

THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES OF
ST. PIO OF PIETRELCINA

REVEREND JEREMIAH N. MURASSO, PH.D., ED.D., PSY.D., PASTOR
REVEREND PATRICK KANE, PAROCHIAL VICAR



31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



"As for you, do not be called 'Rabbi.' You have but one teacher, and you are all brothers. Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven. Do not be called 'Master'; you have but one master, the Christ. The greatest among you must be your servant." - Mt 23:8-11

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 5, 2023

Mass Intentions for the Week

SATURDAY, November 4 - Vigil – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm OLOP + Alexander 'Sandy' Granata
by Arlene & Family
4:30pm SVDP + Chiara Pagliarulo
by Daughters

SUNDAY, November 5 – 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am OLOP + Rachel Mauro & Esposito Family
by Kathy Mauro
9:00am SB + Francis & Patricia Davis
by Family
10:00am OLOP + Robert Scussel, Jr.
by Scussel Family
11:15am SVDP + Jack Cudgma
by Family

MONDAY, November 6 - Weekday

8:00am OLOP + Doreen Cappiello
by Porto Funeral Home
8:00am SVDP + Liberato Cretella
by Nick Cretella

TUESDAY, November 7 – Election Day

8:00am OLOP + William Pascale
by Porto Funeral Home
8:00am SVDP + Liberto Cretella
by Nick Cretella

WEDNESDAY, November 8 – Weekday

8:00am OLOP + Mario Perrone
by Porto Funeral Home
8:00am SVDP + Pamela Follo
by Porto Funeral Home

THURSDAY, November 9 - Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:00am OLOP + Dennis Ricciardi
by Clancy-Palumbo Funeral Home
8:00am SB + Pamela Follo
by Follo Family

FRIDAY, November 10 - St. Leo the Great

8:00am SB + Living & Deceased Mem. of Mahoney Family
by Patricia Mahoney

SATURDAY, November 11 - Vigil – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00pm OLOP + Serafina & Luigi Cordone
by Roma & Joe Criscuolo
4:30pm SVDP + Laura Criscuolo
by Joe & Children

SUNDAY, November 12 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00am OLOP + Kevin Hoyt
by Mom & Dad
9:00am SB + Susan Gagliardi & Family
by Vincent
10:00am OLOP + Filomena Lavorgna
by Husband, Attilio
11:15am SVDP + Jack Lawler
by Friend

STEWARDSHIP

Regular Collection \$0.00

Online Collection \$0.00

November 11 & 12 Second Collection:
Utility

Due to Early Printing Totals Will Be In November
19th Bulletin.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday: Mal 1:14b—2:2b, 8-10/Ps 131:1, 2, 3/1 Thes 2:7b-9, 13/Mt 23:1-12
Monday: Rom 11:29-36/Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36/Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday: Rom 12:5-16b/Ps 131:1bcde, 2, 3/Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday: Rom 13:8-10/Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9/Lk 14:25-33
Thursday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17/Jn 2:13-22
Friday: Rom 15:14-21/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/Lk 16:1-8
Saturday: Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11/Lk 16:9-15

CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

Our Lady of Pompeii: Saturday at 3:00-3:30pm

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

SILENCE.

Please, be mindful that many parishioners arrive early prior to the start of Mass in order to sit reflectively with the LORD in prayer. Please, be mindful of the level of your voice and that voices carry from the back of the church to the front. Please, maintain a subdued tone when speaking so that other's quiet time is not disturbed.



Holy Hour
Come spend time in
the presence of Jesus.

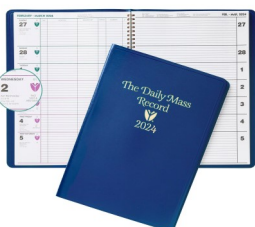
Every Monday, immediately following morning Mass at Our Lady of Pompeii, there is one hour of **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**.

St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish
Address: 355 Foxon Road, East Haven, CT 06513
Phone Number: (203) 469-0764

Office Hours:
Foxon Road: Mon-Thu 8:00-12:00 & 1:00-3:00;
Fri 8:00-12:00

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

E-Mail: stpioofpietrelcina@gmail.com



2024 MASSES - SAVE THE DATE!

The 2024 Mass Intention Book opened on Thursday, June 1, 2023.

Kindly have your requests ready when scheduling. We will continue to have a limit of 3 weekend Masses per individual booking.

**Payment due at time of
booking.**

MINISTRY & EVENT CALENDAR

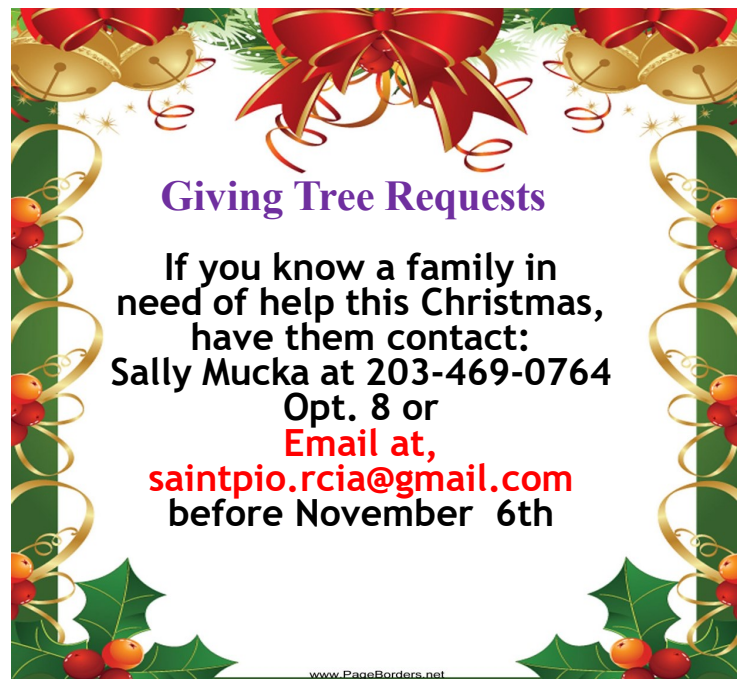
<p align="center">SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5</p> <p align="center">No Events or Activities Scheduled</p>	<p align="center">SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12</p> <p align="center">Ladies' Guild Christmas Fair - 9:00am-1:00pm at OLOP Church Hall</p>
<p align="center">MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6</p> <p>Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church</p> <p>Ladies' Guild Meeting - 6:30pm at OLOP Church Hall</p>	<p align="center">MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13</p> <p>Holy Hour - 8:30-9:30am in Our Lady of Pompeii Church</p> <p align="center">Midnight Run - 7:00pm</p> <p align="center">Contact Sue Stacey at 203-214-1762</p>
<p align="center">TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7</p> <p>Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>	<p align="center">TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 14</p> <p>Bible Study - 7:00pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Christine Sandford at 203-469-7823</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>
<p align="center">WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8</p> <p>Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office</p> <p>Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>	<p align="center">WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15</p> <p>Bible Study - 6:30pm at SVDP Parish Office</p> <p>Contact Marie Connors at 203-468-1184</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>
<p align="center">THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9</p> <p>Scriptural Rosary - 6:00pm at OLOP Chapel</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>	<p align="center">THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16</p> <p>Scriptural Rosary - 6:00pm at OLOP Chapel</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>
<p align="center">FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>	<p align="center">FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17</p> <p>Prayer Shawl - 1:00-3:00pm at OLOP LOMR</p> <p>Rosary Group - 8:00 pm on Zoom</p> <p>Contact Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764 ext. 8</p>
<p align="center">SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11</p> <p>Men's Group - 7:30am-9:00am at SVDP Parish Center</p> <p>Ladies' Guild Christmas Fair - 12:00pm-5:00pm at OLOP Church Hall</p>	<p align="center">SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18</p> <p>Men's Group - 7:30am-9:00am at SVDP Parish Center</p>

**You are cordially invited
to a Rescheduled
Mass of Thanksgiving
of my 90th Birthday
by Father Timothy Meehan**

**Thursday, November 9
6:00pm at
St. Bernadette Church
385 Townsend Avenue, New Haven**

As you now know I had to reschedule my 90th Birthday Mass due to fracturing my back, now I will be celebrating my 90th Birthday on Thursday, November 9th, 2023. I want to take the opportunity to thank you for your prayers, your friendship, your support and your patience with me; especially when my mistakes are obvious.

There will be a Mass of Thanksgiving at St Bernadette Church 385 Townsend Ave. New Haven on Thursday, November 9th at 6 PM; a reception will follow with light refreshments. No gifts or donations are expected, this is my gift to you. PLEASE FEEL FREE to extend this invitation to anyone associated with me at any one of the parts of the last 64 years of my Priesthood.



Giving Tree Requests

**If you know a family in
need of help this Christmas,
have them contact:
Sally Mucka at 203-469-0764
Opt. 8 or
Email at,
saintpio.rcia@gmail.com
before November 6th**

www.PageBorders.net

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 ~

Pascal Candle ~ Fr. John Lavorgna

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 ~ Nicholas, Raffaele & Peter Bertier by Ann; Pamela Follo by Family

St. Joseph's Altar ~ Christopher Carmen Crisco by Mom & Dad

Pascal Candle ~ Barbara & Maurice Connolly

St. Bernadette Candles

Sanctuary Lamp (Right Side) ~

Sanctuary Lamp (Left Side) ~

Pascal Candle ~ Harold Donegan

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 Zambrano, Helen Langelo, Brian Savo, Gerry Andrea, Alan Poirier, Connie Rasimas, Jane Pyka, Harry Clark, Lou DiNoia, Geraldine Licciardi, Joanne Cretella, Joseph Anyzeski, Fran Sofo, Elizabeth Kuen, Deborah Sanning, Paula Ferrara, Tina Marie Fionia, Joseph Parise, Frank DelGrego, Moira Ferguson, Danielle Joubert, Frances Polaski, Pauline Condon, Rose Anna Izzo, Angelo DeMatteo, Patricia Aulenti, Michael Pascale, Alyce Richmond, Mark Schettino, Patty DiMilo, Rose Rogalski, Elaine Smith, Karen Rescigno, Virginia Pisano, DJ DiVincenzo, Sgt. Anthony Rybaruk, Philip & Sally DeMilo, Anna Concelmo, Anna Marie Nappi, Brian Higney, Rich Tortora, Denise Bailey, Joseph Peterson, Marion Mahl, Paula Ruddock, Pamela Willis, Laura Luzzi, Brian Wilson, Maureen Redmond, Kristianne Argentino, Shirley Perrelli, Bill Izzo, Andrew & Catherine Criscuolo, Patricia Miles, Joe Coscia, Deborah Verab, Dona Marie, Christina Meoli, Michelle Smith, Ron Mattei, Angela Riccio, Charlene Tantalo, Al Forgione, Gabriella Garrity, Beverly Fucci, W.D. Merkle, Phyllis Anastasio, Cheryl Barbara, Laura-Phyllis Esposito, Diana Vitelli O'Brien, Meghan Keeney, Gennaro Milone, Jo Vuolo, Felicia DeRoche, Mike Barnett, Richard Costanzo, Carole & Frank Casapulla, Michael Bowen, Linda Montone, Mary Diamante, Carol Esposito, Fred & Barbara Brow, Christopher Farrell, Roberta Sanders-Gray, Jeannette Winston, Marilyn Sisson, Ryder Feeley, Theodore Siwinski, Michael Enders, Nicholas Cerillo, Edwina Cinque, Rudolph Pohlman, Linda Esposito, Renee Flynn, The Cooper Family, Lynn Ely, Ethan Roche, Frances Graney, Barbara Kapusta, Megan Maturo, Rose Paula Dziedulonis, Taras Mychajlowskyj, Denise Steiner, Mary Ann Anastasio, Guy Brasile, Gloribeth R., Stacie Bouchard, Al Sappinetti, Guy Racino, Michael Polaski, Martha Catel, Eddie Villecco, Isaiah Colville, Jennie Nazario, Joan Proto, Caitlin Rustic, Michael Filion, John Torello, Mauro Antonio Bezanilla, Matteo Criscuolo, Robert Filion, Lucy Carbone, Dorene Izzo, Lucille Palange, Carmine Riccitelli, Sr., Louise Amato, Mark Houston, Avery Bye, Alex Bernaitis, Vincent Pisano, Ann Hamilton, Barbara Bellucci, Michael Bulger, Joseph Bonie, Mary Katherine Hart, Billy Carr, Andrea Pepe, Anna Sabatino, Audrey Elder, Theresa Polio, Mike Liso, John Mongillo, Sr., Bill Morrison, Juan & Family, Vern Kelly, Barbara Corso, Terrence King, Monica Cantore, Fr. Lawrence Boch, Antoinette Comiskey, Diane DiLungo, Frances 'Jean' Massimino

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

**Midnight Run
Taylor Avenue Campus**

The Midnight Run for **November** is the **2nd Monday**, which is **November 13th**. Donations of brown bag lunches, water, juice boxes and toiletries are appreciated. These donations can be dropped off to Sue Stacey's home, 82 Forbes Place, up until 7pm on **Monday, November 13th**. Thank you and God bless you for all donations. Stay safe & 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!



St. Bernadette Food Pantry located at the East Shore Senior Center is open every Saturday from 10:00am-11:00am. We are always in need of non-perishable foods. Top choices are, canned: tomatoes, tomato sauce, vegetables, tuna fish, soups and fruits. Pasta, mac & cheese and peanut butter. Consumption guidelines provided to us from the CT Food Bank: Expiration/Code Date Extensions past expiration: high acid foods (i.e. tomatoes) 12-18 months. Low acid foods (canned meat, most vegetables) 2-5 years. Food in jars, 12 months past expiration, dry cereal 6-12 months, rice/pasta (dry) 1 year. Questions, please contact Deb or Rico at 203-468-7489



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

The Food Pantry will be open from 9:00am-11:00am on Saturdays & Tuesdays for East Haven residents.

The Food Pantry is looking for volunteers to deliver to one homebound senior in their neighborhood twice a month, if you are able to please call Christine at the below number.

For more info call Christine Sandford 203-469-7823

From the Pastor's Pen

Reverend Jeremiah N. Murasso, Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.

The Beatitudes: Part 2 *The Model for Christian Living* *St. Matthew 5:1-12*

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land

THE STRENGTH OF MEEKNESS

The notion of meekness is not very honorable in our society because it suggests the idea of weakness, timidity or submissiveness. A meek person is thought to be submissive and timid. The English word meek (*praus* in Greek) used by Matthew is also used by Aristotle in his *Nicomachean Ethics*. Aristotle did not for a moment view meekness as a weakness of man's character. Aristotle describes meekness as the *balance* between excessive anger (*orgilotes*), and excessive passivity (*aorgesia*).

The medium between anger and passivity is meekness (*praus* in Latin). According to Aristotle, there is a correct time for exhibiting anger and a wrong time. Aristotle describes anger toward a *perceived injustice* as an example of *acceptable anger* as long as one's anger is not demonstrated in the form of violent behavior. In this *Beatitude*, Jesus is telling his listeners, '*Blessed are you who are always angry at the right time and never angry at the wrong time.*'

Praus is understood in terms of control over one's emotions. When a person is in control of his emotions, he acts rationally rather than impulsively. Therefore, the meek individual is he who has *mastered control* over his impulses. In other words, just because I feel something, does not mean I have to act upon it...*at least* not until I have thought about the consequences. *Blessed* is he who is self-controlled. Yet, self-control is beyond human capacity. To be self-controlled is a blessing because it is a *gift* from God. *Praus*, also means "*humility.*" Jesus is saying, '*Blessed are they who are humble enough to recognize their own limitations and who possess the strength to seek after truth.*' Meekness and gentleness will enable the disciple of Jesus to inherit the earth.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied



Hungering and thirsting express a deep yearning. Matthew uses the Greek words, *peinontes* (hungering) and *dipsontes* (thirsting), which describe an experience of intense hunger to the point of starvation and a thirst that is so severe that even a glass of ice water could not satisfy. The Greek word used for righteousness is *dikaiosune*. Righteousness is defined as living in accordance with God's will. It also means striving to achieve social justice.

Jesus is saying: '*Blessed are they who yearn for* (as a dying man craves food, or as one who is thirsty craves water), *a life lived according to God's will.*' It is important to note that this *Beatitude* does not say that the *blessed* are those who have *already* achieved righteousness. Rather, *blessedness* comes from the intense *desire* to strive for that which is right and just. The same *intensity* that is demonstrated by a starving man in search of food must also be demonstrated by the disciple who is *starving* for God.

Righteousness is of the divine order and as such refers first to God's justice, and then to human relationships and behavior. Righteousness is a distinct characteristic of the *Messianic Age*. Those who hunger and thirst are not passive. They are *driven* to acquire what they need. Therefore, what Jesus is saying is how '*Blessed are they who, while hungering and thirsting for justice, will not sit around and wait for someone else to pursue it but actively seek after justice and make it happen.*' Righteousness, also means living in such a way that man's behavior reflects trust in God. It means not worrying about tomorrow: "*But first seek the kingdom of God and his righteousness and all these things will be given to you besides. Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself*" (Mt. 6:33-34).

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy



One of the dominant themes in the New Testament is *forgiveness*. Those who seek *forgiveness* must in turn forgive others. *Forgiveness* means showing the other mercy. The Greek word that Matthew uses for the merciful is *eleemon*, which means compassion, pity and sympathy. *Eleemon* also includes a conscious and sincere concern for another. It implies a total identification with the other's circumstances.

The original Hebrew word for mercy is *chesdh*, which means more than the feeling of sorrow or sympathy for another. *Chesdh* is getting inside the other's skin until one can see things with the other's eyes, think things with the other's mind and feel things with the other's senses. The notion of *chesdh* suggests a deliberate act on the part of the individual to experience *life-situations* together with the other, i.e., walking in another's shoes and identifying with what the other is experiencing.

This *Beatitude* challenges disciples to demonstrate and to feel compassion for their fellow man. When one human being feels compassion for another human being, the individual begins to recognize his/her own vulnerability, his/her own brokenness; thus, begins to view other human beings *not* in terms of his/her blemishes or shortcomings, but as another human being who is striving for wholeness and meaning.

Jesus says, '*Blessed are they who can forgive others, for they too will be forgiven.*' It means replacing judgment with justice. On this very act, each of us will be judged by God: "*For as you judge, so will you be judged, and the measure with which you measure will be measured back to you*" (Matthew 7:2).

Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God



The Greek word that Matthew uses for the word pure is *katharos* meaning unmixed or unadulterated. *Katharos* was originally used to describe soiled clothing made clean. Used with the Greek adjective, *akeratos*, it can signify milk or wine that is undiluted. Jesus is telling his listeners that those who are *blessed* are those whose motives are pure or entirely unadulterated and are not mixed with hidden agendas. Such individuals will see God.

This *Beatitude* demands self-examination from the heart. The human heart in the Hebrew Scriptures is understood to mean the whole person. *Heart* has often been used interchangeably with *soul*. However, the heart unlike the soul is understood as the center of the individual's emotions, intelligence and innermost feelings. God reads the hearts of men and women; thus, He knows their thoughts. The heart is that part of man to which God has direct access. Purity of heart is characterized by integrity.

People are described as possessing integrity by the way they live their lives. A life lived with integrity is distinguished by the integrity of one's actions and intentions. In this *Beatitude*, Jesus tells his listeners that those who possess a clean heart free from guile or greed or impurity will have direct access to God. To see God is to become like Him. This is called *Beatitude*; the destiny for all who believe and follow God's ways.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.



The children of God are described as those who promote peace. The Greek word for peace is *eirene*. The Hebrew word is *shalom*, which in the Old Testament is understood as being a gift from the LORD. *Shalom* means more than the wish for peace. The definition of *Shalom* includes a wish for prosperity and blessings for health and happiness. It also means the absence of friction in man's relationships with others and the establishment of *right*, wholesome relationships among everyone.

Shalom Aleichem

The peace that Jesus speaks about does not guarantee freedom from persecution. In New Testament times, soon after a disciple embraced the message of Jesus, he/she was often met with opposition, and even persecution. This is true even today. Perhaps, this is why Jesus says: "*Do you think that I have come to bring peace upon the earth? I have come to bring not peace, but the sword*" (Matthew 10:34).

In this *Beatitude*, Jesus is speaking about those who make peace. It is they who shall be called children of God. To be *called* is to be identified by God, set apart and designated with a particular and special mission. By nature of his baptism, the Christian is *called* forth and entrusted with a special mission.

The mission, which each Christian receives is a *call* to *Discipleship*, a designation and a setting apart from the world. The Christian is entrusted with the spreading of and the living out of the Gospel. The Baptism Rite is rich with symbols, none of which is more powerful than the anointing with oil. After the individual is washed clean, he/she is anointed on the crown of his/her head, in the same way that Jesus was anointed as Priest, Prophet and King.

The prophets received the same anointing as a sign of their *separateness* and as a reminder of the great task ahead of them in proclaiming and living out the radical message of the Gospel. The oil is a reminder to all who follow Jesus, that Jesus will never abandon those who strive to understand Gospel truths. This *Beatitude* reminds the believer that those who strive for peace are admitted into fellowship with God. Such individuals become partners or co-creators with the LORD.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Jesus did not hesitate to tell his disciples that those who followed him would be subject to persecution on account of him and his message. Jesus was also quick to tell his disciples that the prophets too were persecuted. Matthew continues: *“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus, they persecuted the prophets who were before you”* (5:11-12).

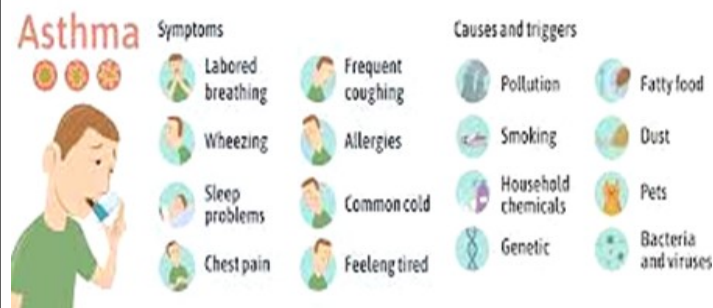
Those who are persecuted are displaced. Matthew uses the Greek, *dediomenoi* meaning *driven out* or *chased away*. However, not only are the persecuted in good company, they will also experience the kingdom of God. *“For theirs is the kingdom of God”* refers to the present age. For the sake of righteousness, the persecuted have immediate access to the presence of Jesus in the midst of rejection and criticism. JNM



From the Pen of the Parish Nurse
Kimberly Petrillo, R.N.

ASTHMA

Asthma affects more than 25 million people in the United States. This includes more than 5 million children. Asthma, also referred to as *bronchial asthma* is a disease that affects the lungs. It is chronic in nature, meaning it does not go away and needs ongoing medical management. Asthma can be life-threatening if it is not treated.



Types of Asthma

Exercise-induced asthma.

This type is triggered by exercise and is often called exercise-induced bronchospasm.

Occupational asthma.

This type usually affects those who work around irritating substances such as chemical fumes, gases or dust.

Asthma-COPD overlap syndrome (ACOS).

This happens when a person has both asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). Both diseases make it difficult to breathe.

WHAT IS ASTHMA & SYMPTOMS OF ASTHMA

Symptoms of asthma may include

- Wheezing
- Tightness in the chest
- Coughing, especially at night
- Short, quick, or noisy breathing



Asthma can be broken down into types based on the cause and the severity of symptoms. Healthcare providers identify asthma as follows:

• **Intermittent.** This type of asthma comes and goes; thus an individual can feel normal in between asthma flares.

• **Persistent.** Persistent asthma means a person has symptoms most of the time. Symptoms can be mild, moderate or severe. Health care professionals assess the severity on the frequency of symptoms. They also take in consideration how well a person can function during an attack.

• Asthma has many causes:

• **Allergic.** In some cases, suffering from allergies can, also cause an asthma attack. Allergens include, yet are not limited to: molds, pollens and pet dander.

• **Non-allergic.** Outside factors that might bring about an asthma attack include: exercise, stress and illness. Weather can also be a causative factor.

Asthma can occur in adults and children. Adult on-set usually starts after the age of 18. Childhood asthma often begins before the age of five years of age, and can also occur in infants and toddlers. Children, however, often outgrow asthma.



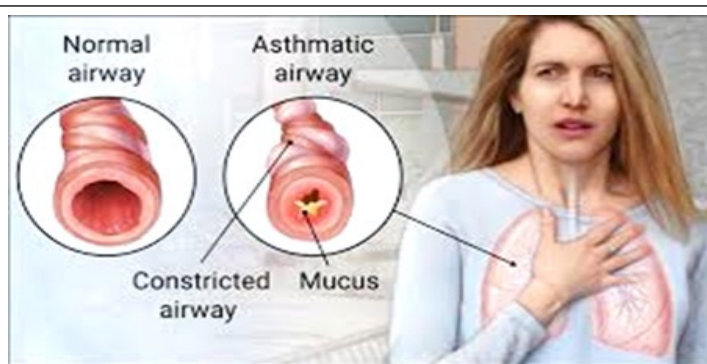
Asthma Attack

What exactly is an asthma attack? As a person breathes, the muscles around the airways are relaxed, letting air move easily and quietly. During an asthma attack, three things occur:

1. **Bronchospasm:** the muscles around the airways constrict (tighten). When the muscles tighten, it makes the airway narrow. Air is unable to flow freely through the constricted airways.

2. **Inflammation:** the lining of the airways become swollen. Swollen airways reduce air flow and out of the lungs.

3. **Mucus production:** during an asthma attack, the body creates more mucus; thus, the increased mucus clogs airways. When the airways become constricted, a sound called *wheezing* occurs during inhalation and/or exhalation. A person can begin to feel shortness of breath as the airways continue to constrict, making it difficult to breathe.



Common Asthma Attack Triggers

Triggers can be different for each person. A trigger exposure can immediately result in an asthma attack right for some people. For others, an attack may start hours or days later. Some common triggers include:

• **Air pollution.** Many things out-of-doors can cause an asthma attack such as: exhaust from a motor vehicle, a wildfire, smoke and/or factory emissions.



• **Dust mites.** One cannot see these bugs; however, they are in our homes. If a person has a dust mite allergy this can cause an asthma attack.

• **Exercise.** For some people, vigorous exercise can cause an attack.

• **Mold.** Damp places can spawn mold, which can induce an attack. A person does not have to be allergic to mold to have an attack.

• **Pets.** Dogs and cats have dander, i.e., dried skin flakes; consequently, breathing in the dander can irritate the airways causing an asthma attack.

• **Pests.** Cockroaches, mice and other household pests can cause asthma attacks.

• **Strong chemicals.** The odor of cleaning products can also trigger an attack if while use these cleaners, they are inhaled.

• **Tobacco smoke.** Exposure to smoke, or what is referred to as *secondary smoke* can cause an asthma attack. People who smoke can often cause an asthma attack. It is best to quit smoking.

Signs & Symptoms of Asthma

The signs and symptoms of asthma include: chest tightness, pain or pressure. coughing (more often at night), shortness of breath and wheezing.

Treatment Options

A health care provider can provide options to treat asthma. There is no cure for asthma; however, symptoms can be controlled and managed. Medicines for treating asthma include:

• **Bronchodilators.** These medicines relax the muscles around the airways. The relaxed muscles permit the airways to move air. They also allow mucus to move more easily through the airways. These medicines relieve the symptoms when they occur.

• **Anti-inflammatory medicines.** These medicines reduce swelling and mucus production in the airways. They make it easier for air to enter and exit the lungs.

• **Biologic therapies for asthma.** These are used for severe asthma when symptoms persist despite proper inhaler therapy.

Prevent Asthma Attacks



Asthma medications can be given with a metered-dosed inhaler, nebulizer or another types of asthma inhalers. The doctor may prescribe oral medications as needed to treat asthma. The goal of asthma treatment is to control symptoms.

If a person has asthma and is following the treatment-plan that the doctor prescribed, symptoms should be well controlled. The person should be able to live a good quality of life and engage in routine activities without any difficulty. It is important to realize that if a person is taking the prescribed inhalers and medications, yet, he has a severe asthma attack, medical attention is necessary.

It would be important to call 911 for the following: anxiety or panic, bluish fingernails, bluish lips, chest pain or pressure, coughing that will not stop or severe wheezing or difficulty with speaking (c.f. clevelandclinic.org).

Individuals with moderate to severe asthma, or who exhibit symptoms that are not well controlled, are at a greater risk for hospitalization if the COVID 19 virus is contracted. **KP**

Parish nurse can be contacted via email kimp51@comcast.net or mobile 203-908-0931.

From the Pastor's Pen
Jeremiah N. Murasso, Ph.D., Ed.D., Psy.D.

**The Shrine of Our Lady of Altotting:
The Lourdes of Germany
*The Black Madonna***

And

The Feast of the Dedication of Saint John Lateran Basilica in Rome

Each time that I return to Oberammergau for the *Passion Play*, I also make a visit to one of the oldest shrines dedicated to the Blessed Mother under the title of the *Black Madonna of Altotting*.



Black Madonna of Altotting

This magnificent shrine built in the shape of an octagon is located in the beautiful forests of Bavaria and is one of the oldest shrines known to man. The shrine was initially built from volcanic rock as a Roman temple in 15 B.C. The shrine is tied to the life and missionary work of St. Rupert who lived in the seventh century and is credited as the founder of Salzburg.

St. Rupert was a holy and very pious priest whose life even as a bishop was focused on missionary work. He became the bishop of Salzburg, the city that he is credited to have founded. In 695 A.D. Rupert was consecrated Bishop of Worms. During this time, Duke Theodo of Bavaria set himself up as the head of the Church in Bavaria. Due to the harmonious relationship with Rupert, the Duke actually invited Rupert to the area and requested that the young priest baptize and confirm the people. Upon his arrival, Rupert first baptized the Duke whose permission he needed in order to continue his missionary work. It was at this time that Rupert settled in Altotting; thus the pagan temple was consecrated and converted into a chapel.

The history books teach of the miraculous and perhaps *divinely-protected* legacy surrounding the presence of this chapel throughout the centuries despite wars, pestilence and numerous other atrocities that plagued the surrounding regions.

One of the most serious adversities occurred in the ninth century with the sacking of Altotting and the surrounding areas by the Hungarians. The little chapel and shrine remained untouched and intact. It is as if the Blessed Mother intended that this chapel and shrine in her honor should be preserved, perhaps as a sanctuary for the poor and simple townsfolk as a safe and peaceful sanctuary for prayer and reflection.

The statue of the Madonna is carved from lime wood, and although not originally black, became blackened throughout the ages due partly to the candles that continue to burn around her. The statue has a simple yet elegant aura, and radiates a sensation of tranquility. *The Black Madonna* smiles gently and looks into the eyes of the Infant, who she holds in her arms; thus, creating a mystical, other-worldly feeling of peace.

Numerous miracles have been ascribed to the *Black Madonna of Altotting*. The walls around the statue are covered with thousands upon thousands of medallions given by rulers, princes and simple pilgrims in thanksgiving for favors received. In addition, the shrine has a treasury that contains thousands of gold and silver pieces that have been given also in thanksgiving, making the shrine at Altotting one of the richest shrines in the world.

The Feast of the Dedication of Saint John Lateran Basilica in Rome



On Thursday, November 9, the Church celebrates the Dedication of the *Basilica of St. John Lateran* in Rome. This church is recognized as the Cathedral Church of Rome in the same way that St. Joseph Cathedral in Hartford is recognized as the Cathedral Church for the Archdiocese of Hartford. As such, San Giovanni in Laterano, which is dedicated and placed under the protection of St. John the Baptist (by Pope Gregory I in 590) is considered the *official ecclesiastical seat of the Bishop of Rome* who is also the Pope.

The official name of St. John Lateran is the *Archbasilica of the Most Holy Savior*. As the Cathedral of Rome and one of the four Patriarchal Basilicas, St. John Lateran is first among the numerous churches in Rome (even to St. Peter's Basilica) and as such is considered to be the *Mother Church of the entire Catholic World: OMNIUM URBIS ET ORBIS ECCLESIAE MATER ET CAPUT*.

St. John Lateran is located on one of the seven hills called the *Celio* or *Celian Hill*. It is located in the southernmost part of Rome. This basilica is the first church to be built in Rome. Although due to extensive restoration and rebuilding throughout the years, the basilica has a seventeenth century appearance.

St. John Lateran is named after a wealthy patrician, Plautius Lateranus who was implicated in the *Pisoni Conspiracy*, which involved the anti-Medician oligarchs in Florence. Lateranus lost this property; thus fell into the possession of the Roman emperor, who at the time was Constantine. Constantine actually received this plot of land as a dowry for his wife Fausta, after which he turned the land over to the Catholic Church in 315 A.D., giving it to Pope Melchiodorus for the purpose of building a cathedral for Rome. Consequently, St. John Lateran became the first Christian Basilica to be consecrated in Rome.

The first basilica was built 318 A.D. and was dedicated to *Christ the Redeemer*. Like the basilica of St. Paul outside the Wall, St. John Lateran has a history of destruction and restoration as a result of centuries of wars, fires and deterioration. The final reconstruction was initiated by Pope Innocent X in the seventeenth century. Pope Innocent commissioned Francesco Borromini for this project. Restoration in bits and pieces continued through the nineteenth century.



As the cathedral of Rome and of the world, St. John Lateran was the church where the coronation of popes took place. This practice continued until 1870. The Lateran, as it is also called was also where most of the major councils of the Church have taken place. The **Lateran Treaty**, which was signed in 1929, granted to this basilica and the other three basilicas, St. Paul outside the Wall, St. Mary Major and St. Peter's the privilege of extraterritoriality.

The square (piazza) of St. John Lateran on which sits this grand basilica is also the spot on which most political demonstrations and civic events take place. The front of the basilica is rather majestic although pales to that of St. Mary Major or even St. Peter's. On the top of the basilica can be seen a rather majestic portico that resembles that of St. Peter's. There are sixteen larger-than-life-size statues of Christ flanked on both sides by the twelve apostles and saints. This is a rather impressive sight particularly on Holy Thursday when the Bishop of Rome imparts his *Apostolic Benediction* to the city and to the world as he stands on the central loggia (balcony).

The interior of St. John Lateran has a majestic elegance to it, yet lacks a certain showiness, which characterizes both St. Mary Major and St. Peter's. Just to give you an idea of this massive structure, the aisle stretches 430 feet with two main aisles on either side of the nave.

The massive pillars encase several beautiful statues of the apostles dating from the eighteenth century;

- Beautiful stuccos above the statues depict scenes from the Old and New Testaments.
- A fresco of Boniface VIII proclaiming the Jubilee Year of 1300. This is a masterpiece by Giotto.
- Transepts are very majestic, created by one of my favorites, Giacomo della Porta. Large frescoes can be seen, which depict the *Conversion of Constantine*, his Gift to the Pope.
- **The papal altar** is reserved only for the pope. All four basilicas have a papal altar, but this particular one is the most elegant. It has been said that this papal altar contains the head of St. Paul.

The Baptistry of St. John Lateran is located outside the basilica at the southwest corner of the square. The Baptistry was constructed by Constantine in the year 320 A.D. and then restored by Pope Urban VIII with scenes depicting the life of St. John the Baptist.

The Baptistry contains several interesting chapels:

- The Chapel of St. John the Baptist
- Over the door of the chapel dedicated to Saints Cyprian and Justina there is a beautiful relief of the Crucifixion.
- The Chapel of St. Venantius is an interesting little chapel and my favorite. It contains some interesting mosaics including the *Head of Christ* flanked by angels & the Madonna with saints and Pope Theodore. There is another mosaic which depicts the Holy Martyrs.

- The Chapel of St. John the Evangelist is dedicated to St. Hilarius. Here is the beautiful and the famous mosaic of the Lamb surrounded by symbolic birds and flowers.

The Lateran Palace is connected to the basilica and at one time was used by popes prior to the controversial relocation of the papacy to Avignon in 1308. After the *Avignon Captivity* ended in 1377, the *Holy See* was relocated to the Vatican.



The Lateran Basilica, like the Lateran Palace was destroyed by fire and was restored many times throughout the years. The **Lateran Treaty of 1929** granted the Lateran Palace extraterritorial privileges. Presently, the Palace houses administrative offices for the Diocese of Rome.

Divinity students living and studying in Rome for the priesthood are required to take oral exams in order to prove their worthiness and orthodoxy prior to ordination. These exams are administered by the Jesuit, Dominican, and Franciscan priests at the Lateran Palace.

La Scala Scanta (The Holy Stairs)

On the east side of the square of St. John Lateran are the Holy Stairs. The staircase is from the old Lateran Palace, and is believed to be from Pilate's house; the same stairs that Christ descended after he was condemned to death. This legend was brought from Jerusalem to Rome by St. Helena, the mother of Constantine.

The Holy Staircase consists of 28 Tyrian Marble steps, which are protected by boards. People are not permitted to walk on foot up the staircase, but must ascend the stairs on their knees in order to receive a special indulgence. The sides of the stairs are not covered; thus allowing pilgrims to climb on foot, but always in a prayerful, meditative spirit.

Sancta Sanctorum at the top of the Holy Stairs is the Pope's private chapel, dedicated to St. Lawrence. In this chapel there is a famous **miraculous painting of Christ on wood**, which is believed to originate in the fifth century, painted by St. Luke, the evangelist and an angel. The painting of Christ on wood is called, "*Acheiropoeton*," which means, "*the picture made without hands*."

The Basilica of St. John Lateran, like so many other holy spots throughout the world is home to some of the greatest artistic masterpieces known to humankind. These works of art, whether they are paintings, frescos, sculptured figures in marble or magnificent architectural structures, all have one thing in common: they all were created as a way for the artist to praise the mysterious, mystical, omniscient and merciful God. It leads one to wonder: how we acknowledge and express our love for God in our 21st century world? **JNM**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Office Closure Notice

The **Foxon Road office** at Our Lady of Pompeii **WILL BE CLOSED** from Monday, October 30 to Friday November 10. Walk-in parish business as well as phone calls will be re-routed to the **Taylor Avenue office at Saint Vincent de Paul**. The Foxon Road office will re-open on **Monday, November 13**.



FOOD BASKETS

The **East Haven Food Pantry** needs our help for **Thanksgiving**. Their needs include: **STUFFING, YAMS AND CRANBERRY SAUCE**.

ST. BERNADETTE FOOD PANTRY



Food Pantry Needs

The **Saint Bernadette Food Pantry's TURKEY DRIVE** will take place on **Sunday, November 12** before the 9:00am Mass. **GROCERY GIFT CARDS** will also be accepted at this Mass to purchase turkeys.



Remember to fall back one hour this weekend..



A **FAMILY MASS** WILL BE CELEBRATED ON **NOVEMBER 5 AT SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL AT THE 11:15 MASS**. LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL FOLLOW IN THE CHURCH HALL.



ALL SOUL ENVELOPES

All Souls Remembrance Envelopes will be placed on the altars in our three churches throughout the month of November. Envelopes may be placed in the collection basket.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE



The annual **Mass of Remembrance**, honoring all those in our parish who have gone to their eternal reward this past year will be celebrated at **Saint Vincent de Paul Church on Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00pm**.

November 23, 2023

Thanksgiving Day Mass



Thanksgiving Mass Schedule

Thursday, November 23

8:00am OLOP

9:00am SB

No Vigil Mass on Wednesday



Friday, December 1, is *World Aids Awareness*, commemorated throughout the month of December. We pray for all those who continue to be victims of this virus and that someday soon a cure will be found.

FAMILY MASS



**DECEMBER 3 @ 9:00am AT
SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH**



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA TO FOLLOW FAMILY MASS ON DECEMBER 3 IN SVDP CHURCH HALL.

***Immaculate Conception
Holy Day of Obligation
Friday, December 8***



***Holy Day Masses
OLOP: 8:00am & 6:00pm
SVDP: 12:15 noon
SB: 9:00am***

LIVING NATIVITY



**The Religious Education Students will present a
Living Nativity**

**Friday, December 15 @ 6:30pm
In Saint Vincent de Paul Church.
Refreshments & Family Activities to follow in
the SVDP Church hall.**



***LESSONS & CAROLS
SUNDAY, December 17 @ 2:00pm
at Our Lady of Pompeii Church***



Have you recently lost a friend or family member?
Are you having difficulty concentrating and enjoying everyday activities?

Rajnet352@comcast.net or Phone: 713-898-2563
Barbara Natarajan



Ladies Guild

Christmas Fair Update...

Save the dates.. Nov 11 & 12

We always appreciate your donations of gently used pocketbooks, jewelry and books..

We are always looking for handmade crochet items, wreaths, centerpieces, homemade candy, and gift items for our raffles... our parish is always so fortunate to have so many generous people to help make our Fair a success..

Just a reminder our ornament crafters will be meeting on Sept 18 & Oct 16 in the lower office meeting room at Our Lady of Pompeii Church rectory...everyone is welcome



Christmas Fair Update

We are looking for donations of gift baskets to raffle off.

Anyone wishing to donate to the tree raffle or basket raffle, please bring donations for the baskets to the next Ladies' Guild meeting on Monday, November 6th, we will be building the baskets and collect scratch tickets.

Any other donations can be dropped off in the Our Lady of Pompeii hall on Friday, November 9th. Any questions, please call Gerry Annunziata

Candy Makers wanted for making treats and candy for the candy table at the Christmas Fair, if you make candy please drop off in the Our Lady of Pompeii church hall on Friday or Saturday morning of the fair.



St. Pio of Pietrelcina Ladies Guild Annual Christmas Raffle 10 Prizes!

1st: \$1,000

2nd: \$250

3rd: \$250 Forbes Premium Fuel

4th: \$250 Forbes Premium Fuel

5th: \$100 Archie Moore's

6th: \$100 Shop Rite

7th: \$50 DiLustro Jewelry

8th: \$50 Goody's

9th: \$50 Café Fiore

10th: \$50 Subway

Tickets are \$3 each - all proceeds benefit St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish.

Drawing will be held at 12 noon on Sunday, November 12 in the Our Lady of Pompeii Church Hall.

For more information, contact Patti Scussel at 203-710-7886, or parscussel@aol.com.

Tickets can be returned to the church offices, placed in the offertory baskets thru the weekend of November 4 - 5, or turned in during the Ladies Guild Christmas Fair on November 11 - 12.

TICKETS SHOULD NOT BE PLACED IN THE OFFERTORY BASKETS THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 11 - 12.



GROCERY GIFT CARDS NEEDED

SHOPPING CARDS *STILL* NEEDED

With the holidays coming up, the food prices continue to rise, several of our parishioners are having trouble buying food as they *struggle* to purchase other household necessities and pay for rent and utilities.

Grocery Shopping cards in any denomination to any of the local supermarkets would help me help members of our parish family, who are need of assistance for the purchase of food. These gift/shopping cards can be dropped into the collection basket or brought to the parish office. Whatever you can do, is greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance. JNM



St. Pio of Pietrelcina Parish Knights of Columbus #3300 Stuff a Truck

Saturday, November 18th

8:00am to 4:00pm

Sunday, November 19th

7:30am to 12:00pm

Non - Perishable Food Items &
Cash Donations will be accepted

Our Lady of Pompeii Church
Parking Lot

Look for the BIG White Truck
and at St. Vincent's at Masses

To Benefit the
East Haven Food Pantry

Questions Call Joe at
203-887-2137

MASS SCHEDULE



November 4 & 5, 2023

4:00pm OLOP: Fr. Patrick

4:30pm SVDP: Fr. Borino

8:00am OLOP: Fr. Krugel

9:00am SB: Fr. Patrick

10:00am OLOP: Fr. Krugel

11:15am SVDP: Fr. Patrick

Fr. Murasso in Italy

November 11 & 12, 2023

4:00pm OLOP: Fr. Murasso

4:30pm SVDP: Fr. Patrick

8:00am OLOP: Fr. Borino

9:00am SB: Fr. Patrick

10:00am OLOP: Fr. Murasso

11:15am SVDP: Fr. Patrick

November 18 & 19, 2023

4:00pm OLOP: Fr. Patrick

4:30pm SVDP: Fr. Murasso

8:00am OLOP: Fr. Borino

9:00am SB: Fr. Murasso

10:00am OLOP: Fr. Patrick

11:15am SVDP: Fr. Murasso

DEACONS PREACHING SCHEDULE

4:00 & 9:00: Deacon Larry

4:30 & 11:15: Deacon George

8:00 & 10:00: Deacon Wayne



Thanksgiving Day, November 23

8:00am OLOP: Fr. Charman

9:00am SB: Fr. Borino

November 25 & 26, 2023

Feast of Christ the King

4:00pm OLOP: Fr. Murasso

4:30pm SVDP: Fr. Patrick

8:00am OLOP: Fr. Borino

9:00am SB: Fr. Patrick

10:00am OLOP: Fr. Murasso

11:15am SVDP: Fr. Patrick