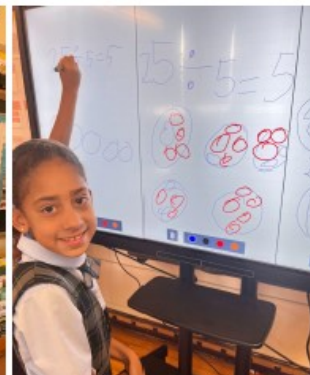
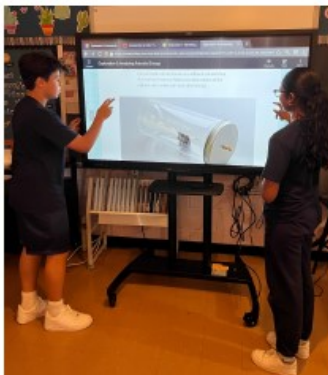


Our school year is off to a great start after welcoming back our wonderful students earlier this month!



Updated Technology at HNOM!

We now have updated SmartBoard technology in many of our classrooms! Students are able to show their learning in new ways through these interactive boards.



Call 516-825-4009 for more information or to schedule a tour!

We provide a safe and welcoming environment for all.

We offer an education that combines Catholic faith and teachings with academic excellence.

We prepare students to be productive citizens and future leaders.

We cultivate a faculty and staff who are dedicated, caring and effective.

We emphasize moral development and self-discipline.

We set high standards for student achievement and help them succeed.

We teach children respect of self and of others.

We instill in children the value of service to others.

We use technology effectively to enhance education.

We partner with parents in the faith formation of their children.

Catholic Schools
Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.
NCEA©

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOLS OPEN HOUSE SCHEDULE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

*You are invited to explore the benefits of a Catholic High School Education.
Enjoy a visit and tour...save the dates!*

St. Anthony's High School
Saturday, September 24, 2022
10am-1pm
631-271-2020
www.stanthonyshs.org

Chaminade High School
Saturday, October 1, 2022
10am-2pm
516-742-5555
www.chaminade-hs.org

Holy Trinity Diocesan High School
Saturday, October 15, 2022
10am-1pm
516-433-2900
www.holytrinityhs.org

St. Mary's High School
Sunday, September 25, 2022
2pm-4:30pm
516-627-2711
www.saintmaryshs.org

Sacred Heart Academy
Saturday, October 1, 2022
11am-2pm
516-483-7383
www.sacredheartacademyli.org

St. John the Baptist High School
Sunday, October 16, 2022
10am-1pm
631-587-8000
www.stjohnthebaptistdhs.net

Kellenberg Memorial High School
Saturday, October 1, 2022
10am-1pm
516-292-0200
www.kellenberg.org

Our Lady of Mercy Academy
Sunday, October 2, 2022
10am-1pm
516-921-1047
www.olma.org

Holy Cross High School
Sunday, October 16, 2022
12pm-4pm
718-886-7250
www.holycrosshighschool.org

LEARNING...
● LOVING...
LIVING...
CHRIST!

St. Dominic High School
Sunday, October 2, 1pm-4pm
516-922-4888
www.hs.stdoms.org



Invitation to Pick Produce with the Society of SVdP



Members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul took a field trip to Island Harvest Farms to pick fresh vegetables to give to our pantry. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide our families in need a way to get vegetables right off the vine. **We invite you to join us every Monday at 8:00 a.m.** The more people we have to help, the more food we can pick!

For more information, please call Isabelle Desio at 516-593-1130.



L. I. COALITION FOR LIFE PRESENTS:



Signs will be distributed at both locations.

Stand Up For Life

Sunday, October 2
2:00pm-3:30pm
(rain or shine)

At two locations:

Along Route 110 and Route 25 in Huntington, LI
and
LIE, Exit 70S, County Rd. 111 in Manorville, LI

This rally is part of a nationwide family friendly event, held at more than 1,500 sites across the USA & Canada. This is not a march; we stand about 10 feet from each other using Only Pre-Approved Signs - on the public sidewalk.

These approved signs are available at the site; you don't have to bring anything.

Just come as you are, bring a friend or the whole family. You can come for part of the time or the full 90 minutes. Please know by your presence that you help save a life.

There is strength in unity. ALL PRO LIFE PEOPLE ARE WELCOME!

For information contact (631) 243-1435
or email Info@ProLifeLI.org

HNM School Registration

Join in the Spirit at Holy Name of Mary School, an AdvancEd Accredited School. To register your child for Nursery (full day, age 3), Pre-K (full day, age 4), Kindergarten (full day, age 5) or Grade 1 through 8, contact our School Office to make an appointment at 516-825-4009, or visit www.hnomschool.org for registration materials and details. Before and after school care is available for all registered students. Follow Holy Name of Mary School on Instagram and Facebook @ hnomschoolvalleystream.

Remember In Prayer

All Those Who Are Sick

Father of Goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community and for all who are in need...

Angela Antonino, Annie Bottone
Fr. Joel Davadilla, Fernando Davadilla
Cindy Desio, Margaret Goldbach
Anna Graham, Anthony Ippolito
Kevin Lynch, Rafaela Mararilla, Marie Mimms
Nial Pace, Jeanette Riscica

(Names will remain on the sick list for **four weeks only**. If you would like to have the name listed again, please notify the Parish Office.)

All Those Who Have Died

Please remember in prayer the recently deceased, and for those who mourn their loss. We also remember the souls in Purgatory.

Rosalie Ferranola
Xavier Navarrete, Joan O'Neil

Eucharistic Minister Schedule

Saturday, October 1, 2022
HOST } J. Kernizan, J. Marracello
Sunday, October 2 2022
7:45am
HOST } D. Fox, P. Jung
9:00am
HOST } M. Moscola, J. Menzies
11:00am
HOST } T. Barry, J. Barry



Baptism Schedule

Baptisms in English are scheduled on the second and fourth Sunday of every month at 3pm. Baptisms in Spanish are scheduled on the second Saturday of every month at 12 noon. Please call the Parish Office for available dates. Baby's birth certificate and signed sponsor forms from godparents are required.

St. Vincent de Paul Message



On September 27, the Church celebrates the feast of St. Vincent de Paul, who knew that "God had sent him to bring good news to the poor." Together with your gifts, the members of the SVdP continue his work and mission in our parish. In the month of September, **through your gifts**, SVdP was able to "bring good news to the poor," by assisting many families, providing food, money for utility and rent bills, etc. **Pantry Needs: Paper towel, toilet tissue, soup, canned tomatoes, black beans, red beans, garbanzo beans**

Please remember the poor boxes as you leave Church today. These generous offerings help the Society of St. Vincent de Paul assist families in need in our own parish. Thank you!



If you and your family recently moved to Valley Stream and wish to become registered parishioners of Holy Name of Mary Church, (or maybe you attend Mass regularly and have never registered), please visit the Parish Office to fill out a short registration form. Using our envelope system is the only way to have all your donations recorded.

Loose checks are not recorded, they must be placed in your registered parishioner envelope.

Msgr. Mulligan Memorial

Bread & Wine



*In Memory of my dad
Luis Lizana (3rd Anniversary)
by Marianela Lizana Plaza*

Candles

*Birthday Remembrance of
Ubalдина Moran
Requested by Teresa Acosta*



Lighthouse Catholic Media

Want to learn more about the Catholic faith? Why not stop by the *Lighthouse Catholic Media* kiosk in the back of the Church and take home one of the many inspiring CD titles? Suggested donations are listed on each item, which will help us continue with this program.



Financial Information

Weekly budget amount to meet parish expenses	\$13,882
Weekly offering of September 18, 2022	\$ 9,522
Faith Direct (average of weekly donation)	\$ 2,097
TOTAL of weekly offering & Faith Direct/Other	\$11,619
Deficit	\$ 2,263
Weekly offering of September 11, 2022	\$10,007



BANNS OF MARRIAGE

First Time:

Jennifer N. Schneidmuller
(Holy Name of Mary)
& Joseph Marvel

(Our Lady of Mercy, Hicksville)

First Time:

Ana Lucia Fajardo
(Holy Name of Mary)
& John Lebrón

(Holy Name of Mary)

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Perhaps you or someone you know would like to complete the Sacraments of Initiation (Communion and/or Confirmation). Or perhaps you know someone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith and may be considering becoming a Catholic and receiving Baptism, Confirmation, and Communion.

Perhaps you are that person even though you may be attending our parish church.

The process for preparing to receive these Sacraments is called the RCIA. It is a faith-sharing and faith-learning process for adults. A team of parishioners and staff members meet with our candidates each week and accompany them on this journey. We plan to begin this process once again this coming October leading up to receiving these Sacraments at the Easter Vigil and on Pentecost. It is always a blessing for our parish to experience the faith and commitment of our candidates, and we welcome you eagerly. If you are interested, please contact Mrs. Patricia Zolzer at the Rectory (516-825-1450). In the interest of health and safety, our sessions will currently be on Zoom.

We meet every Wednesday from 7:30pm to 9:30pm starting on October 5th.



Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

October 2022

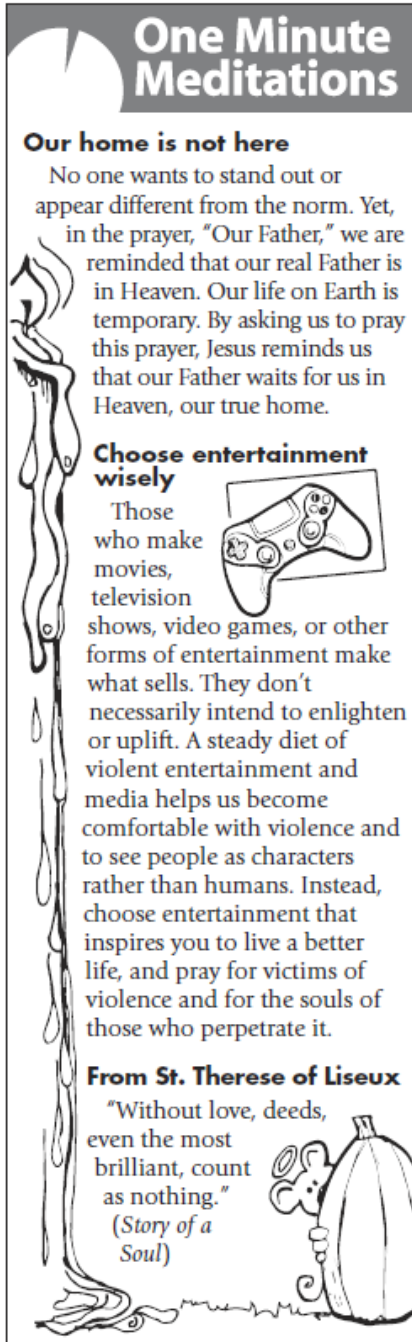
Holy Name of Mary Roman Catholic Church

One Minute Meditations

Our home is not here
 No one wants to stand out or appear different from the norm. Yet, in the prayer, "Our Father," we are reminded that our real Father is in Heaven. Our life on Earth is temporary. By asking us to pray this prayer, Jesus reminds us that our Father waits for us in Heaven, our true home.

Choose entertainment wisely
 Those who make movies, television shows, video games, or other forms of entertainment make what sells. They don't necessarily intend to enlighten or uplift. A steady diet of violent entertainment and media helps us become comfortable with violence and to see people as characters rather than humans. Instead, choose entertainment that inspires you to live a better life, and pray for victims of violence and for the souls of those who perpetrate it.

From St. Therese of Liseux
 "Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing."
(Story of a Soul)



What gifts did God gift just to you?

God gave us each a distinctive set of talents and gifts that make us unique and special. He intends us to use those gifts to bring others to Him and encourage us to grow in love and knowledge of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Here are some practical tips for discerning your spiritual gifts and how to use them:

Take a clue from what you enjoy. How do you like to spend your time? Do you enjoy teaching, creating, singing, reading, constructing, instructing, socializing? We often enjoy doing what we do best. God often wants us to use those competencies to share His love with others.

Tap into your personality. God

loves and delights in each of us. He will purify our sinfulness, but what is essential to us, He wants to develop and strengthen. If God made you

humorous, artistic, pragmatic, or athletic, grow your best qualities for His use.

How are you living your vocation?

Whether we are married, single, or consecrated religious, it's the "role" in which we serve God best. All

priorities should be ordered around that vocation.

Make your gift a gift to others. Our gifts are meant to be given away in service of the Kingdom. We give away and God gives us more. Ask God where your gifts can do the most good.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics honor the saints?

Non-Catholics often wonder at the hundreds of calendar days, prayers, and statues devoted to the saints. The Church recognizes and celebrates men and women of extraordinary holiness who we realize are in heaven. We look to them as examples to follow and

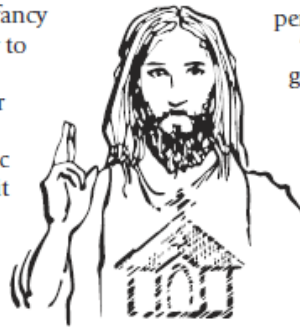


what we can become when we cooperate fully with God's grace. God's goodness, beauty, and love is reflected in the saints' lives. Just as complimenting an artwork is honoring the artist, so by honoring the saints, we glorify God.

Why are you Catholic?

Even adults who have been Catholic since infancy ought to be able to provide a deliberate answer to the question, "Why are you Catholic?" The answers will be varied, personal, and may differ from time to time.

Kara said, "I am Catholic because the Catholic Church is the one that Jesus founded. He gave it to Peter and the Apostles, and they passed His teaching on to their successors, the Pope and the bishops. That Church is still standing, despite 2,000 years of scandal and



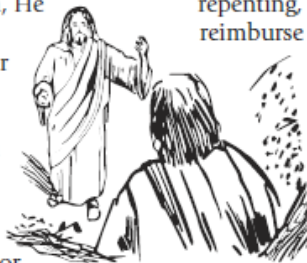
persecution. That proves its divine foundation." "Jesus promised to stay with us," said Nick. "He gave us the Sacraments so we can experience His presence. The only Church in which I can meet Him in the Sacraments is the Catholic Church."

Laura said simply, "The Catholic Church teaches Jesus' Real Presence in the Eucharist. Jesus said, 'This is My Body.' It's not a symbol; it's really Him. I won't encounter Him anywhere else as fully and directly as in the Eucharist."

from Scripture

Luke 19:1-10, Don't judge by public perception

Jesus didn't evaluate people the way others did. Instead of calling the best of society to follow Him, He included people others often excluded. Consider Zacchaeus, the tax collector. We know he was unpopular, small in stature, dishonestly wealthy, and he really wanted to see Jesus.



As the chief tax collector in Jericho, Zacchaeus was rich but unpopular. Tax collectors often overcharged and kept the extra money. Something about Jesus must have intrigued Zacchaeus, who climbed a tree to see Him. Imagine his shock when Jesus called him down and invited

Himself over for dinner. Deeply moved, Zacchaeus was shocked into repenting, promising to generously reimburse the people he robbed – and to donating half his wealth to the poor.

Jesus saw Zacchaeus as a child of God. In return, Zacchaeus' eagerness for Jesus' friendship changed his life forever, beginning with generous restitution. As followers of Jesus, we are called to be open, forgiving, and accepting of others. We never know their full story. Look past the gossip and adopt Jesus' habit of forgiving quickly and being welcoming in your relationships.

Q & A Why are we asked to pray the Rosary?

When Our Lady appeared at Fatima, Portugal, she asked that the Rosary be prayed for peace. As an immensely powerful prayer, the Rosary also has benefits for our:



Minds: Even on our busiest days, we need to spend time reflecting on Jesus. A whole Rosary takes a mere 20 minutes. The

Rosary should be part of every day. Take breaks, pray for souls, receive graces.

Hearts: The Rosary is a Christ-centered, deeply Scriptural prayer. By meditating on the mysteries of the Rosary – important events in the life of Christ – we recall evidence of God's love in history. We can ask for the graces to imitate the virtues of Jesus and Mary. Gradually, our hearts will be conformed to Jesus' Heart.

Souls: The Rosary prepares us for deeper prayer. Switching from "active working mode" to "contemplative prayer mode" may not happen right away. The repetition of the Our Father and Hail Mary prayers creates a space in our minds and hearts, so we can enter into deep, intimate prayer with God.

Feasts & Celebrations

October 2 – Feast of the Guardian Angels. All of us have a guardian angel, in charge of protecting us and watching over us day and night. On this feast day, remember to thank the Guardian Angels for the work they have done in helping us.

October 6 – St. Bruno (1101). St. Bruno was born in Germany, studied in France and became a theology professor. He founded the Carthusian Order in 1084, whose life was based on prayerful solitude, manual labor, and poverty. He was never formally canonized.

October 16 – St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (1690). St. Margaret joined the Sisters of the Visitation at Paray-le-Monial. In 1673, she began having visions of Jesus Christ, in which He asked for a feast to his Sacred Heart. The Church officially recognized the devotion to the Sacred Heart in 1765.

October 18 – St. Luke, Evangelist (1st century). St. Luke was a Christian physician from Antioch. His Gospel and Acts of the Apostles were probably written between 70 and 85 A.D.



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