

St. John the Baptist CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Corner of E. Lincoln
and Hamlet Streets*

Church Mailing Address:
168 E. Lincoln Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215-1534

(614) 294-5319

Fax: (614) 294-4303

E-mail: info@sjbitaliana.org

**Msgr. Frank P. Lane,
Parochial Administrator**

*(National Italian Parish ~
Est. 1896)*

MASSES/MESSE:

Sunday: 9:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist

Monday & Tuesday: 9:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist

WEEKDAYS AND HOLY DAYS:

(See Mass Schedule inside Bulletin)

PARISH OFFICE/STAFF:

Aggie Howard, Bookkeeper, ahoward@sjbitaliana.org

Victoria Gammell, Secretary, St. John the Baptist

Office Hours, St. John the Baptist:

Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Administration of both parishes is done through the office at St. John the Baptist – 168 E. Lincoln Street. Requests for copies of sacramental records, scheduling of Masses and other sacramental celebrations, hall rental and other non-emergency needs should be made during regular office hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org. Please notify the Parish Office of any changes, such as address or telephone, etc., by calling during regular hours or email info@sjbitaliana.org.

BULLETIN DEADLINE:

Announcements must be submitted in writing by Tuesday at noon.

MUSIC MINISTRY:

Gina M. Bishop, Music Director

John C. Huffman, Organist

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We welcome you into our Parish Families.

Membership in the parish consists of two parts:

Registration: Please fill out form and return to Office.

Participation: As a member of the Church, you are accepting the responsibility of weekly worship as well as supporting God's work here through giving of yourself, your time and talents, and a worthy Sunday offering to show your love for God and your gratitude for His many favors.

RECONCILIATION/CONFESSIONE:

One half-hour prior to weekend Mass or by request/appointment.

BAPTISM/BATTESIMO:

Preparation is required for the reception of the sacrament.

Parents are encouraged to call the Rectory and set up an appointment before the birth of their child.

MATRIMONY/MATRIMONIO:

Arrangements should be made at least six or more months in advance. A marriage preparation program is required.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK/INFIRMI:

In cases of emergencies, please call anytime. Please notify the Parish Office for Communion calls to the sick, shut-ins. Due to privacy laws, if parishioners wish to be visited in the hospital, they should contact the Parish Office directly and give the information regarding the hospitalization. **If you are scheduled for surgeries or other medical procedures**, please contact the Parish Office in advance so that a priest can administer Anointing of the Sick prior to the procedure.

A Night in Verona

Dinner and Dance

Monday, October 2, 2023

Additional information inside this bulletin



COLUMBUS ITALIAN FESTIVAL

Friday, **October 6**, 5:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Saturday, **October 7**, 12:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Sunday, **October 8**, 12:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.

Web Site: www.columbusitalianfestival.com

Adam Montemarano – Executive Director

Festival Information: 614-BY ITALY (614-294-8259)

ITALIAN FESTIVAL 2023

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Italian Catholic Church

Dear Friends in Christ,

We have two major events for which we are preparing. Our **Parish Religious Education** program will begin on September 24. There are registration forms at the back of both churches. Please keep checking the bulletin for more information.

October 6-8 is the **Columbus Italian Festival** in our neighborhood. **Jeremy Polk** has volunteered to lead the car parking at **Sacred Heart**. This is a major fundraiser for **Sacred Heart**, so we need as many volunteers as we can get.

The festival also needs volunteers from both parishes. I ask the parishioners of **St. John** who may not yet be involved to consider helping and encourage parishioners at **Sacred Heart** to seriously consider pitching in as volunteers for this major **Catholic** neighborhood event. There will be sign-up sheets available soon.

The Josephinum has asked if we would accept a seminarian for the year to help in our parishes. I told them I thought that could be helpful for us and for him. They have asked us to welcome **Brother Zachary Feldker, CPM**. **Brother Zachary** is in **third** year theology at the **Josephinum** so he will be ordained a deacon this coming **March**. He is a member of the religious community of the **Fathers of Mercy**. His superior at the **Josephinum** is **Father Victor Moratin, CPM** who has offered to help with **Masses** here when it is possible for him. I think this will be a great opportunity for us to be a little more flexible on weekends and get some new perspectives on the life of the **Church**.

Have a blessed week!
Msgr. Frank Lane

The **Mass** is available on **St. John's Facebook** page or **YouTube** channel, **Saint John the Baptist, Cbus**. Go to our **website: www.sjitaliana.com** under **Livestream Mass**.

MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

Sunday 9/3	9:30 a.m.	+ Laura Giammarco Cua by Michael Cua
	11:00 a.m. at SH	+ Antonio Caradonna by Mr. & Mrs. Melchionna
Monday 9/4	9:00 a.m.	NO MASS LABOR DAY
Tuesday 9/5	9:00 a.m.	+ Mary Lou Palma by Her Wonderful Friends
Sunday 9/10	9:30 a.m.	+ Mary E. Pishitelli & + Sally Byrne by Phillip & Judy Pishitelli
Monday 9/11	9:00 a.m.	+ Brian Adkins by McCallum Family
Tuesday 9/12	9:00 a.m.	+ Mary Lou Palma by Louise Masdea

Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Joyce Tisone

by Carl Tisone

Blessed Sacrament: Phylis Mayle

by Chris Soteriades

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR KNOWN ILL AND ELDERLY IN YOUR PRAYERS**

If you know of any additions or corrections, please call the parish office. Due to privacy laws, we depend on your input. For **Vienna D'Alberto who is residing at the **Worthington Christian Village**. Also, keep in your prayers, **Laura Williams, Guy Williams, and John Contino**.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Sunday	Sunday, September 3, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Landa Brunetto, Nick Sciarretti
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	Antonio D'Alberto, Kurt Heining, Al Iosue, Margaret Panico-Harn, Gretchen Heining
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	
Sunday	Sunday, September 10, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Lector 1 & 2:	Gretchen Heining, Davide Cugini,
Eucharistic Minister 1 & 2:	Ed Pagnanelli, Pat Rossetti, AnnMarie Pastore, Sharon D'Alberto, Andrea Myers
Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:	

The Rosary before Mass on Sunday: We begin the **Rosary** around **9:00-9:05 a.m.**, and it takes about **15-20** minutes to pray the Rosary. If you would like information on how to lead the Rosary, please contact **Kevin Koesters** at **937-902-7446** or via email **k.koesters32@gmail.com**. Leaders for **September** are:

September 3	Gary Bosco
September 10	Gary Bosco
September 17	Albert Iosue
September 24	Gary Bosco

125 YEAR CELEBRATION OF OUR CHURCH – Sunday, September 17, St. John the Baptist Italian Catholic Church is celebrating **125 years!** Join us as we commemorate this wonderful milestone! We will begin with a procession around the church, including our beloved **St. John the Baptist** and the **Italian Concert Band**. During **Mass**, you will hear some of the original hymns and songs that were sung at the first **Mass**. After **Mass** is over, join us for a fabulous reception of music and food in both **Sala** and **Marrapese Halls!**

Future Italian Festival Meetings for 2023

Date	Executive Board	General
September 18	6:00 p.m.	
September 25	5:30 p.m.	6:30 p.m.

"A Night in Verona" Dinner and Dance – Please join us as we "kick off" the Start of our **Columbus Italian Festival** week by celebrating with a dinner and dance at **The Berwick on Monday, October 2, 2023**, from **6:00 to 10:00 p.m.** **\$50.00/person** includes a fabulous Italian dinner and spectacular Italian music by **Ray Massa's EuroRhythms!** ALL tickets **MUST** be purchased **IN ADVANCE!** You can reserve tables of ten (**10**) for **\$500.00**. For tickets, see **Margaret Panico-Harn** or **Carol Ristucci** after **Sunday Mass** in **Sala Hall** or by contacting **Aggie Howard** in the parish office during the week at **614-294-5319**. All tickets **MUST** be purchased by **Monday, September 25** as **NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR!** Each ticket purchased will also be good for a **ONE-DAY** free admission into the **Columbus Italian Festival**.

ITALIAN FESTIVAL NEWS

Dear Columbus Italian Festival LOVERS, we invite you to be part of the cultural tent presenters, it is open to all. IF you need demonstration ideas: **Risotto – Polenta** – or tales about **Prosecco**. Catch **Landa** at: 614-579-1150 or Landa7@mac.com. **GRAZIE!**

Confessions Heard before Mass
Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Parli Italiano? Have you ever wanted to learn to speak Italian? Are you planning a trip to **Italy**, or are you interested in learning the **Italian** language? Here's your opportunity! Join us on **Sunday** mornings from **11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.** in **Marrapese Hall** for **Italian language** classes, taught by our very own **Maria Lucchin!**

This fun-filled, eight-week session runs from **September 10** through **November 12** (no classes on **September 17** due to the **Church's 125th-anniversary** celebration and **October 8** during the **Italian Festival**). These are basic conversational **Italian** language classes for **adults, 18 years** and older. The cost is determined by the number of students. To sign up, contact: **Ida Shook** at shook4@gmail.com or **Tania Wade** at t.wade73@gmail.com. **Come learn la Bella lingua Italiana... Ciao!** 🇮🇹

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

9/3 Sunday	<u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u> 9:30 a.m. <u>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – Meeting in Sala Hall – 12:00-3:00 p.m.</u> <u>San Giovanni Dancers Practice – Marrapese Hall</u> 3:30-5:00 p.m.
9/4 Monday	<u>Office Closed – NO MASS</u> <u>NO Rotary Club Meeting</u>
9/5 Tuesday	<u>SJB – Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u> 9:00 a.m. <u>Piave Club & St. John's Faith Sharing – Marrapese Hall at 6:30 p.m.</u>
9/8 Friday	<u>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim</u> at 7:00 p.m. – SJB Church
	<u>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</u>
	<u>Le Donne Group Meetings are the last Sunday of each month after Mass in Marrapese Hall. There are no meetings in June or July.</u>

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION: Registration for our newly formed **Sunday school classes** will continue to be held during the weekends of **September 3, 10, and 17**. All classes will be held at **St. John**. Forms can be found at the entrances of both **St. John** and **Sacred Heart** parishes (In time, forms will be posted on both parish websites). Please complete the form and drop it in the collection basket at either parish, or give it to **Sharon Curtin, DRE**, who will be on hand after the **9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass, September 3**, at **St. John the Baptist Church**, to answer any questions. The first class will be **September 24** (This is a date change!) regardless of the number of students who are registered. Grandchildren of grandparents are welcome if the grandparents are registered at either parish. The class begins right after the **9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass** and will last **45** minutes. **Please meet me in the Library, upstairs.** If you are willing to assist as a teacher or an aide, please call **Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405**. We cannot have this program without teachers. Assistance with lesson plans, which are provided in the teacher's manual, will always be provided, so please do not doubt yourself. The program needs you!

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S
August 27, 2023
Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 42

Env:	\$ 1,670.00
Loose:	\$ 379.00
Total	\$ 2,049.00
Less Diocesan 8% Assessment	\$ -(163.92)
	\$ 1,885.08
Votives	\$ 56.00
Total	\$ 56.00

AROUND US

Liturgical Calendar: **September** falls during the liturgical season of **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. **Green** is a symbol of hope, as it is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The month of **September** is dedicated to **Our Lady of Sorrows**, whose memorial the **Church** celebrates on **September 15**.

The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of September 2023: **For people living on the margins:** *We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.*

Bottoms Up Diaper Drive: Did You Know? Families are considered to have diaper need when they cannot afford a supply of diapers adequate for changing at healthy intervals. Diaper need is a public health issue that threatens child health, maternal health, and household income. Half of all households in the **U.S.** with young children in diapers experience diaper need. For more information, and ways you can help, visit www.bottomsup.life.

Catholic Social Services: Call for Help: Disaster Response: Devastating wildfires on the island of **Maui** have killed over **one hundred** people and caused thousands more to evacuate. Please donate today to help bring relief to those suffering and displaced. To donate, go to: <https://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org>.

?? ?? HOW IS ST. JOHN'S DOING? ?? ??

Budgeted Offertory for Fiscal Year (7/1/23-6/30/24)

	Budgeted	Actual	Difference (\$)	(%)
This Wk.:	\$3,000.04	\$2,049.00	-\$951.04	-32%
FYTD:	\$27,000.36	\$28,224.66	\$1,224.30	5%

SJB Collection Counters for Tuesday, September 5, 2023

Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard

SJB Collection Counters for Monday, September 11, 2023

Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard



Office Hours: Parish Office Hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Office will be closed Monday, September 4, in Observance of Labor Day and resume Tuesday, September 5 at 9:00 a.m.

YOUR OFFERTORY IS A GIFT TO GOD: If your **Offertory** is not made electronically, please use your parish **Offertory** envelope to thoughtfully, prayerfully choose your gift. In addition, filling out an envelope or electronic statement helps us keep track of who is actively registered at our parish.

Saturday with the Sisters: Girls, grades 8-12, are invited to “Saturday with the Sisters” on **Saturday, September 23, 2023**, at the **St. Dominic Convent (2575 E. Livingston Avenue)**. The day will include breakfast, **Mass**, Adoration, lunch, and a talk by **Fr. Thomas Blau, O.P.** called “**All About Angels.**” Admission is free, but donations will be accepted to go toward the cost of food. Please **RSVP** at saturdaywithsisters@gmail.com. Sponsored by the **Serra Clubs of Columbus and North Columbus**.

ST. MARY MAGDALENE CHURCH ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION: Notre Dame Football: St. Mary Magdalene of Columbus is sponsoring a one-day bus trip to **Louisville, Kentucky** for the **Notre Dame vs. Louisville** football game on **Saturday, October 7**. Cost is **\$239.00 per person** which includes: Bus ticket, sandwiches, snacks, soft drinks. Children accompanied by a parent are welcome. Only fifty spots available. If you are interested, contact **Julius Palazzo** at Jmpalazzo@juno.com or **614-946-5729**.

Jubilee of Anniversaries
— A CELEBRATION OF THE DIOCESE OF COLUMBUS —
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
St. John Neumann in Sunbury
MASS AT 2:30 PM
RECEPTION TO FOLLOW

marriage family life

Birthright of Columbus, Inc.: Birthright of Columbus – Please join us at Mozart’s, 4784 N. High Street, for lunch on **Saturday, September 23, 2023**, at **11:00 a.m.** Lunch tickets are **\$50.00** for adults and **\$20.00** for children. There will be a silent auction and raffle. Please contact Sue Wilson for tickets at **614-313-5150**. Columbusohmain@birthright.org Send checks to **5548 Parkshire Drive, Columbus, OH 43229**. Thank you for your continued support of Birthright of Columbus.

Support Learning in Our Catholic Schools with a Donation to Tools for Schools! Every year, teachers in the **Catholic** schools in the **Diocese of Columbus** spend hundreds of dollars of their own money to equip their classrooms with basic supplies for students or to purchase special items to make learning fun and relevant. The **Tools for Schools** program helps lessen these out-of-pocket costs for our educators so they can focus on what matters most for students – exceptional academics, service to others, and teaching them what it means to be a child of **God**. To make a donation, visit www.columbuscatholicgiving.org/tools-for-schools. You also may send a check to: **Office of Catholic Schools, ATTN: Tools for Schools, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215**. Thank you for your support!



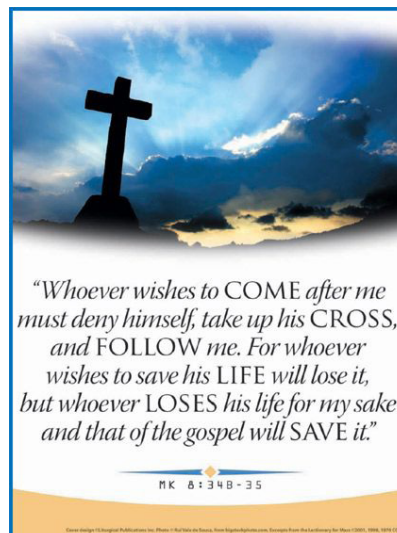
EARLY FALL RETREAT! Spend time this fall enriching your relationship. Experience a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus only on each other. Make 2023 the best year of your marriage by applying today! **The next weekend is September 8-10, 2023, in the Central Ohio area.** For more information or to apply, visit our website at WWMEcolumbus.org or contact **Paul and Marilou Clouse** at **614-834-6880**. Early registration is highly recommended.

BLUE MASS: Monday, September 11 at 5:00 p.m. at St. Timothy Church, 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus, OH 43220. St. Timothy Church and St. Timothy Knights of Columbus Council 14345 will host The **Blue Mass**. The **Blue Mass** is an opportunity to honor and pray for all active, retired, and deceased police, firefighters, and emergency medical services. In addition, it is an occasion to remember the **2,973** who lost their lives in the **September 11, 2001**, terrorist attacks. All active and retired police, fire, and emergency medical services in the greater **Columbus** area, and their families are invited. The **Celebrant and Homilist** for The **Blue Mass** will be **The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus**. The following is the live stream link for the **2023 Blue Mass** <https://www.sttimchurch.org/livestream-mass>.

Today’s Gospel: The **Gospel** is from **Matthew 16:21-27**. This daily carrying of our **Christian** cross can be, and is for many, a prolonged martyrdom. Poverty, ill-health, cruelty, and hardheartedness met with in the home and in one’s neighbors, are heavy crosses to bear. But, if we were offered health, happiness, peace, wealth, and power for the next fifty or seventy years on this earth, in exchange for an eternal heaven after death, what rational one among us would accept that offer? **Christians** know that this life is a period of training, and every trainee knows that one must endure certain hardships and sufferings to merit graduation into one’s chosen profession or trade. On our **Christian** graduation day, we shall, please **God**, hear the welcome words: “**Well done good and faithful servant; because you have been faithful in small things, I will trust you with greater, come and join in your Master’s happiness**” (Mt. 25: 21).
— Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings* by Fr. Kevin O’Sullivan, O.F.M.

“Jesus does not want to be an important person from past history, but for you today; not a distant prophet, but the God who is near.” @Pontifex

Prayer: *God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of Your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, You may nurture in us what is good and, by Your watchful care, keep safe what You have nurtured. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.*
Amen



Prayer of St. Peter Blessed Apostle Peter, to whom God has given the keys of the kingdom of Heaven, and the power to bind and loose, grant that we may be delivered through the help of your intercession from the bonds of our sins. O, Holy Shepherd, Prince of the Apostles, pray for us that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

Sunday, Sep 03, 2023

It's a wonderful life

Our days are engulfed in chaos, conflict, and dispiriting news. Then along comes a director like Frank Capra (1897-1991), churning out what have been called "fantasies of good will," imposing order with his ragged little messiahs who take meaningful stands against king-sized injustices. A self-described "Christmas Catholic," Capra fought his moral battles on the silver screen. He believed each person is "essentially good, a living atom of divinity.... Films must be made to say these things, to counteract the violence and the meanness, to buy time to demobilize the hatreds." Take your stand. Tell a story of hope.

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27 (124). *"Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind."*

Monday, Sep 04, 2023

Come aside and rest awhile

In a Prayer for Labor Day, the U.S. bishops invite us to ask God: "Make a place in our hearts for compassion to the men and women who labor tirelessly for basic necessities." Labor has always held a place of dignity within our faith. Scripture tells us that the laborer is worthy of his hire (1 Tim. 5:18), and many a church document, including *Rerum Novarum*, outline the value of workers and their work: "Justice, therefore, demands that the interests of the working classes should be carefully watched over, so that they who contribute so largely to the advantage of the community may themselves share in the benefits which they create." And, today, in honor of our labor, it's time to take a break.

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Luke 4:16-30 (431). *"Is this not the son of Joseph?"*

Tuesday, Sep 05, 2023

The first daughter of charity

It's not every day that a Catholic saint is honored with a United Nations resolution. But then, Mother Teresa is hardly an everyday saint. The U.N. honored the famous nun from Kolkata, known the world over for her hands-on care of the poor, with a resolution in 2013. It declared that on the September 5th anniversary of Mother Teresa's death each year, the world would now observe an International Day of Charity. Let's take her at her word: "Love is not patronizing and charity isn't about pity, it is about love. Charity and love are the same—with charity you give love, so don't just give money but reach out your hand instead."

TODAY'S READINGS: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Luke 4:31-37 (432). *"All of you are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of darkness."*

Wednesday, Sep 06, 2023

Pray for the persecuted and forgotten

On this day, many Christians of the Eastern tradition celebrate the feast of Saint Donatian and his companions, a group of lesser-known fifth-century martyrs driven out of North Africa by the Arian King Huneric, who persecuted a great many Trinitarians for their faith. Though we may not today face death for our confession, many of our brothers and sisters around the world do, and it is for them that we must pray with the help of Donatian and all who died

for the name of Christ. Even more, we are tasked to help them materially if we can, since—as the Lord says—whatsoever we do for the least of his siblings, we do for him.

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 1:1-8; Luke 4:38-44 (433). *"We have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love that you have for all the holy ones because of the hope reserved for you in heaven."*

Thursday, Sep 07, 2023

School days, Golden Rule days

It's back-to-school season. Learning is foundational to our democracy and also to informed faith. In 2,000 years' time, Christianity has overcome countless heresies (a type of twisting of the belief) and accumulated many saints, martyrs, stories, and traditions. With school back in session, consider sending yourself to "school" to learn more about your own religion. Check out study materials from the U.S. Catholic bishops and formed.org, a program both individuals and parishes can use for faith formation. Make a choice to grow in wisdom and understanding.

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 1:9-14; Luke 5:1-11 (434). *"Put out into deep water and lower your nets for a catch."*

Friday, Sep 08, 2023

A nativity set for the ages

The church officially celebrates three Nativities: the Nativity of Jesus, the Son of God (Christmas); the Nativity of Saint John the Baptist (24 June); and the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (8 September). These events tell us everything we need to know about God, faith, and the path to salvation. Through Jesus' Incarnation, we learn that God is with us—always and everywhere. Through John's witness we come to understand that we are not God—not even close—and we must prepare ourselves to welcome God's great goodness into our lives. And through Mary, we are shown the meaning of true discipleship—how to answer God's call and follow Christ through the joyful, sorrowful, and luminous mysteries of our lives in faith. Celebrate this dynamic trio by living in their light.

FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

TODAY'S READINGS: Micah 5:1-4a or Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23 (636). *"They shall name him Emmanuel, which means 'God is with us.'"*

Saturday, Sep 09, 2023

Give us this day some peace

"Racism has been part of the social fabric of America since its European colonization. Whether it be the tragic past of Native Americans, Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, or Blacks, the story is one of slavery, peonage, economic exploitation, brutal repression, and cultural neglect." This observation from the 1979 bishops' pastoral *Brothers and Sisters to Us* is why the church in the United States has established today as a "Day of Prayer for Peace in Our Communities" to promote healing of the racial divides of our nation. Make an honest examination of conscience regarding your thoughts, words, and deeds toward people of other ethnic and racial backgrounds.

MEMORIAL OF PETER CLAVER, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Colossians 1:21-23; Luke 6:1-5 (436). *"You once were alienated and hostile in mind because of evil deeds."*

Invest just five minutes a day, and your faith will deepen and grow—a day at a time



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