

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF
ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA

REVEREND JEREMIAH N. MURASSO, PH.D., ED.D., PSY.D., PASTOR

REVEREND PATRICK KANE, PAROCHIAL VICAR

REVEREND TIMOTHY MEEHAN, WEEKEND ASSISTANT

DEACON WAYNE SANFORD, PERMANENT DEACON

DEACON GEORGE MCCARROLL, RETIRED DEACON



Autumn & the Jack-O-Lantern:

THE CANDLE IS TO THE JACK-O-LANTERN WHAT CHRIST SHOULD BE FOR YOU....

LET THE LIGHT OF CHRIST SHINE THROUGH YOU!

October 11, 2020

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, October 10 - Vigil - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm OLOP + Philomena, Peter & Pasquale Piscitelli
by Marie & Carmine Riccitelli
4:00pm ST. B + Dec'd. Mem. of KofC Rodrigo Council #44
by KofC #44
4:30pm SVDP + Dominick Langello
by Mom & Dad

SUNDAY, October 11 - 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am OLOP + Filomena Lavorgna
by Lavorgna Family
8:00am ST. B + Dr. John E. Onofrio (Anni.)
by Family
9:00am SVDP + Alexander Granata
by Joan & Frank Wnek
10:00am OLOP + Thomas & Maria Lukac
by Granddaughter, Helen Nguyen
10:00am ST. B + Deceased Members of the LoRicco Family
11:00am SVDP + Pasquale Bonadies
11:45am OLOP + Deceased Members of Knights of Columbus
6:00pm ST. B + Vincent Mazzetta
by Wife & Family

MONDAY, October 12 - Columbus Day

8:00am OLOP + Kathleen Klett
8:00am SVDP + Sr. Susan Carlin, R.S.M.
8:00am ST.B + Eleanor D'Esopo

TUESDAY, October 13 - Weekday

8:00am OLOP + Honor of Our Lady of Fatima
by Anthony & Kathy Mauro

8:00am SVDP + Rose DePino
by Steele Family

8:00am ST. B + Pasquale Bonadies

WEDNESDAY, October 14 - St. Callistus

8:00am OLOP + Carmel Serio
by Annie

8:00am SVDP + Mary Esposito
by Marie Lunney, Barbara Elliott & Families

8:00am ST. B + Living & Deceased Members of
Campbell-Parlato Family
by Family

THURSDAY, October 15 - St. Teresa of Jesus

8:00am OLOP + President Donald J. Trump & Melania Trump
by Barbara

8:00am SVDP + Patricia Cacace
by Family

8:00am ST.B + Mario Baldini (Anni.)
by Family

FRIDAY, October 16 - St. Hedwig

8:00am OLOP + Gerald Cicalese

8:00am ST. B + Irene Leining

SATURDAY, October 17 - Vigil - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm OLOP + Albert Jarmie, Sr.
by Ann & John Tortora & Family

4:00pm ST. B +Julia & Antonio (Anni.)
by Daughters

4:30pm SVDP + Susan Lynk
by Husband, Peter

SUNDAY, October 18 - 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am OLOP + Marion & Albert Jarmie
by Children

8:00am ST. B + Patricia Natowich
9:00am SVDP + Rita & Albert Baldelli
by Family

10:00am OLOP + Josephine Esposito
by Linda Esposito

10:00am ST. B + Deceased Members of the Dempsey Family
by Loving Family

11:00am SVDP + Josephine & Joseph Riccitelli
by Son, Joseph & Family

11:45am OLOP + Luca & Antonia Antonucci &
Eugenio & Giovannina Palmieri
by Grandchildren

6:00pm ST. B + Julia Coppola (Anni.)
by Paula D'Agostino

STEWARDSHIP

With public Masses cancelled, please continue to support the parish. We need your support as the operations continue on a daily basis. In addition, we want to continue to pay our loyal staff. Please mail-in your contributions. Online giving is also available at, <https://stpiofpietrelcinaeh.com/> and click on the **GIVE** button.

Regular Collection

Total Regular	\$8,242.00*
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Fuel & Electric

Total Fuel & Electric	\$1,951.00
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*Representation of our 3 churches.

October 17 & October 18 Second Collection:

Propagation of Faith Collection

Thank you to the many of you who have been so generous and responsive in these difficult times.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday:	Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/ Phil 4:12-14, 19-20/Mt 22:1-14 or 22:1-10
Monday:	Gal 4:22-24, 26-27, 31—5:1/Ps 113:1b-2, 3 -4, 5a and 6-7 [cf. 2]/Lk 11:29-32
Tuesday:	Gal 5:1-6/Ps 119:41, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48 [41a]/Lk 11:37-41
Wednesday:	Gal 5:18-25/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [cf. Jn 8:12]/Lk 11:42-46
Thursday:	Eph 1:1-10/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 [2a]/ Lk 11:47-54
Friday:	Eph 1:11-14/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 12-13 [12]/Lk 12:1-7
Saturday:	Eph 1:15-23/Ps 8:2-3ab, 4-5, 6-7 [7]/Lk 12:8-12

St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish

Address: 355 Foxon Road, East Haven, CT 06513

Phone Number: (203) 469-0764

Office Hours:

Foxon Road: Mon-Fri 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:00

Taylor Avenue: Mon. & Fri. 10:00-2:00

Townsend Avenue: **Temporarily Closed**

E-Mail: stpiofpietrelcina@gmail.com

Live-Stream Mass

Monday-Friday at 8:00 AM

Saturday at 4:00 PM

Sunday at 8:00 AM, 10:00 AM & 11:45AM

To watch the live stream go to,
<https://www.stpiofpietrelcinaeh.com>, then click on Online Mass and click on StreamSpot.

CONFSSION SCHEDULE:

St. Bernadette & Our Lady of Pompeii:

Saturday at 3:00-3:30pm

St. Vincent de Paul: Saturday at 3:30-4:00pm

MINISTRY & EVENT CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11 ALL ACTIVITIES CANCELLED	SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18 ALL ACTIVITIES CANCELLED
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12 Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823 Midnight Run - 7:00pm Contact Sue Stacy at 203-214-1762	MONDAY, OCTOBER 19 Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14 Bible Study - 10:00am on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823 Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21 Bible Study - 10:00am on Zoom Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823 Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15 Scriptural Rosary - 7:00pm at OLOP Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22 Scriptural Rosary - 7:00pm at OLOP Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23 Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17 Food Pantry - 10:00am-11:00am at St. Bernadette Divine Mercy - 11:00am at Our Lady of Pompeii at St. Clare Garden Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8	SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24 Food Pantry - 10:00am-11:00am at St. Bernadette Divine Mercy - 11:00am at Our Lady of Pompeii at St. Clare Garden Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8

Fr. Murasso's Message Board

Pastoral Care

Parishioners who are confined to their homes and feel comfortable with having a visit from Fr. Patrick, Bernadette Lysaght or myself should contact Bernadette at (203)-907-8717 or Bernadette.Lysaght@yahoo.com.

Unfortunately, we are still unable to visit the nursing homes and hospitals. Father Patrick and I will be happy to hear confessions or supply the Anointing of the Sick. JNM

Bell of the Unborn

Last week at the Vatican, Pope Francis blessed the "Bell of the Unborn," which is from a parish in Poland, with the hope that it will ring out loud and clear in the defense of unborn human life.

Pope Francis remarked: "May its ring awaken the consciences of legislators and all people of good will in Poland and throughout the whole world."

During our 40 Days for Life campaign, parishes that have parish bells or bell towers will ring them briefly each Friday at 3:00pm, through October 30. May the bells throughout the Archdiocese of Hartford ring loudly for the legal protection of unborn children.



The Candles burn this week for these special intentions:

Our Lady of Pompeii Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of Billy Richmond & For All the Souls in Purgatory

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~ In Memory of the Mauro & Elko Families

Chapel ~

Sacred Heart of Jesus ~

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Icon ~

Our Lady of Pompeii Picture ~

St. Vincent de Paul Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~ In Memory of the Balzano & Avitable Families

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) - In Memory of Ronald Paolillo

Our Lady's Altar ~ Special Intention by Victoria & Dominic Montouri

St. Joseph's Altar ~

St. Bernadette Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~



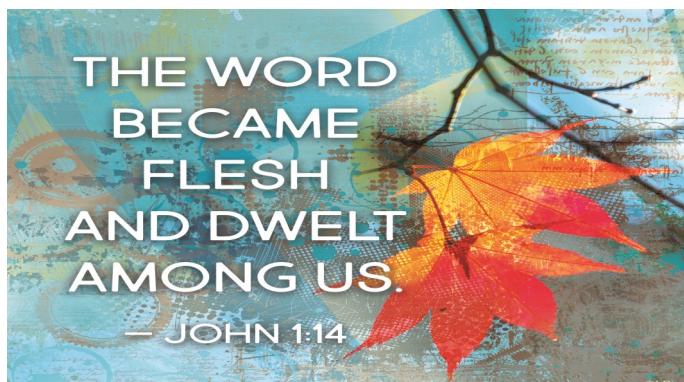
Holy Hour

Come spend time in the presence of Jesus.

Every Monday, immediately following morning Mass at Our Lady of Pompeii, there is one hour of **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**. This *Holy Hour* is also streamed for those who cannot join us. Go to <https://www.stpiofpietrelcinaeh.com>



The St. Bernadette Food Pantry is open every Saturday from 10:00am-11:00am to receive or to donate non-perishable foods for all of our communities.



**Midnight Run
Taylor Avenue Campus**

The Midnight Run for October, will be the 2nd Monday, October 12th. Donations of brown bag lunches, water and toiletries can be dropped off to Sue Stacey, on Monday up until 7pm, at her home 82 Forbes Pl. Thankful for all donations. Thank you to all who donate to the Midnight Run!!! The Midnight Run for the month of October will be on October 12th, which is the 2nd Monday of the month, this is for October only! Until further notice PLEASE drop off all brown bag lunches to Sue's home, 82 Forbes Pl, I can not at this time accept clothing or blankets, but toiletries are still acceptable Thank you God Bless You! Stay safe and well!!!

**Midnight Run
Foxon Road Campus**

On the last Monday of each month, we bring 75 bagged lunches to the Columbus House Overflow Shelter.

Donations Needed:

ShopRite Gift Cards or

Gallon Size Ziploc Bags

Quart Size Ziploc Bags

Peanut Butter & Jelly

Juice Pouches

Raisin Boxes

Fruit Cups & Pudding Cups

Granola Bars

Individual Packaged Cookies, Crackers or Chips

We are also looking for small amounts or full skeins of yarn, it will be used to make hats and scarves for the midnight run. Please leave your donations at any entrance of the church. Thank you.

Midnight Run is the **LAST** Monday of **EVERY** month from Our Lady of Pompeii Church from 6-7 pm.

Thank-you for being so generous!

PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH

Nick Vessicchio, Sally Ann Fallon, Lynette Ely, David T. Boyle, Richard Lucibello, Carmel Ferretti, Bryan Surprenant, Sharon Spadacenta, Marie & Charles Zambrano, Marie Sunderland, Helen Langello, Annette Brissette, Brian Savo, Gerry Andrea, John Umlauf, Alan Poirier, Joseph Benson, Connie Rasimas, Jane Pyka, Harry Clark, Lou DiNola, Peter Pepe, Vincent Perricone, Virginia Klump, Robert Savino, Geraldine Licciardi, Joanne Cretella, Joseph Anyzeski, Alice Tietjen-DeSenti, Faith Gibson, Fran Sofo, Elizabeth Kuen, Deborah Sanning, Paula Ferrara, Patricia Brasile, Joann Mazzucco, Tina Marie Fonia, Elizabeth Nucolo, Joseph Parise, Frank DelGrego, Moira Ferguson, Danielle Joubert, Nelson Eddy, Margaret Lendroth, Katherine Hungerford Picciano, Frances Polaski, Sharon Filion, Pauline Condon, Rose Marie Monaco, Anna Izzo, Angelo DeMatteo, Carmen & Patricia Riccitelli, Patricia Aulenti, Michael Pascale, Alyce Richmond, Catherine Leach, Mark Schettino, Patty DiMilo, Rose Rogalski, Elaine Smith, Karen Rescigno, Virginia Pisano, Joan Baisley, Deanna Baldassare, Kim Hughes, DJ DiVincenzo, Sgt. Anthony Rybaruk, Philip DeMilo & Sally DeMilo, Anna Concealmo, Sally Ann Corcoran, Paul Castiglione, Anna Marie Nappi, Brian Higney, Rich Tortora, Andrea Palmucci, Frances Randi, Denise Bailey, Peg Dmytryk, Mary Mack, Joseph Peterson, Judith Robbins, Marion Mahl, Gloria Ranfone, Paula Ruddock, Pamela Willis, Laura Luzzi, Jose Maisonet, Anita Della Ventura, Brian Wilson, Maureen Redmond, Pasquale Savo, Kristianne Argentino, Shirley Perrelli, Marion Schobert, Bill Izzo, Andrew & Catherine Criscuolo, Patricia Miles, Joe Coscia, Deborah Verab, Msgr. James Shanley, Barbara Nixon, Angela Foster, Dona Marie, Louis Messina, Christina Meoli, Ed Piazza, Patty Peters, Laura Luzzi, Michelle Smith, Ron Mattei, Angela Riccio, Charlene Tantalo, Al Forgione, Gabriella Garrity, Beverly Fucci, W.D. Merkle, Phyllis Anastasio, Cheryl Barbara, Carmine DelBasso, Laura-Phyllis Esposito, Diana Vitelli O'Brien, Meghan Keeney, Pamela Willis, Laura Luzzi, Gennaro Milone, Jo Vuolo, Felicia DeRoche, Brian Wilson, Marilyn Kozin, Bill Izzo, Mike Barnett, Richard Costanzo, Carole Casapulla, Frank Casapulla, John Fraenza, Gerrie Amendola

Please send prayer requests to stpiofpietrelcina@gmail.com so that our parishioners and friends can be remembered in our prayers.

From the Pen of Fr. M.
Reverend Jeremiah N. Murasso, Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.

Autumn and the Rediscovery of Self:
The Jack-O-Lantern



One of the most beautiful times of the year has arrived. Yet, autumn's impact on nature, appears particularly slow this year in making its usual flashy appearance, sprinkling its array of spicy colors across the horizon. Autumn for me is an annual reminder of the beauty of our universe and of the powerful presence of God as He communicates His radiance across His creation.

An Ostentatious God

The delicate, yet deliberate panoramic display of colors speak of an *Artistic, yet, ordered Genius*; a Being who, while in possession of the *larger* picture pays attention to the *smallest* details in the created universe. This is an Infinite and All-Encompassing *Devine Intellect* who with unspoken and silent flamboyance makes *His* presence known to the receptive eye and the responsive heart.

Another summer has come and gone. This was a different summer for most of us as the *long-awaited-for* annual breaks from routine never materialized. This year, the long stretch of intense heat added to the anxiety of many as *away-vacations* turned into *stay-vacations*. In any case, short weekend respites are now behind us as we conscientiously aspire to meet the business of each new day and attempt to *re-establish* some level of normalcy in our day-to-day routines.

Autumn's Arrival

The silent and serene arrival of autumn is especially welcoming, delivering with it: chilled evenings, crisp mornings and warm teases to our now fleeting afternoons. Autumn, this year is very much needed amid the anxiety, fear and uncertainties of our lives not only as American citizens but as citizens of the world. Individually, and collectively as a country and as a church we worry about where we are headed as we quickly flip the calendar and are confronted with a brand-new year.



With any luck, humankind, you and I will step away, if only for a moment to grasp the majestic, yet, silent beauty of God's artistry, brushed across the easel of creation, which for the receptive eye, the unclenched fist and the yearning human spirit, which speaks to new beginnings where real faith and confidence in an all-too-often *Hidden God* and *Silent God* might be *re-discovered*.



Nature speaks to the senses, re-awakening in the soul a need for *re-capturing* the *un-seen* solitude that longs to be *re-claimed* within each of us. Autumn, with its ornate opulence, mingled with its peaceful presence beckons us individually and collectively to bask in the simple beauty of the moment, capturing in its silent summons, our own unconscious hunger for spiritual sustenance. In other words, autumn speaks to a deep-rooted longing for a personal transformation and transcendence; for peace and tranquility; for completeness and fulfillment; a yearning at the depths of our souls that silently screams for the re-awakening of this *Hidden* and *Silent God* within nature and within ourselves.

Daily Stressors

As human beings, we frequently become overly preoccupied and anxious with the dilemma of the day, or the mayhem of the moment. This autumn in particular, there is much concern and perhaps a bit more tension in the air as we try to go about our busy lives while being bombarded with daily reminders of an endless virus and the possibility of additional outbreaks accompanied by additional shutdowns.

Autumn's Persistence

I wonder if autumn returns each year as a reminder that just as nature renews itself as a way of sustaining itself, we too, as men and women of faith need to *diagnose* our own need to be renewed: spiritually, psychologically and even physically. This is a renewal that must begin and end with a *re-discovery* of meaning and purpose in our lives.



Therefore I say to you,
do not worry about your life,
what you will eat or what you will drink;
nor about your body, what you will put on.
Is not life more than food and the body more than
clothing? Look at the birds of the air, for they
neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns;
yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are
you not of more value than they?

~ Matthew 6:25,26 ~

I believe that the change of seasons and the splash of colors consuming the horizon and overtaking our landscape to be an annual reminder of a *Conscious God* at work in *His* Creation. This is a God who gives each of us a reason to hope, to trust and to find joy, despite, or rather, *in spite of* the trials and tribulations that often spontaneously appear in the form of existential curved balls or *twists of fate*. Just maybe, autumn's persistence is a way to annually remind humankind of God's benevolence; His gift to our *weary souls*.



OCTOBER 11, 2020

Prior to nature's winter's sleep, humanity can glimpse at the serene, yet, spectacular pageantry of color soon to make its debut. I feel as if autumn this year might be ushering in a message of *peace* in the midst of pandemonium, *hope* in the midst of despair, *faith* in the midst of uncertainty, *respect* in the midst of revenge, *trust* in the midst of hopelessness.

There is something quite comforting in the burst of colors that dance against the sky, heightened by the array of velvety chrysanthemums claiming their rightful place among the summer annuals that struggle for their place in the rays of a quickly-fading sun.



The cool crisp mornings with their drops of dew give way each day to short spurts of summer-like afternoons as a kind of tease, leaving one with the impression that *Mother Nature* is not quite ready to usher in that which lies ahead. Autumn and its harmony of color would be incomplete if it were not for my favorite: The *Jack-O-Lantern*.



The Jack-O-Lantern

The *Jack-O-Lantern* is more than an object for decoration. It is more than a reminder of the festivities associated with the celebration of Halloween and Thanksgiving. The *Jack-O-Lantern* speaks of an *inner beauty* that each person possesses and bestows.

In its uncomplicated and unpretentious beauty and simplicity, the *Jack-O-Lantern* speaks to our lives, while at the same time impacts each of us at the level of soul. The *Jack-O-Lantern* draws us into its silent interior; thus, in drawing us inward, the *Jack-O-Lantern* provides us with a glimpse of *illuminated solitude*; an inner essence that enhances an outer reality.

A Man Called Jack

There is a folktale about a man whose name was Jack. According to the tale, Jack was rather mean-spirited and considered by others as being stingy and cantankerous in his dealings with people. Actually, Jack was an overall unpleasant and ill-natured chap.

According to this tale, the time came for Jack to die. However, neither God nor the devil wanted any part of poor old Jack. God maintained that throughout his lifetime, numerous opportunities were extended to Jack to change his ways; however, Jack refused. As for the devil, he claimed that throughout Jack's life he [Jack] continuously played practical jokes on the devil. In any case, the thought of Jack spending eternity with either God or the devil was out of the question.

Consequently, because neither God nor the devil wanted any part of Jack, the poor chap was forced to roam the earth swinging a yellow lantern. It is not clear what Jack was supposed to be doing as he roamed the earth. Perhaps, Jack was meant to be a reminder to the rest of humanity about the importance of the child-like virtues of love, charity, generosity, respect, kindness, honesty and forgiveness.

Throughout the ages, the *Jack-O-Lantern* has been associated with the underworld. In pre-Christian times, it was believed that on the last day of October, both good and evil spirits roamed the earth. The *Jack-O-Lantern* with its toothy smile was placed in windows and stationed on doorsteps as a way of frightening the bad spirits who roamed the earth in the dark of night.

From Pumpkin to Jack-O-Lantern



Jack-O-Lanterns do not come into existence as *Jack-O-Lanterns*. Rather, like human beings who begin life as infants, the *Jack-O-Lantern* begins its life as a pumpkin. I like pumpkins, not only because they contribute to the *spirit* of the season, they also have something to teach human beings.

The pumpkin, like the changing of the seasons speak to us about human destiny. Just as humans possess the potential for becoming a unique contributing individual, such is the case with the pumpkin. It too, can become much more. It is only after it matures into that perfect pumpkin that someone like you or like me snatches it from a pumpkin patch and designates it to become much more: a *Jack-O-Lantern* with its own personality; an illuminated *essence* all its own!

It's all about us.

Contrary to pre-Christian thought, I do not enjoy thinking about the *Jack-O-Lantern* as an object of fear used to frighten away evil spirits. Rather, I think of the *Jack-O-Lantern* as a wonderfully captivating icon for life. I also like to think about the *Jack-O-Lantern* as a symbol of what you and I *can* and *should* become as we journey through life.

Thinking about the unique beauty of the *Jack-O-Lantern*, I believe it to be a magnificently powerful symbol for our homes, the year-around. Perhaps, our friends and relatives would view us as strange, yet, if we take a closer look at the *Jack-O-Lantern*, we might be surprised just how much it could change our lives and even our homes.

Minor Surgery

Let's examine the object itself. We see an actual pumpkin. Next the insides are removed and two eyes, a nose and a mouth creatively emerge. A candle is then placed inside. As a result of this amateur kitchen operation, our pumpkin has undergone a complete transformation.

From the large triangular eyes, a button nose and mouth carved in a toothy smile, a beautiful yellow light shines forth. In its simplicity, the *Jack-O-Lantern* signifies inner beauty and tranquility. Like you and me, each *Jack-O-Lantern* is *created* with its own unique personality; a personality that is enhanced by the *inner light* that shines forth from within.



That which appeared to be a common run-of-the-mill pumpkin that looked like every other pumpkin in the patch has acquired a distinctly unique character and personality enhanced by its inner light, never to be duplicated. Our pumpkin is no longer a pumpkin; it is a *Jack-O-Lantern!*

American Pastime

As Americans, we spend billions of dollars each year in an effort to look younger and more attractive. We purchase oils and creams, hair color and cologne as well as the fashionable *look-good-fast* remedies that claim to melt away both the unwanted pounds and the unforgiving years.

Yet, real beauty comes not from what we apply from without. Rather, real beauty comes from those character traits that are rooted *in* and nourished *by* a cultivated and nurtured frame of reference that originates at the very core of our being: at the level of soul.

The virtues that drive our choices and influence behaviors give human beings meaning and a purpose for living. This is what is important in life; not what we look like or what we wear or how much money we have in the bank.

Values for Life

The virtues that govern life choices include such things as kindness, honesty, integrity, sincerity, compassion and love. All of these virtues are rooted in the human soul and are found neither in a pill nor in a bottle of cream. It will be by such virtues that one day we will be judged my God. We will in fact be judged by how much of *Christ's Light* we emit and have *permitted* to shine forth from our souls throughout our brief journey in this world.



The candle-light is to the *Jack-O-Lantern* what Christ is (*or should be*) for men and women of faith. The more of the *yucky* stuff that is scooped out of the pumpkin, the brighter the light is that shines forth from within. How much of Christ's Light do you *permit* to shine through you?

- What is obstructing his *Light* in you from shining brighter?
- What are some of the seeds of destruction, yet to be removed in you that are dimming Christ's *Light*?
- What changes need to take place in your life in order for you to begin discovering and cultivating meaning and purpose for the person that you are, which is in conflict with the person that you wish you can become?
- What does the *yucky* stuff in you look like; the stuff that is preventing you from defining who you are and what you do by your faith in God?

Jesus, the Master Surgeon

As men and women of faith, we are called by nature of our Baptism to examine our lives every day. As is true for the carving of the pumpkin, we too, must *permit* Christ to *carve away* those areas in our personalities that affect behaviors and that continue to reduce and restrict Christ's *Light* from shining through our human nature.



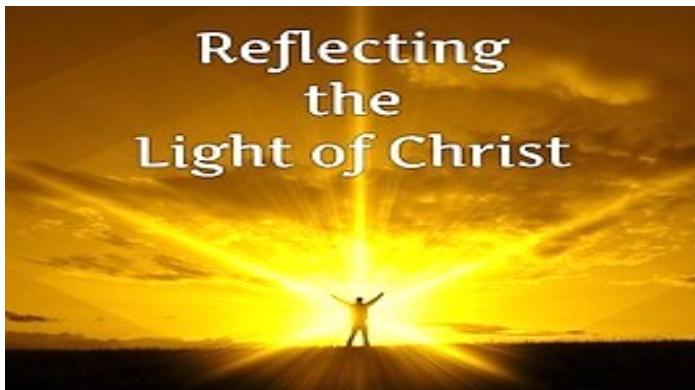
How much of Christ's *Light* do you permit to shine through you? How much of his *Light* is restricted?

Emancipation of the Jack-O-Lantern!

One last thought: we need to emancipate the *Jack-O-Lantern!* We need to give him a place in our lives and perhaps, even in our homes throughout the year; *not only* at Halloween. JNM



Like the light that shines forth from the *Jack-O-Lantern*, real beauty comes from the *Inner Light* of Christ that shines forth from each of us.



The seeds are to the pumpkin what personal faults and sin are to each of us. Our faults serve as obstacles and obstructions to the *Light*. It is only after the pumpkin is scooped clean of the seeds; the *yucky* stuff, that the candle-light can shine forth brightly. In the same way, it is only after we remove the seeds of pettiness, hidden agendas, greed, envy, anger, bitterness and hate that the *Light of Christ* can truly shine forth from the depth of our souls.

It is only after we make a conscious decision to transcend the destructive forces in the world and emerge from the darkness of sin that Christ's *Light* can shine brightly in and through us; illuminating not only our hidden beauty but also, the fruits of our labor. Too often, we permit the *yucky* stuff to take precedence in our lives and too often, the *yucky* stuff becomes a source of both insulation *from* ... and control *of* ... others.

FR. MURASSO'S MESSAGE BOARD

NO ONE HAS EVER
BECOME POOR BY
GIVING

ANNE FRANK



THE EAST HAVEN FOOD PANTRY is asking for canned vegetables for the month of October. Please leave your donations of food at the church entrances.



MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The Feast of All Souls is Monday, November 2. Two Masses of Remembrance will be celebrated at 7:00pm on November 2:

- ◊ St. Vincent de Paul Church for all those who died this past year and were buried from either St. Vincent de Paul Church or St. Bernadette Church.
- ◊ Our Lady of Pompeii for those who were buried from Pompeii.

Parishioners who have passed during this past year will be remembered and honored. The deceased will be called by name and a rose will be placed in a vase in their honor.

CALLING ALL PUMPKINS!



We need pumpkins to decorate the altars **at all three churches**. Painted artistically, with all kinds of faces, expressions and dispositions to go along side of our *Jack-O-Lantern*. Please bring them to Mass beginning next weekend and place them anywhere around the altar.

SOMETHING TO PONDER



ARE YOU CHARITABLE?

The scriptures are very clear about the act of demonstrating charity in our relationships with one another: "Charity comes from a pure heart, a good conscience and a sincere faith" (1Timothy 1:5). The words *charity* and *love* are often used interchangeably in the scriptures. They share the same Greek word: *agape*, which means unconditional respect, unconditional regard and unconditional reverence for another.

The demonstration of charity does not only include the sharing of our possessions or the providing of financial assistance. Charitable behavior, also includes one's outlook on life; one's attitude: am I someone who inevitably looks at the glass half-empty, overlooking the many blessings that God continues to bestow on me? Am I resentful of others, am I a calculating, controlling individual who cannot see another's point of view because mine is superior?

**CHARITY SHOULD
BEGIN AT HOME, BUT
SHOULD NOT STAY
THERE.**

Charitable behavior, also includes my choice of words; the manner in which I use my words: do I speak words that are healing, encouraging, supportive and respectful? Or do I often engage in idle chatter; gossip? Do I fail in charity by either engaging in or perpetuating negative, judgmental or opinionated comments about another person or situation, pretending that I know more about the misinformation that I am alleging than I really do?

Charitable behavior, also includes the extend to which I am generous with my presence; my time, particularly for someone who may need and benefit from spending time with me. Perhaps, I need to reflect on the quality time that I spend with my spouse or significant other, my child(ren), my elderly parent who sits day-in-and-day-out alone at home or in a nursing facility. JNM

SOMETHING TO PONDER



WISDOM OF PROVERBS

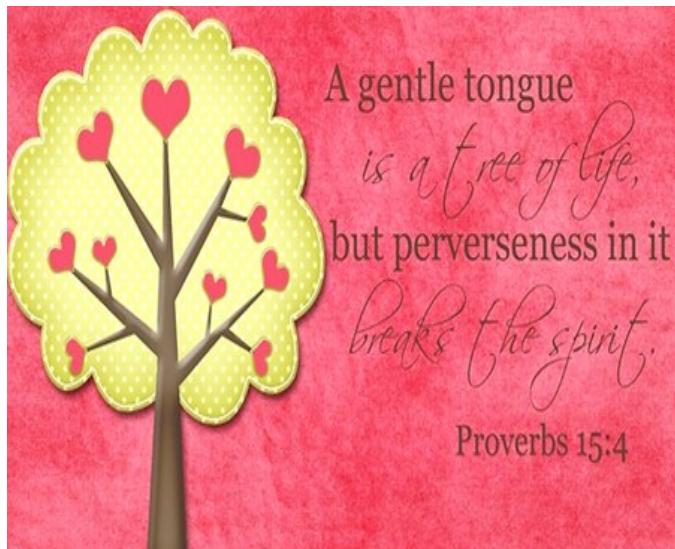
Do I gossip about others?
Do I violate the 8th Commandment?

Thou shall not bear false witness.

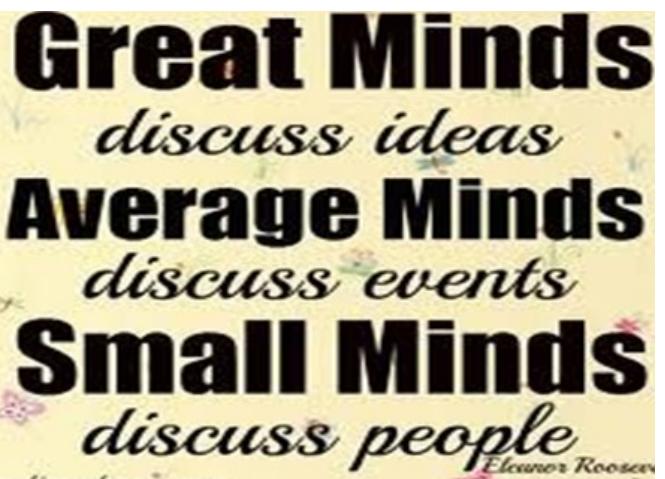
Do I speak ill of others? Do I criticize or judge them? Do I gossip about people to other people as a way of making me look important? Making judgments about others or criticizing another individual is against the 8th commandment and consequently, a sin.

Proverbs 10:18 says this: *"It is the lips of the liar that conceals hostility; but he who spreads accusations is a fool."*

In other words, Proverbs 10:18 indicates that the person who participates in inappropriate or distorted and malicious speech about another person is not only a liar and a deceiver; he/she is also a fool.



Pope Francis often speaks about those who participate in gossip; those who spread, fabricate, embellish and perpetuate stories about another individual. The Pontiff indicates that such a person truly places his/her soul in grave danger.



According to Pope Francis, gossip is a *crime against charity*. He says. *"It is poison."* The Pontiff goes so far as to say that participating in gossip is *"terrorism of words."*

It appears that participating in negative conversation is something that many people do quite readily, even without thinking as a way to feel superior over another individual or a group of people.



Proverb 10:18 tells us that lies are really an indication that the person who participates in such has a deep-rooted hatred stemming from feelings of personal brokenness as well as from the feelings of rejection, even inferiority. It is good to remember that behind every false accusation or subtle misrepresentation made about another person or group that you utter lies an underlying animosity resulting from the feelings associated with apathy, fulfilled and *perceived* missed opportunities, and an overall feeling of incompleteness.

The next time you participate in gossip; the spreading of miss-information or slander about another person realize that you have committed a sin. And then ask yourself this question:

"What is it in me that is so very broken and so wounded that I need to project my hurt onto another person?" JNM

Fr. Murasso's Message Board

MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES

Saint Bernadette Church

1. **Sanctuary Lamps:** The Sanctuary Lamps newly purchased that hang in the sanctuary can be memorialize to a loved-one. The lamps burn continuously except on Good Friday and during the day on Holy Saturday. As you know, the lamp signifies the presence of Jesus in the tabernacle. These lamps, which that hang on the walls in our beautiful sanctuary add to the beauty and dignity of the altar and crucifix. A wonderful way to remember a loved-one.

Cost: \$2,500 each

2. **Vestments:** The vestments that we currently have are in very bad shape. They *apparently* have not been replaced in a long time as they are stained and frayed. We need at least 2 sets. A set consists of four vestments for each of the liturgical seasons: white, green, purple and red.

Vestments are \$590.00 each

3. **Chalices and Ciborium:** The chalice is what the priest consecrates the blood of Christ in and the ciborium is what we use distribute communion in. We only have one chalice, which is in dire need of being re-glazed because of years of use. In addition, we only have two ciboria to distribute communion and are in dire need of some new ones. These too, can be engraved with the name of a loved-one.

Chalice: \$750.00 each Ciborium: \$750.00 each

4. **Statue of St. Clare:** I would like to purchase a statue of Saint Clare; it would be on either side of the picture of Saint Bernadette at the front of the church. This is a wonderful opportunity to memorialize a deceased loved-one.

The statue is \$985.00



Mass Schedule

October 10 & 11

4:00pm OLOP Vigil: Fr. Borino
4:00pm SB Vigil: Fr. Charman
4:30pm SVDP Vigil: Fr. Murasso
8:00am OLOP: Fr. Meehan
8:00am SB: Msgr. Walker
9:00am SVDP: Fr. Charman
10:00 SB: Msgr. Walker
10:00am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
11:00am SVDP: Fr. Meehan
11:45am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
6:00pm SB: Fr. Meehan
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October 17 & 18

4:00pm OLOP Vigil: Fr. Patrick
4:00pm SB Vigil: Fr. Murasso
4:30pm SVDP Vigil: Fr. Borino
8:00pm SB: Fr. Kelly
8:00am OLOP: Msgr. Walker
9:00am SVDP: Fr. Murasso
10:00 SB: Fr. Kelly
10:00am OLOP: Msgr. Walker
11:00am SVDP: Fr. Patrick
11:45am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
6:00pm SB: Fr. Patrick
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October 24 & 24

4:00pm OLOP Vigil: Fr. Murasso
4:00pm SB Vigil: Fr. Borino
4:30pm SVDP Vigil: Fr. Patrick
8:00am OLOP: Fr. Meehan
8:00am SB: Fr. Patrick
9:00am SVDP: Msgr. Walker
10:00 SB: Fr. Murasso
10:00am OLOP: Fr. Patrick
11:00am SVDP: Msgr. Walker
11:45am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
6:00pm SB: Fr. Meehan
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October 31 & November 1

4:00pm OLOP Vigil: Fr. Patrick
4:00pm SB Vigil: Fr. Murasso
4:30pm SVDP Vigil: Fr. Borino
8:00pm SB: Fr. Patrick
8:00am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
9:00am SVDP: Fr. Meehan
10:00 SB: Fr. Patrick
10:00am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
11:00am SVDP: Fr. Meehan
11:45am OLOP: Fr. Murasso
6:00pm SB: Fr. Patrick