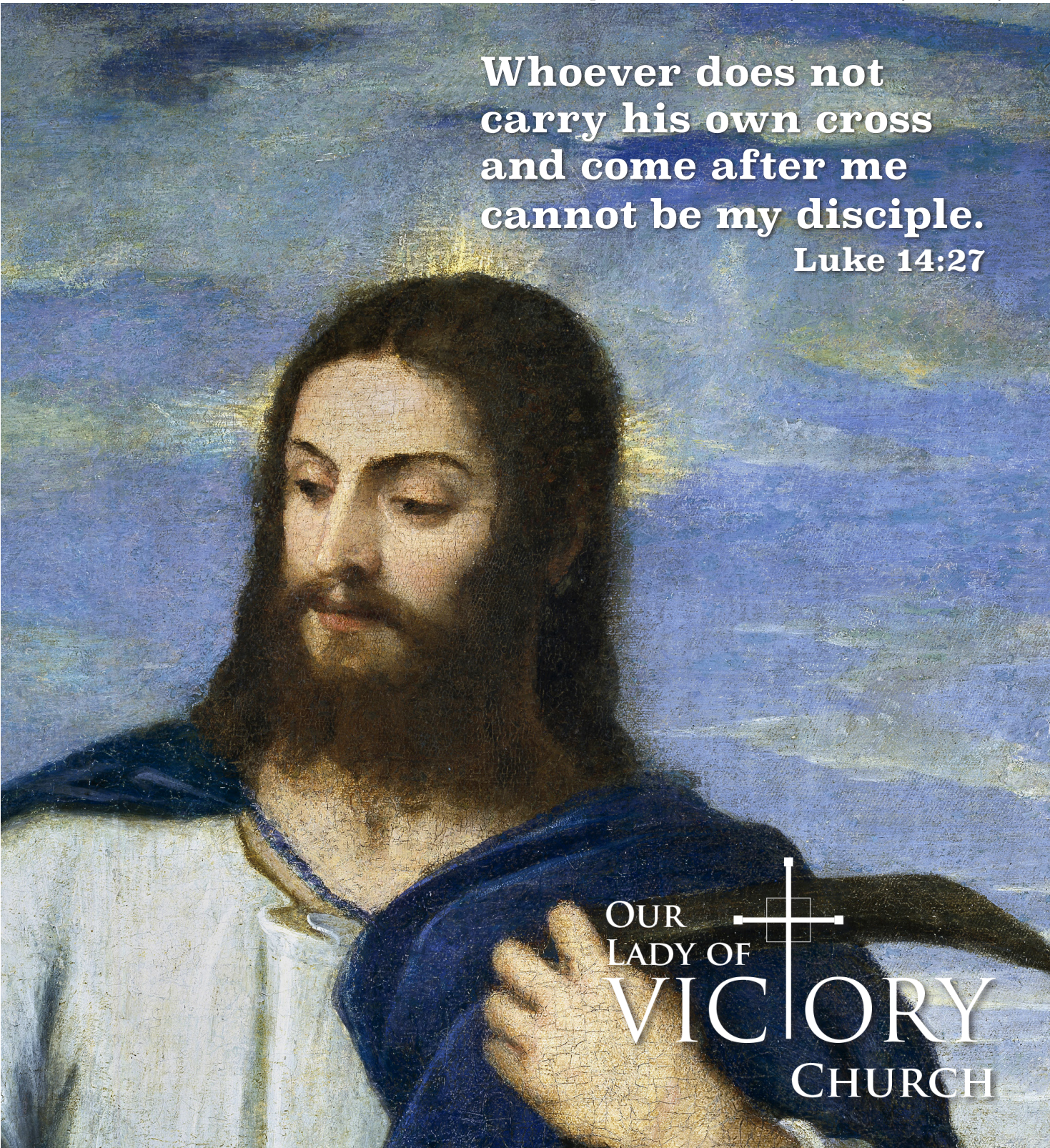


Whoever does not  
carry his own cross  
and come after me  
cannot be my disciple.

Luke 14:27



OUR  
LADY OF  
VICTORY  
CHURCH

1559 Roxbury Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43212  
Parish Office 614-488-2428  
Fax 614-488-0507

Email: [office@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:office@ourladyofvictory.cc)  
[www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc)

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday	5:00 P.M. (Confessions 4:00-4:30 P.M.)
Sunday	8:00 A.M. • 10:00 A.M. 11:30 A.M. (Maronite Rite)
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri	8:30 A.M.
Wednesday	12:00 P.M. ( followed by Confessions)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS • Monday-Friday, 9:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.



@OLVColumbus



## PARISH STAFF

### CLERGY

Rev. Jacques Kik, *Pastor*,

[jkik@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:jkik@ourladyofvictory.cc), 614-488-2428

Msgr. Anthony Missimi, *Retired*,

614-481-4459

Deacon Richard Baumann, *Retired*,

614-783-5542

Deacon Rob Joseph, *Deacon*, [rob@catholicdeacon.cc](mailto:rob@catholicdeacon.cc),

614-486-0777

### OFFICE STAFF

614-488-2428

Marisa Mentel, *Administrative Assistant*

[office@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:office@ourladyofvictory.cc)

Kim Gutheil, *Bookkeeper*

[businessmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:businessmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc)

Jesse Oddi, *Facilities Manager*

[facilitiesmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:facilitiesmgr@ourladyofvictory.cc)

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL THROUGH GRADE 8

614-486-7678 [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc)

Krista Joseph, *Director*

Pat Fulcher, *Administrative Assistant*

### MUSIC

Mark Voris, *Music Director*,

[mvoris@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:mvoris@ourladyofvictory.cc)

## GIFTS FOR GOD

August 26, 2025 to September 1, 2025

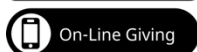
Envelopes.....	\$ 3,814.00
Loose Checks .....	\$ 1,227.00
Loose Cash .....	\$ 908.66
Online Giving.....	\$ 3,577.37
Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary .....	\$ 40.00
Total .....	\$ 9,567.03
Less Diocese 10% Assessment.....	\$ 956.70
Net Parish Collection .....	\$ 8,610.33
St. Vincent de Paul .....	\$ 2,071.00
Solidarity, Church in Africa.....	\$ 30.00

## MASS ATTENDANCE

August 30 / August 31 – 596

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – 145

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 125; 10:00 a.m. – 214; 11:30 a.m. – 112



Thank you for your contributions. Please consider online giving. This is a safe, secure, and flexible way to manage your giving. To sign up, go to the **Church website: [www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc)**, Our Sunday Visitor at <https://www.osvhub.com/ourladyofvictory/funds>, or use the QR Scan Code shown here.

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, September 6 – Blessed Thomas Tzugi**

5:00 p.m. + Patricia Rossetti (Tim & Rita Lyons)

**Sunday, September 7 – St. Cloud**

8:00 a.m. + Audrey & Chester Harlor

(Terrie & Randy Harlor)

10:00 a.m. + Donato Polletta (Jackie Polletta)

11:30 a.m. People of the Parish

**Monday, September 8 – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

8:30 a.m. + Jack & +Doris Brachey  
(Amy Dunn, daughter)

**Tuesday, September 9 – St. Peter Claver**

8:30 a.m. + Kerry Sheets (Kathy & Bruce Call)

**Wednesday, September 10 – St. Nicholas of Tolentino**

12:00 p.m. + Thomas Croarkin  
(Marytherese Croarkin)

**Thursday, September 11 – St. Paphnutius**

8:30 a.m. + Dr. Kevin Olson  
(Fr. Michael Lumpe)

**Friday, September 12 – The Most Holy Name of Mary**

8:30 a.m. + Carmelite Sisters for the Aged & Infirm  
(Fr. Michael Lumpe)

**Saturday, September 13 – St. John Chrysostom**

5:00 p.m. + Jill M. Thurston  
(Geri & Radomir Radivich)

**Sunday, September 14 – The Exaltation of the Holy Cross**

8:00 a.m. + John & +Isabella Subler (Jennifer Huber)

10:00 a.m. + Erik Falasca (Elva Falasca, mother)

11:30 a.m. People of the Parish



## HOSPITALITY TODAY!!

After the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses. Come for some fellowship and tasty treats!



**The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Our Lady of Victory will be preparing lunches for the homeless on Monday, September 8, 2025 in the Parish Life Center at**

**5:00 p.m.** We will pack 250 lunches for the Holy Family Soup Kitchen. We will also need 250 cookie baggies (2-3 cookies per baggie).

If you can bake cookies (or help pack), join us on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 5:00 p.m. Cookies can be dropped off anytime on Monday, September 8th to the Parish Life Center.

Your generous donations (5th Sunday PINK envelopes) have enabled the Society of St. Vincent de Paul to continue in our mission of feeding the hungry. Thank you very much!

**These lunches are appreciated by all who receive them.**



## STELLA MARIS

Tuesday, September 9th, 7:00 p.m.

The Stella Maris Society is excited to announce that **Deacon Rob and Krista Joseph will be speaking at the September meeting**, and this event is open to the entire parish!! They will share about the Jubilee Year, Holy Doors, and their trip to Rome earlier this year. Come to the Parish Life Center on Tuesday, September 9 at

7:00 p.m. After their presentation, everyone is encouraged to stay for some fellowship as well as wine and light snacks which will be provided by the ladies of Stella Maris. If you have never been to one of the Stella Maris meetings, this is a great opportunity to attend! Bring a friend and come learn about the special graces of our Catholic faith!

The Virgin may suitably be called a blooming rose. Just as the gentle rose is placed among thorns, so this gentle Virgin was surrounded by sorrow.

Saint Brigid



## THERE IS STILL TIME TO GIVE!!

We are at 57% of our parish goal!

Any amount is appreciated, and every dollar over our goal comes back to our parish!

OUR LADY OF VICTORY  
1922-2024 CHURCH



The Appeal  
Together in Mission  
—2025—

Our Goal: \$67,250.00  
Thank you for your gifts. Support the Appeal at [columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal](http://columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal) or scan the QR code.



photo courtesy of Young Catholic

## THE BLUE MASS

St. Timothy Church and St. Timothy Knights of Columbus Council 14345 will host **The Blue Mass on Thursday, September 11, 2025 at 5:00 p.m.** The Blue Mass is an opportunity to honor and pray for all active, retired and deceased police, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel. In addition, it is an occasion to remember the 2,973 who lost their lives in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. All active and retired police, fire, and emergency medical services personnel in the greater Columbus area, and their families are invited. The Celebrant and Homilist for The Blue Mass will be The Most Reverend Earl K. Fernandes, Bishop of Columbus. **Let us all join together to honor our police, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel, to ask for God's blessing, to keep them safe, and to guide them in their duties.** St. Timothy Church is located at 1088 Thomas Lane, Columbus.

**1** blood donation can help save the lives of up to **3** people  
**Every 2** seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood  
American Red Cross

## Blood Drive Our Lady of Victory Church

Parish Hall  
1559 Roxbury Rd  
Columbus, OH 43212

**Thursday, September 25, 2025  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: Ourladyofvictory to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](http://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Come to give blood Sept. 22-Oct. 19 for a \$10 Amazon.com Gift Card by email! See [rcblood.org/tell](http://rcblood.org/tell)



## SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

OLV continues to follow the Diocese of Columbus commitment to the protection and safety of children and the Safe Environment Program. The Safe Environment Program mandates that all Volunteers 18 years or older who would like to participate in parish programs or ministries who have been delegated care, custody, or control of children must complete this program. Information on the specific process and program registration can be found on the Our Lady of Victory website: [ourladyofvictory.cc](http://ourladyofvictory.cc) – located under the “Religious Ed” tab. You may also contact Pat Fulcher at [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc) for this information.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2025-2026

Our Lady of Victory welcomes new children to our Program!  
Important Dates & Information for the 2025-26 School Year!

### 2025

- September 17th Catechist Meeting (Mass 6:00 p.m., Meeting in PLC, 7:00-9:00 p.m.)
- September 21st **First Day of Class** for PreK-5th Grades at 8:55 a.m.  
Parents' Welcome Back Gathering at 9:00 a.m.
- September 28th **First Day of Class** for 6th-8th Grade at 8:55 a.m.
- September 28th Online Students Begin – Pick up Materials at 9:15 a.m.
- September 28th **First Communion REQUIRED Parent Meeting** – 4:30 p.m.
- September 28th **Confirmation REQUIRED Parent Meeting** – 5:15 p.m.
- November 8th First Reconciliation (2nd Graders) 10:00 a.m. in the church
- November 9th 8th Grade REQUIRED Speaker, Pam Heil, at 6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. in the church
- December 7th Christmas Play for PreK through 5th Grades – 9:10 a.m. in the PLC

### 2026

- January 10th First Communion Retreat - 9:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m. in PLC
- February 28th Confirmation Retreat – 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- April 25th **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION at 11:00 a.m. in the church**
- April/May TBD – **CONFIRMATION – TBD from the Bishop's office**
- April 26th Last Day of Class Pre-K through 8th Grade

### RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION

Registration will begin online August 11th. The Registration Link and information will be emailed to you as well as posted on the OLV Website. **PLEASE** register ASAP so you can reserve your child's spot in their class. **If you are new to the parish, you need to be a REGISTERED** member of OLV for your children to attend Religious Education. Contact Krista Joseph to begin the registration process.

Please remember that our **First Communion Program is a 2-YEAR program** with preparation **beginning in 1st Grade** – It is required that your child attend 1st Grade in order to make their First Communion in 2nd Grade. Our **Confirmation Program is also a 2-YEAR program** with preparation **beginning in 7th Grade** and Confirmation in 8th Grade.

**\*\*If your child did not attend class last year in 1st or 7th Grade, please contact Krista at ASAP so she can arrange for your child to get caught up to receive their Sacraments on time.**

Our PreK Class is limited to 16 Children and those spots fill up fast!

Please see our website for information describing all the programs at OLV.

We also offer a Special Needs program that is individually created for your special needs child.

Please contact Krista Joseph in the Religious Ed office to schedule a meeting.

*Krista Joseph, Director of Religious Education – [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc)*

### OUR LADY OF VICTORY ICONS



Last call for Our Lady of Victory Icons! Please call or stop by the office to put your name on the waitlist for the last remaining icons. We only have a few icons left to purchase. The price is \$100.00 each. We can accept cash or checks made payable to "Our Lady of Victory."

### St. Gabriel Catholic Radio

### RADIO FUN THAT WILL LEAVE YOU SMILING (September 17th-19th).

Fr. Jacques Kik will be on the radio on **Thursday, September 18, 2025 from 4:30-5:15 p.m.**

Fr. Jacques will be on AM 820 rallying support for our local Catholic radio station while competing in a live radio game. For every donation made in his name prior to or during the **AM 820** radio event, Fr. Jacques' team will receive additional shots.

If you donate prior to September 17th, you will be entered into a special pre-event drawing to win **two (2) OSU Football Tickets!**

To make a donation call (614) 459-4820 or go online to [StGabrielRadio.com](http://StGabrielRadio.com).



## PASTORAL PLANNING SURVEY

Bishop Fernandes has a desire to hear from as many of the Christian Faithful in the Diocese of Columbus about their perspective on his four priorities of pastoral concern:



VOCATIONS



EVANGELIZATION



CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION AND  
FORMATION



SOCIAL  
OUTREACH



Please take the brief survey with the QR code.



### BIRTHRIGHT OF COLUMBUS

Please join Birthright of Columbus for our **Annual Luncheon and Silent Auction, on September 13 here at Our Lady of Victory.**

Please come to celebrate and support Birthright being a friend to moms-to-be in Columbus for 50+ years. Tickets are \$50.00 for adults and \$25.00 for children. Please RSVP to 614-313-5150.



### OUR NEW WEBSITE IS UP AND RUNNING!

Go to [www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc) and explore.

The "Home" page has all our current events. The "About Us" page has a weekly schedule and current and past bulletins. There is a "Religious Education" tab with information regarding our programs. Visit the "Music" page for our upcoming concerts. The "Requests" page is where to go for information on Sacraments from Baptism to Anointing of the Sick.



PLEASE JOIN US FOR THE BRIAN MUHA MEMORIAL  
FOUNDATION'S ANNUAL

*Night of Champions*

SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

ST. CHARLES PREPARATORY SCHOOL  
2010 E. BROAD STREET  
BEXLEY, OH 43209

DOORS OPEN 5:30PM

TO PURCHASE TICKETS, DONATE OR VIEW AUCTION ITEMS VISIT  
[HTTPS://ONE.BIDPAL.NET/NIGHTOFCHAMPS25](https://one.bidpal.net/nightofchamps25)

FOLLOW OUR LADY OF VICTORY ON FACEBOOK  
FOR THE MOST CURRENT HAPPENINGS.

@OLVColumbus



"... If God is for us, who can  
be against us?" Romans 8:31



Thanks to PDHC's generous  
sponsors, 100% of your gift will  
rescue lives. To hear a special  
message from our speakers or to  
reserve your complimentary seats,  
scan the QR code above! You may  
also return the enclosed card or  
visit: [SupportLifePDHC.org](http://SupportLifePDHC.org)

Lancaster Gala

Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. at The Tree Church



Rebekah  
Hagan

A leading voice on  
unexpected pregnancies,  
chemical abortion and  
abortion pill reversal

Columbus Gala

Sept. 25 at 6 p.m. at Villa Milano

International speaker  
and author of *Redeemed:  
My Journey After  
Abortion*



Toni  
McFadden



Our Lady Concert Series featuring

# Songs at the Center Live

Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 7pm

with Eric Gnezda founder host of his PBS TV show and artist friends in our Parish Life Center



Join us for an enchanting evening that transcends the ordinary—a concert featuring stars of the acclaimed Columbus-based PBS series, Songs at the Center!

Prepare to be dazzled by an extraordinary lineup of special guests: Tony Arata, Arkady Gips, Keith Larsen. Hosted by the remarkable Eric Gnezda. Eric is an award-winning songwriter and creator and host of Songs at the Center, which graces over PBS 400 stations nationwide!

Join us for a night that promises to uplift, entertain, and inspire!





TONY ARATA

ARKADY GIPS

KEITH LARSEN

Our Lady of  
**VICTORY**  
Church

1559 Roxbury Rd.  
Columbus, OH 43212

(614) 488-2428  
www.ourladyofvictory.cc  
f @ olvcolumbus



## THE SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY WISHES TO THANK THE MEMBERS OF THE PARISH FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT OVER THE YEARS!

Because of your generosity, the SVDP Society can do remarkable things including:

- Deliver, on average, 246 pounds of food monthly to the Heart of It All food pantry.
- Pack approximately 1,500 lunches in one year and deliver them to the Holy Family Soup Kitchen.
- Deliver turkeys at Thanksgiving, and gifts at Christmas to the Guadalupe Center, Run the Race, and Franklin County Children's Services.
- Sponsor a Fall Clothing Drive for the McArthur Center and JOIN.
- Collect toiletries during the Lenten Fish Frys to benefit JOIN.
- Help people in times of financial hardship.

Please know that your donations in the **pink envelopes** go to these and other important causes. We could not do it without you.

## FATHER MISSIMI'S BOOKS



Father Missimi's six books of his collected homilies are now available to purchase online! The website is: [www.bibliobookstore.com](http://www.bibliobookstore.com). On the home page, type Missimi in the search box and all six books will be displayed. They can be shipped to your address or picked up free of shipping charges at Zip Print & Copy, 1091 West First Avenue in Grandview.

## WELCOME TO THE ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Let us remember the words of Jesus: "Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me." (Mt. 10:40)

On behalf of Father Jacques Kik, Our Lady of Victory Parish, and the OCIA staff, we extend a heartfelt welcome to those interested in becoming a Roman Catholic. Perhaps you are married to a Catholic, are from another Christian denomination, or not baptized. Perhaps you have considered the move for some time. Perhaps now is the time to decide.

**Come to an introductory gathering on September 14 in Victory Hall immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Mass.** The meeting will be simple and brief. Meet others who are considering the OCIA journey, and how it could work for you. Questions: Sharon Curtin, 614-563-8405, or [sharon@mcurtin.com](mailto:sharon@mcurtin.com).

## FORMED.ORG

**FORMED.ORG is a Catholic online platform that features Catholic video programs, audio talks, eBooks, and movies!**

To sign up for FORMED:

- 1 Go to **FORMED.ORG**.
- 2 Click on **SIGN-UP**.
- 3 Select **"Sign Up as a Parishioner."**
- 4 Enter OLV ZIP Code, **43212**.
- 5 Select **"Our Lady of Victory Parish."** Select **Next**. Enter your Name and Email address. Select **"Sign Up."** At initial sign-up, parishioners will receive a verification email, **READ CONTENT** – which includes a FORMED.org Link & confirmation for OLV Parish Access. After initial access, go to FORMED.ORG, click on SIGN-IN & enter the same email address that you used to sign up.





### TOGETHER IN HOLINESS

Join us for the first annual Together in Holiness marriage enrichment conference in the Diocese of Columbus on **Saturday,**

**October 4, 2025 from 10:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at St. Matthew the Apostle Catholic Church in Gahanna, OH!**

Whether you are newly married or celebrating a milestone anniversary this year, Together in Holiness is the perfect pause from the busyness of everyday life so you can rediscover the beauty of the Sacrament of Marriage.

Registration \$64.00/couple Childcare \$5.00/child

Full and partial scholarships available.

Questions? Email Conference Coordinator Nancy Ariza at [nancy@forlifeandfamily.org](mailto:nancy@forlifeandfamily.org).

### Men's Event: Courage Through Christ: Standing Firm in Faith

Guest Speaker:

Father Daniel Bowen, O. de M.

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH  
BRIDGETTINE SISTERS  
CONVENT  
6P-8P  
DOORS OPEN AT 530P**

Food and Refreshments

\$35

RSVP by Sept.8

[BridgettineSisters1@gmail.com](mailto:BridgettineSisters1@gmail.com)

40 N. GRUBB STREET  
COLUMBUS 43215

## SAVE THE DATE

MOMMIES MATTER ANNUAL

# Fall Fundraiser

October 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm  
Villa Milano

A NIGHT OF COMEDY, MUSIC,  
AUCTIONS, RAFFLES, AND MORE  
in support of pregnant, single mothers



[MOMMIESMATTER.ORG/FALL-FUNDRAISER](http://MOMMIESMATTER.ORG/FALL-FUNDRAISER)

# Helping You Find

Peace, Power, and Passion  
During Separation & After  
Your Divorce

*Surviving Divorce* was created to bring hope and healing to those who have experienced the pain and loneliness of a broken marriage. It is for the newly separated and divorced and those still struggling with issues many years later. It will help them find answers to their questions, restore hope, and begin authentic healing. This video-based series includes personal testimonies of Catholic men and women who have experienced the breakdown of their families. They courageously share their stories with heart, humor, and wisdom. As they witness to their pain and the healing power of Christ in their lives, participants will laugh, cry, and identify with their journeys from heartache to healing.

For Men and  
Women  
Seeking  
Healing from  
Separation &  
Divorce

*Surviving Divorce* will help you:

- Work through the emotional upheaval of separation and divorce.
- Find personal healing and hope.
- Discover a deeper understanding of God's love for you.
- Gain wisdom and comfort from experts and others who share your experiences.
- Navigate new concerns like custody, court hearings, and finances.

**Starting on Thursday,  
September 18, for 12 weeks.**

**We will gather from  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

**Join us at the Saint Joan of  
Arc Campus - Rooms 11 & 12**

For more information or to register, please email  
[survivingdivorce@spsjoa.org](mailto:survivingdivorce@spsjoa.org)

# An Introduction to Sacred Music Practicum

offered by Dr. Nicole Simental at the St. Thomas More Newman Center

Have you ever wondered why certain music is sung at Mass as opposed to other types of music? Then this class is just for you! This class is an introduction to Sacred Music and why music in the liturgy is an integral part of the Mass. Some of the topics will include: What is Sacred Music and why it is important; what is our role in the Liturgy in regard to music; sacred music in practice and why we should care. This will be supported by taking a deeper look at the treasures of the Church all supported by Church documents on Sacred Music in the Liturgy. This course will also help us to unite our prayers through music more fully in the Mass. This class is for all- no musical experience necessary.

### WHERE

- St. Cecilia Room on the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the St. Thomas More Newman Center (64 W Lane Ave)

### REQUIREMENTS

- \$50 donation includes all printed materials of the class\*  
\*Free for students & Religious
- An open & willing heart to learn & pray

### WHEN

- Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 PM
- Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> - Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025\*\*  
\*\*Drop-ins welcome at any time during the semester

### SIGN UP

- Email Dr. Nicole Simental at [nsimental@buckeyeecatholic.com](mailto:nsimental@buckeyeecatholic.com)
- Scan the QR code below







***“Martha, Martha, you are worried and  
distracted by many things; there  
is need of only one thing..”*** (Lk 10:41)

**Divine Liturgy**  
Sunday at 11:30 am  
Our Lady of Victory  
1559 Roxbury Rd.  
Columbus, OH



**For donations &  
online giving, scan  
this code or visit  
our website:**



**venmo**

**[www.ololcolumbus.org](http://www.ololcolumbus.org)**



## New Testament Reading: 1Thessalonians 2:1-13

You yourselves know that our coming to you was not in vain,  
but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi,  
as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God  
in spite of great opposition.

For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery,  
but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel,  
even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts.

As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for  
greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others,  
though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children.

So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God  
but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day,  
so that we might not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God.

You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright,  
and blameless our conduct was toward you believers.

As you know, we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children,  
urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life worthy of God,  
who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you received the word of God  
that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word but as what it really is,  
God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

## The Gospel: Luke 10:38-42

As they went on their way, Jesus entered a certain village, where a woman named  
Martha welcomed him into her home.

She had a sister named Mary,  
who sat at the Lord's feet  
and listened to what he was saying.

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks;  
so she came to him and asked,  
"Lord, do you not care  
that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself?  
Tell her then to help me."

But the Lord answered her,  
"Martha, Martha,  
you are worried and distracted by many things;  
there is need of only one thing.  
Mary has chosen the better part,  
which will not be taken away from her."



## St. Sozon (Sizon) of Cilicia - Feast Day: Sept 7

Saint Sozon (Sizon) of Cilicia is a most fitting figure for reflection and celebration in our parish this September. A courageous shepherd-turned-martyr from the late 3rd century, he exemplified profound faith, charity, and bravery.

Born Tarasios in Lycaonia, he embraced the Christian faith, changed his name to Sozon, and emulated the meekness of the sheep in pastoral care both for his flock and for guiding souls toward Christ. After a divine vision beside a spring foretold his coming martyrdom—and the spring's sanctification—he traveled to Pompeiopolis.

There, driven by love of truth, he broke the golden hand from a pagan idol, distributing the fragments to the poor. When the pagan authorities retaliated, Sozon boldly confessed, sparing others. His tortures were horrific: iron claws scraped his body, nail-studded boots wounded his feet, yet he remained faithful until death around 304 A.D.



A miraculous storm extinguished efforts to destroy his body by fire. Christians, guided by heavenly light, recovered his relics, and miracles of healing soon followed both at his tomb and at the spring. A church was later built at that sacred site.

Saint Sozon holds special patronage over Lemnos, where devotion to him remains strong. Moreover, his martyrdom's specific torture involving his feet made him a heavenly advocate for those suffering from foot ailments—a beautiful and tangible connection for prayerful devotion today.



As we honor him each year on September 7, let us recall the powerful prayers that celebrate his sacrifice for Christ, the healing grace he shares, and the divine crown he received through suffering. May his example encourage us to bear our crosses with humility, to serve generously, and to trust in God's power to protect and heal.



Let us turn to him in prayer:

- For those afflicted with foot injuries or ailments,
- For our own steadfastness when facing trials or injustice,
- For charitable hearts that share with the needy, trusting not in human idols but in Christ alone.

Prayer :

Loving God, through the witness of Your martyr Saint Sozon, grant us courage in trial, compassion for the suffering, and faith to trust Your power in healing and salvation. May we, like him, live for the truth and share Your grace with all. Amen.

Saint Sozon, pray for us!



Saint Sozon Church, Cyprus

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