

# 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](mailto: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](mailto:ahoward@sjbitaliana.org)

**Victoria Scruggs,** 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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,  
Thank You!*

I want to thank everyone who contributed to the great success of our Festival. Certainly, thanks go to **Adam**, the **Board** and all the workers – many too many to name. Thanks, also, to **Jeremy** for coordinating the parking at **Sacred Heart** and all those who assisted him.

The Festival had too many highlights to be able to choose any specific component but certainly the entertainment was spectacular, as were the food opportunities. It was great to see the church as a very busy place the whole three days.

The **Festival** is not only a food and entertainment venue but a real gathering of people who get to see what a community of believers can accomplish for others on a rather grand scale. Faith can accomplish great things for others also in a quieter and ongoing way.

As life begins to return to normal, let's go forward in our daily parish lives with some renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Thank you all again! Everyone rest up for next year!!!

**OCIA** classes are now being offered for both **Sacred Heart** and **St. John the Baptist** parishes. **Mass** is scheduled at **St. John's at 6:00 p.m.**, followed by **OCIA class at 7:00 p.m.** in the parish library located on the **second** floor. This class is required for anyone who wants to enter the **Catholic Church**, for those baptized **Catholic** but who did not complete the Initiation **Sacraments**, as well as those who simply desire to deepen their understanding of **Catholicism**. **Questions? Contact Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405, or [SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org](mailto:SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org).**

**Many Blessings!  
Msgr. Frank Lane**

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

### MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

|                    |           |   |
|--------------------|-----------|---|
| Sunday<br>10/15    | 9:30 a.m. | + Bonnie & Charlie Agriesti<br>by Maria & Teresa & Family                             |
| Monday<br>10/16    | 9:00 a.m. | Living & Deceased Members of the<br>Cauperchioli Family<br>by Dr. Maria Regina Coccia |
| Tuesday<br>10/17   | 9:00 a.m. | + Fred & Nell Anderson<br>by The McCallum Family                                      |
| Wednesday<br>10/18 | 6:00 p.m. | Living & Deceased Members of<br>Sacred Heart & St. John's                             |
| Sunday<br>10/22    | 9:30 a.m. | + Joseph Cua Jr.<br>by Michael Cua  |
| Monday<br>10/23    | 9:00 a.m. | + Mary Lou Palma<br>by Louise Masdea  |
| Tuesday<br>10/24   | 9:00 a.m. | + Jack Butterfield<br>by McCallum Family  |
| Wednesday<br>10/25 | 6:00 p.m. | Living & Deceased Members of<br>Sacred Heart & St. John's                             |

**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.**

**Mass Time Change:** Mass times at Sacred Heart are Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. and St. John the Baptist are Mondays and Tuesdays at 9:00 a.m. As of October 11, Masses on Wednesdays at Sacred Heart are now held at St. John the Baptist at 6:00 p.m. with RCIA following at 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist parish Library on the second floor.

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Sunday</b>                          | <b>Sunday, October 15, 2023, 9:30 a.m.</b>   |
| <b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>               | Ed Pagnanelli, Valerie Milano                |
| <b>Eucharistic Minister 1 &amp; 2:</b> | AnnMarie Pastore, Sharon D'Alberto,          |
| <b>Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:</b>   | Kurt Heining, Gretchen Heining, Andrea Myers |
| <b>Sunday</b>                          | <b>Sunday, October 22, 2023, 9:30 a.m.</b>   |
| <b>Lector 1 &amp; 2:</b>               | Gretchen Heining, Kurt Heining               |
| <b>Eucharistic Minister 1 &amp; 2:</b> | Margi Baker, Antonio D'Alberto,              |
| <b>Eucharistic Minister 3, 4, 5:</b>   | Al Iosue, Andrea Myers, Pat Rossetti         |

**Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:**

**Marian Lights:** Mary Lou Palma  
by Chris Soteriades

**Blessed Sacrament:** Joyce Tisone  
by Carl Tisone

**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](mailto:k.koesters32@gmail.com)**. Leaders for **October** are:

**October 15** Maureen Iosue

**October 22** Gary Bosco

**October 29** Gary Bosco

**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION:** Growing in faith means living a life centered on **Christ**, through active participation in **Sunday** liturgy (**Mass**), the Sacraments, and generous service to others. Children with strong faith and values make for happier homes and have proven to do better in school.

**Our Parish School of Religion** is held every **Sunday** at **St. John the Baptist** following the **9:30 a.m. Mass** in the parish library on the second floor. Everyone is welcome, including non-**Catholic** children. Hope to see you there! Questions? Contact **Sharon Curtin at 614-563-8405 or at [SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org](mailto:SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org)**.

**50/50 Winner:** Congratulations to **Ms. Margaret Harn**, the winner for **September 2023, 50/50 Drawing**. Thank you for your support!

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, October 16, 2023**  
Nick Persichetti and Aggie Howard

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, October 23, 2023**  
David Ross and Aggie Howard



**Office Hours:** Parish office hours are Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

EVENTS FOR THE WEEK

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| 10/15<br>Sunday    | <p><u>SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u><br/>9:30 a.m.</p> <p><u>SJB Parish School of Religion – 2nd Floor Library after 9:30 a.m. Mass</u></p> <p><u>SJB Italian Language Class – Marrapese Hall</u><br/>11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>KCC – Religious Education Class – Italian Classroom</u><br/>11:00-12:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – Meeting in Marrapese Hall after Mass</u><br/>12:00-3:00 p.m.</p> |
| 10/16<br>Monday    | <p><u>SJB – Mass</u><br/>9:00 a.m.</p>  |
| 10/17<br>Tuesday   | <p><u>SJB – Mass</u><br/>9:00 a.m.</p>  |
| 10/18<br>Wednesday | <p><u>Columbus Diocese Meeting – Marrapese Hall</u><br/>8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>SJB – Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane</u><br/>6:00 p.m.</p> <p><u>SJB RCIA Class – Library</u><br/>7:00-8:30 p.m.</p>   |
| 10/19<br>Thursday  | <p><u>Young Adult Formation Group – Marrapese Hall</u><br/>6:30-10:00 p.m.</p>  |
| 10/20<br>Friday    | <p><u>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim</u><br/>7:00 p.m.</p>  |
|                    | <p><u>Altar Guild Reminder – Every 2nd Sunday of the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.</u></p>   |
|                    | <p><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></p>  |

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN'S  
October 8, 2023  
Number of Envelopes used Sunday 28

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Env:                        | \$ 1,045.00        |
| Loose:                      | \$ 876.00          |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$ 1,921.00</b> |
| Less Diocesan 8% Assessment | \$ -(153.68)       |
|                             | \$ 1,767.32        |
| Votives                     | \$ 361.00          |
| St. Anthony Bread           | \$ 20.00           |
| 50/50 Drawing               | \$ 10.00           |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>\$ 391.00</b>   |

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  | \$1,921.00  | -\$1,079.04     |
| FYTD:     | \$45,000.60 | \$46,855.32 | \$1,854.72      |

Income and Expenses from August 1, through August 31, 2023.

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| Income:     | \$ 20,180.34  |
| Expense:    | \$ 44,301.81  |
| Difference: | -\$ 24,121.47 |

**PAVERS:** The front **Pavilion** of **St. John's Church** is covered with **Pavers**. These **Pavers** are available for purchase and engraving in remembrance of family members and loved ones. For more information, please call the office of **St. John** at **614-294-5319**.

**Abruzzi Club Gnocchi Dinner:** Sunday, October 15, at 5:00 p.m. Gnocchi, Sausage, Salad, Dessert – \$15.00  
Presale Tickets Only! Contact: Pat Rossetti at 614-329-3900.

**Abruzzi Club Chili Cook-Off and Bingo:** Friday night, October 27 for a chili cook-off and Bingo. Bring a pot of chili to share or just enjoy everyone else's. All you care to eat chili, with salad and dessert is just \$10.00. If you bring a pot of chili to share, your dinner is at no cost. The winner will receive two free dinners at a future Bingo night. All profits from the dinner will be split with St. John. You can play Bingo for \$10.00 or \$15.00, and all money collected goes back out in prize money. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and Bingo at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Scott at 614-562-3652 or info@abruzzo.club.

**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**. 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](mailto:shook4@gmail.com) or **Tania Wade** at [t.wade73@gmail.com](mailto:t.wade73@gmail.com).  
Learn la Bella lingua Italiana... **Ciao!** 

AROUND US

**Liturgical Calendar:** **October** falls during the liturgical season known as **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 **October** is dedicated to the **Holy Rosary**. The **Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary** is celebrated on **October 7**.

**The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of October 2023:** *We pray for the Church that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.*



CHESTERTON ACADEMY  
OF ST. BENEDICT

**Coming to Columbus in Fall 2024:** A classical high school in the **Catholic** tradition – **Chesterton Academy of St.**

**Benedict (grades 9-12).** Learn about the school and meet the founding team at an information session, **Tuesday, October 24, 7:00-8:00 p.m.** in **St. John the Baptist Marrapese Hall**. For additional details and to RSVP, visit [www.chestertonacademy.stbenedict.org](http://www.chestertonacademy.stbenedict.org).

**Friary Cook Needed – Holy Family Church (Columbus)** seeks a qualified individual to serve as a **Cook**, approximately **15 hours** per week, for the community of **Mercedarian Friars**. This position is responsible for preparing a daily meal, **Monday through Friday**. This also includes some grocery shopping. For more details, contact **Holy Family Church** at [dprunte@holyfamilycolumbus.org](mailto:dprunte@holyfamilycolumbus.org).



**DONATION QR CODE AND WEBSITE INFORMATION:** Please help St. John the Baptist maintain this beautiful 125-year-old building with a donation by using the QR code to donate. Thank you!



**Bottoms Up**  
DIAPER BANK

For more information, and ways you can help, visit [www.bottomsup.life](http://www.bottomsup.life).

**Did You Know – Childcare for Those in Need:**

Most childcare centers require parents to provide a day's supply of disposable diapers. Without diapers, babies cannot be placed in childcare facilities nor participate in early childhood education programs. Without childcare, parents cannot go to work. For more information, and ways you can help, visit [www.bottomsup.life](http://www.bottomsup.life).

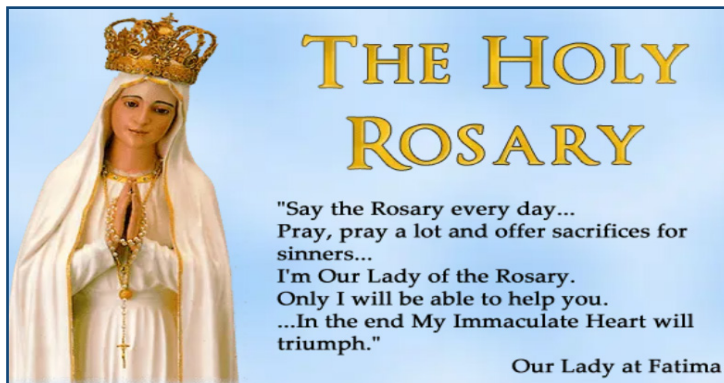
**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON – FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2023**

– **SPEAKER FATHER PeterClaver Kasasa Kiviiri**. Join us **Friday, November 3** at **St. Patrick Church** in downtown **Columbus** for a luncheon featuring a talk by **Father PeterClaver Kasasa Kiviiri**, **Parochial Vicar at St. Matthew the Apostle Parish**, who was ordained earlier this year by **Bishop Fernandes. Fr. Kiviiri** will share his vocation story and observations from his first months as a priest. If you are interested in sponsoring this or another luncheon, please contact **Pat Foley** at [foleyp513@gmail.com](mailto:foleyp513@gmail.com). **Holy Mass** (optional) begins at **11:45 a.m.**, followed by lunch at **12:10 p.m.** and **Fr. Kiviiri's** presentation. No reservations are necessary. **\$12.00** covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend!



**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 donate, scan the QR code or visit [www.columbuscatholicgiving.org/tools-for-schools](http://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!**



**Diocese of Columbus Vocal Training Program:**

The diocesan **Vocal Training Program** is being developed to strengthen the vocal skills of our parish singers and to introduce chant singing in a way that everyone can understand and appreciate. **Dr. Richard K. Fitzgerald, Director of Music of the Diocese of Columbus** and **Dawn Beckman, Head Instructor of the Diocesan Vocal Training Program** will offer training workshops in **October** and **November 2023**. The first workshop will be held on **October 28** from **10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon** at **The Basilica of St. Mary of the Assumption in Lancaster, Ohio**. The second workshop will be hosted by **Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Marysville, Ohio** on **November 4**, also from **10:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**. We invite parishes to join a workshop close to them, and we hope to welcome everyone from the diocese by the end of the season. Please register for this free workshop by emailing **Dawn** at [rtbdb@aol.com](mailto:rtbdb@aol.com). We hope to see you there!

**Our Lady of Victory:** Please join us at **Our Lady of Victory Parish Life Center** for our famous **“Rummage Sale and Bake Sale.”** Household goods, electronics, arts and crafts, holiday items and delicious home-baked goods. For questions, contact: **Marilyn** at **614-226-1547** or **Pat** at **614-657-2375**.

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.**  
**1559 Roxbury Road, Columbus, 43212**

**Relic of St. Jude:** A relic of **St. Jude the Apostle**, known as the patron saint of hope and impossible causes, will be displayed at three sites in the **Columbus** area on three consecutive days. The relic will be at **Westerville St. Paul Church, 313 N. State Street**, on **Monday, October 30**; the **Columbus St. Thomas More Newman Center, 64 W. Lane Avenue**, on **Tuesday, October 31**; and the **New Albany Church of the Resurrection, 6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road**, on **Wednesday, November 1**. The **Veneration of the Relic** at all three places will be from **1:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

**October 31 Adoration:** First Called, **St. Andrew's Youth Group**, is planning an **ADORATION NIGHT** on **October 31** from **6:00-9:00 p.m.** with **Jesus** being the best **TREAT** we have in our lives. **October 31** is also the **EVE of ALL SAINTS** and for many **High Schoolers**, it could be a night to pray with their **Confirmation Saints**, too. First Called has partnered with **Bishop Watterson High School** to attract as many **YOUTHS** as possible and invites all parishes in the diocese to reach out to their youth to participate. Contact **Maria Moore, St. Andrew Youth Minister**, for more information.

**Today's Gospel:** The Gospel is taken from **Matthew 22:1-14**. How foolish the **Pharisees** were in not listening to our **Lord's** warnings. He gave them every opportunity to turn away from the false path which their pride had chosen for them. **His** divine heart was ever ready to embrace them if only they would allow it. **“God created us without our cooperation,”** says **St. Augustine**, **“but he cannot save us unless we cooperate.”** This implies a daily carrying of the cross, a daily struggle against our evil inclinations, a daily endeavor to acquire true love of **God** and neighbor. This may sound superhuman, but **Christ** did not ask anyone to do the impossible. **He** led the way, and millions have followed Him to eternal glory. **He** has called us, too, and has placed within our easy reach in His Church all the grace we need. If we fail to use these divine helps, if we are found without the wedding garment, we will have no one to blame but ourselves. We have been called with the many, and we can be among the “chosen.”

– Excerpted from *The Sunday Readings*  
by Fr. Kevin O'Sullivan, O.F.M.

I CAN DO  
ALL things  
through  
CHRIST  
who  
strengthens  
ME.  
Philippians  
4:13

**Prayer:** *May Your grace, O Lord, we pray, always go before us, and follow and make us always determined to carry out good works. 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*



**Sunday, Oct 15, 2023**

**Stretch your spirituality**

Your doctor says that even a little exercise is important to keep the body flexible. Joints that move regularly are body parts that can function well a while longer. Walking 20 minutes a day or taking a water aerobics class are easy ways to lubricate the joints we need to perform our daily tasks. Saint Paul reminds us that flexibility is also a significant aspect of the spiritual life. Can we accept good times and bad, seasons of plenty or want, with the same light grip? Moving through circumstances fluidly makes for a freer life, and a gentler death.

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Isaiah 25:6-10a; Philippians 4:12-14, 19-20; Matthew 22:1-14 (142). *"I have learned the secret of being well fed and of going hungry, of living in abundance and of being in need."*

**Monday, Oct 16, 2023**

**A heart as wide as the world**

Depicted as a flaming, shining, bleeding heart, pierced by a lance, encircled by a crown of thorns, and topped with a cross, the Sacred Heart of Jesus symbolizes Christ's boundless, suffering love for humanity. The devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus is one of the best known and most practiced of all Catholic devotions, but the 17th-century French Visitation nun who received the revelation of this devotion, Margaret Mary Alacoque, was doubted in her lifetime, and the practice wasn't officially recognized until 75 years after her death. Incorporate an aspiration, or short prayer, to the Sacred Heart each day to remind you that you are unconditionally loved. Examples are "Sacred Heart of Jesus, make my heart like yours," "Sacred Heart of Jesus, I believe in your love for me," or "Sacred Heart of Jesus, may you be known, loved, and imitated!"

MEMORIAL OF MARGARET MARY ALACOQUE, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 1:1-7; Luke 11:29-32 (467). *"At the preaching of Jonah they repented, and there is something greater than Jonah here."*

**Tuesday, Oct 17, 2023**

**Bread of Life, bread for the poor**

Saint Ignatius Theophorus wrote seven epistles while trudging from Antioch to Rome. As Roman soldiers pushed him toward martyrdom in a coliseum, Ignatius decried a different enemy of Christian faith: docetism, whose Christian adherents claimed Jesus never existed physically on Earth—that he only appeared to. In denying the Incarnation, Ignatius says, such heretics also fail to see the Lord's presence in the Eucharist and in the poor. "They have no concern for love, none for the widow, none for the orphan, none for the oppressed, none for the prisoner or the one released, none for the hungry or thirsty." And "they abstain from Eucharist" because "they refuse to acknowledge the Eucharist." Ignatius, help us to see Jesus—in all the places he said he'd be.

MEMORIAL OF IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH, BISHOP, MARTYR

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 1:16-25; Luke 11:37-41 (468). *"As to what is within, give alms, and behold, everything will be clean for you."*

**Wednesday, Oct 18, 2023**

**Pack lightly for the journey of faith**

Today we celebrate the feast of the evangelist Luke. Best known for his gospel, Luke was a dedicated disciple of Paul who goes so far as to join Paul in prison—twice. You can read Luke's account

of the early Christians in the Acts of the Apostles. But first, read what Luke says in today's gospel, which gives Jesus' directives to the disciples who are serving as his advance team. These directives are simple but not easy: "Carry no money bag, no sack, no sandals"—and they remain amazingly relevant to living a simple life of faith. How can you enact them in your own life?

FEAST OF LUKE, EVANGELIST

TODAY'S READINGS: 2 Timothy 4:10-17b; Luke 10:1-9 (661). *"Luke is the only one with me."*

**Thursday, Oct 19, 2023**

**Reconciling our past**

Today is the memorial of several men who were killed for evangelizing native people in Quebec. The documentation of these encounters is almost entirely from the perspective of European American Christians, with missionaries as heroic martyrs and natives as murderous heathens. The truth is much more complicated. Pope Francis' 2022 apology to indigenous people in Canada and the U.S. Catholic Indigenous Boarding School Accountability and Healing Project are two efforts to look at the bigger picture of Christian-Indigenous relationships with accountability and reconciliation as goals. Join these efforts by exploring Native American culture and history.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN DE BRÉBEUF AND ISAAC JOGUES, PRIESTS, AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 3:21-30; Luke 11:47-54 (470). *"Woe to you, scholars of the law! You have taken away the key of knowledge."*

**Friday, Oct 20, 2023**

**GPS for the soul**

Spiritual direction is a great tool for navigating with God the ups and downs of everyday life. The practice involves a one-on-one relationship with a spiritual director who helps us to see how God is moving in our lives. A director listens and offers wisdom such as that of Paul of the Cross: "Let everything in creation draw you to God. Refresh your mind with some innocent recreation and needful rest, if it were only to saunter through the garden or the fields, listening to the sermon preached by the flowers, the trees, the meadows, the sun, the sky, and the whole universe." In honor of Saint Paul cultivate the art of listening wisely.

MEMORIAL OF PAUL OF THE CROSS, PRIEST

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 4:1-8; Luke 12:1-7 (471). *"Are not five sparrows sold for two small coins? Yet not one of them has escaped the notice of God."*

**Saturday, Oct 21, 2023**

**A higher law**

All of us run afoul of the law at some point or another, even if it's as minor as a parking ticket. Laws, religious or secular, are there to set standards and impose order. They have their purpose, but if we hope to be released from all that afflicts us in this life, we'll need a different kind of law—the law of love, mercy, compassion, and forgiveness. As 20th-century monk and mystic Thomas Merton explains, "The first obligation of the Christian is to maintain their freedom from all empty forms of legalism" and "live by a higher law—the law of grace and love." Let faith lead you there.

TODAY'S READINGS: Romans 4:13, 16-18; Luke 12:8-12 (472).

*"Brothers and sisters: It was not through the law that the promise was made to Abraham and his descendants . . . it depends on faith."*

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



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