

A photograph of the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church building, featuring a prominent steeple with a cross and a brick facade with arched windows. The church is set against a clear blue sky.

# 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.



## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST Italian Catholic Church

### Dear Friends in Christ,

First, let me thank all of you who have responded so generously to the financial appeal letter you have received. You can watch the bulletin and see the results of your kindness to the **Church**.

Next – remember the **100th Anniversary of Sacred Heart Church** celebrated at the **Sunday Mass at 11:30 a.m.** on **November 19**. Everyone from both **Sacred Heart** and **St. John the Baptist** are more than welcome.

- **St. John the Baptist** parish is going to begin an **Italian Cooking Class**. Watch the bulletin for details.

- Remember also that anyone interested in **Religious Education** for their children – the opportunity is available after the **9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass at St. John the Baptist**. If you think you might be interested next year – please check with **Sharon Curtin** after **Mass on Sunday**.

- At present, there is an opportunity for adult faith formation by attending the **RCIA** session on **Wednesday Evening at 7:00 p.m.** in the **Library at St. John the Baptist**.

Many Blessings for the week!  
Fr. Lane

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

## MASSES AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST

|                    |           |  |
|--------------------|-----------|--|
| Sunday<br>11/12    | 9:30 a.m. | + John Cua<br>by Michael Cua   |
| Monday<br>11/13    | 9:00 a.m. | Living and Deceased Members of<br>St. John the Baptist                             |
| Tuesday<br>11/14   | 9:00 a.m. | + Antonio (Tony) Polletta<br>by Joe & Patty Rosetti                                |
| Wednesday<br>11/15 | 6:00 p.m. | Living & Deceased Members of<br>St. John and Sacred Heart                          |
| Sunday<br>11/19    | 9:30 a.m. | + Elizabeth Caswell<br>by the Graf Family  |
| Monday<br>11/20    | 9:00 a.m. | For those suffering from Poverty,<br>Illness & Abuse<br>by Dr. Maria Regina Coccia |
| Tuesday<br>11/21   | 9:00 a.m. | + Antonio (Tony) Polletta<br>by Mafalda Rotolo                                     |
| Wednesday<br>11/22 | 6:00 p.m. | Living & Deceased Members of<br>Sacred Heart & St. John                            |

### Blessed Sacrament & Marian Lights Intentions:

Marian Lights: Kathleen Adams  
by Chris Soteriades  
Blessed Sacrament: Joyce Tisone  
by Carl Tisone

**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. and Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m., followed by RCIA at 7:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Parish Library on the second floor.

### MASS INTENTIONS

Please consider your **Mass Intention** for your loved ones for our weekday **Masses, Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays** as **Sunday Mass Intentions** are all booked. **Thank you!**

## LITURGICAL MINISTERS

|                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Sunday                         | Sunday, November 12, 2023, 9:30 a.m.              |
| Lector 1 & 2:                  | Davide Cugini, Ed Pagnanelli                      |
| Eucharistic Ministers 1 & 2:   | AnnMarie Pastore, Sharon D'Alberto,               |
| Eucharistic Ministers 3, 4, 5: | Antonio D'Alberto, Al Iosue, Margaret Panico-Harn |
| Sunday                         | Sunday, November 19, 2023, 9:30 a.m.              |
| Lector 1 & 2:                  | Landa Brunetto, Valerie Milano                    |
| Eucharistic Ministers 1 & 2:   | Andrea Myers, Gretchen Heininger,                 |
| Eucharistic Ministers 3, 4, 5: | Ed Pagnanelli, Pat Rossetti, Kurt Heininger       |

### 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.

**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 **November** are:

November 12                      Albert Iosue  
November 19                      Gary Bosco  
November 26                      Tania Wade

**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 **SCurtin@sjbitaliana.org**.

**RCIA:** Classes are now being offered for both **Sacred Heart** and **St. John the Baptist** parishes on **Wednesday** evenings right after the **6:00 p.m. Mass** at **St. John**. **RCIA class** starts 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 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**.



*Congratulations to the family of Sean and Erin Ryan whose son, Declan Thomas Ryan was baptized on Sunday, November 5, 2023. May the Holy Spirit be with you all!*

**EVENTS FOR THE WEEK**

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| 11/12<br>Sunday    | <b>SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane – 9:30 a.m.</b><br><b>SJB Parish School of Religion –</b><br>after 9:30 a.m. Mass – 2nd Floor Library<br><b>SJB Italian Language Class –</b> Marrapese Hall<br>11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br><b>KCC Religious Education Class –</b><br>Italian Classroom – 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.<br><b>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim –</b> Meeting in<br>Sala Hall after Mass – 12:00-3:00 p.m. |
| 11/13<br>Monday    | <b>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane – 9:00 a.m.</b>   |
| 11/14<br>Tuesday   | <b>SJB Mass – Msgr. Lane – 9:00 a.m.</b>   |
| 11/15<br>Wednesday | <b>SJB Mass – Msgr. Frank Lane – 6:00 p.m.</b><br><b>SJB RCIA Class – Library – 7:00-8:30 p.m.</b>   |
| 11/17<br>Friday    | <b>KCC Mass – Fr. Francisco Kim – 7:00 p.m.</b>  |
|                    | <b>Altar Guild Reminder –</b> Every 2nd Sunday of<br>the Month – Marrapese Hall at 10:45 a.m.  |
|                    | <b>Le Donne Group Meetings</b> are the last Sunday<br>of each month after Mass in Marrapese<br>Hall. There are no meetings in June or July.<br>10:45-11:15 a.m.  |

**WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP AT ST. JOHN**  
November 5, 2023  
Number of Envelopes used Sunday – 42

|                                    |           |                  |
|------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Env:                               | \$        | 2,370.00         |
| Loose:                             | \$        | 403.00           |
| Holy Day:                          | \$        | 81.00            |
| EFT Oct.:                          | \$        | 2,028.33         |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$</b> | <b>4,882.33</b>  |
| <b>Less Diocesan 8% Assessment</b> | <b>\$</b> | <b>-(390.59)</b> |
|                                    | <b>\$</b> | <b>4,491.74</b>  |
| <b>Votives</b>                     | <b>\$</b> | <b>122.00</b>    |
| <b>St. Anthony Bread</b>           | <b>\$</b> | <b>22.00</b>     |
| <b>Christmas Flowers</b>           | <b>\$</b> | <b>10.00</b>     |
| <b>50/50 Drawing</b>               | <b>\$</b> | <b>40.00</b>     |
| <b>Total</b>                       | <b>\$</b> | <b>194.00</b>    |

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

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

|                  | <b>Budgeted</b> | <b>Actual</b> | <b>Difference (\$)</b> |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------------|
| <b>This Wk.:</b> | \$ 3,000.04     | \$ 4,882.33   | \$ 1,882.29            |
| <b>FYTD:</b>     | \$ 57,000.76    | \$ 58,770.65  | \$ 1,769.89            |

**Income and Expenses from September 1,  
through September 30, 2023.**

|                    |            |                  |
|--------------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Income:</b>     | <b>\$</b>  | <b>15,687.80</b> |
| <b>Expense:</b>    | <b>\$</b>  | <b>28,302.87</b> |
| <b>Difference:</b> | <b>-\$</b> | <b>12,615.07</b> |

**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, November 13, 2023**  
Maruja Paule and Aggie Howard  
**SJB Collection Counters for Monday, November 20, 2023**  
Ed Pagnanelli and Aggie Howard

**DONATE 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 below to donate. Thank you!



**50/50 Drawing:** Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Roger Myers, winners of the October 2023, 50/50 Drawing. Your support is greatly appreciated!



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

**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.



This is a newly formed **Italian Club for Young Adults**. **La prossima** is a **Young Adult Group** keeping the culture alive through the next generation. A vibrant club for young adults of Italian descent.

**St. John the Baptist Giving Tree:** The Social/Activity Council is bringing back the **Giving Tree**. It has been quite some time since we have done this at **St. John**, and we believe it's a wonderful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of those in need during the holiday season. Starting **Sunday, November 26**, you'll find a **Christmas Tree** in **Sala Hall** decorated with special ornaments. Each ornament represents an item in need that you can purchase as a gift. If you would like to participate, simply select an ornament from the tree, purchase the specified item, and bring it to the church unwrapped with the ornament attached no later than **Sunday, December 10**. All the items collected will be delivered to the organization we are working with so they can provide gifts to those in need this holiday season. **Your contribution will truly make a difference!**

**Discover the Art of Limoncello Making!** Have you ever wanted to create a delightful, homemade gift for your loved ones during the holiday season? Join us on **Sunday, November 19 at 11:30 a.m.** in **Marrapese Hall** for a fun-filled and informative **limoncello-making workshop**. **Tina Solazzo** will guide you in mastering the age-old craft of making homemade limoncello, a zesty **Italian** liqueur, perfect for gifting or savoring during the upcoming festive season! You are welcome to attend and observe the demonstration or, if you want to make a batch of your own, you need to bring the following:

- 7 lemons (washed and dried)
- 1 liter of high-quality vodka
- A zester or peeler (a peeler is easier)
- A large container with a lid to hold the liter of Vodka and the submerged lemon rinds.

This event is free of charge; however, please RSVP to **Ida Shook** at [shook4@gmail.com](mailto:shook4@gmail.com) to help us make the necessary preparations.

**The Altar Guild** is now selling entries for its annual **Ohio State Bowl** game pool. Cost is **\$10.00 per square**, with winning numbers at the end of: **Q1, Q2, Q3, Game End** receiving a payout of **\$200.00**. If **OSU** makes the championship playoffs, the pool will be for the first game. This pool always sells out in less than two weeks, so if interested, see **Gary Bosco** in **Sala Hall** after any **Sunday Mass** ASAP over the next few weeks. Once all squares are sold, numbers will be drawn in **Sala Hall** after **Mass** and copies of the score sheet will be available for all participants. **Good Luck and thanks for supporting the Altar Guild fundraiser that supports our SJB church.**

**Kroger Community Rewards Fundraiser:** Did you know that every time you use your **Kroger Plus Card** when purchasing groceries, **Kroger** donates money to our church? All you have to do is register your card at [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards). It's that easy! Follow the steps below to enroll your **Kroger Card** today!

1. Go to [www.kroger.com/communityrewards](http://www.kroger.com/communityrewards)
2. Scroll to the bottom of the page. Click **"Get Started"** on the **Link your Shoppers Card** section.
3. Sign into your online Kroger account (or create an account if you don't have one).
4. In the **Find an organization** field, search for **"St. John the Baptist Italian"** or type in our organization's number **"YY987"** then click **"Enroll."**
5. Once you enroll, every time you use your **Kroger Plus** card at **Kroger**, your purchases will earn money for our church!

Please share this **Fundraising Program** with your friends and family!

## AROUND US

**Liturgical Year:** The entire month of **November** falls during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time**, which is represented by the liturgical color green. The month is dedicated to the **Holy Souls in Purgatory** whose feast is celebrated on **November 2**.

**The Holy Father's Intentions for the Month of November 2023:** *We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

**November 20: Solemnity of Christ the King:** The last **Sunday of the Liturgical Year**. This feast is a public, social, and official declaration of the royal rights of **Jesus**, as **God the Creator**, as **The Word Incarnate**, and as **Redeemer**.



### Did You Know? – Clean, Dry, and Healthy

Some mothers scrape out a diaper and re-use it when they can't afford enough diapers to keep their baby clean, dry, and healthy. The physical, psychological, and emotional toll of this practice on baby and mother can be significant. For more information, and ways you can help, visit [www.bottomsup.life](http://www.bottomsup.life).

**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON – FRIDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2023 – SPEAKER BISHOP EARL FERNANDES.** Join us **Friday, December 1** at **St. Patrick Church** in downtown **Columbus** for a luncheon featuring his **Excellency Bishop Earl Fernandes, Bishop of the Columbus Diocese**, who will present his annual address to the luncheon club. The **December** luncheon is sponsored by **The Catholic Foundation**. Started in **1984**, the **Catholic Foundation** has provided over **\$200.00 million** in funding for organizations throughout the **Columbus Diocese** and beyond. More information about the **Catholic Foundation** is available at <https://catholic-foundation.org/>. If you are interested in sponsoring a 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 **Bishop Fernandes'** presentation. No reservations are necessary. **\$12.00** covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! **There is no luncheon in January, but plan to attend our luncheon on Friday, February 2, 2024, when Bishop Fernandes will return to present the Catholic Man of the Year Award.**

**Gold Mass:** **Dr. Richard Fitzgerald, Diocesan Director of Music**, would like to encourage parish members throughout the **Diocese**, as well as **Christians** from other church communities, to attend the **Second Annual Gold Mass at St. Joseph Cathedral on Friday evening, November 17 and 7:30 p.m.** The **Gold Mass** is the **Votive Mass** of the **Holy Spirit** offered for our musicians, to affirm them in their ministries, and to foster a greater sense of community among them. The color gold has been chosen because of its association with instruments, celebration, and performance. Priests from the **Diocese** are welcome to concelebrate with **Bishop Earl Fernandes** for this joyful and majestic liturgy, enhanced by the exquisite music of **Palestrina, Orlando di Lasso**, and current **Mass** settings by **Dr. Fitzgerald**. **Musicians** from various parishes will be participating along with the renowned cathedral choir, and all will be uplifted by the magnificent resonance of the **Fritts Grand Gallery** organ. Priests desiring to concelebrate should **RSVP** to the **Chancery Office**. Following the **Mass**, all are invited to a reception in the undercroft to congratulate and thank the musicians.

**Women to Women:** On the third **Wednesday** of each month from **6:00-8:00 p.m.**, the **Martin de Porres Center** offers a listening ministry that provides opportunities for women to share their stories in a safe, nonjudgmental place. This is one of six listening circles in **Central Ohio**, which includes a free meal at the start of the meeting. **For more information, contact Linda Bryant at lbryant12703@att.net. MARTIN DE PORRES CENTER, 2330 Airport Drive, Columbus, OH 43219/614-416-1910 | martindepordes@oppeace.org.**



"Let us ask God to grant us a compassionate gaze and a humble heart. May we never tire of asking for this, for it is on the path of compassion and humility that the Lord gives us His life, which triumphs over death." @Pontifex

**Today's Gospel:** The **Gospel** is from **St. Matthew 25:1-13**. Although commentators and writers have found difficulty in explaining many of the details in this parable, the general lesson is clear enough. Our **Lord** described an incident that happened or could have happened at a wedding festival to bring home to his listeners the need for being ever vigilant and ready in his service if they wish to avoid the calamity of being excluded from the heavenly and eternal nuptials on the last day. It seems incredible that there are many among us on this very day who, like the foolish bridesmaids, doze and sleep contentedly holding empty lamps in their hands, while at any moment they may be awakened by: **Behold, the bridegroom comes! Go forth to meet him.** It is up to us now to decide, aided by **God's** grace, where we shall be found on the last day—with the wise bridesmaids or with the foolish.

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



**Prayer:** *Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are Yours. 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, Nov 12, 2023****Last things**

November's a good time to consider our responsibilities to those who depend on us and may be nearing the end of life. (Or perhaps we're getting long in years ourselves.) We know our social obligations: Write a will, make our medical preferences known to doctors and family members. But Catholics have other duties too. Offering forgiveness and being forgiven are vital issues at the end of life—and every year of life. We have to ensure the sacraments are available to the elderly and the sick. How vigils, funerals, and burials are conducted matters to us. Reflect on these things now.

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 6:12-16; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13 (154). *"Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.'"*

**Monday, Nov 13, 2023****The underestimated shall be esteemed**

Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini was born Maria Francesca in Italy in 1850, the youngest of 13 children. She was small and had poor health. Because of her frailty, she was rejected by the religious community she wanted to join. She founded her own order and dreamed of becoming a missionary to the Far East like the saint whose name she took. But the pope sent her west instead, to the United States—and she founded 67 missionary institutions to serve the sick and poor from New York to Chicago to Los Angeles. Nine years after her death, her religious institute, the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, became missionaries in China. Don't underestimate the power of God or yourself!

MEMORIAL OF FRANCES XAVIER CABRINI, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 1:1-7; Luke 17:1-6 (491). *"If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you."*

**Tuesday, Nov 14, 2023****Put your hope in order**

As we inch toward Advent, it's good to revisit the theme of hope. Consider this, from Pope Francis two years ago today, for the World Day of the Poor: "The hope born of the Gospel has nothing to do with a passive expectation that things may be better tomorrow, but with making God's promise of salvation concrete today.... Christian hope is not the naïve, even adolescent, optimism of those who hope that things may change [and] in the meantime go on with life; it has to do with building daily, by concrete gestures, the kingdom of love, justice, and fraternity that Jesus inaugurated." Or as Italian Bishop Don Tonio Bello would say, "We cannot be content to hope. We have to organize hope." How will you organize hope today?

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 2:23-3:9; Luke 17:7-10 (492). *"Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love."*

**Wednesday, Nov 15, 2023****Live a life of great service**

The great Dominican friar Albertus Magnus died on this day in 1280, after a long life of dedication to the church as a scholar, scientist, and briefly the bishop of Regensburg. He shunned excess and was known as a mediator—which, in his day, was a complicated matter, given the ongoing Crusades. We, too, live in

an age of war, economic inequality, and general spiritual laxity. We owe it to ourselves to look to the German Dominican for inspiration to live a more rigorous life of spiritual seeking, so as to find lasting solutions to the problems of our day.

MEMORIAL OF ALBERT THE GREAT, BISHOP, DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 6:1-11; Luke 17:11-19 (493). *"For those who keep the holy precepts hallowed shall be found holy, and those learned in them will have ready a response."*

**Thursday, Nov 16, 2023****Extraordinary sacrifice in ordinary clothing**

It's easy to think that martyrs were people completely different from us, but Christian courage doesn't always have a cinematic face. Father Ignacio Ellacuría, S.J., five other Jesuits, and their housekeeper and her daughter were murdered in El Salvador. Ellacuría and his fellow Jesuits had publicly defended human rights and ministered to poor people in spite of intense government repression. May their dedication to justice inspire us to do our part in creating a more just world order that protects those who speak truth to power.

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 7:22b-8:1; Luke 17:20-25 (494). *"For behold, the Kingdom of God is among you."*

**Friday, Nov 17, 2023****A delicate matter**

The Catholic Church identifies well over a dozen saints as patrons of lacemaking, lace workers, and related textile workers. Saint Elizabeth of Hungary is among these patrons who possibly became associated with lacemaking as it is a craft often seen as "immaculate" and virtuous, much like the saints themselves. But lacemakers and other artisan workers also often sat on the edge of poverty. These were the people who benefitted from the kind deeds of the likes of Saint Elizabeth, who roamed the streets near her castle passing out alms for the poor and tending to the sick. Take a moment to consider the artisans and craftspeople of our own time who could benefit from your patronage.

MEMORIAL OF ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 13:1-9; Luke 17:26-37 (495). *"For from the greatness and the beauty of created things their original author, by analogy, is seen."*

**Saturday, Nov 18, 2023****Let freedom ring**

In 1818, when Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne came from France to the United States, she was dismayed that slavery still operated "in the land of the free." Yet, when she opened foundations in Louisiana, the sisters were given slaves along with their households. In 1830 she accepted a slave in lieu of a tuition payment. She insisted that slaves in the household be treated well, arguing, "They have the same soul as we; they have been redeemed by the same blood and received into the same Church," but, like all of us, she was clearly enmeshed in social structures in need of redemption. Work for a society that truly is free at last.

MEMORIAL OF ROSE PHILIPPINE DUCHESNE, RELIGIOUS

TODAY'S READINGS: Wisdom 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Luke 18:1-8 (496). *"Will not God then secure the rights of his chosen ones who call out to him day and night?"*

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



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