

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026



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

8:00am – 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**.

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026

MASS INTENTIONS

JANUARY 25—FEBRUARY 1, 2026

Sun Jan 25 THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM * Christian Unity
11:00 AM Needed Graces and Blessings for Family, Friends and Benefactors
5:00 PM People of the Parish
8:00 PM Repose of the Soul of Brother Nelson Morena by Br. Kevin Cush, O. de M.

Mon Jan 26 Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

7:00 AM CSB—The Kevin and Emily Sellers Family by Emily Sellers
12:15 PM Sister Mary Joseph, SSCJ by Sr. Miriam Joseph, SSCJ Sr. Monica Marie, SSCJ

Tues Jan 27 St. Angela Merici, Virgin

7:00 AM CSB—Repose of the Soul of Donald E. Neymeyer by Mary E. Neymeyer
12:15 PM Brian O'Donnell by The Nguyen Family

Wed Jan 28 St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor

12:15 PM Melanie and Family, by Mom
4:00 PM CSB—Repose of the Soul of James Lanier by Sean & Jody White

Thurs Jan 29

7:00 AM CSB—Repose of the Soul of Richard Lumpe by Fr. Michael J. Lumpe
12:15 PM Repose of the Soul of Betty Jutte by Mary Zacks

Fri Jan 30

7:00 AM CSB—Repose of the Soul of Anne Bozzarelli by Family
12:15 PM Poor Souls in Purgatory by Bob & Natalie Wanner

Sat Jan 31 St. John Bosco

9:00 AM Seminararian Quang Nguyen

Sun Feb 1 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 AM * Angela Brown, by Tom Fries
11:00 AM The Unborn Children and All Priests and Religious by Knights of Columbus #13428
5:00 PM Hanna Jasper, by Judith Jasper
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
Specialist E4 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 Reserve
SGT Liam A. Smith, US Army Reserve
BM2 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

LECTOR SCHEDULE



January 25 9:00 am Brandan Litman
11:00 am Elaine Browning
5:00 pm Dan Hueckel
February 1 9:00 am Austin Hill
11:00 am Knights of Columbus
5:00 pm Rebecca Rector

SERMON ON THE AMOUNT

Giving for January 12—January 18, 2026

Offertory

Collection \$ 2,994

On-Line 5,176

Mail + 445

Total \$ 8,615

Less: Assessment (10%) - 862

Net \$ 7,753

Soup Kitchen \$ 6,589

Total Capital Campaign Donations \$337,942

The Appeal Pledges \$62,670

The Appeal Goal \$82,347

God Reward your Generosity

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026

Note from Fr. Michael

Praised be Jesus Christ!

Dear Parish Family,

I wanted to take an opportunity to consider a simple yet powerfully efficacious sacramental of the Church that we can take for granted, Holy Water.

Holy Water is not a sacrament, but a sacramental. What is the difference? A sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ to give us sanctifying grace. The seven sacraments come to us directly from Our Lord and give us a share in His Divine Life, also known as sanctifying grace. The sacramentals are objects or blessings instituted by the Church to dispose us to actual graces.

Sanctifying grace is God's Life in us. Actual graces are helps from the Holy Spirit to do certain things. Examples of actual graces are:

- a desire to pray
- to do a work of mercy
- to be more diligent in doing God's Will
- to overcome fear of doing what is right
- to be sorry for sin
- to have a firm purpose of amendment
- to be inspired to grow in a certain virtue
- to have enlightenment in what you should do in a certain situation.

These are all examples of actual graces and the devout use of Holy Water that can dispose us to these graces.

Holy Water is a reminder of our baptismal dignity and it is a powerful weapon in spiritual warfare when used with faith and devotion. St. Theresa of Avila, a Doctor of the Church, wrote: *"From long experience, I have learned that there is nothing like Holy Water to put devils to flight and prevent them from coming back again. They also flee from the Cross, but return; so Holy Water must have great virtue."*

Holy Water, when used with faith in the Name of Jesus, is an aid to health in mind, body and soul. The efficacy of Holy Water stems not from the element of water, but from the prayer of the Church, that is to say the blessing prayed over the water by the priest.

I encourage you to take Holy Water from Church into your homes. Always have a supply on hand. Prayerfully use it daily. There is no official prayer to be prayed when blessing yourself with the water, however you can pray: *"Through the Precious Blood of Jesus and the devout use of this Holy Water, may the Lord wash my sins away."*

You may have noticed that I have moved the Holy Water container from back of the church to the front by St. Joseph's Altar. Why? I was noticing that people were filling ordinary drinking bottles with water and standing in the back drinking the water and filling their bottle again. This is not sanitary. So, I sanitized the font and blessed fresh water. Please use only clean vessels in collecting the blessed water.

See next Sunday's bulletin for more on Holy Water!

On a personal note, I want to thank you for all the kindness and well wishes extended to the friars over the Christmas Season!!

Have a peaceful Sunday.

In the Hearts of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
Fr. Michael



THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026



HOLY FAMILY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #13428

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

Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 1, 2026—Knights of Columbus Corporate Mass at the 11am Mass.

Sunday, February 1, 2026—Knights of Columbus monthly Council meeting in the undercroft of the Church after the 11am Mass.

We would like to congratulate Jose Rivera on making his 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree on January 18, 2026. Welcome to the Knights of Columbus.

If you are interested in becoming a Knight of Columbus, please contact **Jack Gookin at (614) 309-2519**.

HIS INCREDIBLE SENIORS EXERCISE PROGRAM

Our upcoming class is scheduled 1:30—2:30pm **Tuesday, January 27** in the Parish Center. The next class is same time and location on **Wednesday, January 28**. Join us and have fun!



HOLY FAMILY RESPECT LIFE MINISTRY

Our Rosary for Life meets every Tuesday at 8:45am to 10:45am in front of Planned Parenthood Surgical Clinic. There is an opportunity to carpool by meeting in the Holy Family parking lot by 8:15.

If you are not able to go to the clinic, you can join us to pray the Rosary For Life every Tuesday, before Mass at 11:25am.

Our February 2nd meeting is canceled. The next meeting will be posted.

Mater Dei Academy is a K through 8th Grade school, loyal to the Magisterium of the Holy Catholic Church, and using the Baltimore Catechism for religious instruction. We will be hosting an **Open House** on **Thursday, February 12th from 4 to 6 pm** at the school, located at 3695 Elm Street, off of Collingwood Avenue, just north of East Main Street in Whitehall. For more information, e-mail us at **board@materdeiacademy.org**, call at (614) 231-1984, or visit at **materdeiacademy.org**.

Numerous items have been left in the church from attendees. The Lost & Found boxes are overflowing! Please contact the Parish Office if you left something behind. Items will now only be kept for one week.



CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN MOTHERS & LADIES GUILD

Serving the Women of Holy Family Since 1887

Prayer for Resignation and Patience

Dear Savior and Redeemer, You have granted to many faithful mothers the grace to understand the supreme love of Your passion and death on the Cross. From Your Cross as from a book they learned resignation, patience, humility, and every other virtue. Grant, O dearest Redeemer, that I may through their powerful intercession more and more learn and appreciate the lessons of Your Cross, so that I may also bear with patience and resignation the ills, afflictions, and visitations of life, and may accept them as an atonement for all my sins.

Thanks to all who attended our meeting on Saturday the 17th. It was so wonderful to see an increased number yesterday and to get feedback for future meeting agenda items. We received a couple volunteers to help set up for the upcoming Chicken Noodle event that will include silent auction baskets and a Pope Francis statue raffle. We are asking for more volunteers to clean up and serve. Please respond to **holyfamilycm@yahoo.com**.

You will soon see bulletin items including the QR code to RSVP.

Our Christian Mothers Mass is February 22nd at 11:00. Please join us in front of Our Lady's Altar. Please bring husbands and family to join us and wear your sash and pin. Sashes are available if you haven't yet bought one for \$5. St. Gerard Blessing is following the Mass for expectant mothers and those praying to conceive. We were so blessed to have four ladies receive the blessing on January 18th.

Our February meeting will be the 21st in the undercroft after the 9:00am Mass. We will also be cooking the Chicken Noodle Dinner and could use some potato peelers and help setting up for dinner.

Wishing all a productive, healthy and faith-filled week.

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

HOLY FAMILY YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

HFYA (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.**



Congratulations to Br. Kevin, O. de M. on receiving the Ministry of Lector this past Saturday!

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026

2026 Blessing of Holy Family Parish Center



Bless each door with prayer in chalk.

LITANY
OF SAINTS
Soloist



20 + Mansionem + Benedicat + Christus + 26

"May Christ bless this house and remain with us throughout the new year."



Bless each room with Holy Water.



Holy Family Parish Center Staff

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

January 25, 2026

Join us at the
St. Christopher
8th grade
PASTA DINNER



AND SILENT AUCTION
4:30pm-7:30pm

Saturday, January 31, 2026
Kulp Hall at St. Margaret of Cortona
1600 N. Hague Ave
Adults: \$10
Children: \$5 (10 and under)

Annual St. Charles Spaghetti Dinner

St. Charles Preparatory School will host its annual Spaghetti Dinner on **Sunday, February 1st, from 1:00—6:30 p.m.**, in the school's Walter Student Commons. Dinner will be prepared by the Susi Family and its staff from Berwick Manor. Guests will enjoy a bountiful meal of spaghetti with meatballs, salad, rolls, ice cream, and a beverage. **Cost is \$16.00 for Adults; \$11.00 for Senior Citizens; \$8.00 for Children ages 5—12 (4 and under are free).** There is also a **special \$70 Family Rate** (dine-in, up to 6 immediate family members). Tickets only available at the door and carry-out orders will be available.

YOU'RE INVITED

LOOK TO HIM AND
BE RADIANT

COLUMBUS CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

8:00 am to 5:00 pm
Ohio Expo Center - Kasich Hall

February 21, 2026

For more information and to register, visit:
www.columbuscatholicwomen.com

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

 MOTHER KESTEL	 MOTHER KESTEL	 ST. JOHN LOCOCO
 ST. MARY LOCOCO	 TERESA MURA	 ADELE O'CONNELL
 EVELYN J. TAYLOR	 MOTHER KESTEL	 ADELE O'CONNELL

Each poster is
located on church
bulletin boards.

The 25th Annual
CATHOLIC
MEN'S CONFERENCE
**CALLED
TO BE
SAINTS**
TAKE COURAGE

Saturday + February 28, 2026
Kasich Hall + Ohio Expo Center

 Matt Birk	 Father Robert Spitzer	 Justin Fatica
---	---	---

www.CatholicMensMinistry.com

Cards for both
conferences are
next to bulletins.

**St. Paul
Spaghetti
Dinner**

CATERED BY CARFAGNA'S KITCHEN

To purchase tickets,
SCAN THE QR CODE NOW

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1
MILLER HALL
1:00 - 6:30PM

All proceeds
support PAC

**Pre-Order
Now!**

**ADULTS
\$15**

NEW! Family Meal
Deals available via
pre-order only!



Questions?
StPaulSpaghettiDinner@gmail.com


Purification of the BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Feast of the Presentation
of the Lord

Monday February 2nd

"(On this day), the feast of CANDLEMAS, we recall the PRESENTATION OF THE LORD JESUS CHRIST, forty days after His birth, Mary and Joseph went to Jerusalem to offer Him to the Lord as prescribed by the law of Moses."

- St. John Paul II -

7:00 PM CANDLEMAS



Holy Family Church
invites you to
7:00 PM CANDLEMAS

The Purification of Mary
& the blessing of
candles, symbolizing
Christ as the Light
of the World.

Monday February 2nd

"On this day", the feast
of CANDLEMAS, we
recall the
PRESENTATION OF THE
LORD JESUS CHRIST,
forty days after His birth,
Mary and Joseph went to
Jerusalem to offer Him to
the Lord as prescribed
by the law of Moses."

- St. John Paul II -

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 January is dedicated to the Holy Name of Jesus

“Grant me, O Lord my God, a mind to know You, a heart to seek You, wisdom to find You, conduct pleasing to You, faithful perseverance in waiting for You, and a hope of finally embracing You.” +PRAYER OF SAINT THOMAS AQUINAS

Monday, January 26 ~ Third Week in Ordinary Time Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

Holy Gospel: Mark 3:22-30 The scribes who had come from Jerusalem said of Jesus, “He is possessed by Beelzebul,” and “By the prince of demons he drives out demons.”

Summoning them, he began to speak to them in parables, “How can Satan drive out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand; that is the end of him. But no one can enter a strong man’s house to plunder his property unless he first ties up the strong man. Then he can plunder his house. Amen, I say to you, all sins and all blasphemies that people utter will be forgiven them. But whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an everlasting sin.” For they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.”

Meditation: What is the unforgivable sin which Jesus warns us to avoid? Jesus knows that his disciples will be tested and he assures them that the Holy Spirit will give them what they need in their time of adversity. He warns them, however, that it's possible to spurn the grace of God and to fall into “apostasy” (giving up the faith) out of cowardice or disbelief. Why is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit reprehensible? Blasphemy consists in uttering against God, inwardly or outwardly, words of hatred, reproach, or defiance. It is contrary to the respect that is due to God and his holy name. Jesus speaks of blaspheming against the Holy Spirit as the unforgivable sin. Jesus spoke about this sin immediately after the scribes and Pharisees had attributed his miracles to the work of the devil instead of to God. A sin can only be unforgivable if repentance is impossible. If someone repeatedly closes his or her eyes to God and shuts his or her ears to his voice, there comes a point where he or she can no longer recognize God when he can be seen, and when he or she sees evil as good and good as evil (Isaiah 5:20). To fear such a sin, however, signals that one is not dead to God and is conscious of the need for God's grace and mercy. There are no limits to the mercy of God, but any who refuses to accept his mercy by repenting rejects the forgiveness of his sins and the salvation offered by the Holy Spirit. God gives grace and help to all who humbly call upon him. Giving up on God and refusing to turn away from sin and disbelief results from pride and the loss of hope in God. What is the basis of our hope and confidence in God? Jesus' death on the cross won for us our salvation and adoption as the children of God. The love and mercy of Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of sins, and the gift of the Holy Spirit are freely given to those who acknowledge Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Is your hope securely placed in Christ and his victory on the cross?

Prayer: O God, who adorned Saints Timothy and Titus with apostolic virtues, grant through the intercession of them both, that, living justly and devoutly in this present age, we may merit to reach our heavenly homeland. 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: Satan can only have power or dominion over us if we listen to his lies and succumb to his will which is contrary to the will of God, the teachings of Christ and his Catholic Church. Jesus makes it 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 two kingdoms in opposition to one another— the kingdom of God and the kingdom of darkness under the rule of Satan. If we disobey God's word, we open the door to the power of sin and Satan. If we want to live in freedom from sin and Satan, then our house must be



occupied by Jesus where he is enthroned as Lord as Savior. Do you know the peace and security of a life submitted to God and his word?

Tuesday, January 27 ~ Third Week in Ordinary Time

Optional Memorial: Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

Holy Gospel: Mark 3:31-35 The mother of Jesus and his brothers arrived at the house. Standing outside, they sent word to Jesus and called him. A crowd seated around him told him, "Your mother and your brothers and your sisters are outside asking for you." But he said to them in reply, "Who are my mother and my brothers?" And looking around at those seated in the circle he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Meditation: Who do you love and cherish the most? God did not intend for us to be alone, but to be with others. He gives us many opportunities for developing relationships with family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers. Why does Jesus seem to ignore his own relatives when they pressed to see him? His love and respect for his mother and his relatives is unquestionable. Jesus never lost an opportunity to teach his disciples a spiritual lesson and truth about the kingdom of God. On this occasion when many gathered to hear Jesus he pointed to another higher reality of relationships, namely our relationship with God and with those who belong to God.

Prayer: May the Virgin Saint Angela never fail to commend us to your compassion, O Lord, we pray, that, following the lessons of her charity and prudence, and express it in what we do. 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 is God's love incarnate — God's love made visible in human flesh (1 John 4:9-10). That is why Jesus describes himself as the good shepherd who lays down his life for his sheep and the shepherd who seeks out the sheep who have strayed and lost their way. God is like the father who yearns for his prodigal son to return home and then throws a great party for his son when he has a change of heart and comes back (Luke 15:11-32). Jesus offered up his life on the cross for our sake, so that we could be forgiven and restored to unity and friendship with God. It is through Jesus that we become the adopted children of God — his own sons and daughters. That is why Jesus told his disciples that they would have many new friends and family relationships in his kingdom. Whoever does the will of God is a friend of God and a member of his family — his sons and daughters who have been ransomed by the precious blood of Christ.

Wednesday, January 28 ~ Third Week in Ordinary Time

Saint Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Holy Gospel: Mark 4:1-20 On another occasion, Jesus began to teach by the sea. A very large crowd gathered around him so that he got into a boat on the sea and sat down. And the whole crowd was beside the sea on land. And he taught them at length in parables, and in the course of his instruction he said to them, "Hear this! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seed fell on the path, and the birds came and ate it up. Other seed fell on rocky ground where it had little soil. It sprang up at once because the soil was not deep. And when the sun rose, it was scorched and it withered for lack of roots. Some seed fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked it and it produced no grain. And some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit. It came up and grew and yielded thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold." He added, "Whoever has ears to hear ought to hear."

And when he was alone, those present along with the Twelve questioned him about the parables. He answered them, "The mystery of the Kingdom of God has been granted to you. But to those outside everything comes in parables, so that / *they may look and see but not perceive, / and hear and listen but not understand, / in order that they may not be converted and be forgiven.*"

Jesus said to them, "Do you not understand this parable? Then how will you understand any of the parables? The sower sows the word. These are the ones on the path where the word is sown. As soon as they hear, Satan comes at once and takes away the word sown in them. And these are the ones sown on rocky ground who, when they hear the word, receive it at once with joy. But they have no roots; they last only for a time. Then when tribulation or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. Those sown among thorns are another sort. They are the people who hear the word, but worldly anxiety, the lure of riches, and the craving for other things intrude and choke the word, and it bears no fruit. But those sown on rich soil are the ones who hear the word and accept it and bear fruit thirty and sixty and a hundredfold."

Meditation: Jesus' parable of the sower is aimed at the hearers of his word. There are different ways of accepting God's word and they produce different kinds of fruit accordingly. There is the prejudiced hearer who has a shut mind. Such a person is unteachable and blind to what he or she doesn't want to hear. Then there is the shallow hearer. He or she fails to think things out or think them through; they lack depth. They may initially respond with an emotional reaction; but when it wears off their mind wanders to something else. Another type of hearer is the person who has many interests or cares, but who lacks the ability to hear or comprehend what is truly important. Such a person is too busy to pray or too preoccupied to study and meditate on God's word. Then there is the one whose mind is open. Such a person is at all times willing to listen and to learn. He or she is never too proud or too busy to learn. They listen in order to understand. God gives grace to those who hunger for his word that they may understand his will and have the strength to live according to it. Do you hunger for God's word?

Prayer: O God, who made Saint Thomas Aquinas outstanding in his zeal for holiness and his study of sacred doctrine, grant us, we pray, that we may understand what he taught and imitate what he accomplished. 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: What does the parable about seeds and roots say to us about the kingdom of God? Any farmer will attest to the importance of good soil for supplying nutrients for growth. And how does a plant get the necessary food and water it needs except by its roots? The scriptures frequently use the image of fruit-bearing plants or trees to convey the principle of spiritual life and death. "Blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit." (Jeremiah 17:7-8; see also Psalm 1:3)

About Saint Thomas Aquinas: St. Thomas ranks among the greatest writers and theologians of all time. His most important work, the *Summa Theologiae*, an explanation and summary of the entire body of Catholic teaching, has been standard for centuries, even to our own day. At the Council of Trent it was consulted after the Bible. To a deeply speculative mind, he joined a remarkable life of prayer, a precious memento of which has been left to us in the *Office of Corpus Christi*. Reputed as great already in life, he nevertheless remained modest, a perfect model of childlike simplicity and goodness. He was mild in word and kind in deed. He believed everyone was as innocent as he himself was. When someone sinned through weakness, Thomas bemoaned the sin as if it were his own. The goodness of his heart shone in his face, no one could look upon him and remain disconsolate. How he suffered with the poor and the needy was most inspiring. Whatever clothing or other items he could give away, he gladly did. He kept nothing superfluous in his efforts to alleviate the needs of others. After he died his lifelong companion and confessor testified, "I have always known him to be as innocent as a five-year-old child. Never did a carnal temptation soil his soul, never did he consent to a mortal sin." He cherished a most tender devotion to St. Agnes, constantly carrying relics of this virgin martyr on his person. He died in 1274, at the age of fifty, in the abbey of Fossa Nuova. He is the patron saint of schools and of sacred theology.

Thursday, January 29 ~ Third Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Mark 4:21-25 Jesus said to his disciples, "Is a lamp brought in to be placed under a bushel basket or under a bed, and not to be placed on a lampstand? For there is nothing hidden except to be made visible; nothing is secret except to come to light. Anyone who has ears to hear ought to hear." He also told them, "Take care what you hear. The measure with which you measure will be measured out to you, and still more will be given to you. To the one who has, more will be given; from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

Meditation: What does the image of light and a lamp tell us about God's kingdom? Lamps in the ancient world served a vital function, much like they do today. They enable people to see and work in the dark and to avoid stumbling. The Jews also understood "light" as an expression of the inner beauty, truth, and goodness of God. In his light we see light (Psalm 36:9). His word is a lamp that guides our steps (Psalm 119:105). God's grace not only illumines the darkness in our lives, but it also fills us with spiritual light, joy, and peace. Jesus used the image of a lamp to describe how his disciples are to live in the light of his truth and love. Just as natural light illumines the darkness and enables one to see visually, so the light of Christ shines in the hearts of believers and enables us to see the heavenly reality of God's kingdom. In fact, our mission is to be light-bearers of Christ so that others may see the truth of the gospel and be freed from the blindness of sin and deception.



Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. 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 remarks that nothing can remain hidden or secret. We can try to hide things from others, from ourselves, and from God. How tempting to shut our eyes from the consequences of our sinful ways and bad habits, even when we know what those consequences are. And how tempting to hide them from others and even from God. But, nonetheless, everything is known to God who sees all. There is great freedom and joy for those who live in God's light and who seek this truth. Those who listen to God and heed his voice will receive more from him. Do you know the joy and freedom of living in God's light?

Friday, January 30 ~ Third Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Mark 4:26-34 Jesus said to the crowds: "This is how it is with the Kingdom of God; it is as if a man were to scatter seed on the land and would sleep and rise night and day and the seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord the land yields fruit, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. And when the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come."

He said, "To what shall we compare the Kingdom of God, or what parable can we use for it? It is like a mustard seed that, when it is sown in the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on the earth. But once it is sown, it springs up and becomes the largest of plants and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the sky can dwell in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them as they were able to understand it. Without parables he did not speak to them, but to his own disciples he explained everything in private.

Meditation: What can mustard seeds teach us about the kingdom of God? The tiny mustard seed literally grew to be a tree which attracted numerous birds because they loved the little black mustard seed it produced. God's kingdom works in a similar fashion. It starts from the smallest beginnings in the hearts of men and women who are receptive to God's word. And it works unseen and causes a transformation from within. Just as a seed has no power to change itself until it is planted in the ground, so we cannot change our lives to be like God until God gives us the power of his Holy Spirit.

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, direct our actions according to your good pleasure, that in the name of your beloved Son we may abound in good works. 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: The Lord of the universe is ever ready to transform us by the power of his Spirit. Are you ready to let God change you by his grace and power? The kingdom of God produces a transformation in those who receive the new life which Jesus Christ offers. When we yield to Jesus Christ and submit to his word, our lives are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit who dwells in us. Paul the Apostle says, "we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us" (2 Corinthians 4:7). Do you believe in the transforming power of the Holy Spirit?

Excerpts from the *Lectionary for Mass for Use in the Dioceses of the United States of America, second typical edition* © 2001, 1998, 1997, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. Used with permission. All rights reserved. No portion of this text may be reproduced by any means without permission in writing from the copyright owner. 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:2026



EGAN RYAN FUNERAL SERVICE

NORTHWEST LOCATION
4661 Kenny Rd.
451-5900

CENTRAL LOCATION
403 E. Broad St.
221-6665

www.egan-ryan.com

Holmes MANAGEMENT LLC

A Financial Consulting and Investment Management Firm

Glen E. Holmes, 614-539-9999

"Securities and investment advisory services offered through Osac Wealth, Inc., member FINRA/ SIPC. Osac Wealth is separately owned and other entities and/or marketing names, products or services referenced here are independent of Osac Wealth."

Tommy's DINER

Open for Breakfast & Lunch
Mon. - Sat. 5 AM - 3 PM
Sunday 7 AM - 2 PM

914 W. Broad St. 224-2422

martin PAINTING & COATING CO.
100% Employee Owned

614-875-8733

www.MartinPainting.com

SHERIDAN DENTAL

GENERAL RESTORATIVE COSMETIC

875-8085

\$100 will be donated to soup kitchen for each new patient.

Office Hours by Appointment

Joseph R. Ryan, D.D.S.
Family Dentistry

614-279-4544
2233 W. Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43223
1/2 mile west of I-70

RESTAURANT EQUIPPERS INC.

Buy • Sell • Trade

635 W. Broad St.
In Ohio 1-800-235-3325

614-464-0505

Evans Carpet Junkyard, Inc.

Quality Carpet at Junkyard Prices

665 N. Hague Ave. • Columbus

Family Owned 614-272-5630 Binding also available

A Sacred Trust since 1850

St. Joseph Cemetery Lockbourne
Resurrection Cemetery Lewis Center
Holy Cross Cemetery Pataskala
Mt. Calvary Cemetery Columbus

catholiccemeteriesofcolumbus.org

AM 820 CATHOLIC RADIO

Little Servant Sisters of the I.C.

957 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43205
Now Enrolling: Age 3-5 years
stjohnpaul2preschool@gmail.com
614-372-5656

Learning with Faith, Growing in Grace.

St. John Paul II Pre-school Preschool, Pre-K, and Extended Care Services

JMAC HAIR STUDIO

HAIR • SKIN • NAILS
ALL THE SERVICES YOU NEED
IN ONE LUXURIOUS SPACE

10249 SAWMILL PARKWAY
POWELL, OHIO 43065
614-889-5622
WWW.JMACHAIRSTUDIO.COM

POWER SHACK GYM USA

Est. 1990
www.powershackgym.com

4 locations to serve you
Hilliard/UA • Grove City
Pickerington • Westerville

Catering "For All Occasions"

Banquet Room for Large & Small Parties
Oldest Italian Restaurant in Columbus - Since 1929

RISTORANTE DI FAMIGLIA

1210 S. James Rd.
www.tatitalian.com 236-1392

RYAN BROTHERS' Landscaping

DESIGN INSTALL MANAGE

Office: 614-800-2279
www.RyanBrothersLandscaping.com

POWER SHACK GYM

Est. 1990
www.powershackgym.com

4 locations to serve you
Hilliard/UA • Grove City
Pickerington • Westerville

MOSES-MOUSER & ASSOCIATES Ophthalmic Surgeons/ Eye Care Specialists

James L. Moses, MD • J. Garret Mouser, MD • Joshua Morris, OD

1600 Gateway Cir., Grove City, OH
6441 Winchester Blvd., #E, Canal Winchester, OH

Please call for an appointment - 614-274-2020
mosesmouserseye.com

Confraternity of Christian Mothers

Holy Family
221-4323

Since 1978

CREATIVE FLOORING OHIO

Customized Flooring
Wood • Tile • Carpet • Luxury Vinyl

Committed to Making Every Customer Smile
CREATIVEFLOORINGOHIO.COM • 614-407-1446
Parishioner Owned

caffé davinci
pasta • pizza • gelato

Mon-Thurs 11am-8pm
Fri 11am-9pm
Sat 4pm-9pm
Sun 4pm-8pm

Dine In Carry Out Catering

"Bringing A Taste of Italy to UA"

3080 Tremont Road at Zollinger 614-459-9945

CleanTurn 614.447.0528
cleanturn.com

a mission-based commercial cleaning company
email columbus@cleanturn.com for a free quote!
promo code "mission"

Serving Your Community Since 1972

Malek & Malek ATTORNEYS AT LAW

WORK INJURIES
WORKERS' COMPENSATION
MOTOR VEHICLE PERSONAL INJURY
WRONGFUL DEATH PERSONAL INJURY
SLIP & FALL INJURY • DOG BITE INJURY
"Hablamos Español" • FREE Initial Consultation

Douglas, Ed, Jim, Kip Malek,
Greg Pace & Jeff Kluesener
(Greg & Jeff not pictured)

www.maleklawfirm.com • 614-444-7440 • 1227 S. High St., Columbus, OH 43206

RED ONE REALTY

Teri Gilmore
Realtor • ABR

GILMORE GROUP HOMES
614-579-5149
TeriGilmoreRealtor@gmail.com
www.GilmoreGroupHomes.com

HAMILTON CONTRACTORS
www.hamiltongrp-ohio.com

JERRY SPEARS Co.
Funeral Home With Crematory
"We Care"

2693 W. Broad St., Columbus OH 43204 • 614-274-5092
5471 Frazell Rd., Hilliard OH 43026 • 614-927-2470

Automotive maintenance & repair for all makes & models.

Mike's FOREIGN CAR SERVICE
EST. 1973

1379 River St., Columbus 43222 www.mfccolumbus.com
614-276-8282

Newly Built & Renovated Homes

RENT • LEASE-PURCHASE • SALE

614-961-4939
NewCityOhio.com

Proud Franklinton Business
NEW CITY HOMES

ROOFING | GUTTERS | SIDING | SOLAR

NITRO
ROOFING & CONSTRUCTION

CALL TODAY FOR A FREE QUOTE

614.601.1898
WWW.NITROROOFING.COM

