

JMJ

Dear Parishioners,

As I did a couple of years ago I would like to share this powerful piece from William McGurn that was published in the Wall Street Journal on the 9th of October.

What might Oscar Wilde have made of the new exhibit meant to honor him as “one of the earliest forebears of gay liberation”? The Oscar Wilde Temple opened last week in a former Methodist chapel in South London, complete with an altar featuring a statue of the Irish playwright. Wilde’s own life and tastes, after all, were more complicated. When he arrived in Rome in 1900, he found himself attracted to both the Eternal City’s pagan past and its Catholic present, extolling the beauty of the young men he paid for even as he haunted the Vatican for a blessing from the pope. Six months later in Paris, on his deathbed, he was welcomed into the Catholic church.

Wilde wasn’t unusual for his time. To today’s generations, Catholicism may be the Church of Intolerance. But in Wilde’s day, the church was still the Scarlet Woman, home for the disreputable and deplorable. In his play “A Woman of No Importance” the title character, who has a secret past—an illegitimate son—explains why she spends so much time in church. “Where else could I go?” she asks. “God’s house is the only house where sinners are made welcome.” Sin and grace in a broken world. How many who shared Wilde’s sexual attractions found similar refuge and equality at the altar rail of Rome?

Wilde was no stranger to sexual scandal. Nor, for anyone familiar with its history, is the Catholic church. Today the face of scandal is Theodore McCarrick, the former cardinal accused of molesting an 11-year-old boy as well as regularly inviting seminarians to his bed. Notwithstanding its unpopularity, church teaching on homosexuality hasn’t fundamentally changed since St. Paul. What has changed is that the orthodoxy dominating civilization is no longer set by even a residually Judeo-Christian ethos.

This new orthodoxy comes with a new enforcer, too. When it comes to rooting out heresy and dissent, what the Inquisition once accomplished with torture and dungeons today’s media does far more efficiently with relentless promotion of voices and ideas it wants amplified, and equally relentless neglect of voices and ideas it wants ignored. Mockery and contempt are reserved for anyone who won’t sign on.

It isn’t without its contradictions. On the one hand, the keepers of the new sexual orthodoxy are rightly indignant at the lack of consent and exploitation inherent in the sexual abuses by priests, bishops and cardinals who preyed upon those to whom they were supposed to be fathers and shepherds. On the other hand, this same orthodoxy continues to play down that most of the abuse has been committed by men against other men and boys.

Take former Cardinal McCarrick. We’re told “everyone knew” what “Uncle Ted” was up to. Yet knowledge of his behavior didn’t stop him from attaining the archbishopric of the nation’s capital, a cardinal’s hat and welcome in the highest and most fashionable circles. Even now, it’s illuminating to compare his treatment with the vitriol directed at John Nienstedt, who resigned in 2015 as archbishop of Minneapolis after prosecutors charged the archdiocese with failing to protect children from a sexually abusive priest. Archbishop Nienstedt has also been investigated for inappropriate sexual behavior, though nothing has been proved, no charges were ever filed, and he maintains his innocence.

Certainly no one could claim that Archbishop Nienstedt’s handling of reports of sexual abuse in his diocese was anything but a disaster. And if credible proof emerges he himself was an abuser, by all means let him answer for it. Still, it’s hard not to notice that what really seems to distinguish Archbishop Nienstedt from former Cardinal McCarrick is that the former spoke out publicly for his church’s teaching by supporting a Minnesota ballot measure to ban same-sex marriage.

In so doing, Archbishop Nienstedt challenged the prevailing secular orthodoxy in a way Cardinal McCarrick never did. Which may explain why until recently a media that otherwise delights in bringing down Catholic prelates was decidedly uninterested in investigating the many rumors that swirled around Cardinal McCarrick while he was still active in church life.

It should go without saying that not every gay priest is a predator, that many are holy men, and that the church doesn’t need a witch hunt to root out anyone suspected of being gay. But when the main study on sex abuse by American clergy reports that 81% of victims were male—and largely postpubescent—how tenable is the proposition that homosexuality hasn’t a thing to do with priestly sex abuse?

“I can resist everything but temptation,” Wilde once quipped. What might he have made of the new orthodoxy trying to impose itself on the church he ultimately called his own—and of pope, cardinals and bishops so plainly embarrassed by their own teaching?

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Father Newcomb

**The second collection this weekend is for the
All Souls Novena.**

Family Rosary Program is sponsored by The Knights of Columbus and FAITH. Join us at our new **Family Rosary Sunday**, after the 8:30 Mass on **October 28th** ALL are welcome to stay and say the rosary. **RELIGIOUS ED.** : children and parents, please remain in the church for this program. If attending another Please have your child to the church by 9:15 as class will start in the church. Please stay with your child until the rosary is done. Afterwards the Catechists will walk their classes to the school to finish out the morning. **Pick up will be from the school.**



We have begun collecting non perishable items for the Christmas Food Baskets next weekend. Please deposit food items in the red bins in the Narthex or stop by the parish office during the week.

6th Annual Faith, Fun, Tricks & Treats

Saturday, November 3rd
Most Sacred Heart Hall
After the 4:00 p.m. Mass
Sandwiches and Refreshments
A fun evening of events is scheduled.

Saint Guessing Jars,

Pass the Pumpkin, Halo Toss and more.. **RSVP ASAP to danileyoungliving@gmail.com**

Save the date for *St. Mary's Little Lambs' annual St. Nicholas Faire!* Join us Sunday, December 2 from 9:30am to 2:00pm in St. Mary's Most Sacred Heart Hall. With so many amazing vendors you'll find something for everyone on your list! We have consultants from Mouse Works Handmade Crafts, Ildiko Vass's Hungarian Food, Dawn's Eternal Roses, Brischler Creations, Mary Kay, Pampered Chef, Renewal by Anderson, and more! Kids can meet St. Nick and visit our **FREE** Children's Craft Table while you shop! Breakfast served beginning at 9:30. Lunch served beginning at 11:15. Bake Sale all day! All proceeds benefit St. Mary's Little Lambs Early Childhood Learning Center.



It's my birthday! Thank you so much for all your prayers. Because you prayed for me, I got the best of all gifts— **LIFE!**

Thank you.. To all who helped and participated in the Rosary Rally.

The collection for October 20/21 was \$4,269.50
Thank you for your continued generosity.

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Monday, October 29
9:00am Steven O'Hare, by Tenke family
John Ritzel, by Mary Ritzel and grandchildren

Tuesday, October 30
9:00am Nick Marinaro, by Helen Marinaro

Wednesday, October 31
9:00am Joseph Portella, by Tom and Irene Sexton

Thursday, November 1 (All Saints)
9:00am Raymond Gansarski, by wife Dorothy
7:00pm Dave Latini, by Sandy and Frank Felter

Friday, November 2 (All Souls)
11:30am *All Souls*

Saturday, November 3
4:00pm The parishioners of St. Mary's

Sunday, November 4
8:30am Eva Lawrow, by Mary Rimlinger
11:30am Dr. Marie Connors, by Amelia Quinn



The Sanctuary Lamp will burn brightly this week in the Church, in memory of Raymond Gansarski, by his wife, Dorothy.

Please Pray For the Sick: Angela Portella, Joann Wilcox, Walter Szpakowicz, Elizabeth Brennan, Michael Medaglia, Jackie Mundy, Barbara Straub, Tress Loughrey, Sal Careri, Elizabeth Startup Jones, Louis Harford, William Lincoln, Jeanine Lincoln, Michael Barnes, Donald Wolff, Ramonita Irizarry, Theresa Kavanagh, Debi Cotugno, Theresa Fuller, Maureen Hildebrandt, Charles Hildebrandt, Aedan Roach, James Roach, Robin Radzikowski, Helen Andreano, Tito Rivera, Neil Stasilli, Josefina Rodriguez, Joseph Hinkley, Toni Sorrentino, Frances Brennan, Andrea Fedoruk, Susan Upton, Chris Marion III, Loretta Olenick, Layla Grace Foster, Roderick T. Esling, James Lincoln, Danielle Devore, Wayne DeMarco, Marge O'Connor, Mindy Walsh, Arieal Walsh, Raquel Maldonado, Lillian Maldonado Diaz, Tyrell Davis, Eppie Harford, Christine Nowak, and Jesivel Abreu.

Clothing Drive/ Coat Drive: November 3, 2018, 11-3pm Boyscout Troop 173 is having a Fall clothing drive, we accept clothing, blankets, linen, towels, toys, shoes, etc. (please bag clothing, toys and shoes all separate). **Coat drive is for our local families in need.**

Liturgical Ministers for November 3rd/4th, 2018

MASS	LECTOR	MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION	ALTAR SERVERS
4:00PM	T. WEBB	C. WITTINE, W. PONDS	N. AND A. WEBB
8:30AM	J. SMITH	J. HENDRICK, T. HOPPEY	D. GERARDO, E. AND A. TRUJILLO
11:30AM	M. ESLING	H. MARINARO, N. SMITH	Z. ADAMCIK, J. ENNIS, DJ PERRIN