

October is the month when we especially call upon the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary. It is time to pray the rosary, to meditate on the Blessed Mother's example of discipleship and grow closer to her Son through her. Pope Leo gave a beautiful homily at Lourdes last Sunday on Mary's call to conversion and healing. I think it can give us much inspiration this month. Here is a substantial excerpt:

...This Sunday's readings touch on a central part of the message that the Virgin Mary entrusted to Saint Bernadette: the call to conversion, both tender and urgent. In the Gospel, Jesus looks with truth and deep sorrow upon hearts that have remained closed, "you did not repent" (Mt 21:32). Why does this wound the heart of Christ? Because God does not want his children to be lost. The prophet Ezekiel reminds us, "When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die for it." However, since "he considered and turned away from all the transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die" (Ez 18:26, 28). This is why the call to repentance runs through Sacred Scripture and the preaching of the Gospel down the centuries. Its gravity reminds us of the urgency and necessity of conversion. It is today, not tomorrow, that we must repent. Indeed, now is the acceptable time, now is the day of salvation (cf. 2 Cor 6:2). God wants us to live, to open our eyes and return to him. To repent is to leave the paths on which we lost our way, and to follow the way of life, opening our hearts to the sole joy that never passes away.

Jesus himself is quite direct in calling us to repentance. As Saint Luke tells us, "Unless you repent, you will all perish" (Lk 13:5). But he also extends our horizon beyond this earthly life to the horizon of eternal life. For while happiness in this world is fleeting and relative, and sadly sometimes out of reach for some, true happiness is promised to everyone in hope, and this is what we should seek above all else, in all our efforts and choices. Did not the Virgin Mary say to Saint Bernadette, "I do not promise to make you happy in this world but in the next"?....Mary comes to remind us of the greatness and richness of our calling to life, to eternal life...

In the face of current trends that seek to redefine the value of human life in illness, suffering and old age, the grotto of Massabielle stands as a place of Christian hope. Here, no one is turned away due to their frailty. Your crutches, your wheelchairs and your hidden tears are not obstacles; instead, they are the very place where you are fully respected and welcomed, and where you can experience a transforming encounter with the infinite love of God. Lourdes is blessed as a place for professing the beauty and sanctity of life, for life is welcomed here as a precious gift from God, and is called to flourish for ever in the love of the Father.

"I promise you!" Indeed, eternal life is a firm and certain promise that the Lord makes to us. He has already won it for us by his death on the cross and his resurrection, and through the grace of baptism he is bringing it to fulfilment in us each day. It is within our reach, but we must freely

welcome it, take hold of it and not stand in its way. For the obstacle to grace and eternal life — the only obstacle to this love — is sin, whereby we turn in upon ourselves, refusing God and shutting ourselves up in our own darkness. Our personal responsibility therefore comes into play, and a great responsibility it is. God has made us free, since freedom is necessary for love; no one can be forced to love. We must therefore use our freedom to say yes to Christ, relying on his grace, like Mary. This is a yes that we renew until our final breath — "now and at the hour of our death" — as we say in the Hail Mary.

We hear the same urgent call to conversion in the words which Mary spoke right here, "Penance! Penance! Penance!" She repeats the word three times. And she asks Bernadette to perform certain acts of penance. Why? Are we slow to understand? Do we too easily think of ourselves without sin? Do we not practice penance enough? The Virgin asks us to do penance not only for ourselves, because we too need it, but also "for sinners," for a world that is going astray. How can our hearts not be moved by the conflicts that are spreading and destroying so many innocent lives? Yet the evil of our time comes from the human heart. God is not responsible for it. As he says to the Israelites, "Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?" (Ez 18:25). It is therefore human hearts that must change, beginning with our own.

Penance is an act of love, carried out in solidarity with the human family. It is an act of love for God, because we want to make amends for the wounds our sins have dealt to his heart. It is also an act of love for those brothers and sisters of ours who do not heed this call to conversion, and whose sins lead them towards death. This call to conversion also concerns the Church herself as she makes her earthly journey. She must have the courage to begin with herself. In order to heal the deep wounds, infidelities and painful errors that have occurred within her, we must humbly place ourselves under the Lord's purifying gaze. Recognizing our own faults is essential to our spiritual growth. As Saint Augustine wrote, "Do not be content with what you are, if you want to become what you are not yet" (Disc. 169, 15, 18).

Our Mother's reminder of our duty to pray and repent fills us with great hope, because she shows us that the way to change the course of things is by uniting ourselves to the passion of Christ....Pilgrims, brothers and sisters, you will not leave Lourdes as you arrived. You will leave as missionaries of hope. Indeed, the miracle of Lourdes is that it can awaken the joy of hope in the very midst of suffering and hardship. The Virgin Mary heals our outlook and changes our hearts, giving them peace....Sustained by the prayers of the sick and the love of our Mother, walk with confidence into the future. Do not be afraid of the storms of the world, for the holy Mother of God watches over your journey, she shelters the Church beneath her mantle of tenderness and, as the radiant Morning Star, guides your steps, so that with joy she may bring you to new birth in the very life of her Son Jesus. Amen.

POPE LEO

Blessings on your week!

Fr. Johnson

HAPPENING THIS WEEK

ST JUDE Office Hours: Monday-Wednesday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Monday October 5	Tuesday October 6	Wednesday October 7	Thursday October 8	Friday October 9	Saturday October 10	Sunday October 11
9:00am Daily Mass 10:00am Women of Faith 6:30pm Confirmation Session (Youth)	5:30pm Faith Formation K-6	8:30am Confessions 9:00am Daily Mass 7:00pm House of Prayer 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (for 11am Mass)	9:00am Daily Mass 12:15pm Steps to Freedom 1:00pm Rosary Cenacle 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal (for 9am Mass) 7:00pm OCIA	9:00am Daily Mass 9:30am - 9:00pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament 10:00am Guardians & Angels	3:30pm Confessions 5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass	9:00am Sunday Mass 11:00am Sunday Mass KoC Pancake Breakfast after both Masses 12:30pm Baptism Prep Class 6:30pm Teen Group

HOLY INNOCENTS Office Hours: Monday-Thursday 9AM-4PM, Friday 9AM-12PM

Tuesday October 6	Wednesday October 7	Thursday October 8	Friday October 9	Saturday October 10	Sunday October 11
9:00am Daily Mass 3:00-6:30pm Food Pantry Open	10am-12noon Food Pantry Open 6:00pm Daily Mass 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9:00am Daily Mass 11:30am Senior Lunch	9:00am Daily Mass 6-6:45pm Confessions 6-8pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament	6:00-8:00pm HIYA Event at Muddy Boots	8:00am Sunday Mass 9:15am F.U.T.U.R.E.s Class 10:30am Sunday Mass 12pm Confirmation Class

ST ANTHONY Office Hours: October 10, 2026 Saturday 9-11AM

Tuesday October 6	Wednesday October 7	Thursday October 8	Saturday October 10	Sunday October 11
6:00pm Adoration & Rosary	7:30-9:30pm AA Meeting	6:00pm Bible Study	5:00pm Saturday Vigil Mass	5:30pm Sunday Evensong

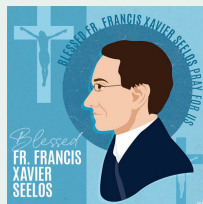
ASSISTANCE TO THOSE IN NEED

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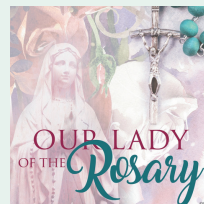
- Holy Innocents: King County Crisis line at 211
- St. Jude SVdP: Helpline assistance: 206-767-6449
- To learn more or to join the ministry contact:
 - Connie Dunn at Holy Innocents: connie@conniedunn.com
 - Diane Murphy at St Jude: svdp@stjude-redmond.org
- To donate furniture or household items email: svdpfurnitureredmond@gmail.com (UPDATED EMAIL)



OCT 4



OCT 5



OCT 7

PARISH FAMILY FINANCIAL UPDATES

HOLY INNOCENTS YEAR TO DATE 2026 - 2027



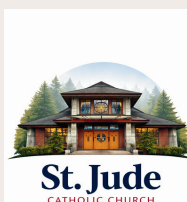
SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Actual \$106,259
Goal \$132,500
Ahead/(Behind) (\$26,241)

BUILDING

Actual \$48,201
Goal \$72,600
Ahead/(Behind) (\$24,399)

ST JUDE YEAR TO DATE 2026 - 2027



SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Actual \$236,430
Goal \$235,850
Ahead/(Behind) \$580

SAFE PARKING AT ST JUDE

Safe Parking Helpline: 425-658-4982
safeparking@stjude-redmond.org

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Holy Innocents:
Contact George Doty 360-668-2224
Dotyga@aol.com
St Jude:
knightsofcolumbus@stjude-redmond.org