



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

When I was a kid, I hated playing Monopoly because my siblings and friends always seemed to win. But worse was how it happened.

Scared to risk my fake money on buying properties, I'd hold on to it. My opponents hungrily bought up the various real estate squares on the board. Then, inevitably, my poor, low-equity self would land on their spots, pay them rent, and my money would drain to zero. It seemed so unfair. The rich get richer, and the poor get poorer. I had to learn that monopoly money is meant to be spent. I was scared to lose some of it. So, I lost all of it.

How do we see what we possess? Jesus' parable about the talents is not really about economics but about the investability of everything he entrusts to us. How marvelous that everyone in the fable who places talents in the open market doubles their investment. The only one who doesn't is the man who fearfully buries his one talent. Jesus' success strategy for us seems to be, whatever we have, get it out of our possession. Risk it as quickly and as fully as we can.

You and I have precious gifts. We have valuable things to invest — time, talents, treasure. The Lord invites us to be brave and even somewhat reckless, to give as much away as possible. If we give it away in the direction of love and truth, it will grow. If we hold on to it in fear, the little we have will be taken away. Let me challenge you this week: find something in your life you're holding on to, and risk it by giving it away. It won't double if you hold on to it.— Father John Muir



The Parish Office will be closed November 23 & 24 for the Thanksgiving Holidays. If you need emergency assistance, please call the parish office, follow the instructions on the answering machine and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Readings for the week of Nov. 19, 2023

Sunday: Prv 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31/Ps 128:1-5/1 Thes 5:1-6/Mt 25:14-30

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63/Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 150, 155, 158/Lk 18:35-43

Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31/Ps 3:2-7/Lk 19:1-10

Wednesday: 2Mc 7:1, 20-31/Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15/Lk 19:11-28

Thursday: 1Mc 2:15-29/Ps 50:1-2, 5-6, 14-15/Lk 19:41-44

Friday: 1Mc 4:36-37, 52-59/1 Chr 29:10-12/Lk 19:45-48

Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13/Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19/Lk 20:27-40

Next Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/Ps 23:1-3, 5-6/1 Cor 15:20-26, 28/Mt 25:31-4

Mass Intentions for the Week

MONDAY ~November 20~Weekday

8:30AM Cindy L. Liebhardt, *Brian Liebhardt*

TUESDAY ~ November 21~ Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30AM Mothers Day Remembrance

7:30PM Livestream Rosary on Facebook

WEDNESDAY~ November 22 ~ St. Cecelia

8:30AM Jim Horgan, *Carol Horgan*

THURSDAY ~ November 23 ~Thanksgiving Day

9:00AM Nancy Burkhardt, *Judy Klemencic*

FRIDAY ~ November 24 ~ St. Andrew Dung Lac & Companions

8:30AM Henry Pryatel, *Family*

7:30PM Livestream Rosary on Facebook

SATURDAY ~ November 25 ~ Vigil Mass

5:00PM Joseph Donatelli, *Mary Jo Valaitis*

5:00PM Livestream Mass

SUNDAY ~ Nov. 26 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe

8:00AM Mass for Parishioners

10:30AM Frank Mercuri, Jr., *Mercuri & Sejnowski Families*

Happy Thanksgiving



Weekly Contributions November 12, 2023

Total collection: \$16,300.00*

Loose Money: \$66.00 Envelopes: \$7,139.00

No. of Env: 207 Avg. per Env: \$78.89**

Student: 0 Total households: 459

***EFT \$9,125.00**

****EFT Donors 68**

Thank you for your generous support!

Mass Count

Date 2023	5:00p	8:00a	10:30a	Total
October 29	114	99	159	372
November 5	122	92	193	407
November 12	123	87	171	381

From the Desk of Fr. Kevin,

Dear Parishioners,

The Parable of the Talents is a wonderful story of the partnership we as disciples have with God. The "talents" of the story were originally a sum of money. Now when we hear "talent" we think of our abilities, our interests, the things we are good at, those things we enjoy, the things that help us through difficult times. The story emphasizes that our diligence and God's generosity are both required for success in our Christian life.

We know we received a lot from our Creator. We need inner drive and outside assistance to develop the talents we received. We need the places and the people of our world so that we can make use of our talents. We know that Jesus' life shows us the best use of our talents for God, others and ourselves. We know that God rejoices with our success, calls us back from our failures and helps us in our need. So we are partners with God, disciples of Jesus, stewards of God's grace.

The parable reminds us that it does matter how well we live out this partnership, discipleship and stewardship. What do you do well? What do you enjoy? What helps you grow? What can you share with our parish community and the world? Answering these questions helps you answer the challenge of the Parable of the Talents.

THANK YOU to all who made your new commitments to the support of our parish ministry as *We Follow Jesus in Faith, Prayer and Service*. There is still time for you to make a pledge of financial support, to ask for prayers for a special intention and to offer your time and talent to enhance the life of our parish.



Disappointment at the election result should not overcome our hope. We continue to pray for an end to abortion and for a greater respect for human life in our world. Please continue to support Birthright and other groups who

support families in need. It is a wonderful way to use your gifts in the service of God's precious gift of Life.

Peace, Fr. Kevin



We Follow Jesus in Faith, Prayer and Service

Thank you to all who have responded to our "We follow Jesus in faith, prayer and service" Program.

- Our Teens made the pilgrimage to National Catholic Youth Conference in Indianapolis to grow in their faith.
- The Worship Commission met to plan for our Advent Liturgies.
- The Helping Hands program distributed Thanksgiving Food Baskets to the needy in our community.
- Pastoral Staff participated in the Lake/Geauga District Meeting.
- Our Contemporary Musicians have been practicing for the holidays. They are looking for new choir members or musicians if anyone is interested!

There are great things going on here at our Parish! With your continued support we are able to make a difference in our community and the world.

Each and every one of you is a vital member of our parish community and we want to hear from you! If you have not returned your card, please do so. **Our parish goal is 100% participation.** You can drop them off at the parish office, mail them to the parish, or complete an electronic form on the parish website at www.stjustin.net. **All cards need to be returned to the parish by November 27.**

St. Justin Martyr Holy Name Society presents:

Pints with a Priest

Monday, December 4 at 7:30pm in the ATR

Speaker: Fr. Chris Cox

"Anchored to Christ: Eucharist & Catholic Masculinity"



RSVP to tim@stjustin.net

All Men of the Parish are welcome

Pro Orantibus Day | November 21, 2023

This special day honors our religious sisters of the area who are in cloisters. They spend hours in work and prayer for the world and our needs. **Please take a name from the bulletin board in the gallery available this week and send a note of encouragement and thanks to the sisters who pray without ceasing.**





Give Thanks at All Times

Our faith continually challenges us, urging us to find gratitude even in difficult times. While it may be easy to praise God during moments of prosperity, true faith calls us to give thanks in all circumstances.

Certainly, praising God feels natural when life is good. Days when the sun shines, your family thrives, your job brings satisfaction, and good health allows you to relish your favorite activities—all seem perfect reasons to express gratitude.

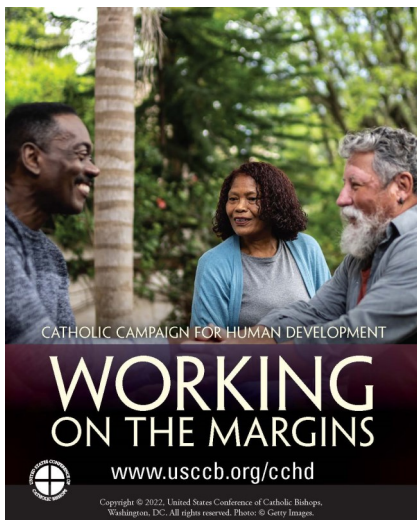
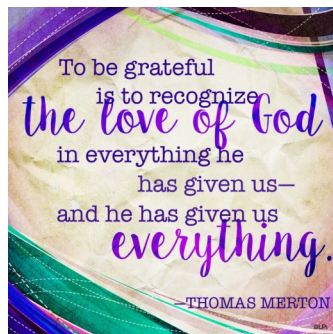
Yet, true faith is tested when faced with adversity. In moments of sorrow, the inclination to question God's plan arises. The "Why me?" sentiment emerges, and blame may be directed toward God or even to yourself. It's a natural, human response to feel downtrodden during tough times.

St. Peter's life reflects this human struggle. Initially resistant to the idea of the Cross, he rebukes Jesus, prompting a stern response. Even during Jesus' trial, Peter denies any association with him to avoid sharing in Jesus' fate. However, Peter eventually understands and is able to accept the inevitable cross.

We learn from Jesus that the path to the glory of resurrection involves enduring suffering, hardship, and pain. Embracing the Cross is a universal challenge in life. Similar to Jesus' experience, it's not meant to be easy. When confronted with our own crosses, we are called not to resist but to embrace them, offering thanks even in adversity.

In our faith journey, gratitude threads its way through both joy and sorrow. Just as Jesus endured the cross and was glorified by the Father is his Resurrection, our challenges pave the way for personal growth and eventual triumph. The call to give thanks at all times is a profound aspect of faith—a reminder that even in the shadows, gratitude can illuminate our path.

Peace and Blessings, Deacon Tim



Please be generous in this week's collection for the Catholic Campaign of Human Development. In the United State, more than 11% of the population lives in poverty. Through this collection, you support programs that address the root causes of poverty and provide a sustainable future for those struggling across the country. In addition, 25% of the funds we collect remain in our diocese to fund local anti-poverty projects. For more info go to www.usccb.org/cchd.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for all of our parishioners who are sick or hospitalized: Margaret Abel, Susan Adler, Sandy Almasy, Patricia Bacon, June Barr, Jeff & Sue Beam, Frank Brown, John Brown, Brian Bruening, Joan Bruening, Frank Cardoni, Kathleen Cassidy, Marc Christovich, Sam Cilaberto, Kelly Cipiti, Carolyn & John Cutler, Paul Dendinger, William Downie, Dan & Frances Eppich, Pauline Feterman, Frank Germano, Marge Gorenc, Fran Gracco, Dave Granchi, Joanne Grisanti, Ruth Gryzmala, Julia Hill, Ann Hobart, Ed Hurayt, Melanie Hurayt, Daniel Jastredowski, Jela Katavic, Alexis Kramer, John Kelly, Katherine Kirsch, Jeri Kuzmak, Sherise Landrey, Brian Lloyd, Bob Marshall, Diane Marshall, Bud Martello, Ed Mayersky, Gary Meinke, Ann Miller, Bill Monreal, Jenny Panella, Kellie Pastor, Kevin Perkins, Cindy Pike, Joe Ritzu, Joshua Rosian, Tim Rosian, Joan Rozak, Joyce Russo, Jackie Scheid, Hannah Shell, Audrey Smith, Ed Snyder, Chris Stano, Dorothy & Joe Strand, James Urbanek, Gregory Usko, Eva Variano, Phil Wolfson, Michael Wrayno, Ken Zalar, the shut-ins, those in nursing homes, needing prayers, and all of the intentions written in our Book of Prayers located in the gallery. **Please call the office if you would like someone added or removed, or email sjmoffice@stjustin.net.**

Eucharistic Adoration: Daily in the Chapel 9am-4:30pm

"The unique and indivisible existence of the Lord glorious in heaven, is not multiplied, but is rendered present by the sacrament in the many places on earth where Mass is celebrated. And this existence remains present, after the sacrifice, in the Blessed Sacrament, which is, in the tabernacle, the living heart of each of our churches." -Pope Paul VI



Come spend time with Jesus.



St. Justin Martyr Prayer Chain

Contact Mary Jane, 440-953-9729 or email mbuehner@ameritech.net.

Leave a message and we will add your intention to the prayer chain. If you would like to join us in prayer for our intentions, sign up to be a prayer warrior. Intentions will be emailed directly and confidentially to you at home for prayer support! **We are always looking for new prayer warriors!** If you are interested call Mary Jane and she will get you started!

Charles Hunt, MA
Director of Religious Education
Charles@stjustin.net 440-946-3287

Catholic Humor

A driver tucked a note under her windshield wiper: "I've circled the block for 20 minutes. I'm late for an appointment, and if I don't park here, I'll lose my job. 'Forgive us our trespasses'." Returning, she came back to find a parking ticket and another note: "I've circled the block for 20 years and if I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job. 'Lead us not into temptation'."

"Straight No Chaser" Sleighin' It Tour | Thursday, December 14 | Akron Civic Theatre **LAST CALL**

Just In Fun's Christmas Trip will be an evening you won't forget! Dinner at Papa Joe's Restaurant followed by a concert at Akron Civic Theatre featuring "Straight No Chaser." Leave SJM at 3:30pm and arrive back at 10:45pm. \$130 per person, due **by November 27th**.



BAPTISM CLASS

THURSDAY,
DECEMBER 7,
7:00PM ATR
ROOM

SIGN UP IN PARISH OFFICE



Join us as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of Jesus!

Tuesday, December 12, from 6:00-8:00pm we will be hosting an Evening of Prayer & Adoration with

priests available for the Sacrament of Confession with St. Mary Magdalene at St. Justin Martyr.

"The joy of God is the joy of forgiveness."

– Pope Francis

God's forgiveness, Francis said, "is a sign of his overflowing love for each of us: that love that gives us the freedom to stray, like the prodigal son, but that every day awaits our return with open arms; it is the love of the shepherd who goes in search of the lost sheep; it is the tenderness with which each sinner is welcomed when he knocks at His door. And when we come back to him, he welcomes us like children into his house, for he never ceases, not for one instant, to wait for us with love. And his heart rejoices over every child who returns. He is celebrating because he is joy. God has this joy, when one of us sinners goes to him and asks his forgiveness... It is love of God and neighbor that brings fulfillment to all the Commandments. And this is the love of God, his joy: forgiveness. He waits for us always!"

Beth Rossetti, Pastoral Associate
beth@stjustin.net 440-946-1177

Confirmation 2024 Candidates from our 2024 Confirmation Class are still looking for Prayer Partners this weekend. Please take a picture/name from the Bulletin Board read the simple instructions on the prayer partner slip and become a prayer partner. Will you please pray for the young future of our church?



Coffee and Conversation

Will not take place this week due to Thanksgiving. **Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy your family and friends!**



We're coming home today. Watch the TV for pictures next weekend and look for pictures in the bulletin the week of Dec. 3. Thanks for all the prayers!



You're invited to our Christmas card writing campaign on Wednesday, December 13 at 11:00am. Lunch will be included. We will be in the gym. We will

once again be writing cards for those in nursing homes and shut ins. Our card box is out for donations of new cards and a box for completed cards. If you would like to write cards at home, please contact Beth. We do have some extra cards that I can give you. I can drop cards off to our homebound and pick them up. **Cards need to be completed by December 14.**



The Ladies Advent Tea is **SOLD OUT!**

Thank you for your interest! We are still accepting payments for reservations already made.



Annual Asian Celebration | Sunday, December 3, 2-5pm |

St. Clarence Church, North Olmstead

During this Parish Year of Eucharistic Revival, the Asian Catholic Community will gather for a reflection on our revival theme "Gathered, Blessed, Broken, Shared" followed by the Holy Mass. All are welcome to join us! Call 216-696-6525, ext 3500 for more info.



**Warm a heart this
Christmas with our
Tree of Sharing!**

Christmas *Giving Tree*

**Feel the Joy of Giving and
make a child happy this
Christmas!**

- Take a gift tag from the table
- Purchase the gift
- Return gifts by Dec. 8th
- Each gift should be returned in a gift bag



Sponsored by St. Justin Martyr
Helping Hands 440-946-1177



Birthright
Lake, Inc.

**With Christmas right
around the corner,
Birthright, Lake Inc.
would like to share their
Christmas Wish List!**

- Diapers sized newborn to size 6
- Clean, Crib Sheets-new or gently used, bassinette sheets
- Newborn outfits, onesies and sleepers
- Girls and Boys Winter shirts and pants sizes 3T, 4T & 5T
- Onesies, undershirts and sleepers sized 12 months
- Baby Wash, Baby Wipes, Baby Diaper Cream
- Also, trial size items from hotels, or giveaways for new moms to get in a care package

Thank you so much for your continued support of Birthright all year long! You can place items in the bin in the gallery. Also, remember we accept any clean, used items including maternity clothes! If you know someone in need, share our number 440.975.9055!

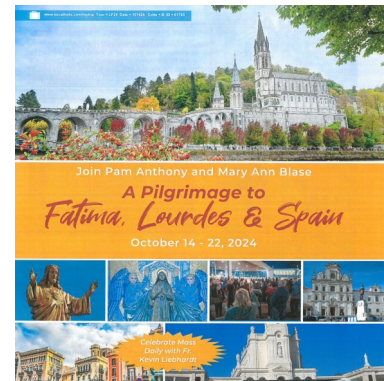


**"Called to Sainthood" Retreat |
Saturday, November 25 | 9:30am-
1:30pm | St. Agnes/Our Lady of
Fatima Parish Center, Cleveland**

Join us on retreat to hear about the lives of six African American on the road to sainthood, to understand our role in the process of canonization, and to embrace our personal call to sainthood.

Presented by Deacon Allen Stevens of the Archdiocese of New Orleans. Free Lunch & Handouts provided. Register at dioceseofcleveland.org/bcm-events.

**Pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes &
Spain | October 14-22, 2024**



**Hosted by Mary Ann Blase, Pam
Anthony with Fr. Kevin Liebhardt**

Daily Masses, shrines, sites and more. All inclusive air, hotels, breakfasts, dinners, guided tours.

Register early to save! Flyers available in the gallery. Email maryann@stjustin.net for questions!

**#weGIVE
CATHOLIC**
on #GIVINGTUESDAY™

Northeast Ohio's Online
Day of Catholic Giving

**Support your
favorite Catholic
programs &
nonprofits online
through this day of
giving on Tuesday,
November 28 at
wegivecatholic.org**

#givingtuesday November 28, 2023