



CHURCH OF
SAINT AIDAN

October 25, 2020

love like
JESUS

MATTHEW 22:32-40

THE CHURCH OF
ST. AIDAN
505 Willis Ave.
Williston Park
New York 11596-1727

516-746-6585
516-746-6055 (Fax)
www.staidanparish.org
lynnp@staidanparish.org
516-404-2746 (After Hours Cell)

Pastor
Rev. Adrian McHugh

Associate Pastors
Rev. Solomon Odinukwe
Rev. Ken Grooms

Deacons
Rev. Rudy Martin
Rev. Jerry Magaldi
Rev. Salvatore B. Villani

St. Aidan School
ext. 202, 203 Grades Nursery-2
ext. 302, 303 Grades 3-8
Principal
Mrs. Julie O'Connell
Assistant Principal
Ms. Barbara Graham

Faith Formation
ext. 404, 405
Director ext. 406
Mrs. Elaine Smith,

Youth Ministry
ext. 403
Mr. Stephen Loewenthal

Music Director
Mr. Drago Bubalo ext. 130
drago.bubalo@gmail.com

Social Ministry, Director
ext. 410, 408
Ms. Rosemarie Cavallaro

Parish Facilities Manager
Mr. Pat Perez

Business Manager
Ms. Maria Peluso ext. 107

We invite
everyone to walk
with Jesus
and experience
His healing
power and love



RECTORY OFFICE 516-746-6585

HOURS MONDAY TO FRIDAY

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM

PLEASE WEAR A MASK

DAILY MASS

Catholics are dispensed from their obligation to attend Sunday Mass. Daily Mass can be viewed on staidanparish.org and on Facebook. Masks or cloth facial coverings must be worn by all present.

COMMUNION

Holy Communion will be distributed at the normal time during the celebration of Mass.

VISIT THE CHURCH

St. Aidan Church is open from 6:00 AM to 6:00 PM. Please wear a face mask and maintain the proper precautions regarding distancing.

BAPTISM

Baptisms are held on the 1st Sunday and 3rd Sunday at 1:30 PM.

BAPTISM CLASS FOR NEW PARENTS

The required Baptism class for new parents is held the second Sunday of each month beginning with the 12:00

Mass. Parents are asked to gather at St. Joseph's statue to the right of the main altar.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements are to be made at the Rectory office at least 9 months in advance. Pre-Cana and FOCCUS registrations must be arranged through the parish.

CONFESSION

Confessions are available in the St. Aidan sacristy meeting room on Saturday from 12:30 PM to 1:30 PM and 4:00 PM to 5:00 PM. Enter by the church door at the children's play area. You can also make a confession appointment with a priest by calling the rectory office.

ANOINTING & COMMUNION

The anointing of the sick takes place after the 12:00 PM Mass on the 4th Sunday of each month. Anyone who is homebound may receive Holy Communion at home on a regular basis. Call the rectory - ext. 101.

ADORATION

First and third Fridays of the month 1:00 -3:00 PM in the church.

PARISH EMAIL

To be added to email distributions of the Parish Bulletin please email Bonnie Parente at bparente@verizon.net.

THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN

505 WILLIS AVE. WILLISTON PARK, NEW YORK 11596-1727

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30

Fr. Adrian	6:30 AM	Carol Ann White
Fr. Solomon	9:00 AM	Jesse Co (5th Anniversary Rem.)
Fr. Ken	12:30 PM	Fred Osonitsch
Bishop Andrzej	5:30 PM	Ashley Smallwood

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30

Fr. Ken	6:30 AM	Lv. Ints. of Gloria Lee & Steve Mobilio
Fr. Ken	9:00 AM	Martha J. Mackasek (1st Anniversary Rem.)
Fr. Solomon	12:30 PM	Martha J. Mackasek (1st Anniversary Rem.)
Fr. Solomon	5:30 PM	Joseph Buono

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28 STS. SIMON AND JUDE

Fr. Solomon	6:30 AM	Thomas Scanlon
Fr. Adrian	9:00 AM	Rudy Ohle (Birthday Rem.)
Fr. Adrian	12:30 PM	Lv. & Dcd. Mbrs. of the Clinton & Tinghitella Family
Fr. Ken	5:30 PM	Palma Spataro (1st Anniversary Rem.)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30

Fr. Ken	6:30 AM	Maria Villa
Fr. Ken	9:00 AM	Peggy Monfort (5th Anniversary Rem.) And Donald Sullivan (2nd Anniversary Rem.)
Fr. Adrian	12:30 PM	Peter James Kenny
Fr. Adrian	5:30 PM	Alice Gallagher (1st Anniversary Rem.)

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30

Fr. Adrian	6:30 AM	Rose Byrne
Fr. Adrian	9:00 AM	Alice Gallagher (Birthday Rem.)
Fr. Solomon	12:30 PM	Anne Arcario
Fr. Solomon	5:30 PM	Eileen Lally

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31 ORDINARY TIME WEEK 30

Fr. Adrian	9:00 AM	Lv. Ints. of Anthony Iafrate
Fr. Solomon	5:00 PM	Robert James Lovdahl David Woodward Helen Reilly Vasilios Papagionis Justin Berry (2nd Ann. Rem.)
Fr. Ken	7:30 PM	Lv. Ints. Augustine Oh Young Don and Alison Oh (Birthday)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1 ALL SAINTS

Fr. Ken	7:30 AM	Sally D'Addario
Fr. Solomon	9:00 AM	Deceased Rosarians Gloria Keller & Dolores Ellis
Fr. Adrian	10:30 PM	Michelle Kerner
Fr. Solomon	12:00 PM	Rev. Thomas P. Curry (15th Anniversary Rem.) William & Mary Going Michael Peppard Michael Marchese Anthony Chen
Fr. Adrian	5:00 PM	Parishioners of St. Aidan

YOU SHALL
LOVE THE
LORD, YOUR
GOD,

WITH ALL
YOUR HEART,

WITH ALL
YOUR SOUL,

AND WITH
ALL YOUR
MIND.

YOU SHALL
LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR AS
YOURSELF.

God & Neighbor



What's Pastor Thinking

Today Jesus is confronted by a Pharisee Lawyer who wants to trap him, make him look bad in front of the crowd. So he asks a trick question, "which commandment of the law is the greatest?" Whatever law Jesus picks, He's going to be criticized for leaving something out. This is an old rhetorical trick. If you can't attack what someone says, attack what they didn't say. Jesus answers, not with one law, but with two, taken from different parts of the Scriptures. He reaches back into Exodus and Leviticus, and responds, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets." There you have it. That settles that. Not 613 commandments, not 10 commandments, but two - two great commandments that sum up and support the whole teaching of the Old Testament.

It's so simple! - yet so hard. Simple to say, hard to do. Many things get in the way of our devotion to God. When we pray alone or with the community, our minds sometimes wander. When we make decisions about how to spend money, we too easily put personal wishes ahead of the claims of God. When we choose what life values to follow, it is easier to follow the consensus than stand up

for Christ. When we have so many choices, such hectic lives, it's so hard to put God first. Our selfishness, our sinfulness, and our distorted sense of what's good for us make it hard to love God completely. And then Jesus goes on to say, "Love your neighbor as yourself." Talk about impossible! It's hard enough to love God, who is perfect; so how can Jesus expect us to love our neighbor, who is sinful and imperfect - just as we all are! One of the characters in the Peanuts comic strip once said it this way: "I love humanity; it's people I can't stand!" We'll love those who are like us, or whom we know, or who meet our standards. We'll love those for whom we feel some warmth or affection, but won't give the time of day to those we dislike or don't understand. The word Jesus uses - agape - is about unconditional love. It's love without limits, love without strings, love for the unlovable. We can't love like that. But God can; God can and God does love like that! God loves with agape love - love for the unlovable, and love for those who find it hard to love others. God loves like that - unconditionally. Why, God even loves me and you, in spite of our failure to love God and others! No, it doesn't come easily, the ability to love. It takes a whole lifetime of practice, and practice we must. We love, because God has first loved us. God is love. So, when we practice Christ-like love for others, we are also drawn closer to God!

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

RIZZIERO BOCCIA
 MARIE FRANCESCHINI
 MARGARET WOSKA
 ROGER SHIELS
 RUTH L. ROGERS
 WILLIAM P. COTTER
 STEPHEN ABEM (*FATHER OF FR.
 PATRICK ABEM*)

WE PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Jill Ohl
 Lily O'Rourke
 John Joseph Mulrooney
 Steve Pomticello
 Kay Perro
 Mark Cristello
 Maryann Katkowsky
 Sean Anderson
 Francesca Caccavale
 Thomas Yorke
 Judy Kostovick

Jack Groothuis
 Sharon Devis
 Agnes Chun
 Blaise DeCario Webber
 Virginia Fallon
 Kathleen Donnelly
 Frank Keenan
 Isabella Mueller
 Eileen Fitzgerald
 Richard Arcario
 Janet Stemberger
 Jho Martin
 Mercy Velasco
 Anthony Bosco
 Bernadette Abbate
 Tony Sigonolsi
 Shirley Aguirre
 Daniel Kozak
 Vittoria Fellin
 Peter Testani
 Ambrose Donnelly
 Siobhan O'Keeffe
 Linda Hayes

Christine Adelman
 Alicia Zumbrunn
 Anthony Siconolfi
 Rob Clarkin
 Geraldine Massey
 Ann McGarry
 Dominic Caccavale
 Greg Sasso
 Baby Nolan Shelley
 Noel Mcpartland
 Dana Cavanaugh
 Flavia Marino
 Florence & Paul Simmons
 Mary Mone
 Jonathan Viola
 Christine O'Gara
 Juliana Kim
 Rosie Bischoff
 Kathleen Donato
 Rebecca Ross
 Michael Horowitz
 Robert Marino

STEWARDSHIP

10/20/19 \$23,209
 10/18/20 \$20,264
 (-12.68%)

WORLD MISSIONS

10/20/19 \$4,031
 10/18/20 \$1,269
 (-68.51%)

ONLINE GIVING

Over 350 parishioners are donating online. Go to staidanparish.org. Click DONATE.

CATHOLIC MINISTRIES**APPEAL**

Parish Goal \$150,000.00
 Pledges \$102,007.15
 Donors 388
 Payments \$95,318.40

WE REMEMBER

Remember your loved ones by enrolling them in the Masses for November.

Envelopes can be found at the doors of the Church today. The names will be placed with the Book of Remembrance at Our Lady's Shrine on November 1st.



"...I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions...."
1 Timothy 2:1-2

"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good..."
Galatians 6:10

"...that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm."
Ephesians 6:13

VOTE
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3!

JOIN US FOR DAILY MASS FROM THE CHURCH OF ST. AIDAN AT ST.AIDANPARISH.ORG AND ON FACEBOOK.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

ALL SAINTS, ALL SOULS

Each November, the Church celebrates two feast days, which are related to each other.



All Saints' Day is a solemnity celebrated on November 1st. On this day we celebrate the great Communion of Saints, which includes those holy men and women who have passed before us but have not been canonized.

All Souls' Day is celebrated on November 2nd and is a day to remember and pray for all those who have died. Remember your loved ones by enrolling them in the Masses for November. Envelopes can be found at the doors of the church today. The Book of Remembrance will be placed at Our Lady's Shrine on November 1st where you can record those who have died. Those mentioned on the envelopes and in the Book of Remembrance will be remembered at Masses throughout November. May they rest in peace. Masses will be offered on All Saints Day on Saturday, October 31st at 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM and on Sunday

November 1st at 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 10:30 AM, 12:00 PM and 5:00 PM.

Masses will be offered on All Souls Day on Monday November 2nd at 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM, 12:30 PM and 5:30 PM. The reading of the names of those who died this year will be at the 5:30 PM Mass on All Souls Day. Halloween originated with a festival called Samhain, which was celebrated by the ancient Celts. Samhain was a day to celebrate the year's harvest and to honor the dead. As Christianity took hold in the ancient world, the autumnal observance of Samhain took on sacred meaning from the Church's celebration of All Saints' Day, which was originally celebrated in May. Pope Gregory III designated November 1st to honor the saints. The night before was known as Eve of All Hallows. By the 7th century, these two ancient holidays were merged, making the Eve of All Hallows, later called "Halloween," a time to both acknowledge the passage into death and to celebrate those who have passed into Eternal Life.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

St. Aidan's congratulates Xiyao (Harry) Zhao, who entered the Catholic Church yesterday through the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist). Our parish family is blessed to have this young man join us. Please welcome him and keep him in your prayers.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Congratulations to all those who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Church of St. Aidan this Saturday, October 24th and on Saturday, November 7th. This year Confirmation will be a prayer service.

MONDAY NOVENA

Please join us every Monday morning after the 9:00 AM Mass for a Novena to the Immaculate Conception of the Virgin Mary. Rosary will follow. October is the month of the rosary.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Sunday, October 25th after the 12:00 PM Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday, November 6th from 1:00-3:00 PM

CHARISMATIC PRAISE AND WORSHIP WITH BLD GROUP

Every Friday from 7:15 PM to 9:30 PM.

MASS CHANGE

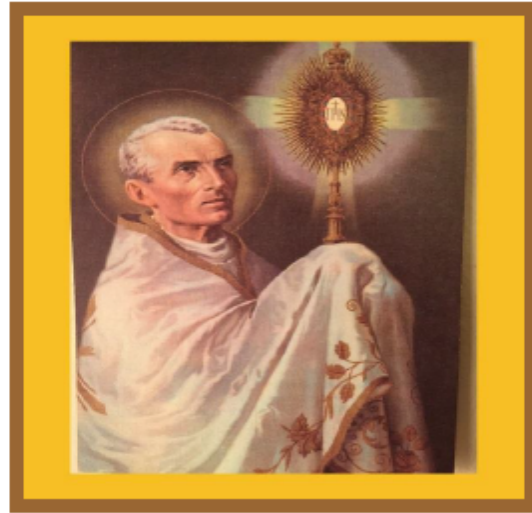
Beginning Monday, January 4th 2021, the Monday to Friday 12:30 PM Mass at the Church of St. Aidan, will be moved to the Church of Corpus Christi. The 9:00 AM Mass at Corpus Christi will discontinue. This change is approved by the Diocese who encourage neighboring parishes to cooperate in serving the pastoral needs of the area. St. Aidan will continue to celebrate three daily Masses, Monday to Friday, at 6:30 AM, 9:00 AM and 5:30 PM. Few churches in the area offer an evening daily Mass, so we were encouraged to keep the 5:30 PM Mass. Three priests currently serve at St. Aidan. Two priests are available each day for Masses, funerals, duty etc. Obviously, further changes may become necessary in the period ahead as parishes and pastoral areas continue to review local circumstances. I know and understand that not everyone will be happy with this change, but I am confident that the people of the area as a whole will give it a chance.

Fr. Adrian

SEARCHING?

Do you know someone searching for a spiritual home? Our "no strings" inquiry is open to anyone searching that you may know. This is ideal for learning about Catholicism and for Catholics who have not yet received the Eucharist and/or Confirmation. There is no obligation to continue. To set up an appointment to speak to someone please call the rectory at 746-6585.

INTERCESSORY ADORATION & PRAYER FOR PRIESTS AND SEMINARIANS



EVERYONE IS WELCOME

to join the bi-annual tradition of praying for priests and seminarians of the Rockville Centre Diocese. Every priest and seminarian's name will be read aloud.

Adoration and silent prayer will take place on
Tuesday, OCTOBER 27, 2020

OPEN HOURS

6:00 PM—10:00 PM

Prayer participants are welcome to come and go at these participating parishes:

Cure of Ars, Merrick
Holy Name of Jesus, Woodbury
Infant Jesus, Port Jefferson 7-9 pm ONLY
Maria Regina, Seaford
Our Lady of Poland, Southampton 6-8 pm ONLY
Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Lindenhurst
St Agnes Cathedral, RVC Holy Cross Chapel
St Aidan, Williston Park
St Anthony, Oceanside
St Anthony of Padua, Northport
St Barnabas, Bellmore 1-4 pm ONLY
St Dominic, Oyster Bay
St Isidore, Riverhead 6-8 pm LIVE STREAM:
saintisidoreriverhead.org
St Mary of the Isle, Long Beach
St Rosalie, Hampton Bays

Please pray along with your fellow parishioners of RVC Diocese and help make praying for priests a regular devotion two times every year.

every Tuesday before ALL SOULS DAY
and every Tuesday after
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Email requests for information on how to host a parish
PrayForPriestsDRVC@aol.com or 516.458.0004

BAPTISM CLASS

Parents who are bringing their first child for baptism may now attend a baptism class. The next class is on Sunday November 8th at 1:00 PM in the church. Please contact the rectory office.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

As Pope Benedict XVI said in his Encyclical, Deus Caritas Est, "Everything has its origin in God's love, everything is shaped by it, everything is directed towards it. Love is God's greatest gift to humanity; it is his promise and our hope."

FOOD PANTRY: Please bring all non-perishable food/personal hygiene items to the Sacred Heart Chapel in church or to the Parish Social Ministry office.

Items Needed: cranberry sauce, turkey gravy, stuffing, cans of sweet potatoes/yams, cans of mixed vegetables, apple juice, cookies and cleaning supplies
PLEASE NOTE: The Parish Social Ministry office hours are: Monday-Friday, 9:00-3:00. Please use the Finamore Parish Center entrance (across from the church on Willis Avenue).

THE GREAT GIVE BACK

The Library is collecting non-perishable food for the St. Aidan's Food Pantry for the month of October. Items most in need are: cookies, apple juice, cans of sweet potatoes/yams, cans of gravy, oil, toothpaste. Donations not on this list are also greatly appreciated. A donation bin is located inside the library.

COAT COLLECTION

It's that time again. Keep the homeless warm this winter. Please donate a coat or jacket to a soup kitchen that feeds 185 million meals a year. Please call Tecky at (516) 655-9755 or Cathy comayu27@gmail.com for drop off point. Coats will be collected until January.

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY GANG

For the month of September, the PB&J Gang made 239 wash-up kits which they donated for the homeless. Thank you to all who contributed.

THE ROSARY ALTAR SOCIETY

The Corporate Mass of the Rosary Altar Society will be at 9am on November 1st. This Mass will be celebrated in memory of deceased Rosarians Eileen Fingerele and Dolores Ellis. The Mass can also be viewed online at staidanparish.org.



The November meeting will be held on Nov. 9, in the church. At this meeting, Francesca Yellico, Executive Director of Right To Life, will be the guest speaker. The meeting begins with the recitation of the Rosary at 7pm and can also be viewed online.

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS BAKE SALE

On Sunday, October 25th the CDA of St. Aidan's will be holding its annual BAKE SALE. Homemade & store bought baked goods will be available after the 7:30am, 9am, 10:30am and 12noon Masses. This year's proceeds will go to support Mommas House, a non-profit organization that provides a home and support for young mothers and their babies.

PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY

Parishioners are invited to participate in the nationwide Public Square Rosary Rally. The event will

<h1>COME TO OUR NATIONWIDE PUBLIC SQUARE ROSARY RALLY</h1>	
<p>Pray for our Police Officers</p> 	<p>Pray for the Presidential Election</p> 
<p>Let us pray that God will protect our law enforcement officers and keep them safe as they courageously put themselves in extremely dangerous situations day after day so that the rest of us can live in peace and security. Let us show them our appreciation and gratitude for their selfless dedication and to assure them of our prayers for them and their families.</p>	<p>Let us pray that God will bless us with a fair and peaceful election process that will unite our country in love and respect. We need a courageous, truthful, honest and virtuous President who will defend and uphold issues that are important to Catholics, and place the welfare and security of the United States of America and its citizens above all.</p>
<p>Our Lady of Fatima and St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us.</p> <p>Date & time: Saturday, October 31, 12 noon Garden City Gazebo (next to Fire Station), 347 Stewart Ave., Garden City, NY 11530 Contact Steve Woods at 917-647-4032 or Marta Waters at 516-448-9009 or miwaters88@gmail.com</p>	

be held on Saturday, October 31 at the Garden City Gazebo on Stewart Avenue. All will start convening at 11:45 A.M. and begin the Rosary promptly at 12:00 P.M. For GPS purposes: 347 Stewart Avenue Garden City NY 11530.

The event is in response to a nationwide invitation to pray for the safety and protection of our police officers. This is an opportunity to show them our appreciation and gratitude for their selfless dedication and to assure them of our prayers for them and their families.

The group will also pray for God to bless our nation with a fair and peaceful election process that will unite our country in love and respect.

Families, including children, are encouraged to participate in this peaceful, prayerful event. The 7 foot Statue of Our Lady of Fatima will be present. She was hand-carved in Italy in 1967 for the golden anniversary.

Please wear a mask, respect social distancing guidelines and bring a chair.

For more information concerning the gathering at the Garden City gazebo, please contact Steve Woods (917-647-4032) or Marta Waters at 516 448-9009 or email miwaters88@gmail.com.

ATTENTION HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Are you the son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, great grandson/daughter of a Veteran who served in the Military or is presently serving? American Legion Auxiliary Unit 144 has scholarship applications available. Applications can be downloaded, please contact Dianne Karl, email dianneli@optimum.net, or call 516-746-2625 or text 516-778-0006.

We have had scholarship winners for the past 6 years and this past year we had two winners from our Unit 144.

SAINT AIDAN'S BOOSTER CLUB

24 chances to win every month.
\$30 Annual Membership runs
Sept. 2019 – Aug. 2020.

The Booster Club is administered by The Saint Aidan's School Board. All proceeds directly benefit the school.

Winning checks will be mailed within the next 10 days.

Weekly Prizes:

1 \$25 winner AND 4 \$20 winners

Monthly Prizes:

1 \$50 winner AND 2 \$25 winners

Monthly Bonus Prizes:

1 \$500 winner in March, June and December

1 \$100 winner in all other months

September \$20 Winners

Patricia Mancusi, Maddy & Doug Cegelski, Eileen Oliver, Melissa Marmolite, Michael & Joyce Rowley, Jackie & Frank McHugh, Stephanie & Charles Stanton, Nancy Zolezzi, Karen Gordon, Anita & Albert Brewer, Ellen & Mike Kolinsky, Anne Messina, David Monfort, Patricia Nolan, Audrey & Stephen Prah, Margaret Remmich

September \$25 Winners

Pat & John Lawless, Betty McEnery, James Devaney, Joe Wilson, Phil & Diane O'Donnell, Tara Rose Callahan

September \$50 Winner:

Tom Madigan

September \$100 Winner:

S. Francis Kammer

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR JOIN NOW!

Membership will run from September 2020 through August 2021. Please fill out this form and return to the Rectory with cash or check made payable to Saint Aidan's Booster Club.

Name _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City, State,

Zip _____

E-mail address _____

I would like _____ numbers at \$30 each. \$_____ enclosed

Check here if this is a renewal of an existing membership.



WINTER PRE CANA CLASS 2021

Saturday, Feb 13, 2021 - 8:30am-4:30pm Msgr. Kirwin Hall followed by a closing Mass at the church at 5pm. Couples preparing for marriage can call the rectory to reserve a place.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER EXPERIENCE

"Then repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar and to God what belongs to God." Your marriage belongs to God. Bring God into your marriage on the Worldwide Marriage Encounter Experience via Zoom for seven sessions every Monday and Thursday evenings starting on November 2 - 23 from 7-9:30 PM. Registration is limited and a \$100 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, call John and Toni Torio at 718-344-3700 or visit us at <http://www.wwme.org/>

THE FRIENDS OF THE WILLISTON PARK LIBRARY

WOULD LIKE YOU TO ENJOY ALL THE BEAUTY OF THE FALL SEASON RIGHT NEAR HOME AT THE NASSAU COUNTY MUSEUM OF ART LOCATED ON NORTHERN BLVD. IN ROSLYN. STROLL THROUGH THEIR LOVELY GROUNDS FOR BREATHTAKING SCENES OF AUTUMN'S GLORY. FREE PASSES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE WILLISTON PARK LIBRARY. FOR

FURTHER INFO, CALL CAROLYN STALTERS AT 742-0412

FREE COVID-19 ANTIBODY TESTING

The Town of Hempstead has teamed up with Northwell Health to help keep our community safe. To schedule an appointment, call 516-821-2500.

FREE EVENT

PRESENTED BY THOMAS F DALTON FUNERAL HOMES

DRIVE THRU TRICK OR TREAT
 REMAIN IN YOUR VEHICLE FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31
AT 12:00PM TILL 3:00PM
DALTON FUNERAL HOME PARKING LOT
412 WILLIS AVE., WILLISTON PARK, NY 11596
FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US AT 516-354-0634

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST. AIDAN SCHOOL

Sixth Grade is DREAMING BIG!

Students created Dream/Vision Boards to set goals for themselves and think about how they can achieve them. We are always working to reach our potential at St. Aidan School!



Believe
IN
yourself



On-going Communication! FAITH FORMATION HAS ITS OWN PAGE ON THE PARISH WEBSITE:

staidanparish.org/ff. Please visit this webpage throughout the year for updates and information.

School Bells: The Faith Formation School Year has started for those who registered for Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays. If you haven't registered your children, please do so as soon as possible. Since online registration has ended, please call the Faith Formation Office at (516)746-6585 ext. 405 to make registration arrangements.

2020-2021 School Year: Due to the current pandemic, the Faith Formation program is a blended program for the 2020-2021 school year, which includes children working at home under the direction of their parents supported by the Faith Formation Office plus small church gatherings where children will come together in the church while remaining socially distant. Children must be registered to participate. Children attending public schools are expected to participate in Religious Education classes every school year from grade 1 through 8.

Multisensory Religious Education: Children and Catechists assigned to Schedule "A" will meet this Thursday, October 29th at either 4:30 or 5:45PM.

Multisensory Catechists: Catechists are needed for the Multisensory Program. If you can help, please contact the Faith Formation Office .

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to all our young women and men who received the Sacrament of Confirmation at St.



Aidan's yesterday. We also congratulate their parents and sponsors for supporting them. May these new fully initiated Catholics continue to welcome and use the Gifts of the Holy Spirit throughout their lives. Please continue to keep these young people in your prayers. Our parish is very proud of their efforts.

Confirmation 2020: Rehearsals Confirmation practice for the 11:30AM session on November 7th is scheduled for Monday, November 2nd at 6:45PM. Candidates for the 2PM session will practice at 8PM. Please arrive at the church promptly at the assigned time, comply with our social distancing efforts, wear a mask, and dress appropriately including proper footwear. Please refer to the Dress Code section of the Parent Handbook for additional guidance. Confirmation gowns, pins, sponsor instructions, and tickets will be distributed at the practices, which will last about one hour. The practice is only for the Confirmation candidates.

Attention Grade 6 Parents: The 6th Grade church gatherings will be on Monday, October 26th and Wednesday, October 28th at 4PM and 6:30PM. Registered students were assigned to a specific session. Students must attend their assigned session as attendance will be taken. Participants are also expected to arrive on time, comply with our social distance efforts, wear a mask and dress appropriately including proper

footwear. Please refer to the Dress Code section of the Parent Handbook for additional guidance. The 6th graders will receive their Bibles during the gathering.

Helpful Websites: During this time of pandemic precautions, the following websites may be helpful. Google usccb.org (United States Catholic Conference of Bishops) which provides the Scripture readings for Mass. Catholicmom.com, which ordinarily has many of the Mass worksheets made available to the children at the Family Mass, is providing videos and articles about how to celebrate the Faith at home in the "domestic church." Loyolapress.com and religion.sadlierconnect.com have some family activities and informative articles.

Contact Us: The Faith Formation Webpage includes direct contact information for each member of the Faith Formation Office Team. During this time of phasing into a more "normal" schedule, the office is open by appointment only. Please contact us with your questions and concerns. We welcome your phone calls and emails during this challenging time. If you have paperwork to submit, there is a Drop Box outside the building for your convenience. If you want to stop by the office, please call ahead of time. Let us pray for one another!



During this time of transition, the Family Mass will continue to provide some limited materials each week. The Magnifikids magazines are available every week along with the Children's Worship Bulletins for ages 3 to 7 and ages 7 to 12. They are located in the Children's Corner racks in the main lobby of the church. Even if you are not yet returning to Mass due to pandemic concerns, these materials can be used at home. Take a few minutes to stop by the church to pick them up for home use. Please do not leave them in the church.

Today is the Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary. The liturgical color is green. Each week we have been focusing on a Word or Phrase of the Week to help link the Gospel to Family Life. This week's Word of the Week is LOVE. Place the word LOVE on the refrigerator as a reminder during the week.

Today's Gospel (Matthew 22:34-40) continues with Jesus dealing with the challenges of the Pharisees and Sadducees. The Pharisees were an educated group who believed that they had the right to interpret the Jewish Law since the time of Moses. The Sadducees, also very educated and scholarly, claimed to have priestly rights dating back to the time of Solomon. Both of these learned groups viewed Jesus and His teachings with suspicion and concern especially since what Jesus sometimes said and did was not within the parameters of the acceptable Jewish life and belief system. Up to this point in Matthew's gospel Jesus had successfully dealt with all their trickery and challenges. Jesus is asked in today's gospel about which of the Jewish laws was the greatest? He answered to LOVE God with everything we are and have. In other words, LOVE

God all the way! Then Jesus continued by saying that we must LOVE others as we LOVE ourselves. To the Jewish scholars of Jesus' time, this commandment was radical! We call it the Great Commandment because it is inclusive of all the attributes of the LOVE we are called to embrace and practice as Catholic Christians. The Great Commandment is a wonderful way to expand children's understanding of LOVE. As adults, we know that there are many kinds of LOVE, but for children, LOVE is very concrete and often self-focused. This is not unusual since children are basically dependent on the adults around them for all their needs including but not restricted to LOVE. They mistakenly measure LOVE by the things they get, which especially in young children is understandable. As children grow through the stages of childhood, they should and can grow in understanding the kind of LOVE Jesus is talking about in the Great Commandment. He is saying that God must come first and in order to do that, we must give everything we are and have to God. God requires "the whole package" from each of His children! The second part of this commandment is telling us to LOVE others as we LOVE ourselves. We must learn to value ourselves first because we can't give to others what we don't have ourselves. Loving others doesn't mean being close friends with everyone or even interacting with everyone but it does mean wanting for others what God wants for them. The fancy word for this is Agape. For parents, having loving concern for those in their care as well as willingness to sacrifice for them is part of everyday life. As followers of Jesus, we must try to live in accordance with the Christian teaching to love and want for others what God wants for them. Children can age appropriately learn how to LOVE themselves by cherishing and respecting the life given to them by God. Slowly and gently, they can learn

how to truly give God's LOVE to others, even those they don't like or don't know. Starting small and being consistent provides the best environment for children to learn to appreciate and recognize God's LOVE in real ways. During the upcoming Thanksgiving season, instead of just giving children cans of food to donate, talk about what they can do to earn the money to purchase food for hungry people they don't know and may never meet.. Sharing our resources with others should be a constant family practice all year long. When children grow up in consciously generous families, they draw on those experiences for a lifetime. LOVE is not restricted to giving money or donating items. Children should be encouraged to pray with a more global view. Instead of simply saying a quick prayer for the poor, look at some pictures of folks in other lands who have no water or little food, and as a family thank God for the water we enjoy every time we turn on the faucet and for the food we routinely purchase at the local supermarkets. Look for ways your family can use natural resources wisely is teaching them to LOVE others by helping to conserve and share the earth's resources. Capture opportunities to remind children about loving others as Jesus asks us to LOVE especially when they feel conflicted about siblings and school friends. Continuously reviewing a more expanded view of loving God, self, and others (in that order) can bring blessings beyond our ordinary expectations. Making practical connections to the limited world of growing children can peak their interest as does working on some family project. As always, growing in the kind of LOVE Jesus is speaking about brings us personal and relational peace even when everything around us says the opposite. Be creative because the LOVE of Jesus has no boundaries!

CIVILIZE IT



DIGNITY BEYOND THE DEBATE

2020

Civil Dialogue: A response to Jesus' call to love our neighbor

Jesus uses the parable of the Good Samaritan to answer a question that is both searing and simple: “Who is my neighbor?” (Luke 10: 29). Our familiarity with this parable makes it easy for us now to identify as “neighbor” those on the margins of our society such as those experiencing homelessness or poverty. But how often do we see our neighbor in the person who disagrees with us?

As Catholics, our strong tradition of social teaching compels us to be actively engaged in the building up of our communities. This is achieved by being involved in the political process—and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at people themselves. When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities.

What is needed is good, honest, civil dialogue. This means that we must treat everyone as worthy of being at the table, worthy of our respect, and worthy of being heard. In short, it means treating everyone as our neighbor.

We undermine our commitment to human life and dignity when we fail to see the dignity of those who have a different viewpoint. We must detach from the bitterness that surrounds us and seek a better path. A commitment to civil dialogue

can help us make real and authentic human connections, which breaks down the barriers that divide us.

Engaging in civil dialogue can help our faith communities create a new space to model love for our neighbors and respect for the dignity of all.

Tips for Engaging in Civil Dialogue:

1. Listen first and seek to understand the whole picture.
2. Ask questions for clarification.
3. Use ‘I’ statements; pay attention to body language.
4. Listen to what feelings are present and pay attention to how you respond.
5. Summarize what you’ve heard and ask for feedback.



Civil dialogue can best be defined as the ability to enter meaningful conversation with people whose viewpoints may be different from our own, who have a different background or experiences, or who come to a different conclusion about the best way to promote the common good. We enter into civil dialogue because we want to build a community that is rooted in understanding one another. God’s love for each person requires us to remember that someone who disagrees with us is still a beloved child of



God who deserves our love, respect, and care.

An important ingredient to civil dialogue is commitment to the truth. While respecting the dignity of all, we acknowledge that not all viewpoints are equally valid. We have the responsibility to speak truth with love. In addition, all who exercise their freedom of speech have an obligation to ensure that they come to conclusions based on data from credible and reputable sources, and that care is taken to avoid seeking the truth selectively, that is, only when it is convenient to us.

Civil dialogue is different than remaining silent in the face of disagreement. Listening to opposing views is a part of seeking clarity and can be a creative process. In civil dialogue, all are invited to bring and share their values, beliefs, and questions. We seek first to understand how our views on a topic are different and why. We ask questions to be sure we understand one another. In thinking critically about how we arrived at our own view points and listening to the experiences of others, we can sometimes arrive at new understanding and even find common ground.

Pope Francis has remarked, “Dialogue allows people to know and understand one another’s needs. Above all, it is a sign of great respect, because it puts the person into a stance of listening, and into a condition of being receptive to the speaker’s best viewpoints. Secondly, dialogue is an expression of charity because, while not ignoring differences, it can help us investigate and share the common good. Moreover, dialogue invites us to place ourselves before the other, seeing him or her as a gift of God, and as someone who calls upon us and asks to be acknowledged.”ⁱ

ⁱ Pope Francis, *Jubilee Audience at St. Peter’s Square*, October 22, 2016.

Just like any authentic human connection, the process of dialogue is complicated, often uncomfortable, and requires vulnerability and trust. We must rely on our faith in Christ who taught us that everyone is truly our neighbor. Promoting civil discourse is one way we can put this teaching into action.

Interested in learning more about civil dialogue or about how your community can engage in civil dialogue more often? Join USCCB’s *Civilize It* Campaign to help promote dignity beyond the debate. A version of this campaign was first implemented by the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and is a call for all people to civilize our conversations. Visit civilizeit.org for more information, to take the pledge, or plan an opportunity for civil dialogue in your community.

If you are part of a group looking to create an opportunity for civil dialogue in your community, it may be helpful to consider these questions:

1. Is our intention to facilitate greater understanding, or merely win a debate?
2. Whose voices are we including? Whose are missing? Who else should be invited to the conversation?
3. How can we remember our shared human dignity and deescalate the situation when we feel ourselves become tense?
4. What guidelines could the group set together that will keep the conversation centered on dialogue instead of debate, and honor the dignity of all people present?



October 2020 • RESPECT LIFE MONTH

Conscience
formation

Election Day is
important this
year for the
issues of life.

Live the
Gospel of *Life*

"to imitate Christ
and follow in
his footsteps"

The Gospel of Life

<https://respectlife.drvc.org/>



THE DIOCESE OF ROCKVILLE CENTRE

Office of Human Life, Family and Bioethics



**Make an informed
choice for this
presidential election.
Every life counts.
Every vote counts.**

*Living the Gospel of Life, our
office is dedicated to all areas of
healing and evangelization.*

Decisions regarding issues of human life must be clearly taken from the Gospel.

In a recently released statement, **Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann** of Kansas City in Kansas, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Committee on Pro-Life Activities encourages faithful Catholics in this manner:

"...It is a time to focus on God's precious gift of human life and our responsibility to care for, protect, and defend the lives of our brothers and sisters..."

Last November, *the U.S. bishops reaffirmed that 'the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed.'* While we noted not to 'dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity such as racism, the environmental crisis, poverty, and the death penalty,' **we renewed our commitment to protect the most fundamental of all human rights – the right to live.**

This past January, I shared with **Pope Francis** that the bishops of the United States had been criticized by some for identifying the protection of the unborn as a preeminent priority.

The Holy Father expressed his support for our efforts observing that if we fail to protect life, no other rights matter. Pope Francis also said that abortion is not primarily a Catholic or even a religious issue, it is first and foremost a human rights issue."

Source: U.S. Bishops' Pro-Life Chair Launches Respect Life Month and Invites Catholics to "Live the Gospel of Life"
September 24, 2020, Public Affairs Office

please call us at (516) 678-5800 x 626 to find out more -

~Ministry Feature for Week of October 25, 2020 ~

A Comparison of the Republican and Democratic Platforms

A non-partisan guide on issues of concern to the electorate
Quotes taken from platforms in effect 2020-2024

REPUBLICAN PLATFORM

KEY ISSUE

DEMOCRATIC PLATFORM

“The Constitution’s guarantee that no one can “be deprived of life, liberty or property” deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that “all” are “endowed by their Creator” with the inalienable right to life. Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth.” (p.13)

Human Life

“Democrats believe every woman should be able to access ... abortion. We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women’s reproductive health and rights, including by repealing the Hyde Amendment and protecting and codifying the right to reproductive freedom.” (p.42)

“We oppose the use of public funds to perform or promote abortion or to fund organizations, like Planned Parenthood, so long as they provide or refer for elective abortions or sell fetal body parts rather than provide healthcare.” (p.13)

Planned Parenthood

“We will repeal the Title X domestic gag rule and restore federal funding for Planned Parenthood” (p.32)

“We support the appointment of judges who respect traditional family values and the sanctity of innocent human life.” (p.13)

Judges

“We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who look like America ... and will respect and enforce foundational precedents, including ... Roe v. Wade.”(p.39)

“We support options for learning, including home-schooling, career and technical education, private or parochial schools, magnet schools, charter schools, online learning, and early-college high schools. We especially support the innovative financing mechanisms that make options available to all children: education savings accounts (ESAs), vouchers, and tuition tax credits.” (p.34)

Education/ School Choice

“Democrats oppose private school vouchers and other policies that divert taxpayer-funded resources away from the public school system.” (p. 67)

“We renew our call for replacing “family planning” programs for teens with sexual risk avoidance education that sets abstinence until marriage as the responsible and respected standard of behavior.” (p.34)

Sex Education

“We recognize that quality, affordable comprehensive health care; medically accurate, LGBTQ+ inclusive, age-appropriate sex education; and the full range of family planning services are all essential to ensuring that people can decide if, when, and how to start a family.” (p.32)

“The integrity of our country’s foreign assistance program has been compromised by the ...[Obama] Administration’s attempt to impose on foreign recipients, especially the peoples of Africa, its own radical social agenda while excluding faith-based groups — the sector with the best track record in promoting development — because they will not conform to that agenda. We pledge to reverse this course....” (p.52)

Foreign Assistance

“We will support the repeal of the global gag rule (also known as the Mexico City Policy) and measures like the Helms Amendment, which limit safe access to abortion. We will also restore and expand American contributions to the United Nations Population Fund” (pp. 82-83)

This flier and the full texts of the party platforms may be found at www.VotingInfo.net.

This guide has been legally approved for distribution by Churches and 501-(c)-3 organizations.
Legal letter and online version at VotingInfo.net. The Republican Party reaffirmed their 2016 platform without change.

2020 PRESIDENTIAL VOTER GUIDE

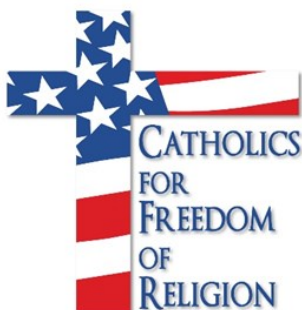


1. TAXPAYER-FUNDED ABORTIONS Taxpayer dollars being used to fund abortions and fund groups like Planned Parenthood that provide them.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
2. BORN-ALIVE ABORTION SURVIVOR PROTECTIONS The Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act, which would provide lifesaving medical care for babies who survive a failed abortion.	SUPPORT	UNKNOWN
3. ROE V. WADE The <i>Roe v. Wade</i> Supreme Court decision which legalized abortion through all nine months of pregnancy.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
4. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY Protecting business owners' ability to run their businesses in accordance with biblical teaching about marriage, family, and sexuality.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
5. RELIGIOUS LIBERTY RESTRICTIONS The "Equality Act," which would remove Americans' religious liberty protections in areas related to sexual orientation and gender identity.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
6. RELIGIOUS FREEDOM AND WORSHIP SERVICES Protecting the right of churches and others holding worship services to meet without undue or discriminatory government restriction.	SUPPORT	UNKNOWN
7. INTERNATIONAL RELIGIOUS FREEDOM Prioritizing religious freedom in U.S. foreign policy.	SUPPORT	UNKNOWN
8. MALES PARTICIPATING IN FEMALE SPORTS Allowing students who are biological males and who identify as female to participate in female sports.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
9. COURTS "Interpreting the Constitution as written" should be a required philosophy for federal and Supreme Court judges.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
10. EMBASSY MOVE TO JERUSALEM The decision to move the U.S. embassy in Israel to Jerusalem.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
11. TRANSGENDER MILITARY SERVICE AND SURGERY The U.S. military allowing individuals who suffer from gender dysphoria and/or have had gender reassignment surgery to enter and serve in the military, and the military covering the financial costs of their gender transition.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
12. EDUCATION Providing financial incentives to public education alternatives, including religious schools.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
13. CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM The recently enacted Criminal Justice Reform legislation.	SUPPORT	UNKNOWN
14. GREEN NEW DEAL The Green New Deal climate change legislation.	OPPOSE	SUPPORT
15. FREEDOM OF SPEECH Holding social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, etc. who oversee the virtual public square accountable for censorship of viewpoints they disagree with.	SUPPORT	OPPOSE

Updated 10/15/20

"Righteousness exalts a nation, but sin is a reproach to any people." Proverbs 14:34

FRC*Action*



www.cffor.org
Embracing Goodness & Truth

"Woe to you that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter." Isaiah 5:20

"Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" from USCCB

Political and social questions require citizens to develop a well-formed conscience. "Conscience is not something that allows us to justify doing whatever we want, nor is it a 'feeling' about what we should or

should not do. Rather, conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good and shunning evil."(1) "There are some things we must never do, as individuals or as a society, because they are always incompatible with love of God & neighbor and are called 'intrinsically evil' actions. These actions must always be rejected and opposed."(2)

In "Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship" the US Conference of Catholic Bishops states, "The threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." (3) "As we all seek to advance the common good - by promoting religious freedom, by defending human life from the moment of conception until natural death, by defending marriage, by feeding the hungry and housing the homeless - it is important to recognize that not all possible courses of action are morally acceptable." (4) The Catechism of the Catholic Church states, "Some things are always wrong and no one may deliberately vote in favor of them. Citizens support these evils indirectly if they vote in favor of candidates who propose to advance them." (5)

Pope Francis said, "We are living in an information driven society which bombards us indiscriminately with data - which leads to superficiality in the area of moral discernment. We need to develop critical thinking and encourage development of moral values."(6)

(uscbb.org/forming-consciences, p.18, (1); uscbb.org/consciences, p.19 #22 (2);uscbb.org/consciences, p.16

(3); uscbb.org/consciences, #20(4); ccc2240 (5); Evangelii Gaudium, #64 (6); lifesitenews.com, 9/21/20 (7)

Happening Now: San Francisco Archbishop Denounces Draconian Restrictions

"One person at a time inside this great Cathedral to pray? What an insult! This is a mockery," said Archbishop Cordileone on Sept. 20, 2020. "Why can people shop at Nordstrom's at 25% capacity but only one of you at a time is allowed to pray inside this great Cathedral? ... I never expected that the most basic religious freedom, the right to worship - protected so robustly in our Constitution's First Amendment - would be unjustly repressed by an American Government."(7)

Be Silent No More!

Elected officials and their staff listen to, read and tabulate citizens' concerns and opinions when making decisions for their state and for the country. Do not be silent. Please contact one or more Senator or Congressman each week to encourage them to share your values. Call Switchboard at 202-224-3121 to be connected to any Representative or Senator's office. Email: Find Representative's email at www.house.gov. Find Senator's email at www.senate.gov.



As we have done in the past, we will start with commenting on the Gospel

first in order to better understand the message of all the Readings for this Sunday. The reason for this is that the Gospel sums up the essence of the entire Bible including God's purpose for all of creation. Now, you might say, "Wow! That covers a lot of territory" and you would be right. Let's look into this deep subject further to find out what it is.

The Gospel Reading is from Matthew (22:34-40). Shortly after Jesus outsmarts the Sadducees (last Sunday's reading about the "coin of tribute") a Pharisee comes to Jesus with another question to trip Him up. Jesus answers by summarizing all of the commandments into two, "Love of God and love of neighbor." Now, it might be natural to say, or think, "Ah ha, He out-smarted them again" and then forget about the next sentence: "The whole law and the prophet's [teachings] depend on these two commandments." Jesus is not interested in playing games with the Pharisees or Sadducees, or us. He is giving them, and us, His "new" insight into the commandments, which, if kept in sincerity and honesty, will gain us eternal life. So, with so much to gain, why is it that many people don't follow Him, or just ignore His instructions? Here He has taken the full Ten Commandments and all the Jewish laws and condensed them to two. So, what's so difficult to understand?

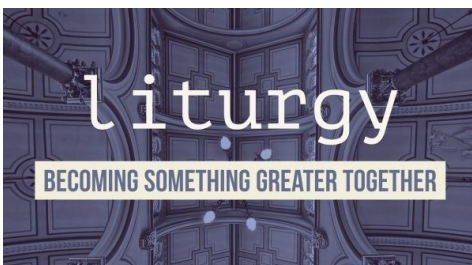
The First Reading is from the Book of Exodus (22:20- 26). In this passage, we have a more detailed version of some of the commandments involving "Love of neighbor." "Love" in this usage is meant to include all the components of that word: Respect, Helpfulness, Forgiveness, etc.

"Neighbor" is anyone with whom we come in contact. Without much effort,

one can see that these commandments do cover a lot of territory and they were given to all mankind fifteen hundred years before Jesus Christ. Jesus didn't change them; He just simplified them to include anyone and everyone.

The Responsorial Psalm (18:2- 4, 47, 51) is a prayer of praise in response to those commandments pertaining to love of God. In its longer version, this psalm is a great prayer of thanksgiving to God in recognition of His divine authority and benevolence. You are encouraged to read it all and include it in your daily prayer.

The Second Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians (1:5-10). In this passage, we hear how the Thessalonians responded to Paul's teachings earlier and now they have become model examples in loving God and neighbor. At the end, Paul gives us his own version of the idiom: "Actions speak louder than words." If you were to go back and read the Gospel passage again, you would see how trivial the Pharisees are in testing Jesus. These commandments, indeed all the commandments, should be in the minds and hearts of all mankind from a very early age and we should live by them. St. Paul tells us: "Love never wrongs the neighbor; love is the fulfillment of the law." (Romans 13:10) Something to think about during your prayer time this week!



The Epistle to the Romans is the sixth book of the New Testament and is

either the longest or second longest depending upon who counts the words and which translation is used. There were several early versions of the letter, varying from 14 to 16 chapters, but all are now included. Doctrinally, it is the most significant of St. Paul's writings. It was probably composed at Corinth about 57 AD while he was staying in the house of Gaius, and transcribed by Tertius, his amanuensis. The epistle was addressed to the Christian church at Rome, whose congregation Paul hoped to visit for the first time on his way to Spain. This never happened – he was arrested and went as a prisoner before he could make that visit. The letter has been intensely studied since early Christian times and was the basis for Martin Luther's teaching that justification was based on faith alone, a major factor in the Reformation and Counter-reformation. The Catholic Church, of course, agrees with the need for faith, but also says that good works are required, citing St. Paul in Rom 2: 5-8 "By your stubbornness and impenitent heart, you are storing up wrath for yourself for the day of wrath and revelation of the just judgment of God, who will repay everyone according to his works: eternal life to those who seek glory, honor, and immortality through perseverance in good works, but wrath and fury to those who selfishly disobey the truth and obey wickedness." There are other good citations for this, starting with the Epistle of St. James. But Paul wasn't writing to Martin Luther. He wrote to the church in Rome, which we now take for granted. But then it was very different. And to understand Romans, we need to look at that early church in Rome and the circumstances leading

to Paul to write it. The members were both Jews and specific Gentiles, those God-fearers who were well-versed in Jewish scriptures and tradition but were not well accepted by the Jewish members. We are not sure how the faith got there, but it was likely from communities Paul established further east. But what we do know is that Claudius expelled the Jews from Rome in 49 AD, and among those expelled were Paul's co-workers Priscilla and Aquila who went back to Corinth. Some of them did return after Claudius died. So the epistle would have been written to that primarily Gentile community which might have moved on from its Jewish roots, possibly creating a tension between them and the returning Jews. At least part of Paul's motivation in writing may have been to heal divisions within that community.

Everything else Paul wrote was to one of the church communities he had founded, but this is not the case for Romans. The letter itself follows his traditional pattern: greeting, thanksgiving, the body of the letter, final greeting and closing. Since he was not as well-known there, Paul begins the letter by justifying himself and his teaching authority by covering all the bases as the sole author, an apostle set apart for the gospel of Christ, apostle to the Gentiles, and an Israelite, from the tribe of Benjamin. Paul then very quickly gets to the theme he will develop throughout the letter. He defends the truth of the Gospel he preaches and traces righteousness, and hence salvation, through God's history with humanity, especially beginning with the Jewish people. But this has now changed because of the salvific action of Jesus. He declares that righteousness no

longer comes through observance of the Mosaic Law, not even for Jews, because God now manifests His righteousness through Christ, whose righteousness is the source of righteousness for all humankind “For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith, to the Jew first and also to the Greek. For in it the righteousness of God is revealed through faith for faith; as it is written, “The one who is righteous will live by faith.” Rom 1:16-17. He will further develop the concepts of salvation, righteousness and faith throughout the letter. Paul teaches that righteous comes only from God through the saving act of Jesus. This differs from the Old Testament interpretation wherein the Jews were commanded to strive for righteousness. But the Law was insufficient to justify all of humanity because it excluded the Gentiles. Paul places a heavy reliance on the Old Testament: Rom 4:3 “Abraham believed in God and it was credited to him as an act of righteousness” long before the Law, and therefore he stands as the father of both the circumcised and uncircumcised. The biblical sin of Adam is overcome by the gift of Christ and through baptism we become participants in the paschal mystery and just as we are baptized into His death and resurrection so we, too must crucify our old selves so as to no longer be slaves to sin. The old Law was not in itself sinful, but pointed out what is sinful. But the follower of the old Law was not capable of choosing the good because this is not possible without recourse to the Spirit. Paul emphasizes the difference between being in the flesh, that is,

the sinful condition of humanity, and living in the Spirit, the new life in Christ. So the believers become sons and heirs of God. Rom 8:12-17, “Consequently, brothers, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, “Abba, - “Father”. The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.”

But where does this leave Israel, the chosen people? Not all of Israel is Israel – throughout history, God has made choices: Isaac over Ishmael, Jacob over Esau, but God will not abandon Israel because the faith of the Gentiles will save them. He uses the grape vine as a metaphor: as Israel fell away due to unbelief, you Gentiles

now have true faith, “And they also, if they do not remain in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God is able to graft them in again” Rom.11:23 After describing the relationship of the Gentiles and the Israelites, Paul exhorts believers to be transformed so that they will know God’s will. He uses the simile of the body being composed of many parts, similarly to how he wrote in 1 Corinthians to stress the need for humility and how they should live together in a spirit of mutual love which fulfills the law: Rom 13:9-10 “The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, [namely] “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.” Paul closes with some other advice. He urges them to obey legitimate civil authority, always be prepared for the end, for you do not know when it will come, and strengthen each other’s faith. He introduces some of his disciples, mentions his travel plans, and offers a final blessing.

Saints Simon and Jude

FEAST DAY: OCTOBER 28

Listed among the Twelve Apostles in the New Testament, Simon is “the Canaanite” to Matthew and Mark and “the Zealot” to Luke; Jude is “Thaddeus” to Matthew and Mark, “Judas of James” to Luke, and “Judas, not Iscariot” to John. After Pentecost, they disappear. However, according to Eastern tradition, Simon died peacefully in Edessa, while Western tradition has him evangelizing in Egypt, then teaming up with Jude, who had been in Mesopotamia, on a mission to Persia, where they were martyred on the same day. Simon is the patron saint of tanners and lumberjacks; Jude is the patron of desperate causes, possibly because early Christians would pray to him, with a name evoking Judas Iscariot, only when all else failed.



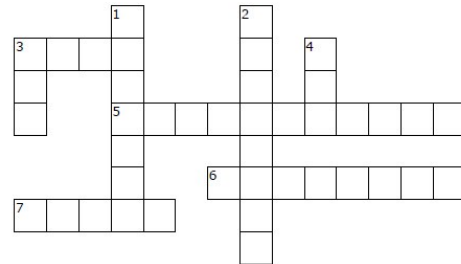
F W T W C N G Y S H L J M D M
 A M S Q E O V O O F Y O A R W
 D H K U M L M J U V O R R U S
 T E G E I Y H M L E D N J D O
 J P R S N R O G A N Z K E R B
 N H E T D L A U O N X J S V L
 G A A I P I H C R Q D B U Q P
 M R T O L R E R G S W M S R T
 O I E N P S O Q U A E T E T G
 H S S H L B H F L Z V L R N X
 F E T B H O A O V R R E F D T
 L E A G X I V N Q N P C M B J
 B S I R F H W E O X Z O T Z W
 O E A S T E O L E G N R T U T
 N O Q W Q Y R G H E A R I N G



I can show my friends that Jesus loves them.

MIND	PHARISEES	QUESTION	JESUS
LAW	GREATEST	COMMANDMENT	YOURSELF
EXPERT	HEART	NEIGHBOR	LOVE
SOUL	LORD	HEARING	SECOND

**LOVE
ONE
ANOTHER**



ACROSS

- 3. To have a deep feeling of affection or attraction for someone
- 5. A rule or law; direction or instruction to do something
- 6. A person who lives near or next to another
- 7. The center and source of a person's emotions or feelings

DOWN

- 1. Someone who educates or trains others
- 2. The most important; better than all others of the same kind
- 3. A system of rules or principles
- 4. The creator of heaven and earth; The One we worship

COMMANDMENT	HEART	LOVE	GREATEST
TEACHER	GOD	LAW	NEIGHBOR

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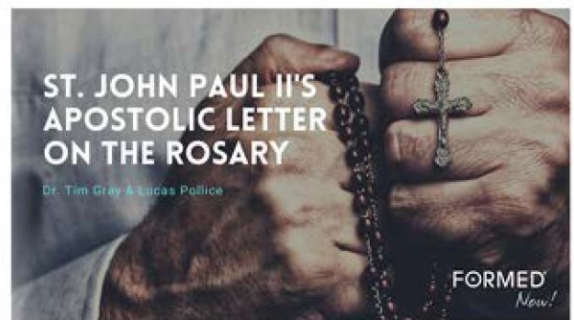
PICK OF THE WEEK

October 25, 2020

WATCH

FORMED NOW! POPE JOHN PAUL II'S LETTER ON THE ROSARY

To close out October, the month dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary, enjoy this discussion between Dr. Tim Gray and Lucas Pollice on St. John Paul II's letter on the Rosary. This wonderful discussion will help draw you deeper into the mysteries of Christ meditated on in the Rosary.



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