

St Bernadette Parish

1343 Wheeling Road NE (740) 654 • 1893
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701

St Mary Parish

602 Marietta Street (740) 569 • 7929
BREMEN, OH 43107

stbernadetteparish . net



Christ and Two Disciples on Their Way to Emmaus

“... beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, ‘Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.’ So he went in to stay with them.

Luke 24:21, from today's gospel reading

*drawn in pen and brown ink (6½ x 8¾, in 1655-1656) by Rembrandt Harmensz van Rijn (1606-1669)
Musée du Louvre, Paris*

The 3rd Sunday of Easter

APRIL 30, 2017

our parishes

FATHER THOMAS KESSLER (614) 634-0499
pastor wthomaskessler@icloud.com

AT ST BERNADETTE PARISH

<http://stbernadetteparish.net>

MARK SCARPITTI (740) 438-3970
deacon dcn.mark@frontier.com
JEFF CARPENTER (740) 681-9918
deacon carpenter.277@osu.edu
ANN ESSMAN (740) 653-9347
pastoral minister aessman001@att.net
STEVE HUBER (740) 654-3137
facilities coordinator shuber57@yahoo.com
LIZ LATORRE (740) 243-1872
liturgical music lizlatorre@gmail.com

The St Bernadette Parish office is in the Mary Good Center, across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF; 11 AM-1 PM, Tu,
1343 Wheeling Rd NE,
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701 (740) 654-1893

AT BREMEN ST MARY PARISH

BEN FACTOR
liturgical music b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us
JIM SCHMELZER (740) 215-3894
maintenance chair
TYNA FOX-SCHMELZER (614) 371-7702
religious education

The St Mary Parish office is at the church vestibule.

Hours are 9-11 AM, Tu,
602 Marietta St,
Bremen, OH 43107 (740) 569-7929

AT BOTH PARISHES

NIKKI SCHMELZER (740) 654-1893
bookkeeper businessmtbparish@yahoo.com
KATHY KEHNAST (740) 654-1893
pastoral coordinator stbernparish@yahoo.com
ANGIE & KENT KERNS (740) 654-2588
religious education kwkerns@gmail.com
JULIE & CHASE STALFORD (740) 808-7294
youth ministry maristellaspirit@gmail.com

AT ST BERNADETTE SCHOOL

PAM ELTRINGHAM peltring@cducation.org
principal
BARB HUBER bhuber@cducation.org
secretary

Saint Bernadette School is located at
1325 Wheeling Rd, (740) 654-3137
Lancaster, OH 43130-8701
www.stbernadetteschool.com
stbernlan@cducation.org

sacramental life

BAPTISM

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn't possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. Try to take the class before the child is born. If you are expecting, call Kathy to register for the class.

Please don't ask if you "have to go." This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; those parents are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. Both godparents need to be practicing Catholics. If you don't attend Sunday Mass regularly (a major component of being a practicing Catholic), there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass.

PENANCE

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

In addition to Advent and Lenten Penance Services, every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children **four times during the year so that they will learn the beauty of frequent confession**. The Church's law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

ANOINTING AND CARE OF THE SICK

The Sick receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age. We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for "health of mind and body."

And, we are happy to bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the homes or hospitals of the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long since the sacraments were last available.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to marry should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation**. And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation.

Remember, Catholics who marry outside the Church have left the sacramental life and need to change that situation before receiving the other sacraments.

The Church wishes to support couples **through the years** of their married life. That's why our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn about these programs, watch the weekly bulletin.

belonging to the Church

If you actually live in the neighborhood of one parish and go to church in another parish for a good reason, register where you worship. But don't go shopping for a parish home the way you might decide which grocery serves you best, has the best produce or the best prices. Our commitment to the Lord and his Church must never be reduced to a matter of consumer shopping. It is more a matter of blooming where you are planted. Our permanent membership is in the Catholic Church; parish membership needs to be registered with the parish where we worship each Sunday. Our "home parish" is important to us,

but, if we don't live there anymore, it is not likely to be our actual place of worship on anything like a regular basis. For purposes of baptism, first Communion, confirmation, marriage, sacramental sponsorship, burial, and such, the parish where we have registered and where we ordinarily worship is the one that counts. This has been the practice of the Catholic Church for a very long time, but it only becomes obvious when people grow up, establish a home, and sometimes have to move to another place. Whether it is here or there, register in the parish where you worship on Sundays!

praying with the Church

at Mass today

May your people exult for ever, O God, in renewed youthfulness of spirit, so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption, we may look forward in confident hope to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

with the pope in may: christians in africa

That Christians in Africa, in imitation of the Merciful Jesus, may give prophetic witness to reconciliation, justice, and peace.

the regina coeli

Queen of Heaven rejoice, alleluia:
For He Whom you did merit to bear, alleluia,
Has risen as He said, alleluia.
Pray for us to God, alleluia.
Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, alleluia.
For the Lord has truly risen, alleluia.

Let us pray.

O God, Who gave joy to the world through the resurrection of Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, grant we beseech Thee, that through the intercession of the Virgin Mary, His mother, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

world day of prayer for vocations

Next Sunday, May 7, is the 2017 **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. The purpose of the observance is to fulfill publically the Lord's instruction to,

"Pray the Lord of the harvest to send laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:38; Luke 10:2

As a climax to a prayer that is continually offered throughout the Church, it affirms the primacy of faith and grace in all that concerns vocations to the priesthood and to the consecrated life. While appreciating all vocations, the Church concentrates its attention this day on vocations

- to the **ordained ministries** (priesthood and diaconate),
- to the **religious life** in all its forms (male and female, contemplative and apostolic),
- to **societies of apostolic life**, to secular institutes in their diversity of services and membership, and
- to the **missionary life**, in the particular sense of "mission *ad gentes*", to the nations.

The Church throughout the world prays for vocations. Will you make a special effort to ask the Lord for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life?

Pray for the priests who have ministered to you throughout your life, both living and dead.

Keep our parish priests in your prayers throughout the week.

Pledge to pray for vocations at the international website, invisiblemonastery.com. It was inspired by a call from the Vatican urging Catholics to "organize an 'invisible monastery' in which many persons, day and night, are committed to continuous prayer for priestly vocation."

Encourage your children, grandchildren, or other young people to consider a vocation as a priest or religious brother or sister.

On the World Day of Prayer for Vocations, consider praying a rosary for more young men and women in our diocese to respond to God's call.

- Pray the 1st decade that you may grow in holiness in your own vocation.
- Pray the 2nd decade for all those called to marriage.
- Pray the 3rd decade for those called to the permanent diaconate.
- Pray the 4th decade for all those called to religious life.
- Pray the 5th decade for all those called to the priesthood.

prayer for vocations

God our Father, we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son's Kingdom as priests, deacons, religious, and consecrated persons. Send your Holy Spirit to help us respond generously and courageously to your call. May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

God's word ... at sunday Mass

<i>Sunday, Apr 30,</i>	Acts 2:14-33	Psalm 16
<i>3rd Sunday of Easter</i>	1 Peter 1:17-21	Luke 24:13-35
<i>Sunday, May 7,</i>	Acts 2:14-41	Psalm 23
<i>4th Sunday of Easter</i>	1 Peter 2:20-25	John 10:1-10

during the week

<i>Mon, May 1</i>	Acts 6:8-15	Ps 119	John 6:22-29
<i>Tues, May 2</i>	Acts 7:51-8:1	Ps 31	John 6:30-35
<i>Weds, May 3</i>	1 Cor 15:1-8	Ps 19	John 14:6-14
<i>Thurs, May 4</i>	Acts 8:26-40	Ps 66	John 6:44-51
<i>Fri, May 5</i>	Acts 9:1-20	Ps 117	John 6:52-59
<i>Sat, May 6</i>	Acts 9:31-42	Ps 116	John 6:60-69

the feast days this week

May 1 Saint Joseph the Worker
May 2 Saint Athanasius of Alexandria, doctor of the Church
May 3 Saints Philip & James, apostles

in both parishes

christian initiation

Keep praying for the new members of the household of faith, **Ralph Mohler** and his son **Bryant** of Bremen St Mary, and **Jennifer Palmer** of St Bernadette. They were baptized and confirmed and received Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil at St Bernadette Parish at the Great Easter Vigil liturgy of the Lord's Resurrection.

And pray for **Dick Usilton** of St Bernadette Parish who made a profession of his Catholic Faith, was confirmed, and received Holy Communion last Sunday. He prepared for entry into the Church on a separate schedule because of scheduling problems. His sacramental reception was different because he was already a baptized Christian. Please welcome all of our new members

may is Mary's month

Mary is the mother par excellence! She is the Mother of God and our Mother. Making May her month is a fairly modern step; it isn't found in the ancient liturgical calendars, although there is a feast of the coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven (May 31). But if you were casting around for a time to celebrate a month for

Mary, May would be a good choice. It is a beautiful month. Winter is decidedly over, the fields and trees are green, lots of flowers are in bloom, cattle are back in the fields. It is **a month of new life and of hope**. That fits.

During the month of May, at both our parishes, we will pray the **Rosary before Mass on Sunday mornings**. Join in Mary's prayer

- at 8:30 AM at St Mary in Bremen or
- at 10:30 AM at St Bernadette.

To commemorate the 100th anniversary of the first of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima, **Mass will be celebrated at St Bernadette on Saturday, May 13, at 9 AM**.

the church in central and eastern europe

Today we take up the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection supports the Church in over 20 countries, many of which are still struggling to recover in the aftermath of Soviet rule. Funds support pastoral care, catechesis, building renovations, and seminary formation. Your support restores the Church and builds the future in this region. Prayerfully consider how you can support the collection today.

operation rice bowl

Please remember to **return your Rice Bowls** in the collection.

We Need a Bookkeeper

St Bernadette and Bremen St Mary Parishes are seeking a **part-time**, full charge **bookkeeper** to perform such accounting procedures as cash receipts, accounts payable, payroll, budget preparation, account reconciliation, financial reports, and data entry. The bookkeeper's work will ordinarily need to be performed **in the parish offices during morning and early afternoon office hours**.

A candidate should have an associate's degree in accounting / finance and/or 2+ years accounts payable & payroll experience. Completion of bookkeeping and accounting courses is a very big plus. Computer skills should include a strong working knowledge of Word, Excel and Quickbooks. This position requires both an understanding of basic accounting procedures and attention to the accuracy of accounting / financial reporting information. There is also a need for confidentiality, promptness, and good general office procedures.

Interested candidates should e-mail resume, salary requirements and references to the business office at [stbernp arish @ yahoo . com](mailto:stbernp parish@yahoo.com).

planning to marry?

Couples wishing to receive the **sacrament of Matrimony** should contact the pastor **six months** before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because this sacrament—not just the ceremony—requires serious preparation. And the Church needs to be involved in the preparation.

let us adore Him

Spend a **holy hour** with our Lord in the presence of his Blessed Sacrament in either of our parish churches. Or spend a **few holy minutes**. We try to keep both churches open all through the daylight hours. Anybody can come, any time. Perhaps you could.

parish family lunch

You and your family are invited to the St Bernadette and St Mary Parish Family Lunch today, Sunday, Apr 30, **at noon in the St Bernadette Parish Hall to meet and share a meal with the members of our two parishes**. Our **Parish Family Lunch** begins right after the 11 AM Mass at St Bernadette. Arrive at Mass a little early to set up and reserve your place. Bring a tablecloth and table settings as well as a dish to pass. Last names beginning with A-J supply a meat or main dish, K-T donate a salad or side dish, and U-Z contribute a dessert. Drinks (coffee, tea, lemonade, water) will be provided. Sign-up sheets are located at all church entrances. For information, to reserve your spot, or to sign up to bring a dish to pass, contact Kathy at St Mary at (740) 569-7929 or at St Bernadette at (740) 654-1893. See you there!

vacation church school

Vacation Church School happens this summer at Schmelzer's Grove on the evenings of June 26-30, with exact times to be announced. Anyone interested in helping should contact Angie Kerns at (740) 654-2588.

the bishop's annual appeal

Bishop's Annual Appeal 2017

"LIVING THE GOSPEL IN FAITH, HOPE, AND CHARITY"

The Bishop's Annual Appeal *begins next Sunday, May 7*. It's time for us to do what we can to support the programs and ministries that benefit both our parishes and the wider community. The Appeal *supports our parish schools of religion and the education of our future priests and deacons, and many families in need of our help*. Your gift and your prayers will help to make this year's appeal a success. Here are the goals, the amounts we have been asked to raise:

Diocesan goal	\$ 6,500,000
St Mary Parish	\$ 12,443
St Bernadette Parish	\$ 42,210

Every contribution counts; every dollar that we raise over the stated goal will be returned to our parishes to benefit our communities directly. Last year St Bernadette pledged slightly over and collected slightly under the goal. Bremen St Mary pledged well over the goal and has received the rebate from the diocese. So we know we can do this if, after thoughtful consideration and prayer, every one of us gives according to our ability. We are blessed with much; let us remember the needs of others.

at st bernadette parish

blood drive

Our next St Bernadette blood drive will be Saturday, May 20, from 9AM-2PM in the parish hall. Lunch and cupcakes will be served. To help make up for drives cancelled by winter weather, please attend if you can. Appointments at [www . redcross . org](http://www.redcross.org) or Joyce Guenther at (740) 974-5040. Thank you.

school advisory board

There are two open seats on the St Bernadette Advisory Board for next Fall. The term is three years. If you are interested, please submit a simple bio, or pick up a bio/nomination form from the school office. Please submit nominations as soon as possible.

new teachers for st bernadette school

St. Bernadette School is accepting resumes for a **kindergarten** and a **third-grade** teaching position, both to begin the 2017-18 school year. The candidate must

- be a practicing Catholic, well versed in the Catholic Faith;
- hold an appropriate Ohio teaching license (1-8, K-8, K-3; professional, provisional, permanent, or resident educator) or be eligible to obtain one by August 2017;
- have current BCI&I and FBI background checks;
- have attended or be willing to attend a VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Safe Environment seminar;
- completed the online teaching application for the Diocese of Columbus.

Contact Principal Pam Eltringham by e-mailing resume and letter of interest to peltring @ cdeducation . org.

Mass intentions at st bernadette

Monday,	May 1	8:20 AM	Margaret & Dolores
Wednesday,	May 3	8:20 AM	Dan Rudisille
Thursday,	May 4	6 PM	Russel Brown
Friday,	May 5	8:20 AM	Brian Mathias
Saturday,	May 6	9 AM	James Mahon IV
Saturday,	May 6	4 PM	Poor Souls in purgatory

The Church requires the pastor to offer Sunday Mass for good of the people of the parish.

ministry at Mass at st bernadette

	Lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	
Sat, Apr 29 4 PM	Teresa Scarpitti	Mallory, Mason & McKenzie Ortiz	Rosalie DeFillippo Marguerite Grimm Kathy Kehnast	Jim & Becky Kuhn Denise McGuire
Sun, Apr 30 11 AM	Tara Craaybeek	Clara & Susan Craaybeek, Eve Darfus	Nancy Griffith John & Teresa Hartig	Ben Peters Jean Robinson Larry Sanford
Mon 8:20	Mary Jane Vajen	Jack Gentile, Joey Mannella	Patricia Dreyer	Kathy Kehnast
Weds 8:20	Bob Christy	Brianna Hilyard, Sarah Woo	Angie Christy	Mary Jane Vajen
Thurs 6 PM	Kathy Kehnast	Becca Fuller, Gunner Robertson	Lee Guinan	Paul Lonergan
Fri 8:20	Jim Merk	Carley Matson, Mitchell Ortiz	Jim & Rita Merk	
Sat 9 AM	Kara Tencza	Jack Tencza	Jim & Rita Merk	
Sat, May 6 4 PM	Patrick Gins	Isabelle Gentile, Avee & Drew Solt	Lee Guinan Brad Rider Craig Shaw	Mickey Steyaert Shelia Taylor Kathy Wagner
Sun, May 7 11 AM	James Merk	Caroline Messerly, Dominic & Emeline Neighbor	Rita Merk Anna Sevigny David Shonk	Mary Jane Vajen Becky Wickham Amy Woo

st vincent de paul 5th sunday collection

Members of the St Vincent de Paul Society will take **up a collection at the church doors** today, the 5th Sunday this month. Please be generous. The society helps the needy in the Lancaster

area. They operate on income from their store and from your donations.

at st mary parish

60th anniversary celebration

David and Esther Strohmeier invite friends, family, and parishioners to their 60th wedding anniversary celebration from 1-5 PM today, Sunday, Apr 30, in the St Mary Parish Hall in Bremen. Please remember them in your prayers.

st vincent de paul at bremen

For people in a financial jam, the season of need seems to go on throughout the year. So, the **St Vincent de Paul Society in Bremen** takes up a collection after Mass on the first Sunday of the month, every month. New members are always welcome. For information, call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

Mass intention at st mary

The Church requires the pastor to offer Sunday Mass for good of the people of the parish. Tuesday morning Mass will be celebrated for Michael Anthony VanAtta

sunday at Mass at bremen st mary

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
Sun, Apr 30 8:30 AM	Karen Wolfe	Brooke Holt, Jillian Wilkinson	Wyatt Borah, Dismas Schmelzer, Karen Wolfe	Catherine Noll April Schmelzer	Jim Schmelzer
Sun, May 7 8:30 AM	Joe Young	Reagan & Spencer Conrad	Neil Boch, Joe & Cathy Young	Joe & Cathy Young	Joe Young

in the deanery

irish alumni golf

Alumni of St Mary, Bishop Fenwick and Fisher Catholic High Schools play at **Pleasant Valley Golf Course**, Coonpath Rd, on Saturday, June 10, at 9 AM. Cost is \$150 per team, 3 player scramble format. Send your check payable to A One Events, LLC, with entry to: A One Events, Box 961, Lancaster, OH 43130, and include player name, class year, email or phone. For information contact Mike Wolshire at (740) 687-0055 or mike @ miller-lewis . com.

in the diocese of columbus

service & retreat opportunity

The Dominican Sisters of Peace are sponsoring a four-day service and retreat opportunity for single Catholic women between the ages of 18 to 45 who are discerning a possible call to religious life or lay ministry in the church. This experience is scheduled for May 18-21 in Columbus and includes prayer, service, community, and fun. Participants will live together in a small community house and serve at an ecology farm—Shepherd's Corner—and at a local soup kitchen. Group prayer and reflection time will explore the connection between service and justice. Space is limited; free room and board provided. Some travel funds to Columbus are available on a need basis. Visit <https://oppeace.org/pray-serve-reflect/> to register, or for information contact Sr Pat Dual, OP by phone or text at (614) 216-7688 or email at pdual @ oppeace . org.

natural family planning

Natural Family Planning (NFP) methods are effective for postponing or achieving pregnancy and are completely natural—no pills, patches or devices. **Good for the body and great for the soul.** Engaged and married couples are invited to learn NFP by attending a diocesan NFP Class Series. Dates and locations are online at familylife.coltsdioc.org; contact the Marriage and Family Life Office at (614) 241-2560 or familylife@coltsdioc.org for information

marriage preparation volunteers

Looking for a way to serve in 2017? Engaged couples in our diocese need your help. Volunteer to serve on the diocesan **Marriage Preparation Team** as a speaker and presenter. Present virtues-based topics to engaged couples preparing for the Sacrament of Matrimony. **If you are currently married, and have wisdom and experience to share**, you already qualify. For information, contact Kathleen Hall at khall@columbuscatholic.org or (614) 241-2560.

sunday evening Mass

Holy Family Church, 584 West Broad St, Columbus, has begun offering an **8 PM Sunday Mass** to accommodate many people's work schedule. Contact their parish office at (614) 221-4323.

celebrate two great moms

Honor the Blessed Mother and your own favorite earthy mother or mother figure in your life by attending a special Marian event at St Peter & Paul Retreat Center in Newark on Saturday, May 13, the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Fatima. Elizabeth Ficocelli will present "**Spiritual Warfare in the Age of Mary**", recounting key visits of Our Lady over the past two centuries and how she is preparing us to fight the evil we see rampant in the world today. The event runs from 9 AM until noon and includes a continental breakfast and a book signing. Registration is \$20 and can be made by contacting www.stspeterandpaulretreatcenter.com or calling (740) 928-4246.

diocesan senior citizens celebration

On Tuesday, June 6, **senior citizens will be honored** at St Joan of Arc Church in Powell. Bishop Campbell will celebrate Mass at 10:30 AM, and a luncheon will follow. Registration is \$10; send a

check payable to the Office for Social Concerns, Catholic Diocese of Columbus, 197 E Gay Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. For information, call (614) 241-2540 or email socmailbox@columbuscatholic.org. Registrations are needed by June 1.

centennial of our lady at fatima

This Mass takes place on Saturday, May 13, at 10 AM at Saint Joseph Cathedral in Columbus. Cathedral rector Fr Michael Lumpe will celebrate the Mass, Msgr Frank Lane will deliver the homily. Prior to the Mass a rosary will be prayed beginning at 9:30 AM. All are invited to this special celebration in honor of Our Lady of Fatima. Pope Francis has granted a plenary indulgence for specific Fatima centennial celebrations; this Cathedral occasion would be one of three ways to receive the plenary indulgence. For information about this Mass call the Cathedral at (614) 224-1295, or visit www.saintjosephcathedral.org.

catholic men's luncheon club event

The next Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will feature a talk by Fr Thomas Blau, parochial vicar at St Patrick Parish, on Friday, May 5, at St Patrick Church in downtown Columbus. His theme is **Real Men Pray the Rosary**. This month's luncheon is sponsored by the Catholic Foundation. Holy Mass begins at 11:45 AM followed by lunch and Fr Blau's talk until about 1 PM. No reservations are necessary. \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend. For information on Catholic Men's Luncheons, visit www.catholicmensministry.com/cmlc or contact Tim Merkle, CMLC president at htm@ejhlaw.com.

passion and purpose for marriage

What's **the most important word in a marriage**? What is really going on in your wife's head? What do you wish your husband knew about you? Join Dynamic Catholic and Dr Allen Hunt at St Catharine of Siena Church in Columbus, on Sunday, May 7, at 12:30 PM, and discover key ingredients to a healthy and happy marriage. Take your relationship to a whole new level. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at www.DynamicCatholic.com/Columbus or by calling (859) 980-7900.

from the chair

Join Bishop Campbell and the seminarians of the diocese of Columbus on Tuesday, May 2, for the Annual Seminarian Roundtable from 5 to 6 PM on St Gabriel Catholic Radio AM 820.



confessions & weekday Mass nearby

These times sometimes change, though, so be sure to call ahead!

	<i>Bremen St Mary</i>	<i>Lancaster St Bernadette</i>	<i>Lancaster St Mary</i>	<i>Lancaster St Mark</i>	<i>Sugar Grove St Joseph</i>	<i>Circleville St Joseph</i>	<i>Logan St John</i>
<i>Monday</i>		8:20 AM	7 AM	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
<i>Tuesday</i>	8:20 AM		9 AM	8 AM	NOON	7 AM	8 AM
<i>Wednesday</i>		8:20 AM	7 AM	6 PM	6:30 PM	9 AM	9 AM
<i>Thursday</i>			9 AM	8 AM	NOON		
<i>Friday</i>		8:20 AM		8 AM	8 AM	9 AM	8 AM
<i>Saturday</i>		<i>1st Saturday only 9 AM Mass</i>				10 AM	9 AM
<i>confessions</i>	Sunday @ 8AM	Thursday @ 5:30 PM Saturday @ 3 PM & @ 8:30 AM on 1st Saturday only	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 5:30 PM	½ hour before Mass	Saturday @ 4 PM	Saturday @ 4 PM

Anointing of the Sick

Is anyone among you suffering? He should pray. Is anyone in good spirits? He should sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint (him) with oil in the name of the Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.

James 5:13-15

At Sunday Mass on May 14 (and at the vigil Mass on May 13) we will celebrate the sacrament of the anointing of the Sick. That is, we will if there is anyone who wishes to receive the sacrament. We try to do this communally every Spring and every Autumn. Please **call the parish office** to let us know if you wish to receive the sacrament at Mass on Saturday or Sunday.

Who is eligible? **Who should receive the sacrament?** The Church's law spells it out:

- Can. 1004 §1 The anointing of the sick can be administered to any member of the faithful who, having reached the use of reason,
begins to be in danger of death by reason of illness or old age.
- §2 This sacrament can be repeated if the sick person, having recovered, again becomes seriously ill or if, in the same illness, the danger becomes more serious.
- Can. 1005 If there is any doubt as to whether the sick person has reached the age of reason, or is dangerously ill, or is dead, this sacrament is to be administered.
- Can. 1006 This sacrament is to be administered to the sick who, when they were in possession of their faculties, at least implicitly asked for it.
- Can. 1007 The anointing of the sick is not to be conferred upon those who obstinately persist in a manifestly grave sin.

When I was boy the sacrament went by the name of "**Extreme Unction.**" That just means "the final anointing." The Fathers of the Second Vatican Council, in their Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, modified the name and the timing slightly, saying that this anointing need not be postponed until the very moment of death.

73. "Extreme unction," which may also and more fittingly be called "anointing of the sick," is not a sacrament for those only who are at the point of death. Hence, as soon as any one of the faithful begins to be in danger of death from sickness or old age, the fitting time for him to receive this sacrament has certainly already arrived.

The mandate of the Lord to confer this sacrament is spoken through the apostle James. The presbyters (or elders) who are to be summoned to confer the sacrament have always been understood in the Catholic Church to **BE** the ordained priests.

The **point of the sacrament** is spelled out clearly in the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

1532 The special grace of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick has as its effects:

- the uniting of the sick person to the passion of Christ, for his own good and that of the whole Church;
- the strengthening, peace, and courage to endure in a Christian manner the sufferings of illness or old age;
- the forgiveness of sins, if the sick person was not able to obtain it through the sacrament of Penance;
- the restoration of health, if it is conducive to the salvation of his soul;
- the preparation for passing over to eternal life.

But the Church **doesn't promise a miracle** of physical healing. So who needs the sacrament if it might not "work"? Once again, the Church has a wisdom about **what it is that can go wrong in sickness**:

1501 Illness can lead to anguish, self-absorption, sometimes even despair and revolt against God. It can also make a person more mature, helping him discern in his life what is not essential so that he can turn toward that which is. **Very often illness provokes a search for God and a return to him.**

And into that morass of human suffering, fear, loneliness, and the temptation of self-centeredness comes the sacrament:

1499 By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them. And indeed she exhorts them to contribute to the good of the People of God by freely **uniting themselves to the passion and death of Christ.**

Like all of the sacraments, there is more here than people might have guessed. There is, as in each sacrament, a configuring of our lives to the dying of Christ, so that "dying he may destroy our death and rising he may restore our life." Please pray for our sick. And please let us know if you are ready to receive the holy sacrament.

— *Father Kessler*

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