

# KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL  
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## The Transfiguration of Jesus

In the Gospels, the account of the transfiguration happens towards the middle of the narrative.[ It is a key episode and almost immediately follows another important element, the confession of Peter: "You are the Christ." The transfiguration acts as a further revelation of the identity of Jesus as the Son of God.

In the gospels, Jesus takes some of His followers with him and goes up to a mountain.. Once on the mountain, Jesus "...was transfigured before them; his face shining as the sun, and his garments became white as the light." At that point the prophet Elija, representing the prophets, and Moses, representing the Law, appear and Jesus begins to talk to them. They spoke of Jesus' exodus which he was about to accomplish in Jerusalem. Luke also is specific in describing Jesus in a state of glory.



Just as Elijah and Moses begin to depart from the scene, Peter begins to ask Jesus if the disciples should make three tents for him and the two prophets. But before Peter can finish, a bright cloud appears, and a voice from the cloud states: "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." The disciples then fall to the ground in fear, but Jesus approaches and touches them, telling them not to be afraid. When the disciples look up, they no longer see Elijah or Moses.

When Jesus and the three apostles are walking down the mountain, Jesus tells them to not tell anyone "the things they had seen" until the "Son of Man" has risen from the dead. The apostles are described as questioning among themselves as to what Jesus meant by "risen from the dead."

In addition to the principal account given in the synoptic gospels; in 2 Peter 1:16-18, the Apostle Peter describes himself as an eyewitness "of his magnificence."

Elsewhere in the New Testament, Paul's reference to the "transformation of believers" via "beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord" became the theological basis for considering the transfiguration as the catalysts which lead the faithful to the knowledge of God.

Although Matthew 17 lists the disciple John as being present during the transfiguration, the Gospel of John has no account of it. This has resulted in debates among scholars, some suggesting doubts about the authorship of the Gospel of John, others providing explanations for it. One explanation is that John wrote his gospel not to overlap with the other gospels, but to supplement them, and hence did not include all of their narrative. Others believe that the Gospel of John does in fact allude to the transfiguration. This is not the only incident not present in the fourth gospel, and the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper is another key example, indicating that the author either was not aware of these narrative traditions, did not accept their veracity or decided to omit them.



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FROM AROUND THE WORLD  
OF INTEREST TO CATHOLICS

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Pope Francis allegedly tells group of priests 'gossip is a women's thing'

A court ruled embryos are children. Some Christian couples agree yet wrestle with IVF choices

More than 100 years after Fátima, New Jersey Knights of Columbus promotes similar message

Knights of Columbus announce charity fund has surpassed \$100 million in grants

Ohio priest apologizes for destroying hard drive containing possible child porn

Vatican grants plenary indulgence for visiting the elderly

Spiritual tone at RNC heightened in wake of Trump assassination attempt

California parents sue governor over law banning notification of student gender identity

## FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete McCabe

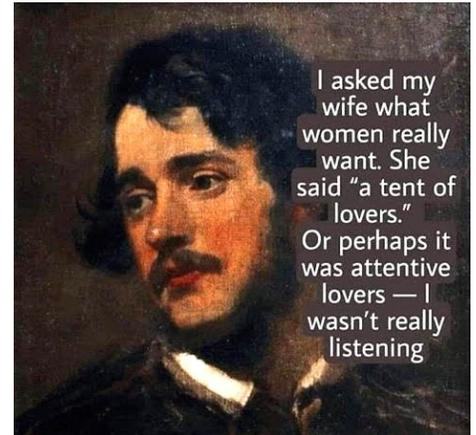
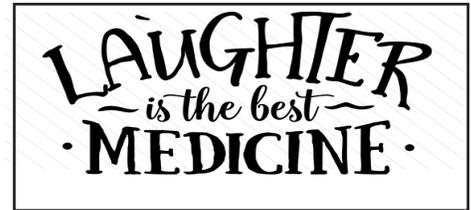
Brothers: we are already a month into our next fraternal year which runs from July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025. I want to challenge you all to help in any small way possible to achieve our council goals.

First, Supreme has given us a goal of seven new members. While Brother Jim Cullinan as the Membership Director is our council lead, he cannot do it alone. He needs everyone to be on the lookout for any practicing Catholic who might be a good candidate for knighthood. We are looking for active members who will help us with our good works. Please work with Brother Jim on any future candidates.

Second, our four program areas (Family, Faith, Community, and Life) need to focus on those events that promote our order's values of fraternity, unity, and charity. We need your ideas because our program leads cannot do it alone. Our resources are limited, and we need our events to have the most impact. With your help we can do that. You can attend our general meetings where these programs are discussed, and motions approved. You can work with our program leads and suggest events or motions to be considered. You can volunteer for any of these program events and make a difference.

Third, we want our council to be an organization that supports all of its members and families. We sometimes get so focused on the events that we forget to support and socialize with each other. Our next opportunity is on August 17 when we'll enjoy a Tampa Bay Rays victory! Our plan is to have more such fun events in the future. I encourage you to join us and connect with your fellow brothers and their families.

Finally, I want to thank you all for what you do for our council, Church, and community.



**It's never too late to start exercising.**

**That's why I'm waiting until later.**

## FROM THE DESK OF OUR CHAPLAIN



Fr. Mike

Brother Knights,

The Lord be with you!

The most important day in my life is September 26, 1952. I was born of the flesh on September 5, 1952. I was born of the Spirit on September 26, 1952.

John 3:5-6: "Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of flesh is flesh and what is born of spirit is spirit."

When I was 19, I went through what I thought at the time was a MAJOR crisis of faith. As I look back on it, it was really a MINOR crisis but when you are 18, you think EVERYTHING is major!!! My closest friend enlisted as a Navy Corpsman right after High School. He and I had gone to CATHOLIC school together for 12 years. After basic training he was sent to his training as a Corpsman. During this time, he joined a small group of Christians that were ANTI-CATHOLIC. In just a FEW weeks, they had turned him AGAINST the Catholic Church by telling him ALL that was WRONG with the CHURCH

My CRISIS of FAITH came, when he would come home on leave, and HE would TRY to CONVERT ME. What his CHALLENGES did for me was the OPPOSITE of what he intended. In-

stead of DRIVING me AWAY from my Catholic FAITH, all his negative criticism DROVE me TO DISCOVER MY CATHOLIC FAITH!!!!

During this period of DEFENDING my Catholic Faith, I LEARNED that I had to PERSONALLY OWN, what GOD did for me on the day I was BORN OF THE SPIRIT. I couldn't be re-baptized, but I COULD OWN my Baptism which I discovered was MORE than a CEREMONY. At my Baptismal CEREMONY, GOD freely CHOSE to ADOPT me as one of his CHILDREN. At the age of 19 I made the Personal Choice to OWN my ADOPTION by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

Since 1971, I have chosen to INTENTIONALLY live out my BAPTISMAL RELATIONSHIP with the Trinity. TBC

## Former Wiccan Becomes Catholic After Powerful Experience at Mass

*Editor's Note: Wiccans worship Nature, often personified as Mother Earth and Father Sky. They can use many different titles for their deities. Many Wiccans will choose particular Gods or Goddesses from different religions around the world and use those Deities for personal devotions.*

Nora Jensen was raised in a Wiccan family that not only rejected Christianity but also mocked people of faith. In a conversation with JonMarc Grodi for EWTN's *The Journey Home*, Jensen shares her powerful testimony and how she began her conversion journey to Catholicism after attending mass.

Born in Colorado, Nora says that her family was very close-knit, but far from Christian. Her parents were both raised Christian, but both had left their faith and did not pass it on. On the contrary, they taught her family to reject it.

"I believed in a God, but it was kind of like God created things and then moved on. It wasn't a personal God or anything like that. I had a deep devotion to angels, but I don't know where that came from. They weren't through my parents," Nora said.

"Family was the most important thing for us," she explained, "but when it came to Christianity, we just looked down on Christians, mocked them, and made fun of them, especially Jesus. It was just a name to scoff at.

When Nora was 11, her parents told her and her brother that they were both Wiccan witches and "could use magic."

"They got me a book on Wicca for me to read. It was geared towards teenagers," she said. "[It said] that Christians would try to convert me. That was my bible. I learned from that book, mainly."

New Age ideology can appeal to many people because it gives a false sense

of control. In addition to spell casting, Nora also dabbled into tarot card reading and Ouija boards.

During college, Nora began to take an interest in other things, making new friends and leaving her Wiccan practices aside for a while. Then a moment came when she felt empty.

"I realized there was a God-sized hole in me. Maybe it was because of the moral compass I had. I knew people filled this void with drugs, sex, alcohol or partying and I hadn't done those things, but I knew enough not to start. So I thought: 'I need to find God, but where is He?'"

It was only after she started dating Dane, a young Catholic man, that Nora began to learn a little more about the Catholic Church and felt her rejection of it gradually diminish. Dane then decided to take Nora to Holy Mass for the first time at the Colorado Springs Cathedral. There she experienced one of the key moments in her conversion.

"People were very welcoming and smiling, and happy that I was there," she explained.

Despite having no knowledge of the Eucharist or liturgy, she imitated what her boyfriend was doing and said that the most significant moment was the sign of peace.

"When the deacon said, 'Let us give each other the sign of peace,' I just looked at Dane and said, 'What is this?' Then he looked at me and said, 'Peace be with you,' and hugged me.

"And I watched him turn to the people around him and give them the sign



Nora Jensen

of peace, so I turned to the people around me, and they were already turned toward me- several people were with their hands outstretched and they shook my hand and said, 'Peace be with you.'

"And I thought, 'I have made fun of you people and have mocked you and your God. Why are you wishing me peace?' I felt like my soul was on display and we were all looking at it.

I thought, "God, how are You not striking me down in Your house?" I felt so ashamed to be shaking these people's hands and having them be so kind.

Then I felt a love coming toward me- from God, from Jesus. His love and His mercy. And I thought, "Oh my gosh. This is God. This is what is filling the hole. And then I knew: I was home."

## Why Do Catholic Women Wear a Veil to Mass?

The veil is meant to be an external sign of a woman's interior desire to humble herself before God, truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. Women are symbols of the Church - the Bride of Christ - and the veil is meant to be a visible reminder of the perfect submission of the Church to the loving rule of Christ.

For 2000 years, Catholic women have worn some kind of head covering in Church. Though the particular reasons for doing so have varied (for example, modesty in the time of St. Paul), this practice has always focused on the transcendence of the place - the church, the very dwelling of the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist. Having been given this magnificent Gift by Jesus himself,

every Catholic church holds something not found anywhere else: the true, living presence of our Bridegroom, hidden under the appearance of bread and wine.

"The veil is a visual sermon, a public proclamation before the Lord that He is the Lord and that we love Him and that we are ready to obey him. It's a statement proclaiming obedience in the midst of a culture that is totally permeated with the attitude of 'I will not serve.'"

The veil is a sign of the great dignity inherent to a woman, who has the potential to receive life within herself, both human life and the supernatural life of God. This is an important message the world needs to hear, now more than ever!



# 5 Unbelievable (But True) Miracles Scientists Can't Explain

## The Miracle of the Sun at Fatima

In 1917, over 100,000 people witnessed the sun dancing in the sky of Fatima, Portugal.

"The sun started spinning like a pinwheel, casting multi-colored lights all over the place."

Skeptics and faithful were left stunned. It is one of the most documented and extraordinary miracles in Church history.

## Our Lady of Lourdes

Lourdes, France, has been a healing site since Saint Bernadette's vision of Our Lady in 1858.

There have been over 7,000 scientifically attested miraculous recoveries

from her intercession. These cures are each confirmed by the Lourdes Medical Bureau.

## The Miracle of Lanciano

In the eighth century, a doubting priest witnessed the Eucharist turn into actual flesh and blood.

A scientific investigation of the flesh was found to be a human striated muscular tissue of the myocardium, the heart wall.

Even though it's 1250 years old, this relic shows no signs of decay today!

## The Blood of Saint Januarius

A vial of Saint Januarius' dried blood in Naples, Italy, liquefies every year

on his feast days.

This public miracle has been observed and recorded for centuries without any explanation.

## The Universal Blood Type of Eucharistic Miracle

All major blood miracles or Eucharistic miracles of our Lord have the same blood type, AB.

This incredibly rare type, the universal recipient, is a remarkable consistency with profound symbolism of Christ's blood being able to save all.

# DID YOU KNOW THIS ABOUT BEES?

There are live enzymes in honey.

When in contact with a metal spoon, these enzymes die.

The best way to eat honey is with a wooden or plastic spoon.

Honey contains a substance that helps your brain work better.

Honey is one of the rare foods on



Earth that can sustain human life.

One teaspoon of honey is enough to sustain human life for 24 hours.

Propolis, produced by bees, is one of the most powerful natural antibiotics.

Honey has no expiration date.

The bodies of great emperors were buried in golden coffins and covered

with honey to prevent putrefaction.

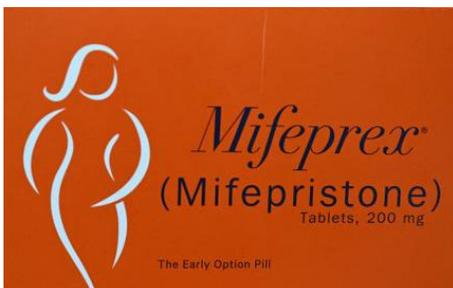
The term "honeymoon" comes from the tradition of newlyweds consuming honey for fertility after the wedding.

A bee lives less than 40 days, visits at least 1,000 flowers, and produces less than a teaspoon of honey in its lifetime.

One of the first coins had a bee symbol on it.

Deep gratitude to the humble BEE!

# Iowa Pregnancy Resource Center Shares Story of First Abortion Pill Reversal



An Iowa pregnancy resource center shared its inspiring story of a young woman who became the organization's first mother to undergo an Abortion Pill Reversal treatment.

According to Founder and Executive Director Peggy Knudson of Cradle of Hope Pregnancy Resource Center, the young woman, identified in the article as Kelci, had been pressured by her boyfriend to take the chemi-

cal abortion pill in January 2024. When Kelci first reached out to Cradle seeking shelter, Knudson had been unable to reach her due to a massive snowstorm. Soon after, Kelci's boyfriend took her to an abortion clinic, where he allegedly made several threats to her if she did not take the pill.

Knudson recalled receiving a phone call from Kelci, who told her that she had gone to an abortion clinic at 4 pm that day. Although there was another blizzard sweeping across the state at the time, Knudson and her husband drove two hours to take Kelci and her 10-month old to Cradle. "All the way there, we talked to the 800 number (for the Abortion Pill Rescue Network)," Knudson recalled. "On the way [back], I contacted the overseeing doctor for Cradle, and I said 'Listen, there is nobody in south-

east Iowa that is providing abortion reversal we have to do this,' and he goes, 'Okay.'"

The Knudsons were able to get Kelci and her child to the women's shelter by midnight, and planned to take her in for an ultrasound the next day.

The next morning, Knudson said she had to scramble to have the driveway plowed in order to get Kelci in to the doctor on time. "It had snowed all night," she said.

Knudson was able to get Kelci to her ultrasound, where doctors discovered the baby was "very actively moving," despite having a low heart rate. Kelci was then able to begin APR protocol, which reverses chemical abortions via the administration of progesterone. At her next ultrasound her baby's heartbeat was strong.

Kelci is due to give birth to her baby in July.

## K of C Considers Covering Art Work Done by Accused Sexual Abuser Fr. Marko Rupnik



Patrick Kelly, Supreme Knight

The Knights of Columbus has announced that they will cover mosaics by the accused abuser Father Marko Rupnik in Washington, D.C., and Connecticut, a dramatic move that represents the strongest public stand yet by a major Catholic organization regarding the former Jesuit's embattled art.

The 2.1-million-member lay Catholic fraternal order said July 11 it would use fabric to cover the floor-to-ceiling mosaics in the two chapels of the St. John Paul II National Shrine in Washington and in the chapel at the

Knights' headquarters in New Haven, Connecticut — at least until the completion of a formal Vatican investigation into the Slovenian priest's alleged abuse.

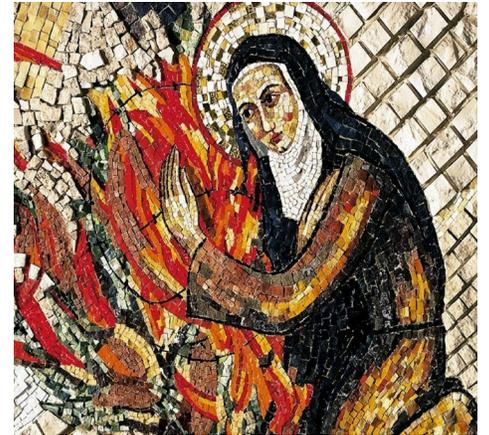
Patrick Kelly, Supreme Knight of the Knights of Columbus, told EWTN News the opaque material would be installed very soon but gave no firm timetable. The Knights said in another statement that the artwork may later be more permanently hidden with a plaster covering after the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith issues its ruling on Rupnik.

The decision by the Knights to cover the sprawling works was made at the end of a comprehensive, confidential review process that included consultations with sexual abuse victims and those who minister to them, art historians, pilgrims to the shrine, bishops, and moral theologians.

"The Knights of Columbus have decided to cover these mosaics because our first concern must be for victims of sexual abuse, who have already suffered immensely in the Church, and who may be further injured by the ongoing display of the mosaics at the shrine," Kelly said.

"While opinions varied among those consulted," he said, "there was a strong consensus to prioritize the needs of victims, especially because the allegations are current, unresolved, and horrific."

"Our decision process really came down to multiple factors. But the No. 1 factor was compassion for victims," Kelly said. "We needed to prioritize victims over anything, any material thing. So that was our primary consideration."



Typical Rupnik Art

## Why Saint Anthony Is Patron Saint of Lost Items

Chaldean Catholic priest Father Simon Esshaki of San Diego, Calif. explains the reason why Saint Anthony is the patron saint of lost items.

"Every single time I've asked Saint Anthony to pray that I find something I've lost, I've always found it," Father Simon begins. "Many people ask him to pray when they lose something, so I want to tell you one of the reasons that is."

Father Esshaki went on to tell a story

about when Saint Anthony was in the monastery. One of the monks who was about to leave the monastery stole a book that was very special to him. It was a Breviary or a Bible that he had many notes in. It was very special to him.

"This monk stole it and so Saint Anthony prayed that the book would be returned to him. Through his prayers, the monk not only brought back the book but also had a conver-

sion of heart. He repented from his act of stealing.

So that's why we ask Saint Anthony to pray for things that are lost. We should also ask him to pray for people who are lost. And so many people came back to the faith because of the teaching and the prayers of Saint Anthony.

So let's ask him to pray for all those who are lost will return to the Lord. Saint Anthony, pray for us!"

## Why Go to Church?

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and stated that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column.

Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals.

I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today.

Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!

IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL!

# Inspiring Photos of Mass Celebrated in War Zones



The Civil War



A bombed chapel in France



Narmandy, France



Korea



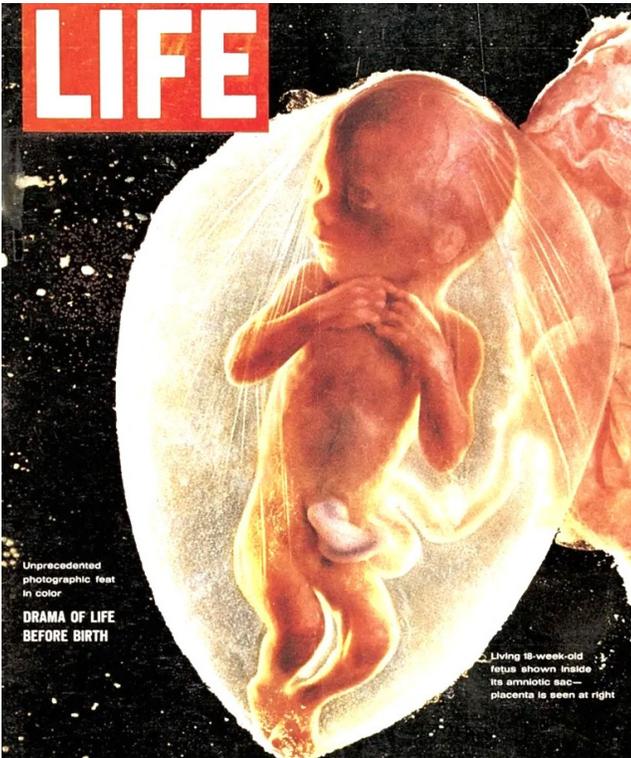
Mt.Suribachie, Iwo Jima

## Prayer for Our Military

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad.

Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils which beset them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

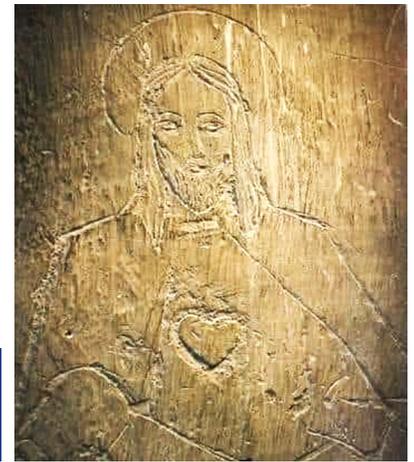
## The First Photo of a Living Fetus



This photo ended up in Life magazine. Lennart Nilsson took it along with other jaw-dropping portraits across many pages inside the magazine. It triggered the debate concerning "when life begins and who will ultimately wield the control of a woman's body" in the premise of before and after birth. Adding to Lennart's brilliant magazine cover, he took this photo [in 1965 when it was seemingly impossible to make a portrait inside the human body and much more of a fetus inside a woman. It was a breakthrough that sparked heated debates among political and religious figures, and a personal milestone that cemented his name in the industry.

## The Sacred Heart of Jesus Carved by Fingernails

Using only his fingernails, Stefan Jasiński carved this image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus into the wall of his Auschwitz cell during his imprisonment. The Polish military officer would die in the Nazi concentration camp in January 1945, but the image remains as a striking reminder of love and beauty amidst utter desolation



## New York City to dump rule requiring burial of late-term aborted babies

The New York City Department of Health plans to reverse a regulation that requires babies aborted at or after 24 weeks to be treated as "human remains" and sent to funeral homes for burial or cremation.

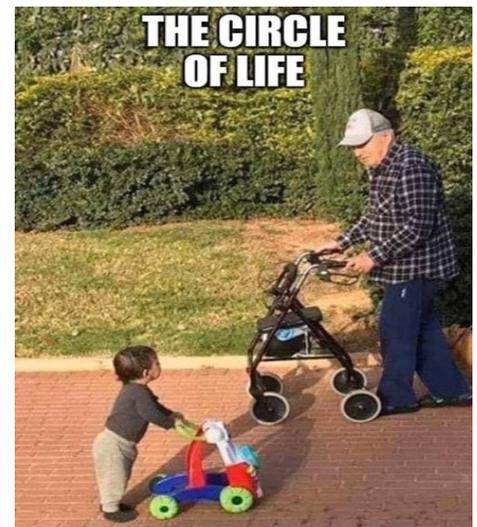
"It's very traumatic for people," Van Wye added. "This is a matter we do not think the government needs to be involved in. This is something for the patient and provider to talk about." The Board of Health unanimously approved the proposed rule change. "This is about an individual's medical decision and removing a burdensome and costly requirement from the health code," said department

spokesman Patrick Gallahue. "How someone decides to proceed after making such a personal medical decision should not be dictated by the government."

But pro-life activists argue the proposed rule to end required burial for babies aborted past the stage at which many are viable is another sign of devaluing human life.

"This is horrible," said Jeanne Head, a retired registered nurse who has served as the National Right to Life Committee's representative to the United Nations. "They're treating human beings like trash." According to the health department's notice, a public hearing on the proposed amendment.

## Coach Prays Rosary before Games



Boston Celtics Basketball Coach Joe Mazzulla prays the Rosary around the court before games. He's known to always credit God for his success. He just won the NBA Championship.

## How Good Catholics Become Saints

Countless miracles were performed while Christ still walked the earth, but it wasn't only Jesus who performed them. He also gave His Apostles the power to heal in His name, and Our Lord still works miracles through His followers to this day. Here are five miracles that made saints!



**Mother Theodore Guerin** - October 15, 2006  
Mother Theodore Guerin was a missionary to America from France and the

foundress of an academy for girls in Indiana. Many miracles have been attributed to her, but the one that led to her canonization was the eye-healing of Phil McCord.

McCord suffered from poor eyesight most of his life, but it reached a critical point after a failed cataract removal surgery. His right eye became extremely heavy and it affected much of the right side of his face. Doctors agreed that a cornea transplant was the only solution. The surgery would come with many risks, and though McCord agreed to it, he also worried something might go terribly wrong.

McCord was not a religious man, but he worked as the Facilities Management Director at the college Mother Theodore founded. One day while at work, he was walking past the church and felt a pull to go inside. After he went in he decided to pray about the situation he was facing. "It was not an eloquent prayer," he later recalled. "I said, 'Mother Theodore, this is your house. I am your servant, for lack of a better word, and if you

have the power to intercede, I would appreciate anything that you can do for me.'" He felt more at peace after praying. When he woke the next morning, the swelling in his eye had gone down. The doctors determined the surgery was no longer necessary. McCord lived the rest of his life only needing reading glasses. The miracle was approved by the Vatican as the second one attributed to Mother Theodore.

**Pope St. John Paul II** - April 27, 2014  
The miracle that led to his canonization of Pope St. John Paul II was the healing of Floribeth Mora Diaz. Diaz suffered a brain aneurysm in April 2011 and, after many consultations with doctors, was told that her condition was terminal. She was given only one month to live.



Diaz then went home to make herself comfortable. As a wife and mother of four, Diaz wanted to live and began praying for John Paul II's intercession. Shortly after, Diaz watched John Paul II's beatification on TV. That night, the pope visited her and said: "Get Up! Don't be afraid!"

Diaz then got out of bed, surprising her husband, and told him that she felt fine. She explained her encounter with the holy pope. The doctors examined Diaz again and were left in wonder. The Vatican later assembled a committee of medical professionals to examine the case. They all agreed there was no scientific explanation for the woman's recovery.



**Mother Teresa of Calcutta** - September 4, 2016

Mother Teresa's second attributed miracle after her death was the healing of Marcilio Andrino.

Andrino suffered for many years from an unknown illness that no doctor could diagnose.

When Andrino finally did receive a diagnosis, it was a bleak one: he had eight brain abscesses. Andrino and his wife began praying to Mother Teresa for her intercession, frequently holding a relic of the holy woman to Andrino's head. A few months after his diagnosis, Andrino awoke with an extreme headache. The pain was so severe that it rendered him unable to speak, and his wife began praying more fervently than ever.

He was hospitalized and prepped for surgery but never made it to the table. He woke up with his pain mostly gone! The doctors postponed his surgery. Soon it was discovered that the abscesses had miraculously disappeared - and Andrino's pain left along with them.

The couple immediately knew it was a miracle they could attribute to Mother Teresa. But even more than that, they found themselves pregnant with their first child six months later even though they were told they would never conceive because of Andrino's condition.

(continued on next page)

## Is it Sinful to Skip the Collection Plate at Mass?

Ryan Scheel, Ryan Dellacrosse, and Father John Tetlow, from The Catholic Show, discuss why Catholics are obligated to support the church.

Giving is an important part of the faith. Canon Law is clear about our obligation to assist with the needs of the Church.

Scheel explains this is part of our collective responsibility for the church's wellness, "so that the church has what is necessary for divine worship, for the works of the apostolic and of charity, and for the decent support of ministers."

The church teaches compassion and understanding. "The faithful are obliged to assist with the material

needs of the church, each according to his own ability," Scheel explains. "All forms of contributions are valuable. Participating in the life and needs of the Church to the best of one's ability is what really matters," Father Tetlow added.

"People can give time, talent, and treasure," he says. "It all comes together and makes for a wonderful situation in churches, everybody working together."

Passing on the collection plate is less about sin and more about missing an opportunity to reflect on how we might support the church and its community in whatever way we can.

"What people respond to is what

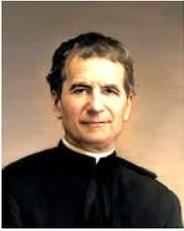
they're receiving spiritually at the Mass. It's going to make a difference in the way people give because people will give to something they're receiving," Father Tetlow said.

When supporting the Church, remember every little bit counts, and not all contributions need to be monetary.

Whether you're offering time, talent, or treasure, your support is a necessary part of the church's mission!



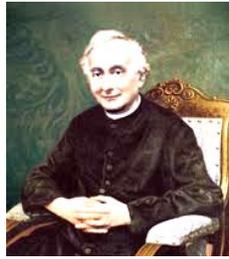
# How Good Catholics Become Saints (Continued from previous page)



**John Bosco**, also known as Don Bosco, served young boys living on the streets. He saw firsthand the large number of boys who were given difficult life circumstances but didn't

have support to prevent them from turning to crime. He founded a mission to educate and give formation to the desperate boys he encountered. After Don Bosco's death, the miraculous curing of Mrs. Catherine Lanfranchi Pilenga was attributed to his intercession. Pilenga suffered from serious chronic arthritic diathesis that prohibited her from engaging in many everyday activities because it practically paralyzed the lower half of her body. She fought the condition for nearly 30 years without any relief from treatment.

After an unsuccessful second pilgrimage to Lourdes, Pilenga began praying for John Bosco's intercession during a trip to Turin. When she arrived, she had to be helped out of the car as usual. With assistance, she sat in front of the remains of John



**Francesco Spinelli** - October 14, 2018

Fr. Francesco Spinelli was born in Italy. During his childhood, his pious mother taught Francesco to care for the poor. He would later carry on that mission as an ordained Catholic priest.

After seeing a vision of women adoring Christ in the Eucharist, Spinelli founded a new order with St. Geltrude Comensoli: the Sacramentine Sisters of Bergamo.

The healing of a baby is what finally led to Spinelli's canonization. When the mother of the child was taking it home from the hospital after giving birth, she tripped and instinctively held tighter to the child. She

held on so tightly that the baby suffered a hemorrhage. Back at the hospital, doctors tried to give the baby a blood transfusion, but all of the baby's veins were too small. At this point, the doctors accepted that the baby was going to die. The sisters who ran the hospital began praying for the child's survival through the intercession of Fr. Spinelli and placed a prayer card beneath the child's sheets.

During their final effort, the doctors miraculously found a vein in the baby the size of an adult vein, enabling them to begin the blood infusion. After only a few drops of blood, the baby started kicking and crying. The baby went on to make a full recovery, and the family attributed the miracle to the intercession of Fr. Spinelli. The couple changed their son's name to Francisco María Spinelli Díaz.

Bosco started to pray, and while deep in prayer she knelt. After a few minutes of kneeling in prayer, she stood up, walked to the altar of Our Lady, and knelt again to continue praying. It was only then that she realized

what she was doing. Up until now, kneeling had been impossible for her! She knew she had been cured.

It was a complete and total recovery confirmed by multiple doctors and the Vatican.

## Los Angeles Co. Fire Dept. Files Lawsuit Against Christian Employee Who Refused to Raise Pride Flag



A Christian employee has filed a lawsuit against the Los Angeles County Fire Department in which he alleges he was subjected to "retaliation" and "religious discrimination" for refusing to raise a well-known Pride theme flag while he was working. A veteran county employee, Cap-

tain Jeffrey Little alleges that the fire department violated his religious freedom when they ordered him to raise the so-called "Progress Pride" flag after he requested a religious exemption.

The lawsuit alleges that Little was suspended from his role in a department

unit due to the dispute and subjected to an internal investigation. It also alleges that Little's superiors breached his privacy by informing unauthorized persons about his request for a religious accommodation, which led to him receiving a death threat in the mail.

In his request for an accommodation, Little informed the department that he could not raise the flag because it would convey an "endorsement and or celebration of the messages on various sexual behaviors (among other topics) associated with the [flag]," the lawsuit states. His request lists various Bible verses regarding homosexuality and sexual ethics, which are in opposition to the message conveyed by the flag.

The lawsuit, which the Catholic legal group Thomas More Society filed on behalf of Little, claims that the fire department's actions violated his constitutional rights and other laws. The complaint alleges First Amendment violations for allegedly limiting his religious freedom and compelling speech.

Little has been referred to as an upstanding American, a devout Christian father, and a public servant.

When reached for comment by Catholic News Agency, a spokesperson for the Los Angeles County Fire Department said, "We cannot comment on personnel issues or any ongoing litigation."

# Pro-Life Advocate Sentenced to 57 Months in Prison

Pro-life advocate Lauren Handy has been sentenced to 57 months in prison, followed by three years of supervision for protesting the murder of late-term unborn children at a notorious abortion clinic in Washington, D.C.

Handy, a Catholic, is a well-known pro-life voice on the political left. She was the primary organizer and leader of the peaceful protest that led to the ongoing court cases.

Handy and her eight co-defendants were found guilty of violating the controversial Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act. They each face a sentence of up to 11 years in federal prison.

"After weeks of watching students & pro-terrorist activists seize and barricade themselves inside school buildings, and years of watching progressives allow squatters to take



private property, a woman faces years in prison for blocking an abortion door? Justice is not blind in Biden's America - it's biased," said Kristan Hawkins, Students for Life President.

Progressive Anti-Abortion Uprising (PAAU) Founder Terrisa Bukovinac criticized the bias against pro-life advocates: "No other social justice movement in our nation has activists

subject to years in federal prison for nonviolent resistance. This viewpoint has incalculable consequences for babies, their parents, and those who defend them."

# Former NBA Star Donates \$1 million to St. Mary's Academy

Former NBA star Charles Barkley is donating \$1 million to St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans, a prominent Black Catholic school founded by the Sisters of the Holy Family, because he was inspired by the work of two academy graduates who discovered what many said was an impossible mathematics proof.

According to report in the Black Catholic Messenger, the \$1 million gift was prompted by a recent segment of the CBS News program "60 Minutes," which featured academy graduates Calcea Johnson and Ne'Kiya Jackson. On that segment, they related

their mathematical discovery, which prompted headlines and more than 1 million social media views, the Messenger reported.

The segment also caught the attention of Barkley, the renowned one-time basketball player and NBA commentator who is said to never miss the popular CBS news program and was impressed by the graduates and their education at the academy.

As reported by the Messenger's Nate Tinner-Williams, the two women were academy seniors when they discovered a new trigonometric proof for the Pythagorean Theorem,

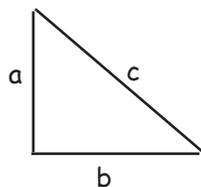
ies.

Only one other similar proof has been found before, and experts have said the acumen required to do what the two teens did is rare. Their work was presented at an academic conference last year.

The two women have denied being mathematics geniuses but said all praise is due to the rigorous education they received at St. Mary's — one of the oldest Black Catholic schools in the United States. The school was founded in 1867 by the Sisters of the Holy Family. The congregation's founder is Venerable Henriette DeLille, a long-time advocate for Black education, whose path to beatification has been championed by the congregation.

St. Mary's current president, Pamela M. Rogers, told Bill Whitaker of CBS that for 17 successive years, the school has had both a 100% graduation rate and a 100% college acceptance rate. Johnson was the school's valedictorian in 2023.

"Our students can do anything, and that's what we tell them," Rogers told Whitaker on the CBS broadcast.



(In a right triangle, the riser "a" squared, plus the base "b" squared, equals the hypotenuse "c" squared) sparking discourse on the history of the formula and its enduring myster-

# A Eucharistic Miracle Recently Occured in India

The pastor of Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Nagaland in India, Father Johnson Vadakkapurathan, reported an alleged Eucharistic miracle on Palm Sunday at his parish. Just three days later on March 27, 2024, Bishop James Thoppil of Kohima intervened.

According to the *Matters India* report, a Baptist friend of one of the parishioners attended Mass and went to receive communion. Rather than consuming the host, she took it home. The woman said she felt uneasy and later returned the host to the parish priest.

Father Vadakkapurathan took the host to the sacristy, broke it into pieces, and placed it in water so he could dissolve it and later dispose of it. However, he said the host did not dissolve after several days, whereas this process normally takes about 30 seconds.

Then on Palm Sunday, the priest found the host intact at the bottom and a layer of something floating over it. Shocked, the priest dipped his finger into the cruet to examine it. When he applied force, the layer broke, and blood started oozing out. "I looked and I could see the water

and bloodlike thing just coming out of that small crack which I had already made," Father Johnson Vadakkapuratha said. "Blood came forward and I could see fresh blood. It was there."

"This was amazing," he said, and he feels honored and blessed.

"We understand God has a plan because we believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. In the Body and Blood of Jesus."

He also reiterated other Eucharistic miracles worldwide, which he says often happen when people don't respect Jesus in the Eucharist.



## KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



### Council 17249 Divine Mercy of Jesus Officers for 2024-2025

Chaplain  
Grand Knight  
Deputy Grand Knight  
Chancellor  
Recorder  
Treasurer  
Advocate  
Warden  
Inside Guard  
Outside Guard  
1 Year Trustee  
2 Year Trustee  
3 Year Trustee  
Program Director  
Membership Director  
Faith Director  
Family Director  
Community Director  
Life Director  
District Deputy  
Field Agent  
Newsletter Editor

Fr. Mike O'Brien  
Pete McCabe  
Bill Bannon  
Greg Musick  
Rocco Totino  
Rich Pettit  
TBD  
Joe Ghezzi  
Wayne Nuñez  
Joe Moore  
Rick Hendrickson  
Bill McClelland pgk  
Jim Patton  
Bill Bannon  
Jim Cullinan  
Peter Nunes  
Mike Keeser  
Pete Ganio  
Kevin Manning  
Bill McClelland pgk  
Tony Crevello  
Jim Hand