



“All
LIFE has
inestimable
value, even the
weakest and most
vulnerable, the **sick**,
the **old**, the **unborn** and
the **poor** are masterpieces
of God’s creation.”

Pope Francis

Respect Life

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 5, 2025



WELCOME TO HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Served by the Mercedarian Friars USA (www.orderofmercy.org)



PARISH OFFICE, 588 W. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215

OpenMonday – Thursday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm

Main No.....614-221-4323 Fax No: 614-221-9818

Web:.....www.holyfamilycolumbus.org

Email.....office@holyfamilycolumbus.org

Facebook.....Holy Family Catholic Church

Flocknote.....holyfamilycolumbus@flocknote.com

PERSONNEL STAFF

Father Michael J. Donovan, O. de M...Pastor

Father Daniel Bowen, O. de M.....Vocation Director

Brother Kevin Cush, O. de M.....Seminarian

Secretary.....Mary Gamble

Maintenance.....Tim Kearns

Music Director / Organist.....Shawn Kenney

OCIA (RCIA) Coordinator.....Linda Hamilton

Religious Education.....Sr. Bozena Tyborowska LSIC

PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

Altar Servers – Br. Kevin Cush, O. de M., Director

Confraternity of Christian Mothers – Rita Martinez, President

Diocesan Center for the Guard of Honor

of the Sacred Heart of Jesus – Rebecca Rector, Zelatrix

Eucharistic Adoration – Sarah Hill, Coordinator

Holy Family Young Adults – Bear Bates, Coordinator

Hospitality – Kathy McKinniss & Linda Hamilton, Coordinators

Knights of Columbus – Br. Kevin Cush, O. de M., Grand Knight

Liturgical Ministry – Linda Hamilton, Coordinator

Mercedarian Lay Third Order – Fr. Michael J. Donovan, O. de M.,
Spiritual Director

Respect Life – Aurelio & Rosalinda Morales, Coordinators

Sodality of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Sr. Bozena Tyborowska, Dir.

SOUP KITCHEN – (backyard of Parish Center building)

Donations...Monday – Friday

9:00am – 12noon, preferred (back of building)

12noon – 3:00pm, optional (please call in advance)

Main No.....614-221-4323

Web.....www.hfsk.org

Email.....Dennis Shope, Director

soupkitchen@holyfamilycolumbus.org

maintenance@holyfamilycolumbus.org

BAPTISM

Call the Parish office to schedule a Baptism. Children over the age of 6 will require some special instruction.

MARRIAGE

Please call the Parish Office at least six months before the wedding.

Diocesan Pre-Cana and Natural Family Planning classes are required and six meetings with the priest.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Call the Parish Office during general office hours. Otherwise, call Parish Office and select “Sacramental Emergency” option.

RECEPTION OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

Those who desire Holy Communion at home should call the Parish Office.

MASS SCHEDULE

Weekdays: 12:15pm

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

Convent of St. Birgitta – 40 N. Grubb St., Columbus

Weekly: 7:00 a.m. Mon., Tues., Thurs. Friday

4:00 p.m. Wednesday

(Each day is open to the public)

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Weekdays: 11:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION SCHEDULE

Holy Family Church

Weekly: 1:00 p.m. Thursday – 12 Noon Friday

First Friday Adoration in Reparation to the

Sacred Heart – 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 a.m. First Saturday

Please contact Sarah Hill at 740-418-0517 or

thehills1936@gmail.com if you have interest in being scheduled weekly or monthly in either location

Convent of St. Birgitta (CSB)

40 N. Grubb St., Columbus

Weekly: 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Tuesday

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Mass Wednesday

4:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. following 4pm Mass

9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Friday

MOST HOLY ROSARY

Weekdays: 11:30 am (Tuesday is Respect Life Rosary)

Chaplet of Divine Mercy follows Rosary

Saturday: 8:30 a.m. before 9:00 a.m. Marian Mass

8:15 a.m. before 9:00 a.m. First Saturday Mass

Sunday: 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 4:30 p.m. (before Mass)

Please contact the Parish Office if you wish to be scheduled to lead before 9am Saturday or 9am; 5pm Sunday Mass.

REGULAR DEVOTIONS



Each Tuesday following the 12:15 p.m. Mass there are Devotions to **St. Anthony of Padua**.



Each Saturday Novena Prayers to **Our Lady of Mercy** following 9:00 a.m. Mass.



On First Wednesday of each month a 7:00 p.m. Mass is offered in honor of **Good Saint Joseph**.



On First Friday of each month following the 12:15 & 7:00 p.m. Masses there is **Act of Consecration of the Human Race to the Sacred Heart of Jesus**.

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 5, 2025

MASS INTENTIONS OCTOBER 5–12, 2025

Sun Oct 5	TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME-Respect Life Sunday
9:00 AM *	Midge McPhail, by Tom Fries
11:00 AM	For the Unborn and All Priests and Religious by Knights of Columbus #13428
5:00 PM	People of the Parish
8:00 PM	Father Joseph Rolwing, by Mary Gamble
Mon Oct 6	Saint Bruno, Priest Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin
7:00 AM	CSB–All Souls in Purgatory by Yvette Reategui
12:15 PM	Living Members of The Friess Family by Eric & Christy Conklin
Tues Oct 7	Our Lady of the Rosary
7:00 AM	CSB–Repose of the Soul of Annette Brickey
12:15 PM	John E. Prunte by Beth Ann & Dominic Prunte
Wed Oct 8	
12:15 PM	Repose of the Soul of Ardie Schirtzinger by Genny Holmes
4:00 PM	CSB–Nicole and Shane Ridley, by Chuck Mathews
Thurs Oct 9	Saint Denis, Bishop, and Companions, Martyrs; Saint John Leonardi, Priest
7:00 AM	CSB–Repose of the Soul of Sally Speros
12:15 PM	Parker Grove, by Kathy McKinniss
Fri Oct 10	
7:00 AM	CSB–Jack Gookin, by Kathy McKinniss
12:15 PM	Repose of the Soul of Frank Tiberi by Rita Kreuzer
Sat Oct 11	Saint John XXIII, Pope
9:00 AM	Repose of the Soul of Berdell Magers by Ivonne Magers
Sun Oct 12	TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 AM *	Repose of the Soul of Dominic Linh Nguyen by Jane & Jean
11:00 AM	Deceased Members of Holy Family Alumni
5:00 PM	Jennifer Padgett, by Kathy McKinniss
8:00 PM	People of the Parish

* Incense will be used at this Mass.

PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

Airman William Harding Marable, US Air Force
 Airman Lucas JY Tortora, US Air Force
 Col. Timothy W. Grady, US Air National Guard
 PFC Logan Christ, US Army Active Duty
 1st Lt. John M. Kennedy, US Army Active Duty
 1st Lt. Michael V. Dickerson US Army National Guard
 2nd Lt. Nicholas C. Kennedy US Army National Guard
 SPC Brian A. Marsh, US Army National Guard
 SPC Trinity P. Roach, US Army National Guard
 SPC Zach Sowers, US Army National Guard
 Active Duty Trey Warner, US Army National Guard
 Lt. Col. Stephen Hueckel, US Army Reserves
 SPC Liam A. Smith, US Army Reserves
 SNBM Joseph Flynn, US Coast Guard
 Capt. Michael "Mich" Rector, US Marine Corps.
 LCpl. Brendan Thomas, US Marine Corps.
 Lt. Michael Bellavia, US Navy
 Lt. Rockford Bowman, US Navy
 SCPO Zachery Cook, US Navy
 Lt. Andrea Rae Kaltenbach, US Navy
 Active Duty Dan Severance, US Navy



*Congratulations to the family of
Bernard Charles Trabue who was
 welcomed into our faith community
 through the Sacrament of Baptism.*

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES–God is generous to us,
 please consider being generous to God by
 giving your Sunday offering through our
 online giving. You can scan the QR code to
 go to our online giving page at our website:
www.holyfamilycolumbus.org.

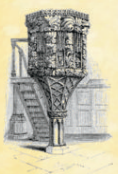


SERMON ON THE AMOUNT

Giving for September 22, 2025 to September 28, 2025

Offertory	
Collection	\$ 2,741
On-Line	2,473
Mail	+ 625
Total	\$ 5,839
Less: Assessment (10%)	- 584
Net	\$ 5,255
Soup Kitchen	\$ 994
Missionary Co-op	\$ 2,785
Current Appeal Pledges	\$48,931
The Appeal Goal	\$82,347

God Reward your Generosity



LECTOR SCHEDULE

October 5	9:00 am	Austin Hill
	11:00 am	Knights of Columbus
	5:00 pm	Tom Martello
October 12	9:00 am	Mary Gamble
	11:00 am	Aurelio Morales
	5:00 pm	Rebecca Rector

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HOLY FAMILY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #13428

We continue to collect aluminum cans for our Seminarians. All proceeds will go to these young men of Christ. Please drop them off in the collection box at the Church and Parish Center entrance.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, October 5, 2025 is the Knights of Columbus Corporate Mass.

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 is the monthly meeting at 7:00pm in the Parish Center.

HIS INCREDIBLE SENIORS EXERCISE PROGRAM

Our upcoming class is scheduled **1:30—2:30pm on Tuesday, October 7th** in the Parish Center.

HOLY FAMILY YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

HFY (18—35) meets weekly, with a rotation of activities including prayer/spirituality, talk, adoration, and social nights. **Use this QR Code to connect with this group.**



St. Gianna Molla Play Group

For moms and young children. Meetups will be held the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 9:30am. Contact **Rebekah Foley** (bekah.krull@gmail.com) or **Katie Foley** (katie.frego.95@gmail.com) with questions or in case of inclement weather.

10/14—Gantz Park

10/28—Columbus Main Library Kid's Area

Courage Apostolate

Are you experiencing same-sex attractions and seeking to live a life of faith and chastity? The **Courage Apostolate** offers support through prayer, fellowship, and spiritual guidance in alignment with the teachings of the Catholic Church. Meetings are confidential. For more information, visit couragecolumbus@columbuscatholic.org or contact couragecolumbus@columbuscatholic.org.

Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center
October 17—19, 2025

JOHN RECOGNIZES CHRIST

Where: Our Lady of Guadalupe Discipleship Center
5701 Lawshe Road, Peebles OH 54660

Cost: A donation—Pray and “do whatever He tells you”. Includes meals on Saturday, guest rooms and retreat.

Time: Arrival 6—6:45pm Friday, Praise & Worship at 7pm, ends at Noon on Sunday.

To Register: Go to www.presentationministries.com and click on retreats. **(513) 373-2397** or bpojesu2000@gmail.com.



CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS & LADIES GUILD

Serving the Women of Holy Family Since 1887

Prayer to Obtain the Grace to Give Good Example

O God, what a powerful exhortation Your Divine Son addresses me when He says, “Let your light shine”. It is Your Holy Will that I should give my children in all things the example of a life pleasing to You. How else can they become virtuous themselves? I ask, therefore, for Your assistance, through the merits of Your Holy Sacrifice, to lead a truly Christian life. Enrich me with Your Grace, that I may be able to avoid in all my words, action, and omissions what is unworthy of the name Christian. Help me to exercise all the virtues of a Christian life, and to arrive at ever-lasting perfection, so that my life may be an example for my children. How wonderfully, O Lord, have You worked in Your Saints! Watch over and graciously protect me. I am indeed unworthy of such great graces, but You are a merciful God. You love my children, since they are also your children. For their sake and that of Jesus, Your Son, grant my petitions. Amen.

(*ref. Christian Mothers Mother Love book. Reb. 2023*)

Mother Love book can be purchased by contacting holyfamilyccm@gmail.com at our cost of \$20.00.

We are so looking forward to our upcoming **Italian Dinner Saturday, October 11th and Silent Auction and Ask a Priest session.**

Mass at 4:00pm followed by talk with Fr. Michael and dinner at 6:00pm. We have been blessed with wine donations to enhance our dinner. We are asking for donations of desserts for the evening. Please respond to holyfamilyccm@gmail.com if you can bring dessert. Carry-out will be available, please confirm your orders. Father Michael has asked us to sponsor this event for the parish maintenance needs. We hope you can attend. We plan to have enough dinners to handle a limited walk-in crowd, but would prefer a reservation so no one is turned away. You may also register by using the QR code.



Our next Mass and St. Gerard blessing October 19th following the 11:00am Mass for pregnant mothers and those hoping to conceive.

Next Christian Mothers Meeting will be in the undercroft after the 9:00am Mass on October 18th.

Holy Family Confraternity of Christian Mothers Officers

Rita Martinez, President / Sondra Wright, Vice-President
Anita Van Order, Treasurer / Kendy Troiano, Secretary
Father Michael J. Donovan, O. de M. Director

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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“Let us respect and love every possible life today. And to all the young people I say: you are the future for family life. You are the future of the joy of loving. You are the future of making of your life something beautiful for God . . . a pure love.”

- St. Mother Teresa



HOLY FAMILY RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Our next Respect Life meeting is scheduled **7:00pm Monday, October 6th** in the Parish Center.

OUR FIRST ANNUAL HOLY FAMILY PICNIC

We thank God, and each of you for your hard work to make the Holy Family Picnic a wonderful success. We truly appreciate the presence of: our Bishop Fernandes; our Pastor, Fr. Michael (who was there helping from the beginning to the end); Fr. Daniel; Victor & his band with their music; Br. Kevin & K of C; Sr. Bozena & Sisters LSIC; Mary Gamble; Dennis & Karen Shope & members of the Soup Kitchen; Rita Martinez, Anita Van Order & other members of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers; Mary Zack; Mercedarian Lay Third Order; Alisha, Rickey, Paul, Bear, Austin, Young Catholic Adults; Kathy McKinniss & Hospitality; Marsha L.; Janice L.; Richard W.; Parishioners; Jim & Julie Severance (our cooks); Nicole Simental; Linda G., Rebecca R.; Lou R.; Jean H.; Jane T.; Leslie N.; Chapman G.; Adele R-D; Aurelio M.; members of The Respect Life Ministry; and all the Holy Family Church parishioners who brought delicious side dishes and desserts. We could not have done it without you!

BLESSINGS to all of you!

AMERICA NEEDS FATIMA ROSARY RALLY

Please join the 2025 Public Square Rosary Crusade. As we all know, the United States is in great need of public prayer, repentance, and conversion. We must ask God to save America through the Rosary of His Most Holy Mother.

Please join us in praying for our nation on Sunday, October 12, 2025 at 12:00 Noon, immediately after the 11:00am Mass. The Rosary Rally will take place in front of Holy Family Church.

A prayer program will be available for each participant. Please see flyer on page 6 for more information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD

The 2025 Fall Campaign will run Wednesday, September 24—Sunday, November 2nd at Planned Parenthood Surgical Clinic, 3255 E. Main Street (see page 7).

For more information regarding both events, please contact Rosalinda Morales at 614-560-4523.

America Needs Fatima Rosary Rally

Sunday October 12th following 11:00 a.m. Mass

In front of Holy Family Church

Program includes:

- ♦ Immaculate Mary song
- ♦ The Angelus
- ♦ Holy Rosary (Fatima prayer follows each decade)
- ♦ Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mother
- ♦ Prayer of Total Consecration
- ♦ The Divine Praises
- ♦ O Sanctissima.

Join us for one hour and show Columbus how we get to Jesus through Mary.

The rosary will make virtue and good works flourish, and will obtain for souls the most abundant divine mercies; it will draw the hearts of men from the love of the world to the love of God, and will lift them to the desire of eternal things.

- No. 4 from 15 Promises of Our Lady to Those Who Pray The Rosary

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

October 5, 2025

Greater Columbus Right to Life



40 Days for Life at Planned Parenthood

**BE AN ANCHOR OF HOPE
ON THE SIDEWALK.**

**40 DAYS FOR LIFE.
40 CHURCHES NEEDED.**

September 24th-November 2nd.

Planned Parenthood Surgical Clinic | 3255 E Main St, Columbus OH

Greater Columbus
Right to Life
Growing a Community of Life



JOIN GCRTL IN PRAYER AND ACTIVISM BY
ADOPTING A DAY, PARTIAL DAY, OR HOUR!

**Holy Family Day is Scheduled
8:00am—5:00pm Tuesday, October 14th.**

**A Sign-in sheet will be in the Vestibule
following each Mass both October 5 & 12.**

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 October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary

"The Blessed Virgin held a beautiful rosary in her hands at Lourdes, and from her example I learned to love it. The Rosary is a sweet chain linking us to heaven. It is the prayer of the simple and the great alike. I have found no surer way to maintain a spirit of recollection and peace of heart than to meditate on the mysteries of the Rosary. It is Our Lady's school, where her children learn the secrets of the Gospel through her eyes and heart." +SAINT BERNADETTE SOUBIROUS

**Monday, October 6 ~ Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time
Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin**

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:25-37 There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test Jesus and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?" He said in reply, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself." He replied to him, "You have answered correctly; do this and you will live." But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man fell victim to robbers as he went down from Jerusalem to Jericho. They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side. But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight. He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him. The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction, 'Take care of him. If you spend more than what I have given you, I shall repay you on my way back.' Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" He answered, "The one who treated him with mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Meditation: Jesus' story enlightens us about true love for one's neighbor. Above all, we must be willing to help even if others brought trouble on themselves through their own fault or negligence. Our love and concern to help others in need must also be practical; good intentions and showing pity, or empathizing with others, is not enough. Also, our love for others must be as wide and as inclusive as God's love, remembering that God excludes no one from his care and concern. God's love is unconditional. So we must be ready to do good to others for their sake, just as God is good to each of us -- always.

Prayer: Lord, who enkindled in the heart of Blessed Marie Rose Durocher the flame of ardent charity and a great desire to cooperate in the mission of the Church as a teacher, grant us that same active love, so that, in responding to the needs of the world today, we may lead our brothers and sisters to the blessedness of eternal life. 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: When Jesus said "Go and do likewise" in today's Gospel, he wasn't only saying it to the scholar of the law, Jesus was speaking to each of us. Sacred scripture is called the "living word" because the scripture readings are not just ink on paper, but readings to learn from, be challenged by, and put into action. So when Jesus tells us "Go and do likewise" he means it, at all times, and in all situations. "Go and do likewise" as he teaches us throughout sacred scripture – live "the word" – live the teachings as "doers of the word, not hearers only" (James 1:22). Thus we also are all called to love God above all things, and love your neighbor as yourself, as Christ shared with the scholar of the law.



Tuesday, October 7 ~ Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary

Holy Gospel: Luke 10:38-42 Jesus entered a village where a woman whose name was Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary who sat beside the Lord at his feet listening to him speak. Martha, burdened with much serving, came to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me by myself to do the serving? Tell her to help me." The Lord said to her in reply, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part and it will not be taken from her."

Meditation: The Lord Jesus desires that we make a place for him, not only in our hearts, but in our homes and in the daily circumstances of our lives as well. We honor the Lord when we offer to him everything we have and everything we do. After all, everything we have is an outright gift from God (ref. 1 Chronicles 29:14). Paul the Apostle urges us to give God glory in everything: "Whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him" (ref. Col. 3:17). When you sit, eat, sleep and when you entertain your friends and guests, remember that the Lord Jesus is also the guest of your home. Scripture tells us that when Abraham opened his home and welcomed three unknown travelers, he welcomed the Lord who blessed him favorably for his gracious hospitality (ref. Genesis 18:1-10; Heb. 13:2). The Lord wants us, as well, to bring him glory in the way we treat others and use the gifts he has graciously given to us.

Prayer: 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. Amen.

Contemplation: Does the peace of Christ reign in your home and in your personal life? Really and truly reign? Jesus loved to visit the home of Martha and Mary and enjoyed their gracious hospitality. In this brief encounter we see two very different temperaments in Martha and Mary. Martha loved to serve, but in her anxious manner of waiting on Jesus, she caused unrest. Mary, in her simple and trusting manner, waited on Jesus by sitting attentively at his feet. She knew that what the Lord and Teacher most wanted at that moment was her attentive presence. Anxiety and preoccupation keep us from listening and from giving the Lord our undivided attention. The Lord bids us to give him our concerns and anxieties because he is trustworthy and able to meet any need we have.

About the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary: 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. Lepanto, perhaps the most complete victory ever gained over the Ottoman Empire, on October 7, 1571, is commemorated by the invocation "Help of Christians," inserted in the Litany of Loretto. At Belgrade the Turks were defeated on the Feast of Our Lady ad Nives in 1716. A second victory gained that year on the Octave of the Assumption determined Pope Clement XI to command the Feast of the Rosary to be celebrated by the universal Church. Leo XIII added the invocation "Queen of the most Holy Rosary, pray for us," to the Litany of Loretto. The Feast is in reality a great festival of thanksgiving for the signal and countless benefits bestowed on Christendom through the Rosary of our blessed Queen. In modern times successive popes have urged the faithful to pray the Rosary. It is a form of contemplative prayer, mental and vocal prayer, which brings down God's blessing on the Church. It is a biblically inspired prayer which is centered on meditation on the salvific mysteries of Christ in union with Mary, who was so closely associated with her Son in his redeeming activity.

Wednesday, October 8 ~ Twenty-Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 11:1-4 Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray just as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test."

Meditation: Jesus teaches us to address God as "our Father" and to confidently ask him for the things we need to live as his sons and daughters. We can approach God our Father with confidence and boldness because Jesus Christ has opened the way to heaven for us through his death and resurrection. When we ask God for help, he fortunately does not give us what we deserve. Instead, he responds with grace and mercy. He is kind and forgiving towards us and he expects us to treat our neighbor the same. We can pray with expectant faith because our heavenly Father truly loves each one of us and he treats us as his

beloved children. He delights to give us what is good. His love and grace transforms us and makes us like himself. Through his grace and power we can love and serve one another as Jesus taught -- with grace, mercy, and loving-kindness.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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: When Jesus taught his disciples to pray he gave them the disciple's prayer, what we call the Our Father or Lord's Prayer. What does Jesus' prayer tell us about God and about ourselves? First, it tells us that God is both Father in being the Creator and Author of all that he has made, the first origin of everything and transcendent authority, and he is eternally Father by his relationship to his only Son who, reciprocally is Son only in relation to his Father (ref. Matthew 11:27). All fatherhood and motherhood is derived from him (ref. Ephesians 3:14-15). In Jesus Christ we are reborn and become the adopted children of God (ref. John 1:12-13; 3:3). Do you treat others as they deserve, or do you treat them as the Lord would with grace and mercy? Jesus' prayer includes an injunction that we must ask God to forgive us in proportion as we forgive those who have wronged us. God's grace frees us from every form of anger, spite, resentment, and hatred. Are you ready to forgive others just as Jesus forgives you?

Thursday, October 9 ~ Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time **Saint Denis, Bishop and Martyr, and companions, martyrs**

Holy Gospel: Luke 11:5-13 Jesus said to his disciples: "Suppose one of you has a friend to whom he goes at midnight and says, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived at my house from a journey and I have nothing to offer him,' and he says in reply from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked and my children and I are already in bed. I cannot get up to give you anything.' I tell you, if he does not get up to give him the loaves because of their friendship, he will get up to give him whatever he needs because of his persistence. "And I tell you, ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives; and the one who seeks, finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened. What father among you would hand his son a snake when he asks for a fish? Or hand him a scorpion when he asks for an egg? If you then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him?"

Meditation: Notice how Jesus used the illustration of a late-night traveler to teach his listeners an important lesson about how God treats us in contrast to the kind of treatment we might expect from good neighbors. The rule of hospitality in biblical times required the cooperation of the entire community in entertaining an unexpected or late-night guest. Whether the guest was hungry or not, a meal would be served. In a small village it would be easy to know who had baked bread that day. Bread was essential for a meal because it served as a utensil for dipping and eating from the common dishes. Asking for bread from one's neighbor was both a common occurrence and an expected favor. To refuse to give bread would bring shame because it was a sign of inhospitality.

Prayer: O God, who sent Saint Denis and his companions to preach your glory to the nations and strengthened them for their mission with the virtue of constancy in suffering, grant, we pray, that we may imitate them in disdaining prosperity in this world and in being undaunted by any trial. 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: If a neighbor can be imposed upon and coerced into giving bread in the middle of the night, how much more hospitable is God who, no matter the circumstance, is generous and gracious to give us what we need 24/7/365? In conclusion Jesus makes a startling claim: How much more will the heavenly Father give! The Lord is ever ready to give us not only what we need, but more than we can expect. He gives freely of his Holy Spirit that we may share in his life and joy. Do you approach your heavenly Father with confidence in his mercy and kindness?

Friday, October 10 ~ Twenty-Seventh Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 11:15-26 When Jesus had driven out a demon, some of the crowd said: "By the power of Beelzebul, the prince of demons, he drives out demons." Others, to test him, asked him for a sign from heaven. But he knew their thoughts and said to them, "Every kingdom divided against itself will be laid waste and house will fall against house. And if Satan is divided against himself, how will his kingdom stand? For you say that it is by Beelzebul that I drive out demons. If I, then, drive out demons



by Beelzebul, by whom do your own people drive them out? Therefore they will be your judges. But if it is by the finger of God that I drive out demons, then the Kingdom of God has come upon you. When a strong man fully armed guards his palace, his possessions are safe. But when one stronger than he attacks and overcomes him, he takes away the armor on which he relied and distributes the spoils. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. "When an unclean spirit goes out of someone, it roams through arid regions searching for rest but, finding none, it says, 'I shall return to my home from which I came.' But upon returning, it finds it swept clean and put in order. Then it goes and brings back seven other spirits more wicked than itself who move in and dwell there, and the last condition of that man is worse than the first."

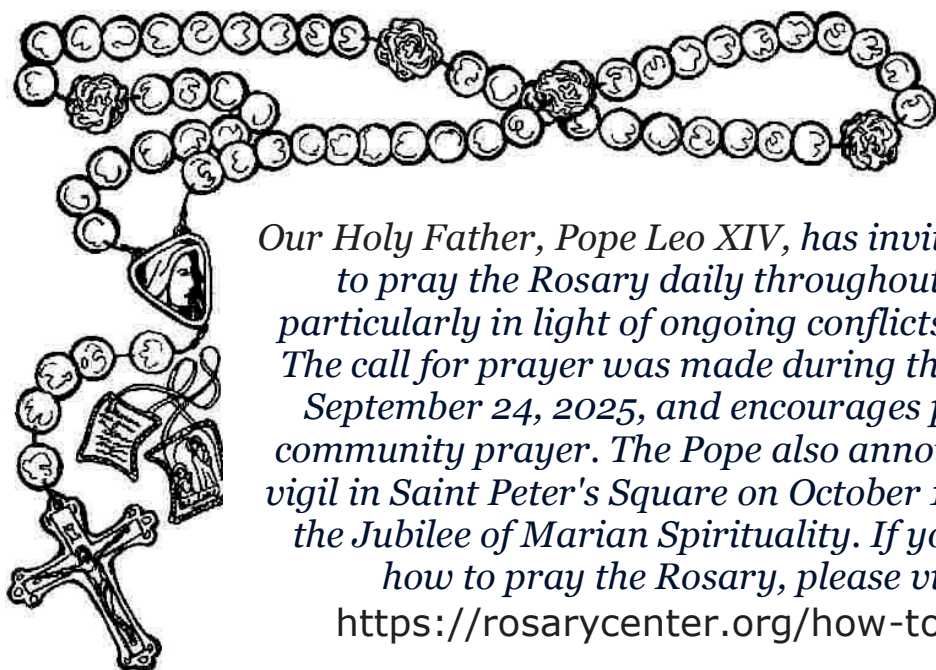
Meditation: It is not enough to banish evil thoughts and habits from our lives. We must also fill the voids in our lives – "empty time" if you will – with God who is the source of all that is good, wholesome, true, and life-giving for us. Saint Augustine said that our lives have a God-shaped void which only God can fill satisfactorily. If we attempt to leave it vacant or to fill it with something else, we will end up being in a worse state in the end. So, what do you fill the void in your life with? The Lord Jesus wants to fill our hearts and minds with the power of his life-giving word and healing love. Jesus makes it very clear that there are no neutral parties in this world. We are either for Jesus or against him, for the kingdom of God or against it. There are ultimately only two kingdoms which stand in opposition to one another – the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness which is under the rule of Satan. If we disobey God's word, we open the door to the power of sin and Satan. Thus our "house" must be occupied by Jesus.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who in the abundance of your kindness surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you, pour out your mercy upon us to pardon what conscience dreads and to give what prayer does not dare to ask. 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 came to free us from the greatest danger of all – the corrupting force of evil which destroys us from within and makes us slaves to sin and Satan (ref. John 8:34). Evil is not an impersonal force that just happens. It has a name and a face and it seeks to master every heart and soul on the face of the earth (ref. 1 Peter 5:8-9). Scripture identifies the Evil One by many names – "Satan," "Be-el'zebul—the prince of demons," the "Devil," the "Deceiver," the "Father of Lies," and "Lucifer" the fallen angel who broke ranks with God and established his own army and kingdom in opposition to God. Jesus declared that he came to overthrow the power of Satan and his kingdom (ref. John 12:31). Jesus overcame the Evil One through his obedience to the will of his Father; your obedience to God's will can achieve the same triumph over Satan and all that is evil.

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:2025



Our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, has invited Catholics worldwide to pray the Rosary daily throughout October for peace, particularly in light of ongoing conflicts in Gaza and Ukraine. The call for prayer was made during the General Audience on September 24, 2025, and encourages personal, family, and community prayer. The Pope also announced a special Rosary vigil in Saint Peter's Square on October 11, which coincides with the Jubilee of Marian Spirituality. If you need a refresher on how to pray the Rosary, please visit this web site:
<https://rosarycenter.org/how-to-pray-the-rosary/>

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