



Holy Child Church
240 S Main St, Mansfield, PA



Rev. Bryan Wright, Pastor
Rita Hanson, Financial Secretary
Cara Clementi, Parish Secretary



Saint Mary of Częstochowa Church
144 St Mary's St, Blossburg, PA

21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME August 27, 2023



Parish Rectory Office Hours
9 AM – 2 PM Monday, Tuesday and Friday
Cemetery Business Hours: By Appointment
237 S. Main St, Mansfield, PA 16933
Phone: 570-662-3568 Fax: 570-662-2113
Email: hlychild@ptd.net
Web: holychildparish.com

HOLY CHILD PARISH MISSION STATEMENT:

United with the Pope, we the members of Holy Child Parish seek to be a welcoming church, which fosters spiritual development and expresses charity by living in word and deed the life of Christ. Under the leadership of the bishop, our goals are to implement effective ministries through word, worship, and the sacraments, to enhance the spiritual growth of our parish family, and to encourage, through works of love and faith, the unity of the Church.

SACRAMENTS

Baptism: Please call the Parish Office to schedule a meeting with the pastor and to schedule the ceremony.

Reconciliation: Confessions are heard on:

Saturdays: 2:15-3:00 pm, Holy Child Church

First Fridays: 9:00-10:00 am, Holy Child Church

First Saturdays: 10:00-11:00 am, Saint Mary's Church

By appointment: please contact the Parish Office.

Matrimony: Couples planning to marry should contact their Pastor at least 6 months before the planned wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing and Holy Communion are available to the infirm and homebound. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

New Parishioners: Holy Child Parish welcomes you! New members are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office. Registration is a requirement for admission to our religious education programs and for reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Matrimony.

PARISH DINNER WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm Mass, Holy Child Church

Sunday 9:00 am Mass, Holy Child Church

Sunday 11:15 am Mass, Saint Mary's Church

11:30am-2:00pm Parish Dinner, St. Mary's Hall

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament prior to all Masses



PARISH CONTACTS

Director of Religious Education:

Darlene Buck: 570-540-1332

catholic.dre.holychild@gmail.com

Good Neighbors: Tom Wierbowski 570-404-3028

Good Samaritans: Parish Office 570-662-3568

Health Ministry: Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057

Knights of Columbus, MU Council:

Scott DiMarco, Grand Knight, srdimarco@hotmail.com

Knights of Columbus, Blossburg Council:

Jim Weiskopff, 570-662-7133

Ladies Guild: Patty Hutcheson 570-662-2034

Medical Equipment Loaning Program:

Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057

"Spare a Prayer" Prayer Chain:

Maryjane Seifried 570-549-7550

seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com

Dotty Welsh

570-662-2057

dhjrw@ptd.net

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Parish Office 662-3568

St. Mary's Hall: 570-638-2783

Holy Child Hall: 570-662-9996

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
~ prior to all Masses ~



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Saturday, August 26 VIGIL: 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
4:00 pm, Holy Child:

† deceased members of the Funair Family (by Bob & Lola Gerg)

Sunday, August 27 21ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 am, **Holy Child:** † Peter Flissock (by Helen Swinsick)
11:15 am, **St. Mary's:** † Parishioners of Holy Child Parish

Monday, August 28 St. Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Catherine McNamara (by Patty)

Tuesday, August 29 Passion of St. John the Baptist
12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Daniel Kostovick
(by the Matthew Bogaczyk Family)

Wednesday, August 30 Weekday
No Mass

Thursday, August 31 Weekday
6:00 pm, Holy Child: † Bob Swinsick (by daughter, Jackie)

Friday, September 1 Weekday
8:30 am (First Friday), Holy Child: † Carol Dalton (by the Family)

Saturday, September 2 Weekday
9:30 am (First Saturday), St. Mary's:
In Honor of Dr. Laura Gaspar (by Scott & Theresa Delmotte)
4:00 pm (VIGIL MASS), Holy Child:
† Leona Frederick (by the Jim Thomas Family)

Sunday, September 3 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
9:00 am, **St. Mary's:** † Parishioners of Holy Child Parish
11:15 am, **Holy Child:** † Bob Swinsick (by Helen)

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
HOLY CHILD CHURCH AT 2:15 PM ON SATURDAYS



The Sanctuary Light burns to remind us of the Real Presence of Christ reserved in the tabernacle.

Week of August 27 - September 2, 2023:

The Sanctuary Light in Saint Mary's Church burns for our living and deceased Parishioners.

The Sanctuary Light in Holy Child Church burns in thanksgiving for the Welsh's long marriage.

Contact the Parish Office for a Sanctuary Light intention.

The donation is \$5 per candle.

The *Altar Flowers* in Holy Child Church for the weekend of August 26-27th were donated in memory of Anna Marie Mimplitsch (by Heather Morgan) and in memory of Dolores Thomas (by The Family)



Altar Flowers



Pray the Rosary Every Day

PRAYER LIST

PLEASE PRAY... We pray, always, for deceased parishioners, family, friends, and benefactors. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. For those serving our country: Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands. Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families in our time of need.

We ask this in the name of Jesus our Lord and Savior. Amen.

For those who need special prayers:

- * Richard Faber
- * Bernice Frederick
- * Catherine Gallagher
- * Tom MacBlane
- * Tony Lupkowski
- * Jane Mahonski
- * Christopher Mortensen
- * Howdy Moser
- * Richard Niemczyk
- * Ethel Sandstrom
- * Lori Sherant
- * Kenneth Simpson
- * Yolanda Tacka



To request prayer for someone due to sudden illness, upcoming surgery, hospital stay, or those experiencing a hardship, please contact the Parish Office. To respect our parishioners' privacy, please ask and specify if their names are to be put in the bulletin, added to the prayer chain, or both.

"SPARE A PRAYER" PRAYER CHAIN

Contact: Maryjane Seifried at seifriedmaryjane@gmail.com or 549-7550 or Dotty Welsh at dhjrw@ptd.net or 662-2057.

Our Lord is always listening.

If you or someone you know cannot get to Mass and would like to receive Holy Communion or a pastoral visit, please contact the Parish Office.



Please pray for our recently deceased.

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen**



Joan Flesch

Dolly Garvelli

Jim McIntosh

PARISH OFFERINGS RECEIVED AUGUST 14-20, 2023

Sunday Envelopes:	\$ 3856.00
Loose:	604.00
Tax/Insurance:	100.00
Holy Days	876.00
Summer Drive:	260.00
Total:	<u>\$ 5,696.00</u>
Cemetery Maintenance	431.00
Care of Priests:	100.00

Thank you for your continued support.



* * * * * PLEASE NOTE! * * * * *

Mass Schedule This Sunday, August 27th

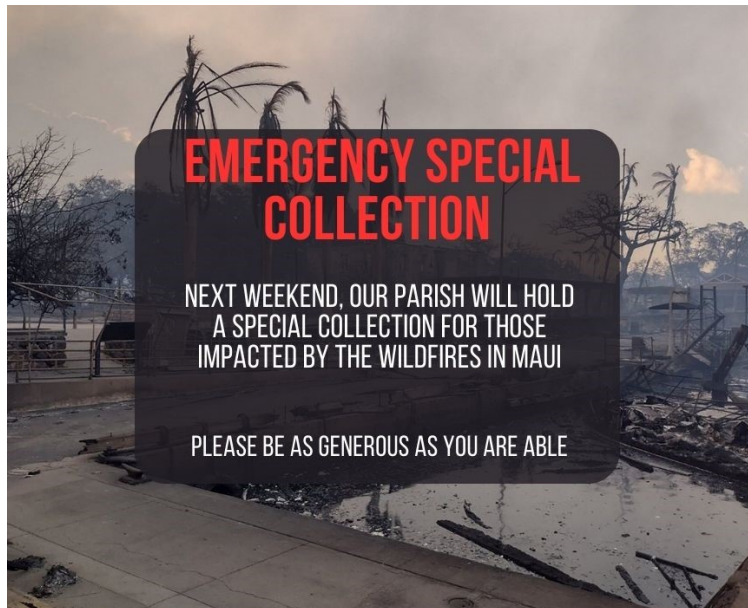
9:00 am - Holy Child Church

11:15 am - Saint Mary's Church

11:30 am—2:00 pm - Parish Dinner, St. Mary's Hall

Thank you for your understanding and
for supporting our Parish Dinner! See you there!

The regular Mass schedule will resume after the Dinner.



EMERGENCY SPECIAL COLLECTION

NEXT WEEKEND, OUR PARISH WILL HOLD
A SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THOSE
IMPACTED BY THE WILDFIRES IN MAUI

PLEASE BE AS GENEROUS AS YOU ARE ABLE

COUNTRY STYLE HAM & TURKEY DINNER BENEFITING IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

Labor Day, Monday, September 4, 2023. Noon–6pm.
5973 Jacks Hollow Road, Williamsport, PA 17702. Ham,
turkey, french-fries, funnel cakes, sausage sandwiches, soda,
and ice cream. Small games of chance & bingo. Homemade
jams, jellies & fudge for sale. Tickets: Adults \$12.00; Chil-
dren 4-12 \$5.00; Children 3&under Free. Takeouts \$12.00
available after 12:30pm. Questions? Call: 570-560-5115.

ST BONIFACE CHURCH

CARNIVAL

Outside Grounds Open
Thursday & Friday 6pm & Saturday 5pm

Nightly Sit-Down Dinners in Gym 4-7pm
Take Outs Available Every Night

White Elephant Sale inside school gym
4-8pm

Annual Raffle Drawing Final Night @10pm
need not be present to win

SEPTEMBER 7 - 8 - 9

FOOD - GAMES - RIDES - BINGO - PIEROGIES

Beef, Meatball, Hot Sausage Sandwiches, Hot dog, Ham & Cheese
Pretzel Roll, Pizza, French Fries, Funnel Cakes, Ice Cream
& our homemade Pierogies

**326 WASHINGTON BLVD, WILLIAMSPORT
CHURCH GROUNDS**

Parish Dinner



Annual Holy Child Parish Dinner

St. Mary's Hall (Blossburg)

Sunday, August 27th, 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

\$15 for adults, \$7 for children 12 years old and younger

***** SUNDAY 8/27 MASS SCHEDULE *****

9:00 am, Holy Child Church

11:15 am, Saint Mary's Church



PARISH DINNER CASH RAFFLE

Return cash raffle tickets at the dinner.
Checks payable to: Holy Child Parish



PARISH DINNER BASKET RAFFLE TICKETS

During the dinner, baskets will be displayed
and ticket sales will continue!

THANKS TO EVERYONE FOR ALL YOUR HELP!

FALL FEST BENEFITING ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE PARISH

(Westfield/Elkland) Saturday, September 9, 2023. 10am-
4pm. Knoxville Firemen's Field. Vendors Wanted. Crafts &
Flea Market Items. \$20 Set-Up Fee (bring your own chairs,
tables, and canopy). Chinese Basket Raffle, Chicken BBQ,
food, Games, & much more! Great fun for the whole family!
Don't miss Copper doing her thing at cow-pie bingo! For
more info / to reserve your spot call the rectory 814-258-5121

St. Peter's

Parish Center
50 Central Ave
Wellsboro



POLISH DINNER

Friday
September 29, 2023

4:30 - 6:30 PM
or until sold out

Pierogies

Kielbasa

Hot Dogs

**Halupki
(Stuffed Cabbage)**

Sauerkraut

Apple Sauce

**Homemade
Desserts**

\$15.00 -ADULT

\$5.00 - 12 & UNDER

Free - 3 & UNDER



Don't forget your food pantry donations of
non-perishable items.

Boxes are in both churches for donations.
Thank you for supporting our Food Pantries.

8TH ANNUAL BE A CATHOLIC MAN CONFERENCE:

STAND FIRM IN THE FAITH

Saturday, October 7, 2023. 8:00am-3:00pm. Holy Redeemer High School Auditorium, Wilkes Barre, PA. Speakers: Most Rev. Joseph C. Bambera (Bishop of the Diocese of Scranton), Mark Houck (founder and president of The King's Men), Fr. John Anthony Boughton, C.F.R. (General Vicar, the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal), and Sam Blair (former Navy SEAL). Fee: \$40, Early Bird \$30, Students \$15, Priest/Deacon free. To register: www.BeACatholicMan.com.



MARIAN MINISTRIES UPCOMING EVENTS

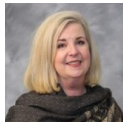
MT. SAVIOUR MONASTERY RETREAT, PINE CITY, NY SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23RD, 9:00AM-3:15PM

Mt. Saviour Monastery is a sacred place of rest and peace where pilgrims from around the world seek hospitality and spiritual refreshment. Our group will depart from St. Peter's at 7:45am (by carpool / Teen Center Van), arriving at Mt. Saviour for 9am Mass. Breakfast provided, followed by a brief talk by one of the monks, and talk by Theresa Delmotte about angels and their roles in our lives. Midday prayer (Sext) followed by lunch from Subway and free time for personal prayer, reflection, the bookstore, confessions, hopefully, and midafternoon prayer (None). Departure at 3:15pm. Suggested free-will donation of \$10/person. Sign up in your Parish Office, marian-ministries@outlook.com, or text Linda Sampson (570) 404-2180 or Laurie Coffee at (703) 470-2975. **Contact information must be provided to secure your registration; deadline-September 17th.**



AFTERNOON OF REFLECTION, ST. PETER'S CHURCH SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH, 11:30AM-6:00PM

Mary Clare Hallman, Diocesan Secretary for Parish Life, will lead an afternoon of reflection on the Eucharist. Using the Emmaus story, Mary will speak about connecting our personal lives and stories - blessed, broken, and offered - to the celebration of the Eucharist. We will ponder the Blessed Mother as the first 'chalice' that held the Body of Christ. Program: 11:30am Mass in the Church; 12:30pm Refreshments in the Parish Center; 1:00 Mary's presentation; 2:00 Break; 2:15 Decade of the Rosary and presentation; 3:15 Break; 3:30 Holy Hour in the Church w/ music/meditation, Exposition, Adoration, Confessions, Evening Prayer, and Benediction; 4:30-6:00 Catered Dinner & Social in Parish Center. Suggested free-will donation of \$10/person. Sign-up in your Parish Office. **Contact information must be provided to secure your registration; deadline-September 24th.**



LIVING ROSARY—OCTOBER 1-31, 2023

Please join us. We need 40 people to pray one decade each day (the same decade for 31 days) so that all four sets of mysteries are covered. Those who have been praying throughout the past year may continue with their decade of choice but are asked to contact Laurie Coffee to sign up for October 2023. If you are attached to the decades you've been praying, please continue with them. Others felt that the ongoing, annual commitment was a challenge. Therefore, Marian Ministries will sponsor the Living Rosary in the months of May and October only. Participants will gather for a social at St. Mary's following First Saturday services on November 4th. For more information or to sign up, call Laurie Coffee (703) 470-2975 or email laurie.coffee@gmail.com.

MASS FOR SUICIDE HEALING AND REMEMBRANCE

In observance of Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in September, Bishop Bambera will celebrate a **Mass for Suicide Healing and Remembrance on Sunday, September 17, 2023 at 12:15 p.m. at the Cathedral of Saint Peter, located at 315 Wyoming Ave., Scranton.** The Mass will serve to remember loved ones lost to suicide, and to promote healing for those who grieve their passing. Those attending the Mass will be invited to offer a flower in memory of a loved one who died from suicide. All are welcome. The Mass will also be broadcast live on CTV: Catholic Television of the Diocese of Scranton and livestream on the Diocesan website, YouTube channel and Facebook. For more information, please contact the Office for Parish Life at 570-207-2213 or oplgeneral@dioceseofscranton.org.



ATTENTION, ALL HIGH SCHOOL YOUNG WOMEN: CAPUCHIN SISTERS OF NAZARETH GROUP MEETINGS

The Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth invite all High School young women (grades 9-12) to their Nazareth Group meetings from 11:00am-4:30pm on the following Saturdays:

2023: September 9th, November 4th

2024: January 20th, April 20th, June 1st

Encounter deep prayer, enriching talks & discussions, faith-based friends, nature walks, and more. Two locations available: Mother of God Convent (Tunkhannock; Sister Angela 570-836-2737) and Mother of the Eucharist Convent (Williamsport; Sister Clare 570-745-3334). Please RSVP with the Sisters before each meeting.



SPECIAL LABOR DAY BIBLE STUDY: SHROUD OF TURIN

The Shroud of Turin is the subject of a lot of rumors, myths, and controversies—maybe you've heard some of them yourself and don't know what to believe. Fr. Robert Spitzer, a Jesuit scientist and scholar on the Shroud of Turin, offers some amazing facts about the Shroud, including what we can learn about the Crucifixion from what we see on the cloth. He also talks about the infamous carbon dating claims (they've been scientifically debunked). If you've ever wondered how seriously we can take the Shroud of Turin, please join us on September 3rd after the 11:15am Mass.



HEALTH MINISTRY NOTES

Remember the Wizard of Oz? How a tornado turns Dorothy's world upside down? Well we don't live in Kansas or any other part of "Tornado Alley", but we have had a number of tornado watches and warnings. Tornado watches mean weather conditions are right for high winds with a rotation of rising hot air and dropping cold air, heavy rain, and frequently hail. Tornado warnings mean conditions are more favorable for funnel cloud formation, or one may have been spotted. So be prepared, don't be scared. Tornadoes can hit anywhere. So have your cell phone set for severe weather notifications or have a NOAA weather notification radio. Once a warning has been issued choose a room in the lowest part of your home, preferably without windows as a place to gather. Have some extra water and your emergency pack with you. If driving, leave your car and lie in a ditch until the weather passes. Enjoy your summer but be aware of weather changes.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sun 8/27	Is 22:19-23 Ps 138:1-3,6,8 Rom 11:33-36 Matthew 16:13-20
Mon 8/28	1 Thes 1:1-5,8b-10 Ps 149:1-6,9 Matthew 23:13-22
Tue 8/29	1 Thes 2:1-8 Ps 139:1-6 Mark 6:17-29
Wed 8/30	1 Thes 2:9-13 Ps 139:7-12b Matthew 23:27-32
Thu 8/31	1 Thes 3:7-13 Ps 90:3-5,12-14,17 Matthew 24:42-51
Fri 9/1	1 Thes 4:1-8 Ps 97:1-2,5-6,10-12 Matthew 25:1-13
Sat 9/2	1 Thes 4:9-11 Ps 98:1,7-9 Matthew 25:14-30
Sun 9/3	Jer 20:7-9 Ps 63:2-6,8-9 Rom 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



- August - Health Ministry and Ladies' Guild will NOT meet during August. See you in September!
- Aug 27: Parish Dinner, Basket Raffle, Cash Raffle @ St. Mary's Hall, 11:30am - 2:00pm; No Bible Study
- Sep 3: Special Bible Study—The Shroud of Turin is Real
- Sep 3: No Knights of Columbus meeting
- Sep 4: Labor Day, Parish Office CLOSED
- Sep 7: Parish Finance Council Meeting, 6pm
- Sep 10: Bible Study: *the Jewish Roots of St. Joseph*
- Sep 10: Knights of Columbus, 6pm, Holy Child Hall
- Sep 12: Ladies Guild, 7pm, Holy Child Hall
- Sep 17: Bible Study: *the Jewish Roots of St. Joseph*
- Sep 24: Bible Study: *the Jewish Roots of St. Joseph*
- Oct 1: Knights of Columbus, 6pm, Holy Child Hall
- Oct 10: Ladies Guild, 7pm, Holy Child Hall
- Nov 5: Knights of Columbus, 6pm Holy Child Hall



Religious Education

Registration is now open for the 2023-2024 Religious Education program! Registration Forms are in both churches. Questions? Contact Dar Buck, Director of Religious Education at 570-540-1332 or catholic.dre.holychild@gmail.com



WEEK OF AUGUST 27, 2023

RESTLESS HEART

A film on the life of St. Augustine, a gifted man who pursues fame and fortune without a moral compass, and the dramatic changes in his soul when challenging events lead him to see the light of truth. A message of conversion & redemption.



CONFESSIONS OF AUGUSTINE: WHO IS ST. AUGUSTINE?

Part 1 of 6. Join two patristic scholars as they help viewers learn how to read this classic text and draw from the riches of the spiritual life of the doctor of the Church, Saint Augustine.

The Confessions of Saint Augustine

with Dr. Elizabeth Klein and Dr. John Schuch

FORMEDNOW



SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST
Join Dr. John Sehorn and Taylor Kemp as they talk about St. John the Baptist, the forerunner to Christ.



Our parish has a FORMED subscription!

To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and use zip code 16933 to search for and select our parish.

HOLY CHILD PARISH LADIES GUILD



Ladies Guild invites all women in our parish to join the Holy Child Parish Ladies Guild. Our primary ministry is to raise funds in support of Holy Child Parish, its members, and our Pastor.

Meetings are the Second Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm.

First meeting of the new year:

Tuesday, September 12th, 7:00pm, Holy Child Church Hall

Annual Membership: September through August.

Annual Dues: \$5.00.

Return this form & dues payment in the collection basket or mail to: Kathy Draxler, Guild Treasurer, 1482 Route 549, Mansfield, PA 16933.

Membership Information (please fill in, below):

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

SUMMERTIME DRESS

Visitors to St. Peter's Basilica, the Sistine Chapel, or the Vatican Museums are required to abide by an official dress code: men can wear long pants and shirts with at least short sleeves; women can wear trousers, capri pants, or skirts and dresses (knee length or longer). Bare shoulders, shorts, and short skirts are not permitted. It seems reasonable to abide by the same standards in our own church during Divine worship. By doing so, we show our respect for God and one another. www.papalaudience.org/dress-code



The Blessed Sacrament is reserved in the Tabernacle. Please help maintain

SILENCE AND REVERENCE

**AUGUST 29: MEMORIAL—THE PASSION OF
SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST, MARTYR, 1 B.C.—30 A.D.**

John, son of Zechariah and Elizabeth, was born approximately six months before the Savior of the World. He was likely born in the small, rural Jewish town of Ein Karem, in the hill country about five miles west of Jerusalem. Uniquely, John was blessed with the presence of both the Son of God and the Mother of God at his birth. The surrounding land would have been utilized for agriculture and herding, centered around a town hub and water well. Many Catholic theologians, including the Angelic Doctor of the Church, Saint Thomas Aquinas, believe that while John was conceived in Original Sin, he was sanctified in the womb immediately after the Blessed Virgin Mary greeted his mother Elizabeth, several months prior to John's birth. "When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the infant leaped in her womb..." (Luke 1:41). This leap in the womb has been interpreted as John's sanctification by grace before he was born. Jesus would later say of John, "Amen, I say to you, among those born of women there has been none greater than John the Baptist" (Matthew 11:11).

Not much is known about John's childhood other than what is stated in the Bible, "The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel" (Luke 1:80). Though he would have been raised devoutly in the Jewish faith by his parents in their hometown, John eventually entered the desert, about twenty miles east of his hometown, to live as a hermit, praying, practicing penance, and preparing for his mission.

As the last of the Old Testament prophets and the first of the New Testament prophets, John's mission was to precede Jesus "in the spirit and power of Elijah to turn the hearts of fathers toward children and the disobedient to the understanding of the righteous, to prepare a people fit for the Lord" (Luke 1:17). Sometime between the years 27–29, John received inspiration from God in the Judean desert and started to gather disciples whom he taught, called to repentance, and baptized with water. John's preaching was fierce, branding some a "brood of vipers", demanding evidence of their conversion. He called tax collectors, soldiers, religious leaders, the average townspeople, and even Herod to repent. Many responded.

John's life reached its earthly climax when he saw Jesus, the Son of God, approaching him in the desert while he was baptizing. John immediately exclaimed, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. He is the one of whom I said, 'A man is coming after me who ranks ahead of me because he existed before me.' I did not know him, but the reason why I came baptizing with water was that he might be made known to Israel...Now I have seen and testified that he is the Son of God" (John 1:29–31; 34). John reluctantly baptized Jesus, after which the Holy Spirit descended upon Jesus in a visible form and the Voice of the Father thundered, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Matthew 3:17). With that, John's life began to recede. **"He must increase; I must decrease"** (John 3:30).

The Memorial of the Beheading of Saint John the Baptist is one of the oldest feasts in the Church. Just as John preceded Jesus in birth, preaching, and baptizing, so too did he precede Jesus in death, dying as a prefiguration of the one who would give His life sacrificially on the Cross.

John's death resulted from his bold proclamation of the truth. His call to repentance extended to everyone, including

Herod Antipas, the tetrarch, ruler of Galilee and Perea. Although it appears that the area where John was preaching (the Jordan Valley) was not directly governed by Herod, Herod nonetheless was well aware of John's preaching and condemnation of him. Herod had John arrested and imprisoned, most likely in a fortress constructed by Herod's father, Herod the Great, northwest of the Dead Sea, in modern day Jordan; or, in the Herodium, another of Herod's palaces south of Jerusalem.

Two of the Gospels narrate the story of John's death: Matthew 14:1–12 and Mark 6:14–29. John's criticism of Herod was specific. He condemned Herod's unlawful marriage to his brother's wife, Herodias. Though Herod seemed to fear John and his disciples because of John's popularity and the power of his words, he decided to appease Herodias' hatred of John for condemning her and Herod. On Herod's birthday, Herodias' daughter, Salome, performed a dance for Herod and his guests that so pleased him that he promised her anything she asked of him, up to half of his kingdom. Her mother saw her opportunity for revenge and convinced her daughter to ask for the head of John the Baptist on a platter. In his weakness, Herod complied.



After John's death, "His disciples came and took away the corpse and buried him; and they went and told Jesus" (Matthew 14:12). The news caused Jesus to withdraw alone in a boat to a deserted place to pray. Jesus not only grieved with human sorrow over the death of his cousin, but he also came face-to-face with the reality of His own fate. Thus, His time of prayer was a period in which He perfectly renewed His fidelity to the Mission on which He was sent, to give His life for the salvation of souls. Though impossible to confirm, tradition holds that John's body was buried in the town of Sebaste, about fifty miles north of Jerusalem. One of several traditions holds that Herodias buried his head in a dung heap to hide it from his followers and it was later discovered, buried in the Mount of Olives, and today is preserved in the Church of San Silvestro in Capite, Rome, Italy.

As we honor this man so highly honored by our Lord, we also honor our Lord Himself. John's life was given to the mission to which he was called. He never wavered and willingly accepted even death, rather than shy away from God's will. He introduced the Lamb of God to the world and led the way for Jesus by his preaching, baptism of repentance, and death, which prefigured Jesus' own death. As you ponder Saint John's life, reflect especially upon the wholehearted commitment he made to selflessly give himself to the mission he received. Where you see hesitancy in your own life, take inspiration from Saint John the Baptist, praying that you will exemplify his courage and resolve to fulfill the will of God.

Saint John the Baptist, you were given a holy mission and sanctified in the womb of your mother in preparation for that mission. You never deviated from your calling and always pointed the way to Christ, the Savior of all. Please pray for me, that I will have the same courage you had and the resolve to fulfill my duties, no matter the cost. Saint John the Baptist, pray for me. Jesus, I trust in You. mycatholic.life/saints/saints-of-the-liturgical-year/august-29the-beheading-of-st-john-the-baptist/

Daily Mass Schedule (subject to change)

September 2023

Mon & Tues, 12:10 pm, Saint Mary's
Thurs, 6:00 pm, Holy Child
Fri, 8:30 am, Holy Child

1st Friday: 8 am Adoration,
8:30 am Mass, Holy Child Church,
followed by Adoration (Confession
available during Adoration)

1st Saturday:
9:30 am Mass, St. Mary's Church,
followed by Adoration (Confession
available during Adoration)

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
 Monday, Tuesday: 11:30 am, St. Mary's Thursday: 5:00 pm, Holy Child Friday: 8:00 am, Holy Child First Friday, First Saturday: additional Adoration times; see above	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION Monday, Tuesday: 11:30 am, St. Mary's Thursday: 5:00 pm, Holy Child Friday: 8:00 am, Holy Child First Friday, First Saturday: additional Adoration times; see above					
3 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Bible Study: The Shroud of Turin is Real, following 11:15 am Mass</i> <i>No Knights of Columbus</i>	4 Labor Day Parish Office Closed	5 Ladies Guild 7:00pm Holy Child Hall	6 Saint John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	7 Finance Council beginning with 6:00 pm Mass Holy Child Hall	 NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	 Saint Peter Claver, Priest
10 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Bible Study: St. Joseph following 11:15 Mass</i>  3rd Degree Knights of Columbus 6:30 pm Holy Child Hall	11	12	 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	 THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS	 Our Lady of Sorrows	 Saints Cornelius, Pope, and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs
17 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Bible Study: St. Joseph following 11:15 Mass</i>	18	19	 Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang, & Companions	 Knights of Columbus FOURTH DEGREE <i>Patriotic Address of the Order</i> Following 6 pm Mass, Holy Child Hall SAINT MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST	22	 Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest "Padre Pio"
24 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>Bible Study: St. Joseph following 11:15 Mass</i>	25	26	 St Vincent de Paul, Priest	28	 SAINTS MICHAEL, GABRIEL, AND RAPHAEL, ARCHANGELS	 Saint Jerome, Priest, Doctor of the Church

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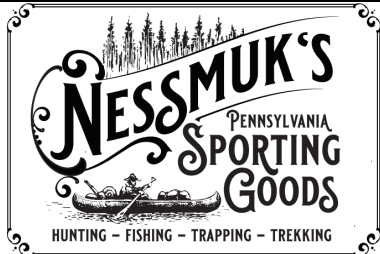
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