

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK**SUNDAY, July 11, 2021**

9:00 am Mark and Virginia Schmidt
11:00 am David John Hemmer (d)
7:00 pm For the Parishioners

MONDAY, July 12, 2021

8:30 am Dennis Bedel (d)

TUESDAY, July 13, 2021

St. Henry

8:30 am Paul Martini (d)

WEDNESDAY, July 14, 2021

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, virgin

8:30 am Jeanne and Bill Leesman (d)

THURSDAY, July 15, 2021

St. Bonaventure, bishop, Doctor of the Church

8:30 am Elmer Brinker (d)

3:00 pm–5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

FRIDAY, July 16, 2021

Our Lady of Mount Carmel

8:30 am Peter Hung Nguyen (d)

SATURDAY, July 17, 2021

BVM

8:30 am Phil Washum (d)

4:30 pm Joan C. Rogers (d)

SUNDAY, July 18, 2021

9:00 am Imelda Laub (d)

11:00 am Lou Bedel (d)

7:00 pm For the Parishioners

SERVERS

July 17/18

No Servers Scheduled

LECTORS

July 17/18

No Lectors Scheduled

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

July 17/18

To Be Determined

July 4, 2021 \$ 7,494.46

Total Second Collection \$ 42,429.50

Other Donations \$ 82,651.47

Lead Gifts (estimated) \$104,212.77

Total Tile Floor Fund \$229,293.74

Thank You for your Generosity!

Vocation View Even before we were formed in the womb, God has chosen and called each of us to be a disciple. To find true happiness, find that pathway that God has uniquely created you to fulfill. (Eph 1:3-14) To talk about your discernment, please contact Fr. Dan Schmitmeyer, Director of Vocations at dschmitmeyer@catholiccincinnati.org.

Thought for the Day: He loves, He hopes, He waits,

Our Lord prefers to wait, Himself,

for the sinner....

rather than keep us waiting for an instant.

by St. Maria Goretti

**Gilligan – Siefke - Grueter
 Funeral Home
 Opposite St. Lawrence Church
 513-921-0302**

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



Summer Study Series: You have a great opportunity to learn the solid foundations for your Catholic faith. I want you to attend the summer study series on Faith and Reason. It runs from June 22nd thru August. The sessions will be held each Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. in the Parish Center. The parish study series is especially designed for inquirers into the Catholic faith and anyone who is struggling to harmonize the Catholic faith with reason and science. You will be walked through proofs demonstrating the existence of God.

Everyone is welcome to attend any or all sessions. And, I ask that you invite any non-Catholic family members or friends to come with you.

The series will be facilitated by our own Deacon Tracy Jamison, PhD, Professor of Philosophy at Mount St. Mary's Seminary and School of Theology. I would really like many of you to attend these sessions. Our Catholic Faith is under attack in the culture. This will strengthen your ability to defend the Catholic Faith.

Vacation: I left for Oklahoma City to visit family. I will be back for Masses on the weekend of July 24 and 25. Father Westerhoff will have most of the Masses. While I'm away there will be Eucharistic Adoration.

Holy Communion: I have changed the approach to receive Holy Communion. The Deacon and I will distribute in the center aisle and an extraordinary Eucharistic minister will distribute at each of the side aisles. When approaching the front to receive Holy Communion, please come up pew by pew beginning with the first and then moving on back. On the side aisles, we will start from the back and move forward.

Holy Communion will be taken to those seated at the break and are unable to walk up front.

Pastor's Desk Continued **Major Church Beautification**

The estimated cost of tile, its installation, and the refurbishing of the pews is \$330,000. To help finance this project we are taking up a second collection and we did a mailing.

The stone tile floor will be installed in sections. And, while this is being done, the pews will be refurbished. So, there will be some changes in seating arrangements throughout the project. I will keep you advised. Due to Covid related delays the installation of the tile has been delayed. At best, it looks like late summer. As soon as we have a start date, I will let you know.

Pastor's Desk Continued **St. Lawrence Event News:**

Instead of the Festival, the Festival Committee is planning a "St. Lawrence Parish Reunion" for Saturday evening September 18, after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. The Reunion will be held in the Parish Center. It will be a great time to celebrate getting back together after Covid. Save the date! You will receive a mailing about it very soon.

Pastor's Desk Continued

Bingo

Bingo is cancelled for Sunday, July 18. It will resume on Monday, July 19 at 7:00 p.m.

I have no fear, for you are with me

It is well known how this young girl had to face a bitter struggle with no way to defend herself. Without warning a vicious stranger burst upon her, bent on raping her and destroying her childlike purity. In that moment of crisis she could have spoken to her Redeemer in the words of that classic, *The Imitation of Christ*: "Though tested and plagued by a host of misfortunes, I have no fear so long as your grace is with me. It is my strength, stronger than any adversary; it helps me and gives me guidance." With splendid courage she surrendered herself to God and his grace and so gave her life to protect her virginity.

The life of this simple girl – I shall concern myself only with highlights – we can see as worthy of heaven. Even today people can look upon it with admiration and respect. Parents can learn from her story how to raise their God-given children in virtue, courage and holiness; they can learn to train them in the Catholic faith so that, when put to the test, God's grace will support them and they will come through undefeated, unscathed and untarnished.

From Maria's story carefree children and young people with their zest for life can learn not to be led astray by attractive pleasures which are not only ephemeral and empty but also sinful. Instead they can fix their sights on achieving Christian moral perfection, however difficult and hazardous that course may prove. With determination and God's help all of us can attain that goal by persistent effort and prayer.

Not all of us are expected to die a martyr's death, but we are all called to the pursuit of Christian virtue. This demands strength of character though it may not match that of this innocent girl. Still, a constant, persistent and relentless effort is asked of us right up to the moment of our death. This may be conceived as a slow steady martyrdom which Christ urged upon us when he said: *The kingdom of heaven is set upon and laid waste by violent forces.*

So let us all, with God's grace, strive to reach the goal that the example of the virgin martyr, St. Maria Goretti, sets before us. Through her prayers to the Redeemer may all of us, each in his own way, joyfully try to follow the inspiring example of Maria Goretti who now enjoys eternal happiness in heaven.

by Pope Pius XII



The Laurentian

Put Christ before everything

Whenever you begin any good work you should first of all make a most pressing appeal to Christ our Lord to bring it to perfection; that he, who has honored us by counting us among his children, may never be grieved by our evil deeds. For we must always serve him with the good things he has given us in such a way that he may never – as an angry father disinherits his sons or even like a master who inspires fear – grow impatient with our sins and consign us to everlasting punishment, like wicked servants who would not follow him to glory.

So we should at long last rouse ourselves, prompted by the words of Scripture: *Now is the time for us to rise from sleep.* Our eyes should be open to the God-given light, and we should listen in wonderment to the message of the divine voice as it daily cries out: *Today, if you shall hear his voice, harden not your hearts;* and again: *If anyone has ears to hear, let him listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches.* And what does the Spirit say? *Come my sons, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Hurry, while you have the light of life, so that death's darkness may not overtake you.*

And the Lord as he seeks the one who will do his work among the throng of people to whom he makes that appeal, says again: *which of you wants to live to the full; who loves long life and the enjoyment of prosperity?* And, if when you hear this you say, I do, God says to you: *If you desire true and everlasting life, keep your tongue from evil and your lips from deceit; turn away from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.* And when you have done these things my eyes will be upon you and my ears will be attentive to your prayers; and before you call upon my name I shall say to you: *Behold, I am here.* What could be more delightful, dearest brothers, than the voice of our Lord's invitation to us?

And so, girded with faith and the performance of good works, let us follow in his paths by the guidance of the Gospel; then we shall deserve to see him *who has called us into his kingdom.*

If we wish to attain a dwelling-place in his kingdom we shall not reach it unless we hasten there by our good deeds.

Just as there exists an evil fervor, a bitter spirit, which divides us from God and leads us to hell, so there is a good fervor which sets us apart from evil inclinations and leads us toward God and eternal life. Monks should put this fervor into practice with an overflowing love: that is, they should *surpass each other in mutual esteem*, accept their weaknesses, either of body or of behavior, with the utmost patience; and vie with each other in acceding to requests. No one should follow what he considers to be good for himself, but rather what seems good for another. They should display brotherly love in a chaste manner; fear God in a spirit of love; revere their abbot with a genuine and submissive affection. Let them put Christ before all else; and may he lead us all to everlasting life.

