

ST. MICHAEL'S

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BUT WHO DO  
YOU SAY THAT  
**I AM?**

— MARK 8:29 —



**Mission Statement**

Compelled by the love of Christ,  
we **love** others,  
**deepen** our faith,  
and **transform** our world.

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## NOTE FROM FR. MARK

### FUTURE OF FAITH FORMATION

More and more, Faith Formation is becoming a huge part of our Sunday experience. And it should be! I know traditionally, in the past, adults have not had Formation classes offered to them. It was just for kids. **Now, where did we get the idea that Faith Formation was just a kid thing when we, as adults, need it just as much, if not more, than they do?** You and I need a life of Faith that fits our adult world. Otherwise, it just becomes something we did as kids, thinking that busy adults cannot really live this stuff. And that Faith that we believe is irrelevant or just for kids is just that, just for kids! We all need an adult version of all of this. In my years as a priest, I have been somewhat surprised at how uninformed and uneducated we adult Catholics are about our precious Faith. Moreover, it is remarkably relevant and essential to my life. And I am rather surprised and alarmed that you haven't been screaming to learn more about living as Christian adults, especially in a culture that preaches and teaches about things that are deeply opposed to what we believe as followers of Jesus Christ.

So, once again, we are beginning new classes and pushing our Parish Faith Formation along with the Formation of our children. Given the changes we are making in the formation of our high schoolers, inviting them to adult classes and instruction, **we will no longer be talking about "Adult Faith Formation" along with "Youth Faith Formation." WE ARE NOW GOING TO BE ADDRESSING ALL THIS AS "PARISH FAITH FORMATION."**

Each of us needs to be doing more than just attending Holy Mass on Sundays; no longer is that enough, not in this complex world! Each of us, adults and children, need to have some form of Faith Formation so our lives as Christians are genuine and honest. In the last few weeks, we have been advertising the courses offered, and listed them on our pew cards. So off we go.

I'm looking forward to seeing ALL of it. Let's get into the mind frame for constant Faith Formation-for all of us, youth and adult-me too!

### FOLLOW YOUR FAITH (FYF)

Last week, we covered a lot of ground discussing Christian morality and how we are to live as Christians and followers of Jesus. This week, we will pick up where we left off. We were talking about freedom and responsibility, asking questions about free will and just what that really is. We will start there and discuss what makes an action moral and human. This is critical for us to discuss. Of course, again, let's discuss feelings and where they fit in. Then, what does it mean to let our conscience be our guide? With that, we need to discuss "forming our conscience" and what it means to have "erroneous judgment," or not following our conscience. Then, we will skip some pages and move to "Sin." What is it? How responsible are we for our actions? Where and what is God's mercy?

Then, we will move to how morality is part of how we live in the human community and how our morality affects us and everyone around us. We will discuss topics like authority, our responsibility to the human community, social justice, grace and justification, and **the Church's authority as a teacher**. Now, there's a topic that requires our attention. That's a lot of topics, but we will bring them together as a comprehensive whole when we meet at 7 pm, Sunday. Join us!



### **The Alpha Kitchen Needs YOU!!!**

It is once again time for Alpha here at OMOS! Alpha is held at OMOS on Tuesday evenings. A meal is provided each week for our guests and helpers, and we need YOU to help us make the meals happen! If you want to help with our food, please go to the website [perfectpotluck.com](http://perfectpotluck.com) to sign up.

- ◆ Coordinator Name: [alpha dinner](#)
- ◆ Password: [omos](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Michelle St. Clair (814) 322-7163, Janette Cowan (814) 242-2489, or Estelle Milligan (814) 242-9316. Any and all help is GREATLY appreciated!

Bishop McCort Elementary—West Campus will have a Penance Service in OMOS Church on Wednesday, September 18 @ 10 am. You are invited to come and experience the loving forgiveness of God.

### **ROBOCALLS**

If our weekly robocalls are not reaching you, it is possible that they are being blocked out as spam. Please add the parish phone number (814) 535-7646 to your contact list.

**Take time away to be with God.  
Experience God in prayer and contemplation  
through**

*Silence*

*Stillness*

*Solitude*

**At the St. John the Baptist Retreat Center,  
New Baltimore, PA**

The weekend will include instruction and guidance in practicing silence in prayer. You can meet with a Spiritual Director if you sign up for a directed retreat. The cost of the weekend is \$165 for a directed retreat and \$145 for a private retreat. The price includes two nights of single accommodations and four meals. The retreat begins at 7 pm on Friday, October 4, and concludes after the lunch meal on Sunday, October 6. Silence is required throughout the weekend.

**Register before September 20 @  
<https://www.omostoday.com/silent-retreat-sign-up/>**

### **DEVOTIONS AT SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS of CHANDAVILA, SPAIN TO CONTINUE**

Devotions at the Marian Shrine of Our Lady of Sorrows of Chandavila, Spain, have been approved by Pope Francis at an August 22 audience. The Vatican dicastery recommended that devotions at the shrine continue as they have shown to communicate Mary's "close and affectionate presence." The shrine has offered the faithful a place of interior peace, consolation, and conversion to those who wish to approach it.

Devotions at the Our Lady of Sorrows Shrine of Chandavila began after World War II, when two girls, ten year-old Marcelina Barrosa Exposito and 16 year Afra Brigido Blanco, separately had similar spiritual experiences in which they encountered Mary where the shrine now sits in La Codosera, Spain, along the country's border with Portugal.

The Vatican dicastery did not rule about the nature of the apparitions themselves. Still it said, "There is nothing one can object to in this beautiful devotion, which presents the same simplicity that we can see in Mary of Nazareth, our Blessed Mother. Many positive aspects indicate an action of the Holy Spirit in so many pilgrims who come, both from Spain and Portugal, in the conversions, healings, and other valuable signs in this place."

The story of the apparitions holds that Marcelina saw a dark shape in the sky that she identified as Our Lady of Sorrows, with a black mantle full of stars. More than the vision, Marcelina had a profound experience of feeling the embrace and kiss the Virgin gave her on the forehead. Months later, Afra claimed to have the same experience.

Cardinal Victor Manuel Fernandez, dicastery prefect, says, "While this assurance of Our Lady's close and affectionate presence is perhaps the most beautiful message. What stands out the most is the presence of the Virgin that instills consolation, encouragement, and confidence."

During Marcelina's apparition, Mary asked her to walk toward her on her knees through dry chestnut husks, thorns, and stones. Mary did not ask her to do this to cause her suffering, but on the contrary, she asked for her confidence in the face of the challenge: "Do not be afraid; nothing will happen to you."

The story said that Mary placed a carpet of reeds and grass over the treacherous terrain as the girl walked across it on her knees, and then Mary asked that a chapel be built in that spot in her honor.

"This call of the Virgin, to trust in her love, gave this poor and suffering girl hope, and also the experience of feeling dignified. Is that simple mantle, made of reeds and grasses with which Our Lady protected the girl's knees, not a beautiful expression of Mary's tenderness?" Fernandez wrote in his letter.

**ST. MICHAEL'S FLOORING DRIVE**



**ST. MICHAEL FLOORING DRIVE**

We have surpassed 2/3 of our goal! This week we received \$860 this week, increasing our total to \$24,110. We are incredibly grateful for all your contributions.

**ST. MICHAEL'S FEAST DAY**

The Feast of St. Michael the Archangel will be celebrated on Saturday, September 28, with 6 pm Mass and a covered dish after Mass in the Community Room. All are welcome!

**CHICKEN BBQ DINNER**

**September 29**

St. Demetrius Parish in Gallitzin will hold its annual Chicken BBQ Dinner and Fall Festival on Sunday, September 29, in the Parish Activity Center, 714 Foster Street, Gallitzin. The meal includes a half BBQ chicken, deliciously seasoned and slow-roasted over a fire pit, green beans, a potato, a roll, and a dessert. Dine-in and take-out dinners are available for \$14 each. A rummage sale and baked goods, games, and a basket raffle will also be featured. It's fun for the whole family! Dinner will be served beginning at 11 am until we are sold out!

**We're Sending out an SOS!**

Our world desperately needs God's love! Help us to spread His love in the community on Serve Others Saturday, September 21, from 9 am to noon.

- ◆ No-sew blankets
- ◆ St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Shop
- ◆ Visit residents of McCullough Place

We will all meet in Holy Grounds at 9 am for prayer and fellowship. Then, around 9:30 am, we will move to our service stations. We can carpool to St. Vincent de Paul and McCullough Place if you need a ride. If you are going to McCullough Place, it may be nice to bring a puzzle, playing cards, a game, or a book to share with residents. If you prefer just to talk, you may do that as well. It would really be great if we could have a guitarists who could share some music!

We are looking forward to seeing everyone so we can love our brothers and sisters as Jesus called us to do!



Beginning Mon., Sept. 16 and continuing on Mon. & Wed. nights at 7 pm, at St. John Gualbert Activity Center, there will be a series of talks for adults and youth (12 and up) to deepen our faith. No sign-up needed. Free babysitting.

**LONGEST TABLE EVENT**

You are invited to join the Johnstown Community for a meal of unity and friendship. This meal is free and open to all. The event will take place at the Pasquerilla Conference Center on **Friday, September 27 at 5:30 p.m.** The goal of the Longest Table Event is to strengthen our community by sharing a meal together, break down barriers, and celebrate our diversity. Stay tuned for more details on registration. This event is hosted by the First Presbyterian Church, 309 Lincoln Street, Johnstown.

**NIGHT OF WORSHIP—SEPT. 17**

**St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg**

Sr. Angela Marie Igou, Vocations and Novice Director for the Sister Servants of the Sacred Heart of Jesus will be the guest speaker at the Tuesday, September 17 Night of Worship sponsored by the Holy Spirit Ministry. The evening of prayer will begin at 7 pm at St. Michael Church, Hollidaysburg. Praise and Worship music will precede Sr. Angela Marie's talk. Sister Angela Marie will share her vocation story and life as a Sacred Heart Sister. Everyone is encouraged to come and learn about vocations, as well as to pray for vocations. All ages are welcome!



**MINISTRY SCHEDULES**

**Monday, September 16**

6 a.m. –Eucharistic Adoration  
 8 a.m. -Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Millie Kohut  
**Lector:** Rick Wess

**Tuesday, September 17**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
 7:30 a.m.—Confessions  
 8 a.m.- Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Annaliese Manalang & James Smedberg  
**Lector:** Michelle Petrell

**Wednesday, September 18**

7 a. m. Praise & Worship  
 4:30 p.m.—Eucharistic Adoration  
 5 p.m.—Confession  
 6:00 p.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Tim Burgess  
**Lector:** Kathy Ridella

**Thursday, September 19**

6 a.m. –Eucharistic Adoration  
 9 a.m. -Mass with Students  
**Servers:** Students  
**Lector:** Students

**Friday, September 20**

6 a.m.—Eucharistic Adoration at OMOS  
 8 a.m.- Mass at OMOS  
**Server:** Wynn Curtis  
**Lector:** Michelle Petrell

**Saturday, September 21—Vigil**

3 p.m.—Confessions  
 4 p.m.—Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Nicolas & Dominic Barger  
**Lector:** Rick Wess  
**Euch. Min:** Michelle Petrell (2), Pat Petrell, Michelle Rivetti, Christine Manalang, Marilyn Billow, Kathy Ridella, Jim Ridella  
**Hosp.:** Cathy Vigna, Allie Zoldos, Ann Mattie, Pat Smith, Rich & Deb Cowan, Mitzie Simmons, Kevin Evans

**Saturday, September 21—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

9 a.m.—Mass at St. Michael’s  
**Servers:** Tim Burgess & Taylor Beneke  
**Lector:** Mitzie Simmons

**Sunday, Sept. 22– 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 am– Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Joe Nibert & Cassidy Stephenson  
**Lector:** Michelle Santee

**Euch. Min:** Denise Esch (2), Rick & Evie Wess, Heather Nibert, Joseph Nibert, John Fontana, Barb Flick  
**Hosp:** Jackie Ayres, Ralph & Maria De-Marco, John Esch, Karen Findish, Marge Pipan, Michelle Kush, Janet Gleason

**Sunday, Sept. 22—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 11 am—Mass at OMOS  
**Servers:** Abby & Wynn Curtis  
**Lector:** Tom Polacek  
**Euch. Min:** Mary Beth Cartwright (2), Mike Thomas, Brad Duca, Maria Nesmith, Michele Varner, Christa Curtis, Donna Gilan  
**Hosp:** Bill Ingram, Tami Buchan, Marianne Krizner, Mary Lynn Evans, Tim DiGuseppe, Lisa Shetler, Denise Mezyk, Michele Varner

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Saturday, September 14—Vigil**

4 pm Pete Omodio (wife, Lena)  
**Saturday, September 14– 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

6 p.m. Patricia Stem (Linda Popchak), Eileen Carothers (Eugene & Donna Vamos), Hilary & Lucille Schrum & Karen Pinkas (Spack & Hicks Family) (Sanctuary Candle—Shrum Family-September 8—September 14)

**Sunday, Sept. 15—23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m. Christopher Gleason (Dan & Vanessa Hummel)  
 11:00 a.m. Jean Hammer (Thomas & Barbara Kelly)

**Monday, September 16**

8 a.m. John Farabaugh (wife, Georgia)

**Tuesday, September 17**

8 a.m. Mary “Dolly” Slagel (Pattie Poole)

**Wednesday, September 18**

6 p.m. Bob & Louise Fisher (Marian Consecration Group)

**Thursday, September 19**

9 a.m. Linda Maurer (Rose Saccone)

**Friday, September 20**

8 a.m. Stephen & Eleanor Rist (Veronica Rist)

**Saturday, September 21—Vigil**

4 pm Michael Fitzgerald (Ralph & Maria DeMarco)

**Saturday, September 21– 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

6 p.m. Benny Popchak (Linda & Family), Julias & Barbara Petruska daughters, Liz, Theresa, & Stacey), Bernice Stem (Bernie & Mary Ann Pentrack) (Sanctuary Candle - Julias & Barbara Petruska - September 15-September 21)

**Sunday, Sept. 22—24th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

8:30 a.m. Betty Blair (Marian Consecration Group)  
 11:00 a.m. Dawn Mamula (husband, Chuck & Family)

**SUNDAY REGULAR COLLECTION**

**September 8, 2024**

Envelopes .....	\$ 8,244
Loose .....	1,291
Online .....	10,372
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>\$ 19,907</b>
<b>St. Michael’s .....</b>	<b>2,483</b>

**WEEKLY READINGS**

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33/Ps 40:7-8a, 8b-9, 10, 17/Lk 7:1-10  
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 7:11-17  
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 12:31—13:13/Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22/Lk 7:31-35  
 Thursday: 1 Cor 15:1-11/Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28/Lk 7:36-50  
 Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3  
 Saturday: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13  
 Next Sunday: Wis 2:12, 17-20/Ps 54:3-4, 5, 6-8 (6b)/Jas 3:16—4:3/Mk 9:30-37