CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer for Veterans ~

God of peace,
we pray for those
who have served our nation
and have laid down their lives
to protect and defend our freedom.

We pray for those who have fought, whose spirits and bodies are scarred by war, whose nights are haunted by memories too painful for the light of day.

We pray for those who serve us now — especially for those in harm's way.

Shield them from danger and bring them home.

Turn the hearts and minds of our leaders and our enemies to the work of justice and a harvest of peace.

And Lord, watch over and be with all the innocent victims whose lives are shattered as a result of injustice and violence.

May the peace you left us — the peace you gave us — be the peace that sustains, the peace that saves us.

Christ Jesus, hear us and save us from ourselves, to live as people of our one God and Father.

Amen.

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:

The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**. phone: [440] 473-3560 [office] or 216-570-9276 [cell]. e-mail: blazekj@gilmour.org

Our Lady Chapel



Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity. 32nd Week in Ordinary Time November 11-12, 2023

ALUMNI & CHAPEL MEMORIAL MASS — NOVMEBER 19:

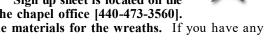
November is the month of Thanksgiving. It is also traditionally the month set aside to remember our deceased. What better way to offer thanks than to remember the special people in our lives who have gone before us to the Lord — our lives are built on the heritage they have left behind. As the Catholic Catechism reminds us: "We who journey together on our

earthly pilgrimages, must accompany each other at our journey's end and surrender each other into God's hands" [CC, #1683].

In order to properly celebrate for our November remembrance, we are going to have a Memorial Mass at Our Lady Chapel on Sunday, November 19th at 10:00 AM. We are particularly remembering all of our alumni who have passed away within this past year. We are also remembering all members of our Chapel family who have gone to the Lord. Please place the names of your loved ones whom you would like to remember in our Memorial Basket located on the table in the narthex of the chapel. The Memorial Wall will not be put up this year because of the construction which prevents us from setting the wall up. Please use the basket.

MAKE YOUR FAMILY'S ADVENT WREATH:

Again this year, we are going to be making family Advent Wreaths on Sunday, December 3rd at 11:30 AM in the Commons. Cost of the Wreath is \$25 — this includes trimmings, candles, and everything else you will need. Please know that cost is not a reason to not making an Advent Wreath; please contact Father John. Sign up sheet is located on the easel in the Narthex of the Chapel, or you can call the chapel office [440-473-3560]. Please sign up early because we have to purchase the materials for the wreaths. If you have any



OLC "ADOPT A FAMILY" PROGRAM:

questions, please contact the chapel office.

For many years, Our Lady Chapel community has worked with St. Adalbert Parish in adopting families to help them celebrate the Christmas Season. In recent years, we have had many requests from our families to begin this project earlier in order to take advantage of pre-Christmas sales, etc. So again this year, we have begun to collect the names of families from St. Adalbert at the present time. The need is greater than ever.



St. Adalbert identifies families — most often single parent, below poverty level families; we are given the grade levels of the children & other family information, so that you can purchase gifts appropriate to each member. In addition, if possible, we ask that you also provide a Christmas meal for the family [non-perishable items in a food basket, and/or Gift Cards for Giant Eagle, Aldi's or Family Dollar. Those from our chapel family who participated in this project last year spoke very highly of the benefit of this project to their own families. Even our Life Teen and EDGE Groups have adopted families and gone shopping together on a Sunday afternoon at an outlet Mall. This is a project that the entire family can get involved in. Families can be matched according to family size, ages, etc. It was truly inspiring. Adopt-a-family gifts should be WRAPPED. Please call Patty at the Chapel Office [440-473-3560 or szaniszlop@gilmour.org] if you and your family would like to participate in this program, or if you have any questions.

FAITH EDUCATION — SUNDAY, NOV. 12th and 19th:

Our Faith Education classes have begun. Our Faith Education classes meet on Sundays from 8:45—9:45 AM. Please join us as we come together to begin our faith journey for this year by entering into prayer and worship together. If you have any questions, please contact Patty in the Chapel Office [[440-473-3560]. Upcoming class dates: November 12-19 and December 3-10. Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility.



PRAYER REOUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Father James Murphy, C.S.C.
- For Lois Kowitz, grandmother of Associate Athletic Director, Spencer Kowitz.
- For Dan O'Mallev
- For Madelene Mazzurco, grandmother of Isabella Mazzurco ['21]
- For Sister Mary Schrader, C.S.J.
- For David Fedor, father of Nick ['99], Nate ['05] and Gabriel ['14] Fedor.
- For Joan Ambrose, grandmother of Ian Baird ['23]
- For Annie Burney, mother-in-law of Maintanence Associate, Oanh [Juan] Pickens

DEATH IS NOT AN END:

When Paul wrote his first letter to the Churches in Thessalonica, Greece in 51 AD, he and his converts commonly believed that the Lord Jesus, crucified and risen, would return soon to complete his work of definitively establishing God's reign probably in their own lifetime. It seems that the Thessalonians were worried about the fate of their loved ones who had already died before the Lord's return.

So that his beloved converts "may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope" [1 Thessalonians 4:13-18], Paul assures them that their fundamental belief "that Jesus died and rose" means that God will join their deceased loved ones with the Lord in his victory over death. Basing his teaching "on the word of the Lord," Paul insists that when Christ returns he will first raise the dead and then gather the living to himself, so that all the believers will be with the Lord forever. To make his point, the Apostle employs traditional Jewish apocalyptic language to describe Christ's Parousia or second coming — "For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God will come down from heaven and the dead in Christ will rise first." Then we who are alive — who are left — will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air." Once again responding to the initial worry of the Thessalonians, Paul concludes: "console one another with these words."

Today, Christians who no longer worry about the imminent return of Christ, still find consolation in the faith conviction that our loved ones who died are with the Lord, sharing in his victory over death and in his glorified risen life. A widow after 49 years of a good marriage enjoys great comfort in an abiding sense that her husband is still present to her in ways that defy words. A philosophy professor who has serious intellectual doubts about an afterlife finds that he can best handle the premature death of his oldest son by simply assuming he is somehow in a better place. A collegian periodically talks to her deceased father about her deepest joys and sorrows, convinced that he cares and listens. A husband who is depressed after the death of his wife from brain cancer can sometime find relief by concentrating on his faith conviction that she is with God and suffers no more.

How do you handle the death of your closest loved ones?

—taken from the writings of Father James Bacik which appear on the internet

R.C.I.A [Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults]:

Our RCIA program will begin shortly. If you have been thinking about investigating the Catholic faith, or if you know someone who has been thinking about it; if you have been away from the Catholic Church for a while, or are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith; if you know someone who is not fully initiated [Baptism, Eucharist, Confirmation] in their Catholic faith — then consider joining or having them join our RCIA program. **Please**

contact Father John [440-473-3560] for more information.





32nd Week in Ordinary Time November 11-12, 2023

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Father Larry Jerge, C.S.C., who is under the care of Hospice.
- For Loretta Seidl, sister of Brother Robert Lavelle, C.S.C., who is undergoing medical treatment.
- For Elizabeth Toth, daughter of Jeffrey Toth ['84], nephew of James ['86] and Jennifer ['94]. And cousin of Tim ['24] and Kate ['27] Papczun, who is undergoing treatment for a serious health issue.
- For John Zippay, family friend of Bernadette and Stephen Ritley, who is critically ill.
- For Cheryl Zenobi, who is under the care of hospice.
- For Robert Harrison, Gilmour soccer coach, who is recovering from a heart attack.
- For Elizabeth Benson, grandmother of Izzy DiPuccio ['25] who is hospitalized
- For Sister Mary Ann Lavelle, C.S.J., sister of Brother Robert Lavelle, C.S.C., who is in hospice care.
- For Jill Thompson, who is undergoing treatment for mental health issues.
- For Patty Szaniszlo, Chapel Office Associate, who is recovering from hip replacement surgery.
- For Nora Beach, wife of former Gilmour Religion Instructor, Bob Beach, mother of Hannah ['98] and Miriam ['99] Beach, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Jennifer Burger ['06], sister of Rachel ['10] and Paul ['16] Burger, who is undergoing treatment for rare form of breast cancer.
- For Sister Grace Corbett, S.N.D., who is under the care of hospice.
- For Maria Ruiz, mother of Elina Gurney, grandmother of Joseph and Christina Gurney, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Chuck Shade, father of Loren Shade, grandfather of Michael, Madeline, and Charles Shade, who is in seriously ill with several health issues.
- For Chuck Campanella, father of Anthony Campanella, who continues in rehab following serious surgery.
- For Judy Collins, aunt of Chief Academic Officer, Elizabeth Edmondson, great-aunt of Mollie ['21] and Abbie ['23] Edmondson, who is undergoing treatment for brain cancer.
- For Mike Heryak, husband of Janet, father of Lillian ['09], Rosa ['12] and Edwin ['17] Heryak, who is seriously ill.
- For John Roddy, brother of Tim Roddy ['87], and brother of Gilmour Marketing associate, Mary Roddy Stretar, uncle of Katie Stretar ['29], and cousin of Daniel ['83], Mike ['85], and Matt ['86] Roddy, who is undergoing treatment for a recurrence of cancer.
- For Jeanette Favaloro, who is undergoing treatment for Leukemia.
- For James Farmer, father of DEI director, JaiCynthia Farmer, who is undergoing treatment for a heart related issue.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For an end to the war between Israel and Hamas.
- For a couple experiencing difficulty in becoming pregnant
- For the victims of the earthquake in Nepal
- For an end to violence as a means to resolve differences.
- For an end to sexual abuse and lack of respect for human persons.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.
- For a greater awareness of our call to create a more humane and just society.

VETERANS DAY:

Saturday was Veterans Day, a yearly observance celebrating all our veterans with the greeting: "Thank you for your service." Yet for many of these same veterans, each day is an experience of isolation and alienation. Many veterans — especially those who were engaged on the battlefield — say: "I can't find my place." Many



of these veterans suffer spiritually, trying to make sense of the horrors they have seen, trying to forgive themselves for things they have done. Most suffer silently. Many simply wish to share their story with someone willing to listen. For them, Veterans Day is more than a free sandwich or a cup of coffee.

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

| Sunday, November 12: 32 nd Week in Ordinary Time | 10:00 AM In Person & Live Stream |
|--|----------------------------------|
| Monday, November 13: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini | NO MASS |
| Tuesday, November 14: | 9:05 AM; 10:25 AM; 12:30 PM |
| Wednesday, November 15: | 12:30 PM; 2:00 PM |
| Thursday, November 16: | NO MASS |
| Friday, November 17: St. Elizabeth of Hungary | NO MASS |
| Saturday, November 18: 33 rd Week in Ordinary Time | 5:00 PM In Person only |
| Sunday, November 19: 33rd Week in Ordinary Time | 10:00 AM In Person & Live Stream |

NEXT BIBLE STUDY — WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15th:

Our next Virtual Bible Study will be on Wednesday, November 15th at 6:30 PM. Bible Study continues to meet bi-weekly. The Bible Study is open to everyone — all middle and high school students, college students, young adults, and all adults. We will all come



together to be enriched by God's word. It's a great time, and a good witness of our faith to others. If you can't come at 6:30, come when you can. Gather your favorite snack and/or drink, but be prepared to be nourished on God's word.

Our topic: Thanksgiving

We also need your help — we need future topics. So, if you have a topic that you would like us to discuss, please let Father John know. Mark your calendars and be part of this wonderful activity that will deepen your spiritual journey. We will meet every other week — topic to be decided at the end of the previous meeting. Join us. You'll have a blast, and celebrate your faith along the way..

HOW TRUE:

Fight for the things that you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you.

—Ruth Ginsburg

DON'T OVERTHINK IT — THE SIMPLICITY OF PRAYER:

It was welling up within me. Like the rumbling of the earth, I could feel it. Boiling deep down somewhere inside of me was an eruption of emotion. I could hear the rain splashing against my window as I sat in my tiny little blue Mercury — immobile from the weight of my frustration. I felt defeated. For the last month, I had tried to understand what God was asking of me in regards to the status of an important relationship. I had gone to Mass, I had spent time in adoration, but I was struggling to find the peace — I was struggling to speak with Him in the way I thought I should.

But, this day, something was different. I could feel the restraints breaking, the filter being removed. And, as though I was exhaling for the first time, the words slipped out before I could shove them back down. "God, this is so unfair." Oh, I'd tried to suck it up and say the "right" thing, to be the "better person." But this simple, whiney prayer, was the most honest plea I'd sent up to God in years. And it felt so good.

"Here's the deal; I need you. I need you to do something about this. I'm just tired, so tired, and I need a little bit of rest." My heart was hurting so bad, but that was the explosion I needed. The hands up in the air, total surrender of my heart, head, and words.

I look back on that moment, years ago, and I smile. I really think that was the turning point in my prayer life. I was always told that prayer was important, but whenever I showed up in prayer, I walked away perplexed and frustrated. I knew that I was missing something, but it took that very raw and awkward moment in my life to realize this — I was overthinking prayer. It really was simpler than I thought.

Prayer wasn't some complicated formula or drawn out process — it was meeting Christ in the moment — freely and authentically.

I'm not quite sure exactly how I got to this place, but somewhere in the midst of growing up, I started believing this lie that I had to say the "right thing" in order for my prayers to be heard, and ultimately, answered. But, God isn't some judge sitting on His throne up high picking apart our every nuance. He is a loving and understanding Father.



He'd rather embrace you while you rambled about every frustration that you've encountered that day than sit through your unfelt recitation of a Rosary. He desires a relationship with you, and the starting point to that relationship is authenticity — a real humble willingness to be straight up real.

Here's a practical takeaway — God doesn't just care about your words. But he does care about the state of the heart behind those words. Every day, when you take a moment to pray, first, take a deep breath and ask yourself: "how am I really feeling right now, what is the state of my heart — happy, sad, angry, blasé?" Then, before jumping to any other intention in your time of prayer, like a good friend, tell the Lord how you're feeling.

Then comes the hardest part which so often happens in prayer for me. There is nothing worse in a relationship than to pour out my heart to someone and then — radio silence.

We love instant gratification. We love it not because we're conceited or vain, but because we're so used to it. Thanks to text messages and notification alerts, it's hard to wait on an answer — from anyone, let alone God who operates outside of time and space. But, the beautiful thing is that the more we pray, the better we get to know God, and the better we get to know God, the faster we will be able to recognize His voice in our lives. He speaks to each of us differently — but it takes time and patience to learn how to identify His voice.

Here's another practical takeaway — the most "fool-proof" way we can identify the Lord's voice in our lives is by asking two simple things: "Is what I'm hearing good, true, and beautiful? Does what I'm 4

hearing bring me peace?" The Word of God is living and present always within Scripture, but some other places we may hear His voice is through the wisdom and consolation of our friends, the lyrics of a song, a homily, the message of a movie. But most commonly, we hear his voice in the quiet peace of our hearts.

In order for prayer to be a fruitful experience, it takes time and a great deal of nurturing. While I've gotten to the place where I'm comfortable and confident enough to be real with the Lord, it still takes great effort for me to grow more deeply in prayer.

I once had a friend explain prayer to me in terms of a spiraling staircase. As we grow, our aim is to get to the top — to Heaven — sometimes we climb higher, sometimes we fall back a few steps, sometimes we don't move, but all the while we can see the progress. I often ask myself, am I actually climbing this staircase or am I standing still? Am I nurturing my relationship with God? Am I making space in my day to talk to Him, uninterrupted? Am I surrounding myself with friends who, in their actions, will remind me of His goodness? Am I drenching myself in the Word? In the Sacraments? Each of these moments should be an extension of my relationship with Him. Each day should offer another encounter with Love Himself.

Take some time and ask yourself three questions:

- * What has my prayer life looked like in the past?
- * What does my prayer life look like now?
- * What do I want my prayer life to look like in the future?

Identify the good things about your prayer life right now and keep doing them, then write down the areas of improvement. Once you've identified the areas of improvement, determine a plan to make it happen. For me, I do a really good job talking to the Lord in my every-day moments — when I'm cooking, working, etc. But I don't do a good job of setting aside time daily to pray with no distractions. So, my goal is to begin praying every day at 8:00 AM for 10 minutes.

When I hold fast to these truths, and am patient, remembering that my relationship with God is perfectly my own and no one else's, I am transformed by the simplicity of prayer. It is not about comparing my prayer life to others — although there are many saints and holy people who are inspiring in their pursuit of the Lord. Prayer is about recognizing that our relationship with God a journey, and that each new day is a new opportunity to adventure to even greater heights with the lover of our souls.

So, what is it that you are waiting for? Go to Him. Tell Him all that you need to, and let Him love you in return.

— taken from the writings of Rachel Penate, a Life Teen staff member.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: Wisdom 1:1-7, Luke 17:1-6

Tuesday: Wisdom 2:23-3:9. Luke 17:7-10

Wednesday: Wisdom 6:1-11, Luke 17:11-19

Thursday: Wisdom 7:22-8:1, Luke 17:20-25

Friday: Wisdom 13:1-9, Luke 17:26-37

Saturday: Wisdom 18:14-19:9, Luke 18:1-8

33rd Week in Ordinary Time: Proverbs 31:10-31, 1Thessalonians 5:1-6, Matthew 25:14-30

THE WAY TO PEACE:

There is no way to peace. Peace is the way.