"Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last." -Mt 20:1-16a

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Tir Time

HOLY MASS

09 24

23

SATURDAY VIGIL 5:30 PM

SUNDAY 7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM & 5:30 PM

DAILY MASS

MON & WED 6:30 AM & 5:30 PM

TUES, THURS, FRI 6:30 AM, 8 AM SATURDAY 8 AM

RECONCILIATION

WEDNESDAY 6-7 PM (during Adoration)

SATURDAY 9 AM

To schedule an appointment for Confession with one of the priests, please call the parish office.

OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY-FRIDAY 9 AM-4 PM (closed 12-1 PM)

> 4475 DUBLIN RD HILLIARD, OH 43026 STBRENDANS.NET 614.876.1272

> > Vote NO Issue 1 Nov. 7

Find more details in the bulletin on page 3.



LITURGICAL FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

MON	Feria II of the Twenty-fifth Week
TUES	Optional Memorial of Ss Cosmas & Damian
WED	Memorial of St Vincent de Paul
THUR	Optional Memorial of St Lawrence Ruiz & Companions
FRI	Feast of Ss Michael, Gabriel & Raphael
SAT	Memorial of St Jerome
SUN	Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

MASS INTENTIONS SEPT 25-OCT 1

MON	6:30 AM	Connie Toland		
	5:30 PM	Linda Ridgeway		
TUES	6:30 AM	Connie Toland		
	8:00 AM	Bob Kienle		
WED	6:30 AM	Connie Toland		
	5:30 PM	Intention of Hung Chieh Marson		
THUR	6:30 AM	Connie Toland		
	8:00 AM	Courtney Lea Smith		
FRI	6:30 AM	Connie Toland		
	8:00 AM	James Matthews		
SAT	8:00 AM	Intention of John Bennison		
	5:30 PM	Bob Kienle		
SUN	7:15 AM	Bob Kienle		
	8:45 AM	For the Protection of the Unborn		
	10:45 AM	Matilde Pardo		
	5:30 PM	For the People of St Brendan Parish		

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

https://stbrendan.weadorehim.com

TUES 9 AM-10 PM

- WED 7 AM-5 PM (Holy Hour 6-7 PM, Confessions available)
- THUR 9 AM-10 PM
- FRI 9 AM–10 PM (First Fridays of each month, Fri 9 AM–Sat 1 PM) SAT 9 AM–1 PM

IST FRIDAY PERPETUAL ADORATION

Our next Perpetual Adoration is Friday, October 6 at 9 AM through Saturday, October 7 at 1 PM. Adorers are needed, so please sign up at https://stbrendan.weadorehim.com

ADORATION

CHAPEI



SAINT BRENDAN INFORMATION CENTER

Church Fall Hours Weekdays, 6 AM-9 PM

Parish Office Hours Weekdays, 9 AM-12 PM & 1-4 PM (closed 12-1 PM)

New Members – All are Welcome! Email receptionist@stbrendans.net or call 614.876.1272 Request a packet at stbrendans.net/become-a-member

Marriage

Contact the Parish Office at least six months prior to marriage. Marriage preparation is required.

Baptisms

Celebrated at 12 PM most Sundays. Two baptismal prep classes are required. Request at **stbrendans.net/baptism**

Baptism Preparation Classes First Sunday of most months at 12 PM (2 classes required). See website for details or email **baptism@stbrendans.net**

Anointing of the Sick Contact the Parish Office.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) Interested in becoming Catholic? Contact Fr Jacob Stinnett at frstinnett@stbrendans.net or 614.876.1272, ext 226

Ministry of Evangelization & Catechesis 614.876.1272, fax 614.876.1482

St Brendan School 614.876.6132, fax 614.529.8929

Marketing & Bulletin Request Request form and details: stbrendans.net/marketing Questions? Email marketing@stbrendans.net

Mass Intentions

To schedule an intention, mail in or drop off request to the Parish Office with **\$10** (due when the request made).

Flowers for the Altar

In remembrance of a loved one or special intention (cost is **\$75**). Donor/intentions are published in the bulletin.

Ministry of Care for Our Homebound

To receive the Eucharist at home or in a facility, contact Jamie at 614.876.1272, ext 295 or **jyoung@stbrendans.net**

Protecting God's Children Class Register at www.virtus.org

POD Nursery

Open most Sundays during 8:45 & 10:45 AM Masses for children ages 6 months to 4 years.

Navigator News

Visit **stbrendan.ccbchurch.com** and create your ParishStaq login to begin receiving our parish e-newsletter. For Sunday worship materials, visit **tinyurl.com/LiturgyAids**

MESSAGE FROM FR BOB

Dear Parish Family,

It's amazing to think that so much of the year has already passed! As you read this, I am busy preparing for the parish pilgrimage to Fatima, Lourdes, and Barcelona. It feels like yesterday when we started planning this. This is the first pilgrimage I will have led so I am looking forward to it but am also a little nervous. Life is often like that for us, isn't it? We make plans and are diligent in our preparation but whenever we are faced with



something new there is always a little hesitancy, a little bit of nerves as we move forward. I am sure that is how Our Lady felt at the Annunciation when Gabriel gave her the Good News that she was to be the mother of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the World. Our Lady trusted in the Lord then and God was faithful - as He always is.

We sometimes hear it said that the Church has a tough time today. To be honest, Christians have always had a tough time - or should have a tough time - in the culture(s) in which we live. The Church is called to be countercultural. That means we must take what is good and make it great, and we are certainly good at that. As Matthew Kelly reminds us in his book Rediscovering Catholicism, the Church is responsible for more hospitals, more care for the poor and the marginalized, is more present where people are oppressed and struggling than any other organization in the world. Sounds awesome right? But there is another side to the coin. Being countercultural also means that we must recognize what is bad and seek to change it. That might mean advocacy for the unborn and the elderly, for the single mom or the pregnant teen, for the migrant, and those who have no voice - being the change we hope to see in the world and proclaiming the Gospel of Life to everyone we meet. Most importantly, it is the recognition that true freedom isn't FREE. It costs God everything to give us salvation. As Matthew Kelly also says " Freedom is not the ability to do whatever you want. Freedom is the strength of character to do what is good, true, noble, and right."

In six days' time we will enter October which is *Respect Life Month*. We are also counting down to the November ballot and the attempts by some to enshrine abortion as a constitutional right in the State of Ohio. Over the next few weeks, we will be sharing the reasons why we believe that life must be protected from conception until natural death. As part of that we will offer our view that this amendment is dangerous and wrong.

We will not fudge this issue because it is a moral imperative for every Christian (Catholic and non-Catholic) to protect human life from conception until natural death. This is not political advocacy but moral advocacy on an issue central to what we believe as Catholics. Jesus Christ did not magically appear in the world like the stories of Superman or the Greek Gods. He took on our human flesh from the moment of conception and His body formed itself in His mother's womb. Even in Mary's womb He reached out to prenatal John the Baptist, in His mother Elizabeth's womb, and John greeted his Savior and Lord. We are wonderfully and mysteriously made, and we must do all that we can to protect this cherished gift that God has given us.

As I will be on pilgrimage to the Marian Shrines I won't have as much opportunity to talk on this with you from the pulpit – that is why I am writing to you now. Please join me in not only praying for all those who are in their mothers' wombs but also in working to be the change that will help every human being, made in the image and likeness of God be valued, loved, and wanted in this great State of Ohio, our nation, and the world.



MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER TO VOTE BY OCTOBER 10!

This November, Ohioans will vote on a proposed change to the Ohio Constitution that would enshrine abortion into law. Our Catholic faith tells us that God places no condition on the value of human life from conception until natural death. Therefore, the Catholic Church cannot be silent when vulnerable women and preborn children are threatened by an amendment that:

- Puts women at risk by endangering medical and safety standards
- Allows painful, late-term abortions by not setting any clear limits on abortion
- Threatens parental rights by challenging notification requirements when minors seek abortions or other reproductive interventions

YOUR VOTE IS NEEDED TO SAVE OHIO FROM THIS EXTREME AMENDMENT!

Register to vote or update your information by October 10 at www.voteohio.gov

Jesus calls us to stand up for "the least of these" in our society, including preborn children and vulnerable women. Catholics must protect both women and children by voting No on Issue 1.



God bless, Fr Bob



Betsy Eldridge



CONGRATULATIONS ON THE BAPTISMS OF

Charles Ambrose Longgrear Ryan Thomas Brady, Jr Olivia Kathryn Smith



MARRIAGE BANNS September 30, 2023 Clay Rice and Emily Seitz

UPCOMING EVENTS

BLESSING OF ANIMALSOct 8TRUNK OR TREATOct 23CRAFT SHOWNov 4(Find details in upcoming bulletins)

MONTHLY EVENTS

ANCHORED IN ADORATION Second Wednesdays, 6 PM FIRST FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER First Fridays, 7 PM 1ST FRIDAY 24-HOUR ADORATION First Fridays, 9 AM through Saturday at 1 PM

PARISHSTAQ URL'S

- Log in to your account: stbrendan.ccbchurch.com
- Information and FAQ: stbrendans.net/parishstaq
- Quick-Start Guide: tinyurl. com/parishstaq-quick-guide

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25		
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM	Church Cleaning	Church
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:30 PM	Seek & Root Family Faith Formation	Wellnitz Meeting Rms 1 & 2
6:45 PM	Sacrament Preparation Parent Meeting	Davidson Rd Mtg Rms A & B
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26		
6:30 AM	Men's Ministry: Faith Sharing	Davidson Rd Meeting Rm A
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
9:00 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
7:00 PM	RCIA	Chas McCurdy Learning Cntr
7:00 PM	Rescue Project PM Session	Davidson Rd Meeting Room
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27	•	-
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
7:00 AM-5:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
5:30 PM	Daily Mass	Church
6:00 PM-7:00 PM	Adoration, Confessions Available	Church
7:00 PM	Great Adventure Bible Study	Davidson Rd Meeting Rm A
7:00 PM	Young Adults: Men's Small Group	-
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28		
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
9:00 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
9:00 AM	Women's Scripture Studies AM	Davidson Rd Mtg Rms A & B
7:00 PM	Women's Scripture Studies PM	Davidson Rd Mtg Rms A & B
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29	NO SCHOOL	
6:30 AM	Daily Mass	Adoration Chapel
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
9:00 AM-10:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30		
6:30 AM	Men's Ministry: Faith Sharing	Davidson Rd Meeting Rm A
8:00 AM	Daily Mass	Church
8:45 AM	Praying the Rosary	Church
9:00 AM	Confessions	Confessional
9:00 AM-1:00 PM	Eucharistic Adoration	Adoration Chapel
5:30 PM	Vigil Mass	Church
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1		
7:15, 8:45, 10:45 AM, 5:30 PM	Mass	Church
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass		Adoration Chapel
During 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	57	Childcare Center
After 8:45 & 10:45 AM Mass	Coffee & Donuts	Davidson Rd Mtg Rms A & B
12:00 PM	Baptisms	Church
12:00 PM	Baptism Preparation Class	Wellnitz Meeting Rms 1 & 2
6:30 PM	VINE Night	School Gymnasium
6:45 PM	ASPEN Small Group	School Cafeteria
6:45 PM	Family Faith Formation Sunday Small Group	Multiple Locations
7:00 PM	Cub Scouts Akela Parent Meeting	School Teachers' Lounge



ST BRENDAN PRAYER LIST

If you would like us to pray for friends and family **who are hospitalized** or **ill at home** or for **active duty military** loved ones, email their names to **bulletin@stbrendans.net**

You may also use our online Prayer Wall to request most other prayer intentions that are not included here in the bulletin by visiting www.stbrendans.net/prayer-wall

If you or a loved one is hospitalized or ill at home and would like a pastoral visit, please call 614.876.1272

PLEASE PRAY FOR...

THOSE HOSPITALIZED OR ILL

l

Jill Markey Joe Martin Nate Miller Kaden Morris Becky Moyer Lorraine Nemchik Kathlyn Rosado Michelle Spencer Tom Speroni Pamela Theado Mitzie Toth Marilyn Wiggins

Frank Kreber

ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY

Thomas Dye Aaron Grieshop Sam Imwalle Christopher Keck Cody Longstreth Jackson Maassel Alec Moyer Rick Shonkwiler Rob Shonkwiler

Please continue to pray for all our men and women in service to our country, as well as all healthcare workers and first responders.

THOSE AWAY FROM THE CHURCH

If you would like the Inviting Catholics Home Ministry to pray for a loved one who is no longer practicing our faith, please visit **www.stbrendans.net/prayer-wall**, make your request and they will pray weekly for them.

STAFF DIRECTORY

MINISTERS TO THE PARISH - 614.876.1272

Rev Bob Penhallurick, KHS, Pastor ext 223, frbob@stbrendans.net

Rev Weldit Abay, Parochial Vicar ext 238, frweldit@stbrendans.net

Rev Jacob Stinnett, Parochial Vicar ext 226, frstinnett@stbrendans.net

Deacon Jim Morris, Permanent Deacon ext 230, deaconmorris@stbrendans.net

Deacon Doug Saunders, Permanent Deacon ext 230, deacondoug@stbrendans.net

Deacon Doug Yglesias, Permanent Deacon ext 230, deaconyglesias@stbrendans.net

Henry Szabo, Order of Instituted Acolytes

Jennifer Rice, Director of Missionary Discipleship ext 227, jrice@stbrendans.net

Jamie Young, Assistant to the Director, Missionary Discipleship ext 295, jyoung@stbrendans.net

Jacob Doran, Director, Ministry of Evangelization & Catechesis ext 231, jdoran@stbrendans.net

Maggie Agra, Asst to the Dir, Ministry of Evangelization & Catechesis ext 233, magra@stbrendans.net

Kara Day, High School Youth Ministry ext 232, youthministry@stbrendans.net

Avery Colman, Middle School Youth Ministry ext 232, acolman@stbrendans.net

PARISH OFFICE - 614.876.1272

Tom Kollar, Business Manager ext 222, tkollar@stbrendans.net

Julie Matheny, Office Manager/Pastoral Assistant ext 285, jmatheny@stbrendans.net

Dina Harder, Administrative Assistant ext 235, dharder@stbrendans.net

Teresa Boyne, Administrative Assistant ext 221, tboyne@stbrendans.net

Jill Butler, Parish Accountant ext 229, jbutler@stbrendans.net

Clara Herr, Accounting Clerk ext 225, cherr@stbrendans.net

Dr Ross Williams, DMA, Director of Music ext 236, rwilliams@stbrendans.net

Ben Romaker, Director of Development/Multimedia Coordinator ext 224, bromaker@stbrendans.net

Lee Salcone, Marketing, Bulletin & Communications ext 237, lsalcone@stbrendans.net

ST BRENDAN SCHOOL - 614.876.6132

Kate Cavello, Principal ext 247, kcavello@cdeducation.org

Anna Tufano, Assistant Principal ext 253, atufano04@cdeducation.org

Marcia Voelkel, School Secretary ext 253, mvoelkel@cdeducation.org

ST MARGARET OF CORTONA PRESCHOOL - 614.274.1922

Andrea Boyd, Director & Lead Teacher aboyd@cdeducation.org

OCTOBER 23–SAVE THE DATE!



ST BRENDAN MEN SATURDAYS, 6:30 AM – THE CHOSEN

Study *The Chosen* series from a Catholic perspective. Saturdays, 6:30 AM in the Davidson Road Meeting Rooms. Breakfast (provided), video and a discussion. No RSVP. Sessions began September 16, but join in anytime!

TUESDAY MORNINGS – THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Review Dr Tim Gray's video presentations of St Peter's account of Christ's life and teaching followed by small group discussion and prayer. Study is now in progress, but join in anytime.

PIZZA, PIES, AND GUYS

Join Men's Faith Sharing, Knights of Columbus, and Men's Club on October 28. Tailgating begins at 6:30 PM and watch the OSU vs Wisconsin game in the Davidson Rd Meeting Rooms!

STATIONS OF THE CROSS AND RECEPTION

Bring your family and join Men's Faith Sharing, the Knights of Columbus, and the Men's Club for a special Stations of the Cross at 7 PM in the Church with a reception to follow in the Davidson Rd Meeting Rooms Oct 20 & Nov 10.

Questions? Grant Rice: ricekris8813@att.net

ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN

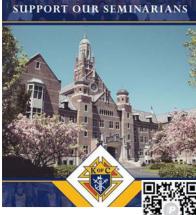
Please help support our parish by advertising in our bulletin.Contact Kati at Dee Printing at **kati@deeprinting.com** or call **614.777.8700**

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and Dee Printing, the bulletin is published weekly at no extra cost to the parish! Support our advertisers! Sponsor-of-the-Week: MUETZEL PLUMBING, HEATING & COOLING

SUPPORT OUR SEMINARIANS THIS WEEKEND

Join in supporting the Diocesan Vocations Office and Josephinum to assist young men in the discernment and formation process to increase the number of Priests! Give to the Knights of Columbus *Support Our Seminarians* collection this weekend, Sept 23-24. Use the envelopes at the end of the pews, drop your donation in the baskets after Mass, scan the QR code, visit https://ppay.co/JsUuO5LvvNw or you can mail your donation to: Knights of Columbus SOS Collection,



St Brendan Church, 4475 Dublin Road, Hilliard, OH 43026



All seniors 65+ are invited to join us!

OCTOBER 6 AT 8 AM – 1st Friday Mass followed by Breakfast at Bob Evans, 5160 Tuttle Pkwy. No RSVP required.

OCTOBER 9, MONDAY AT 12 PM – Beer Barrel Pizza & Grille, 7482 SR 161, Plain City. RSVP Larry at Larryhanchin@yahoo.com or 614-264-6925

GRIEF SUPPORT WORKSHOP-SEPT 24

Looking for grief support from fellow parishioners? Our next Grief Support Workshop is this Sunday, September 24 at 7 PM in Wellnitz, Room 1. Questions? Contact Dennis at **edmuch@me.com**





Retreat RSVP stbrendans.net/womens-groups

November 11-12, at The Spiritual Center of Maria Stein where you can re-energize, reflect, rest, and focus on your relationship with HIM to keep running toward the finish line. Cost is \$125 and includes a private room with bathroom, three meals, snacks and drinks. Early Bird Discount of \$5 if you register and pay by October 18. You may also add Friday night to your stay for an additional \$70 to enjoy the scenic grounds. Visit www.stbrendans.net/womens-groups to register and pay. Questions? Contact Chris Hauck at chrishauck0522@gmail.com

2023 WOMEN'S RETREAT

Run, girl, run! Do most days feel like a sprint or a leisurely walk? Join other women of faith to run the race St Paul describes in 2 Timothy, and what it means to endure through our struggles and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.

"Run to the Father; Embracing Your Race" overnight retreat is

FIRST FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER-OCT 6

To help us to continue to focus on the Eucharistic, our deacons will lead First Friday Evening Prayer in the Adoration Chapel the first Friday of each month. Join us next Friday, October 6 at 7 PM. Come ready to pray!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

In honor of the Memorial of St Francis of Assisi, there will be a blessing of the animals at 2 PM Sunday, October 8. Please bring your animal friends in for a ceremony conducted by Deacon Jim Morris at the St Francis grotto located just south of Wellnitz Hall on St Brendan's outdoor campus.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PRAYER FOR PETS

Good St Francis, you loved all of God's creatures. To you they were your brothers and sisters. Help us to follow your example of treating every living thing with kindness. St Francis, Patron Saint of animals, watch





THANK YOU, MEN'S CLUB

We're very grateful for our St Brendan Men's Club who generously donated their time and talent to install a louvered pergola in our entrance plaza. This addition to our outdoor space adds a place to better reflect, pray and admire one of the beautiful areas on our campus.

KAIROS PRISON MINISTRY COOKIE BAKING

KAIROS is a Christian prison ministry at St Brendan. Baking cookies for this ministry is a way for you to reach out to incarcerated men and women with Christ's love. Thank you for your generosity!

- Baggies with cookie baking instructions will be passed out/available in the Church Gathering Space after all Masses September 30 and October 1.
- Cookies will be collected at all Masses on October 7/8 and 14/15 or bring your cookies and leave them in the special KAIROS container in the Church Gathering Space until Tuesday, October 17.

For questions or home pick up, contact Tim Reno at tireno04@gmail.com

HELP US LIVESTREAM!

The St Brendan Livestream Ministry operates the web cameras for the 10:45 AM Mass each Sunday and select special liturgies (Easter, Christmas, Confirmation, First Communion) during the year to connect with those who are shut-in, ill and unable to attend Mass in person.



LIVESTREAM MINISTRY IS CURRENTLY SEEKING ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEERS All training necessary on the livestream software and camera operation will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Pat Hamrock at pat.hamrock@att.net or 614-961-2117

COME & SEE – THE EUCHARIST

As we offer theological background and stories about the Eucharist as our source and summit, knowing more can lead to better understanding and the knowledge taking root. Sometimes, though, we need action to help us to go deeper. In fact, many people appreciate the meaning, but ask for practical advice on how to act. We learn to ride a bike by doing, not just reading about it. And the more we do, the more it becomes deeply rooted in our routines with the ability to change us over time.

This year, we have an opportunity to deepen our faith by adding or modifying an action related to the Eucharist. Your challenge is to choose just one to try this month, then perhaps try another next month. It's not like choosing a new diet each month – all of these choices are good for your soul!

- Stop in during Adoration hours on your way to or from work or school to spend a moment in the rest of Jesus' presence. Even 15 minutes can make a difference in your day.
- Choose a daily Mass to attend this month (or each week). We have offerings for the early risers to the just-got-off-work crowds.
- Read the Sunday readings before you come to Mass so you are moving to the next level of understanding when you hear them proclaimed.
- Before you receive the Eucharist, ask the Lord for something you need that day or week. Healing? Perseverance? Joy? Jesus will work in us no matter what, but He tells us to ask for what we need! (Luke 11:9-13)
- After you receive the Eucharist, close your eyes and continue the prayer, truly allowing the power of Jesus to move through you. Savor it – this is no ordinary moment of consumption!

Have a suggestion or story of the Eucharist in your life? We would love to share it here! Contact Jennifer Rice at jrice@stbrendans.net

ST BRENDAN MINISTRY OF EVANGELIZATION & CATECHESIS



SACRAMENT PREPARATION PARENT MEETING IS SEPTEMBER 24 & 25

Sacrament registration for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation opens soon. Look for an email from either Family Faith Formation or St Brendan School about how to register. There will be a parent-only sacrament meeting Sunday Sept 24, 6:45 PM in the Church and Monday, Sept 25, 6:45 PM in the Davidson Road Meeting Rooms. Please come to one of the two meetings. All parents will receive their at-home family resource for sacrament preparation at this meeting. If you are unable to attend, email Jacob Doran at **jdoran@stbrendans.net**

FAMILY FAITH FORMATION

We had a wonderful kickoff for Family Faith Formation! See the column to the right or check out our social media platforms for some photo highlights. We could still use a few more volunteers:

Middle School Mentors meet with a small group of middle school students 10 times per year. Family Coaches facilitate a table of faith formation parents 8 times per year. Scan the QR code to volunteer or visit www.stbrendans.net/faith-formation-volunteers



OUR FALL SESSIONS HAVE BEGUN...

THE CONTINUED GROWTH, SEEK & ROOT PATHWAYS for family faith formation meet Sundays at 9:45 AM or 6:45 PM and Mondays, 6:30 PM. Details available at **www.stbrendans.net/familyfaithformation**

THE ROOTS for middle-schoolers meets 6:45-8:30 PM in the Gym every 2nd Sunday of the month. Keep updated on Instagram at @stb_theroots, contact Avery Colman at acolman@stbrendans.net or visit www.stbrendans.net/the-roots

THE VINE high school group meets every Sunday at 6:30 PM in the Gym (or Davidson Rd Meeting Rooms on 2nd Sundays.) Follow their group on Instagram at **@stbvine**, contact Kara Day at **kday@stbrendans.net** or visit **www.stbrendans.net/the-vine**

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD (for children ages 4-9) has begun during 8:45 and 10:45 AM Masses in the Adoration Chapel.

POD NURSERY COORDINATOR NEEDED

We are still in search of a new coordinator for our POD Nursery to keep up with scheduling volunteers who watch over and care for parishioners' children during 8:45 and 10:45 AM Masses on Sunday as well as during Family Faith Formation programs. If interested, please contact Jacob Doran at **jdoran@stbrendans.net**

ROOTS/VINE KICKOFF HIGHLIGHTS...















HAPPENING AROUND OUR DIOCESE...

ODU FALL LECTURE SERIES EVENT – SEPT 28

Ohio Dominican University's Center for Dominican Studies will host the second of four lectures focusing on the university's theme for the 2023-24 academic year: *Truths we have learned*. ODU Associate Professor of Education, Dr Marlissa Stauffer, presents "Considering How Changing Ideas on Truth Impacts Students" at 3:30 PM on Thursday, Sept 28. The free event is open to the public and will take place in Sansbury Hall in the Colonial Room located on ODU's campus at 1216 Sunbury Road in Columbus.

MOMMIES MATTER FALL FUNDRAISER

Join us for entertainment, fun, food, beverages, a silent auction, and live entertainment from 2-Time World Magic Award-Winning Escape Artist Michael Griffin! The event will take place Thursday, October 5 at 5:30 PM at Bridgewater Banquet & Conference Center in Powell. Get ready to enjoy an evening of moving testimonies from Mommies in our program, and the opportunity to participate in our online silent auction. Purchase tickets today at www.tiny.cc/fallfundraiser23

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER MASS FOR LIFE

Do YOU want to do something locally to make an impact for the moms and babies of our community? Come join His Excellency, Earl K. Fernandes and Women's Care Center in celebrating a Mass for Life in honor of families and the protection of life ahead of our upcoming elections. Please join us after Mass for Exposition, a Rosary, and Benediction followed by pizza-to-go! The Mass will be held at St Catharine Parish, 500 S Gould Road, Columbus, OH 43209.



September 24, 2023

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Written by THE FAITHFUL DISCIPLE

Is 55:6-9 | Phil 1:20c-24, 27a | Mt 20:1-16a

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Today's readings should bring us great joy. They are a reminder that our Lord may have high standards, but he is also "generous in forgiving" and "near to all who call upon him." In the Gospel, we hear the parable of the laborers in the vineyard. Some work all day while others arrive at the last hour. However, all are paid the same. Similarly, we can all receive God's heavenly reward – whether we are faithful Catholics since birth or converts in our final hour. This parable may evoke mixed feelings for those who see themselves as the laborers who have toiled all day and wonder why their reward is not greater. But rather than making us jealous, this parable should make us rejoice: How wonderful that everyone has the opportunity for everlasting life with the Lord! And what great comfort to know that if we falter and lose our way, it is never too late to return to God.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes, knowing that we are the recipients of God's bountiful mercy, we can be tempted to lead a life focused mostly on worldly pleasures. To paraphrase St. Augustine: Make me holy Lord ... just not yet! Of course we know this isn't the right attitude or approach to life, but it's certainly tempting. Let's return to the message of the Gospel for a moment. Yes, the Lord is generous in giving all the workers the same wage. But perhaps equally as important is that we are called to be workers in the Lord's vineyard, and what an honor and privilege that is! Serving in the Lord's kingdom here on earth is not drudgery; it is life-giving and fills us with God's love and grace. Let us recall the words of St. Paul in today's Letter to the Philippians. Although he longs to "depart this life and be with Christ," he knows that staying here on earth means "fruitful labor for me." Let us also strive to keep our eyes on the Lord and labor in his field for as long as we are able.

PRAY The first reading from Isaiah reminds us that the Lord works in ways we can't understand: "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord." Let us ask God this week for the fortitude to reorient our thoughts and ways to his will, not ours, so as to "conduct [ourselves] in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ."







Your healthcare is a potentially overwhelming, complex decision, I can help you navigate through your available options. CONFREDI FAMILY DENTA 5610 HALL RD GALLOWAY, OHIO (614)826-6518 Learn more at TheRefugeOhio.org If you or someone you know is struggling with addiction, **The Refuge** can help. Since 1999, they've served thousands of men (ages 18+) in their faith-based residential recovery ministry. There is absolutely no cost and no insurance needed.

3