



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC CHURCH

Corner of E. Lincoln and Hamlet Streets
Church Mailing Address: 168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1534
(National Italian Parish ~ Est. 1896)

(614) 294-5319
Fax: (614) 294-4303
E-mail: info@sjbitaliana.org
Msgr. Frank P. Lane, Parochial Administrator

MASSES/MESSE:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist
Monday & Tuesday: 12:00 noon at St. John the Baptist
Wednesday: 6:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist
Weekdays and Holy Days:
(See Mass Schedule inside Bulletin)

PARISH OFFICE/STAFF:

Aggie Howard, Executive Assistant, ahoward@sjbitaliana.org
Victoria Scruggs, Secretary, vgammell@sjbitaliana.org
Office Hours, St. John the Baptist and Sacred Heart Church:
Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Administration of both parishes is done through the office at St. John the Baptist – 168 E. Lincoln Street. Requests for copies of sacramental records, scheduling of Masses and other sacramental celebrations, hall rental and other non-emergency needs should be made during regular office hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes, such as address or telephone, etc., by calling during regular hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESIONE: One half-hour prior to weekend Mass or by request/appointment.

BAPTISM/BATTESIMO: Preparation is required for the reception of the sacrament. Parents are encouraged to call the Rectory and set up an appointment before the birth of their child.

MATRIMONY/MATRIMONIO: Arrangements should be made at least six or more months in advance. A marriage preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/INFERMI: In cases of emergencies, please call anytime. Please notify the Parish Office for Communion calls to the sick, shut-ins. Due to privacy laws, if parishioners wish to be visited in the hospital, they should contact the Parish Office directly and give the information regarding the hospitalization. If you are scheduled for surgeries or other medical procedures, please contact the Parish Office in advance so that a priest can administer Anointing of the Sick prior to the procedure.

All About Abruzzo

Dinner and Dance

Monday, October 7, 2024

Additional information inside this bulletin



COLUMBUS ITALIAN FESTIVAL

Friday, **October 11**, 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
Saturday, **October 12**, 12:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
Sunday, **October 13**, 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.columbusitalianfestival.com

Adam Montemarano – Executive Director
Festival Information: 614-BY ITALY (614-294-8259)

ITALIAN FESTIVAL 2024

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Dear Friends in Christ,

Only **two** weeks left until the **festival**. There will be a lot of rearrangement of space indoors and outdoors here at **St. John's** and will take a lot of patience and understanding. I hope we're all on board. I also invite everyone to join me in praying for good weather!

I'd like to reiterate the invitation to all parishioners to feel free to join in on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.** for our **OCIA** opportunity. While it's designed to be a program for "inquirers," it's also an opportunity for continuing adult faith formation for anyone who might be interested.

You might notice that the concrete in front of the **Center** has been replaced. The new doors are coming soon, the rectory courtyard has been cleaned up and new plantings will go in in the **Spring**. We have also been informed that our air conditioning should be evaluated. This could be a major item, so we hope it's in good shape overall.

Enjoy the coming **Fall** weather and while we need rain badly, we don't need it from the **11th** to the **13th** of **October!**

Many Blessings!
Msgr. Frank Lane

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

St. John's is a welcoming community, rooted in the **Italian** traditions, teachings, and beauty of our **Catholic** faith. We recognize that every person is on his or her own journey of faith, and we seek to meet you where you are in your journey. At **St. John's**, the beauty of the **Mass** is embraced, while maintaining a welcoming spirit for our **Italian Village** neighbors and greater **Columbus Community**.

To learn more about the Parish, please visit our website: www.sjbitaliana.com

Thank you for choosing St. John the Baptist!

Please contact St. John the Baptist or Sacred Heart Church if you are interested in becoming Catholic, receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation or Baptism. For more information, contact the Parish Office at 614-294-5319.

For Weddings and Funerals, please contact Aggie Howard at ahoward@sjbitaliana.org or call the office at 614-294-5319.

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: *Joyce Tisone*
by Carl Tisone

Blessed Sacrament: *Joan Italiano*
by Chris Soteriades



COFFEE AND DONUTS AFTER SUNDAY MASS IN SALA HALL

LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

	Sunday, September 29, 2024, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Nick D'Alberto, Antonio D'Alberto
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	Kurt Heining, Al Iosue,
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	Pat Rossetti, Sharon D'Alberto, Gretchen Heining
	Sunday, October 6, 2024, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Ed Paganelli, Tania Wade
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	AnnMarie Pastore, Antonio D'Alberto,
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	Sharon D'Alberto, Margaret Panico-Harn, Andrea Mayers

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

****If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For Vienna D'Alberto who is residing at the Worthington Christian Village. Also, keep in your prayers, Laura Williams, Guy Williams, and John Contino.**

THE ROSARY BEFORE MASS ON SUNDAY: We begin the **Rosary** around **9:00-9:05 a.m.**, and it takes about **15-20** minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact **Kevin Koesters** at **937-902-7446** or via email k.koesters32@gmail.com. Leaders for **September and October** are:

September 29 Tania Wade
October 6 Gary Bosco
October 13 Kevin Koesters

2024 THE APPEAL – UPDATE FOR ST. JOHN'S: As of **September 22, 2024**, our **Goal** is **\$34,195.20**, **Pledged:** **\$40,456.00** and **Balance** is over **\$6,260.80**. Thank you in advance for your prayerful generosity.

PAVERS: The front **Pavilion** of **St. John's Church** is covered with **Pavers**. These **Pavers** are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of **St. John's** at **614-294-5319**.

"ALL ABOUT ABRUZZO" DINNER AND DANCE – Please join us as we "kick off" the **Start** of our **Columbus Italian Festival** week by celebrating with a dinner and dance at **The Berwick on Monday, October 7, 2024**, from **6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.** **\$50.00/person** includes a fabulous **Italian** dinner and spectacular **Italian** music by **Ray Massa's EuroRhythms!** **ALL tickets MUST be purchased IN ADVANCE!** You can reserve tables of **eight (8)** for **\$400.00**. For tickets, see **Margaret Panico-Harn** or **Carol Ristucci** after **Sunday Mass** in **Sala Hall** or by contacting **Aggie Howard** in the Parish Office during the week at **614-294-5319**. All tickets **MUST** be purchased by **Monday, September 30th** as **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!** Each ticket purchased will also be good for a **ONE-DAY** free admission into the **Columbus Italian Festival**.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Sunday: St. John the Baptist – 9:30 a.m.
September 29 + *Chris Cua*
by Michael Cua
 Sacred Heart – 11:00 a.m.
Special Intention for J. P.

Monday: St. John’s – 12:00 Noon
September 30 *Living & Deceased Members of St. John’s*

Tuesday: St. John’s – 12:00 Noon
October 1 + *Rudy Biscuso*
by Reno Carifa

Wednesday: St. John’s – 6:00 p.m.
October 2 + *Fr. Richard Lumpe*
by Fr. Michael Lumpe
 Sacred Heart – 10:30 a.m.
Living & Deceased Members of Sacred Heart

Thursday: Sacred Heart – 6:30 p.m.
October 3 + *Fr. Ronald Schmelzer*

Friday: No Mass
October 4

Saturday: Sacred Heart – 4:00 p.m.
October 5 + *Robert Stefanov*
by Joe & Debbie Stefanov

Sunday: St. John’s – 9:30 a.m.
October 6 + *Gerardo Cugini & Cesidio Capoccia*
by Pina Cugini & Family
 Sacred Heart – 11:00 a.m.
From SJB – + Mary Elizabeth Pishitelli
by Judy & Phillip Pishitelli

CONFESSION AND ADORATION

Confessions: St. John’s – Sunday – 8:30 a.m.
 Sacred Heart – Saturday – 3:00 p.m.
 Sacred Heart – Thursday – 7:00 p.m.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:
 Sacred Heart, Thursdays, 10:00 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

9/29 Sunday	<p><u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane</u> – 9:30 a.m. <u>SJB Salvadore Baptism</u> – 2:30 p.m. Church <u>SJB Donuts & Coffee</u> after 9:30 a.m. Mass in Sala Hall until 12:00 p.m. <u>SJB Social Activity</u> – 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Italian Classroom <u>SJB Religious Ed</u> – After 9:30 Mass Administrative Office 2nd floor <u>SJB LeDonne Group</u> – 10:30-11:30 a.m. Marrapese <u>KCC Religious Education</u> 10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Library <u>KCC Mass – 12:00 p.m. – Fr. Francisco Kim</u> Meeting in Marrapese, 1:00-3:00 p.m. <u>San Giovanni Dancers</u> – 3:30-5:00 p.m. Marrapese</p>
9/30 Monday	<p><u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane</u> – 12:00 Noon <u>Columbus Italian Festival Executive Board Meeting</u> – 5:30 p.m. <u>General</u> – 7:00 p.m. – Marrapese Hall</p>
10/1 Tuesday	<p><u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane</u> – 12:00 Noon</p>
10/2 Wednesday	<p><u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane</u> – 6:00 p.m. <u>OCIA Class</u> – 7:00-8:30 p.m. – 2nd Floor Library</p>
10/4 Friday	<p><u>KCC Mass – Fr. Kim</u> – 7:00 p.m.</p>
	<p><u>Altar Guild Reminder</u> – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall, 10:45-11:30 a.m. <i>Next meeting is November 3rd.</i></p>
	<p><u>Le Donne Group</u> – Meetings are the last Sunday of each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall from 10:30-11:30 a.m. <i>Next meeting will be October 27th.</i></p>
	<p><u>Padre Pio Group</u> – Chapel Rosary 12:30 p.m. Next Mass scheduled Thursday, October 31st at 1:00 p.m.</p>
	<p><u>SJB Social Activity Council Meeting</u> the 4th Sunday of each month in the Library, 12:00-2:00 p.m.</p>

PARLI ITALIANO? Ready to embark on a language adventure? Join us for **Italian** classes and discover the beauty of the **Italian** language! These are basic conversational **Italian** language classes for adults, **18+ years old**, unless accompanied by a parent.

When: Sundays, 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. from **October 20th** to **November 24th**

Where: Italian Cultural Center Classroom

Instructor: Our talented **Maria Lucchin**

Details:

- **Fun and interactive:** Our classes are designed to make learning enjoyable.
- **Conversational skills:** Learn to speak basic **Italian** in everyday situations.
- **Affordable:** Cost is based on class size.

Don't miss this opportunity to discover the Italian language and culture! Enroll today by contacting **Ida Shook** at shook4@gmail.com or **Tania Wade** at t.wade73@gmail.com. **Ciao!**

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION 2024 – 2025



One of the most important aspects a parish must have to survive is a strong religious education program. **St. John's Parish** classes started **September 15th** in the secretary's office on the second floor. Grandchildren of grandparents are welcome if the grandparents are registered in the parish. Non-Catholic children are also invited. Class begins immediately following the **9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass** and will last **45 minutes**. Please call **Sharon Curtin** at **614-563-8405**, or email at sharon@mcurtin.com for information. Thank you.

COLUMBUS ITALIAN NEWS

COOKIE BOOTH: It is that time again. Calling out to all our **HEAVENLY BAKERS** for **Pizzelle and Biscotti**. (Traditional flavors only, please). Containers will be available in **Sala Hall**. Pledge a number of cookies or sign up to volunteer after church. Volunteers can also sign up at bit.ly/cookievolunteers. After church in **September**, or before the Festival, please **label** and bring cookies to the church office. If you have any questions, please contact **Jennifer Marinello** at 614-906-4866 or **Carol Ristucci** at 614-271-1007. **Grazie mille!**

CHURCH PARKING LOT BLACK TOP: No use from **September 30th-October 18**. (Corner of Hamlet and Lincoln)

GRAVEL PARKING LOT: No use starting **October 7th-18th**. (Corner of Lincoln and 4th St.)

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S September 22, 2024

Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 43

Reg Env:	\$	1,620.00
Loose:	\$	363.00
Total	\$	1,983.00
Less Diocesan 9% Assessment	\$	-(178.47)
	\$	1,804.53

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)
This Week:	\$3,000.04	\$1,983.00	-\$1,017.04

DONATION QR CODE AND WEBSITE INFORMATION



Please help St. John the Baptist maintain this beautiful 125-year-old building with a donation by using the QR code to donate. Thank you!



SJB Collection Counters – Monday, September 30, 2024
Darlene Rauch and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters – Monday, October 7, 2024
Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard

la prossima

This is a newly formed **Italian Club for Young Adults**. **La prossima** is a **Young Adult Group** keeping the culture alive through the next generation. A vibrant club for young adults of **Italian descent**. (<https://linktr.ee/laprossimasocieta>) and the **Instagram @laprossimaorg**.



UNCOVER THE TREASURES OF YOUR ITALIAN ROOTS! **CIAO Columbus (Columbus Italian Ancestry Organization)** is a newly formed **Italian Ancestry** group dedicated to the exploration of **Italian** ancestry.

Whether you are a beginner or an experienced researcher, our community is here to support your journey into **Italian** genealogy. **For more information, contact one of the following:**

Rich Leto rleto98@gmail.com
Tina Solazzo zingerts@yahoo.com
Ida Tiberi-Shook shook4@gmail.com
Tania Tiberi-Wade t.wade73@gmail.com

ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS: The process in which adults enter the **Roman Catholic Church** is known as **OCIA**, “**The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults**.” **Who is eligible for this process?**

The Unbaptized. The primary focus of the **Order of Christian Initiation of Adults** is on those who are not already **Christian** and have had little or no religious education.

Baptized but un-catechized are those who have been baptized in the **Roman Catholic Church** but need further catechetical instruction to celebrate the **Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation, and the Holy Eucharist**.

Those Seeking Full Communion with the Catholic Church are baptized, practicing **Christians** from another **Christian Tradition** who seek entry, or full communion with the **Roman Catholic Church**.

If you know someone who might be interested, please call **Sharon Curtin** at 614-563-8405, or email at sharon@mcurtin.com. Classes will be held at **St. John the Baptist Church** on **Wednesday evening, 7:00-8:30 p.m.** in the parish library on the second floor, and began on **September 18, 2024**.

BYRON SANDERS FOUNDATION

St. John's is assisting the great work of the **Byron Sanders** foundation yet, another year. For over **ten** years, **St. John's** has purchased fresh potatoes with the donations of our parishioners. This year, we have been asked to collect **Gift Cards** in **\$20.00** denominations. In this way, the families will receive fresh food and a **\$20.00 gift card** for the extras. **The stores with the best pricing are Aldi and Kroger**, we encourage cards from these stores, or a **\$20.00 bill** in a marked envelope will also work and the committee will purchase the gift cards. Let's assist **Brian Wollenburg** as he enters year **27** of contributing to **Thanksgiving for Central Ohio** families in need. Please drop the gift card in the collection basket or give to **Landa Masdea Brunetto** after **Mass**. The last day for donations is **Sunday, November 10th**.

JUBILEE YEAR ITALY TOUR

March 20-28, 2025

Rome, Abruzzo & Molise, Naples
Amalfi Coast

Minimum: 18 people, max 25

Highlights: Rome during Jubilee Year

- **Abruzzo & Molise:** bell foundry, cheese factory, truffle hunting
- **Naples:** original pizza
- **Sorrento & Amalfi Coasts, Paestum, Pompeii, buffalo mozzarella farm, Mt. Vesuvius winery.**

Cost: \$4,200.00/person all inclusive, (including tips) Only exception is lightest meal each day.

Led by: Philitaly Cultural Exchanges, LLC

Contact: Phil: 917-523-9068

Website: www.philitaly.com

For Full Itinerary: <https://www.philitaly.co/explore-central-south-italy-Mar25>

AROUND US

LITURGICAL CALENDAR FOR OCTOBER: October falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. The month of **October** is dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**. **The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated on October 7.** This feast was instituted by **Pope St. Pius V** in thanksgiving for the great naval victory over the **Turks** at the battle of **Lepanto** on this day in the year **1570**, a favor due to the recitation of the **Rosary**. This victory saved Europe from being overrun by the forces of Islam.

HOLY FATHER: You are invited to pray for the **Holy Father's October intention: We pray that the Church continue to sustain in all ways a Synodal lifestyle, as a sign of co-responsibility, promoting the participation, the communion and the mission shared among priests, religious and lay people.**



MEMORIAL OF OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY: *Pour forth, we beseech You, O Lord, Your grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Your Son was made known by the message of an Angel, may, through the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*

SEPTEMBER 29: WORLD PRIEST DAY:

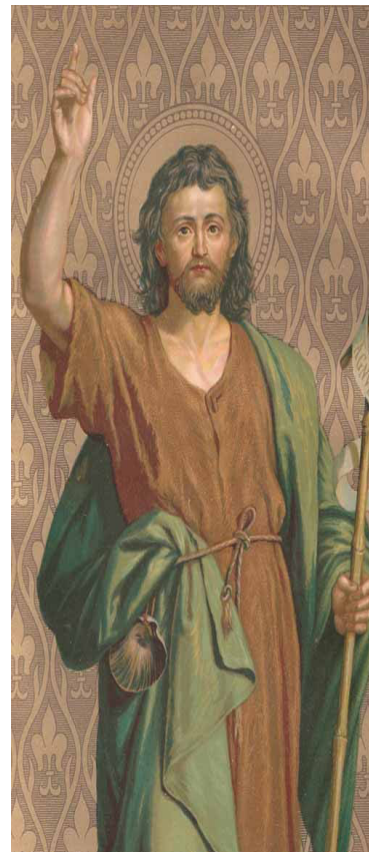
PRAYER: *Gracious and loving God, we thank You for the gift of our priests. Through them, we experience Your presence in the Sacraments. Help our priests to be strong in their vocation. Set their souls on fire with love for Your people. Grant them the wisdom, understanding, and strength they need to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. Inspire them with the vision of your Kingdom. Give them the words they need to spread the Gospel. Allow them to experience joy in their ministry. Help them to become instruments of Your divine grace. We ask this through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns as our Eternal Priest. Amen.*

"If good things exist and endure in this world, it is only because so many times love has prevailed over hate, solidarity over indifference, generosity over selfishness. Nothing that lasts can exist or grow without love." @Pontifex

CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON – FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2024 – SPEAKER: THE MOST REVEREND EARL K. FERNANDES, BISHOP OF COLUMBUS. Please join us on **Friday, October 4** at **St. Patrick Church** in downtown **Columbus** for a luncheon featuring the annual address from his **Excellency Bishop Fernandes**. The **October** luncheon is sponsored by **The Catholic Foundation**. More information about **The Catholic Foundation** is available at <https://catholic-foundation.org/>. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact **David Kilanowski** at dkilano@aol.com. **Holy Mass** (optional) begins at **11:45 a.m.** followed by lunch at **12:10 p.m.** and **Bishop Fernandes'** presentation. No reservations are necessary. **\$12.00** covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! **Don't miss our next luncheon on Friday, November 1, 2024, featuring Brian Hickey, Executive Director of the Catholic Conference of Ohio, who will speak about The Catholic Conference of Ohio. Because the November luncheon is on All Saints Day (A Holy Day of Obligation), Mass will begin at 12:00 Noon instead of the usual 11:45 a.m. start time and the luncheon will follow at 1:00 p.m. Please mark your calendar to attend.**



PRAYER: *O God, who manifest Your almighty power above all by pardoning and showing mercy, bestow, we pray, Your grace abundantly upon us and make those hastening to attain Your promises heirs to the treasures of heaven. 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 TO SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
O glorious St. John the Baptist, the greatest of prophets; thou, though sanctified from thy mother's womb and most innocent, didst nevertheless will to retire into the desert, there to practise austerities and penance; obtain for us from our Lord the grace to be detached, at least in the affections of our hearts, from all earthly treasure, and to practise Christian mortification with interior recollection and a spirit of holy prayer. Amen.

US VERSUS THEM

Reflection on Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

These past few weeks we've been made privy to some of the frustrations that Jesus experienced in His ministry: Pharisees nitpicking about Jesus' followers not washing their hands properly; Peter not being able to accept that the Messiah would suffer and die; the disciples arguing about what makes one great. And today, Jesus encounters another all-too-human trait: Us versus Them.

John's irritation at encountering someone "who does not follow us" ministering in Jesus' name, parallels Joshua's rage (in the first reading) that two elders who were not present for the Lord's distribution of the prophetic spirit are nonetheless ministering in the Spirit. They must be stopped! At once! They are not part of our group, not part of Us.

Jesus uses this occasion not only to persuade His followers to a spirit of inclusion, but also to suggest that if we are taken with a sense of exclusion, it would be best to turn that inward and discover just what needs to be cut out, left out, loped off – excluded – from our lives/thoughts/hearts if we are to be true and faithful disciples. I've often thought that the best response to hearing this Gospel passage would be a thorough examination of conscience in preparation for celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

– Fr. Jay



WEEKLY SCRIPTURE

Sunday, September 29, 2024

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Nm 11:25-29

Ps 19:8, 10, 12-13, 14

Jas 5:1-6

Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Monday, September 30, 2024

Memorial of Saint Jerome,

Priest and Doctor of the Church

Jb 1:6-22

Ps 17:1bcd, 2-3, 6-7

Lk 9:46-50

Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Memorial of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church

Jb 3:1-3, 11-17, 20-23

Ps 88:2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8

Lk 9:51-56

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Weekday

Jb 9:1-12, 14-16

Ps 88:10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15

Mt 18:1-5, 10

Thursday, October 3, 2024

Weekday

Jb 19:21-27

Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14

Lk 10:1-12

Friday, October 4, 2024

Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5

Ps 139:1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab

Lk 10:13-16

Saturday, October 5, 2024

Weekday

Jb 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17

Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130

Lk 10:17-24

Access Daily Readings from
the New American Bible,
Revised Edition (NABRE) online at
<https://bible.usccb.org>

SAINT JEROME

Saint of the Day: September 29

Patron Saint of: Librarians, Scholars, Translators

Saint Jerome's love for God and His Son, Jesus Christ, was extraordinarily intense; anyone who taught error was an enemy of God and truth, and Jerome went after him or her with his mighty, and sometimes sarcastic, pen.

Jerome wrote commentaries which are a great source of scriptural inspiration for us today. He was an avid student, a thorough scholar, a prodigious letter-writer and a consultant to monk, bishop, and pope.

Saint Jerome is particularly important for having made a translation of the Bible which came to be called the Vulgate. As a modern scholar says, "No man before Jerome or among his contemporaries and very few men for many centuries afterwards were so well qualified to do the work." The Council of Trent called for a new and corrected edition of the Vulgate, and declared it the authentic text to be used in the Church.

He began his studies at his birthplace, Stridon in Dalmatia. He went to Rome, the center of learning at that time, and thence to Trier, Germany. He spent several years in each place, always trying to find the very best teachers.

After these preparatory studies, he traveled extensively in Palestine, marking each spot of Christ's life with an outpouring of devotion. Mystic that he was, he spent five years in the desert of Chalcis so that he might give himself up to prayer, penance, and study. Finally, he settled in Bethlehem, where he lived in the cave believed to have been the birthplace of Christ. Jerome died in Bethlehem, and the remains of his body now lie buried in the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome.

Read the full article: "Saint Jerome" Franciscan Media, Franciscan Friars,
<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/saint-of-the-day/saint-jerome/> (Accessed September 6, 2024).



*Invest time each week to
expand your vocabulary and
deepen your faith.*

29 September 2024

WORD OF THE WEEK

Preferential Option for the Poor

*\ˈpre-fə-ˈren(t)-shəl ˈäp-
shən ˈfôr ˈthə ˈpòr*

A phrase reminding us that justice and concern for the poor are urgently mandated throughout the Bible, in Israelite law and ancient prophecy as well as in the teachings of Jesus. The term was first used in the writings of the Latin American Bishops' Conference (CELAM) in 1979 and is embraced in papal pronouncements since.

Pronunciation: <https://tinyurl.com/Take5-Preferential-Option>

CONTEXT

In teaching us charity, the gospel instructs us in the **preferential** respect due to the poor and the special situation they have in society.

—Pope Paul VI

Dialogue must not only favor the **preferential option** on behalf of the poor, the marginalized, and the excluded, but also respect them as having a leading role to play.

—Pope Francis

WHY IT MATTERS

The church's love for the poor is inspired by the gospel Beatitudes, by the poverty of Jesus, and by his concern for the disadvantaged and oppressed. It's also mandated in the final judgment parable, when the only agenda item is: "What you did for the least of these, you did for me." Jesus is fundamentally seen in the faces of the poor and to ignore them is to risk missing him entirely.

From *Economic Justice for All* (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops): The "**option for the poor**" is not an adversarial slogan that pits one group or class against another. Rather it states that the deprivation and powerlessness of the poor wounds the whole community (88).

RELATED WORDS

Charity | Social Justice | Beatitudes

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

What are the corporal works of mercy?

Listing the seven works is easy. Appreciating their breadth takes time. Six appear in the final judgment parable in Matthew: feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit the imprisoned, shelter the homeless, visit the sick. The seventh—bury the dead—is grounded in traditional Hebrew respect for the body. Feeding the hungry goes beyond the soup kitchen to economic reform. Satisfying thirst includes the politics of water rights and preserving seas and rivers. Clothing the naked involves respecting the dignity of the poor. Visiting the imprisoned recognizes many kinds of captivity: domestic violence, sexism, racism, educational impoverishment. Sheltering the homeless includes welcoming strangers and lobbying for affordable housing. Visiting the sick expands to creating access for the disabled and inviting the infirm into the greater community. Burying the dead can include pardoning those who have injured us. Mercy is the meeting ground of love and justice.

—Alice Camille, from *Questions Catholics Ask* <http://tinyurl.com/QCA-Corporal-Works>

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

WORLD DAY OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES (SEPTEMBER 29)

Bring them home

Where do migrants and refugees belong? It's a political question with a biblical answer: right here with the rest of us. Since 1914 the church has observed a day to assist the "family in migration and the challenges it faces," as Pope John Paul II phrased it. And he urged us to commit to overcoming "all racism, xenophobia, and exaggerated nationalism" that affects our relationship to displaced persons.

READINGS: Numbers 11:25-29; James 5:1-6; Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 (137 <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/092924.cfm>).
"Anyone who gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ, ... will surely not lose his reward."

FAITH IN ACTION

With respect for their religious beliefs and concern for the special burdens of women and children, offer a warm welcome to new neighbors far from home.

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