OUR LADY OF LOURDES CHURCH

800 Mulberry Street, Montoursville, PA 17754 570-368-8658 Fax 570-368-2912 Reverend Michael S. McCormick, Pastor Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time September 4, 2022

Our Lady of Lourdes Annual Parish Festival

September 16 & 17

Children's Games * Basket Raffle * Pumpkin Stand Wine Wheel * Cake Wheel



Friday Night: 5:00—9:00 p.m. Beef brisket sandwich, baked beans, pasta salad—\$10

Tickets available in the parish office.

Alan Foust, singer & acoustic guitar player—all styles of music

Saturday Night—5:00—9:00 p.m. Polish Night

Authentic Homemade—Pierogies, Stuffed Cabbage, Haluski, Dessert—\$12

Lenny Weber, One Man, One Guitar, One Good Time!

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From the Pastor's Desk



Counting the Cost: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Like a king making ready for battle or a contractor about to build a tower, we have to count the cost as we set out to follow Jesus.

Our Lord today is telling us up front the sacrifice it will take. His words aren't addressed to His chosen few, the Twelve, but rather to the "great crowds"—to anyone, to whoever wishes to be His disciple.

That only makes His call all the more stark and uncompromising. We are to "hate" our old lives, to renounce all the earthly things we rely upon, to choose Him above every person and possession. Again He tells us that the things we have—even our family ties and obligations—can become an excuse, an obstacle that keeps us from giving ourselves completely to Him (see Luke 9:23–26, 57–62).

Jesus brings us the saving wisdom we are promised in today's First Reading. He is that saving Wisdom.

Weighed down by many earthly concerns, the burdens of our body and its needs, we could never see beyond the things of this world; we could never detect God's heavenly design and intention. So in His mercy He sent us His Spirit, His Wisdom from on high, to make straight our path to Him.

Jesus Himself paid the price to free us from the sentence imposed on Adam, which we recall in today's Psalm (see Genesis 2:7; 2:19). No more will the work of our hands be an affliction; no more are we destined to turn back to dust.

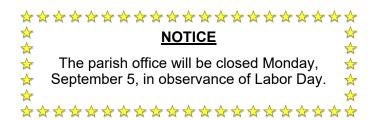
Like Onesimus in today's Epistle, we have been redeemed. We have been given a new family and a new inheritance, made children of the Father, brothers and sisters in the Lord.

We are free now to come after Him, to serve Him—no longer slaves to the ties of our past lives. In Christ, all our yesterdays have passed. We live in what the Psalm today beautifully describes as the daybreak, ready to be filled with His kindness. For He has given us wisdom of heart and taught us to number our days aright.

Yours in Christ,

Scott Hahn

Founder and President



September is dedicated to the Our Lady of Sorrows

Love Never Ends

Love Never Ends is a special ministry of support and fellowship for those who have lost a spouse. The next gathering will be held at noon on **Friday, September 23**. All are welcome.

Please contact Curt Fink at (570) 490-8230 or the Church Office at (570) 368-8598 for more information



Bible Study

Deacon Steve Frye will be leading a seven-week Bible study, beginning Wednesday, September 28, at 7:00 p.m. He will be going through the six sessions of *The Eucharist: A Bible Study for Catholics*, by Father Mitch Pacwa, as follows:

September 28: Old Testament Background

October 5: Words of Sacrifice October 12: Behold, the Lamb of God

October 19: Eat My Body, Drink My Blood

October 26: The Eucharist and Passover November 2: Christ's Priesthood and the Eucharist

Parish Faith Formation

Handbooks and registration forms were mailed to families who participated in our Parish Faith Formation Program last year. If you are new to the parish or if your child will be entering first grade in the fall, please contact Mrs. B. at 570-368-8598 or religioused@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org. If you do not receive the packet, please contact Mrs. B. as soon as possible.

Classes will begin on Sunday, October 2 at 9:00 a.m. for Grades 1-8.

First Holy Communion Parent/Child Meeting on Sunday, September 25 at 9:00 a.m. in the Parish Hall.

Volunteers needed for Children's Liturgy of the Word and Youth Masses. For more information, contact Mrs. B at 570-368-8598 or religioused@ourladyoflourdesrcc.org.

Community and Service

This Week at Our Lady of Lourdes

- ~Monday, September 5 Holy Hour ~ 6:00 p.m.
- ~Tuesday, September 6
 Mass at Embassy at Loyalsock ~ 2:00 p.m.
- ~ Friday, September 9
 Confessions ~ 5:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.
- ~Saturday, September 10

Pre-Cana Conference ~ 8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Mass Intention Book to be Opened Soon

The 2023 Mass Intention Book will be opened immediately following Mass on **Tuesday**, **September 20**.

In order that all parishioners have the opportunity to remember or memorialize their loved one on special dates we have a few guidelines:

- * Each family may schedule up to three Masses, however, there is no limit on unscheduled Masses.
- An individual may only have a Mass offered once every two weeks.
- Recently deceased parishioners might take precedence.

Attention 6-12th Graders!

The Williamsport Students for Life will hold its first meeting of the school year on **Thursday**, **September 8**, at 7:00 p.m. in the old St. Joseph School. Please join us.

Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children

Please join the Susquehanna Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life at the St. Luke Church Memorial Site, 120 Kendall Avenue, Jersey Shore, at 11:00 am on Saturday, September 10. This is a one hour program of prayers, scripture readings, and hymns. This nation-wide commemoration began in 2013 to remind us that although these tiny victims were among us for a very short time, they are God's precious little ones and deserve to be remembered. If you cannot attend, please take time on that day to pray for them and for an end to abortion.

Pennsylvania March for Life

The Pennsylvania Family Institute, along with the Susquehanna Valley Chapter of Pennsylvanians for Human Life, will be taking a bus to Harrisburg on **Monday, September 19**, for the Pennsylvania State March for Life. The bus trip is partially paid for by the PA Family Institute. The cost for each seat is only \$15.00/ person. The bus will depart from Beiter's Home Center at 8:00 a.m. and will return by approximately 4:00 p.m. There will be no stops to eat, so plan accordingly. For more information or to reserve your seat, please call Doris Bush @570-745-3502.

Ministry Corner

By Deb Steinbacher

Dr. Ray Guarendi, on his EWTN program, Living Right with Dr. Ray, recently had as his guest Marcus Grodi, a convert to Catholicism and host of EWTN's Journey Home. Mr. Grodi's topic was "the red zone." He compared our lives to a football game, where as young people we have the entire field before us. But as we age, we are looking at the red zone, the last ten to twenty yards, where we have fewer choices to make to get us to our goal. At this point in our lives, do we continue to do what we have always done, without regard to the consequences, especially in regard to the lives of innocent victims in our culture of death? Or will we choose the culture of life, taking a stand for what is right and setting the example for those who have just started toward the goal? Will we in the red zone do what we know to be true to Church teaching or stay with the status quo, without thought to the consequences of our choices, choices we must account for and which may very well keep us from the goal? Let us pray!

Immaculate Conception Labor Day Picnic

Immaculate Conception Church, 5973 Jacks Hollow Road, Williamsport, will be holding their annual Labor Day Picnic on **Monday, September 5**. All you can eat Turkey & Ham Dinner from noon-6:00 p.m. Price: \$11/Advance or \$12/at the door for adults, \$5/children(4-12). Take-outs available.

St. Boniface Parish Carnival

St. Boniface will be hosting their annual Parish Carnival **September 8-10** on the church grounds. Nightly sit-down dinners in the school gym from 4-7 p.m. all three nights, with take-outs available every night. Food on the grounds: roast beef sandwiches, hot sausage, meatball sandwiches, hot dogs, ham & cheese on pretzel roll, French fries, pizza, ice cream, drinks, and HOMEMADE PIEROGIES. Bingo and white elephant in the school gym. *Annual Raffle Drawing at 10:00 p.m.*

Church of the Resurrection Fall Festival

The Church of the Resurrection in Muncy will be holding their 23rd Annual Fall Festival Friday, September 23, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, September 24, from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. There will be live music both nights, and lots of great food! All are welcome.

Mass for Suicide Healing & Remembrance

In observance of Suicide Awareness Month, Bishop Bambera will celebrate a Mass for Suicide Healing and Remembrance. The Mass will serve to remember loved ones lost to suicide, and to promote healing for those who grieve their passing. The Mass will be held on **Sunday, September 18, 2022**, at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Peter, Scranton. All are welcome.

Worship

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, September 3

First Saturday/St. Gregory the Great 9:00 a.m. Holy Souls in Purgatory

(Romey Fagnano Family)

Vigil of the Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Dorin Family)

Sunday, September 4

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. People of the Parish 10:30 a.m. Francis Joseph Durso

4:00 p.m. Marciniak-Dorin Families

(Theresa Phillips & AnthonyPanetta)

Monday, September 5

Weekday/Labor Day

9:00 a.m. Leo G. & Kathleen Renehan (Family)

Tuesday, September 6

Weekday

9:00 a.m. Bernard Waldman

(Romey Fagnano Family)

2:00 p.m. Jerome Hendrick

(David & JoAnne Mondell)

Wednesday, September 7

Weekday

9:00 a.m. Ellen McAneny Rechter

(Teresa & Joe Moore)

Thursday, September 8

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary NO MASS

Friday, September 9

St. Peter Claver, Priest 9:00 a.m. Ed Shuhler (Sue Leisenring)

Saturday, September 10

Vigil of the Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time 4:00 p.m. George & Mary McQuillen

(Norma Stryker)

Sunday, September 11

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish 10:30 a.m. Elizabeth Hill

(John & MaryLou Fulginiti)

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5:5-12; Lk 6:6-11 Tuesday: 1 Cor 6:1-11' Ps 149:1-9; Lk 6:12-19 Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45:11-17;

Lk 6:20-26

Thursday: Mic 5:1-4a; Ps 13:6 ab, t; Mt 1:1-23 Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-27;Ps 84:3-12; Lk 6:39-42 Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116:12-18;

Lk 6:43-49

Sunday: Ex 32:7-14; Ps 51:3-19;

1 Tm 1:12-17; Lk 15:1-32

Our Lady of Sorrows, Pray for Us

Offertory Collections (Includes on-line contribution)	
8/27-28/2022	
Loose	\$ 570.00
Collection	\$ 4,286.00
Maintenance	\$ 9.00
Fuel	\$ 4.00
Votives	\$ 112.00
Religious Education	\$ 2.00
Christmas	\$ 1.00
Collection Total	\$ 5,004.00
Weekly Amount Budgeted	\$ 8,850.00
Diocesan Collections	
Care & Education of the Priests	\$ 2.00
World Mission Sunday	\$ 5.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 10.00
Human Development	\$ 1.00
Diocesan Collections	\$ 18.00

Collection Counters Schedule



September 6—Group 3—Judy DeGregorio, Barbara Gallagher, Jan Ransdorf OFFERING September 12—Group 1—Darl Simms, Mary Ann Hollenbach, Wendy Marshalek

Backpack Food Program Collection

We continue to collect 16 oz. jars of peanut butter to help support the Montoursville Area School District Backpack Program. Please help us feed the hungry. Drop off donations inside the Church entrances.

"I was hungry and you gave me food." Matthew 25:35

Sponsor of the Week Williamsport West Veterinary Hospital

We want to highlight our sponsor of the week, *Williamsport* West Veterinary Hospital. We appreciate their support, and the support of all our advertisers. Please support them as they support Our Lady of Lourdes Parish.

Prayer List for the Month of September

If you or a loved one would like to be added to our prayer list, please contact the parish office.

Frances Beechey, Theresa Brown, Dave Bonus, Joanie Campbell, Ron Clayton, Jerry Dincher, Ann Marie Dorin, Geraldine Dunn, Grant Falls, Margie Foulds, Carisa Foulds, Geraldine Hamm, Michael Hook, Mina Hoover, Charles Gries. Cliff Hales, Mary Kranz, Chuck Ligosh, Lois O'Malley, Denise Miller, Nicole Selleck, Denise Sharar, Robert Steinbacher, Sofia Steinbacher, Carl Ulsamer, Stephen Updegraff, Debbie Winterer, Christine Watts Wright.

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