

Saint Thomas The Apostle Catholic Church

1720 NW 19th Street, Redmond, OR 97756

Very Rev. Todd Unger, Pastor

Rev. Noby Thomas, Parochial Vicar

Former Pastors: Fr. Stan Strzyz

Please pray for the soul of:

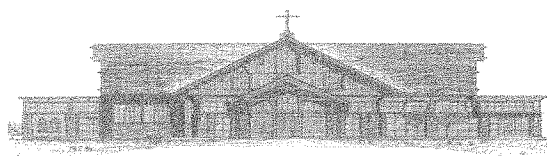
Fr. John O'Donovan Fr. Michael Ahearne

Fr. Francis McCormack

Msgr. William Stone Fr. Thomas Moore

Msgr. Bernard Keating

Fr. Leo Weckerle Deacon Joseph Pickens



JANUARY 1 and 2, 2022 – THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (New Year's Day) and THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Sunday)

JANUARY 8 and 9, 2022 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

OFFICE HOURS: Monday-Friday 9:00am–5:00pm

Phone: 541-923-3390 - **Fax :** 541-548-6630 – **Rectory:** 541-548-3548

St. Thomas Academy: 541-548-3785

Religious Education: 541-923-0597 - Noël Roy, Director and Coordinator Grades K-12

Hispanic Ministry: 541-350-2922 Angie Ornelas; 541-410-1526 Faviola Soto

Coordinator of Liturgical Music: 541-815-3424 Nick Wavers; musicministry@stthomasredmond.com

Web page: www.stthomasredmond.com & **e-mail:** djensen@stthomasredmond.com

Pastor : fathertodd@stthomasredmond.com

WEEKLY SCHEDULE - HOLY MASSES:

Weekdays 8 AM

Wednesday 8AM, 10AM (Academy) and 6PM

Saturday 5:00PM Vigil (Not on Jan 1-10am only- see info inside)

First Saturday 8:00AM

Sunday 8AM, 10AM & 12Noon [Spanish]

CONFESSION:

Wednesdays at 4:00-5:45pm and Saturdays at 3:00 to 4:30pm or by appointment. No confession on Sat., Jan. 1.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Daily, from 8am-8pm

Friday, from 12Noon (24hrs) - closes at 12Noon on Saturday.

ROSARY:

Daily – At 7:25 am, Before 8:00am Daily Holy Mass

First Saturday – Before 8:00am Holy Mass; on the 22nd Day of the month for Respect for Life at 7:25 am

CANDLE INTENTIONS

+Alice Sizemore – Sacred Heart ~ 1/2 – 1/16

Linda Jones – Sacred Heart ~ 1/2 – 1/16

Maria Juarrieta – Immaculate Mary ~ 1/2 – 1/16

Connie De Leone – Immaculate Mary ~ 1/2 – 1/16

Tim Krugh – St. Joseph ~ 1/2 – 1/16

Bryce and Mary Jane Elliott – St. Joseph ~ 1/2 – 1/16

NEW PARISHIONERS:

Call the office to register between 9 AM and 5 PM, Monday-Friday @ 541-923-3390.

BAPTISMS: Parents of children to be baptized must be registered members of our parish. A Baptism preparation class is mandatory for both parents and godparents. For more information call the parish office at 541-923-3390. Baptismal paperwork must be completed and turned in at least 2 weeks prior to the date of Baptism.

To schedule a Baptismal Class in English or Spanish, please call the office 541.923.3390. Baptisms in English are scheduled the 3rd Saturday of the month @ Noon or by appointment. Baptisms in Spanish are scheduled the 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month.

QUINCEAÑERAS: Should make an appointment with Fr. Todd, six months before the proposed date. Preparation class from September-March is mandatory.

MARRIAGES: Couples planning to marry in this parish should call the office to make an appointment with the Pastor, Fr. Todd Unger, at least six months before the proposed date. Marriage Preparation course is mandatory.

CANDLE INTENTION OPPORTUNITIES: Parishioners may request that candles be lit in front of the Sacred Heart, Immaculate Mary and St. Joseph statues. Call the office for more details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS: Alice Sizemore and Tom Lakin

Parish Pastoral Council meets 2nd Wednesdays at 6:45pm (September-June)– Parish Center - Conference Room. (Parish Council Members: Fr. Todd Unger, Angie Ornelas, Faviola Soto, Scott Jackson, Anne Maloney, John Turlak, Marjorie Joll, Patricia Schulte)

Finance Council meets last Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm, Parish Center Conference Room

Knights of Columbus will meet on Monday, January 10, 7:00 pm in the Knights Room. Grand Knight: John Turlak

Altar Society will meet Monday, January 10, at 1:00 pm in the Altar Society Room. President: Marjorie Joll

St. Thomas Academy – SAC; 3rd Monday at 6pm. Principal: Patricia Schulte

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK
DECEMBER 31, 2021 – JANUARY 9, 2022**

DECEMBER 31, FRIDAY – OFFICE IS CLOSED
8:00AM+ROBERT BACA [INEZ BACA]
VIGIL OF THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, A HOLY DAY BUT NOT OF OBLIGATION
5:00PM+OWEN LARKIN [KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS]

JANUARY 1, SATURDAY – SOLEMNITY OF MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, A HOLY DAY BUT NOT OF OBLIGATION
10:00AM REVEREND NOBY THOMAS [PARISH OF ST. THOMAS]
NO 5:00PM VIGIL MASS FOR SUNDAY

JANUARY 2, SUNDAY
8:00AM OWEN HENRY WISE [DAVID & CAROLYN RIEGER]
10:00AM+MARION ANDERSON [RICHARD ANDERSON]
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

JANUARY 3, MONDAY
8:00AM+DANIEL BORCHARD [BILL AND GABRIELLA BORCHARD]
8:00AM JOHN AND NANCY TURLAK [+TOM LAKIN]

JANUARY 4, TUESDAY
8:00AM+MARION ANDERSON [RICHARD ANDERSON]
8:00AM+OWEN LARKIN [RON AND DONNA JENSEN]

JANUARY 5, WEDNESDAY
8:00AM+LAURENCE ST. ONGE [RYAN AND CINDY SALE]
10:00AM+RICHARD THORNE [JOANN AND ROGER RAU]
6:00PM AVAILABLE

JANUARY 6, THURSDAY
8:00AM+GARY KLEINFELDT [RYAN AND CINDY SALE]
8:00AM+GENE CALDWELL [RON AND DONNA JENSEN]

JANUARY 7, FIRST FRIDAY
8:00AM+BARBARA LEWIS [DON AND MARY LEHNERTZ]
8:00AM DON AND MARY LEHNERTZ [+TOM LAKIN]

JANUARY 8, SATURDAY
5:00PM+DR. RICHARD THORNE [ED AND PAM CHEENEY]

JANUARY 9, SUNDAY
8:00AM LEAH BICKETT [DAVID AND CAROLYN RIEGER]
10:00AM+ANN HAVELOCK [RAY HAVELOCK]
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

**MASS INTENTIONS THIS WEEK
JANUARY 8 – JANUARY 16, 2022**

JANUARY 8, SATURDAY
5:00PM+DR. RICHARD THORNE [ED AND PAM CHEENEY]

JANUARY 9, SUNDAY
8:00AM LEAH BICKETT [DAVID AND CAROLYN RIEGER]
10:00AM+ANN HAVELOCK [RAY HAVELOCK]
NOON ALL PARISHIONERS

JANUARY 10, MONDAY
8:00AM MIKE AND CHRIS BURK [+TOM LAKIN]
8:00AM+MARK CORBETT [ALAN AND BEV UNGER]

JANUARY 11, TUESDAY
8:00AM+STAN AND MIKE STURZA [PHYLLIS STURZA]
8:00AM LORRAINE ESPINOSA [ALTAR SOCIETY]

JANUARY 12, WEDNESDAY
8:00AM+BOB MEURER [RYAN AND CINDY SALE]
10:00AM+MIMI HARTMAN [JOHN HARTMAN]
6:00PM AVAILABLE

JANUARY 13, THURSDAY
8:00AM+SEAN DULAC [RYAN AND CINDY SALE]
8:00AM DOLLY LYLE [ALTAR SOCIETY]

JANUARY 14, FRIDAY
8:00AM+FRANCES McKEANEY [DAVID AND MARY GEENEN]
8:00AM+MARION ANDERSON [ALTAR SOCIETY]

JANUARY 15, SATURDAY
5:00PM+DR. RICHARD THORNE [SISTER FORTUNATA]

JANUARY 16, SUNDAY
8:00AM ALL PARISHIONERS
10:00AM+OWEN LARKIN [JOAN HAMMOND & NORM KNOTT]
NOON+JESUS HERRERA PADILLA [NORMA S. HERRERA]

**St. Vincent de Paul
Social Services**

The St. Vincent de Paul Social Services provides the following:

- Rent/mortgage assistance
- Utility assistance
- Propane vouchers

And a Giving Closet

- Clothing
- Household items
- Personal hygiene items
- Outdoor living equipment

Open Wednesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



**San Vicente de Paúl
Los Servicios Sociales**

Los Servicios Sociales de St. Vincent de Paul brindan lo siguiente:

- Asistencia de alquiler / hipoteca
- Asistencia con los servicios públicos
- Vales de propano

Y un armario de donaciones

- Ropa
- Artículos para el hogar
- Artículos de higiene personal
- Equipo de vida al aire libre

Albierito Miercoles y Jueves
10:00 am – 2:00 pm



DIOCESE OF BAKER PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS

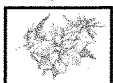


Throughout the Gospel, Christ calls upon His followers to care for the most vulnerable among us. Child Abuse Prevention month reminds us to be instruments of justice, working for the common good of all, which includes the protection of children. Report all allegations or incidents of sexual abuse by anyone against a minor immediately to the civil authorities to 1-855-503-SAFE (7233) Keep Oregon's Children Safe. After reporting abuse involving a minor to civil authorities please contact: Leah Bickett, Diocese of Baker, Safe Environment Coordinator, Email: leah@dioceseofbaker.org, Phone 541-388-4004. Reporting Misconduct (sexual or otherwise) involving clergy to adults: Very Rev. Richard O. Fischer, VG, Email: rfischer@dioceseofbaker.org, Phone: 541-891-9015. Reporting allegations against a priest, deacon or seminarian, please contact: Angelina Montoya, MD, Victim's Assistance Coordinator, Phone: 541-678-5652. Reporting Sexual Misconduct involving a Bishop please contact: Catholic Bishop Abuse Reporting Service (CBARS), Phone: 800-276-1562.



RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES: Knowledge of God, Jesus and the sacraments is a lifelong discipline. Catholics are lifetime learners. Help your children develop the habit of searching for the meaning of life and happiness by studying their Catholic faith within their parish community. Registration forms for Religious Ed are available on the welcome table in the church entry way as well as in the church office and online at our website.

K-5 Religion Education Class: Wednesdays 3:15-5:00 pm,
6-12 Youth Group: Social – 6:30-6:50pm; Class – 7:00 to 8:15pm, also on Wednesdays.



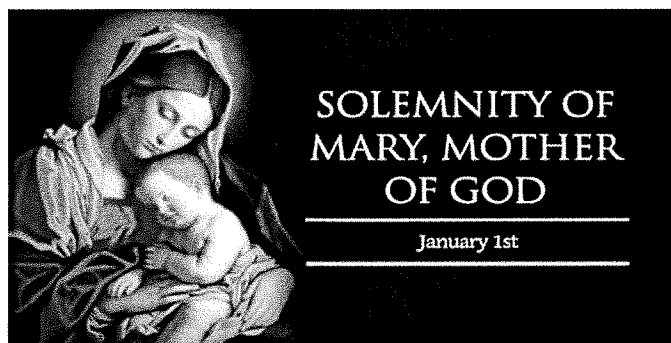
DECEMBER/JANUARY FLOWERS: Carol Mitchell



THE ST. THOMAS ACADEMY: See's Candy Sales will continue at the Academy until sold out.

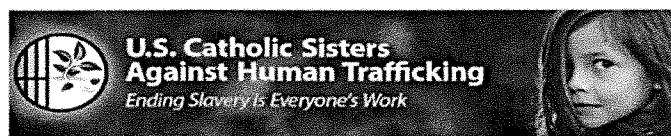


COFFEE AND DOUGHNUTS Sunday, January 9, and Sunday, January 23.

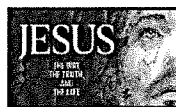


Saturday, January 1 – The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, is a **holy day but not of obligation**, and the only Mass to be celebrated this day is at 10:00 am. (There is a Vigil Mass on 12/31 at 5:00pm. The 8:00am Mass on the 31st is for the Seventh Day within the Octave of the Nativity of the Lord.)

Sunday, January 2 - **No vigil Mass at 5:00 pm on New Years Day;** 8:00 am; 10:00 am; Noon (Spanish language) only



JANUARY - RESPECT FOR THE DIGNITY OF PERSONS is a Principle of Catholic Social Teaching and one ignored by traffickers who treat persons as commodities. Join us in abolishing this horrific crime. U.S. Catholic Sisters Against Human Trafficking is a 501 c (3) organization, 2039 N Geyer Road, St. Louis, MO 63131 (sistersagainsttrafficking.org)



JESUS: THE WAY, THE TRUTH, AND THE LIFE: Jesus is our savior, our redeemer, our Lord, and our God. Our belief in Jesus is what makes us who we are as Catholics, as Christians, but do we really know him as we should? Is Jesus a part of your life, or is he at the center of your life as he should be? We invite you to make him the center of your life by joining us for *Jesus: The Way, the Truth, and the Life*, a 10-week video study program that explores the entirety of Jesus' and what he means for us as Catholics today. St Thomas will begin the *Jesus* study on January 6, 2022, at 7 pm in the fireside room. There is a possibility of other days and times becoming available. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation by Marcellino D'Ambrosio, Jeff Cavins, and Edward Sri, followed by a lively discussion and fellowship. For more information or to register, contact Charlotte Curtis at 541-279-9978 (if I am unable to answer my phone, please leave a message with your name and phone number I will call you back) or email me at caalec@outlook.com. We hope you will join us.



ALTAR SOCIETY will meet Monday, January 10, in the Altar Society Room at 1:00 pm.



3RD DEGREE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS will meet Monday, January 10, in the Knights of Columbus Room at 7:00pm. The next monthly breakfast will be Sunday, January 16, after the Sunday Masses.

4th Degree Knights will meet on Thursday, January 20, at 6:00pm at Abby's Legendary Pizza, 1938 S Hwy 97, Redmond.



REMEMBERING ROE V WADE:
THE RESPECT FOR LIFE MINISTRY AT ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: In light of a possible positive Supreme Court decision that could pave the way to overturn the Roe vs Wade decision, the Respect for Life Ministry would like to announce this year's 48th observance of the Roe vs Wade decision. A Respect for Life Rosary will be recited followed by the Pro-Life Mass celebrated by Bishop Cary. Fr. Jose will concelebrate. The event will be held at the 27th Church, 2450 NE 27th St., Bend on Saturday, January 22nd. The Rosary will start at 10 am, with the Mass at 10:30.

This Rosary/Mass could also be a time to give thanks for what might be the beginning of a new day in our country regarding the scourge of abortion. Either way, your attendance is greatly appreciated." Chris Simone, St. Francis Respect for Life Ministry

Please join **CENTRAL OREGON RIGHT TO LIFE** on Saturday, January 22, 2022, at Planned Parenthood on the sidewalk from 2:00-3:00 pm in Bend, Oregon. **CORTL** will have signs available for March for Life. Let us gather together as we join others across the Nation, remembering this horrific decision of Roe v Wade in 1973 and pray for our Nation to repeal it.

OREGON RETRouvaille

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

YOU CAN HELP YOUR MARRIAGE – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. This program has helped 10's of 1000's of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information or to register for the program beginning with a weekend on January 21-23, 2022 at Mount Angel Abbey Retreat House in Mount Angel, Oregon. See Helpourmarriage.org for more information. Retrouvaille is a Program to help couples improve their communication.

For more information please contact the community at portland@retrouvaille.org.



THE SAINT THOMAS BOOK CLUB is reading *The Imitation of Christ*, by Thomas à Kempis. This Christian devotional is a handbook for spiritual life arising from the Devotio Moderna movement, of which Kempis was a member. *The Imitation* is perhaps the most widely read devotional work next to the Bible. The text is divided into four books, which provide detailed spiritual instructions: "Helpful Counsels of the Spiritual Life," "Directives for the Interior Life," "On Interior Consolation," and "On the Blessed Sacrament." The book places a high level of emphasis on the devotion to the Eucharist as key element of spiritual life. **Discussion will be held on March 15, 2022 from 6:30 – 8:00pm.** Questions, Leah Bickett 541.884.4031. Available from Amazon and several other online vendors varied prices new & used. Ignatius Press \$16.95 1-800-651-1531.



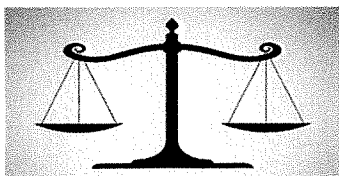
CENTRAL OREGON RIGHT TO LIFE: If anyone would like to join CORTL in prayer at planned parenthood, between 7:30- 8:30am on Fridays at 2330 NE Division Street, please contact Valerie skelton2017@gmail.com or ravenvegas76@gmail.com. See the diocesan chronicle for more information.



ST. THOMAS LENDING LIBRARY: DID YOU KNOW that the lending library in the hallway by the Fireside Room is open for borrowing by ALL parishioners? All the great Catholic authors and saints are there: St. Augustine, John Paul II, Mother Theresa, Scott Hahn, Matthew Kelly, Fulton Sheen, books on the Blessed Mother, the Sacraments, The Bible, and Theology. There are even DVDs and CDs. Take a look and take a book. Feel free to keep as long as necessary. **Anything on the bottom shelf is free to keep.**



WANT TO TRY ONLINE GIVING? Go to bottom of the home page at www.stthomasredmond.com and click on "ONLINE GIVING INFORMATION." Great resource!



What is a Tribunal?

The Office of Canonical Affairs and Matrimonial Tribunal is one Office of the Chancery of the Diocese of Baker. Its staff members are appointed by Bishop Cary and have received special training to represent him and the Church in judicial proceedings for marriage cases and matters of Canon law. Most of its work involves assisting divorced people who are interested in proving the nullity of a prior marriage bond, allowing them to remarry in the Church. More information about how this ministry serves members of the diocese can be found on our website, www.dioceseofbaker.org, under the heading Tribunal Office.



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Gift Shop Open The Gift Shop is once again open before and after the Saturday Vigil Mass and all Sunday Masses. If you prefer to make an appointment, call Laurel (English) at 541-788-9702 and leave a message. For Angelica (Spanish), call 541-480-8104..

Changes or Additions to Parish Records

- () I am a new parishioner and would like to register
- () I've moved ~ My new address, phone and email are shown below
- () I'm Moving. Please remove me from St. Thomas Parish
- () Please contact me regarding envelopes, online giving or parish directory

Name: _____

Address: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____



Annette Vardanega
Financial Advisor

413 NW Larch Ave. Ste. 203
Redmond, OR 97756
Bus. 541-548-1300 Fax 866-229-7019
annette.vardanega@edwardjones.com
www.edwardjones.com/annette-vardanega

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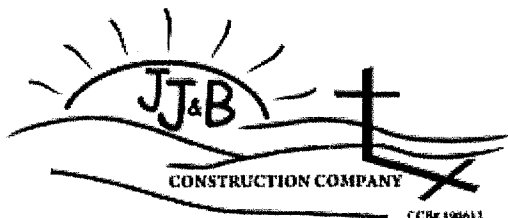


Jessica Torres-Baltazar
Financial Advisor (Se Habla Español)

153 SW 5th St. Suite 2
Redmond, OR 97756
Bus. 541-548-7474 Fax 877-222-4206
jessica.torres-baltazar@edwardjones.com
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Joshua 1:9
Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you.

541-279-3330

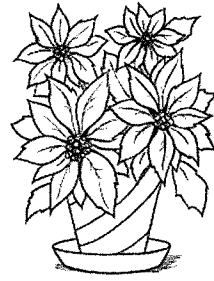
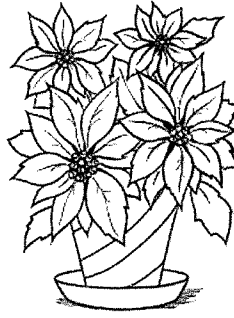
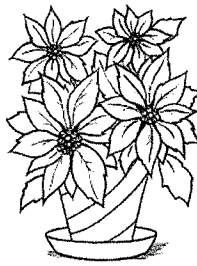
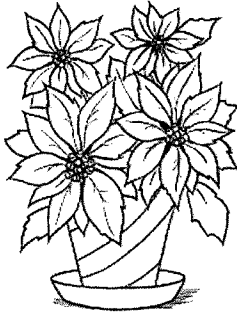
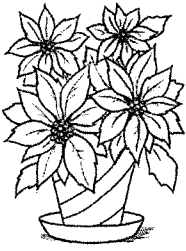


Todd Bailey
Licensed Agent

6001 East Royalton Rd. Ste 200
Cleveland Ohio 44147
440.922.5222

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Thank you for the generous donations for poinsettias for the Christmas decor. Because of the many contributions and limited space, we purchased as many as was deemed necessary to enhance our Christmas experience. The remaining dollars will be used to purchase Easter lilies.

St. Thomas Altar Society

Donations were received as follows:

In remembrance of — — —

Eileen Allumbaugh by Ed Allumbaugh

Bill & Nola Huft by Tom Brown

Martha Cacho by Carl & Julie Cacho

Chuck & Louise Cox by Bev Carlson

Eileen Evans by Karen Carter

Koll Family by Michelle Conner

Paul Donlan by Cheryl Donlan

Peter Fisher by Earl & Margaret Fisher

Marilyn Freres by Paul Freres

Swanson & Gifford Families by Ron & Beverly Gifford

Franco Regan by Patti Hanken

Mimi Hartman by John Hartman

Ann Havelock by Ray Havelock

Monica Wells by Catherine Hawk

Paul & Elizabeth Hedin, Dave Long by John & Lynette Hedin

Frank & Gloria Phillips by Jim & Phyllis Hinton

Tommye Iba ,Milan Julya, Regina Julya,Earl Iba by Huggins Family

Friends and Family by Lisa Johnson

(Over)

Mary Checkin by Mary Kincad
Owen Larkin by Becky Larkin
Patricia LaSalle by Emile & Helen LaSalle
Donald Lyle by Dolly Lyle
Janel Manley by Christine Manley
Todd Miller, Joseph Nelson & Gary Miller by Scott Miller
Our Mothers & Fathers by Don & Carol Mitchell
Bob Haak & Pat Carpenter by Craig & Barbi Monson
Members of the Neary & Bigos Families by Carol & Kevin Neary
Don & Genevieve Nesbit, Francis & Regina Blake by Janet & Fran Nesbit
Our Mothers Donna & Arlene by David & Jolene Patrick
Kieran & Shirley Madden by Margaret Rucker
St. Charles Healthcare Workers & Tom & MaryAnn Lakin by Nancy & John Turlok
Amelia Campos, Serafin & Magdalena Ulep Joshua Campos, Anthony Choy by
Modesto & Amelia Ulep
Jill Marie Walsh by Rob & Sharla Walsh
Les Fridley by Leslie Westendorf
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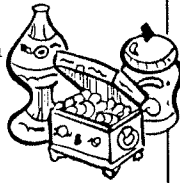
January 2022

St. Thomas Church
Rev. Todd Unger, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

Laying our gifts at the feet of the King

The three Wise Men gave Jesus gifts worthy of a king. We can also present Him with our own royal gifts. While ours may not be actual gold, frankincense, and myrrh, we can still give to Him the best we have. Give God the first and the best of what you have and He will give you more than you can imagine in return.



Fall in love with God

From the moment God created you, he has been deeply in love with you. He made you deliberately so he could love you. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jeremiah 1:5). He waits for you like a parent anticipates the return of a beloved child. Don't let Him wait long.

"But God, who is rich in mercy, because of the great love he had for us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, brought us to life with Christ" (Ephesians 2:4-5).



Who needs Jesus?

Many today say that they don't have a need for Jesus. They go to work, have homes, put food on their tables, raise families without His help. In fact, daily activities go on but the world can't really make sense without Him.

Truth. The truth is in Christ, "*in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge*" (Colossians 2:3). We cannot understand the truth without Him. To make sense of the world, we need Jesus to lead us.

Life. The life we have will eventually end. To keep living, we need Jesus. "*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father,*

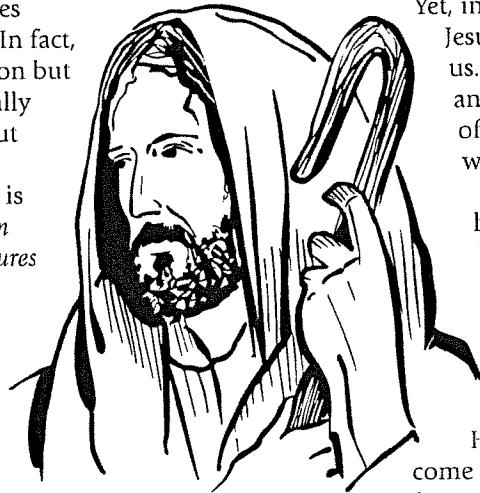
but by me" (John 14:6). Eternal life comes through Him.

Death. None of us escapes death. Yet, in the Resurrection, Jesus defeated death for us. It didn't hold Him and He offers the gift of life to each of us if we live in Him.

Sin. Even the holiest of us sins. Without Jesus, what becomes of us? He "*gave himself as a ransom for all*" (1 Timothy 2:6). If we don't accept

His price, our sins come back to us for eternity.

Suffering. Modern science can alleviate but not eliminate some of the world's suffering. Jesus provides comfort and healing to those who trust Him and surrender to Him.

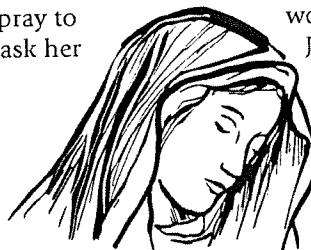


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Catholics don't pray to Mary, but instead ask her to pray for us. For example, the Hail Mary prayer asks the Mother of God to stay close to us in prayer. While we don't

Why do Catholics pray to Mary?

worship Mary, we honor her as Jesus' mother. On the Cross, Jesus gave her to us as our own mother (John 19:27). We can approach her with our needs and concerns and ask her to present them to Her Son. Mary always leads us to Him.



Three tips to boost your prayer

Prayer fuels our spiritual life, but praying effectively can be challenging. Even the saints had dry spells. Among these was the mystic and Carmelite reformer, St. Teresa of Avila. Try these suggestions from her to enliven your prayer:

Become aware of God's presence. It may feel as if God is distant, but He is so close. St. Teresa began by enjoying God's nearness. Know that He is with you and wants your company.

Bring a good book. St. Teresa, who struggled with dryness in prayer, kept a book with her. Scripture,



Lives of the Saints, or a book about the Faith can help us focus and spark conversation with Him.

Be honest. It is said that St. Teresa once fell into the mud and told God bluntly, "If this is how you treat your friends, no wonder you have so few of them!" God wants to you to share all your experiences with Him – good and bad. Entrust your cares to Him and "Do whatever he tells you" (John 2:5).

from Scripture

Luke 4:21-30, God's will is unexpected

In this Gospel, Jesus returns to Nazareth after launching His public ministry. He announced He is the Messiah of Isaiah's prophecy. But then comes a twist: Jesus recounts a time when great prophets were sent to call Israel to repentance and were ignored and persecuted.

The response of faith God was looking for in His Chosen People was found elsewhere, in the Gentiles. Jesus' listeners doubted that He was really the Messiah and were deeply insulted at being reminded that "foreigners" had received God's favor instead of them. In anger, they threw Jesus out of the synagogue and tried to

cast Him off a cliff. He passed unharmed through their midst.

God's will can surprise us. For example, He willed that the Messiah-King be a local carpenter. God's favor extended beyond the Chosen People to include Gentiles, who were

considered outsiders. Sometimes, we assume we know how God works, and lose faith when He does something that seems illogical. We can pray for the faith to see Jesus as He really is and trust Him, even if He does the unexpected.



Feasts & Celebrations

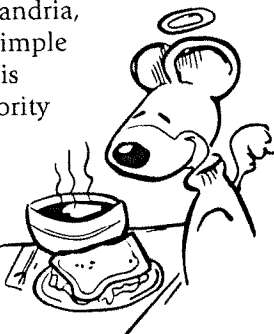
Jan. 1 – Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. When we celebrate this feast, we honor Mary, and also Jesus, as true God and true Man.

Jan. 9 – Baptism of the Lord. Jesus began his public ministry by getting baptized by St. John the Baptist. The Heavens opened up and God the Father spoke, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17).

Jan. 14 – St. Macrina the Elder (340). St. Macrina was related to St. Basil the Elder and St. Macrina the

Younger. She and her husband were forced to flee during the Diocletian persecutions and endured many hardships. After her return, she helped raise her grandchildren Saints Gregory of Nyssa and Basil the Great.

Jan. 23 – St. John the Almsgiver (616). Despite being a noble and the Patriarch of Alexandria, St. John lived a simple life and put all his wealth and authority to good use by serving the poor and aiding refugees in his diocese.



Q & A Can you suggest a New Year's resolution to grow in Holiness?

All Christians are called to holiness. "Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). There are three tools on which every Catholic can rely to attain greater holiness.



Daily prayer. God meets us in a very real and present way when we come to him in prayer. Start in the morning and pray throughout the day.

Weekly Mass. The Mass is a sacrifice and a meal. We receive Jesus' body and blood as real food for our souls. He said, "For my flesh is food indeed, and my blood is drink indeed. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him" (John 6:55-56). That's why we call it, "Communion."

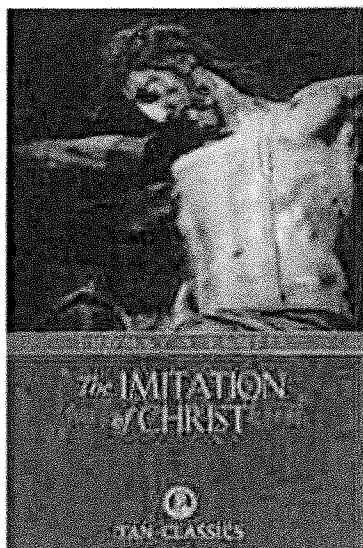
Monthly Confession. Jesus created the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (Confession) because he knew we would stray. He also knew we would want to come back. Frequent participation in this Sacrament sharpens our sense of sin, holds us accountable for our errors, and gives us the grace to keep trying for holiness.

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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible)



The Imitation of Christ by Thomas Kempis

The average reader will spend **3 hours and 39 minutes** reading this book at 250 WPM (words per minute). This book's description is not available on Reading Length.

The Imitation of Christ by Thomas à Kempis is a Christian devotional book. It was first composed in Latin ca.1418-1427. It is a handbook for spiritual life arising from the Devotio Moderna movement, of which Kempis was a member. The Imitation is perhaps the most widely read devotional work next to the Bible, and is regarded as a devotional and religious classic. Its popularity was immediate, and it was printed 745 times before 1650. Apart from the Bible, no book has been translated into more languages than the Imitation of Christ. The text is divided into four books, which provide detailed spiritual instructions: "Helpful Counsels of the Spiritual Life", "Directives for the Interior Life", "On Interior Consolation" and "On the Blessed Sacrament". The approach taken in the Imitation is characterized by its emphasis on the interior life and withdrawal from the world, as opposed to an active imitation of Christ by other friars. The book places a high level of emphasis on the devotion to the Eucharist as key element of spiritual life.

Discussion date March 15, 2022 6:30-8:00 PM

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Remembering Roe v Wade



Please join **Central Oregon Right to Life**
on Saturday, January 22, 2022
at Planned Parenthood on the sidewalk
from 2:00-3:00 pm in Bend, OR.
CORTL will have signs available for
March for Life.

Let us gather together as we join others across the Nation,
remembering this horrific decision of
Roe v Wade in 1973 and pray for our Nation to repeal it.



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