



## 30<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see." Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you." Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way. - Mk 10:51-52

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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### **MASS:**

**Wednesday 9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday 9:00 a.m.**

### **Parish Pastoral Council:**

**Chris Bonacci; Shawna Bonacci; Andrea Neff; Eddie Odom; Amy Pollice; Joe Vivacqua; Tony Winterburn**

**Carmen Roebke– Compliance Officer  
330-792-3829 Ext. 108**

**Dominic Colucy– Victim Assistance  
Coordinator**

**330-744-8451 Ext. 293**

**[dcolucy@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:dcolucy@youngstowndiocese.org)**

## *Serving At The Altar*

Perhaps you have noticed in our bulletin where this parish is in need of altar servers. "In need of" puts it mildly. We currently have only a handful of persons filling that role.

It's interesting how reluctant many folks are to step forward to serve. This is certainly not a difficult role to learn. Many grade school servers begin in the fifth grade. The skills needed are important but basic. The real challenge in serving involves learning to do so with grace and reverence, so that while one is around the altar, one's presence is barely noticed because one is not doing anything to draw attention to oneself. The rudiments of serving are easy to learn; becoming a server whose presence reflects a sense of the holy takes time. In our parish, David McClain is the server who best exemplifies this combination of skills and reverence, as he has for a long time.

Serving at the altar is a special privilege. I was fortunate to start in fifth grade and served regularly through eighth grade in my parish, then more sporadically in high school but fairly often through the years in various dioceses at daily Mass. Years ago, there were always plenty of youngsters able to step in and serve on Sundays. Later, as parishes closed and too many parents stopped bringing their children to Mass regularly, the number of trained available servers dwindled dramatically.

For most of us who started serving in the early 1960s, it is fascinating to see how what is expected of servers now has changed. Back then, we wore black cassocks and white lace surplices; all of us wore highly polished black shoes. Tennis shoes? Unthinkable! You didn't wear them into such a holy site. You dressed as if you knew God was there.

Another major difference was that, in the 1960s, it took weeks of rigorous practices under the watchful eye of an Ursuline nun before any of us were deemed fit to serve even the simplest daily Mass. Such discipline was possible because there were so many boys waiting and eager to join the ranks of servers. It was seen as a real privilege to be chosen for that role. Today it would surprise me if many of today's more sophisticated youngsters would put up with such a training regimen. It would pull them away from hours at their various devices.

Here's the question: Who will step forward here to embrace this important ministry?

— Lou Jacquet

## *Faith Formation Series Highlights*

Father John Jerek continued his Fall Faith Formation Series Oct. 16 with more insights into what the Catholic Church in America was like in its first centuries. Worth noting:

— In 1770, there were 50,000 Catholics in the 13 colonies served by 25 priests; today we are 25% of the nation's population

— Famous "Catholic Haters" included Cotton Mather, who established Harvard, and Samuel Adams, brewer

— John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and George Washington "were champions of religious freedom"... "we were not founded as a Christian nation"

— One Roman Catholic was a signer of the Declaration of Independence; also signed by 32 Anglicans, 13 Congregationalists, 12 Presbyterians, 2 Quakers, 2 Unitarians

— Despite bitter anti-Catholicism prevalent, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, a Catholic, was the nation's richest man in 1775, owning 100,000 acres

— The Puritans (United Church of Christ now, with Congregationalist roots) settled in New England and passed strict anti-Catholic laws. Ironically, this is the most Catholic area of the present USA

— The Calvinists, who were elitist and believed most people would be damned, believed in predestination of the Elect, "an exclusive club for the saved"; had an important influence on beliefs that shaped our national thinking

— John Locke, "the philosopher behind our Constitution," believed that rights were at the center of society and religious toleration was necessary, but there should be none for Catholics.

### **Sunday, October 27**

**9:00 a.m.** Fr. Bill Loveless by Sue Desko

### **Wednesday, October 30**

**9:00 a.m.** Norman and Sandra Cappite

by Greg, Norman and Vince Cappite

### **Sunday, November 3**

**9:00 a.m.** Nancy D'Amico by Family

### **Please Pray For Our Sick**

**Phil Conti, Tiffini Joy, Mary Pavlak, Beverly Detate, Sr. Marjorie Haidet, Frank Lightner, Michelle Smith, Ken Mains, David Deihl, Barbara Bonninsegna, Mary Beth Celio, Fr. Richard Brobst, Charles Slivkoff, Harold and Debra Brown, Rita Thomas**

**Pray for the Faithful Departed**  
**Virginia Homick**



## *Centennial Publication A Work in Progress*

J.R.R. Tolkien wrote "The Lord of the Rings" over a 17-year period. Margaret Mitchell went through nine drafts of her hefty book "Gone With the Wind" in a decade. Michael Crichton was halfway through writing "Sphere" when he abandoned it for 20 years – and then finished it in two months.

Will the St. Brendan centennial publication join the list of books that took the longest time to be written? No, dear parishioners. We strive to mimic Crichton's conclusion in sending it to print.

Centennial book committee members have navigated through personal challenges this year. The final line of the Prayer of St. Brendan — O Christ, will you help me on the wild waves? — has been very meaningful to us. We humbly thank you for your patience.

Despite the delay, the final product will be better. We have continued to receive valuable information about this beloved parish. For example, a friend recently shared some memorabilia from the St. Brendan School Class of 1947, which included her father. Among the items was a story in which a pair of students

imagined the future lives of their classmates.

We also needed to correct some historical stories that we shared last year in the weekly bulletin. It is important that this publication is as accurate as possible, for the benefit of future generations. Case in point: In my review of events of the 1980s, I mentioned a church-centric clown ministry called the Holy Fools. Information was sparse, and some participants' names were omitted. Thankfully, Fred and Shirley Merlo filled in some gaps, as Shirley's brother was a participant.

Our centennial book won't be as thick as "Gone With the Wind." It will be a great read, because it is about a century of faith, education, fellowship and service. Since the earliest days of this parish, our members have done amazing work in the name of God and the spirit of Brendan the Navigator. It is an honor to be involved in this project.

We will publicize the availability of the book in this bulletin and on social media. Good St. Brendan, sail with us to the print shop and beyond.

—Debora Flora

## *Sunday's Scriptures: Are we like Bartimeus?*

The readings for the 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time are from Jeremiah 31: 7-9; Hebrews 5: 1-6; Gospel of Mark 10:46-52.

The history of Israel gives us a spiritual road map of our lives. The Old Testament stories show us a pattern. Israel is called not because they are good or special but because the God who created them chooses them to be a people who will live life intimately with Him. Their days, complete with ritual and prayer, are lived to trust in Him and glorify Him.

In our first reading, part of this spiritual road map is revealed. Israel had fallen into their usual sin of adjusting themselves to the culture around them. They had made compromises to the world and forsaken the uniqueness of their calling to the one true God. They compromised their beliefs with those around them. As a result, they were conquered, uprooted, and forced to live in exile. They were disciplined by God. Now God reveals to Jeremiah that God has remembered His covenant and they are being restored. The pattern is complete. Israel sins through compromises and false worship. Israel

is punished and God forgives and restores.

In our Gospel, Jesus sees and hears the blind man Bartimeus, who cries out, "Son of David, have pity on me." Jesus stops and calls Bartimeus to come to Him. He spends intimate time with him by asking him what he desires. The blind man responds, "Master, I want to see."

The call of Jesus and gift he gives Bartimeus is complete. Bartimeus is not only given physical eyesight but, with the gift of faith, he beholds the face of Jesus. Recognizing Jesus as his Master and Lord, he follows Him. Restoration of sight is complete.

If we examine our conscience, many of us follow the pattern of Israel. At Baptism and with our First Communion we had zeal to follow Jesus. But as time goes on we accommodate ourselves more to the teachings of our culture than to the difficult teachings of Jesus. We do not follow Jesus as fully as Bartimeus did. We have been called and chosen. Do we live out the call with more than superficial lip service?

— Geri Jacquet

## *Election Day Bake Sale*

Bakers and workers are needed for an Election Day Bake Sale on Tuesday Nov. 5, with proceeds to benefit St. Brendan Parish.

All types of baked goods are acceptable, and need to be dropped off on Monday Nov. 4 at Maxwell Hall between 5-7 p.m.

Anyone able to help with the actual sale on Nov. 5, please call Tony Winterburn at 330-540-1531.

## *Drive-Thru Turkey Dinner Offered*

St. Brendan's will offer a Drive-Thru or Dine-In Turkey Dinner on Sunday, Nov. 3 after the 9 a.m. Mass. Chef Christopher Bonacci will prepare the meal which includes turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet potatoes, corn and dessert. A freewill offering will be asked.

The parish is currently seeking volunteers to bake desserts and help with distribution of the meal.

## *Ursuline to Give Placement Test*

Ursuline High School will administer its placement and scholarship test on Saturday, November 2 and on Saturday, December 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the school cafeteria. There is no charge for the test. Students should bring two #2 pencils and a bottle of water. Dress is casual. All students who wish to be considered for admission to Ursuline High School must take the test. Register at [www.ursuline.com/rsvp](http://www.ursuline.com/rsvp).

Questions? Please contact Assistant Principal, Maggie Damore, at [mdamore@youngstowndiocese.org](mailto:mdamore@youngstowndiocese.org).

## **Your Sacrificial Offering**

Amount needed monthly to meet expenses

For October 2024 **\$29,440.00**

### **Week of October 20, 2024**

Sunday Collection	\$2,525.00
Increased Operating Exp.	\$15.00
Rentals	\$1,050.00
Maint. Support	\$1,110.00
Total	\$4,700.00

**3 week total \$15,120.00 toward the goal of \$29,440.00**

**\$14,320.00 short**

**WE COUNT MEMBERS BECAUSE MEMBERS COUNT**

**Mass 9 a.m.**

**10/20- 102**



### *RECTORY*

2800 Oakwood Avenue  
Youngstown, OH 44509-2002  
Phone: 330-792-3875 Fax: 330-792-9080

### *MISSION STATEMENT*

*We are called to be  
disciples, faithful to Jesus  
and empowered by the Spirit.  
We are committed to building the kingdom of  
God by living the Gospel,  
celebrating the sacraments  
and loving our neighbor as ourselves.*

### *PARISH STAFF*

#### **Pastor**

Father John Jerek

#### **Parochial Vicar**

Father Stephen Zeigler

#### **Deacons**

Ron Layko

Mark Kiraly

#### **Parish Office Manager**

Jackie Niznik

Ext.10

Email: [office@stbrendanyo.org](mailto:office@stbrendanyo.org)

Music Director

Geri Jacquet

Assistant Music Director

Allyson Reed

*MASS Sunday 9:00am*

*Wednesday 9:00am*





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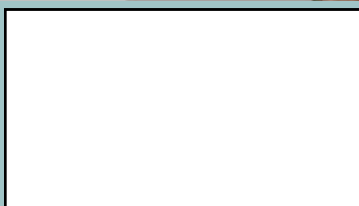
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