



Mass Intentions

Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 3, 2018

Saturday– Nov 3rd –

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Paul and Valeria Koons
by Carolyn and Nik Pontician
7:00PM – Francis J. Broderick
by Family

Sunday – Nov 4th –

8:30AM – Stephen Burda (A)
by Family
10:30AM – Brothers Thomas and Michael
by Sister, Aggie Chabak

Monday – Nov 5th – St Bertille

8:00AM – Rev. James C. Bechtel
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

Tuesday – Nov 6th – St Leonard

8:00AM – Berniece Haig
by Vivian and Philip Capriotti
Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – Nov 7th – St Willibrord

6:00PM – Communion Service

Thursday – Nov 8th – The Four Crowned Martyrs

8:00AM – Rev. Michael E. Ahrensfield
by Rev. Eric J. Gruber

Friday – Nov 9th –

Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:00AM – Rev. James C. Gruber (B)
by Family

Saturday– Nov 10th – St Leo the Great

8:00AM – All St. John Fisher Parishioners

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sat Vigil: 4:00PM – Catherine A. Mahon (A)
by Daughter, Barbara Knarr
7:00PM – Joseph Kroboth
by Kroboth Family

Sunday – Nov 11th –

8:30AM – Agnes M. Collis
by Greg and Erika Figura
10:30AM – Peter H. Krall
by Colleen McCloskey



**Pray the Rosary
Sundays**

8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

Electing to Go Our Own Way

Fr. James V. Schall, S.J., writes,

"The relation between loss of faith and [our] sins, especially those concerning the sixth commandment in its various forms, is no doubt very close in the modern age. The shadow of the famous aphorism often attributed to the devil, "I will not serve," reflects this defiant refusal. Nothing is to be accepted except in the name of one's own authority. Yet, faith is initially a gift, not something "due" to us. In a way the rejection of a gift is the most sophisticated insult we can give someone.

Faith is closely related to understanding. Faith seeks understanding, while understanding, not able to grasp everything by itself, leads to faith. The testimony of another is the source of knowledge about the higher things, even of normal things like how we ought best to live to be happy. The Gospel of John itself records instances of disciples who, on hearing what they are to know and believe, depart, unable or unwilling to accept it. Like all those who lose the faith or refuse to accept it, the basic reason is that they think that some way to their happiness can be found other than the "way" that is Christ who leads to the Father (Jn 14:6).

...[T]he attrition of Catholics from orthodoxy is astonishing. John Paul II and Benedict XVI talked of living in a relativistic and positivist culture. Many of the legislative and judicial decisions that have rejected basic Catholic teachings came from Catholics or were passed with their support. The major facilitators of such decisions claim that they are "Catholic." The bishops rarely say much in particular about this phenomenon that cannot but confuse the public. Presidential candidates and *New York Times* editorials speak of coercing, of elimination from the public order dissent on abortion or same-sex marriage.

...Once we have decided that we want to do or think something, we have to concoct reasons in defense of our choice. No one can lose or give up Catholicism without a "reason." This giving-up means that we have specifically to reject the reasons why it is not all right to do so. We can only reject these if we propose an alternate "theory" of reality to the position the Church holds.

Socrates proposed that ignorance was the cause of disorder or sin in the soul. No doubt, we find an element of ignorance in any sin or error. But something more is always to be found. Faith is the result primarily of God seeking us. We sometimes fail to realize that our lives are not one-sided affairs. We think we are the only ones doing the seeking, that God just sits there doing His own thing while we rush about. This fact that we are first sought is what the parable of the Lost Sheep is about; it is why we cannot be settled in our aberrations.

Modern notions of freedom are based on the relativist proposition that nothing is true. This position is convenient. It justifies our unwillingness to take anything but ourselves into consideration. If I "feel" like doing this or that, well, it is all right. ...The notion that we are the cause of our own good, and so no one else can tell us anything about the important things, has a shadow of a truth, as all error does. We are indeed the architects of what we shall be, of how we present ourselves to God and the world. ...[But] [t]he loss of faith is also a choice. It is not just the taking-back of a gift. It is a rejection of it. The rejection may not be in explicit words, though often it is in words that seek to "justify" the loss in terms of another good or idea. In the end, the loss of faith does not mean that God ceases to seek us. It does mean that we cease to seek Him in the manner in which He has guided us, the way of our redemption – that is, the

following of Christ."

~ *A Line Through the Human Heart*, Schall

To think, therefore, that what I elect to do with my time, money, energy, body, spirit, mind and vote could mean an acceptance or rejection of Christ and His Church!

Pray. Vote. Pray more.

Fr. Eric.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection	\$3,593.00
All Saint's Day Collection	\$1,234.00

The **Second** Collection this weekend, **November 3rd and 4th**, is the **Hurricane Relief Collection**.

NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE



	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	D.Gorr A.Banoza	J.Strohl	Deacon Jack
7:00PM	L.Ruda N.Ruda	J.Englert	Deacon Jack
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	B.Molchany	C.Molchany
10:30AM	K.Gair M.Druckenmiller	J.DeLong	F.Hutterer



BLESSING OF GRAVES

The annual **Blessing of Graves** will be held **today, Sunday, November 4th**, at **1:00pm** beginning with a **Prayer Service** at the Cross in St Andrew Cemetery, followed by the blessing of graves at St Andrew and St Lawrence cemeteries, weather permitting.



Please remember in your prayers **Irene (Patterson) Vomero**, who passed away and was buried. We pray her soul, and all the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

REDNER'S TAPES

We thank all our parishioners who faithfully do their food shopping at Redner's. By placing your tapes in the collection basket, we have received a check from Redner's in the amount of **\$94.42**. Thank you!



Flowers were placed on the altar last weekend in memory of Charles and Jean Gustitus, by Charlotte Kerrigan.

St. John the Baptist Church

924 N. Front Street, Allentown

Their **Autumn's Leavin' Dance** with the Steel City Band with Bobby Molchan will be held on **Saturday, November 17th, from 7:00pm to 10:00pm**. Tickets are just \$5.00, the kitchen will be open, and it is B.Y.O.B.

Their **Meat Bingo** will be held on **Sunday, November 18th, at 1:00pm**. Doors and kitchen open at 12:00 Noon. Bingo begins at 1:00pm, and is \$11.00 for 15 games. Questions, call Bill Drost at 610-432-3505.



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS THIS CHRISTMAS

This Christmas, sponsor a wreath in memory of a veteran. St. Luke's – Allentown Campus is seeking donations, and volunteers to lay 1,500 wreaths at Resurrection Cemetery on Krocks Road in Wescosville as part of National Wreaths Across America Day on **Saturday, December 15th**. Each wreath sponsorship is \$15.00, and can be made in the name of a specific person or all who have served. To donate a wreath go to donate.wreathscrossamerica.org. Deadline to sponsor a wreath is **Tuesday, November 30th**.

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

This feast commemorates the dedication of Saint John Lateran, the Catholic basilica of Rome, by Pope Sylvester in 324. The Lateran is the episcopal seat of the Bishop of Rome, the pope. Above its towering 18th century façade can be seen the image of Christ Triumphant, surrounded by saints and doctors. "Every place set aside for giving worship is a sign of that spiritual temple, which is the Church, made up of living stones: of the faithful united by the one faith, of the participation in the sacraments and of the bond of charity. The saints, in particular, are precious stones of that spiritual temple" (Saint John Paul II).

~ *Magnificat, November, 2018*

Mrs. Nothstein's Helping Hands

The Homemade Holiday Sale will be held on **Thursday and Friday, November 8th and 9th, from 9:00am to 8:00pm, and, Saturday, November 10th, from 9:00am to 2:00pm at St. John Fisher's Church Hall**. The sale will include a wide range of unique and homemade items from 39 local crafters. The kitchen will be open with halupkies, turkey BBQ, turkey bowls, hot dogs, halushki, and chicken corn chowder to eat in or take out. In addition, frozen pierogies, halupkies, halushki, kiffles, apple dumplings, cutout cookies, peanut chews, and assorted baked goods will also be available for purchase at the baked goods area. Proceeds benefit local children and their families who are in need. To date over \$60,000 has been provided for those needing assistance. **We are accepting baked goods donations on November 7th, 8th, and 9th**. Cash, check, or credit card payments will be accepted.

Thank You

Thank you to the **Catasauqua Area Showcase Theatre (CAST)** for their recent donation of **\$300.00**.

