

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL
March 2023 Volume 3 Issue 12



St. Patrick's Day Is March 17

St. Patrick is the patron saint of Ireland. Born in Roman Britain in the late 4th century, he was kidnapped at the age of 16 and taken to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but returned about 432 CE to convert the Irish to Christianity. By the time of his death on March 17, 461, he had established monasteries, churches, and schools. Many legends grew up around him—for example, that he drove the snakes out of Ireland and used the shamrock to explain the Trinity. Ireland came to celebrate his day with religious services and feasts.

It was emigrants, particularly to the United States, who transformed St. Patrick's Day into a largely secular holiday of revelry



and celebration of things Irish. Cities with large numbers of Irish immigrants, who often wielded political power, staged the most extensive celebrations, which included elaborate parades.

Boston held its first St. Patrick's Day parade in 1737, followed by New York City in 1762. Since 1962 Chicago has colored its river green to mark the holiday. (Although blue was the color traditionally associated with St. Patrick, green is now commonly connected with the day.) Irish and non-Irish alike commonly participate in the "wearing of the green"—sporting an item of green clothing or a shamrock, the Irish national plant, in the lapel. Corned beef and cabbage are associated with the holiday, and even beer is sometimes dyed green to celebrate the day.

Although some of these practices eventually were adopted by the Irish themselves, they did so largely for the benefit of tourists.



FROM AROUND THE WORLD
OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

Pope Francis breaks down and cries while mentioning Ukraine at public prayer

Lawyer travels more than 300 miles on horseback to thank St. Sebastian for his law degree

Excavation site of Pool of Siloam where Jesus cured a blind man will soon open to public

Christian Lawyers Foundation in Spain demands TV series promoting pedophilia be pulled

Church in Peru condemns murder of police officer burned alive: 'No more deaths!'

Two Florida residents indicted for vandalizing pro-life pregnancy centers

Priest found guilty of blocking entrance to abortion clinic, faces prison time

Millions still suffer from leprosy.

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Bill McClelland

Brothers, and economically by joining our ranks.

Thank you to all who participated in the farewell for Chuck and Dolly. Losing them will leave a gap in our faith community that can never be filled in the same way. We wish them the best in their new home.

Don't forget that you have an opportunity to join us to do hurricane relief work in Port Charolette on March 2. Please let me know if you have registered so we can work together.

Vivat Jesus,
Bill

March is a busy month for us. We have eclipsed our 100 member goal, but we have not achieved the 110 mark yet. Please encourage non-Knights to attend our meeting on March 1. This is an Open House with dinner provided and a focus on the insurance benefits of becoming a Knight. I challenge all of you to bring at least one parishioner to see how they can benefit socially, spiritually,

The
Season
of
Lent



LAUGHTER ~ is the best ~ · MEDICINE ·

Hey, I found your nose. It was in my business.
I'm not superstitious, but I am a little stitious.
Halloween is the beginning of the holiday shopping season. That's for women. The beginning of the holiday shopping season for men is Christmas Eve.
Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way when you criticize them, you are a mile away from them and you have their shoes.
I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them.
When your mother asks, "Do you want a piece of advice?" it is a mere formality. It doesn't matter if you answer yes or no. You're going to get it anyway.
I haven't spoken to my wife in years. I didn't want to interrupt her.
Someone asked me if I were stranded on a desert island what book would I hope to have: *How to Build a Boat*.

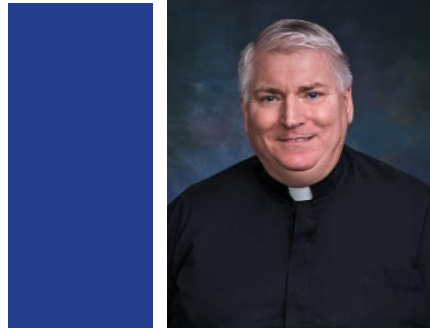
FROM THE DESK OF OUR PASTOR



Fr. Tom Morgan

Dear Brother Knights;
I am thankful to Fr. Joe Waters for agreeing to preach our 2023 Lenten Parish Mission, Monday - Wednesday March 6-8 at 7:00pm each evening in the church. Please join us for this great blessing for our parish and consider inviting a family member or friend to join you.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Fr. Tom Morgan





MARCH BIRTHDAYS



Richard Gregorio
March 2



Phillip Monnig
March 8



Jim Hand
March 11



Jason Peterson
March 12



Frank Cortonuto
March 16



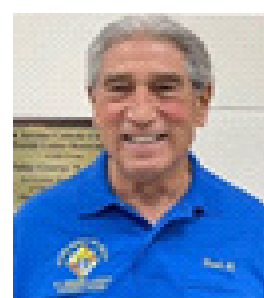
Danny Elliott
March 16



John Connova
March 20



Richard Bovin
March 22



Fred Melchiorri
March 25

Passion of Christ Sequel Planned

According to a recent report, Mel Gibson's sequel to *The Passion of the Christ* will begin filming in the spring of 2023. Jim Caviezel will return to play Jesus.

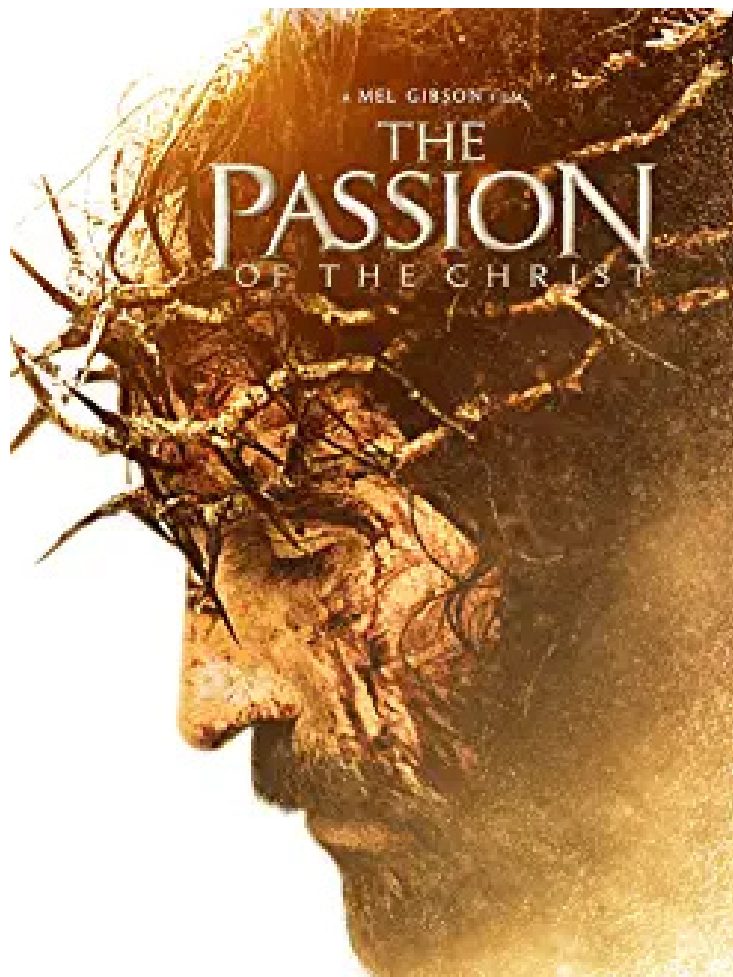
Gibson revealed his work on *The Passion of the Christ: Resurrection* in 2016. Several project details surfaced over past few years, including Gibson's "supernatural ideas" for the film.

Gibson and his company, Icon Productions, fully funded the original \$45 million film. It garnered over \$600 million worldwide, becoming the most successful independent film of all time. It was also the highest grossing film in the religious genre and the highest-grossing R-rated film at the time.

Discussing the sequel in a 2016 interview, Gibson said Jesus' resurrection is "a very big subject," that "needs to be looked at."

"We don't wanna do just a simple rendering of it. We can all read what happened, but in order to really experience and explore deeper meanings of what it's about is gonna take some doing," he said.

In another interview with Stephen Colbert, Gibson said "It's more than a single event, it's an amazing event... and to underpin it with the things around it is really the story, to sort of enlighten what that means."



Ed Garnier Shares His Life Story

After graduating from high school, Ed decided to go to college and get a degree in journalism. He graduated from St. Joseph's College extension located in East Chicago, IN, with a degree in journalism and political science. The college was basically located in a building donated by Standard Oil. The college is no longer an extension but a full college. The town is now called Whiting, IN. Along the way Ed was working in the steel mills in the area and if he had done anything with his journalism degree, he would have had to take a 50% cut in salary. "I had two kids and one in the oven at that time," Ed said. "Some days the work was hard, and some days it wasn't. Of course, back then my body could endure more stress," he added. "I did have a talent in writing," he said, "and I was able to use that talent in the insurance business." He and Chris, his wife, moved to Tampa, Florida, about that time, and Ed began working for Westinghouse as an electrician in about 1978, but he wrenched his back so badly he couldn't walk, so he realized he would have to go into another line of work. He soon became attracted to selling insurance, but he doesn't really know what caused him to be interested in that. "I guess a bell started ringing

in my head encouraging me to get into insurance work," he said. "I had 4 kids and a wife, and they all wanted to eat regularly, so insurance it was." This was around 1980. Originally it was life and health insurance, but it changed rather quickly to property and casualty," he said. He started with All State, but now he's an independent agent and can use any company that is best for his client. While at All State he was requested to start selling life insurance which worked out fine for him. "A fixed-time insurance policy is best for the company," he said, "because it's usually for a mortgage, and the bread winner doesn't want to leave his spouse with a debt in case of his death, so at the end of the policy life, twenty or thirty years later, they cancel the policy because there is no longer a mortgage, so the company isn't out any money at all." He was quite successful selling life insurance, he said. "At one time, I was top salesman in America for Merrell-Lynch," he said. Ed has no military experience. "I tried to get into the National Guard, but they flunked me because I had asthma," he said.

Ed and his wife are both cradle Catholics. Chris seldom worked outside the home. She did, for a while, for Hart, Schaffner, and Marx in computers. "They also were known for men's suits," he said.



Ed originally became a Knight when he and Chris were living in Hammond, IN, but he lost interest until he started going to St. Jerome, so when our council was formed, he reactivated his membership," he said.

Ed is a charter member of the secular council of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Inc. "It's a secular religious order," he said. "The order is all over the world now," Ed said. "I'm looking forward to going to Heaven and seeing Jesus who might say, 'There he is; a charter member of the secular of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph.'"

Ed concluded by saying that both his hands are shaking pretty badly now. It's Parkinson's Disease. With lithium medicine it can be controlled but not cured. "It's affected his voice, as well, he said, but I've always had a big mouth," he laughed.

Despite it all, Ed still has his sense of humor. "I was born at a very young age," he said.

The Story of Courageous Damien the Leper

Joseph de Veuster was born in Belgium, January 3, 1840; he died at Molokai, Hawaii, April 15, 1889. His father, a small farmer, sent him to a college to prepare for a commercial profession, but because of a mission Joseph attended, he decided to become a religious. He entered the novitiate of the Fathers of the Sacred Heart. Now an Ordained priest in Honolulu and was later given charge of various districts on the island of Hawaii, and, animated with a burning zeal, his robust constitution allowed him to give full play to the impulses of his heart. He was not only the missionary of the natives, but also constructed several chapels with his own hands, both in Hawaii and in Molokai. On the latter island there had grown up a leper settlement where the Government kept segregated all persons afflicted with the loathsome disease. The board of health supplied the

unfortunates with food and clothing but was unable in the beginning to provide them with either resident physicians or nurses.

On May 10, 1873, Father Damien, at his own request and with the sanction of his bishop, arrived at the settlement as its resident priest. There were then 600 lepers.

"As long as the lepers can care for themselves," wrote the superintendent of the board of health to Bishop Maigret, "they are comparatively comfortable, but as soon as the dreadful disease renders them helpless, it would seem that even demons themselves would pity their condition and hasten their death."

For a long time, however, Father Damien was the only one to bring



them the help they so greatly needed. He not only administered the consolations of religion, but also rendered them such little medical service and bodily comforts as were within his power. He dressed their ulcers, helped them erect their cottages, and went so far as to dig their graves and make their coffins.

After twelve years of this heroic service, he discovered in himself the first symptoms of the disease. This was in 1885. He nevertheless continued his charitable ministrations, being assisted at this period by two other priests and two lay brothers.

On March 28, 1889, Father Damien became helpless and passed away shortly after, closing his fifteenth year in the service of the lepers.

Anger and How It Affected Some Saints



St. Jerome

overcame. The Gospels tell us that Sts. James and John were called the "sons of thunder" (Mark 3:17) — perhaps because of their impetuous nature, as when they wanted Jesus to call down fire from Heaven to destroy an inhospitable town (Luke 9:51-56). Other

his dealings with others.

When it comes to a reputation for anger, few would argue that St. Jerome deserves first place. This great Scripture scholar had a brilliant but prickly personality and was famous for his arguments with other Church figures, including St. Augustine, conducted through letters that were often vitriolic or sarcastic.

St. Pammachius, a former Roman senator, corresponded with Jerome, and tried to get him to tone down his language, without notable success.

A Roman widow St. Marcella also corresponded with Jerome, sometimes challenging his ideas and once scolding him for his trigger-quick temper.

It should be noted on Jerome's behalf, however, that in addition to being gentle with the poor and down-trodden, he was well aware of his weaknesses and performed great acts of penance (such as living in a cave) because of them.

Do you have a fierce temper? If so, you're in good company: some of the saints were known for this — a characteristic that, with God's help, they

saints known for expressing anger include St. Basil the Great, whose hot-blooded temperament made it difficult for him to exercise tact in

Is the Doctrine of Hell a Legitimate Motivation for Evangelization?

Jesus, and with him the entire New Testament, is wholly innocent of hell for others as a motive for evangelization. When Jesus talks about hell, he never talks about mission, and when he talks about mission, he never talks about hell. He only speaks to people who should be concerned about hell, never about other people who should be concerned about hell.

For his part, St. Paul gives no indication, in all his travails on behalf of the Gospel, that his motivation for mission derives from a fear that millions of souls are being damned. He does not say, "Woe to the world if I do not preach the gospel."

As it was for Jesus, the function of the doctrine of hell for St. John Paul



II is not to motivate us to preach the Gospel because others are in danger. It is to force us to look at ourselves. If it relates to mission at all, it is to ask ourselves whether our own expe-

rience of Jesus is genuine if we are not impelled by a kind of inner necessity to share it.

The doctrine of hell is never set on anyone but oneself.

St. Francis Xavier once said: "When trying to evangelize, no tool is more effective than that of personal witness... People can argue with points of doctrine but no one can argue with a personal testimony!"

HAPPY
St. Patrick's
DAY

*Celebrate with us at
St. Jerome's Parish Center
Saturday, March 11, 2023
from 12 PM to 2 PM
Doors Open at 11:30 AM*



*Enjoy an afternoon of
good food, friendship,
Irish music, and a
Pot of Gold Coins*



On the Menu

*Shepherd's Pie
Glazed carrots
Dinner Rolls
Irish Soda Bread
Salad
Desserts
Irish Coffee
Selection of Cold Drinks*

Tickets are \$12 each, and will be sold after masses on the week-ends of February 25-26 and March 4-5 and the parish office.

AN INVITATION

OPEN OUR HEARTS

St. Jerome Catholic Church
2023 Parish Lenten Program for Small Faith Communities



Take time this Lent to engage with scripture and reflect on different aspects of your spiritual life with Open Our Hearts, a 6-week faith sharing program. Look at how you live out your faith at home, in your parish, and in the world. Connect at a deeper level with the Sunday gospels and take time every day to reflect and pray. Each weekly small-group session includes scripture, prayer and reflections along with concrete ways to live out that faith.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration. If you are not able to commit today, please take this flyer home, pray about it, and return completed form below to the parish office. Small groups begin meeting first week of Lent.

ST. JEROME SMALL FAITH COMMUNITIES 2023 LENTEN PROGRAM

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please rank your top three preferred meeting days with "1" being your first choice.

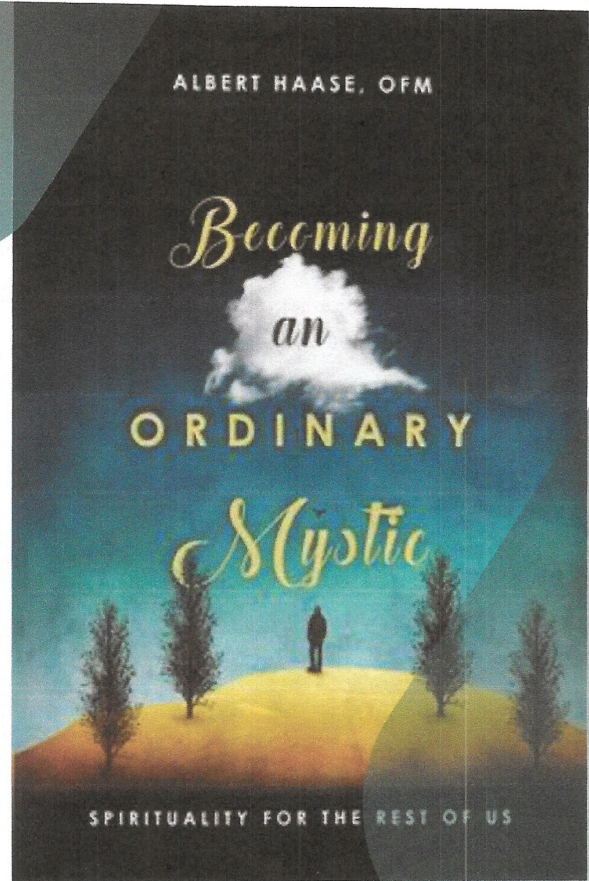
Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat Sun

Morning _____ Evening _____

Can you help being a facilitator? YES NO

Have you been a member of a small faith community before? YES NO

**A MINI-RETREAT
@
OAKHURST UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**



**LIVING IN
THE PRESENT
MOMENT**

A Place of Encounter
with God



FR. ALBERT HAASE

Ordained a Franciscan priest in 1983, Albert Haase, OFM, is a popular preacher, teacher, spiritual director and guest on talk radio shows. A former missionary to mainland China for more than eleven years, he is the award-winning author of fourteen books on popular spirituality and the presenter on five best-selling DVDs. Visit his website: www.AlbertOFM.org

**SATURDAY,
MARCH 25
9AM-NOON
\$10**

REGISTRATION:
(727) 391-4769

pvestal@oakhurstumc.com

Free childcare available!

13400 Park Blvd, Seminole, FL 33776

Chuck and Dolly Lake Hosted and Roasted at Dinner in Parish Center

On Wednesday, February 10, beloved Chuck and Dolly Lake were recognized for their many contributions to St. Jerome Parish. They are soon moving north to be closer to family members, mainly for Chuck's health.

A crowd of about 80 parishioners enjoyed the great food, many laughs and a few tears as we wished them the best.

Deputy Grand Knight Pete McCabe organized the night's food and fun event.



Chuck was recognized (and roasted) for his contributions to the parish: helping with drive-through confessions, once he learned that there were no height restrictions. He was also a part of the Silly Sinatras, the choir, and he helped in the grotto. He and Dolly have been parishioners for many years. Chuck enjoyed his nickname: Chuckles. It was very appropriate since both he and Dolly enjoyed laughing, the best medicine there is.



Navy Veteran Turns Her Life over To God



Sister Maris Stella

Sister Maris Stella once served her country. Now, she's dedicating her life to serving God.

"I served in the Navy, and I tasted many of the good things that this world had to offer," Sister Maris Stella of the Sisters of Life said. "But I knew my heart was made for something more."

She applied to the Naval Academy after feeling the need in high school to "do something great and meaningful" with her life. "I knew it was a great opportunity for education, a great opportunity to serve my country, and so I went there, and I received so much more than that," she said.

Her military career began at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md., which has an acceptance rate of just 8%. After studying for four years, she

served for five more. Her service journey began on a destroyer as a gunnery officer. She spent hundreds of days off the coast of South America in pursuit of drug traffickers. Afterward, she worked in Naples, Italy, as a liaison officer.

Then, she said "yes" to serving God.

"When I met the Sisters of Life, I couldn't believe that (their) charisma existed in the Church and in the world," Sister Maris Stella said. It was, she said, "everything in my heart," being lived out in a joyful way.

She defined the community's charism as seeing every human life as sacred, unique, and un-

repeatable. "That we would lay down our lives that others might live, and just knowing, too, that people have value and meaning, not for what they do and can produce, or what they look like, or how much money they have, but just because God created each person and each person is an act of his love."

The academy, she said, was a "life-changing" experience. "I was really surrounded at the Naval Academy by very impressive people who not only had a great attitude of service and sacrifice, but they also really loved God."

The desire to serve something greater stuck with her, she said. In her second year at the academy, she embarked on a Holy Land pilgrimage. "I was sitting in the Garden of Gethsemane, and I looked up and I saw a religious sister

walk by in habit," she said. "When I saw her, her presence really awakened something in me."

"She was really saying with her life what was in my heart: this desire to give myself not just for something greater, but really to give my whole life to God," Sister Maris Stella explained.

While she looked into religious communities in Europe, the Sisters of Life stood out to her.

"I was just so attracted to our life of prayer — we pray about four hours a day — and then our works of service, of serving the most vulnerable, the poor, and the unborn, and the women who've had abortions, just bringing God's mercy to them."

She remembered attending a discernment retreat with the sisters. Afterward, she prayed a 33-day novena to Mary and returned to her childhood parish where she first dedicated herself to Jesus through Mary.

"That same day I came home, and my letter of acceptance arrived in the mail to the Sisters of Life," she said. "I just knew it was our Blessed Mother really caring for me."

While living out her vocation, Sister Maris Stella still sees her military friends. Many of them support the sisters' work, especially by helping with their annual Christmas party in New York, she noted. They have supported her from the start: 12 of her academy classmates also came to her final vows. "To be a bride of Christ is the most beautiful gift I've ever been given," Sister Maris Stella said.

Bingo Still Thrives at St. Jerome's Parish



Bingo continues to draw the crowds. On 16 February, 112 people played bingo with maximum cash prizes! Thanks to Imperial Point neighbors, St Jerome choir, and of course our regular players for making that day a huge success. Brother Knights are always welcome to help with bingo every Thursday from 11 - 3.

Teenager Arrested Trying to Attend School While on Suspension for Trans Views

Josh Alexander was arrested by police Monday afternoon for breaching an exclusion order, but the real crime that the student is being punished for is upholding his Catholic beliefs and doing so in what some would no doubt think is a defiant and troublesome manner.

Josh, a Catholic, believes there are only two genders, that people can't switch genders, and that male students shouldn't use girls' washrooms. But expressing those views in a classroom discussion on gender at St. Joseph's Catholic High School in Renfrew, Ont., got him suspended. "I got suspended for comments made during a class discussion," said Josh in an interview. "It was about male students using female washrooms, gender dysphoria and male breastfeeding. Everyone was sharing their opinions on it, any student who wanted to was participating."

"I said there were only two genders and you were born either a male or a female and that got me into trouble. And then I said that gender doesn't trump biology."

"Freedom once taken for granted is lost," the Grade 11 student added. "Freedom of religion is probably one of our most important freedoms, so I'm not going to surrender it in the face of persecution. It just goes to show how little freedom of expression we have in our country."

James Kitchen, a lawyer from the

Liberty Defense Fund which is representing Josh, said in a statement that the student was told he could return to school only "if he agreed not to use the 'dead name' of any transgender student and agreed to exclude himself from his two afternoon classes because those classes are attended by two transgender students who disapprove of Josh's religious beliefs."

Josh said he had never "dead named" anyone, that is referred to their previous name before transitioning.

"Compelling Josh to utter falsehoods regarding gender contrary to his beliefs and segregating him from classes are repugnant manifestations of religious discrimination," said Kitchen, his lawyer.

Matters escalated when Josh was later served with an exclusion order.

On Monday, when he tried to go to school, the cops were called and he got arrested. "I walked into one of my classes. I sat down and everyone looked surprised to see me there. Within two minutes the vice-principal was in the classroom asking me to leave," Josh said.

He left the class and "almost immediately I was met with the police." Josh was put in the back of a cruiser,



driven off property and later released and charged with trespassing. "Josh will continue to courageously stand for his beliefs, for truth, and for girls whose voices of concern over their actual safety are being drowned out by the outraged nonsense of the woke mob, even if that means sacrificing his ability to attend St. Joseph's," said his lawyer.

The Rosary Was Said in the Grotto in Honor of Our Lady of Lourdes



Thanks to Gregg Appel for the picture

Statue of Mary Untouched in Earthquake That Demolished Cathedral in Turkey

A statue of the Virgin Mary was untouched after the collapse of a Catholic cathedral in an earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria, inflicting heavy damage, with a death toll already exceeding 40,000 and leaving thousands more injured.

The image of Our Lady was unharmed in the quake that brought down Annunciation Cathedral in the city of Alexandretta in the Turkish province of Hatay.

In a subsequent Facebook post, the priest commented that "the collapse of the cathedral is shocking; just yesterday I celebrated Mass there, on Sunday!"

"Now the living stones that need attention are here, and with the help of God we will be able to rebuild everything," Father Ilgit said.



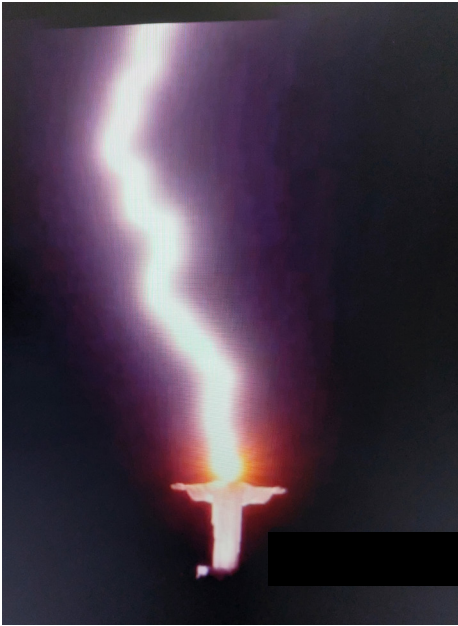
Philippine Woman Wins Gold Medal in Weight-Lifting Competition at Olympics, Thanking Our Blessed Mother with Her Miraculous Medal



Hidilyn Francisco Diaz is a Filipino World and Olympic champion weightlifter, the first Filipino to ever win an Olympic gold medal. She is also an Olympic weightlifting record holder by winning the women's 55 kg category for weightlifting at the 2020 Summer Olympics.

In July of 2021 Catholics around the world became aware of her and the victory. But it wasn't just the athlete's record-setting lift of nearly 500 pounds that captured everyone's attention. It was that alongside her Olympic gold medal for weightlifting, Hidilyn triumphantly raised the Miraculous Medal she was wearing. That medal was a gift from friends who had prayed a novena for her just before the competition. Diaz called the medal "a sign of our faith in Mama Mary and Jesus Christ."

Lightning Strikes Christ the Redeemer Statue in Brazil



Lightning struck Rio de Janeiro's iconic Christ the Redeemer monument, one of the Seven Wonders of the World, and a photographer managed to capture the precise moment. The lightning bolt struck the after-

noon of Feb. 10, and photographer Fernando Braga shared the picture on Instagram.

"Unstoppable. Never give up. Many frustrated attempts to capture lightning falling on the [statue of] Christ. Many rains and days passed. I was close a few times, but I had never captured this on the [statue of] Christ," the photographer wrote. "It's the place that I love to photograph! I already have a very special photo for me that was of the blessed moon and now I have the divine lightning!" Braga exclaimed.

The Christ the Redeemer statue in Rio de Janeiro was dedicated on Oct. 12, 1931, the feast of Our Lady Aparecida, patroness of Brazil.

It is made of reinforced concrete and lined with soapstone. It is 125 feet tall and stands on a 26-foot pedestal. The outstretched arms are 92 feet wide.

Woman Claims Catholic Church Denied Communion Because of Rainbow Masks

A group of Catholic women claim they were denied Communion at an Englewood, Colorado, church for wearing rainbow-colored face masks.

Sally Odenheimer said it was an effort to show support for Maggie Barton, an LGBTQ teacher fired from the church's affiliated Catholic school. Barton claims she was fired from All Souls Catholic School in Englewood after the Archdiocese of Denver learned of her same-sex relationship.

The Archdiocese said she was fired because she violated her contract, which includes "refraining from taking any public position or conducting himself or herself in a manner that is contrary to the teachings of the Catholic Church."

"When Maggie Barton's story hit, it struck a cord in me and I felt compelled to do something," Odenheimer

told Nexstar's KDVR.

Arriving for Communion, the priest 'noded for her to leave'.

Odenheimer and her three friends attended mass at All Souls Catholic Parish on Saturday, Feb. 11, wearing

their rainbow-colored masks. Odenheimer said they don't usually attend All Souls.

"Our whole intent was to support and stand in solidarity for Maggie and for all," Odenheimer said.



THIS
JUST
IN



An official with the National Education Association (NEA), America's largest teachers' union, said kids should start learning about "gender identity" and "preferred pronouns" in pre-kindergarten.

"When you look at elementary school

students, many people think they are too young to talk about pronouns," said the NEA's Matthew Powell during a webinar last summer. But "by asking students their [preferred] pronouns at a young age," operatives "can make room for students who may be exploring gender identity..."

Thief Steals St. Michael Statue from Church, Trips, And Is Injured by The Angel's Sword



A drunken thief was injured after falling on the sword of a statue of St. Michael the Archangel that he was trying to steal from a church

in Monterrey, Mexico.

Local media reported that during the early hours of Jan. 14, Carlos Alonso, 32, allegedly went to the Christ the King Parish in downtown Monterrey to rob the church.

In the darkness, Alonso reportedly jumped over the fence in front of the church entrance, broke a glass door, and entered the church.

While trying to flee with a statue of St. Michael the Archangel, the al-

leged thief tripped and fell on the angel's sword, seriously injuring his neck.

Some passersby saw the wounded man at the church doors and called for medical help.

Monterrey Civil Protection personnel arrived at the scene, cut the padlock on the main gate of the fence, and saved the would-be thief's life. After stabilizing the injured man, the rescuers took him to a clinic to be treated and to get more information about the damage that may have been caused.

It is expected that once he has recovered, the suspect will be turned over to the public prosecutor's office, and the punishment he could face for the damage to the church will be determined.

The statue of St. Michael the Archangel was unharmed.

Why Is the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel Seldom Said by Catholics Nowadays?

Saint Michael the Archangel, guardian of the Church, patron saint of police officers, grocers, mariners, and paratroopers. Is the spiritual warrior that defeated Satan in his dragon form. Casting Satan and his cohorts out of heaven and thrown down to earth. Often considered to be a champion of justice and healer of the sick.

It is said that St. Michael will achieve

victory again, during the final battle against Satan. He is also known as the Christian angel of death, and at the hour of our death, Saint Michael descends and gives each of us a chance to redeem our souls before passing. As such, Saint Michael is often depicted as holding scales, that he will use to weigh our souls for judgement.

The catholic church stopped using this prayer during mass, in 1970. af-

ter the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy was enacted, and Latin was stopped being used by the church. Saint Michael's prayer would no longer be recited at mass. But in 1994 Pope John Paul II, urged all Catholics to continue reciting it as part of their weekly prayers. Today Catholics are free to recite the St. Michael prayer at home, in the church outside of mass, at work, or abroad.

Shell Resembles Crucifix

"I found this shell on the beach a few years ago as I was walking. I often walk on the beach as a form of exercise, and I usually walk fast, so it is normally unusual for me to look down and search for seashells. However, one day I did look down and a shell just popped out of nowhere. It blended so well with the sand I could have easily missed it. I was truly amazed as I looked at it."

"Soon, I began to think of my sister, Shirley, and her husband, Jack Fitzgerald. Jack had been a part of the Christian Brothers years ago. One day my husband, Danny, Shirley,

Jack, and I had a guest who had been a Christian Brother like Jack. He had an aquarium, so I told him he could have the shell. He was very happy and thankful. He took it home to place it in his aquarium. I knew it would be treated very well and enjoyed."

"I'm glad I took this picture so one could see how close to Jesus on the crucifix it looks. It's just amazing! It is so intricate!"

"Out of curiosity I shook it and heard what sounded like dice inside that to me represented the soldiers tossing stones for Jesus' robe!"

~~by Suzanne McConnell



A Blessed Miracle

Peter Srsich met Pope Benedict XVI in May 2012, along with his parents, Tom and Laura, and his brother Johnny. Everyone was in St. Peter's Square at the Pope's hearing.

They came from Colorado. Peter was 19 and had arrived in front of the Pontific, thanks to a trip organized by the Make-A-Wish International Foundation, which made it a reality for six kids to meet the Pope.

Peter was so excited; he wasn't expecting a one-on-one meeting. He thought he would have a few moments to tell the Pope about himself when he realized that all those who, like him, had been trained to carry gifts with them, he, on the other hand, had nothing to offer.

Then Peter's father proposed to give the Pope the green bracelet he was wearing with the words "Pray for Peter" and the passage Romans 8:28: "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to his purpose," that Peter loved so much.

That was just one of 1200 bracelets his classmates had made to create a

chain of prayer for his health.

Peter had lung cancer, an advanced stage Hodgkin Lymphoma that was pressing on his heart. It was so big they couldn't anesthetize him, because there was a risk that he wouldn't wake up, so they couldn't even extract for a biopsy.

Multiple chemotherapy sessions had depressed him, from which he recovered only when he received the Eucharist. Peter battled that disease and was convinced that he could be cured if he would simply go to the Vatican.

So the child stood before the Pope, explaining everything in a few words and asked for a blessing. Pope Benedict XVI blessed him, placing his right hand on Peter's chest where his



tumor was without Peter telling him where it was.

From that moment the child never stopped improving until he was completely healed. He attended a university and is now a priest as of May 15, 2021.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!
LONG LIVE THE CHURCH!
LOVE LIVE FATHER PETER!

by Augustine Mario.