

*Thirty-third Sunday in
Ordinary Time
November 17, 2024*



From the Gusset

“...He emptied himself,....” Philippians 2:7



The **ironic thing** is (if we are **humble** enough to see it), is that we already have **a head start**. We are already **empty**. We are already **poor**. We are already **slaves** or servants. We were born **human**—we were all given the **poverty** of **human flesh** from our birth, from our **conception**. Because we are **human beings**, **fleshy creatures**, and because our **flesh** was made from **the dirt**—we have already been **humbled** and subject to **death**. We already have **a head start** on the Second Person of the Trinity, Jesus Christ! The

Lord God, on the other hand, He is God—Jesus is **the Glory** of God the Father. Jesus is filled with all the **Love** of His Father—Jesus is **rich** beyond all **imagination**. Jesus is the Lord of all, the Word through whom God **created** all things, and Jesus has always existed and forever will exist—He cannot die! And so on **Christmas** 2,000 years ago, the Second Person of the Trinity had **to empty** Himself—Jesus had to take on the form of a **slave**—God had to **humble** Himself and embrace our **humanity**, and become vulnerable to all things, but most especially vulnerable to **death**! So Jesus enters the game of **Salvation** way behind us, you and I are way out in front of God, or we should be way out in front of God on **the path** that leads back to **the Kingdom** of God. So the **ironic thing** is, though we should be closer to the finish line (if the finish line is **Heaven**) we are **not**, because we got confused by our **sins**, and we have wandered so far off **the path** that leads to **Heaven** that it is not even funny. Thank God that Jesus doesn't **laugh** at us, but rather has **pity** on us. God sent His Son, Jesus, to embrace our **humanity**—become man to show us what we are supposed to be doing with our **humanity**. For we do not know what we are to do; and even, we are doing the exact opposite of what we are supposed to be doing. We are **filling** ourselves up; instead, of **emptying** ourselves. My brothers and sisters in Christ, I tell you what **the BTB Bishop** from Brownsville, Texas told me: that the key to **the Kingdom** of God is to give yourself away, to **empty** yourself! How many times did **Bishop Baron** tell us that, but we just didn't get it; but when **Bishop Flores** says it in a different way—using different words—suddenly it becomes **crystal clear**! God knows nothing more than to **pour** Himself out for us! What does **St. Paul** say? The same thing, **Jesus emptied Himself**—gave all of the Divine **Love** His Dad gave Him, Jesus **pours** all that **Love** into us when we receive **the Eucharist**. It is the key to **the Kingdom** of God: to give everything that God gives us in **the Sacraments** of **the Catholic Church**; or even, if we are **not Catholic**: if you give all the **Love** that God gives to you outside of a **Sacramental** encounter, if you **empty** yourself of Divine **Love**—give all of that **Love** to others—you will be greatly **exalted** by God the Father! God the Father will say, “this one from **Sublette/ West Brooklyn/ Maytown**—this one reminds Me of My Son, Jesus. I gave them all of My **Love** and instead of hoarding it to themselves—they gave it all away. I will give them **the keys** to My Kingdom—I will let them share My **glory** forever—they will be **rich**, because they made themselves **poor**. That my friends, is why when you receive **the Eucharist**—you make a **Spiritual Communion** for others. God fills you up, and so you do what Jesus did: **you empty yourself, you pour yourself out!**

Yours on the Path Fr. Randy



Collection Amounts for the Month of October

	OLPH	SMA	St. Patrick
Loose Collection	\$1,388	\$35	\$60
Envelopes	\$4,845	\$2,530	\$1,250
Total	\$6,233	\$2,565	\$1,310
Monthly Expenses	\$10,921	\$4,184	\$3,695
Diocesan Appeal	\$7,945/\$10,655	\$4,719/\$3,280	\$7,470/\$2,603
Mission Appeal	\$1,340	\$600	\$75

THANKSGIVING DAY MASS

St. Mary of the Assumption Church in West Brooklyn will host our **Mass of Thanksgiving** this year on **Thursday, November 28th at 9:00am**. The **collection** will go towards buying **gas cards** for the **Badger Square Residents** in **Sublette** (they don't like **Turkeys**) and a **donation** will be made to the **N.I.C.E. Food Pantry** in **Lee**. Thank God for the many **blessings** He has given to your family this year, and make a **Spiritual Communion** for those who have not been given **the weekly graces** of **the Eucharist** as you have!



HOME HOLY HOUR

Part of **the Eucharistic Revival** in our **country** is to have a **personal encounter** with Jesus in **the Eucharist**. We have a **Community-wide** encounter with God's only Begotten Son every time we celebrate **the Sunday Mass**, but what our **hearts** truly long for is that **our** family would have a **personal encounter** with Jesus in **the Eucharist**. This is why we are doing something unique in our **three Parishes** – something that is **not** being done anywhere else in our **country**!

We are having a **Home Holy Hour** – where we open **the door** to our **home** and invite Jesus into **the intimacy** of our **family's**

heart. Imagine, if Jesus felt as **welcome** at your home as He did at the home of Lazarus, Martha, and Mary! Consider signing your family up for a **Home Holy Hour** – simply go to our website: www.olphmarystpatrick.com – and experience a **personal encounter** with God for your **family**.





THE MASS AND THE SAINTS

“If words will not come; and yet, you cannot remain silent – what else can you do, but let the melody soar?! This is a quote from **St. Augustine** in describing **the Alleluia** before **the Gospel**. Indeed, our **hearts** are bursting with feelings that words cannot **express**—that God is coming to speak to us! To what do we owe this **honor**?! The liturgist, **Durandus** said, “that **the Alleluia** does not so much express **the joy** of that far distant life (**Heaven**), but **the Alleluia** points toward it; and although, it is but one word—**the**

Alleluia has many notes for this **joy** is greater than can be expressed in a single note. **St. Thomas Aquinas** said, “that **the Alleluia** intimates **the joy** that we feel in **the hope** of the eternal things to come; and that we repeat **the Alleluia**, because both **the soul and the body** are to be clothed in **glory**. **Alleluia** is a Hebrew word, and it roughly means: **praise our Lord**. Just like **the Amen**, **Alleluia** has never been translated from Hebrew into **Latin** – not that its meaning is unknown; rather, as the Doctor of the Church, **St. Isidore** (560-636) says, “**these words have by their very antiquity, a greater and holier authority** (and therefore are not translated).” Now on days set aside for **penance** (like Lent and Advent), **the Alleluia** is not sung but it is replaced by **the Tract**. An example of a **Lenten Tract** is: *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory*. **The Tract** is sung with long drawn out notes that sound **mournful** and **severe**, and it often has several verses, because according to **St. Albert the Great**, “a man must be drawn to do **penance** in many ways before **sin** is finally destroyed in him.” **Durandus** said, “**the Tract** symbolizes **the tears** of **the Saints** as they actively follow and contemplate our **lives**.” I have often been at odds with myself, as **the priest** celebrating a **Funeral Mass**, whether to sing **the Alleluia** verse or not. Of course, the whole **Church** **mourns** the loss of one of its members, and so how can we **rejoice** when our loved one has passed? This point was debated after **Vatican II** and all the many changes to **the Liturgy**. In the end it was decided that **the dead** are closer to **the triumph of Heaven** (returning to Jerusalem), than they are to their **captivity to sin** (the Babylonian exile); and so **the Alleluia** should be sung at a **Funeral Mass**; except of course during those times of the year when **the priest** wears **purple**.





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Saturday, November 16th

(+) Joseph & (+) Mary McCoy/ Barbara Maria McCoy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Stacey Wertz/ Shawn Leffelman

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) James Wolf/ Mr. & Mrs. John Schmidt and Family

Sunday, November 17th 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time

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

10:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Sharon Apple/ Mr. & Mrs. Mark Henkel & (+) Rose Theiss/ Mr. & Mrs. Doug Klein

Monday, November 18th Dedication of the Basilicas of Sts. Peter & Paul

(+) Larry Leffelman/ Mr. & Mrs. Gilbert Leffelman &

(+) Joseph & (+) Grace Bickett/ Indian Bickett

Tuesday, November 19th

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

Wednesday, November 20th

8:00 am, **OLPH** (+) Donald Marschang/ Family & (+) Betty Henkel/ Mr. & Mrs. Don Dinges

Thursday, November 21st Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 am, **SMA** (+) Justin Corcoran/ Mr. & Mrs. Steve Daw

8:30 am, **OLPH** (+) Patricia Brelsfoard & (+) Christine Pitton/ Mary Schreiner

Friday, November 22nd Feast of St. Cecilia

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Melvin Stewart/ Howardene Stewart

Saturday, November 23rd

All the men going to the Men's Conference in DeKalb/ Fr. Randy

4:00 pm, **OLPH** (+) Lynn Peterson/ Mark Lauer

5:30 pm, **SMA** (+) Quin & (+) Josephine Torri/ Torri Family

Sunday, November 24th Christ the King Solemnity

8:00 am, **St. Patrick** (+) Jack Weeks/ Marilyn Weeks & (+) Marty Quest/ Velma Quest

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

Living Mass Intentions:

OLPH: Deacon Steve & Flo Jolly, Pat Stenzel, Roger & Diane Truckenbrod, Julia Krueger

SMA: Sister Mary Paul, Sister Cornelia, Larry & Linda Lindenmier

St. Patrick: Norbert Weber, John Bickett

St. Patrick Fund Raisers

At the back of all of our Churches is a **tote** for the **Winter Coat Drive**. **St. Patrick's Church** is again having a coat drive through **December 1st**. New or used coats, **mittens**, or **hats** can be dropped off in the back of any **Church**. Also, **St. Patrick's scrap metal drive** has already earned **\$1,485**. Help us fill our **fourth dumpster**, and bring in even more **revenues** for our **Church repairs**.



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

is collecting **food items** for the 3 food pantries that we support: **NICE**, **Mendota**, and **St. Patrick's in Amboy**. Thank you for any **donations** that you place in **the narthex** of the **Church** in **Sublette**.

