

*Thirtieth Sunday in
Ordinary Time
October 27, 2024*



From the Gusset

Don't Worry—It is God Who is Crazy– Not you!

I know that my vindicator lives, and that He will at last stand forth upon the dust. Job 19:25

Job thought that he was **crazy**. Have you ever felt that you were **crazy**? I know that I have thought, if anyone is **crazy** surely it must be Fr. Randy. Job feels that his **life** is useless – that all he had accomplished was for naught – Job wishes he had never been born! He questions why he was ever **conceived**. He looks at his **life** and he **wonders**: what for? You see, at one point Job had everything: a **wife**, seven **sons**, three **daughters** – ten children a perfect number, a complete number. Job had 7,000 sheep, 3,000 camels, 500 oxen, 500 donkeys, and tons of other working animals; in short, Job was **rich**. Then in the blink of an eye his children all died, and his great herds of animals were suddenly no more. Job's **health** had gone to pot – he was in **tremendous pain**, no one even wants to look at him – so miserable is his **countenance**. Does Job sound like anybody you know? Job sounds like Jesus Christ to me. The Son of God had everything, and then between **the Last Supper meal** on holy Thursday night and 3:00pm on **Good Friday** He lost everything! Job thinks he must be **crazy**, because Job saw how much God **loved** him when he was **rich**, in **good health**, and had a big family – heck everybody loved Job back then; but now, who could **love** Job now? His **wife** gives him the advice: ‘curse God and **die!**’ Job’s 3 **best friends** don't even recognize him. Not even God could **love** this **boil-stricken man** – this man who had covered his head in **ashes** who sits in **the dust**. But you see, that is where Job is wrong. Yes, God **loved** Job before – even **Satan** could see this. **Satan** complained to God that He had given Job everything – all these gifts – all this beauty in Job’s family – who wouldn't **love** Job? But then it hits Job like a ton of bricks – the light finally comes on in Job’s noggin. Job says, “**I know that my vindicator lives and that He, my God, my Vindicator, my Redeemer, my Lover – will at last stand forth upon the dust.**” You see, there it is, it is all wrapped up in that one worthless word – **the dust**. That is all Job is: **dust**. That is all you are: **dirt**. That is all Fr. Randy is: **dust**. But God **loves** us. God has **poured** His **love** into us, and now we are **precious** to God. God is really the One who is **crazy!** Not us! Who would **love the dirt** of the earth? We certainly don't. I **curse the dust** from **the farmers** cultivating their fields that gets on my **shiny car**. I don't love my neighbor – he is just a walking **dust ball** like myself. I don't know why God **loves** me! I'm just **dirt** but he does! God is **crazy**. God does **love** you and not just a little, but **a whole heck of a lot**. God is so **crazy in love** with you, and He **pours** Himself out – gives all of His **love** to you. How do we know this? How do we see this? We know it, we see it, in **the life** of Jesus Christ – the Second Person of the Trinity. Jesus had everything and then He became **poor**, and gave up His **life** for you. Jesus was rich, and He gave up all of His **wealth** for you. Jesus **poured** out the **love** the Father had given to Him – Jesus **poured** all that **love** into you (the last time you received **a Sacrament** from **the Catholic Church**), so that God the Father **could at last stand forth upon the dust**, and raise you to **new life** – a **Divine Life** spent with the Trinity.

Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



I recently got asked if **we, Catholics**, celebrated **Halloween**? Of course we do – we are the ones, who gave **Halloween** its name! **October 31st** is nothing less than **the Vigil of All Saints' Day**. In old English, the holy ones were called **'hallowed'** – that is **'holy'** just like we pray in **the Our Father Prayer: Hallowed be Thy Name!** This transition into **November** brings us to what my **Spiritual Director – the great Msgr. Mahowald** liked to call – **“the 3 holiest days of the year outside of the Triduum.”** The Body of Christ is composed of 3 elements: **the Church Triumphant (the Saints in Heaven)**, **the Church militant** (we the living on earth, who can pray **the Mass**), and **the Church suffering (the souls in Purgatory – everyone, who has died, whom we have not worked a Plenary Indulgence for)**. As the sibling in the middle – we, **the living** – we pray **the Mass** thanking God on **All Saints' Day** for welcoming our brothers and sisters into **Paradise**. The Church makes **All Saints' Day a holy day of obligation** – requiring **all of us** to thank God by celebrating **the Eucharist** – for allowing **the Saints** to attain the goal of **eternal life**. Of course, 24 hours is not enough time to thank God for so great a gift, and so **All Saints' Day** gets an additional 8 hours added to it – Ie. **a Vigil**. We may thank God in **the Holy Mass** starting at 4:00pm on **October 31st** – Ie. **Halloween!** So, we will celebrate **the Mass** at 6:30pm at **Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church** on **Halloween**, and then again at 8:00am out in **Maytown** on **November 1st** (this **Mass**



will end with our **1st Friday Devotion** of a **Holy Hour**). **Msgr. Mahowald** use to kid me saying, **“Randy, my boy, if they ever make you the Pope – the first thing you ought to do is make All Souls' Day a holy day of obligation.”** It is so important to pray **Masses** for the dead, and to work a **Plenary Indulgence** for them that they might enter into **the glory of Heaven**, and so **Catholics** in these parts (**Sublette, West Brooklyn, and Maytown**) will be treated to a Mass on Saturday, **November 2nd** at **11:00am** at **St. Mary of the Assumption Church**. **All Souls' Day** completes our 3 days of **celebrating** the fullness of the Body of Christ.



THE MASS AND THE SAINTS



In the old days, **the Introit** (today we would call it *'the entrance antiphon'*) was composed of **psalms**, **the Confiteor**, and **the Gloria** – and all of these prayers were prayed at the foot of the altar – before **the priest** even entered **the sanctuary** and started the Mass. **St. Robert Bellarmine** says that **Pope Celestine** (who died in 432) required the Church of **Rome** to recite all **150 psalms** before the sacrifice of **the Mass** was celebrated! Later, when the recitation of the **psalms** was left to being prayed in **the Divine Office** (**the priest** praying **the breviary**) just **one psalm** or **one verse of a psalm** was chosen to be prayed before **the Mass** started, and this **psalm** was to reflect 'the theme' of **the Mass**. So typically, a **psalm** was chosen that meditated on the coming

of the Savior particular to the liturgical season in which **the Mass** was taking place. Today, if a choir is present for **the Mass**, an **entrance song** is sung; but if not, **the priest** reads **the antiphon** prayer from the Missal, and then begins **the Mass** with the sign of **the Cross**. **The antiphon** then is prayed to give respect to all those **prophets** and **holy sinners**, who lived before the coming of the Messiah – who longed for His coming. Many of these **antiphons** talk about waiting in **the darkness** for the coming Messiah to light the way. We, Seminarians at the North American College in **Rome**, secretly thought that **Pope St. John Paul II** had some **Bohemian blood** in him, because **the Holy Father** instructed the Sacristans at **St. Peter's Basilica** to not turn the main lights for **the Mass** on until **the Holy Father** processed in. So, thousands of Catholics pretty much sat in **the dark** waiting for the Papal Mass to start. It was because **Pope John Paul** wanted to give credence to **Isaiah** the Prophet's quips about waiting in **the dark** for the Light to come. For example: **my soul has desired Thee in the night, or no power of fire could give them light, neither could the bright flames of the stars enlighten that horrible night.** It really was **spectacular** to witness all the lights coming on in an evening or **nighttime Mass** at **St. Peter's** and seeing **the glory** of the Holy Spirit reflect off of **the gilded ceiling** and side altars! **The Catholic Church** is really expressing this cry of the ancient fathers, yearning for the coming of Christ, so She lifts up her voice – overcome by a desire for God – to sing **the antiphon!**



Mass
Times



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Saturday, October 26th

(+) Gertrude, (+) Barbara, (+) Sophia, & (+) Josephine Hraback/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Larry Leffelman/ OLPH Choir &

(+) Gerald Leffelman/ Sylvia Leffelman

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Robert Bresson/ Mr. & Mrs. Jeff Bresson

Sunday, October 27th 30th Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Anthony Parla/ Mr. & Mrs. Doug Klein

10:30 am, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Monday, October 28th Feast of St. Simon and St. Jude

(+) Carol Widolff/ Mr. & Mrs. Pat Widolff

Tuesday, October 29th

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Extended Family of Howard McInnis/ Mr. & Mrs. Howard McInnis

11:30 am, **St. Paul's Hospital** (+) Robert Bonnell & (+) Margaret Bonnell/ Fr. Randy

Wednesday, October 30th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Kathy Reeser & (+) Tedd Reeser/ Mr. & Mrs.

Floyd Wilson

Thursday, October 31st

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Sister Benedict/ DDL

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) June Jones/ Mr. & Mrs. Gary Dinges

6:30 pm, **OLPH** (+) Jean Ritola/ Mr. & Mrs. Gerald Klein

Friday, November 1st All Saints' Day

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

Saturday, November 2nd All Souls' Day

(+) James & (+) Geraldine Fronek/ Fr. Randy

11:00 am, **SMA** (+) All who have passed in the Last Year from our Parishes/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** Pro Populo/ Fr. Randy

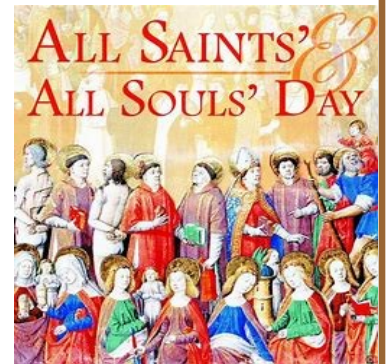
5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) James Jones/ Fr. Randy

Sunday, November 3rd 31st Sunday of Ordinary Time

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Mary Frances McLaughlin/ Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Blaine

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Clement Henkel/ Family &

(+) Mike Widolff/ Mr. & Mrs. Mike Vaessen



Living Mass Intentions:

OLPH: Scott & Lori Hanson, Don & Kristi Althaus, Judy Marschang,

Roger & Diane Truckenbrod, Brad & Michelle Zentmyer

SMA: Raymond Henkel, Jerome Schmidt, Aaron & Lana Eddy



**GREAT LAKES
CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE**



We have **stopped** having **in-Parish Retreats** at our **Churches**, because no one was attending them. This is an **opportunity** for the **men** of the Parish to go on **Retreat**, and it is not too far way (DeKalb, Ill.) —Saturday, **November 23rd** 8:50am—4:00pm