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THE THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME NOVEMBER 8, 2020

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

Mass of Anticipation 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 4:00PM Barbara & Nelson Silva—Memorial

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8

The Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
7:30 AM Teresa & Frank Heran—Memorial
9:00AM Vincent Lanna—12th Anniversary
10:30AM Bernard Falchini—Memorial

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica
7:30AM Briggs A. Doherty, Jr. —-Memorial

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10

St. Leo the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church 7:30AM Henry R. Mangiante Jr., —Memorial

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11—VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY

Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

8:30AM All Deceased Veterans

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12

St. Josephat, Bishop & Martyr
7:30AM Thomas L. Ucci—Memorial

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13

St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, Virgin
7:30AM Imelda Louis—Memorial

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

Weekday; BVM

8:30AM Fr. James J. Verdelotti—1st Anniversary

Mass of Anticipation for the 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00PM Steven Simms—Memorial

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

The Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Miriam Grossmann—10th Anniversary 9:00AM Deborah & Bobby Anderson—Memorial 10:30AM Suzanne Carcieri—2nd Anniversary



We must empty Purgatory with our prayers.
-St.Padre Pio

Mercy Musings



Dear Parishioners:

As I write this column, Election Day 2020 is upon us. And like everything else about 2020, it is very different from past election days. We hope and pray for our nation. However, no matter the results, we entrust all to the Lord.

Amid the social unrest, political division, and living in a continuing pandemic, we might lose hope. However, I recall the words of Pope *Emeritus* Benedict XVI in his encyclical *Deus Caritas*:

"There are times when the burden of need and our limitations might tempt us to discouraged. become precisely then, we are helped by the knowledge that, in the end, we are only instruments in the Lord's hands. This knowledge frees us from the presumption of thinking that we alone are personally responsible for building a better world. In all humility, we will do what we can, and in all humility, we will entrust the rest to the Lord."

social The unrest and ideological combat across our nation have sparked fear and doubt about our future over the eight months. Painful past divisions wounded have families, parishes, and friendships.

Social trust has broken down as the pandemic and lockdowns have further loosened the bonds of the community. Many Americans are in economic distress, many others suffer from sickness, and thousands grieve for those who have died.

What are we to do? Perhaps the most critical action we as Catholics can take after this election is to "love one another."

This election has divided and challenged even well-formed Catholics. Incivility towards neighbors and intolerance of differing ideas replace political debate and civil discourse.

There can be no future for our nation if love grows cold, especially our love for the innocent unborn child and the terminally ill patient, for the migrant and the prisoner, for victims of racism, hatred, violence, and the poor. Across the country, love is growing colder, while anger seems only to grow more heated.

We are all responsible for what happens after this election but most especially we Catholics, for we are expressly commanded by Jesus Christ to love others — from our enemies to our neighbors.

Love is a non-negotiable, and only love can defeat the unrest and violence in people's hearts. It is a profound love for each person made in the image of God, a love for our political enemies, and a love for our country.

Only this love can prevent disorder and help establish true justice and peace. This love starts at home, in our hearts, and it must begin with our complete obedience to what Jesus commands us.

We are a divided, polarized, and fragmented society. No election will quickly or easily fabric repair the torn American culture. Therefore, our calling as Catholics is not to consider the election finished affair. But instead to continue to bear witness to our faith following Christ's commands.

Regardless of the elections' outcome, this is a moment to personally embrace the cardinal virtues and live them in our daily lives. We need to be actively engaged in the ongoing search for building up a peaceful and just society.

Our mission of defending human dignity, the sanctity of human life, and exercising religious freedom does not end with any election. We must renew and reinvigorate it and make it more robust.

Our public institutions reflect the values and habits of the American people. To renew them, we need to seek our conversion and strengthen our virtues. We must daily convert our lives more fully to Christ.

We know as a people of faith that politics is never the ultimate end. It is not the cause of our hope, and it is not the final aim of our lives. Jesus Christ is Our Lord. At this time, perhaps more than ever, we must bear witness to this saving truth. We must entrust our nation, our future, and our lives to the Lord.

Join us on Veterans Day, as we pray tribute to all who have served our country in the military. Offer prayer and thanksgiving for so many veterans' sacrifice at Veterans Day Mass at 8:30am. We celebrate the defense of freedom and liberty as a sign of unity and pride for our nation. Happy Veterans Day!

Stay safe. Be Well. Do Good! God Bless.

Father Healey



What happens in purgatory?

At the beginning of the month of November we celebrate two major events: All Saints and All Souls. All Souls, in particular, reminds the faithful to pray for all who are deceased. But what exactly happens to a soul in purgatory. At the very least we know that it is a state of purification. St. Paul explains in his first letter to the Corinthians, chapter three:

According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and another is building upon it. But each one must be careful how he builds upon it, for no one can lay a foundation other than the one that is there, namely, Jesus Christ. If anyone builds on this foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, or straw, the work of each will come to light, for the Day will disclose it. It will be revealed with fire, and the fire [itself] will test the quality of each one's work. If the work stands that someone built upon the foundation, that person will receive a wage. But if someone's work is burned up, that one will suffer loss; the person will be saved, but only as through fire.

St. Paul compares our spiritual lives to a house. Christ is the foundation to our house, which never perishes or is destroyed, but what about the house built on top? If we build our house with quality materials (gold, brick, stone and so on), then a fire will not burn it down. Spiritually speaking these are our good works united to Christ, the virtues, the corporeal and spiritual works, and most of all our constant nourishment at Mass and Confession. Yet, if we build our house with inferior materials like wood, hay, or straw, then the house will burn down when tested by fire. Spiritually speaking these are our attachments, disordered affections, effects of our sins, and vices. We can examine our own spiritual lives and see whether we have been building lives of stone or

Should we die in a state of grace, some of what we built in this life will be burned away in the next life. C.S. Lewis titled one of his works The Great Divorce, because in heaven there can be absolutely no piece or remnant of sin and hell. All must be purified. Benedict XVI in Spe Salve puts it beautifully:

The encounter with [Christ] is the decisive act of judgement. Before his gaze all falsehood melts away. This encounter with him, as it burns us, transforms and frees us, allowing us to become truly ourselves. All that we build during our lives can prove to be mere straw, pure bluster, and it collapses. Yet in the pain of this encounter, when the impurity and sickness of our lives become evident to us, there lies salvation. His gaze, the touch of his heart heals us through an undeniably painful transformation "as through fire". But it is a blessed pain, in which the holy power of his love sears through us like a flame, enabling us to become totally ourselves and thus totally of God.



November 1, 2020

Weekly	\$8,318.00	
EFT		
	Total=\$11,303.00	
Outreach	\$847.00	
Annual Collection (to date)	\$105,604 .00	
All Saints	\$934.00	
All Souls	\$1,304.00	
Weekly for November 3 . 2019		

Weekly.....\$13,171.00

Thank You for Your Generous Support!

Please remember Our Lady of Mercy Church in your will or estate.

Wednesday, November 11, 2020 **Veterans Day Holiday** Mass at 8:30am

The Parish Office is closed for the holiday.







Ava Marie Hockensmith, and her parents, Justin and Erin

Sofia Mary Pernice and her parents, Vincent and Marissa

John Angelo Turchetta, and his parents, John and Laura.

"Dear brothers and sisters: these children, reborn through Baptism, are now called children of God, for so indeed they are. Through Confirmation they will receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit and, approaching the altar of the Lord, they will share at the table of his Sacrifice, and will call upon God as Father in the midst of the Church."—The Rite of Baptism





In your charity please pray for the repose of the soul of **William "Mike" M. Brennan,** whose Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week.



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Upcoming School Events

•Tuesday, November 10: 7th Grade attends Mass at 9:00AM (no live-stream)

•Wednesday, November 11: No School in observance of the Veterans Day Holiday

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• First Communion Class (2020-21): Family Mass & Class on Sunday, November 8th at 5:00PM. Only First Communion students & families may attend Mass, followed by brief Family Catechesis Class. Next class is scheduled for Sunday, December 6th at 5:00PM

•<u>Confirmation Class (2020-21)</u>: Next Family Mass & Class on Sunday, December 13th at 5:00PM. *Only Confirmation students & families may attend Mass*, followed by brief Family Catechesis Class.



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"Remember, then, that you received a spiritual seal, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of knowledge and reverence, the spirit of holy fear. Keep safe what you received. God the Father sealed you, Christ the Lord strengthened you and sent the Spirit into your hearts as the pledge of what is to come."

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