

AND SO I SAY TO YOU, YOU ARE PETER,  
**AND UPON THIS ROCK I WILL BUILD MY CHURCH,**  
AND THE GATES OF THE NETHERWORLD SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT.  
I WILL GIVE YOU THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN.

– MATTHEW 16:18-19



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.<br>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.

## PARISH STAFF

### CLERGY

Rev. Jacques Kik, *Pastor*

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

Msgr. Anthony Missimi, *Retired*

Deacon Rob Joseph, *Deacon*

614-486-0777 [rob@catholicdeacon.cc](mailto:rob@catholicdeacon.cc)

### OFFICE STAFF, 614-488-2428

Marisa Mentel, *Administrative Assistant*

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

Kim Gutheil, *Accountant*

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

Charliebelle Youssef, *Bookkeeper/ Social Media*

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

Jesse Oddi, *Facilities Manager*

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

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8

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

Krista Joseph, *Director*

Jennifer Cunningham, *Administrative Assistant*

Pat Fulcher, *Administrator – Safe Environment*

### MUSIC

Mark Voris, *Music Director*

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

## MASS INTENTIONS

**Saturday, August 22 – Queenship of  
the Blessed Virgin Mary**

5:00 p.m. + Steve Tarini (Nancy Tarini)

**Sunday, August 23 – St. Rose of Lima**

8:00 a.m. + Marcia Bohley (Heidi & Art Varner)

10:00 a.m. + Deacon Richard Baumann  
(Diana & Bob Short)

11:30 a.m. People of the Parish

**Monday, August 24 – St. Bartholomew**

8:30 a.m. + Michael Arena (Pat Feamster)

**Tuesday, August 25 – St. Louis of France**

8:30 a.m. + Andy Lombardi (Rita & Tim Lyons)

**Wednesday, August 26 – St. Joseph Calasanz**

12:00 p.m. + Ray Jean Flanagan  
(Bernadine Bredolo & family)

**Thursday, August 27 – St. Monica**

8:30 a.m. + Bruno DiSante (+Rita DiSante)

**Friday, August 28 – St. Augustine, Bishop**

8:30 a.m. + Yvonne Bussard (Connie Leach)

**Saturday, August 29 – Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist**

5:00 p.m. + Joseph Cummings Murray  
(Joseph Murray)

**Sunday, August 30 – St. Jeanne Jugan**

8:00 a.m. + Rosemary Studer (The Kellers)

10:00 a.m. + Bruce Bradley (Gloria DePietro)

11:30 a.m. People of the Parish

## GIFTS FOR GOD

August 11, 2026 to August 17, 2026

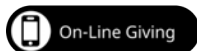
|                                          |             |
|------------------------------------------|-------------|
| Envelopes.....                           | \$ 3,031.00 |
| Loose Checks.....                        | \$ 983.00   |
| Loose Cash.....                          | \$ 775.00   |
| Online Giving.....                       | \$ 3,300.97 |
| Holy Days – Assumption of Mary.....      | \$ 689.00   |
| Total.....                               | \$ 8,778.97 |
| Less Diocese 10% Assessment.....         | \$ 877.90   |
| Net Parish Collection.....               | \$ 7,901.07 |
| St. Vincent de Paul.....                 | \$ 23.00    |
| St. Paul Voisard Mission collection..... | \$ 4,589.00 |

## MASS ATTENDANCE

August 15 / August 16 – 612

Saturday 5:00 p.m. – 168

Sunday 8:00 a.m. – 141; 10:00 a.m. – 231; 11:30 a.m. – 72



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 our Church website: [www.ourladyofvictory.cc](http://www.ourladyofvictory.cc) or go to Our Sunday Visitor at <https://www.osvhub.com/ourladyofvictory/funds>, or use the QR Code shown here.



## Blood Drive Our Lady of Victory Church

Parish Hall  
1559 Roxbury Rd  
Columbus, OH 43212

**Thursday, September 3, 2026  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org), sponsor code: Ourladyvictory.

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.

The American Red Cross and Hello Kitty are releasing exclusive NEW merch! Come give blood Sept. 1-20 for a super-cute Red Cross x Hello Kitty collectible item, while supplies last!



## SECOND COLLECTION – NEXT WEEKEND

We pray for all families impacted by the storms that affected our Diocese last week, particularly those displaced and affected by the historic flooding in Perry and Muskingum Counties. Bishop Fernandes is asking all parishes to conduct a Second Collection on the weekend of **August 29-30** (next weekend) for the Diocese of Columbus Spirit of Hope Disaster Response Fund. 100% of all money raised will be used to support the work of parishes in the affected areas and to organizations like Catholic Social Services and local St. Vincent de Paul conferences which are providing relief efforts. Checks should be made out to the parish, with "SPIRIT OF HOPE" in the memo line. You can also give online, directly on the Diocesan website. ColumbusCatholic.org or during the second collection next weekend.



## MASS IN HONOR OF ST. MONICA (PATRON SAINT OF MOTHERS)

All are welcome to celebrate a MASS IN HONOR OF ST. MONICA at St. Andrew Parish (corner of Reed and McCoy Roads, Columbus, OH 43220) on Thursday, August 27, at 6:00 p.m. in the church. Pastor Msgr. Stephan Moloney will be the celebrant. Reception immediately following in the church parlor with snacks and refreshments.

## PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

|                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sunday,<br>August 23    | 8:00 a.m. – Mass<br>10:00 a.m. – Mass<br><b>10:00-11:00 a.m. – OCIA (VH)</b><br>11:30 a.m. – Mass – Maronite Rite                                                                                                                                      |
| Monday,<br>August 24    | 8:30 a.m. – Mass                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Tuesday,<br>August 25   | 8:30 a.m. – Mass<br>12:00 p.m. – Knitting group                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Wednesday,<br>August 26 | 12:00 p.m. – Mass<br>12:30 p.m. – <b>Confessions (C)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Thursday,<br>August 27  | 8:30 a.m. – Mass                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Friday,<br>August 28    | 8:30 a.m. – Mass<br><b>9:00 a.m. – Adoration</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Saturday,<br>August 29  | 4:00-4:30 p.m. – <b>Confessions (C)</b><br>5:00 p.m. – Mass<br><b>2nd Collection:</b><br><b>Diocese of Columbus Spirit of Hope</b><br><b>Disaster Relief fund</b>                                                                                      |
| Sunday,<br>August 30    | 8:00 a.m. – Mass<br>10:00 a.m. – Mass<br><b>9:00 a.m. – Baptisms</b><br><b>10:00-11:00 a.m. – OCIA (VH)</b><br>11:30 a.m. – Mass – Maronite Rite<br><b>2nd Collection:</b><br><b>Diocese of Columbus Spirit of Hope</b><br><b>Disaster Relief fund</b> |

PLC= Parish Life Center VH= Victory Hall C= Church



Our Lady of  
**VICTORY**  
Church

MUSIC AT OUR LADY  
CONCERT SERIES

**APOLLO DUO**

*Fall Splendor*

FLUTE AND HARP

SUN, OCT 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2026

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Celebrate the beauty of the season  
with an enchanting program of  
flute and harp music.

*All are welcome!*

Music that Inspires. Community that Welcomes.  
OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH • COLUMBUS, OH



## SEPTEMBER MONTHLY ADORATION

Wednesday, September 2nd  
12:30-6:00 p.m.

Come spend some quiet time  
in prayer in the presence of  
the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Use the QR code to sign up. We would like  
to have at least two people at all times.



*I will give thanks to your name, because of your kindness and your truth:  
When I called, you answered me; you built up strength within me.  
– Psalm 138:2-3*



## The Appeal —2026—

### THE APPEAL – PARISH UPDATE

|                                          |               |
|------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Parish Goal:                             | \$ 72,952.10  |
| Amount Pledged:                          | \$ 114,685.32 |
| Amount Paid:                             | \$ 95,001.44  |
| Amount coming back to our parish so far: | \$ 22,049.34  |

There is still time to give. Please consider giving if you have not done so in the past! Thank you to everyone for your generosity!!



## THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

### JOIN OUR TEAM AT THE CATHOLIC FOUNDATION

As the Executive Assistant and Grants Coordinator, you will work closely with our CEO, assist with scheduling, and support our Board of Trustees. You will manage the grants process from start to finish, receive requests, screen them according to Catholic guidelines, and ensure each grant receives the careful attention it deserves.

If you are detail-oriented, get genuine satisfaction in a smoothly run process, and can work independently, you will thrive on our small but mighty team. In return, you will enjoy a flexible part-time schedule and help make a Catholic impact in our diocese and beyond. A background check and completion of the Diocese's Protecting God's Children program are required.

Sound like the right opportunity for you? We would love to hear from you! Scan the QR code for a complete job description or to apply.



### SAFE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM

The NEW Background Check Renewal Requirement: All employees and volunteers are required to renew their criminal background check every five (5) years to remain compliant with Diocesan Safe Environment policies. If you just need to renew your BCI report, you may simply get that done before the PGC session begins. You only need to attend a PGC session once! Questions? Contact Pat Fulcher at [pfulcher@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:pfulcher@ourladyofvictory.cc).



### SEVEN SISTERS APOSTOLATE

The Seven Sisters is a call to strengthen the church by ensuring that a Holy Hour is prayed each day of the week for the sole intention of a specific priest, or bishop. Our Lady of Victory is starting a group of the Seven Sisters. We need seven women, plus substitutes to volunteer for one day a week to pray an hour for Father Kik. Each sister commits to a Holy Hour on a distinct day of the week, thus covering a complete week. The commitment is to that day; and you may pray at any time on that day. The commitment is for one year. There are no meetings, there is no required schedule. If you are feeling called to this group, contact Kerstin Humphrys for more information at 614-946-8856 (text or call) or [KKHumphrys@me.com](mailto:KKHumphrys@me.com).



### HELP OLV EARN POINTS EVERY TIME YOU SHOP AT KROGER!!

OLV is now enrolled in Kroger's Community Rewards Program where we will earn rewards every time you shop at Kroger. Link your Kroger shopper's card:

1. Go to <http://www.kroger.com>
2. Log into your Kroger account (or create a Kroger account).
3. Go to "About Us" at the bottom of the page and choose "Community Rewards."
4. Enter our name: Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church, or our number: WQ014.
5. Click "Enroll"

Kroger will donate to us quarterly based on how much spending is allocated to us. This does not interfere with or detract from the points you earn on your personal spending account at Kroger.



**Celebration for Life**  
Pregnancy Decision Health Centers

Every Life  
Tells a *Story*

2026 PDHC Celebration for Life Galas

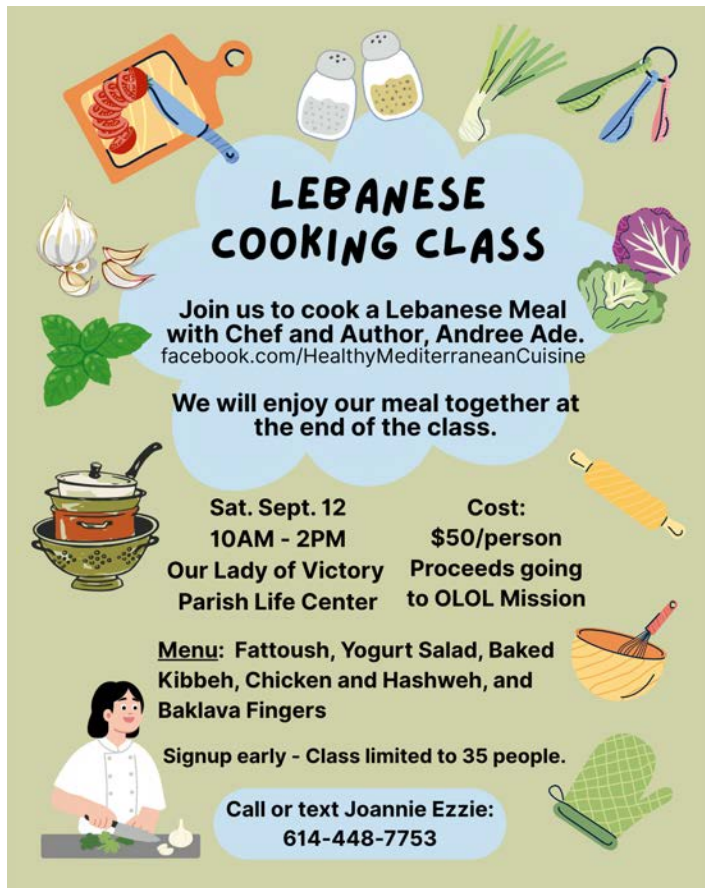


*Lancaster Gala*  
Sept. 17 at 6 p.m. at The Tree Church



*Columbus Gala*  
Sept. 24 at 6 p.m. at Villa Milano





## LEBANESE COOKING CLASS

Join us to cook a Lebanese Meal with Chef and Author, Andree Ade.  
facebook.com/HealthyMediterraneanCuisine

We will enjoy our meal together at the end of the class.

**Sat. Sept. 12**  
**10AM - 2PM**  
**Our Lady of Victory**  
**Parish Life Center**

**Cost:**  
**\$50/person**  
**Proceeds going**  
**to OLOL Mission**

**Menu:** Fattoush, Yogurt Salad, Baked Kibbeh, Chicken and Hashweh, and Baklava Fingers

Signup early - Class limited to 35 people.

Call or text Joannie Ezzie:  
**614-448-7753**

*Preserving Christianity in the Holy Land*  
**THROUGH EDUCATION**

Cradling Christianity's Annual Benefit Dinner in Support of the FRANCISCAN FOUNDATION FOR THE HOLY LAND

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MASS, RECEPTION & DINNER  
**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2026**  
Mass Begins at 5:00 PM, Reception and Dinner to Follow

**OUR LADY OF VICTORY CHURCH & PARISH HALL**  
1559 Roxbury Road | Columbus, OH 43212

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For table packages and participation levels, pricing and payment, scan the QR code or visit [FFHL.org/Regions/Columbus/RSVP](https://FFHL.org/Regions/Columbus/RSVP)



For additional inquiries, please email [CradlingChristianity@gmail.com](mailto:CradlingChristianity@gmail.com)

*Keynote Speaker*



**BISHOP A. ELIAS ZAIDAN**  
Chairperson of the USCCB Committee on International Justice & Peace

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*Honored Guest*



**FR. JOHN PUODZIUNAS**  
President of the Franciscan Foundation for the Holy Land

## CALLING ALL MEN WHO CAN HUM ALONG TO A COUNTRY SONG

### WANTED:

Men who can carry a tune (or at least carry themselves to a pew on Thursdays).

Do you sing in the shower? Congratulations — you're basically qualified. We need TENORS and BASSES for our Sunday Choir and Christmas Choir.

Here's the deal:

- You don't need to read music.
- Bases: we need your low rumble. Think "distant thunder."
- Tenors: we need you to hit the notes the bases are too proud to try.
- No robes required (yet). No auditions. No judgement.

What's in it for you?

- Eternal glory (probably)
- The deep satisfaction of harmony
- Snacks, most likely
- Bragging rights over your brother-in-law who "used to sing a little."
- A legitimate excuse to leave the house on Thursday nights.

Rehearsals start THIS THURSDAY at 6:00 p.m. Come find us at the church — use the south side door off the parking lot. Interested, curious, or just want to ask, "Wait, do I actually have to sing?"

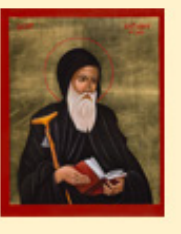
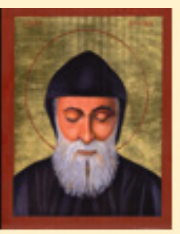
Call or text Mark at 614-352-7177. Texting is faster.

Come make some noise with us. The choir area has been asking about you.

Mark

*Blessed are all who fear the Lord,  
who walk in obedience to him.  
— Psalm 128:1*




## ANNOUNCING NEW ICONS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE

In addition to the Our Lady Icon, we have additional Icons available for purchase. Other Icons include: Jesus, Mary and Jesus together, St. Anthony the Great, St. Charbel, and St. Joseph. These Icons are beautifully crafted.

You are welcome to come to the Parish Office to see the Icons if you are interested in purchasing. The Our Lady Icon is \$100.00 and the others are \$150.00. We can accept cash or checks made payable to "Our Lady of Victory" or you can order through our church website.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 2026-2027

*Our Lady of Victory welcomes new children to our Program!*

### Important Dates & Information for the 2026-2027 School Year!

#### 2026

- September 22nd – Catechist Meeting in PLC, 6:00-9:00 p.m.
- September 27th – **First Day of Class** for PreK-5th Grades at 8:55 a.m.  
**Parent Welcome Back Gathering at 9:00 a.m.**
- September 27th – At-Home Students – **Pick up Materials at 9:15 a.m.**
- October 4th – **First Day of Class** for 6th-8th Grade at 8:55 a.m.
- October 4th – **First Communion REQUIRED Parent Meeting** at 4:30 p.m.
- October 4th – **Confirmation REQUIRED Parent Meeting** for 4th, 5th & 8th Grades at 5:15 p.m.
- November 7th – First Reconciliation (2nd Graders) 10:00 a.m. in the church
- November 8th – 8th Grade **REQUIRED** Speaker, Pam Heil, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in church
- November 15th – 4th & 5th Grade Confirmation Family Retreat & Mass, 4:00-6:00 p.m.
- December 6th – Christmas Play for PreK through 5th Grades – 9:10 a.m. in the PLC

#### 2027

- January 9th – 2nd Grade First Communion Retreat – 9:00-11:00 a.m. in the PLC
- March 6th – 8th Grade Confirmation Pilgrimage – 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- April 18th – **CONFIRMATION Rehearsal** for 4th, 5th & 8th Grades – 4:00-5:00 p.m.
- April 24th – **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION at 10:00 a.m. in the church**
- April TBD – **CONFIRMATION for 4th, 5th, & 8th Grades – TBD from the Bishop's Office (Two Mass Options)**
- April 25th – Last Day of Class Pre-K through 7th Grade

**RELIGIOUS ED REGISTRATION** – ***Registration began online on August 1.*** 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 already a registered member of our parish and it is your child's first year in our program,** please email us with all your information to be on our mailing list.

**If you are new to our parish, you need to be a REGISTERED** member of OLV for your child to attend Religious Education. Parish Registration is available online on the OLV website. Contact Krista Joseph to begin the Religious Ed Registration process if you are new to our parish and program.

**First Holy Communion Program** – It is ***required*** that your child attend 1st Grade to make their First Communion in 2nd Grade. **If your child did not attend 1st Grade, please contact Krista Joseph ASAP to arrange for your child to get caught up to receive First Holy Communion on time.**

**Confirmation** – We will be Confirming 4th, 5th, and 8th Grade students this 2026-2027 School Year. The Diocese of Columbus has NEW directives to move Confirmation to 4th Grade. See the video from Bishop Fernandes on our website with more information about this. Over the next two years, we will be confirming Grades 4 through 8 to get everyone caught up. In 2027-2028, we will confirm 4th, 7th, and 8th Grade.

If your child has missed First Holy Communion or Confirmation and would like to receive these sacraments, please contact **Krista Joseph, Director of Religious Education – [religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc](mailto:religioused@ourladyofvictory.cc)**.

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)***



**FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM**

# 5K RUN/WALK

**SUPPORTING THE SEMINARIANS**

REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 5K AT  
[HTTPS://M3SSPORTS.COM/EVENTS/JOSEPHINUM-5K/](https://m3ssports.com/events/josephinum-5k/) OR SCAN BELOW

**OCTOBER 3rd, 2026**  
**PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM**  
**7625 NORTH HIGH STREET**

Event parking provided at Crosswoods Center I office park located at 100 Crosswoods Blvd. Jessing Center parking may be used by those with small children, or mobility challenges.

**Start time: 9am**

All Participants receive a medal, race shirt, a bottle of wine or a jar of Trappist Monk Jam after the race.

Enjoy sliders and breakfast burritos for all participants after the race.

**Family rate:** Save \$5 per person when registering one time.

**REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE 5K**



PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM



**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES**  
 Neighbors Serving Neighbors  
 Since 1945

**2026 BREAKFAST WITH THE BISHOP**  
**SAVE THE DATE**

**Friday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The Renaissance Hotel Grand Ball Room

Featuring Key Note Speakers:

**Fr. Leo Patalinghug** and **Bishop Fernandes**



**PLATING GRACE**





Enjoy an exclusive evening of cooking, conversation, and dining with Fr. Leo Patalinghug on Thursday, September 10 available with select sponsorship levels.  
 Contact: [jnaporano@colscss.org](mailto:jnaporano@colscss.org)



**TOGETHER IN HOLINESS™**  
 CONFERENCE SERIES




**A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE CONFERENCE THAT INSPIRES SPOUSES AND EMPOWERS PARENTS**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2026 | 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**  
**ST. CATHARINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**COLUMBUS, OH**

## REGISTRATION

**Couple \$64 | Childcare \$5/child**

Register by August 3 to grab an Early Bird discount!

For more information or to register, visit:

**[TOGETHERINHOLINESS.ORG/COLUMBUS](https://togetherinholiness.org/columbus)**

PRESENTED BY



**Friday, September 4, 2026**

**St. Patrick Catholic Church**

**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON IS BACK FROM SUMMER BREAK!**

**SPEAKER: THE MOST REVEREND EARL K. FERNANDES, BISHOP OF COLUMBUS.** Start your Labor Day Weekend by joining us on **Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup>** at St. Patrick Church in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring Bishop Fernandes speaking on "The State of the Diocese of Columbus." The Catholic Men's Luncheon Club has operated for over 80 years in the diocese and has a long tradition of welcoming the Bishop each year to speak. This luncheon is sponsored by The Joseph Group Capital Management. If you are interested in sponsoring a luncheon, contact Dave Kilanowski at [dkilano@aol.com](mailto:dkilano@aol.com). Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and Bishop Fernandes' talk. No reservations are necessary. \$12.00 covers lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! **Our luncheon on Friday October 2, 2026 will feature a talk by Mike Gonidakis from Ohio Right to Life. Please mark your calendar to attend!**



**“There is need of only one thing. Mary has  
chosen the better part which will  
not be taken away from her.”**

(Lk 10:42)

### 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:



[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. Philip Benizi - Feast Day: August 23

St. Philip Benizi was a remarkable servant of God whose life was marked by humility, prayer, charity, and a deep love for the Church. Born in Florence, Italy, around 1233, Philip came from a respected family and received an excellent education. He initially studied medicine, but God was leading him toward a very different calling.

Philip eventually entered the Order of the Servants of Mary, commonly known as the Servites. He embraced a life of simplicity and service, devoting himself to prayer and caring for those who were suffering. His humility and wisdom quickly became evident, and he was eventually chosen to lead the order as its superior general.



Philip lived during a difficult period in the history of the Church, when there were divisions and conflicts among Christians. Rather than responding with anger or confrontation, he became known as a peacemaker. He traveled throughout Italy, encouraging people to return to faith, reconciliation, and love of God. His words and example helped bring peace to communities that were divided.

One of the most beautiful aspects of St. Philip's life was his love for the poor and forgotten. He did not seek comfort or recognition for himself. Instead, he willingly served those who were sick, hungry, and in need. He believed that serving another person was truly an opportunity to serve Christ.

Philip was also deeply devoted to the Blessed Virgin Mary. As a member of the Servite Order, his life was especially dedicated to honoring Mary and following her example of humility and obedience to God. He encouraged others to place their lives in God's hands, trusting that God's plans are greater than our own.

According to tradition, Philip was considered for the papacy, but he did not desire such an honor. He withdrew from consideration, choosing instead to remain a humble servant of God. This reveals something essential about his spirituality: Philip did not seek power or prestige. He sought only to do God's will.

St. Philip died on August 22, 1285, and his feast is celebrated on August 23. He was canonized by Pope Clement X in 1671.

The life of St. Philip Benizi reminds us that holiness does not require fame or greatness in the eyes of the world. True greatness comes from humility, compassion, prayer, and faithful service. In a world often focused on recognition and success, St. Philip shows us another path—the path of quietly serving God and others with love.

May St. Philip Benizi inspire us to become peacemakers in our families and communities, to care for those who are struggling, and to place our gifts and our lives at the service of God. Like him, may we learn to seek not our own glory, but the glory of God.



The Life of St. Philip Benizi in Art

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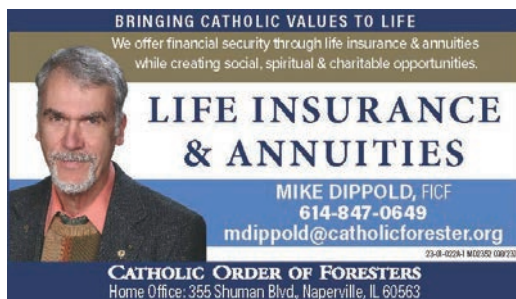


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