



SCIOTO CATHOLIC

Holy Redeemer, St. Mary, St. Monica, & St. Peter
Four Parishes, One Family

PRIESTS

Fr. Joseph Yokum, Pastor

Fr. Christopher Tuttle, Parochial Vicar

DEACONS

Rev. Mr. Terry Acox

Rev. Mr. Jim Sturgeon

Rev. Mr. Chris Varacalli

WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday:

4:00pm at St. Monica (Odd Months), at St. Peter (Even Months)

5:30pm at St. Mary (Odd Months), at Holy Redeemer (Even Months)

Sunday:

7:30am at Holy Redeemer

9:00am at St. Peter

10:30am at St. Mary

12:00pm at St. Monica

7:00pm at Holy Redeemer on First Sunday of the Month (Spanish Mass)

WEEKDAY MASS SCHEDULE

Monday: 12:00pm at St. Mary

Tuesday: 6:30am at Holy Redeemer, 12:00pm at St. Peter

Wednesday: 10:00am at Holy Redeemer (School Year), 12:00pm at St. Peter,

1:00pm at Hill View Retirement Community

Thursday: 12:00pm at St. Monica

Friday: 12:00pm at St. Mary, 6:00pm at St. Monica

Saturday: 8:30am at Holy Redeemer

CONFESSION

Monday: 12:30pm at St. Mary

Tuesday: 7:00am at Holy Redeemer, 12:30pm at St. Peter

Wednesday: 12:30pm at St. Peter, 1:30pm at Hill View Retirement Community

Thursday: 12:30pm at St. Monica

Friday: 12:30pm at St. Mary, 5:00pm at St. Monica

Saturday: 3:00pm (Odd months at St. Monica, Even months at St. Peter)

4:30pm (Odd months at St. Mary, Even months at Holy Redeemer)

ADORATION

Friday:

12:30-3:00pm at St. Mary

5:00-6:00pm at St. Monica



STAY CONNECTED

www.sciotocatholic.org

 Scioto Catholic

 Scioto Catholic

 @sciotocatholic

 Scioto Catholic

To Receive Text Reminders and
Information About Upcoming Events,
Text sciotocatholic to 84576

SCIOTO CATHOLIC OFFICE

514 Market Street, Portsmouth, Ohio 45662 / (740) 354-4551 / office@sciotocatholic.org

Sacramental Emergency Line ONLY: (740) 981-9555

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE NOVEMBER 24TH 2019

This Week / Formation & Events

Sunday // November 24

4:00 pm 33 Days to Morning Glory **SMC**
4:00 pm Ecumenical Service & Reception **SP**

Monday // November 25

12:30 Confessions **SM**
5:30 pm Revelation Bible Study **AC Sm Rm**
6:30 pm 33 Days to Morning Glory **STMO**

Tuesday // November 26

7:00 am Confessions **HR**
10:00 am Bible study **SP**
12:30 pm Confessions **SP**
5:45 pm Children's Choir Rehearsal **SM**
7:00 pm Women's Chorus **HR**

Wednesday // November 27

9:30 pm Revelation Bible Study **AC Sm Rm**
12:00 pm Confessions **SP**
1:30 pm Confessions **HV**
7:00 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal **SM**

Thursday // November 28

11:30-1:00 pm Thanksgiving Dinner **AC Lg Rm**

Friday // November 29

All Day Business Office Closed **SMC**

Saturday // November 30

7:00 am That Man Is You **SMC**
3:00 pm Confessions **STMO**
4:30 pm Confessions **SM**

Sunday // December 1

8:30 am Coffee & Conversation **AC Sm Rm**
9:00 am NDHS Breakfast with Santa **AC Lg Rm**
8:45-10:00 PSR for St. Mary & Holy Redeemer **AC**
10:15-11:30 am PSR for St. Peter & St. Monica **SP Hall**
11:30 Coffee & Conversation **AC Lg Rm**
2:00 pm Ladies Guild Luncheon **SP Hall**
4:00 pm 33 Days to Morning Glory **SMC**
7:00 pm Christmas Concert Rehearsal **HR**

Masses and Intentions

Monday November 25

12:00 † John & Pat Reinhardt (*Kathy Schwartz*) **SM**

Tuesday November 26

6:30 † Earl Bauer (*Todd & Mary Medley*) **HR**
12:00 † Norma H (*Chris*) **SP**

Wednesday November 27

10:00 **NO MASS** **HR**
12:00 † Norma H (*Chris*) **SP**
1:00 † George Russell (*Becky & John Schwamberger*) **HV**

Thursday November 28

9:00 † Susan Sparks (*Gary Fisher*) **HR**
9:00 † Walter Haller (*Family*) **SP**

Friday November 29

12:00 **NO MASS** **SM**
6:00 **NO MASS** **STMO**

Saturday November 30

8:30 **NO MASS** **HR**
4:00 † Fred Martin Miller (*Theresa Moore*) **STMO**
5:30 † Charles & Margaret Walter Family (*Earl Canter*) **SM**

Sunday December 1

7:30 † Rudmann & Herrmann Family (*Family*) **HR**
9:00 † Missa Pro Populo **SP**
10:30 † Hector Soto (*Lourdes Soto & Family*) **SM**
12:00 † Dot Moore (*Alberta Scherer*) **STMO**
7:00 † Janet Bowman (*Mike & Debbie Estep*) **HR**

Sacramental Information

Baptism: Three months prior to birth, pick up a Baptism Information and Form Packet from either parish office. Parents must attend a Baptism Preparation Class. Email Megan Baum at megebaum@gmail.com or call her at **614-203-9608** to set up a time that works for you. Schedule with Pastor.

Marriage: Contact the Pastor by calling the parish office or emailing fatherjoe@sciotocatholic.org at least 7 months before proposed wedding date to begin preparations. Visit www.sciotocatholic.org for information on all requirements.

Anointing & Visitation of the Sick: Our local hospitals do not inform us if you have been hospitalized. If you would like a priest to visit you (when you are in the hospital, nursing home, or homebound) or for Holy Communion to be brought to you, please contact the parish office.

Funeral: Contact the pastor through the parish office to plan the funeral Mass. It is possible to make pre-arranged Mass plans with the pastor before death. The Parish Music Director is responsible for coordinating the music for all funerals.



SCIOTO CATHOLIC

Legend

HR = Holy Redeemer
SM = St. Mary of the Annunciation
STMO = St. Monica
SP = St. Peter In Chains
HV = Hillview
AC Lg Rm = Holy Redeemer Activity Center

AC Sm Rm = Holy Redeemer Activity Center
SMC = St. Mary Center
NDE = Notre Dame Elementary
NDHS = Notre Dame High School
NDCC = Notre Dame Community Center
SFC = St. Francis Catholic Outreach Center

SCIOTO CATHOLIC INFORMATION

STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Finance Manager, Carolyn Paul 740-354-4551
carolyn@sciotocatholic.org

Scioto Catholic Consortium Secretary, Rose Turner 740-354-4551
office@sciotocatholic.org

St. Peter/St Monica Bookkeeper, Cecilia Morris, cecilia@sciotocatholic.org

Director for Youth Ministry & Discipleship
Paul Baum 614-623-7722, paul@sciotocatholic.org

Director of the Evangelization & DRE
Megan Baum 614-203-9608, megan@sciotocatholic.org

Hospitality & Outreach Ministry Coordinator, Theresa Metzler
theresa@sciotocatholic.org

Consortium Director of Sacred Music Jordan Werring,
jordan@sciotocatholic.org

Director of Community Life, Mary Anne Hughes 740-821-6550
hughes1984@yahoo.com

Facilities & Maintenance Supervisor, Chris Ponzio
chris@sciotocatholic.org

Custodial Staff: Ruth Marasek, St. Mary
Brenda Skaggs, St. Peter, Angie Ogg, Holy Redeemer,
Pam Higgins, Holy Redeemer Rectory & St. Monica

SCIOTO CATHOLIC PRAYER REQUESTS

Gus Saltsman, Matt Sullivan, Debbie Sullivan, Barb Sowards, Jill Pick, Sue Huff, Larry Whitt, Baby Kate Amy Schackart, Sue Phillips, Christine Tylka, Norma Bendinelli, Emma McCaul, Ron Miller, Margaret Mohr, Dottie Cochran, Mary Ann Hill, Pauletta Paulin, Louis Kielmar, Justin Cantrell, Layla Cook, Mary Massie, George Lawson, Gabe McCarty, Helen Rawlins, Michael Lawson, Janis Bouts, Ron & Mary Nelson, Roger Otworth, Steve Workman, Lew Labin, Jill Clark-Wills, Mary Kisor, Keith Shonkwiler, Debbie Estep, The Carver Family, Charles & Mary Blevins, Phillip Otworth, Bessie Otworth, Jocelynn Mayhew, Tim Lang, Thomas Lynch, Joseph & Lillian Shaw, Matt Mathias, Michael Miller, Ryan, Robert Riordan, Cody Pollards, Julie Schmidt Barnicle, Judy Rowson, Patty Lawson, Ryder Saltsman, MariGrace Smith, Beatrix Sanford, Ruth Vetter, Helen Stanley, William Questel, Deborah Hughes, Jeffrey & Donna Gill, Lilly & Homer Shaw, Brian Gill, Stephen & Linda Fraley, Kevin Morris, Sarah Green, Alexander Ranieri, Stella Cua, Patricia Klaiber, Paul Rennick, Lou Ann Castle, John Servidea, Eric Fitzner, Ricky Lawson, Connie Bice, Pat McClurg, Cathy Meyers, Ed Mantell, Mandy Weaver, Dr. George White, Baby Holden, Karen Reinhardt, Rosella Simmons, Mark Allard, Josie Bihl, Jack B. Jones, Dave Hartlage, Sue Herrmann, Jeni Cassidy, Logan Pelletrino, Scott Voorhees, Norma Patrick, Tom Kinker, Michelle Bertot, Betty Burton, Katie Schwab, Nancy Webb, The Simon Family, Jon Daniels, Brody Blevins, Mike Trivisonno, Harold Goodwin, Ava Messenger, Vivian Beck, Melissa Deprema, Sue & Ted Tackett, Robert Nelson, Theresa Stocker, Alice Cole, Alice Scherer, Judy Wear Smith, Carol Kopp Parker, Arlene Shuster, Dr. Jeremiah Martin.

ST. PETER & ST. MONICA LITURGICAL SCHEDULE November 30th December 1st

ST. MONICA Saturday, November 30th– 4:00pm

Sacristan: Regina Walburn
Lector: Gail Schmdt
Server: Giselle Miller, Xavier Miller
EM: Regina Walburn, James Walburn
Gift Bearer: Regina Walburn, James Walburn
Usher: Regina Walburn, James Walburn

ST PETER Sunday, December 1st– 9:00am

Sacristan: Mary Jo Pritchard
Lector: Christopher Seidel, Mike Russell
Servers: Lauren Kaltenbach, Noah McMakin, Jesse Skaggs
EM: Nancy Stegman, Suzanne Bowen, Amy Miller
Gift Bearer: Dennis Cassidy, John Pendland
Usher: Dennis Cassidy, John Pendland
Rosary Leader: Phyllis Seidel
Greeter: Julia Cunningham, Kim Russell

ST. MONICA Sunday, December 1st– 12:00 pm

Sacristan: Ethan Boerger
Lectors: Rachele Strickland, Valerie Gill
Servers: Pete Neman, Levi Newman
EM: Ellen Bell, Carrie Hollar, Kevin Rase, Glenna Todt
Gift Bearer: Gabe Metzler, Noelle Metzler
Usher: Dirk Hollar, Joe Mowery
Rosary leader: Nancy Keller, Jerry Gulley
Greeter: Tracy Stiles

HOLY REDEEMER & ST MARY LITURGICAL SCHEDULE November 30th December 1st

ST MARY Saturday, November 30th– 5:30pm

Sacristan: Sue Welty
Lectors: Chuck Burke, Barbara Glockner
Servers: David Ferrell
EM: Sue Welty (host), Richard Kielmar (choir)
Jean Dillow (chalice 1), Elizabeth Hurst (chalice 2)
Greeters: Suzette Doerr, Suzette Rhea

HOLY REDEEMER Sunday, December 1st– 7:30am

Sacristan: Greg Malone
Lector: Mary Herrmann
Servers: Sarah Cassidy, Bryce McGraw, Andy Pierron
EM: Mary Ann Hughes (host), John Grimm (choir)
Kathy Grimm (chalice 1), Tracy Hughes (chalice 2)
Counters: Mo Coburn, Judy Shannon

ST MARY Sunday, December 1st– 10:30 am

Sacristan: Betty Martin
Lectors: Larry Boren, Rick Estep
Servers: Maxwell Ottney, Claire Patrick, Miles Sallee
EM: Randy McGuire (host) Herman Patrick (choir)
Laura Estep (Chalice 1) Ellis Holcomb (Chalice 2) Michele Baker (Chalice 3)
Lisa Hadsell (Chalice 4)
Greeters: Jim Jensen, Amy & Luke McGuire
Counters: Susan Frasher, Noreen Hartard

SCIOTO CATHOLIC INFORMATION

**FOR AS IN ONE BODY WE HAVE MANY PARTS, AND ALL THE PARTS
DO NOT HAVE THE SAME FUNCTION, SO WE, THOUGH MANY, ARE
ONE BODY IN CHRIST AND INDIVIDUALLY PARTS OF ONE ANOTHER.**

Romans 12:4-5

Notre Dame High School
2220 Sunrise Ave.
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
740-353-2354



Notre Dame Elementary
1401 Gallia St.
Portsmouth, OH 45662
740-353-2354

Notre Dame High School	October 2019
Operating Budgeted Expenses	\$290,474.50
Income	\$123,847.56
Actual Expenses	\$133,175.15

Notre Dame Elementary	October 2019
Operating Budgeted Expenses	\$261,454.25
Income	\$93,121.75
Actual Expenses	\$66,867.56

ST. PETER & ST. MONICA OFFERTORY

ST. PETER CONTRIBUTIONS November 10th 2019

	November 10th	Year to Date
Budgeted Expenses	\$3,676.52	\$69,853.88
Contributions	\$5,793.43	\$84,111.06
	\$2,116.91	\$14,257.18

ST. MONICA CONTRIBUTIONS November 10th 2019

	November 10th	Year to Date
Budgeted Expenses	\$1,875.00	\$35,625.00
Contributions	\$2,626.00	\$38,268.39
	\$751.00	\$2,643.39

ST. PETER/ST. MONICA MEETING SCHEDULE

Knights of Columbus: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 pm at St. Peter
Prayer & Praise: Mondays, Holy Redeemer, 7:00 pm
Prayer Shawl: Every 1st Tuesday of the month, St Peter at 2:00pm
Raphael's Hands Healing Outreach: Third Tuesday of the month,
 6:30 pm at St. Francis Outreach Center.
 Questions call 740-352-2812

HOLY REDEEMER & ST. MARY OFFERTORY

Fiscal Year – July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020

HOLY REDEEMER CONTRIBUTIONS November 10th 2019

	November 10th	Year to Date
Budgeted Expenses	\$5,612.54	\$106,638.26
Contributions	\$4,347.00	\$89,013.55
	-\$1,265.54	\$17,624.71

Building Fund \$60.00 Collection Information

Envelopes	57	\$4,129.00
EFT Payments (Monthly)		\$0
Other		\$213.00
Total (Thank You)		\$4,342.00
Average donation per Env. & EFT's		\$72.44

ST. MARY CONTRIBUTIONS November 10th 2019

	November 10th	Year to Date
Budgeted Expenses	\$6,238.31	\$118,527.88
Contributions	\$5,596.00	\$114,150.17
	-\$942.31	-\$4,377.72

Building Fund \$65.00 Collection Information

Envelopes	86	\$4,808.00
EFT Payments (Monthly)		\$0
Other		\$488.00
Total (Thank You)		\$5,296.00
Average donation per Env. & EFT's		\$55.91

ANNOUNCEMENTS



The Battle Over the Bride
No Session November 30th
(Thanksgiving weekend)

FRIDAY ADORATION: Due to a continual lack of adorers on Friday afternoons following the Noon Mass at Saint Mary's, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will last for one hour following Mass. Benediction will begin at 1:20pm. Fr. Yokum and Fr. Tuttle will hear confessions during that time of Adoration until the time for Benediction. This will begin the first Friday of Advent, December 6th.

SECURITY MEASURES: In an effort to increase the security and safety of our parishes and buildings at Scioto Catholic, we are in the process of implementing new procedures, new security systems, and the like. *We thank you in advance for your patience and understanding as we all adjust to these new systems, and your support in keeping our campuses and parish family safe.*

One of these new systems is that the **Parish Office at the Saint Mary Center (much like our Catholic Schools) will now always have exterior doors locked during business hours. You will be asked to "Press the Bell" on the exterior keypad to be admitted to the building.** Again, we are putting in these new procedures, not to make headaches for everyone, but to take preventative measures for safety and security. Thank you for your support!

NOTRE DAME NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY HOSTS

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA: Please come for Breakfast with Santa hosted by the Notre Dame National Honor Society. Santa will arrive about 9 am so please bring the kids for a photo op and a light breakfast. Children will be assembling ornaments to take home and put on the tree! Date: Sunday, December 1st. Location: Holy Redeemer Activity Center. Time: 9am – 1pm, Cost: Children - \$5, Adults - \$7.

THOSE CALLED HOME TO THE LORD



Rhonda Carter Called to Eternal Life 11/4/2019
Vivian Beck Called to Eternal Life 11/18/2019

Our condolences go out to the family. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful rest in peace. Please pray for them and all our departed friends and relatives.

HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH CLEANING: There will be an all church cleaning at Holy Redeemer on December 12th. We need your help!!

OFFERTORY ENVELOPES: Offertory envelopes for 2020 for St. Peter & St. Monica are ready and available in the back of the Churches.

ST. PETER'S LADIES GUILD CHRISTMAS DINNER: Sunday, December 1st at McCormick Hall at 2 PM. Hobby auction to follow meal. All ladies of the parish are invited. Cost is \$8.00 per adult and \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Please bring a craft for the hobby auction. Please call Carol Davis 740-574-6698 or Becky Schwamburger 740-574-6665 to make reservations. Reservation should be made by November 27th. Come join in the fun and fellowship.

ST FRANCES OUTREACH COLLECTION: We will be taking up this collection for St Frances Outreach on the 4th Sunday of the month at St Mary, Holy Redeemer, St. Monica & St. Peter.

COME TO KNOW THE ABUNDANCE OF GOD'S LOVE:

Take time to refresh yourself and reflect on God's divine encounter in your life and in the world. Our annual Men's spiritual retreat January 24-26, 2020, Jesuit Spiritual Center at Milford, Ohio. Transportation can be arranged: Questions—Andy Glockner 740-352-3867 or Steve Fitzner 740-821-4831 or Jesuit Spiritual Center to register 513-248-3500 Ext. 10: www.jesuitspiritualcenter.com.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES STATUE: The sign-up sheet to host the Our Lady of Lourdes Statue for 2019 is in the back of St. Peter. Dec. 1st– Dec. 15th it will be in the home of Paul & Barb Boll.

YOUR SPOUSE WILL THANK YOU!: Give thanks and plan now to attend a **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** weekend! The next weekend is February 14-16, 2020 in central Ohio. Marriage Encounter is where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones and focus on each other. For more information or to apply, contact Paul & Marilou Clouse at 614-834-6880 or visit our website at www.wmccolumbus.org

FORMED ORG CODE: 3Q9VR4

From the Pastor's Desk

Today is the **Thirty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time** and the last week of the liturgical year. As always on this last Sunday, we celebrate the **Solemnity of Christ the King**. The readings remind us of God's faithfulness to us as he promises to shepherd the people of Israel. In **Luke's Gospel** we are taken to the crucifixion and Jesus being mocked as "King of the Jews." The man crucified next to him asks Jesus to remember him when he gets into his Kingdom. Jesus replies, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The first reading this last week of the liturgical year is from the Book of Daniel. These apocalyptic and mystical readings were written to give encouragement to the Jewish people in the face of persecution.

The stories in the Gospel of Luke this week offer a look at the meaning of generosity as the poor widow offers her two small coins. Jesus cautions against those who will come in his name promising salvation: "Do not follow them!" The cost of following his teaching is made clear, "You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed." In a dramatic look at the end time, echoing the Daniel readings, Jesus says, "And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory." Jesus continues the "end time" message saying, "know that the Kingdom of God is near. Amen, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place." He cautions, "Beware that your hearts do not become drowsy from carousing and drunkenness and the anxieties of daily life, and that day catch you by surprise like a trap."

Next weekend, the **First Sunday of Advent** begins a new liturgical year and the beginning of a season filled with the riches of our scripture readings. For the next few weeks, the main focus will be on the first reading, with the gospel chosen to accompany it. **Isaiah** offers the people of God a promise of peace: "They shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks." **Matthew's gospel** is the story of Noah and a caution from Jesus to prepare "for an hour you do not expect."

The old and the new come together this week as we bring this liturgical year to a close and look ahead to Advent, which begins Sunday. We reflect that Jesus is our Savior and King. This means we are called to help build up the kingdom by loving Jesus in our poorest brothers and sisters. We will encounter readings about the generosity of a poor widow and the warning of the approaching end of time. This is meant to help us begin our preparations for Advent. The actual end of the world may not be at hand, but the Kingdom of God is always at hand for us. It takes focus and paying attention to notice the signs, the ways the Lord makes himself available to us in the midst of our busy days.

We prepare for Advent this week when we can begin a small, but honest prayer, "Come, Lord, Jesus. Come into this place and into the conflict in my life. Let me be attentive and open to see the places where I am restless, distracted and too busy. Come into my real situation - not the way I present myself to others. Come to me - the real me that needs you." We need this kind of preparation. These are challenging times. Holidays stretch us and test us. Sometimes, under the stress of it all, we regress into behaviors that are bad and destructive, because they are familiar and what so many others are doing. Relationships get strained. Alcohol rarely brings cheer without at times risking bad patterns. So, praying these days - while very busy - praying out of our needs and even our pain - roots us in relationship with the One who always comes to save us.

For those of us in the U.S., we shouldn't miss reflecting on the meaning of Thanksgiving Day. It is an important time to be grateful for what we have received and to accept our responsibility for being good stewards of what we have, sharing God's gifts to us in loving service to others.

For all of us, this is a week to be grateful and to experience the beginning of Advent on Sunday. We can prepare to walk into Church more alert, more ready to explore our longing. As we grow in our practice of connecting with our Lord and friend in brief moments throughout each day, we can develop the habit of giving thanks each night for what we have received.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Fr. Joe



SCIOTO CATHOLIC

DECEMBER NIGHT OF

Adoration



AND ADVENT PENANCE SERVICE

DECEMBER
4

*at St. Peter
in Chains*

FROM
7-8PM



Sacred Heart of Jesus & Immaculate Heart of Mary Statue Raffle

Cody Metzler will be selling raffle tickets after
the East side Masses and at the Ladies Guild
Christmas Dinner on Dec. 1st.

\$1.00 Ticket – 6 Tickets for \$5.00

He will also sell tickets after the Downtown
Masses on the weekend of December 7th & 8th.
and at the Dinner with Santa on Dec. 8th at St.
Peters. He will be draw the winner at the dinner.
You don't need to be present to win.

Please support Cody's Confirmation project.

A Christmas Nativity Pageant

Presented by St. Monica & St. Peter Churches

**Sunday, December 8th at 5:00pm
at St. Peter in Chains**

Followed by
Dinner with Santa

Practices will be at St. Peter at the following times:
Saturday, December 7th at 10:00am / Sunday, December 8th at 10:00am

Costumes will be handed out during practices. Please bring your child
dressed in costume and ready to perform by 4:30pm at St. Peter on the 8th.



HEARTS AFIRE

33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY GROUP RETREAT

Drawing Closer to Jesus Through His Mother

This Advent, join us in reading 33 Days to Morning Glory and come for prayer and discussion at our weekly group gatherings.

MONDAY GATHERINGS
AT 6:30PM AT ST. MONICA

November 25th
December 2nd
December 9th
December 16th
December 23rd
December 30th

SUNDAY GATHERINGS
AT 4:00PM AT ST. MARY

November 24th
December 1st
December 8th
December 15th
December 22nd
December 29th

To register & order your book, please call the parish office or email Megan Baum at megan@sciotocatholic.org.



**Bring your
family and
friends . . .**

Free to all!

Portsmouth's Annual

Thanksgiving Day Feast!

A festive sit-down dinner with all the trimmings
Sponsored by more than a dozen area churches
and held this year at Holy Redeemer Social Hall
off Gallia Street, east of Portsmouth High School.

Thursday, November 28

11:30 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.



**Carry-outs for shut-ins may
be arranged ahead of time
through your pastor.**

*"We gather together to
ask the Lord's blessing"*

Lectio Divina

SCRIPTURE READING + MEDITATION + PRAYER + CONTEMPLATION

"What page, what passage of the inspired books of the Old and New Testaments is not the truest of guides for human life?" ~Saint Benedict, from the *Rule of Saint Benedict* (73:3)

"Dear families: We need God: all of us! We need His help, His strength, His blessing, His mercy, His forgiveness. And we need simplicity to pray as a family: simplicity is necessary! Praying the Our Father together, around the table, is not something extraordinary: it's easy. And praying the Rosary together, as a family, is very beautiful and a source of great strength! And also praying for one another! The husband for his wife, the wife for her husband, both together for their children, the children for their grandparents....praying for each other. This is what it means to pray in the family and it is what makes the family strong: prayer."

~POPE FRANCIS, HOMILY EXCERPT, OCTOBER 27, 2013

Monday, November 25 ~ Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time
Saint Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin and Martyr

Holy Gospel: Luke 21:1-4 When Jesus looked up he saw some wealthy people putting their offerings into the treasury and he noticed a poor widow putting in two small coins. He said, "I tell you truly, this poor widow put in more than all the rest; for those others have all made offerings from their surplus wealth, but she, from her poverty, has offered her whole livelihood."

Meditation: Do you know the joy of selfless giving and love for others? True love doesn't calculate; it spends lavishly! Jesus drove this point home to his disciples while sitting in the temple and observing people offering their tithes. Jesus praised a poor widow who gave the smallest of coins in contrast with the rich who gave greater sums. How can someone in poverty give more than someone who has ample means? Jesus' answer is very simple: love is more precious than gold or wealth! Jesus taught that real giving must come from the heart. A gift that is given with a grudge or for display loses its value. But a gift given out of love, with a spirit of generosity and sacrifice, is precious. The amount or size of the gift doesn't matter as much as the cost to the giver. The poor widow could have kept one of her coins, but instead she recklessly gave away all she had! Jesus praised someone who gave barely a penny — how insignificant a sum — because it was everything she had, her whole living. What we have to offer may look very small and not worth much, but if we put all we have at the Lord's disposal, no matter how insignificant it may seem, then God can do with it and with us what is beyond our reckoning. Do you give out of love and gratitude for what God has already given to you?

Prayer: Almighty ever-living God, who gave Saint Catherine of Alexandria to your people as a Virgin and an invincible Martyr, grant that through her intercession we may be strengthened in faith and constancy and spend ourselves without reserve for the unity of the Church. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: Why does Jesus hold up this woman as an example? Surely we should take care of our needs and those of our families. Yet Jesus indicates that she has "put in more" than the others. What message is the woman sending by her act? She is saying, "Take, Lord, and receive my all. I surrender myself to you. I believe that you will provide what I need. I am here ready to do your will." The wealthy people in today's Gospel were hedging their bets. They gave, but kept a healthy reserve. They wanted to please God, but not if it hurt them too much. They believed, but apparently had their doubts. Jesus approved of her actions because they are consistent with His message to us. Taking this to the parish level, are we more like the widow or the wealthy when it comes to the offertory — our offering to God — in supporting the mission of our Church? Could we afford to give more, or are we holding back?

Tuesday, November 26 ~ Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 21:5-11 While some people were speaking about how the temple was adorned with costly stones and votive offerings, Jesus said, "All that you see here— the days will come when there will not be left a stone upon another stone that will not be thrown down." Then they asked him, "Teacher, when will this happen? And what sign will there be when all these things are about to happen?" He answered, "See that you not be deceived, for many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he,' and 'The time has come.' Do not follow them! When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for such things must happen first, but it will not immediately be the end." Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be powerful earthquakes, famines, and plagues from place to place; and awesome sights and mighty signs will come from the sky."

Meditation: Note how Jesus' prophecy is a two-edged sword, because it points not only to God's judgment, but also to his saving action and mercy. Jesus foretells the destruction of Jerusalem and the dire consequences for all who would

reject him and his saving message. While the destruction of Jerusalem's temple was determined (it was razed by the Romans in 70 A.D.), there remained for its inhabitants a narrow open door leading to deliverance. Jesus says: "I am the door; whoever enters by me will be saved" (John 10:9). Jesus willingly set his face toward Jerusalem, knowing that he would meet betrayal, rejection, and death on a cross. His death on the cross, however, brought about victory and salvation, not only for the inhabitants of Jerusalem, but for all – both Jew and gentile – who would accept Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Is your life securely submitted to the lordship of Jesus Christ?

Prayer: Stir up the will of your faithful, we pray, O Lord, that striving more eagerly to bring your divine work to fruitful completion, they may receive in greater measure the healing remedies your kindness bestows. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: A retired judge, Robert H. Bork, wrote a book a few decades ago entitled, *Slouching Towards Gomorrah*. His message sounds an alarm about the moral crisis and decay of culture which he sees in Western society. We often don't recognize the moral crisis and spiritual conflict of our age, until something "shakes us up" to the reality of our present condition. The reward for the righteous and the penalty for the unrighteous are not always experienced in this life; but they are sure to come in the day of judgment. There will be persecution, suffering, and difficulties in this age until the Lord comes again. God intends our anticipation of his final judgment to be a powerful deterrent to wrongdoing. God extends grace and mercy to all who will heed his call and his warning. Do you take advantage of God's grace and mercy to seek his kingdom and to pursue his will? Recall what we read in scripture: "Remain faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life." (ref. Revelation 2:10C)

Wednesday, November 27 ~ Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Luke 21:12-19 Jesus said to the crowd: "They will seize and persecute you, they will hand you over to the synagogues and to prisons, and they will have you led before kings and governors because of my name. It will lead to your giving testimony. Remember, you are not to prepare your defense beforehand, for I myself shall give you a wisdom in speaking that all your adversaries will be powerless to resist or refute. You will even be handed over by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends, and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name, but not a hair on your head will be destroyed. By your perseverance you will secure your lives."

Meditation: If the gospel message is good news, then why do so many oppose it with hostility and even violence? Jesus warns his followers that they will be confronted with persecution, wickedness, false teaching, and temptation. The real enemy of the Gospel is Satan who uses fear and hatred to provoke hostility in others towards those who follow Christ. And what is Jesus' response to this hostility and opposition? Love and truth. Only love can defeat prejudice, intolerance, and hatred. God's love purifies our hearts and minds of all that would divide and tear people apart. The truth is also essential for overcoming evil and tribulation in the world. Satan deceives and sin blinds the heart and mind. Only God's truth can free us from error and spiritual blindness. This Gospel is God's word of truth and salvation. That is why Jesus tells his disciples to proclaim the Gospel throughout the whole world, even in the midst of opposition and persecution.

Prayer: Stir up the will of your faithful, we pray, O Lord, that striving more eagerly to bring your divine work to fruitful completion, they may receive in greater measure the healing remedies your kindness bestows. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: The word "martyr" in Greek means "witness." The Book of Revelation says that "Jesus was the faithful witness ...who freed us from our sins by his blood" (Rev. 1:5). Tertullian, a second century convert who saw the early Christians singing as they went out to die by the hands of their persecutors, said: "The blood of the martyrs is seed." Their blood is the seed of new Christians, the seed of the church. The third century bishop, Cyprian said: "When persecution comes, God's soldiers are put to the test, and heaven is open to martyrs. We have not enlisted in an army to think of peace and to decline battle, for we see that the Lord has taken first place in the conflict." True martyrs live and die as witnesses of the gospel. They overcome their enemies through persevering hope and courage, sacrificial love and forbearance, kindness and compassion. God may call some of us to be martyrs for our faith. But for most of us, our call is to be 'dry' martyrs who bear testimony to the joy and power of the gospel in the midst of daily challenges, contradictions, temptations and adversities which come our way as we follow the Lord. What most attracts others to the truth and power of the gospel? When they see Christians loving their enemies, being joyful in suffering, patient in adversity, pardoning injuries, and showing comfort and compassion to the hopeless and the helpless. Jesus tells us that we do not need to fear our adversaries. God will give us sufficient grace, strength, and wisdom to face any trial and to answer any challenge to our faith. Are you eager to bear witness to the joy and freedom of the Gospel?

Thursday, November 28 ~ Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time ~ Thanksgiving Day ~

Holy Gospel: Luke 17:11-19 As he continued his journey to Jerusalem, he traveled through Samaria and Galilee. As he was entering a village, ten lepers met him. They stood at a distance from him and raised their voice, saying, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" And when he saw them, he said, "Go show yourselves to the priests." As they were going they were cleansed. And one of them, realizing he had been healed, returned, glorifying God in a loud voice; and he fell at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. He was a Samaritan. Jesus said in reply, "Ten were cleansed, were they not? Where are the other nine? Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?" Then he said to him, "Stand up and go;

your faith has saved you."

Meditation: When we think about giving thanks to God, are you like the one leper who returned, or are you with the other nine who did not give thanks? Why would only one leper out of ten return to show gratitude? Gratefulness is related to "grace" – which means the release of loveliness. Gratitude is the homage of the heart which responds with graciousness in expressing an act of thanksgiving. The Samaritan approached Jesus reverently and gave praise to God. If we do not recognize and appreciate the mercy shown us we will be ungrateful. Ingratitude is forgetfulness or a poor return for kindness received. Ingratitude easily leads to lack of charity and intolerance towards others. It easily leads to lack of charity and intolerance towards others, as well as to other sins, such as discontent, dissatisfaction, complaining, grumbling, pride and presumption. How often have we been ungrateful to our parents, siblings, priests, teachers, co-workers, neighbors, waiters and waitresses, and so many others? How often have we failed individually and collectively to give thanks to God? Now ask yourself: Why do I act this way? Am I that self-centered? Is not giving thanks part of my being? Let us give thanks to God today and every day, and adopt a life expressing gratitude and thanks to all from the heart, beginning first and foremost with God.

Prayer: Father all-powerful, your gifts of love are countless and your goodness infinite; as we come before you on Thanksgiving Day with gratitude for your kindness, open our hearts to have concern for every man, woman, and child, so that we may share your gifts in loving service. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Washington and Lincoln: Go to the two web page links below and learn about what President George Washington and President Abraham Lincoln said and did in establishing and reaffirming Thanksgiving Day in our nation. Share this information with your family, especially our young people!

<https://www.mountvernon.org/education/primary-sources-2/article/thanksgiving-proclamation-of-1789/>
<http://www.abrahamlincolnonline.org/lincoln/speeches/thanks.htm>

Contemplation: Is today, Thanksgiving Day, simply a day for feasting, "turkey trot" 5k runs and football? Or have you given any thought to what this day is truly about – giving thanks to God for all that he has done for you, the great and the simple things in life, and life itself. Begin this day by giving true thanks to God – begin the day with Mass; family football games and community 5k runs can begin later. As Americans, but more importantly as Catholics, may we be blessed with a fresh awareness of the loving Most Blessed Trinity from whom all good things come, may we give thanks for what has been bestowed upon us, and may all of us have a renewed interest in helping those who are less fortunate – especially the poor, the hungry, and the homeless.

Friday, November 29 ~ Thirty-Fourth Week in Ordinary Time

Holy Gospel: Matthew 4:18-22 As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men." At once they left their nets and followed him. He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He called them, and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.

Meditation: Jesus speaks the same message to us today: we will "catch people" for the kingdom of God if we allow the light of Jesus Christ to shine through us. God wants others to see the light of Christ in us in the way we live, speak, and witness the joy of the gospel. Paul the Apostles says, "But thanks be to God, who in Christ Jesus always leads us in triumph, and through us spreads the fragrance of him everywhere. For we are the aroma of Christ to God among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing" (2 Corinthians 2:15). Do you show others around you the joy of the gospel and do you pray for your neighbors, co-workers, and relatives that they may come to know the Lord Jesus Christ and grow in the knowledge of his love?

Prayer: Stir up the will of your faithful, we pray, O Lord, that striving more eagerly to bring your divine work to fruitful completion, they may receive in greater measure the healing remedies your kindness bestows. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Contemplation: What is God really calling you to do in life? As God calls you, how are you responding? Are you anywhere near ready to respond? When Jesus began his ministry he went every where he could — the streets, towns, hills and lakeside of Galilee — to speak to people about the kingdom of God. He chose as his closest friends and coworkers those who were ready to follow as his disciples and he gave them an unusual mission — "to catch people for the kingdom of God". What kind of disciples did Jesus choose? Smelly fishermen! In the choice of the first apostles we see a characteristic feature of Jesus' work: he chose very ordinary people. They were non-professionals, had no wealth or position of power or fame in society. They were chosen from the common people who did ordinary things, had no special marks of education, and no social advantages. Jesus wanted ordinary people who could take an assignment and do it extraordinarily well. He chose these individuals, not for what they were, but for what they would be capable of becoming under his direction and power. When the Lord calls us to be his disciples, we must not think we have nothing to offer him in exchange. The Lord takes what ordinary people, like us, can offer and uses it for greatness in his kingdom.

Do you believe that God wants to work through you and in you for his glory? He does, you know. Open yourself – your mind and your heart – so that His will can be accomplished through your earthly life.

Scripture passages (NAB translation) courtesy of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops;
prayers are from *The Roman Missal*, Catholic Book Publishing, 2011;
information about saints, solemnities, feasts and memorials courtesy of Catholic Culture.

frlumpe:2019

*The Season of Advent begins Sunday, December 1st.
As a new liturgical year begins in the Church,
“Year A” Sunday Cycle scripture readings also begin, and
“Cycle II” Weekday readings begin as well.*

THANK YOU TO OUR BULLETIN SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

TRI-STATE REHAB SERVICES

Please patronize all our sponsors in appreciation of their support of our bulletin.

Sciota Catholic

CHRISTMAS MASSES

CHRISTMAS EVE

4:00PM AT ST. MARY

4:00PM AT ST. MONICA

6:30PM AT HOLY REDEEMER

CHRISTMAS DAY

MIDNIGHT AT ST. MARY

MIDNIGHT AT ST. PETER

9:00AM AT HOLY REDEEMER

9:00AM AT ST. PETER

