

ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

200 Front Street, Pierce City, MO 65723

October 31, 2021 - Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

St. Mary's Catholic Church

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St. Mary's Catholic School

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SCHEDULE OF MASSES FOR OCTOBER 30 - NOVEMBER 7

ST. MARY'S

Saturday	4:00 p.m.	+Maury McDunner
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary' Parish Family
Monday	8:15 a.m.	Special Intention
Wednesday	8:15 a.m.	Justice & Peace
	7:30 p.m.	+Deceased Members of the Knights of Columbus
Friday	8:15 a.m.	+Bill Wegner
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	St. Mary's Parish Family

ST. AGNES

Tues.	8:30 a.m.
Thurs.	8:30 a.m.
Sun.	10:30 a.m.

EVENTS OF THE WEEK:

Monday, November 1

Tuesday, November 2

Wednesday, November 3

Thursday, November 4

Sunday, November 7

All Saints Day Mass at St. Mary's at 9:00 a.m.

All Souls Day

PSR/CCD Classes will Begin at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7:15 p.m.

7:30 p.m. Mass

Knights of Columbus Meeting at 8:00 p.m. in the C.R.

Memorial of Saint Charles Borromeo, Bishop

Daylight Savings Time Ends

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Monday, November 8

Tuesday, November 9

Wednesday, November 10

Thursday, November 11

Friday, November 12

Saturday, November 13

8:15 a.m. Rosary and Communion Service

Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Memorial of Saint Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor of the Church

8:15 a.m. Mass

PSR/CCD Classes will Begin at 6:15 p.m. and end at 7:15 p.m.

6:30 p.m. Mass

St. Mary's Parish Council Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the C.R.

Memorial of Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

Memorial of Saint Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr

8:15 a.m. Mass

Memorial of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, Virgin

OUR GIFT TO GOD LAST WEEK: Collection Counters in November: Joe & Denise Crowell

Our weekly budget is \$7,800.00

Last Week's Collection: \$ 3544.00

TUCKPOINTING PROJECT: To date our parish has \$24,638.00 toward our \$65,000.00 goal. Thank you! If you have not yet made your pledge, please add your gift, whatever the amount, in unity with those who have already given by mailing or putting your pledge in the collection marked tuckpointing. We are still short \$ 40,362.00 of meeting our goal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS Ester Miller, Charlotte Sloan, Andrea Kristek, and all the sick and shut-ins of our parish.

ROSARY: The Rosary is said Tuesday-Friday every day at **1:00 p.m.** Everyone is welcome to come. Also if you are within 1 mile of the church you can listen to it on the radio station 88.1FM. Please call the parish office and let us know if there is a better time of day for you to join us in praying the Rosary.

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE: During the first couple of weeks of November we will be doing a Food Drive for the needy of our area. Please bring non perishable items and put them in the back of church. The last day to bring food will be Sunday, November 14th.

ST. LAWRENCE is having their Fall Feast November 7th from 11-2. There is a flyer on the bulletin board in the back of church.

TURKEY DINNER & SILENT AUCTION: Sacred Heart Church of Webb City is having a turkey (carry out) dinner and silent auction on Nov. 6th & 7th. For more information see the flyer on the bulletin board

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK:

We are scheduling the Book Fair to come to our school the week after Thanksgiving break, which is November 30th thru December 3rd. We will then have a special event on Sunday, December 5th. Join us for Breakfast with Santa! After Mass, we will have breakfast made by the Knights of Columbus, craft tables, pictures with Santa, and the Book Fair. Mark it on your calendar now so that you can get your kiddos in here for their visit with Santa and to shop the Book Fair.

Scrip Program - Don't forget about the Scrip Cards! When you are shopping you are spending money already. Please consider buying a Scrip Card before you go. By doing this you are able to raise a little money for H&S and a little for where you would like it to go (the school, or a student's tuition). If you have any questions please contact the office and ask.

APPOINTMENTS

If you are unable to make your appointment, please find a replacement

Saturday, November 6 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski
Ushers: Michael Abramovitz, Terrance Campbell

Sunday, November 7 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Barbara Glouse, Cody Washam
Ushers: Dereck Washam, Rick Washam

Saturday, November 13 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller
Ushers: Larry Carver, Leonard Fenske

Sunday, November 14 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Mary Abramovitz, Michael Myers
Ushers: Ralph Abramovitz, Jim Barchak

Saturday, November 20 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Beverly Miller, Madeline Ceselski
Ushers: Larry Gasser, Doug Witt

Sunday, November 21 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Rachelle Brown, Jennifer Eaton
Ushers: Darren Brown, Dustin Avondet

Saturday, November 27 4:00 p.m. Mass

Readers: Madeline Ceselski, Beverly Miller
Ushers: Tom Cahalan, Tommy Cahalan

Sunday, November 28 8:30 a.m. Mass

Readers: Joe & Denise Crowell
Ushers: Ian Brottlund, Jim Conley

What is the purpose of church choir?

The church choir is important not only because it **sings worship songs**, it is most important because it **Leads the congregation to sing worship songs**. It invites other church members into singing.

My questions to you are this: Did you miss the music and singing during the pandemic when it was not allowed? Did it feel as if something was missing at Mass? Did you feel like you did not go away with the same contentment of spending time with God when you went home from a Mass with silent spots that did not have any singing? I know for myself the answers are all YES!! I definitely could feel the difference in a mass without music.

The regular number in the choir has dwindled down to 7. The choir and organist at St Mary's are inviting you to join us to sing. We need anyone in the church with the love or need for singing to join us. We do not expect anyone to be a professional or even consider themselves good, you just need to have the love of praising God in song and helping lead our congregation to worship God. The more voices, the more we all blend together and the better we sound. Young, old, Moms, Dads, Kids, Grannies, Grandads..... make it a family affair. We are all better together. We are not asking for a weekly commitment or endless practices. Just join us in singing praise when you are at Mass at St Mary's. We also, need anyone that would like to play the organ or can already play. There is a very limited number of church members talented enough to play it. If you are interested, PLEASE call Rhonda Forgey at 417-476-2336.

If you feel you might be interested, please join us now to create a beautiful worship of our Lord for the Christmas season and see if it is something you will enjoy doing year-round. We will begin practicing for Advent and Christmas choir in a couple of weeks. It will be on Tuesday nights for a few weeks until Christmas. We do seasonal practices again prior to Lent and Easter. These are the only times through the year that we practice other than special events such as Confirmation, First Communion etc.

Singing **helps us to remember God's word**. If the Word of Christ is to dwell in us deeply, we have to remember it. Singing helps us to respond to God's grace. Music is an emotional language. Singing helps us to reflect God's glory. The glory God receives through our songs actually goes beyond the words we sing. Singing has always played an **important part** in Christian worship. Jesus himself sang a hymn with the disciples at the Last Supper (Matthew 26:30). All told, the Bible contains over four hundred **references to singing** and fifty direct commands to sing. In the New Testament we're commanded not once, but twice, to sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to one another when we meet....**Ephesians 5:19** ... speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the LORD**Corinthians 3:16** Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.**Psalms 100:1-2** - Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. **Psalms 95:1-2** - O come, let us sing unto the LORD: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. **Psalms 13:6** I will sing the LORD 's praise, for he has been good to me.

Please pray about it and see if God calls you to come upstairs and join us. Thank you for considering.

From a Choir Member, a mediocre singer, that reluctantly joined the choir a few years ago because a dear friend convinced me to and I found that I am enriched from it even though I never expected to be.

31st Sunday of Ordinary Time

Deuteronomy 6:2-6
Ps 18:2-4, 47, 51
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28b-34

Monday November 1 All Saints Day

Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14
Ps 24:1b-2, 3-4ab, 5-6
1 John 3:1-3
Matthew 5:1-12a

Tuesday November 2 All Souls Day

Wisdom 3:1-9
Romans 5:5-11
or Romans 6:3-9
John 6:37-40

Wednesday November 3

Romans 13:8-10
Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9
Luke 14:25-33

Thursday November 4 St. Charles Borromeo

Romans 14:7-12
Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14
Luke 15:1-10

Friday November 5

Romans 15:14-21
Ps 98:1-4
Luke 16:1-8

Saturday November 6

Romans 16:3-9, 16, 22-27
Ps 145:2-5, 10-11
Luke 16:9-15

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus asserted the two greatest commands of the Law, quoting from the ancient Hebrew scriptures, which we have in the first reading. And the second reading, from the New Testament letter to the Hebrews, explains how the Law of Love supersedes or fulfills all other laws. Jesus, who loved perfectly and never sinned against anyone, sacrificed himself for sinners. Therefore, we who want to follow him to heaven need to follow in his footsteps of love, by loving God and everyone else whole-heartedly.

Try as we might, though, we love imperfectly; we sin. The best penance, then, is an act of love, especially if it's a sacrifice offered to (or for) those who were harmed by our sin. But the damage we've caused has a ripple effect that goes far beyond anything we can see. This is remedied in the Catholic Church's Sacrament of Reconciliation. Jesus -- through the priest -- ac-

cepts our remorse and absolves our sins, while the entire earthly Body of Christ (the Church) -- through the priest -- accepts our penances for the earthly damage that our sins have caused.

Penance is not only an act of love, it's designed to strengthen our resolve to choose love when tempted to sin again. If the priest gives us an easy penance (for

example, "Say the Lord's Prayer and three Hail Marys"), if we really want to become holier, we should ask God



during those three Hail Marys for a penance that's a more difficult act of love. We should choose a sacrifice, something that requires loving God with our whole heart, soul, and mind as well as loving ourselves and our neighbors just as much.

Saint Anthony Mary Claret said, "The love of Christ arouses us, urges us to run, and to fly, lifted on the wings of holy zeal." How high is your love flying? Zeal is a good measuring instrument of how much we love God.

Reflect & Discuss:

1. Whom have you loved imperfectly this week?
2. What act of penance could you do that would be an exercise in loving them better, treating them the way Jesus would? When will you complete the reconciliation through the sacraments of the Church?
3. What does "zeal" mean? Name some of the ways that we love God with zeal.
4. Tell the story of a time when you made a sacrifice because of love. How did this reveal Jesus to others?