

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 15, 2020

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY November 15, 2020

- 9:00 am** Barbara Prater (d)
11:00 am Robert J. Berndsen (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

MONDAY, November 16, 2020

St. Margaret of Scotland; St. Gertrude, virgin

- 8:30 am** Gerald Dugan (d)

TUESDAY, November 17, 2020

St. Elizabeth of Hungary, religious

- 8:30 am** Adele Martini (d)

WEDNESDAY, November 18, 2020

The Dedication of the Basilicas of St. Peter and Paul, Apostles; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

- 8:30 am** Deceased family members (d)

THURSDAY, November 19, 2020

- 8:30 am** Marc Alan Cassiere (d)

3:00-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

FRIDAY, November 20, 2020

- 7:15 am**

- 8:30 am** Gus Rizzo (d)

SATURDAY, November 21, 2020

The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

- 8:30 am** Charles "Bud" Meyer (d)

- 4:30 pm** Mark & Gini Schmidt (l)

SUNDAY, November 22, 2020

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

- 9:00 am** Joan Rogers (d)

- 11:00 am** Mary Tieves (d)

- 7:00 pm** For the Parishioners

**Vitt, Stermer & Anderson
Funeral Home
4619 Delhi Pike
939-CARE
(2273)**

www.vittstermeranderson.com

SERVERS

November 21/22

No Servers scheduled.

LECTORS

November 21/22

No Lectors scheduled.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

November 21/22

No Eucharistic Ministers scheduled.

OFFERING

November 8, 2020 \$10,161.24

Thank You for your Generosity!

Vocation View: "Since you have been faithful in small matters, you will be given greater responsibility." To follow the Lord is to slowly grow in the love of the Lord, practicing small steps of virtue in order to grow to a vibrant faith in Christ. (Matthew 25:14-30) To talk about your discernment, please contact Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of Vocations at dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org.

Sister Helen Julia's Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday collection of monetary donations for poor families is under way. The collection will continue through December 4th. Sister's Ministry envelopes will be in the back of church. Please make checks payable to Sister Helen Julia or St. Lawrence Church. Thank you for helping Sister help the needy. And thanks to Sister Helen Julia.

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Robert C. Tepe who died.

PLEASE NOTIFY US AT THE RECTORY when a family member is hospitalized or homebound and would like to receive Holy Communion and/or the Sacrament of Penance.

The Laurentian

St. Lawrence Bulletin Advertisements:

Jim Mazza represents the Diocesan (our Bulletin Publisher). He will be renewing present advertisements and seeking new ones. If interested, please call the parish office. Or you may contact Jim directly at 748-3007 or jmazza@diocesan.com. We feel this is an excellent service and that the sponsors get good coverage with their ads. Thanks to you and Diocesan, the bulletin is published weekly at no cost to the parish.

St. Lawrence in Loving Memory:

Starting January 2021, a section of the back of the bulletin will be available to list a deceased loved one's name. The cost is \$55.00 per name and all names will remain in the bulletin for one year. This helps defray the cost of printing our bulletin for the entire year. If interested, please clip and fill out the slip below and put it in the collection basket or mail to the Parish Office, 3680 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205.

Loved One's Name

Your
Name

Billing Address

Phone Number

Email Address

(Enclose check payable to Diocesan)



For all Masses, we are observing health and safety guidelines. So, for example, observe social distancing. Pews to remain empty are closed off with gold string. The side pews are for families. Ushers available to help you with seating. For now, everyone (age 10 and up) attending Mass is supposed to wear a mask. The maintenance staff is disinfecting the church after Masses. Please refrain from attending Mass if you have a fever or any flu-like symptoms.

For Communion, everyone should come up the center aisle in a staggered line, right or left, every 6 feet and return to the pews by the side aisles. Please come up to the Communion rail and kneel or stand.

Seton High School Honors

First Honors

- Grade 9 Shelby Buerger
Abigail Henke
Jasmin Lopez Nolasco
- Grade 10 Tram Dao
Emma Lageman
Abygale Pickerell
- Grade 11 Sarah Haverbusch
Emma Pittman
- Grade 12 Leah Hafner
Morgan Ledonne
Charlotte Sunderman

Seton High School Honors

Second Honors

- Grade 11 Kylee Smith
- Grade 12 Lindsey Doherty
Kalei Scully
Gabrielle Sickman

Congratulations!

Conditions of Prayer

Let us consider the conditions of prayer. Many pray, and do not obtain the object of their prayers, because they do not pray as they ought. *You ask, says St. James, and receive not, because you ask amiss.* To pray well, it is necessary, in the first place, to pray with humility *God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.* God rejects the petitions of the proud, but does not allow the humble to depart without hearing all their prayers. *The prayer of him that humbleth himself shall pierce the clouds, and he will not depart till the Most High behold.* This holds, even though they have been hitherto sinners. *A contrite and humble heart, O God, Thou will not despise.* Secondly, it is necessary to pray with confidence. *No one has hoped in the Lord, and hath been confounded.* Jesus Christ has taught us to call God, in our petitions for his graces, by no other name than that of *Father*, in order to make us pray with the same confidence with which a child has recourse to a parent. He, then, who prays with confidence, obtains every grace. *All things whatsoever you ask when you pray, believe that you shall receive, and they shall come unto you.* And who, says St. Augustine, can fear that the promises of God, who is truth itself, will be violated? God, says the Scripture, is not like men, who promise, but do not perform, either because they intend to deceive, or because they change their purpose. *God is not as a man, that he should lie, nor as the son of man, that He should be changed. Hath He told then, and will He not do?* And why, adds the same St. Augustine, should the Lord so earnestly exhort us to ask his graces, if he did not wish to bestow them upon us? By his promises he has bound himself to grant us the graces we ask from him. “By promising,” says St. Augustine, “he has made himself a debtor.”

But some will say: I am a sinner, and therefore I do not deserve to be heard. In answer, St. Thomas says that the efficacy of prayer to obtain graces depends, not on our merits, but on the divine mercy. *Everyone, says Jesus Christ, that asketh receiveth;* that is, says the author of the Imperfect Work, “every one, whether he be a just man or a sinner.” But the Redeemer himself takes

away all fear, saying: *Amen, amen, I say to you: If you ask the Father anything in My name, He will give it to you.* As if he said: Sinners, if you are without merits, I have merits before my Father. Ask, then, in my name, and I promise that you will receive whatsoever you ask. But it is necessary to know that this promise does not extend to temporal favors, such as health, goods of fortune, and the like; for God often justly refuses these graces, because he sees that they would be injurious to our salvation. “The physician,” says St. Augustine, “knows better than the patient what is useful to him.” The holy Doctor adds, that God refuses to some through mercy, what he gives to others through wrath. Hence we should ask temporal blessings only on condition that they will be profitable to the soul. But spiritual graces, such as pardon of sins, perseverance, divine love, and the like, should be asked absolutely, and with a firm confidence of obtaining them. *If, says Jesus Christ, you being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father from heaven give the good Spirit to them that ask him!*

From Preparation for Death
by St. Alphonsus De Liguoro

Mental Prayer

Without mental prayer the soul will find it almost impossible to remain a long time in the grace of God. The Holy Spirit says: *In all thy works remember thy last end, and thou shalt never sin.* He who often meditates on the Four Last Things, namely, death, judgment, and the eternity of hell and paradise will not fall into sin. These truths are not to be seen with the (natural) eyes, but only with the eyes of the mind: if they are not meditated on, they vanish from the mind and then the pleasures of the senses present themselves, and those who do not keep before themselves the eternal truths are easily taken up by them; and this is the reason why so many abandon themselves to vice, and are damned. All Christians know and believe that all must die, and that we shall all be judged; but because they do not think about this, they live far from God. Without mental prayer there is no light; we walk in the dark; and walking in the dark, we do not see the danger which we are in, we do not make sense of the means we ought,

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Method of Making Mental Prayer

nor pray to God to help us, and so we are lost. Without prayer we have neither light nor strength to advance in the ways of God; because without prayer we do not ask God to give us his grace, and without praying we shall certainly fall. It was for this reason that Cardinal Bellarmine declared it to be morally impossible for a Christian who does not meditate to persevere in the grace of God. Whereas he who makes his meditation every day can scarcely fall into sin; and if unhappily he should fall on some occasion, by continuing his prayer he will return immediately to God. It was said by a servant of God, that “mental prayer and mortal sin cannot exist together.” Resolve, then, to make every day, either in the morning or in the evening, but it is best in the morning, half an hour’s meditation. In the following chapter you will see briefly explained an easy method for making this prayer. For the rest, it is sufficient that during that time you should recollect yourself by reading by reading some book of meditation – either this one or one of the many others. And from time to time excite some good affection or some aspiration. Above all, I beg you never to leave off this prayer, which you should practice at least once a day, although you may be in great aridity, and should feel great weariness in performing it. If you do not discontinue it, you will certainly be saved.

Together with prayer, it is of great use to make a spiritual reading, in private, out of some book which treats of the life of a saint or of the Christian virtues, during half, or at least a quarter of an hour. How many by reading a pious book have changed their way of living and become saints! Like St. John Colombino, St. Ignatius Loyola, and many others. It would also be a most useful thing if you were every year to make a retreat in some religious house. But at least do not omit your daily meditation.

From Preparation for Death
by St. Alphonsus De Liguori

Mental prayer consists of three parts; the *preparation*, and *meditation*, and the *conclusion*. The *preparation* consists of three acts: one of *faith* in the presence of God; of *humility*, with a short act of contrition; and of *prayer to be enlightened*: saying as follows, for the first: *My God, I believe that Thou art present with me, and I adore Thee with all the affection of my soul*. For the second: *O Lord, by my sins I deserve to be now in hell; I repent, O Infinite Goodness with my whole heart, of having offended Thee*. For the third: *My God, for the love of Jesus and Mary, give me light in this prayer, that I may profit by it*. Then say a *Hail Mary* to the Most Blessed Virgin, that she may obtain a light for us; and a *Glory be to the Father*, to St. Joseph, to your guardian angel, and to your patron saint, for the same end. These acts should be made with attention, but briefly; and then you go on directly to the meditation.

In the *meditation* you can always make use of some book, at least at the beginning, and stop where you find yourself mostly touched. St. Francis de Sales says that in this we should do as the bees, which settle on a flower as long as they find any honey in it, and then pass on to another. It should also be observed, that the fruits to be gained by meditation are three in number: *to make affections, to pray, and to make resolutions*; and in these consists the profit to be derived from mental prayer. After you have meditated on some eternal truth, and God has spoken to your heart, you must also speak to God; and first by forming *affections*, be they acts of faith, of thanksgiving, of humility, or of hope; but above all, repeat the acts of love and contrition. St. Thomas says, that act of love merits for us the grace of God and paradise: “Every act of love merits eternal life.” Acts of love are such as these: *My God, I love thee above all things! I love thee with all my heart! I desire to do thy will in all things!*

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