

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME JANUARY 22, 2023

INTENTIONS OF THE WEEK

SUNDAY, January 22, 2023

9:00 am Dan Watkins (d)

11:00 am Don Hulsman (d)

MONDAY, January 23, 2023

Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection
of Unborn Children

St. Vincent, Deacon, Martyr

St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

8:30 am Sandra Helpelmann (d)

TUESDAY, January 24, 2023

St. Francis De Sales, Bishop, Doctor
of the Church

8:30 am Thomas Carey Brannock (d)

WEDNESDAY, January 25, 2023

THE CONVERSION OF ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE

8:30 am Willard Prost (d)

THURSDAY, January 26, 2023

St. Timothy and St. Titus, Bishops

8:30 am Lisa Prater (d)

3:00 pm-5:00 pm EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

FRIDAY, January 27, 2023

St. Angela Merici, Virgin

8:30 am Ellen Schuler Homan (d)

SATURDAY, January 28, 2023

St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church

8:30 am Norma Erhardt (d)

4:30 pm Max Hofmeyer (d)

SUNDAY, January 29, 2023

9:00 am Martha Coors (l)

11:00 am Mary First (d)

7:00 pm For the Parishioners

SERVERS

January 28/29

To Be Determined

LECTORS

January 28/29

To Be Determined

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

January 28/29

To Be Determined

January 15, 2023

\$ 13,023.00

Thank You for your Generosity!

Vocation View: After the time of His prayer and fasting in the desert, Jesus begins to call the Twelve. We must be students of prayer that we can hear the same call given to Peter, James and John. (Matthew 4:20)

Rest in Peace: Please pray for the repose of the soul of Max Hofmeyer and Susanna Corcoran.

Thought for the Day: "Nothing can happen to me that God doesn't want. And all that he wants, no matter how bad it may appear to us, is really for the best."

By St. Thomas More

**Brogan
Hesketh
Formal Wear
513-244-2800**



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



Fr. Watkins' Desk

Eucharistic Adoration: Eucharistic Adoration is on Thursdays from 3:00-5:00 pm. During Eucharistic Adoration, I hear confessions from about 3:15 pm-3:45 pm.

Vacation: I enjoyed vacation but it is good to be back. I missed you! A special "thank you" to Fr. Westerhoff, Fr. Cecil and Deacon Jamison for their help while I was away.

2023 E6 Catholic Men's Conference:

Mark your calendar for the 2023 E6 Catholic Men's Conference, which will be taking place on Saturday, February 18th 2023, at the East Central High School Performing Arts Center in St. Leon, IN (80 miles southeast of Indianapolis and 35 minutes northwest of Cincinnati). We cordially invite every man to attend this 8th annual event. Please join us for inspiring talks, confession (available all day), celebration of the Holy Mass and fraternity with fellow men of Christ. We pride ourselves on presenting a quality, substance-driven, inspirational and faith-filled event that will change men's lives and help equip them to be the men Christ calls them to be. **Do not miss this!** More details and tickets are on sale now at www.e6cmc.com.

Vocation night January 25 at St. Mary's School of Theology - Single men aged 18-35 are invited to come to a Vocation Night at the seminary, 6616 Beechmont Ave., Cincinnati on Wednesday, January 25, 2023. The evening begins at 5:00 p.m. and ends at 8:30 p.m. The evening includes Mass, dinner, talks, a tour and an opportunity to interact with the seminarians. Register at www.catholicaoc.org/vocations.

Seton High School Second Quarter Honor Roll

Arianna Pence	1 st Honor
Blanca Morales-Bail	1 st Honor
Kaylee Davis	1 st Honor
Emma Lageman	1 st Honor
Leah Lageman	1 st Honor
Abygale Pickerell	1 st Honor
Tram Dao	1 st Honor
Ashtyn Pickerell	2 nd Honor
Lesbi Diaz Jacinto	2 nd Honor



IRS TAX STATEMENT: If you would like a statement of your 2022 donations, please fill in the box below, clip it out and drop it in the collection basket or mail to: St. Lawrence Church, 3680 Warsaw Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45205.

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God can be found in man's heart

In our human life bodily health is a good thing, but this blessing consists not merely in knowing the causes of good health but in actually enjoying it. If a man eulogizes good health and then eats food that has unhealthy effects, what good is his praise of health when he finds himself on a sickbed? Similarly, from the Lord's saying: *Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God*, we are to learn that blessedness does not lie in knowing something about God, but rather in possessing God within oneself.

I do not think these words mean that God will be seen face to face by the man who purifies the eye of his soul. Their sublime import is brought out more clearly perhaps in that other saying of the Lord's: *The kingdom of God is within you*. This teaches us that the man who cleanses his heart of every created thing and every evil desire will see the image of the divine nature in the beauty of his own soul. I believe the lesson summed up by the Word in that short sentence was this: You men have within you a desire to behold the supreme good. Now when you are told that the majesty of God is exalted above the heavens, that his glory is inexpressible, his beauty indescribable, and his nature transcendent, do not despair because you cannot behold the object of your desire. If by a diligent life of virtue you wash away the film of dirt that covers your heart, then the divine beauty will shine forth in you.

Take a piece of iron as an illustration. Although it might have been black before, once the rust has been scraped off with a whetstone, it will begin to shine brilliantly and to reflect the rays of the sun.

So it is with the interior man, which is what the Lord means by the heart. Once a man removes from his soul the coating of filth that has formed on it through his sinful neglect, he will regain his likeness to his Archetype, and be good. If he then looks into himself, he will see the vision he has longed for. This is the blessedness of the pure of heart: in seeing their own purity they see the divine Archetype mirrored in themselves.

Those who look at the sun in a mirror, even if they do not look directly at the sky, see its radiance in the reflection just as truly as do those who look directly at the sun's orb. It is the same, says the Lord, with you. Even though you are unable to contemplate and see the inaccessible light, you will find what you seek within yourself, provided you return to the beauty and grace of that image which was originally placed in you. For God is purity; he is free from sin and a stranger to all evil. If this can be said of you, then God will surely be within you. If your mind is untainted by any evil, free from sin, and purified from all stain, then indeed you are blessed, because your sight is clean and clear. Once purified, you see things that others cannot see. When the mists of sin no longer cloud the eye of your soul, you see the blessed vision clearly in the peace and purity of your own heart. That vision is nothing else than the holiness, the purity, the simplicity and all the other glorious reflections of God's nature, through which God himself is seen.

by St. Gregory of Nyssa, bishop

The Laurentian

Dearly beloved, when our Lord Jesus Christ was preaching the Gospel of the kingdom and healing various illnesses throughout the whole of Galilee, the fame of his mighty works spread into all of Syria, and great crowds from all parts of Judea flocked to the heavenly physician. Because human ignorance is slow to believe what it does not see, and equally slow to hope for what it does not know, those who were to be instructed in the divine teaching had first to be aroused by bodily benefits and visible miracles so that, once they had experienced his gracious power, they would no longer doubt the wholesome effect of his doctrine.

In order, therefore, to transform outward healings into inward remedies, and to cure men's souls now that he had healed their bodies, our Lord separated himself from the surrounding crowds, climbed to the solitude of a neighboring mountain, and called the apostles to himself. From the height of this mystical site he then instructed them in the most lofty doctrines, suggesting both by the very nature of the place and by what he was doing that it was he who long ago had honored Moses by speaking to him. Then his words evidenced a terrifying justice, but now they reveal a sacred compassion, in order to fulfill what was promised in the words of the prophet Jeremiah: *Behold the days are coming, says the Lord, when I shall establish a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah. After those days, says the Lord, I shall put my laws within them and write them on their hearts.*

And so it was that he who had spoken to Moses spoke also to the apostles. Writing in the hearts of his disciples, the swift hand of the Word composed the ordinances of the new covenant. And this was not done as formally, in the midst of dense clouds, amid terrifying sounds and lightning, so that the people were frightened away from approaching the mountain. Instead, there was a tranquil discourse which clearly reached the ears of all who stood nearby so that the harshness of the law might be softened by the gentleness of grace, and the spirit of adoption might dispel the terror of slavery.

Concerning the content of Christ's teaching, his own sacred words bear witness; thus whoever longs to attain eternal blessedness can now recognize the steps that lead to that high happiness. *Blessed*, he says, *are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.* It might have been unclear to which poor he was referring, if after the words *Blessed are the poor*, he had not added anything about the kind of poor he had in mind. For then the poverty that many suffer because of grave and harsh necessity might seem sufficient to merit the kingdom of heaven. But when he says: *Blessed are the poor in spirit*, he shows that the kingdom of heavens to be given to those who are distinguished by their humility of soul rather than by their lack of worldly goods.

by St. Leo the Great