



Our Lady of Sorrows Church

October 18, 2020

From the Pastor's Desk

My Dear People:

R.C.I.A. Class has as its main purpose to bring people closer to Jesus. Some finish the 20 classes and have learned enough to become a Catholic; others finish and get closer to Christ and do not become a Catholic, but have learned why Catholics are Catholic.

Salvation History is covered, along with the other topics: the Mass, which we call the Holy Sacrifice, the seven sacraments, the Bible as the Word of God, the defined teachings of the church, the Papacy, and the Church as a visible society. We study the Last Things after time on this earth, and Who Jesus Christ is to me personally, and the Commandments.

The following is a sample on a teaching on what it means to be a loving person:

Loving God by loving our neighbor means seven different things. Here is only one of the seven:

- Love means putting a magnifying glass to a person's good qualities (that's the way God sees us and that's the way we are to see others). It really means **ENCOURAGING OTHERS**. This aspect of charity is poorly practiced and seldom preached about. One spiritual writer encouraged husbands and wives to pay each other at least one compliment a day. Parents need to encourage their children and children need reminders to encourage their parents.

Our charity does not stop with our families, but reaches out to God's family, those we see at work and in the social arena.

Practicing our faith is the most important aspect of the sessions on Monday nights. Though the doctrines and practices of the faith are covered, so, too, is the great importance of increasing our relationship with God. This is the reason I say that if you finish all 20 sessions and get closer to God, we have not wasted our time, whether one becomes a Catholic or not.

The date of the first session is October 26th at 6 p.m., starting with a boxed dinner. Since we have no idea how many are coming, we will be prepared for social distancing in the seating. Small groups will be "online," and even classes, if there are very few signing up, might be the same way. There must be, and there has to be, those Catholics and non-Catholics who have questions about the faith, and these will be answered, especially with Question and Answer sessions.

There are so many misunderstandings about the Catholic faith and things we have forgotten, which can be refreshed. Everyone is welcome. The Parish Hall is "ionized" and purified to the nth degree. **PLEASE COME!!**

With prayers and blessings,
Father Muller



John Coleman, Amanda Gagliano, Bob Doyle, Donald Taccone, Elizabeth Ann Ricco, John James Ricco, Ellen Scalise, Tim Carlisle, Tom James, Mike Skellie, Harriet Dupree, Alan Pizzitola, Kenny Skellie



Mass Intentions

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| Monday, Oct. 19 | Lee Maniscalco Lena Lucia Ethel Mischel |
| Tuesday, Oct. 20 | Special Intention Mary Claire Brouillette Sp. Int. Tommy Lamarque |
| Wednesday, Oct. 21 | Special Intention Jude Tombrello Walter Cooney |
| Thursday, Oct. 22 | Special Intention Clara & Bertoldo Baquiran The Milazzo/Brooklere Families |
| Friday, Oct. 23 | Special Intention Genie Tallon Ethel Mischel |
| Saturday, Oct. 24 | Donors to OLS School Foundation Debra Robinson Jude Tombrello |
| Sunday, Oct. 25 | People of the Parish Gus, Lilly & Joe Stephens Lee Maniscalco |

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

A training schedule has been set up for altar servers who are in the 4th grade and higher. Only 4 new altar servers will be trained during any training session. In order to be scheduled for training log into "Sign-up Genius" and enter kentgraeve@gmail.com. For questions or additional information call 205-999-3474.

What's Going on in Youth Ministry?

Sunday, Nov. 1: OLS Edge and LifeTeen are attending a special prayer vigil to end racism and racial injustice at Our Lady of the Valley from 3-5 p.m. Families are welcome to attend and are encouraged to meet us there. Masks and social distancing required.

Parents are encouraged to sign up to help with meals and praying for our youth ministry this semester. Please check your email for the SignUp Genius!

For complete calendars, check out www.olsyouth.com.

Life Teen High School

Wednesday, October 14: Wednesdays are back! Are you feeling stressed or anxious? We are diving into Fr. Jacques Philippe's book *Searching for and Maintaining Peace*. Books and dinner provided. You can join us in person for pizza and talk or participate from home on Zoom

Sunday, Oct. 18: Dinner, games, and "Connect" small groups will continue tonight! We are studying Luke 15 and the Prodigal Son. The goal of this session is to help teenagers understand the "ordinary" ways that God the Father loves us and challenge them to ask God for good things, trust that they will receive them, and understand that they are never forgotten by God, even in moments they fear they are.

Edge Middle School

Sunday, Oct. 18: Join us for "fandom" where we will see evidence that Jesus is God and be inspired to follow Him. Bring a chair and wear a mask. Dinner will be served at 7 p.m. and pickup is at 8:30 p.m.

Food for Our Journey update:

Once again, we would like to thank OLS for their continued support of our food drive. We are grateful to Fr. Muller for allowing us to continue our food drive every week. I cannot stress enough how vital your donations are to help us to serve our homeless community. We are in need of a few specific things over the coming week. **With the weather getting colder and wetter, we need ponchos, gloves, warm hats, and scarves.** We appreciate and continue to welcome your donations of sandwiches, soft fruits, snacks and water. Thank you,
Christine Golab - Assistant Executive Director

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is now having LIVE ONLINE Weekend Experiences! Learn to become the best version of yourselves together! Alabama's next VIRTUAL Weekend is October 23-25 on Zoom Meeting. You can find more information or register online at www.wwme.org or by calling Barney & Kathy Bellard at 205-530-3607.

**Her Choice
Birmingham Women's Center
Invites You to Join their
Heroic Love Campaign and
Virtual Fundraising Event
Thursday, October 22nd at 7 p.m.
HerChoiceBirmingham.org/HeroicLove**

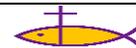
This year, in place of our traditional banquet, we invite you to join us online for an inspiring Gospel of Life Event. Our staff, volunteers, and clients, over the past year and throughout the Pandemic, have demonstrated heroic love through their presence. We have seen 90 abortion minded mothers choose life and 350 births overall. We have also continued ongoing support of mothers and rendered post abortion healing. Please go to HerChoiceBirmingham.org/HeroicLove to learn more, donate and invite others to participate. Call 205-447-8796.

The Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for the Catholic Center of Concern will begin November 1. The Immaculate Heart of Mary Guild will provide grocery bags with a list of needed items. Be on the lookout for those bags, and please consider donating much needed groceries for those in need.

Ladies,

As we all struggle with Covid and evil things, like abortion and corruption in our government, we find ourselves stressed out, afraid, and worried about many things, and we are struggling to keep our heads above the waters of discouragement. We may feel very alone and concerned about the future. There is one person who already knows about all these things happening. He created you and me and loves us so much and knew about what our future would be in the year 2020 (Psalm 139). Jesus came to earth, taught and healed us. He died, rose, and ascended back to heaven, leaving his Holy Spirit for all of us as he saved us from our sins but also from our worries and fears. Join us in Bible study and fellowship, reading and learning to live as He teaches. We have learned how to have peace and hope through his WORD and encourage one another. Call Mary Ann Graeve 205-908-2728 for any questions and to sign up. We meet on Tuesday from 10 a.m.-12 noon in the Family Life Center. It doesn't matter if you've never even read the Bible; you will learn.

"Come unto me all you who are burdened, and I will give you rest says the lord."



PRAY FOR VOCATIONS

God has called you by your name. You are a child of God. Are you aware of your strength in God? (Isaiah 45:1, 4-6)

For those who serve in civil and religious leadership, may they act and speak with integrity.