

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer of Self-Offering ~

O Lord,
May my soul
Be flooded
With your light.
May I know you
More profoundly.

Lord,
Give me
So much love
That will unite me
With you always.

Lord,
Let me serve you
And serve you well
On the paths
That you wish to open
To my existence
Here below.
Amen.

—Pope John Paul II

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:
The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [440] 473-3560 [office] or 216-570-9276 [cell].

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.

WELCOME:

We welcome Carmella and Bob Fletcher on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. We are delighted that you have chosen to share this very blessed and sacred occasion with us. We are grateful for the witness that you have afforded us of the Godliness of marriage, and we pray the your days and years going forward continue to be blessed with the gift of God's love and presence.

**THE FEST:**

Don't miss **the FEST!** All ages are welcome to spend the day at the 25th annual Catholic family FESTival on **Sunday, August 3rd** at the **Center for Pastoral Leadership in Wickliffe, from 12:00 Noon to 10:00 PM.** The FEST! is a free day of faith, family, and fun, featuring **national Christian artists on the main stage**, including **Seph Schlueter, Ben Fuller, Danny Gokey, and Maverick City Music!** There will be kid-friendly fun: Inflatables, a dog show, water tag, and a BMX stunt show, along with faith-based crafts and activities. There are also special zones for adults, like the **Marc's Moms Station**, and the **Man Cave.** Great displays and information, along with incredible chances to win prizes! Great food, convenient parking, and plenty of giveaways! The FEST! **Mass begins at 8:00 PM.** Join thousands from across the Diocese as we celebrate our faith with an outside Mass followed by an amazing **American Fireworks Display.** All of the many events, activities, displays and directions can be found at www.thefest.us The FEST! is FREE and open to all. It's a great family day. Make plans to come to the FEST!

**FAITH EDUCATION REGISTRATION BEGINS:**

It is time to start thinking about registering for Faith Education classes which will begin in the fall. Faith Education is an important part of every young person's formation. Please make sure that you have not forgotten this important responsibility for your children. Our Sessions go from **8:45—9:45 AM, on Sunday mornings**, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass.** Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility. **Please contact Patty or Father John in the Chapel Office for more information.**

**SERVING THE LORD IN THE POOR — SAT. AUGUST 16th:**

Our Savior Lutheran Church — across the street from the Chapel — has a Food Pantry which distributes food to the community on **the third Saturday of each month.** They welcome volunteers. **On Saturday morning at 9 AM, they need help unloading the trailers and setting up items for distribution and preparing for the food pantry to open. It serves around 150 clients each time. The food pantry serves clients from 9:30 AM—1:30 PM on Saturday.**



Our Savior Lutheran's Food Pantry was formed to serve those in emergency situations and/or with on-going need in the cities of Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Highland Heights and Gates Mills. The Food Pantry respects social and cultural diversity and upholds the worth and dignity of those it serves. All those in the area with need will be served equally, as supplies allow. The food pantry is a member of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. Please join us for a great experience.

Please let us know in the Chapel office [440-473-3560] if you would like more information or if you would like to help. This is a wonderful way to serve others. Please consider this opportunity.

REMEMBER:

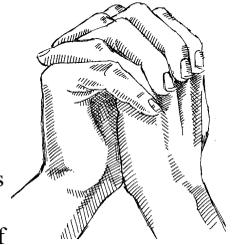
Don't give up! The world tries to define you by the mistakes of your past. But history defines you by how you responded, how you learned and improved, how you made amends, how you persevered and what you accomplished afterwards.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Josephine Fernando, who is in hospice.
- For Thomas Noble who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Brother Dan Kane, C.S.C., former long-time instructor at Gilmour, who is under hospice care.
- For Toddy McMonagle, wife of Judge James McMonagle ['62], mother of James ['80] Coakley, and sister of Francis ['67] and Clare ['72] Coakley, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Tara Hyland Zittel ['07] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Mary DiLisi, mother of Rick ['82], Greg ['83], and Jennifer ['96] DiLisi, grandmother of Tomasso ['16], Jack Michael ['19], and Anna Marie ['22] Solomon, who is in rehab following serious surgery.
- For Andre Polsinelli, who is undergoing treatment for Parkinson's Disease.
- For Mary Vislosky, who is critically ill with pneumonia.
- For Anna Sasin, mother of Brother Ben Sasin, C.S.C., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Karen Walsh who is ill.

**PRAYERS FOR THE DECEASED:**

- For Joseph Sandbothe
- For Helen Burns, mother of Mary Jo Burns Clark [GO '75]
- For Sister Patricia Dippel, O.S.U.
- For Thomas Zumbiel ['52]
- For James P. McMullen ['51], brother of Thomas McMullen ['52]
- For Louis Briody ['51]
- For Richard Wirth ['52]
- For Phillip Wagner.
- For John Geary ['58].
- For Edward Lakner ['59]
- For Carl Jagatich, father of Robin Jagatich-Heiser ['89], and grandfather of Jackson Heiser ['27]
- For Mary Thesing, mother of Father Mark Thesing, C.S.C.
- For Marty Dugan
- For Greg Lulenski ['60]

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For an end to the war between Russia and Ukraine, and Israel and Gaza.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For an end to violence in our society in all of its forms.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

FORGIVENESS:

Forgiving ourselves is the wellspring of all true forgiveness.

—Kent Nerburn

IS IT WORTH IT?

On this 18th Week in Ordinary Time, we are introduced to Scripture’s classic curmudgeon — Qoheleth. Though this author of Ecclesiastes is a believing Jew, he isn’t a fan of some of the other authors of the Hebrew Scriptures. He’s especially critical of any writer who claims that God always rewards the good and punishes the evil in this life. According to his observations, such a naive theological statement simply isn’t backed up by the facts.

As an example of this false reward/punishment reasoning Qoheleth says: “one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave his property. What profit comes to us from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which we have labored under the sun?” [Ecclesiasts 1:2-3, 2:21-23]. No wonder he concludes: “All things are vanity!” In other words, since there’s little value to anything we do in life, we might as well enjoy it while we can.



In many ways, the historical Jesus could have identified with Qoheleth. He also wanted his followers to truthfully reflect on the world around them. Like the author of Ecclesiastes, Jesus points out how ridiculous it is to spend one’s whole life acquiring wealth when, in a split second, all your money and all your possessions could be ripped out of your hands by death [Luke 12:13-21].

As a first step in surfacing God’s kingdom around us, Jesus warns his imitators: “Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one’s life does not consist of possessions.” We should never “store up treasures for ourselves, but should become rich in what matters to God.”

Just what makes us “rich in what matters to God?” The author of Paul’s letter to the Church at provides us with at least an entry level answer to that question. Following the insights of Paul — his mentor — the writer reminds his community: “You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ your life appears, then you too will appear with him in glory” [Colossians 3:1-11].

What parts of us are to die? Those that are “earthly: immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and the greed that is idolatry.” Among other things, we’re to “stop lying to one another.” We should never be ashamed to let people see us as we are — especially since we’ve “taken off the old self with its practices, and have put on the new self which is being renewed for knowledge, in the image of its creator.”

Instead of trying to amass material wealth, we are — as followers of the risen Jesus — now expected to amass relationships — relationships which help us become one with all around us. In the new world that we are creating, “there is not Greek and Jew, circumcision and uncircumcision, barbarian, Scythians, slave or free, male or female — Christ is all and in all”.

Other Christs would agree that Qoheleth’s pessimistic observation of the world was right on — as far as it went. But Qoheleth did not go to the next step. For if one looks only at this world without a vision of what this world can become, then life is useless. But if, as Jesus taught and lived, one looks at this world as a place in which God is embedded in everything and everyone, then not only people and things around us, but also our own lives are transformed into the most terrific experience a person could have.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Father John is available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you. Please call him [440-473-3560] to arrange for this experience. All social distancing will remain in place. Always remember the Lord’s invitation: “I will give them a heart with which to understand that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart” [Jeremiah 24:7].



NEXT BIBLE STUDY — WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6th:

Our next Virtual Bible Study will be on Wednesday, August 6th 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: The Mass is a community prayer

Mark your calendars and be part of this wonderful activity that will deepen your spiritual journey. We usually 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..

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, August 3: 18 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream
Monday, August 4: St. John Vianney	NO MASS
Tuesday, August 5:	NO MASS
Wednesday, August 6: Transfiguration	NO MASS
Thursday, August 7	NO MASS
Friday, August 8: St. Dominic	NO MASS
Saturday, August 9: 19 th Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 PM In-Person only
Sunday, August 10: 19 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM In-Person & Live Stream

ST. ADALBERT SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Once again this year, we are assisting the students at St. Adalbert School with their school supplies. The following items are needed: #2 Pencils, Mechanical Pencils, Crayons, Colored Markers, Glue Sticks or small Glue Bottles, Single-Subject Spiral Notebooks and Loose-Leaf Paper. Here is how you can be a part of this outreach. Simply shop for items on the list. Kindly return the items whenever you come to Our Lady Chapel; we will have boxes in the narthex marked “St. Adalbert.” If you do not have time to shop, simply place an envelope in the collection box and mark it “St. Adalbert’s” or drop it off in the Chapel office. Together, we will work and plant our seeds of hope and goodness with their community. Thank you in advance for your generosity and helping the children of St. Adalbert! Contact Patty in the Chapel Office [440-473-3560] if you have any questions. We will be concluding our school supply drive by Monday, August 25th.



WHAT GIVES US VALUE?

“Vain” is one of those words that has multiple meanings and can be used in several different ways. We use it when talking about someone who is arrogant and self-centered. One thinks of Hollywood movie stars, or perhaps of some TV talk show hosts who are hollow and conceited. Home furnishings called “vanity tables” are built for the purpose of holding mirrors and various beauty aids. “Vain” can be used when describing our efforts that end up being worthless. Folks that are constantly letting you know about their accomplishments are vain and conceited. When we strive for something that is hollow or worthless, we eventually realize that all of our efforts were spent in vain.

The readings for this 18th Week in Ordinary Time begin with the Book of Ecclesiastes — a book of Wisdom literature in Scripture. The word “vanity” is applied to everything that is not directed toward God — everything that is directed toward the things of this world. “Vanity of vanities”, says Qoheleth, “vanity of vanities. All things are vanity!” Here is one who has labored with wisdom and knowledge and skill, and yet to another who has not labored over it, he must leave property. This also is vanity and a great misfortune. For what profit comes to man from all the toil and anxiety of heart with which he has labored under the sun? All his days sorrow and grief are his occupation; even at night his mind is not at rest. This also is vanity [Ecclesiastes 1:2-3, 2:21-23].

That’s practical advice. How many sleepless nights have we spent tossing and turning with worries and concerns that either have not come to pass or which we eventually realize were ultimately worthless?

St. Paul likewise gives us wise advice found in his letter to the Church at Colossae, when he tells us that we should rid ourselves of immorality, impurity, passion, lustful desires and all of the fool’s gold offered us by the worldly. Why? Because in the long run all such things are worthless and empty and all of our energies devoted to those things will be vain. Is lusting the path to happiness? What will it all mean and what value will it have when we meet Christ face to face [Colossians 3:1-11]?

We live in a very competitive world — a world that tells us we are really somebody when we are popular, when we have clothes or money, or look more beautiful than others, a world that judges our value on what we have or how we appear. Our professions, the advertising industry, the world of fashion, and even our academic institutions are all built on measures of value that have nothing to do with how God sees us and values us. Who does not want to be Number One? Who among us in our competitive world does not want to come out on top? Who among us does not want to be the most popular? But the question that we all need to face is: Who is measuring our value?

In the end, like the man Jesus was talking about in Luke’s Gospel — the man who was so concerned about the things of this world that he lost sight of the blessing — we too run the risk of hearing God say to us: “You fool, this night your life will be demanded of you and the things you have prepared, to whom will they belong?” [Luke 12:13-21]. Jesus gives us fair warning when he tells us: “Thus will it be for all who store up treasure for themselves but are not rich in what matters to God.”

The ultimate question for each of us is this: “what can we give back to God that came to us from this life — a life that He gave to you and to me?” Will it be our real estate holdings? A big bank account? Our popularity? Fine clothes? A fancy car? None of these has value unless they are leading us to God. “Vanity of vanities, says Qoheleth, vanity of vanities! All things are vanity!”

God wants us to die rich — He wants us to give Him a life that has value, a life that was lived well, rich in meaning and not lived in vain. What He wants and what we can give Him, regardless of our economic position or our social status, is a spirit, a soul that is richly adorned with attitudes and personality characteristics that are similar to those of Jesus Christ. The riches of this world are extrinsic

to our souls rather than intrinsic. We should be pursuing what is intrinsic and will be part of us forever rather than what is extrinsic and will disappear when we die.

Some Christians advocate a certain false sort of piety — one based on the notion that we are nothing and ought to consider ourselves to be nothing. It’s a sort of so-called humility that falsifies the riches that God wants us to have. We must be rich in the eyes of God. It’s true that by ourselves we can do nothing, but it is also true that with God there is nothing we cannot do. After all, God wants us to grow, to mature, to develop characteristics that are rich in the gifts that God has given to us. God does not create junk, and He does not want us to consider ourselves to be junk. We do not honor God our Father in heaven by considering ourselves to be worthless.

Worldly people are afraid to die. Their feelings of self-worth are centered on things — not on virtues. The worldly would have us think the only place to have happiness is here in this world. They adorn themselves with the cosmetics of this world and attempt to cover death with cosmetics. The world values us by what we have of this world’s trinkets rather than by what we can give to God when we die.

We stew too much over what we don’t have. We stew over our losses, about preserving what we’ve got. But the truth is that each day has its own gains, its own gifts along with some losses. We need to value what really matters, what is of lasting value, not what is passing. We need to value the love we have given, the love of God that can be present in the love we have given to others.

Each of our days is filled with the presence of the Son of God. The risen Christ is present in each day’s rising sun. Every sun rising carries within it the Resurrection of Jesus. Likewise, each tomorrow brings with it a fresh start, a new beginning, and the opportunity to live in the new life given us in the death and resurrection of Jesus. True, there will be gains and losses, just as there were in the life of Jesus. The crucial thing is for you and me to find Him in our todays and tomorrows, so that we can receive and share His presence with those around us. With that vision we can wake up from the night of death and rise in the presence of God where we will find that our losses in this world and our gains in the life God has given us will not have been in vain.

Without God we can do nothing of lasting value. With God everything we do will have great value. May God prosper the work of your hands so that nothing you do will have been done in vain.

—taken from the writings of Father Charles Irvin, which appear on the internet

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday: Numbers 11:4-15; Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday: Numbers 12:1-13; Matthew 14:22-36

Wednesday: Daniel 7:9-14; 2 Peter 1:16-19; Luke 9:29-36

Thursday: Numbers 20:1-13; Matthew 16:13-23

Friday: Deuteronomy 4:32-40; Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday: Deuteronomy 6:4-13; Matthew 17:14-20

19th Week in Ordinary Time: Wisdom 18:6-9; Hebrews 11:1-19; Luke 12:32-48

FORGIVENESS:

All things cry for forgiveness in their imperfection, their incompleteness, their woundedness, their constant movement toward death. Mere rage or resentment will not change any of these realities.

—Richard Rohr 5

