



2025 Christmas Floral Tribute Remembering Family Members, Friends, and Those Special People in Our Lives

Will Rule
Bill Rule
Richard Schneider Sr.
Marjorie Schneider
Victor Veltze
Maria Veltze
Deceased members of the Gwidt & Holzem Families
Gene Lemmer
Ciolkosz & Sniogowski Families
Goeden & Steinbach Families
Marian Maas
Raymond Maas
Lillian Maas
Jayne Ann Kole
Bertha B. Kole
Amanda Jayne Kole
Kenneth King
Raymond Bentley
Edith Bentley
Eugene Bentley
Judy Bentley
James Gleason
Clark Barry
John Barry
Sarah Peters
Joyce Zschernitz
Scott Zschernitz
Irene Sherfinski
Chet Sherfinski
Randolph Blarek
Sandy Janiszewski
Brian Cleveland
Robert Martin
Henry Lewandowski
Janice Lewandowski
Irenol Rahwal
Mary Ann Schilling
Arnold A. Schilling

Len & Louise Pintens
Lois Zeidler
Carol Zieglmeier
Gerald & Helen Kell
Harry & Charlotte Himmler
Deceased members of Wozniczka Family
Deceased members of Writz Family

Robert Gwidt
Bernard Johns
Donald E. Rowe
Mat Wiskowski
Fran Olson
Liz & Russ Wiskowski
Steven Wiskowski
Robert Gwidt
Nick & Betty Kupczak
Carol Zieglmeier
Mr. & Mrs. Walter Schulz
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas McNamee
Joseph & Elizabeth Majer
Lucille Maurisak
Harry Maurisak
Mr. & Mrs. Remo Chiostrri & Family
Mr. & Mrs. V. Fabbri & Family
Kevin Taylor
Donn Kowal
Robert, Kurt, & Jeff Gorski
Orval & Minni Moes
Henry & Theresa Gorski
Betty Stefanek
Cheryl Running
Mary Moes
Kay Weikel
Evelyn Staszak
Mary Purull
Joe & Deloris Lemke
Frank & Arlette Wakowski
Mary Ann Stacke

Arthur Knipple
Irene Knipple
George Amelge
Frank & Mabel Savino
Deceased members of Scesniak Family
Deceased members of Markstrum Family
Raymond & Mary Helen Wrycha

Kenneth Narloch
Leon & Wanda Gajewski
Andrew & Frances Zajackowski
Frances & Henry King
Isabelle & Carl Vollmert
Robert Junion
Ronni Junion
Flexie Bender
Mary Bender
Kirk Bender
Ema & Matthew Tominac
Ray & Clara Kleman
John & Frances Zoromski
David Skrzypchak
Scott VanderKoy
Ed & Estelle Bohte
Donald & Jeanette Stubbe
Paul & Rose Mizgalski
Amanda Ann Mengel
Charles & Irene Delikowski
Herbert & Mabel Doepke
Garry Doepke
Betty Huglin
Jadelynn Scholneck
Stanley & June Kazmierczak
John & Genevieve Green
LeRoy Suske
Kyle Suske
John & Beatrice Rheinschmidt
Barb Seavey
Al & Florence Holewinski





"God is Love"

Our Response: Live More Intentionally

One of the deepest questions in the human heart is this: *Does God really exist?* And if He does, what difference does this make?

Our world today is filled with messages that tell us God is irrelevant, outdated, or even nonexistent. Yet in every heart there is a restlessness, a hunger for meaning, for beauty, for unconditional love. We see this explained in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: *"The desire for God is written in the human heart, because we are created by God and for God...Only in God will we find the truth and happiness for which we never stop searching"* (CCC paragraph 27).

St. Paul, preaching to the people in Athens, proclaimed: *"The God who made the world and all that is in it... gives to everyone life and breath and everything"* (Acts 17:24-25). Paul told them that God is not far from us, for *"in Him we live and move and have our being"* (Acts 17:28).

Even human reason points us toward God. When we gaze at the beauty of creation — the order in the universe, the majesty of mountains, the delicacy of a newborn child — our hearts know this cannot be the product of chance. Creation points to God who is infinitely powerful and amazing in His creativity. Conscience points to God who gives law so we might be protected from what is harmful.

Our longing for infinite love points to God, Love Himself, who desires to fill us with this Love.

Reason alone is not enough because our reason is limited in its ability to know God. That is why God, in His mercy, chose to reveal Himself. He spoke to Noah, to Abraham, to Moses, and in the fullness of time, He sent us His only Son. Jesus reveals to us that God is not distant, but within us. God is not an idea, but a Person. God is not indifferent but is Love.

Jesus shows us the Heart of the Father, a Heart that is personal in His mercy, forgiveness, patience, and kindness. The Father loved us so much that He sent His Son to suffer and die for us, so that we might be with Him forever.

What, then, is our response? God exists, and so we cannot live as if He doesn't matter. To believe in God is not simply to acknowledge His existence, as one might admit that the sun exists. To believe in God means to place Him first in our lives: to know Him, to love Him, to serve Him by serving others. Our response must be to give our whole heart back to Him in faith, in trust, in gratitude.

Belief in God changes everything. It changes how we see ourselves: no longer as "accidents" of history, but as beloved sons and daughters created in His image. It changes how we see others: every person, no matter how broken,

bears the dignity of God's image. It changes how we see the world: not as something to exploit, but as a gift entrusted to our care.

As sons and daughters of our Father God, the choice before us is clear. Either God is the center of our lives, or He is pushed to the margins. We are compelled to choose God because only when He is first in our lives can our restless hearts finally find peace.

It is important that we ask ourselves: where do I see God in my life? In the beauty of His creation? In the face of my spouse or children? In the quiet whisper of my conscience? And most of all, in the Eucharist....am I aware that Jesus, true God and true man, gives Himself completely to me?

Let us renew our faith in the God who is Love. Let us pray with the words of St. Nicholas of Flue:

"My Lord and my God, take from me anything that might distance me from You.

My Lord and my God, give me everything that brings me closer to You.

My Lord and my God, strengthen me to give my all to You."

May Jesus, whose very being is Truth and Love, guide us always closer to Himself, until the day we see Him face to face!

By Ann Lankford
Office for Catechesis & Evangelization