

OUR LADY OF MERCY Catholic Church

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www.ourladyofmercycatholicchurch.org.
Our Parish App
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Pastor
The Very Reverend Kenneth D. Whittaker, V.F.
Dean

Mass Schedule Saturday Vigil 4:00 p.m.

> Sunday 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.

Daily Mass Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m.

Holy Day Masses 9:00 a.m. 7:00 p.m.

Confessions
Saturday 3:15—3:45 p. m.

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Baptisms and Weddings Please contact the parish office



Welcome

Our Lady of Mercy Church, the clergy and faithful, welcome you to the parish. In Word and Sacrament, we pray you find the spiritual and communal life of grace which the Church promises to all who approach her. You are welcome in faith. *Fiat voluntas tua...*

Twenty-Eighth Sunday Ordinary Time

The Lord has prepared a banquet for me.
God invites us all to share in the wedding feast of his Son. He knows our poverty and wants to share his riches with us. In this banquet we will be happy and every tear will be wiped away from our eyes.

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Respect Life Month

The annual parish Respect Life Drive is our opportunity to support the work of witnessing to the value and dignity of all life—
from conception to natural end.



To increase our donation opportunity, this year we are raffling the beautiful *Madonna and Child* plaque from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Tickets are \$3.00 or two for \$5.00.

Please remember your donations of baby clothes, toys, infant supplies and the many needs of a new Mother.



WHEN THE DOGMA LIVES LOUDLY

Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap., is the archbishop emeritus of Philadelphiaby

When Sen. Dianne Feinstein grilled federal circuit court nominee—and now Supreme Court nominee—Amy Coney Barrett three years ago, she fretted that "the dogma lives loudly within you. And that's of concern."

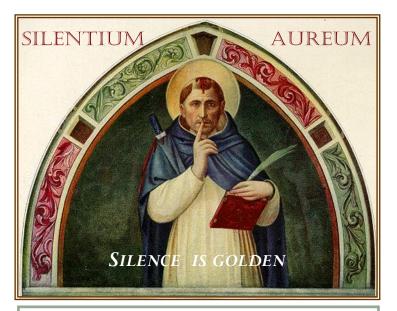
Given the senator's obvious prejudices, she should indeed be concerned. Ms. Barrett's life story suggests that she actually believes and seeks to live what her Catholic faith teaches. Worse, she has a superb intellect, a deep grasp of the law, and an excellent record as a jurist. In other words, she's a nightmare for a certain kind of political tribe. Let's put aside for a moment Sen. Feinstein's Know Nothing-style vulgarity. After all, she's hardly alone in her bigotry. Disdain for vigorous religious convictions, especially the Catholic kind, is a virus that's going around. It seems to infect a number of Democratic senators, including Sen. Kamala Harris, Feinstein's California colleague and vice presidential nominee, who saw looming peril in that dangerous national conspiracy otherwise known as the Knights of Columbus.

Sen. Feinstein's words help us see clearly how some in our political class now view Catholics who are more than merely "nominal" in their faith. It's true that anyone baptized as a Catholic is, in fact, a Catholic. In the eyes of the Democratic party, that's not a problem. If you're photographed piously with your rosary beads at prayer—even better. The cultural loyalty of many Catholic voters to a once heavily Catholic, working-class party dies hard, no matter how different that party is today. As an elected official, you may even get an award from a major Catholic institution. But if you're the kind of Catholic who seeks to discipline his or her life around Catholic beliefs regarding marriage and family, religious freedom, sex, and abortion—well, that's a different matter, as Democratic Congressman Dan Lipinski discovered when his own party dumped him in a primary earlier this year. In Bill Maher's immortal words, a woman like Amy Coney Barrett, whatever her professional credentials, is just "a [expletive] nut."

In a sane age, these kinds of attacks, more appropriate to a restroom wall than discourse in a nation of laws, would be seen as loathsome. But we don't live in a sane moment, as Sens. Feinstein and Harris, and Mr. Maher, have helpfully demonstrated. Catholics in this country spent more than a century fighting their way into the American mainstream. The cost has been high. To the degree that self-described Catholic political leaders are indistinguishable in their views and actions from their colleagues with no faith at all, the cost has been far too high. Millions of Catholics have served and died defending this nation, its freedoms, and its institutions. In the last century, all of the military chaplains awarded the Medal of Honor were Catholic priests. A politics of democratic pluralism requires that differences of belief must be respected. Catholics cannot, and don't, expect those with different convictions to agree with their religious beliefs. But Catholics do rightly demand civility and respect for the teachings of their Church, especially from a Senate supposedly informed by a spirit of service to the whole nation.

Today's hostility toward those who support Catholic teaching should concern every practicing Catholic—and anyone who values the First Amendment. If attacks on belief are an acceptable standard by which to impugn judicial nominees today, then tomorrow they'll be used on the rest of us who uphold the teachings of our faith. What's been playing out in Senate confirmation hearings and public debates over judicial nominees is a harbinger of future attacks on the Church herself and on any Catholic who holds with her enduring moral witness. Over the past decade, we've already seen the Catholic Church— and many of her ministries and institutions—targeted specifically for matters of belief.

Those who value our First Amendment right to religious freedom should realize that tests about belief are attacks on religious liberty. And positioning dissenting Catholics as "mainstream Americans" and believing Catholics as "extremists"—now a common and thoroughly dishonest culture war technique—is a particular affront to the free exercise of religion. It puts the rights of far more Americans at risk than will ever be nominated for the court.

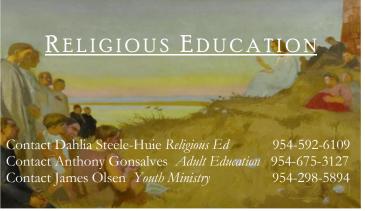


Civility, Clarity, Compassion— A Catholic Approach to the 2020 Election

As Catholics, we have a long tradition of engagement in the political process as a means of putting our faith into action. We are called to bring the best of ourselves and our faith to the public square -- and yet today, many shy away from such involvement because our national and local conversations are filled with vitriol and harsh language, often directed at individuals.

When personal attacks replace honest debate, no one wins. This kind of attack, no matter the reason, only serves to further divide our communities. As Catholics, we must bear witness to a better way.

Now is the Catholic moment to Know your Faith Take your place in the public square



All Soul's Day Novena



Memorial Mass Cards are available for All Soul's Day, Monday, November 2, 2020. Take the opportunity to remember family and loved ones in this traditional com-

memoration of those gone before us marked with the sign of Faith. Mass Cards are available on the Usher's Tables.

www.ourladyofmercycatholicchurch.org



To Mary, the Mother of Life we entrust our appeal for all of life. Throughout history life is always at the center of a great struggle. Mary is the living word of consolation for us in that struggle and to her we entrust the cause of life. Saint Pope Saint John Paul

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Remembered in Prayer

A time and a season for all things... A time to heal...

Tom April
Joseph Berardino
Christine Lefevre
Eileen Blades
Lilia Blenman
Mary Jo Mano
Maryellen Bombardier
Ray Bombardier
S'ean Borchardt
Gloria Bruno
Christopher Marcelin
Jalbert Matarese
Debra Mattalino
Bud McDonald

John and Mary Bourgeois David Moore
Robert Bushey Bella Morales
Margaret Cacciatore Andres Moros
Marietta Calayag Mary Moss

Mildred Caldarera Patricia Sullivan—Myrick

Timothy Calhoun Pat Nichols

Mirtha Catalano Amy Nickolopoulos Carmine Cavazza Cathy Norman Jean Olkowski Jeanne Chapman Anthony Chiavetta Shayna Orsen Marge Christiano Sandra Otero Christopher Clarke Carol Payberg Jerry Clobes Janet Poole Dottie & Alicia Cotugno Oscar Quintero Richard Ray Jim Cusick

Emily Danilchuk Jordan Michael Rivero Felix DeVito James Robinson Monique Dutreuil Ron Roesch Frank Dyer Ronald Romero Shemar Etaenne Michael Scaperotto Constance Fischetti Linda Seesman Renee Forella Hector Soto Joann Freydberg Emile Strauch Sara Gabb Margaret Strizelk Vera Ghio Betty Treacy Janis Glassman Kathleen Vandiford Richard Hasle Nick Ventura Timothy Jordan Eva Villegas Barbara Karol Jean Marie Vitta Tara Kepple John Ward

A time to die

Stella Joan Welsh

Mary Jane Wunder

Barry Kimbal

Jean Kline

A time of war...

Michael David John Lane William Kasten

And a time of peace. Ecclesiastes

Mass Intentions

Saturday, October 10

9:00 a.m. Erricho Auricchio 4:00 p.m. Jean Martin Paul Blade

Arnold Ingram

Sunday, October 11

8:30 a.m. John O'Connell

Pro Populo - For the People

10:30 a.m. Vivian Endall

Monday, October 12

9:00 a.m. Madeline Hollwedel

Tuesday, October 13

9:00 a.m. Martha McElveen

Arnold and Olga Van Beverhoudt

Wednesday, October 14

9:00 a.m. Erricho Auricchio

Thursday, October 15

9:00 a.m. Madeline Hollwedel

Friday, October 16

9:00 a.m. Frank J. Miller

Saturday, October 17

9:00 a.m. Erricho Auricchio

4:00 p.m. Pro Populo ♥ For the People

Questions Regarding the Manner of Receiving Holy Communion

The everyday news of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) locally has heightened everyone's fears and anxieties. As priests and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion we have the obligation to act responsibly as we minister with the celebration of the Sacred Liturgy.

- The utmost reverence is to be shown by all to the Body of Christ in Holy Communion which illustrates our Faith in Christ's Real Presence.
- It is the individual right of a Catholic to determine the manner of the reception of Holy Communion, whether on the tongue or in the hand (cf. *Redemptionis Sacramentum*, n. 92).
- · If a communicant—either an adult or a child-- desires to receive Holy Communion on the tongue, this is not to be denied.
- · With the distribution of Holy Communion, either on the tongue or in the hand, a reminder catechesis on the proper manner would be helpful at this time, so that the Communion minister does not touch the tongue or the hand of the communicant.



« Musica»

Praise to the Lord #754 in Word & Song

- Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation; O my soul praise him, for he is thy health and salvation. All you who hear, Now to his altar draw near, Joining in glad adoration.
- 2. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; Surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee. Ponder anew What the Almighty can do, Who with his love doth befriend thee.
- 3. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath come now in praises before him! Let the Amen Sound from his people again: Now as we worship before him.

Beautiful Savior #800 in Word & Song

- Beautiful Savior, King of creation, Son of God and Son of Man! You will we cherish, You will we honor, Light of our souls, their joy and crown.
- 2. Fair are the meadows, Fair are the woodlands, Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, He makes our sorrowing spirit sing.
- 3. Fair is the sunshine, Fair is the moonlight, Bright the sparkling stars on high; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer Than all the angels in the sky.



Eye Has Not Seen #695 in Word & Song

Refrain:

Eye has not seen, ear has not heard what God has ready for those who love him. Spirit of love, come, give us the mind of Jesus; teach us the wisdom of God.

- When pain and sorrow weigh us down, be near to us, O Lord; Forgive the weakness of our faith, and bear us up within your peaceful world.
- 2. Our lives are but a single breath, we flower and we fade; Yet all our days are in your hands, so we return in love what love has made.
- 3. To those who see with eyes of faith, the Lord is ever near, Reflected in the faces of all the poor and lowly of the world.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus #587 in Word & Song

- 1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, His the scepter, his the throne; Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone; Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood, Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood.
- 2. Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now; Alleluia! He is near us, Faith believes, nor questions how; Though the cloud from sight received him When the forty days were o'er, Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore"?
- 3. Alleluia! Bread of angels, You on earth our food, our stay; Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to you from day to day; Intercessor, friend of sinners, Earth's Redeemer, plead for me, Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

OUR LADY OF MERCY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Please share this with your fellow parishioners

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Mercy,

You have been missed in the parish and at Mass. When public Masses resumed May 31, we understood that people with underlying conditions or who were anxious about the virus would continue to examine their suitability before attending Mass. I pray you are well and have had such an opportunity to determine if now is the time to resume your faithful participation at the Eucharist. Safe distance and mask wearing are a real part of our celebration of Mass as we observe common sense in respecting others and safeguarding our health. You will find suitable space to sit and pray, hear God's Word, receive his Body and Blood, and be safe.

Some have maintained their offertory support of the parish while others have not. I understand there may be reasons for this but I encourage everyone to acknowledge the reality that without your donations to the parish, this community of faith which you participated in may close as if it were a failing business, a victim of the pandemic. We are not a victim, we are a body of believers who live and act as the Body of Christ. I invite you to renew your place in the community as you are able. If there is anything we can do to assure you and assist you, please let us know.

You are remembered in prayer but I prefer not to think of you as a memory but an active, vibrant member of the parish as we confidently move forward united in our Catholic Faith under the loving intercession of Our Lady of Mercy.

Sincerely yours in Christ, Very Reverend Kenneth D. Whittaker, V.F. Pastor



LET US RETURN TO THE EUCHARIST WITH JOY

We cannot live, be Christians fully realizing our humanity and the desires for good and happiness that dwell in our hearts without the Word of the Lord which in the celebration of the liturgy takes shape and becomes a living word, spoken by God who today open their hearts to listen;

We cannot live as Christians without participating in the Sacrifice of the Cross in which the Lord Jesus gives himself unreservedly to save, by his death humanity which had died because of sin; the Redeemer associates humanity with himself and leads it back to the Father; in the embrace of the Crucified One all human sufferings finds light and comfort;

We cannot be without the banquet of the Eucharist, the table of the Lord to which we are invited as sons and daughters, brothers and sisters to receive the Risen Christ himself, present in body, blood, soul and divinity in the Bread of heaven which sustains us in the joys and labors of this earthly pilgrimage;

We cannot be without the Christian community, the family of the Lord, we need to meet our brothers and sisters who share the Sonship of God, the fraternity of Christ, the vocation and the search for holiness and the salvation of their souls in the rich diversity of ages, personal histories, charisms and vocations;

We cannot be without the house of the Lord, which is our home, without the holy places where we were born to faith, where we discovered the provident presence of the Lord and discovered the merciful embrace that lifts up those fallen, where we consecrated our vocation to marriage or religious life, where we prayed and give thanks, rejoiced and wept, where we entrusted to the Father our loved ones who had completed their earthy voyage;

We cannot live without the Lord's Day, without Sunday which gives light and meaning to the succession of days of work and to family and social responsibilities.

From the Vatican Robert Cardinal Sarah