

Share YOUR Faith

Support the Collection for the Church in Latin America

For over 50 years, the Collection for the Church in Latin America has been an expression of the solidarity of the Church in the United States with the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean. In a letter celebrating this important anniversary, Pope Francis commended this work, saying, “Through your support, many lives have been touched by the Good News of Christ’s merciful love, especially for the poor.” Your participation in the collection helps share the faith with those who long to experience God’s mercy and compassion in strong faith communities.

In northern Peru, great distances and deteriorated roads mean that pastoral agents and ministers must often travel by foot or mule to rural communities. As a result, some communities are visited by these church agents only once

per month, others sometimes just twice per year. The Collection for the Church in Latin America was able to help fund training for 65 pastoral ministers for some of these communities. Because of your support, these new leaders continue to reach out and serve the rural areas, ensuring all feel included in our family of faith.

Through projects like this, you are helping empower the people of Latin America and the Caribbean to deepen their faith and share it with the world.

For more information on how you can help the Church in Latin America, visit www.usccb.org/latin-america.



Collection for the Church in Latin America | Office of National Collections
3211 Fourth Street NE | Washington, DC 20017-1194 | (202) 541-3346 | www.usccb.org/nationalcollections

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You Did it for Me

Reach out to Catholic Charities! Many parishioners received letters in January, inviting their support of the Annual Appeal. Please pray for the good work of Catholic Charities and make a pledge today. Your donation makes a difference! Your support of the 2017 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal will help us to support those individuals who are most in need and most vulnerable. From Matthew's Gospel: Whatever you did for the least of these, you did it for me. When we feed the hungry, take care of the sick, and welcome the stranger, we are also serving Jesus himself. We appreciate your donation and will take special care to use it wisely in providing essential programs and services to people in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland. We invite you to view stories of inspiration and more info at www.catholiccommunity.org/2017Appeal.

Demkee Family Scholarship Fund

The Demkee Family Scholarship Fund of the Catholic Community Foundation provides an annual academic scholarship to a registered parishioner of a Catholic parish in Summit or Wayne County who is presently enrolled at The University of Akron or satellite branch. Scholarship applications are available at www.catholiccommunity.org/grants or call Colleen Rigo toll free at 800-869-6525 x4080. Students eligible to apply: are currently accepted to, or enrolled in, as part time or full time students at The University of Akron or any satellite branch of the University; can document a minimum scholastic achievement of 3.0 GPA; and are registered in a Catholic parish in Wayne or Summit County. Note: though financial need will be considered, it is not the sole factor in award selection. The 2017 scholarship award will be \$1,015. Applications are due by May 1 to The Catholic Community Foundation. Written notification to the awardee will be mailed by May 15.

Young Adult Retreat

Are you experiencing a lot of change in your life? Perhaps this retreat can help you in that journey by offering an opportunity to meet other young adults and reflect on your transitions as they connect with Jesus' journey to resurrection. The "What Next" retreat will be held at Bethany Retreat Center in Chardon, OH. It starts on Saturday, March 25 at 8:30am and concludes at noon on Sunday, March 26. Mass is included in the retreat. The cost is \$45 and includes meals and supplies. Scholarships are available. For additional information or to register, visit www.CharisMinistries.org or contact Sr. Kelley Rush, SND at krush@ndec.org or 440-241-3124.

Prayer for Peace

*Almighty God,
from whom all thoughts
of truth and peace proceed,
kindle in the hearts of all men
the true love of peace,
and guide with Your pure and peaceable wisdom
those who make decisions
for the nations of the earth;
that in tranquility
Your kingdom may go forward,
till the earth be filled
with the knowledge of Your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

www.catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=1695

Saturday Program

Do you know an adult, age 21 and over, with a cognitive disability who is looking to further their education, meet new friends, go on fun field trips and more? Maybe the Saturday Program is what you are looking for? For 28 years, the CAEP has provided educational and social skill building for adults with developmental disabilities. Participants enhance their skills in math, reading and history. They also work on the computer, make arts & crafts and have fun making friends, watching movies and having holiday parties! Participants also learn about their local community by going on field trips. The Saturday program meets at OLA/St. Joseph Center (2346 W. 14th St., Cleveland, OH) from September - May. Call 216-334-2962 or email Marilyn Scott at mjscott@ccdocle.org to set up an appointment to visit this program to see if it is the right fit for you!

Volunteers Needed

Join the New Evangelization with AM 1260 The Rock, Cleveland's Catholic radio station! AM 1260 is looking for passionate individuals about EWTN and the Catholic Church to join The Rock Team. Volunteers can dedicate as much or as little time in the areas they are gifted. Call with questions at 216-227-1260 or fill out the Volunteer Application at www.am1260therock.com, click on donate, scroll down until you see "Become a Volunteer", and submit the application. We're looking forward to welcoming you to the team!

YCN

"Your Community News" is where residents of Township and Peninsula have shared information for over 25 years. Visit www.ycn-online.net.

Please check the vestibule for more information on upcoming events, registration forms, prayer cards, and notices.



SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2017 FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Dollars and sense

Twenty billion dollars a year. That's how much it's estimated Catholic schools save the United States annually. As we observe Catholic Schools Week, celebrate the accomplishments behind these statistics: 6,600 parochial schools are staffed by more than 150,000 dedicated teachers K-12. The graduation rate from our schools is 99 percent. The percentage of our students who go on to college is 84 percent. Just as our teachers make sacrifices to create these "communities of faith, knowledge, and service," so too do parents surrender comforts to ensure their kids learn faith and character along with the facts. Support our schools!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12-13; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Matthew 5:1-12a (70)*. "Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God."

MONDAY, JANUARY 30
Lord, come to our assistance

The expression "inner demons" captures something of the helplessness that those in the grip of negative behaviors feel. The ancients took that phrase literally, believing that illness was due to divine punishment for sin or demons taking up temporary residence in a person. The remedy was to seek forgiveness or a healer who could rid you of the bad spirits. While most people nowadays don't believe that sicknesses and personality problems come from evil spirits or God's wrath, there is still the need for reaching out to others for help when you cannot help yourself. Medical and other professionals, counselors, family, friends, and especially Jesus the Healer in prayer provide that assistance.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 11:32-40; Mark 5:1-20 (323)*. "Go home ... and announce to them all that the Lord in his pity has done for you."

TUESDAY, JANUARY 31
MEMORIAL OF JOHN BOSCO, PRIEST, RELIGIOUS FOUNDER
Give your all

Saint John Bosco was born in Italy in 1815 into a family of farm workers. He became a priest and a teacher, devoting his life to the care and education of abandoned and neglected children. His approach was considered novel at the time: He used love instead of the threat of punishment to shape the behavior of his students. How can you support teachers and those who care for children? What are some ways you, in the spirit of John Bosco, can extend love, compassion, and respect to children, especially those most in need?

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 12:1-4; Mark 5:21-43 (324)*. "Jesus took the child by the hand and said to her, 'Talitha koum,' which means, 'Little girl, I say to you, arise!'"



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

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 1
Drop everything, it's the Lord!

Would you ever consider stopping all you are doing and going in an entirely different direction? With obligations to family and jobs it's unlikely you would suddenly turn your back on your responsibilities to pursue something else, but in a way that's what the first apostles did. Their recognition of Jesus as the savior was immediate and their decision to literally drop everything was just as abrupt. They saw something so compelling and necessary for their lives that they had no hesitation in following him on the spot. You might not imitate their footloose example to the letter, but their actions do show how quick disciples of Jesus should be, whatever their situation, to respond without hesitation!

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 12:4-7, 11-15; Mark 6:1-6 (325)*. "They left everything and followed him."

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD
Let Christ light up your life

In addition to being the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Jerusalem Temple, the church also calls today Candlemas. From early times the church has blessed candles for the year on this day. Your parish may be blessing candles sometime this week. If so, take some candles to church to be blessed. Their light will warm your home, especially in the darkness of winter, and remind you of Christ, the Light of the World. Even the lowly groundhog gets into the act today, emerging from his hole to look for the sun.

TODAY'S READINGS: *Malachi 3:1-4; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40 (524)*. "My eyes have seen your salvation ... a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for the glory to your people Israel."

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3
MEMORIAL OF BLAISE, BISHOP, MARTYR; ANSGAR, BISHOP
A full-throated blessing

People instinctively turn to friends for help in difficult times. Because Catholics believe that in the communion of saints all believers, living and dead, are connected in Christ, we turn for help to saints who may intercede for us. Today is the feast of Saint Blaise, fourth-century bishop of Sebastea, Armenia. Legend has it that before his martyrdom he healed many, including a boy choking on a fish bone. In churches around the world today, Catholics will be getting their throats blessed and hearing, "Through the prayers of Saint Blaise, may God free you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil." Amen.

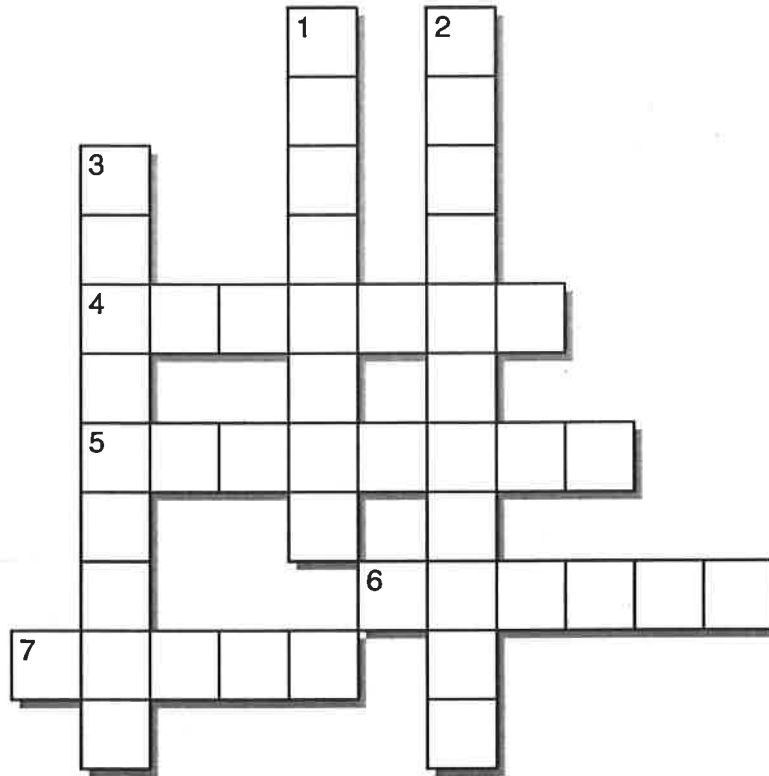
TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 13:1-8; Mark 6:14-29 (327)*. "I want you to give me at once on a platter the head of John the Baptist."

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4
MEMORIAL OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
Take it to heart

The monk and author Thomas Merton wrote: "There is no true solitude except interior solitude." Solitude does not have to be a physical place, though it can be, nor does it have to involve silence, though it might. Rather, as Merton said, solitude is an inner space where you can rest quietly and alone in God's presence—with no expectations and perhaps no words either—and experience the grace of God for what it is: a freely given gift you do not have to earn. Today, a Saturday and the traditional day for remembering Mary, join her in solitude to keep "all these things in your heart."

TODAY'S READINGS: *Hebrews 13:15-17, 20-21; Mark 6:30-34 (328)*. "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while."

CatholicMom.com Gospel Activity - Matthew 5:1-12A



Across

4. Today, we read from the gospel according to _____.
5. Today, we celebrate the Fourth Sunday in _____ Time.
6. Jesus began to teach his disciples saying, ""Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of _____.""
7. Blessed are the clean of _____, for they will see God.

Down

1. When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the _____
2. Blessed are the _____, for they will be called children of God.
3. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be _____.