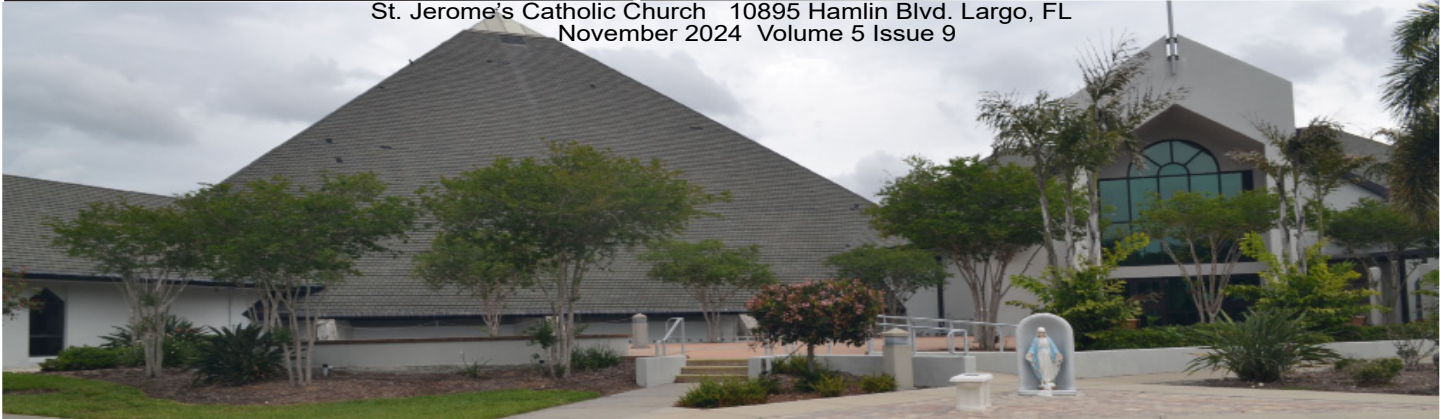


KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

Divine Mercy of Jesus Council 17249

St. Jerome's Catholic Church 10895 Hamlin Blvd. Largo, FL
November 2024 Volume 5 Issue 9



All Saints' Day

November 1, 2024

All Saints' Day is a solemn holy day of the Catholic Church celebrated annually on November 1. The day is dedicated to the saints of the Church, that is, all those who have attained heaven. Although millions, or even billions of people may already be saints, All Saints' Day observances tend to focus on known saints --that is those recognized in the canon of the saints by the Catholic Church.

All Saints' Day is a Catholic Holy Day of Obligation, meaning all Catholics are required to attend Mass on that day, unless they have an excellent excuse, such as serious illness.

Prayer for All Saints' Day

*Dear God, thank you for the example of the Saints. We desire to join in their company, worshiping you forever in Heaven. Please help us follow their footsteps, and yours, Jesus Christ. Please help us to conform ourselves to Your image, seeking Your will in all things, as the Saints did. Please help us to devote ourselves, and all that we do, to Your glory, and to the service of our neighbors.
Amen.*

All Souls' Day

November 2, 2024

All Souls' Day is a holy day set aside for honoring the dead. The day is primarily celebrated in the Catholic Church, but it is also celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church and a few other denominations of Christianity.

According to Catholic belief, the soul of a person who dies can go to one of three places. The first is heaven, where a person who dies in a state of perfect grace and communion with God goes. The second is hell, where those who die in a state of mortal sin are naturally condemned by their choice. The intermediate option is purgatory, which is thought to be where most people, free of mortal sin, but still in a state of lesser (venial) sin, must go.

Purgatory is necessary so that souls can be cleansed and perfected before they enter heaven.

Immortal God, holy Lord, Father and Protector of all You have created, we raise our hearts to You today for those who have passed out of this mortal life.

In Your loving mercy, Father of all, be pleased to receive them in Your heavenly company, and forgive the failings and faults they may have done from human frailty.

Your only Son, Christ, our Saviour, suffered so cruelly that He might deliver them from the second death. By His merits may they share in the glory of His victory over sin and death.

For all the faithful who have died we pray, but in particular for those dear to us, parents, relatives and friends, nor do we forget all who did good to us while on earth, who helped us by their prayers, sacrifice and example. We pray also for any who may have done us harm, and stand in special need of Your forgiveness.

*May the merits and prayers of our Virgin Mother, Mary, and those of all the Angels and Saints, speak for us and assist them now.
This we ask in Christ's name.
Amen*

FROM THE DESK OF THE GRAND KNIGHT



Pete McCabe

Brothers:

This month's Grand Knight Report is going to be a bit different.

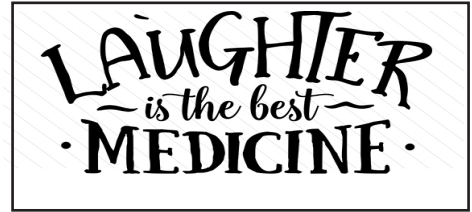
In previous reports I've outlined those programs that we've successfully accomplished and those that are upcoming. My goal has always been to inform and hopefully encourage everyone to get involved with our council programs.

However, the recent Hurricanes (Helene and Milton) require us all to change our perspective and priorities. There are council Knights in distress with the loss of their homes. We need to rally around our Brother Knights and make sure their needs are met first. That is why I've assigned our Deputy Grand Knight, Bill Bannon, to lead our efforts in this area. He has already done so much. We have called each council Knight to determine their needs and also to find those Knights willing to help. We now have a better idea of each.

In an article of this newsletter, you will read about our efforts to this point. Helping our parish clear debris from the parking lots and sidewalks as well as helping our Brother Knights and parishioners with their cleanup chores.

Moving forward our number one priority will be to continue to help our Brother Knights and parishioners. Our council programs will continue but only if they make sense and we have the manpower to continue them. These include Bingo, Knights' breakfast, Trunk or Treat, Membership Drives, ECC support, Grotto cleanup, and other events. Those of you who were at the last General Meeting know that our pastor, Fr. Blum, was there to thank the Knights for all our events that support St. Jerome.

Again, if you need help, please reach out to Sir Knight Bill Bannon at jabezweb10@verizon.net. If you can assist others in any way, please also reach out at the same email address. You are making a huge difference in people's lives. Thank you for all you do.



Why do you need a driver license to buy liquor, but you can't drink and drive?

Why do they put Braille on the drive-up window of the ATM?

Why do we drive on parkways and park on driveways?

Why is it that when you transfer something by car it's called a shipment, but when you transfer something by ship, it's called cargo?

Why can't they make an airplane out of the same material they make that little black box?

How does the guy who drives the snowplow get to work in the morning?

Brain cells die, skin cells die, Even hair cells die, BUT FAT CELLS must have accepted Jesus Christ as their Savior because they seem to have eternal life.

FROM THE DESK OF OUR CHAPLAIN



Fr. Mike O'Brien

If you wish someone Happy 4th of July in May, what would be their response? If you wish someone Happy Birthday 2 months before their Birthday, what would be their response?

Why then, do we say Merry Christmas to all we meet starting before or

after Thanksgiving? For us as Catholics, Christmas is more than a day. It is a season, that begins on December 25th and ends on the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord. Do you recall singing the Twelve Days of Christmas? According to the song, Christmas lasts traditionally till January 6th and the first day of Christmas is December 26.

I love to celebrate the season of Christmas. For Mary and Joseph, the real adventure began on December 25th and did not end once Jesus was born. So many people who begin celebrating Christmas the day after Thanksgiving are exhausted by the time December 26th rolls around and they are ready to go back to their "old lives."

So, what is the answer? Spend the time after Thanksgiving preparing to celebrate the event that radically altered human history: the birth of God's Son! Go ahead and decorate but don't yet celebrate. Go ahead and send your Christmas Cards, and make sure they tell the story of the real reason for the season.

Brother Knights, we are not only to Keep Christ in Christmas, but we are also to keep celebrating the earth-shattering event of his birth for at least 12 days, and as Roman Catholics the Christmas season ends on the baptism of the Lord, January 12th.

To assist you in our preparation for my column in December, I will give you a 25-day Christmas Countdown Calendar.


Upcoming Council Events for November

Friday, Nov. 1: Setup Parish Center for Columbiettes, 6 pm
Saturday, Nov 2: Grotto Cleanup, 8 am
Wednesday, Nov 6: Officers' Meeting, PC, 7 pm
Thursday, Nov 7: Bingo (Team A), PC, 11 am
Wednesday, Nov 13: General Meeting; PC, 7 pm
Thursday, Nov 14: Bingo (Team B); PC 11 am
Sunday, Nov 17: Knights' breakfast; PC, 6 am
Wednesday, Nov 20: Setup for Bingo, 4 pm
Thursday, Nov 21: Bingo (Team A), PC, 11 am
Thursday, Nov 21: 4th Degree Meeting, PC, 7 pm
Saturday, Nov 30: Put out new missals in Church/Chapel, 10 am
NOTE: No Bingo on Thanksgiving, Nov 28.

Work on Church Roof Finally Begins



Brothers,
You are invited to attend the St Jerome Ministry Day of Appreciation and Reflection on Saturday, 16 Nov, 9-11:30 am. RSVP (727-595-4610) to the Parish Office by 12 Nov.
Thanks.
Pete McCabe, GK



ST. JEROME MINISTRY DAY OF APPRECIATION AND REFLECTION

Guest Speaker:
Chris McBride
Parish Manager,
St. Jerome Catholic Church

St. Jerome Catholic Church
Saturday, Nov. 16, 2024
9 am - 11:30 am

MASS, BREAKFAST, PROGRAM

RSVP TO PARISH OFFICE by **Nov. 12, 2024**
727-595-4610

Knights of Columbus Open Baseball Field for Special Needs Players

The Knights of Columbus have unveiled a new baseball field, named in honor of their founder Blessed Michael McGivney, and designed specifically to accommodate individuals with disabilities.

According to The Knights of Columbus, the field was made possible by over 40 councils in the Archdiocese of Detroit which together raised \$63,000 for the cause.

The field, described by State Secretary Charles McCuen as a "field of dreams" will be used by members of the Clinton Valley Little League Challenger Division Senior League, which is for people with special needs ages 16 and up.

McGivney Field features larger dugouts for wheelchairs and rubberized base paths to safely enhance mobility. It was inaugurated in a June 15 ceremony that included a procession led by Fourth Degree Knights, the

national anthem sung by a Knight's daughter with Down syndrome, and a blessing from Auxiliary Bishop Robert Fisher.

Chris Butts, member of Council 11658, shared that participants in the league have various levels of physical limitations, including those who require walkers and those who need assistance with swinging the bat and being pushed between bases. However, whatever degree of mobility, Butts said, "When they get that smile on their face after they get a hit, it's impossible to describe the feeling I get."

Chris Butts has been a coach for the Division for years, and shared that his son Christopher has played in the Division since he was 6 years old. "People with special needs who play in this league feel like they fit in," he said. "Seeing Christopher



around people who are similar to him and having fun is a wonderful thing, and we wouldn't have it if this league didn't exist."

Christopher is now a Knight himself, and shared that "As someone with a disability, I am especially proud to take the field named for our founder."

Vince Lombardi: a Bastion of Catholicism

In Green Bay, Wisconsin, and wherever else Packers fans reside, Vince Lombardi's legend looms as large today as it did in 1967, the year he coached his final season with Green Bay.

Every loyal Packers fan can tell you that Lombardi saved the franchise from an almost certain demise when he became the team's head coach in 1959.

They all know that he led Green Bay to five National Football League (NFL) championships in nine years (three of them consecutive). And they also know that Lombardi's Packers won the first two Super Bowls, that Lombardi never had a losing season as an NFL head coach, and that he is the reason every Packers home game has been sold out since 1960.

Most Green Bay fans also can tell you a little about Lombardi's past: he was born in 1913 to first-generation Italian-Americans, grew up in Brooklyn, and coached high school and college football before entering the NFL in 1954 as assistant coach to the

New York Giants.

But what many younger Packers fans -couldn't tell you is that before Lombardi dreamed of coaching in the NFL, he dreamed of serving God as a priest and spent several years in seminary.

Later, while coaching football at St. Cecilia Catholic High School in New Jersey, Lombardi earned the bulk of his salary teaching Latin. Later still, when he made the move to Green Bay, he did so in large part because of the city's reputation as a bastion of Catholicism.

Other lesser-known facts include Lombardi's lifelong habit of attending daily Mass (which he did in Green Bay at St. Willebrord's); his willingness, even as an NFL coach, to assist



Vince Lombardi

at the altar during the Liturgy; and his membership in both the Knights of Columbus and Knights of Malta.

Death came for the football legend on September 3, 1970. Felled by colon cancer, the 57-year-old Lombardi was survived by his wife of 30 years, Marie, their two children, and six grandchildren.

Each day comes bearing its own gifts. Untie the ribbons.

The only way to do great work is to love what you do.

Believe you can and you're halfway there.

Bob Hope: A Great Entertainer, Philanthropist, and Convert

In 1908, William Henry Hope moved his wife and seven sons from England to Cleveland. He was looking for work. He found women and booze.

While the elder Hope drank, his fifth son, Leslie, put food on the table by singing and dancing on street corners. Eventually, the busking (playing music in public places for voluntary donations) led to Vaudeville, Vaudeville led to Broadway, and Broadway led to Hollywood.

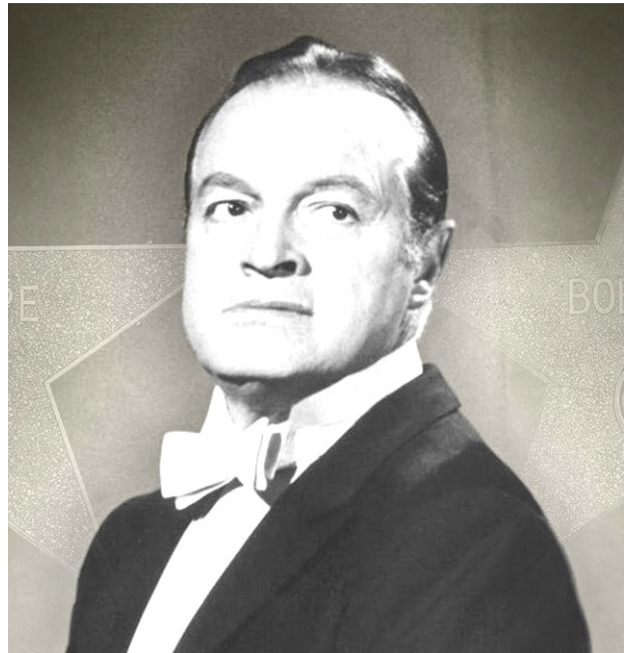
By the early 1940s, the one-time busker went by the name "Bob" and was one of Hollywood's most bankable stars. He also was one of its most generous. Bob Hope gave his time to America's soldiers—headlining 57 USO (United Service Organization) tours in his lifetime—and he gave his money to the Catholic Church.

For the first gift, the U.S. government rewarded the entertainer with the USNS Bob Hope, commissioned on September 2, 1993. For the second gift, Hope's wife, Dolores, rewarded him with a smile. Hope, who was raised Presbyterian, married the devoutly Catholic Dolores in 1934 and throughout their marriage generously supported her Church.

That support included large-scale gifts to parish-building campaigns for parishes, hospitals, and religious orders. It also included more personal gifts, such as funding one priest's outreach to the homeless in Los Angeles and letting local Catholic school children use his yard as a playground.

Hope likewise donated the funds to build Our Lady of Hope Chapel at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, despite his generosity, what Hope couldn't do for most of his 69-year marriage was share Dolores' faith.

A notorious philanderer, Hope seemed incapable of embracing the teachings of the Church for which he did so much. Dolores, however, never walked away. Rather, she endured years of humiliation by growing in her faith and praying for Hope to find his.



Bob Hope

God answered those prayers in the last decade of the couple's married life. Bob Hope spent his final years as a faithful Catholic convert, dying at the age of 100 in 2003.

Christianophobia: a Reality and Expanding Worldwide



The Catholic Herald has published an article on the growing phenomena of Christianophobia, and how it is manifesting itself on a global scale.

The article highlights one of the most recent global examples, attacks on Catholic churches on the French territory New Caledonia. Fifty-two percent of the population, including the native population, is baptized.

This summer, four Catholic churches have been set on fire. The most recent arson attack was on August 14.

The violence in New Caledonia started in May when the native Kanaks started a movement for independence; however, the Kanak independence movement condemned the attacks on churches. Only Catholic churches have been attacked, with the country's Protestant churches remaining unscathed.

The article highlighted other growing persecutions of Christians worldwide, including the 1,000 attacks against Catholics in France. The country's most persecuted religious group is Christians. There has been a growing number of attacks against Jews since the Hamas attack on Israel. Muslims and their houses of

worship are the least likely religious group to be attacked in France.

The United States has also experienced growing violence against Christians, with 436 attacks occurring in 2023.

Canada has experienced 96 attacks on Catholic churches in the past two years, which increased after the media published unverified claims about a residential school having mass graves of indigenous children. Residential schools were often operated by the Catholic Church.

When St. Gregory's Church in British Columbia was razed in July 2021, the Native American Chief Clarence Louie, of the Osoyoos Indian Band, lamented the attack. However, he added, "I don't think white people came here and burned this down."

The article concluded, "Islamophobia may make headlines in the western mainstream media, but it's 'Christianophobia' that is on the rise."

"There is no saint without a past, no sinner without a future."

"Life is not measured by the number of breaths we take but by the moments that take our breath away."

Child Goes from Being a Trouble Maker to Becoming a Priest



Father Daniel Ciucci

A Catholic priest from Denver, Colorado credits his Catholic school education with saving him from a future in prison, and instead helping him dis-

cover his vocation. Father Daniel Ciucci said that in elementary school, his behavioral problems were so concerning that his pediatrician told his mother, "If he doesn't get his behavioral problems figured out, he'll wind up in jail someday."

"So my mom went home and cried, and that next year I went to a Catholic school," Fr. Glucci said.

Father Ciucci said that instead of attending regular anger management classes, after a while at the Catholic school, he was admitted into the talented and gifted program.

"The teachers weren't just saying 'stop it, stop it, stop it,' they saw something beautiful in me and actually just redirected my behavioral problems."

The priest also credits the school for fostering his masculinity and his desire to embrace the priesthood. "The beautiful gift of knowing who I am in the eyes of God allowed me to discern my vocation."

He continued, "Even just knowing who I was as a man, and knowing that masculinity and femininity are not interchangeable, and they're both good, and they're both needed," helped him discern the priesthood, and it was through his Catholic education that he learned these truths.

Father Ciucci praised his parents for the sacrifice they made in paying for a Catholic school education, and concluded, "My parents' decision to enroll me in a Catholic school was so worth their sacrifice."

"Almost Aborted" Campaign Reaches 18.5 Million Americans

Students for Life of America (SFLA)'s campaign "Almost Aborted" has reached 18.5 million Americans since it was launched in June.

The campaign was a direct response to the \$200 million pro-choice advertisement campaign.

"It takes stories from our campaign to counteract the fearmongering and one-sided storytelling of those who cheer and encourage the death of the preborn," press specialist and online editor Jordan Estabrook stated, adding, "Though the ALMOST ABORTED campaign has been completed, our work to bring awareness and change is far from over."

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He Almost Abortion campaign featured "poignant first-hand accounts

of individuals who have narrowly avoided the devastation of abortion, and one, sadly, who did not," Pregnancy Help News reports.

The campaign featured a story on a woman named Vanessa Taylor. Taylor explained that her healthy baby daughter is only alive thanks to an abortion pill reversal.

Taylor said that she was pro-life and had always wanted to be a mom, and that when she found out she was pregnant, "I was really excited and I couldn't stop touching my belly."

However, the man she was dating at the time "stated he was not ready" and pressured her to have an abortion. His mother also pressured Taylor.

When Taylor went to her abortion appointment at Planned Parenthood, "I stated that I wasn't doing this for myself, that I wanted to do this for my boyfriend because he made it seem like we had no other choice," she said.

She said the staff "did not care

about what emotional state I was in." She also said that the staff at Planned Parenthood did not allow her to see the ultrasound or listen to the heartbeat, and only handed her a photo of her baby's ultrasound at the end of the appointment.

"They said basically I had to take the [abortion] pill in front of them before I leave, so I felt even more pressured," Taylor continued.

She said that after taking the first pill, "she couldn't live with herself," and kept thinking she wanted to meet her baby.

Taylor looked into her options and found a pregnancy help center, which provided her with progesterone to reverse the abortion pill.

"I had a 24-hour window with a 60% chance of it working," Taylor said. "I took my chances. I went to the clinic, and I saved my baby."

"Meeting my baby was the most favorite day of my life, and I can't imagine living life without her," Taylor said.

The future depends on what you do today.

Everything you've ever wanted is sitting on the other side of fear.

I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.

National Right to Life Releases Special Report on Babies Born Alive after Failed Abortion

An NRL press release stated, "This document comes at a crucial time when pro-abortion groups have promoted false narratives about babies who are born alive during abortions." "The abortion industry and its sympathizers want to make this about abortion. It's not. It's about infanticide," NRL President Carol Tobias said in the release. "It is barbaric that newborns who survive an abortion are considered a 'dreaded complication' by abortionists. The baby who survives an abortion deserves the full protection of the law."

"As several states have changed, or are attempting to change, their abortion laws, allowing abortions later into pregnancy, the chance of a baby surviving the abortion becomes more likely," Tobias stated, later adding, "These are living, breathing babies who deserve the same care and treatment as any other baby born at the same gestational age."

Between 2003 and 2014, the Centers for Disease Control reported 588 infant deaths described as, "termination of pregnancy affecting fetus and newborn" with 143 deaths clearly resulting from a live birth following an abortion. In 2019, it was found that since the year 2000, over 1000 infants were born alive following failed abortions in Canada. Despite assertions otherwise, reporting data



shows that live births do occur and the CDC recognizes that here in the U.S., the number of live births following an abortion is probably higher than what is reported.

In 2010, investigators executed search warrants at the abortion facility of Kermit Gosnell on suspicion of illegal prescription drug activity. But investigators found something even more shocking: Gosnell routinely delivered live babies and then ended their lives by severing their spinal cords with scissors. The Grand Jury Report estimates hundreds of babies met similar fates at Gosnell's Philadelphia abortion center. By April 2013, abortionist Kermit Gosnell was convicted on three counts of murder in the deaths of 3 newborn babies.

NRL also drew attention in its report to the infamous remarks former Virginia Democratic Gov. Ralph Northam made in an interview with news radio

WTOP regarding babies born alive following a failed abortion. Northam admitted doctors would decide whether to provide life-saving care for the baby based on the mother's wishes, leaving open the possibility that such care could be denied.

When questioned concerning a pro-abortion bill introduced into the Virginia legislature, Northam said, "If a mother is in labor, I can tell you exactly what would happen. The infant would be delivered. The infant would be kept comfortable. The infant would be resuscitated if that's what the mother desired, and then a discussion would ensue between the physicians and the mother."

NRL also included recently published direct testimony from abortionists admitting that the attempt to kill the baby by stopping its heart before abortion "prevents the infrequent but serious occurrence of unanticipated expulsion of a fetus with cardiorespiratory activity [a baby breathing and with a heartbeat]."

The "Born-Alive Infant Protection Act," which was signed into law by President George Bush in 2002, recognizes that any baby born alive, including any born following an attempted abortion, is legally a human person and therefore subject to the protection of law.

89-Year-Old Death Camp Survivor Faces Prison for Pro-Life Work

Eva Edl is an 89-year-old concentration camp survivor and pro-life advocate who is now facing up to 10 years in prison after the Biden-Harris Administration's Department of Justice charged her with violating the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Act.

Edl and six other pro-lifers were convicted for "conspiracy against rights" after protesting outside of an abortion facility in Detroit, Michigan.

Edl escaped death in a communist concentration camp in Yugoslavia when she was a girl. Her family later fled to America. When she realized that abortion was occurring in the United States, she immediately joined the cause of protecting unborn life.

She became aware of abortions and abortion clinics existing in the United States in 1988. She saw a group of people in Atlanta, Georgia, blocking

an abortion clinic. She did not know abortions existed beforehand. She said, "Well, this makes sense. People should have done that for me when I was being shipped into a death camp to be exterminated. These babies are just shipped in a different way. So that's when I began rescuing for the first time."

"By doing this, I'm obeying Jesus. He said, 'Whoever loves me will keep my Commandments.'" Well, one of his Commandments is "Do unto others as you wish they would do to you." It was a no-brainer for me, you know, so yes, I love Him, so I'm going to obey Him."

"When I was indicted by the government for the federal charge, I knew that I wouldn't live through that. So I just simply started to prepare to die and told my children to sell my house."

It became just overwhelming be-



Eva Edl

cause one accumulates too many little knick-knacks and memorabilia. So finally I had to give up and say, "Lord. I just leave it all behind. The children just can take a dumpster and throw away what they don't want and give away what they want to." And so now I'm free."

Saint Mother Teresa's Humility List



1. Speak as little as possible about yourself.
2. Keep busy with your own affairs and not those of others.
3. Avoid curiosity (this refers to wanting to know things that should not concern you.)
4. Do not interfere in the affairs of others.
5. Accept small irritations with good humor.
6. Do not dwell on the faults of others
7. Accept censures even if they are unmerited.
8. Give in to the will of others.
9. Accept insults and injuries.
10. Accept contempt being forgotten and disregarded.
11. Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone.
12. Do not seek to be admired and loved.
13. Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity.
14. Give in, even when you're right.
15. Always choose the more difficult task.

If God had a refrigerator, your picture would be on it"

The greatest achievements are those that benefit others.

No one can make you feel inferior without your consent.



It's rare when all the planets align!



From your newsletter editor, Jim Hand

Where Is the Biblical Ark of the Covenant?



Many of us are fascinated by the biblical Ark of the Covenant, one of history's most enduring mysteries. The search for the lost ark involves a search for the proof of God.

The Ark of the Covenant is first mentioned in the Bible in the Book of Exodus. The word ark is a Hebrew word that simply means "box" or "chest." The ark was built by Moses upon instruction by God during his 40-day stay on Mount Sinai. After it was built it could not be touched by human hands and could be carried only using wooden poles by the Levites. When the ark was being carried by oxen stumbled, making the ark tilt, a man named Uzzah steadied the ark with his hand, in direct violation of the divine law, and he was immediately killed by the Lord for his error.

The Book of Exodus contains a detailed description of the ark's size, what it looked like — including the two cherubim mounted on the lid with their wings spread and facing each other — and what it was made of (acacia wood overlaid with gold). The inside of the ark contained the original stone tablets from the Ten Com-

mandments which were given by God to Moses on Mount Sinai. Later in the New Testament, the ark is described to have also contained the staff of Aaron and a jar of manna.

In biblical terms, the ark may be best known as being used by the Israelites in their success at the Battle of Jericho, as recounted in the Book of Joshua. It was later captured by the Philistines, although they eventually returned it after misfortune fell upon them (which they attributed to the ark). King David ultimately brought the ark to Jerusalem, where it was eventually housed in the Temple built by his son King Solomon, in a chamber called the "Holy of Holies."

After the destruction of the First Temple by the Babylonians around 587 BC, the ark disappeared, and some believe that it may have been carried off to Ethiopia, where it resides today in an off-limits location. Others have speculated that it's hidden somewhere in Israel, Ireland, Rome, or even Zimbabwe.

In another theory, the Jewish historian Josephus wrote of a tradition among Samaritans that states the ark was hidden on Mount Gerizim. Additionally, ancient Jewish tradition speculates that the ark may have been hidden in a secret vault somewhere beneath the Temple Mount.

For most Catholics, however, there is a much simpler answer to this great puzzle. According to an inspired Old Testament book (2 Maccabees) that does not appear in the Jewish or Protestant canon, the ark is said to

have been hidden in a cave on Mount Nebo following a divine revelation from God before the destruction of the First Temple. The passage further provides that the location of the ark is to remain unknown, only to be revealed when the Lord returns at the end of time. After thousands of years have passed, the ark built by Moses has still not been found.

While there is no mention of the ark in any of the Gospels, the Book of Revelation at the end of the New Testament reveals that "God's temple in heaven was opened, and the Ark of the Covenant could be seen in the temple."

Thus, according to the Bible's last book, the ark is now in heaven. But if the original ark remains hidden somewhere in or on Mount Nebo, what is the new ark in heaven?

Different from its original form, Catholics have come to know the new ark as a person, rather than a thing.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says that the "new" Ark of the Covenant is Mary, our blessed mother and the mother of Jesus:

Mary, in whom the Lord himself has just made his dwelling, is the daughter of Zion in person, the ark of the covenant, the place where the glory of the Lord dwells. She is the 'dwelling of God ... with men.'

As we are aware that God's intent with the ark was to hold his presence, we know that Mary serves exactly this role after her agreeing to bear the Son of God.

Picked up a hitch-hiker. Seemed like a nice guy.

After a few miles, he asked me if I wasn't afraid that he might be a serial killer?

I told him that the odds of two serial killers being in the same car were extremely unlikely



Archdiocese of Newark Commemorates Lifelong Catholic and Baseball Legend Yogi Berra

The Catholic Cemeteries of the Archdiocese of Newark has published an article commemorating the life of baseball legend Lawrence "Yogi" Berra, a lifelong Catholic who was buried in the archdiocese.

The archdiocese stated that Berra was a devout Catholic who attended Mass most Sundays, and that he and his wife, Carmen, "made faith and family central to their lives."

Larry Berra, one of the baseball star's sons, told the archdiocese that the Yankees organization would bring priests to the clubhouse on game days so players could celebrate Mass before taking the field.

The 18-time All Star and 13-time World Series Champion raised his children in a way that they did not realize his fame as a baseball player. "My dad didn't treat us differently," Larry said. "To us, he was just 'Dad' — even in the Yankee clubhouse, surrounded by legends like Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford."

He continued, "It was in middle school when we started collecting baseball cards and hearing from friends who Dad really was."

The archdiocese also highlighted Berra's sense of community and respect for others. "He treated everyone with respect, a quality echoed in how he embraced teammate Elston Howard, the first Black player to join the Yankees, during a time when racial divides ran deep," the archdiocese reported. "As an Italian American, Yogi knew firsthand the sting of prejudice and connected with those who faced similar struggles."

Berra's son reflected on the founding of the Yogi Berra museum, which his father initially resisted, but his mother and other friends encouraged the project. "Dad didn't really think of himself as a public figure," Larry noted. "He didn't want a museum at first but later loved it. He'd be there almost every day, sharing stories with visitors." Larry added, "For Dad, it wasn't



about fame or records. He wanted to be remembered as someone who loved his family, faith, and friends. He was just happy to be a part of people's lives."

The Berra couple were married for 65 years before Carmen, a woman of "quiet strength and love," passed away in 2014. Berra passed away in 2015 at the age of 90.

Many baseball fans visit Berra's grave in the Gate of Heaven cemetery. He is the only baseball Hall of Famer in the Archdiocese of Newark's cemeteries.

Three Interesting Facts About Yom Kippur, a Holiday Jesus Celebrated as a Devout Jew

1. The Role of the High Priest and the "Scapegoat"

In the Bible, Yom Kippur is described as a day of cleansing and atonement for the sins of the people (Leviticus 16:30-31).

Each year, the High Priest entered the Holy of Holies and offered sacrifices on behalf of Israel.

One particularly fascinating aspect of Yom Kippur involved a ritual with two goats. The High Priest symbolically transferred the sins of Israel onto one of the goats, known as the "scapegoat," which was then sent into the wilderness.

This act symbolized the removal of the people's sins, a powerful image that resonates with the Christian understanding of Jesus as the one who takes away the sins of the world.

2. Rituals and Practices: More Than Just Fasting

Yom Kippur is a day of strict observance for Jews. Scripture commands the children of Israel to "deny themselves" (Leviticus 16:29), which has

been interpreted by rabbis to include five prohibitions from sunset to nightfall the following day:

- No eating or drinking
- No wearing of leather shoes
- No bathing
- No anointing with perfumes or lotions
- No marital relations

In addition to fasting, Yom Kippur is a day of rest, much like the Sabbath. Jews are to refrain from work, travel, and even the use of electronics, creating a space for deep reflection, confession, and repentance before God.

3. Liturgical Significance and Public Confession

The Yom Kippur liturgy is filled with prayers of public confession, allowing room for the confession of personal sins.

Interestingly, the Early Church practiced a similar form of public confession, as noted in early Christian documents like the Didache.

For Jews, Yom Kippur is about repairing one's relationship with God,



but any sins committed against others must be reconciled through acts of penance and seeking forgiveness directly from those they've wronged. The rabbis teach that it is equally important for individuals to forgive others quickly and with a willing heart, a teaching that aligns closely with Christian ideals of forgiveness. Call up your Jewish friends and wish them a blessed Yom Kippur.

**HE WHO
LAUGHS LAST
DIDN'T GET IT**



I finally found someone who is lazier than me!



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

IN SERVICE TO ONE. IN SERVICE TO ALL.



Council 17249 Divine Mercy of Jesus Officers for 2024-2025

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Grand Knight
Deputy Grand Knight
Chancellor
Recorder
Treasurer
Advocate
Warden
Inside Guard
Outside Guard
1 Year Trustee
2 Year Trustee
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Membership Director
Faith Director
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Life Director
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