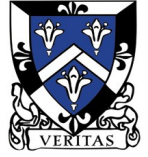




St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 5, 2014, 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Pastor's Corner

May is the month of the Blessed Mother, but October is the month of the Rosary. October 7 is now officially the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary; the first Sunday of October used to be celebrated everywhere as “Rosary Sunday.”

The Rosary is truly a prayer for everyone—simple enough for children but mined with contemplative riches for those who persevere in praying it over much time. But the Rosary isn't appreciated by everyone; in fact, it is appreciated by very few. Many complain that it's boring. Others, that it puts them to sleep (I fail to see what's so bad about that). Others—our Protestant brothers and sisters—object that it's unscriptural or perhaps even *anti*-scriptural with its “heaping up vain repetitions.” The thing to remember about the Rosary is that it's mysterious. For it's real prayer. And real prayer is mysterious, and, obviously, difficult. And perhaps seems boring—it would never seem boring if we were fully mindful of what we were doing, and to whom we were speaking.

The Rosary is without question a scriptural prayer—it's composed of Our Fathers, Hail Marys, and Glory Bes. The Our Father is how Jesus taught his disciples to pray, so we're okay there. The Glory Be expresses praise to the Triune God revealed by the Lord, so that can't possibly be objectionable for Christians.

What seems problematic for some people is the Hail Mary itself—and indeed any prayers addressed to the Blessed Virgin Mary or other saints. And the repetition.

Let's think about the words that are actually addressed to Mary. The first half of the Hail Mary is a blending of two different passages from the Gospel of Luke—Gabriel's greeting to Mary (*Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee!*) and Elizabeth's (*Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb.*) And since Gabriel was not speaking in his own voice but simply bringing God's message to Mary, his words are in fact *God's* words to Mary. Elizabeth speaks her greeting under the combined influence of the Son and Spirit: the Holy Spirit quickening her own Son within her and the proximity of the Incarnate Son in Mary's womb. The 2nd half of the Hail Mary is supplied by the Church: *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death.* Doesn't Jesus give his mother to the beloved disciple to be his mother as well? Well then, from beginning to end, the Hail Mary is Biblical: either woven from the very words of Scripture (first part) or in obedience to the command of the Lord, asking Mary's motherly help—for all who are beloved disciples of Jesus can call on her as mother.

It's hard to see how any Christian could object to the

Hail Mary. We speak the words of the angel and Elizabeth; we ask her to pray for us. No words of adoration are addressed to her; we do not ask her to forgive us our sins (only God can forgive sin); we do not in any way place her as a rival to God. Mary is a creature, the same as the rest of the human race. Her humanity is perfect and robust, stronger, more sensitive and flexible than ours, however, because hers does not suffer from the sclerosis of sin. When we pray to Mary (or any of the saints, or angels), we do not treat them as if they were the ultimate source of any good thing: we ask them to pray for us and our loved ones, and also praise them for persevering in the gifts given them by God. That's all. To regard them as good *independent* of God and celebrate their goodness in that way would be a serious error and sin. But we as Catholics don't do that, and never have. The uncreated, Triune God is the only source of all good and all holiness—the holiness of Mary and the saints is a reflected light. We praise the saints all the same, and in doing so, praise the giver of their virtues and blessedness.

As for repetition in prayer—well, if practice makes perfect, then repetition in prayer might just be what's required for praying aright. Jesus doesn't say we should never repeat prayers. He says the opposite: his parables on prayer imply we are to pray constantly. What Jesus actually says is that we are not to heap up empty phrases, as the Gentiles do—for they think they will be heard by their many words. The point in repeating the prayers of the Rosary (or any prayers) is not to impress God with how long we go at it but so that the *asceticism* of prayer might form us to know just who it is we're speaking to, what we're asking of him, and how unworthy we are. That takes time—a lot of time for us complacent and self-satisfied ignoramuses. But repeated prayers, so long as they're not used as some sort of weapon to beat things out of God, are meant to have a transforming effect on mind and heart: we are to make those words *our own*, become conformed to them, rather than speak our own words to God and expect him to conform to them! When we speak to our peers, our words should conform to what's in our mind; the reverse is true when we speak to God. We take his words (or the Church's) and strive to appropriate them for ourselves, let them take hold of us. If said in faith, our minds and hearts should be changed in accordance with the words we take up. And that's very Marian and Rosaryish when you think of it: “let it be done to me according to your word.” The Rosary is good prayer for us all.

Oremus pro invicem. —Fr. Peter



St. Thomas Aquinas Church

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MASS INTENTIONS

Sun, Oct 5	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm	Bob & Bette Mattingly (+)
7:00am	Eleanor Teeters (+)
9:00am	John Thomas Hanifan (+)
11:00am	Tim Young (+)
Mon, Oct 6	
8:00am	People of the Parish
Noon	Bob & Bette Mattingly (+)
Tue, Oct 7	Our Lady of the Rosary (F)
8:00am	Michael & Catherine Musselman & Family
Wed, Oct 8	
8:00am	Floyd Denton (+)
Noon	Carl & Marguerite Conrath & Family
Thu, Oct 9	St. Louis Bertrand, O.P., priest (M)
8:00am	Mary & Bill Reilly (+)
Fri, Oct 10	
8:00am	Beverly McLoughlin (+)
Noon	Ronald & Rose Marie Bates
Sat, Oct 11	
9:00am	Dick Andrews (+)
Sun, Oct 12	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time
5:00pm	Charles & Leota Schaumleffel (+)
7:00am	Leo Burkhart (+)
9:00am	People of the Parish
11:00am	Fr. Luke Turon, O.P. (+)

(Incense will not be used at 7:00am Masses; it may be used at other Sunday Masses, as well as evening Masses on Holy Days of Obligation.)

2nd Collection

This weekend: St. Vincent de Paul Society
Oct 19: Society for the Propagation of the Faith

Parish Finance

Week of September 29, 2014

Envelopes (254).....	\$7,312.00
Loose.....	832.06
Total	8,144.06
Weekly Budget.....	11,538.00
Deficit ..	3,393.94

Thank you!

Please pray for the home-bound of the parish:

Margaret Gladys Abbott, Maxine Anders, William & Jan Barry, Josephine Basalla, Mary Battiger, Dorothy Beaver, Gertrude Bell, Ed Bowman, Madelyn Bronkar. Mathilda Clark, Mary Cowden, Michael Curtis, Ernestine Daily, Jeanne Dittmar, Ralph Dosch, Paul & Marcy DuBeck, Betty Fedor, Jenni Finnen, Claude & Beverly Foley, Marcia Fulk, Isabel Gilchrist, Mary Ellen Grafton, Nancy Hamler, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hartnett, Florence Herbert, Gabrielle Hinkle, Patricia Huck, Mary Imlay, Mary Carolyn Johnson, Eileen Johnston, Henry Long, David Macenko, Farida Mach, Josephine Marshall, Alice McGonagle, Betty Mercer, Michael Overstreet, Loretta Paynter, Patricia Perrone, Glenna Pfeifer, Alice Pitcock, Mary Polascak, Mary Postlewaite, George and Barb Ridenour, Barbara Schumacher, Charles & Mary Lou Scott, Loretta Sfliko, Theresa Tracey, Teresa Woods, Terri Woods

Please pray for our recently deceased:

Ronald J. Frame (d. September 29)
Requiescat in pace.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Oct 5

10:00 a.m. CCD (School)
Coffee and doughnuts after 9:00 and 11:00 (Rosary Hall)

Monday, Oct 6

6:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
7:00 p.m. Children of God prayer group (Parish ctr.)

Tuesday, Oct 7

6:00 p.m. Rosary for Life (Church)
7:00 p.m. R. C. I. A. (Rosary Hall)

Wednesday, Oct 8

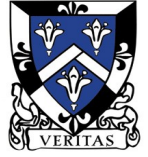
Thursday, Oct 9

6:00 p.m. Rosary Altar Meeting (Rosary Hall)



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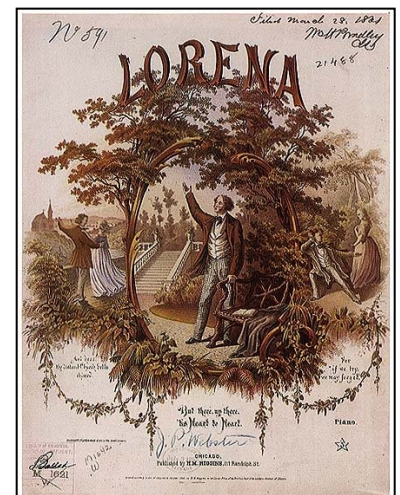


A History of St. Thomas Aquinas Church Part XVIII – A Nation Divided

It is easy to look at the history of St. Thomas and the preceding Catholic churches here in Zanesville within the confines of a narrow lens, but parishioners of St. Thomas were very much involved in the history of the United States. War broke out between brothers and kinsmen in the Civil War. On April 12, 1861 Confederate warships bombarded Union soldiers at Fort Sumter, South Carolina, and as remote as Zanesville may seem from the rest of the world, parishioners stepped forward as they have in every age to defend and support our country. Governor William Dennison ordered the establishment of a post to train Ohio volunteers in response to President Abraham Lincoln's call for seventy-five thousand volunteers to put down the southern rebellion. Ohio communities were encouraged to send volunteers to Columbus and to establish additional camps in order to speed the processing and training of Ohio's military forces. Camp Goddard was established in Zanesville and the first barracks were completed May 15, 1861. By May 17, approximately two thousand men had arrived.

Around the campfires of both the North and South, *Lorena* was a favorite song which reminded the soldiers of their homes far away. While St. Thomas was being built, parishioners had met in the Blocksom Building. The song was actually written about a member of the Blocksom family. The Blocksoms attended the Universalist Church in Zanesville, and their minister was Henry D. L. Webster, who was deeply in love in Ella, the youngest daughter of one branch of the family. She was under the guardianship of her sister and brother-in-law because her parents were deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Blandy did not approve of the match, and Rev. Webster soon resigned his pastorate. In an effort to heal the grief of his unrequited love, he wrote the poem about Ella, but borrowing from Edgar Allan Poe's *Lenore*, the subject of his affection became Lorena. The music was written by Joseph Philbrick Webster and it was published in Chicago in 1857. In a section of Mt. Calvary Cemetery is an area reserved for members of the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) and resting in that section are: John Tomkins, Colonel J. P. Mooney and Michael Berry, veterans of the conflict.

The history of St. Thomas Aquinas Church reads like a litany of redecorations, repairs and improvements. When the church was about 25 years old it was redecorated. The Civil War had ended April 9, 1865 with Robert E. Lee's surrender to Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Courthouse. Spirits were high when on Christmas Day 1865 the parish celebrated the grand reopening with great ceremony. Mozart's *Twelfth Mass* was sung by a choir of thirty voices with organ and orchestra accompanying for the first performance of the work in Zanesville. This took place at the five o'clock Mass, and at that time great admiration was expressed for the new beautifications and frescoes. During the following decade, the ladies sponsored another series of benefit suppers to pay for the improvements that had been made to the Church.





St. Thomas Aquinas Church

October 5, 2014, 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time



Parish Life

IMPORTANT DATE FOR PARENTS

Confirmation The Confirmation meeting for Parents that was originally scheduled for Monday September 15th was rescheduled and will be held on Sunday October 5th following the 11 a.m. Mass. The meeting will be held in the Parish Center and will be brief. If you have any questions please call Melanie Von Gunten at 453-3301, extension 15.

ADULT EDUCATION/RCIA has started, and talks are open to any parishioners who wish to attend. Talks will take place in Rosary Hall on Tuesday nights at 7:00 p.m. Bring a Bible and a copy of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* (or some adaptation thereof—we're using the US Bishops Conference Catechism for Adults). This week's topic: the Triune God.

Rosecrans Booster Mania

Booster Mania Tickets may still be purchased for the next year. First drawing is January the 1st, 2015. Makes a good gift for anyone and is good for a whole year. Please call Marvin Paul at (740) 453-4482 for more details. Congratulations to our recent winners, Carolyn Arnold, John Gilchrist, Laura Natalie, Dan Durant, Diana Dunn, Charlie White, Bob Miller, Bob & Shirley Neal, Linda Beader, Bill & Kim Moyer, Dolores Montgomery, David & Lynda Sutton, Lori Moyer, Cletus & Sophie Schoeppner, Sam Palleschi, and Bonnie Bendure.

America Needs Fatima

Rosary Rally 2014! Join us for our 7th Annual Rosary Rally in celebration of Our Lady of Fatima's miracle at Portugal. The rally will be held Saturday, October 11th, 2014 at 12 Noon in front of the Musk. Co. Court House, 401 Main St., Zanesville. For more details you may contact Patty Schmutz at (740) 452-3369, Coach Paul Nestor at (740) 450-4503 or Margaret Kronenbitter at (740) 221-0813.

Varia

Life Chain The 13th Annual National Prayer Chain to raise public awareness and to lift our prayers to God to end abortion will be held **this Sunday, October 5th from 2:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.** We will line the streets of Maple Avenue. Parking and sign-pick up at Dr. Kevin Colopy's parking lot (across from Taco Bell). Please come and publicly pray with us for life, while we still have the freedom to do so. If unable to stand for that length of time, feel free to bring a lawn chair. Life Chain is a national pro-life event and is sponsored locally by Muskingum Valley Right to Life. Please feel free to call Helen at (740) 454-7529 or Bernie at (740) 454-1882. Please join us for an hour of prayer.

The Youth Group will be participating in Life Chain (see above). Students will travel to Tom's Ice Cream immediately following the event. Permission slips are required for any students who need transportation to Tom's. The Youth Ministry Program will also be providing breakfast after the 7:30, 9:30 and 11:30 a.m. Masses on Sunday, October 12th in the St. Nicholas Church Basement. All are welcome! Proceeds help fund our youth ministry program. Please come out and support our youth.

Special Thanks

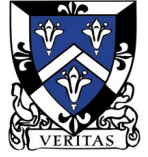
A special thanks from Patty Boggs and the Youth Group to all the adults and students for their help in Neighbor Helping Neighbor.

Thank you and God Bless you all for your prayers with love. Leo & Ann Colopy.



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Catholic Community News & Events

SOUPer Bowl Benefit Luncheon

18th SOUPer BOWL Benefit Luncheon on Sunday, October 19th, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at Muskingum County Center for Seniors, 200 Sunrise Center Dr., Zanesville. Adults tickets are \$5 in advance & \$6 at the door. Children 12 and under \$4. Tickets will be available at the Center for Seniors. "A Simple Meal to Meet Basic Needs". Proceeds benefit: Eastside Community Ministry, Fellowship of Christ's Community, Christ's Table, Salvation Army and the Muskingum Co. Center for Seniors.

Rosary Altar Society Auction The annual Christmas auction sponsored by the Rosary Altar Society will be held on Sunday, November 9th, 2014 beginning at 12:30 p.m. in the Activity Center. We are in need of those craft items, monetary donations as well. We will have Theme Baskets and much more. More information will follow in upcoming bulletins or you may call Lori Gnau or the Parish Office. A planning meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 9th, at 6:00 p.m. in Rosary Hall.

Diocesan Family Rosary Day will be celebrated this year on Sunday, Oct 12, at 3:00 p.m. at Saint Joseph's Cathedral. Bishop Frederick Campbell will preside. Success for this celebration requires your prayers, but also your material support. Please consider making a donation of \$20 or more. All contributors will be named in the Family Rosary Day program booklet. Printing deadline is Sep 19, so please respond by then to have your name included. Checks should be made out to Diocese of Columbus, and all donations should be sent to: Family Rosary Day, 198 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43215.

—Deacon Thomas M. Berg, Jr., Chancellor of the Diocese

Help Wanted

Bookkeeper/Secretary for St. Ann/St. Mary's. Currently the position is 8 hours per week and is divided into two days. If interested contact Victoria Beale, Esq. at victoria@bealelawoffice.com or (740) 828-0008 or Father Don Franks at fatherdonfranks@gmail.com or the parish office at (740) 754.2221.

Around the Diocese

The 8th annual Diocesan Marian Dinner will be Wednesday, October 8, at 6:00 p.m., at the Bryce Eck Center at St. Andrew's, 3880 Reed Road, Columbus. Come for an evening of prayer, friendship, learning, and discerning about vocations for women. Presentations will be given by Bishop Frederick F. Campbell and Sr. Eileen Fitzsimmons, O. Carm. To register or get more information, call (614) 224-2251.

Catholic Men's Luncheon Club

The October session of the Catholic Men's Luncheon Club will feature a special address by Bishop Frederick F. Campbell. This event will be held on Friday, October 10th. Join us for this special opportunity at St. Patrick's Church in downtown Columbus. Mass begins at 11:45 am followed by lunch and Bishop Campbell's address until 1:00 pm. No reservations necessary. \$10 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! For information on the many activities of Columbus Catholic Men, go to ColumbusCatholicMen.com or contact John Schechter, CMLC President at jschechter@sbcglobal.net

The Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

will be having their 69th annual convention on Saturday, October 25, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church in Grove City (3720 Broadway). The theme of this year's convention is "Blessed are the Poor," and speakers include Valerie Horton, Maggie Weeks, Brooke Gaberle, and Bishop Frederick F. Campbell. Registration fee is \$30; fee for the Pre-convention dinner is an additional \$20. Registration forms available online at dccw.colsdioc.org. Questions can be addressed to the DCCW office at (614) 228-8601 or by email at dccwmailbox@colsdioc.org. *Reservation deadline is October 1.*