



Our Lady of Sorrows Church
September 18, 2016

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

Last week's *ONE VOICE* had an article on the youth leaving the faith. The headline stated that it starts as early as age 13. If one is a parent, one needs to be concerned. It is a heart breaker for a Catholic parent when their children announce that they are getting married and it is not in the Catholic Church. The article claimed the most common time for the youth to lose the faith is between the ages of 13 and 17.

I am in close communication with our Director of Religious Education for the PSR program and insist that we teach our youth how to defend our faith to themselves and to others, who question them because they are Catholic. Imagine, 1 out of 5 of those who fall from the Catholic faith lose a belief of God at these ages! The author claims it is because, in the public schools and at the college level, they are taught a conflict between religion and science. Nothing could be further from the truth.

I would love to teach the high school students on Sunday, but I offer three Sunday liturgies. I will, however, teach two classes as a kick-off for the study of DEFENDING ONE'S FAITH (with ourselves and others). I am also writing a *God, Religion and Faith for Teens* booklet in my spare time. I need prayers. The responsibility to help the parents pass the faith on to their children scares me. It is the responsibility of the parish to help the parents, and the parent's responsibility to help the Church help the parents in this awesome task in a materialistic world.

I was given the book, 100 THINGS TEENS SHOULD KNOW (Life Teen). It has some good ideas, but it is far from adequate. One of the two reasons the youth lose their faith is the apparent conflict between religion and

science, says the author of the article in the *ONE VOICE*, and this isn't even touched in the 267 pages of "100 THINGS TEENS SHOULD KNOW", that I finally finished reading this weekend.

If you think I am wrong, read the article in the *ONE VOICE* from last week. Try my experience last month of visiting a dying Catholic parishioner and none of his four children are practicing Catholics. Or review with me a recent visit to St. Ann's Altar Guild, with about 40 members present, and when I asked how many of them had children or grandchildren who have left the faith, 37 out of 40 wonderful women raised their hands.

While the Vatican II document on Ecumenism left us with many insights and re-enforced our teaching that Protestants can be saved, it left some people with the erroneous impression that one religion is as good as another. The Papacy is so important. That's the way Christ founded the Church and only He could change it, and He didn't. Then there is the doctrine and the beauty of the Eucharist, which gives us so many other graces in our quest to be united to Jesus.

A professor and research artist from Notre Dame claimed we have 80% retention of our youth with the faith if we have three things, which I believe we have in our OLS youth ministry:

1. Weekly Catechism (knowing the why and living our faith);
2. Availability of adults who know the faith and who are not the parents of the youth with all the questions; and
3. Religious experiences (living the faith).

My two classes on Defending the Faith will be at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning on two dates to be announced in roughly four or six weeks.

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller

The Annual Priest Retreat is scheduled for September 19-22. Our Mass schedule will be adjusted as follows:

Monday, Sept. 19:

No Change

Tuesday, Sept. 20:

Communion Service at 6:30 a.m. & 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 21:

Communion Service at 6:30 a.m. & 7:30 a.m.

Thursday, Sept. 22:

Communion Service at 6:30 a.m. & 7:30 a.m.



Mass Intentions

Monday, Sept. 19	Special Intention Sp. Int. Rubye Sherman Jack Yow
Tuesday, Sept. 20	Lena Caltagirone Maggie Mancuso Danny Waters
Wednesday, Sept. 21	Special Intention Betty Elliott Rose Canzoneri
Thursday, Sept. 22	Special Intention Sp. Int. Rubye Sherman Bessie McCullough
Friday, Sept. 23	Special Intention Sp. Int. Rubye Sherman Barbara Mead
Saturday, Sept. 24	Donors to OLS School Foundation Louise Battaglia Brian Criswell
Sunday, Sept. 25	People of the Parish Hazel Cuff Zoila Rosa Rodriguez



Vita D'Amico, Mary Ann Huie, Kenneth Huie, Melanie Gilchrist, Charlie Kai Wadsworth

CHAPEL OF OUR SAVIOR

The Chapel needs permanent Committed Adorers for:

Tuesday at 1 PM (With Partner)

Tuesday at 4 PM (With Partner)

Thursday at 2 AM (With Partner) Sacrificial Hour

Thursday at 1 PM (With Partner)

Saturday at 11AM (With Partner)

Sunday at 11 AM (With Partner)

Our goal is to have at least 2 people on each hour. These are the hours needed, but do select an hour that best fits your schedule.

Please call Mary Claire Brouillette at 871-2909 or Trudy Carpri at 643-0248.

“People ask me: ‘What will convert America and save the world?’ My answer is prayer. What we need is for every parish to come before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament in Holy Hours of prayer.”

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Children’s Liturgy of the Word begins Sunday, September 25, at the 8:30 a.m. Mass. All children in grades K-6, including those in the Parish School of Religion and those attending Our Lady of Sorrows School, are invited to attend these liturgies, which have been especially prepared for them. We will gather in the main sanctuary for the Introductory Rites and be dismissed from there to process together to the Parish Hall. Older siblings and members of the family are welcome to celebrate the Lord’s Word with us. There are a number of ministries available to the children within Children’s Liturgy of the Word, including Cantors, Lectors, and Actors & Actresses for special homilies. All interested children are encouraged to participate in these ministries and to sign up with Greg Harber following the 8:30 a.m. Sunday masses, or parents may contact me via email: gharber@mindspring.com. For more information call Greg Harber, 205-251-2133 (evenings) or 205-807-8055 (cell).

Everyone is welcome to attend *Adult Education: Encounter and Evangelize* on Sunday, September 25. Our speaker will be Bob Henger, a docent at the Birmingham Art Museum. His topic will be *Discovering the History of Christian Art from the Catacombs to the Renaissance as it Relates to Selected Art Works from the Birmingham Museum of Art*. The gathering begins in the Parish Hall at 9:45 a.m. with fellowship and light refreshments and the class begins at 10 a.m. All are welcome.

**Here's the Scoop
on MID Youth Group!**

Sept. 18: Join us from 7-8:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center for dinner followed by Prayer & Pops. We will pray the Rosary as we walk to Steel City Pops for a sweet treat! Gaga to follow as time allows.

Our numbers are growing so we are in need of people with a heart of service! If you are interested in a unique opportunity to serve Christ through Youth Ministry, please contact carol@olsyouth.com.

**What's Goin on
In High School Youth Group?**

Sept. 18: Faith Formation at 10 a.m.: Learning with Catholic author/speaker Matthew Kelly's video series, Decision Point!

Youth Group at 7 p.m.: A Life Night on the Counterfeits of God's Love. Join us for a free meal, Catholic teachings, games, and more!

EVERY Wednesday at 7 p.m.: "Pizza and Prayer" dinner, Scripture, Open Gym, and more! Come anytime you are available – it is never too late to join!

Find more info. on www.olsyouth.com.

The Elementary Children's Ministry invites all OLS Parish 1st – 5th graders for a fun game of *Nacho Granny's BINGO* on Friday, September 23, from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Please join us for a night of fun, fellowship, faith enrichment, and fabulous prizes to be won. Dinner (nachos) will be served for all participants and their families. Younger siblings are welcome, but must be under the supervision of parents. This is not a drop-off event. A parent must be present with their children or carpool group. Please RSVP with Chi Ranieri at ECM@ourladyofsorrows.com.

V.I.P. will hold its first gathering on **Tuesday, September 27, which will replace the October meeting**. Mass will begin at 11 a.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by lunch and bingo. Please join us for faith, fellowship and fun.



The Knights of Columbus are holding a Blood Drive this Sunday in the Parish Hall. They are cooking a hot breakfast for all donors and their families. The American Red Cross continues to face shortages of the most needed blood types. We hope to see you there.

The Fall 40 Days for Life Campaign will be held on September 28 - November 6. Please come pray with us to permanently close PP, protection for the unborn, and help for women in crisis pregnancies. Go to register at 40daysforlife.com/Birmingham to be a part of this very important outreach.

ALPHA Church Supply & Gifts is looking for a retail sales clerk. If you are interested, please contact Danny Bostany at 942-5750.