



Holy Child Church
240 S Main St, Mansfield, PA

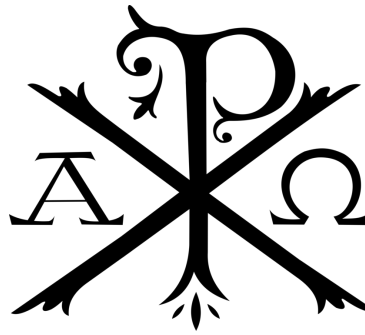


Reverend Bryan B. Wright
Pastor



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

31ST SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME November 3, 2024



PARISH OFFICE
Mon, Tue, Fri: 9:30am - 2:30pm
237 S. Main St, Mansfield, PA 16933
Phone: 570-662-3568
Email: hlychild@ptd.net
Web: holychildparish.com

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.

Holy Communion: Those preparing to receive Holy Communion for the first time are asked to call the Parish Office.

Matrimony: Couples should contact their Pastor at least six months before the planned wedding date.

Anointing of the Sick: For the infirm & homebound. Please contact the Parish Office to arrange a visit.

New Parishioners: Welcome to Holy Child Parish! New parishioners are asked to register by contacting the Parish Office. Registration is required for our religious education programs and for the Sacraments of Baptism, First Reconciliation, Confirmation, and Matrimony.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday	4:00 PM	Holy Child
Sunday	9:00 AM	Saint Mary's
Sunday	11:15 AM	Holy Child

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Saturday	3:00 PM	Holy Child
Sunday	8:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Sunday	10:45 AM	Holy Child
Monday	11:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Tuesday	11:30 AM	Saint Mary's
Thursday	5:15 PM	Holy Child
Friday	8:00 AM	Holy Child



DEVOTIONAL PRAYERS

Monday	12:00 PM	Saint Mary's	The Angelus
Monday	12:45 PM	Saint Mary's	Miraculous Medal
Tuesday	12:00 PM	Saint Mary's	The Angelus
Tuesday	12:45 PM	Saint Mary's	Saint Jude
Thursday	6:00 PM	Holy Child	The Angelus

PARISH CONTACTS

- Financial Secretary: Darlene Buck 570-662-3568
- Secretary: Cara Clementi 570-662-3568
- Director of Religious Education: Darlene Buck 570-540-1332
- Good Samaritans: Parish Office, 570-662-3637
- Health Ministry & Medical Equipment Loaning:
Dotty Welsh 570-662-2057
- Knights of Columbus:
Scott DiMarco; srdimarco@hotmail.com
- Ladies Guild: Patty Hutcheson 570-662-2034
- St. Mary's Hall: 638-2783 Holy Child Hall: 662-9996

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

~ prior to all Masses ~



MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS

Saturday, November 2 **All Souls' Day**
 9:30 am, St. Mary's, **First Saturday**: † All Souls
VIGIL, 31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
 4:00 pm, Holy Child: † All Souls

Sunday, November 3 **31ST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 9:00 am, St Mary's: † Gabe Partyka (by Leona Ruberto)
 11:15 am, Holy Child: † Alma Swartz (by Joseph & JoAnn Stello)

Monday, November 4 **St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop**
 12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Charles & Rita Chamberlain
 (by The Family)

Tuesday, November 5 **Weekday**
 12:10 pm, St. Mary's: † Victoria Simpson (by The Family)

Wednesday, November 6 **Weekday**
No Mass; Father Bryan Away on Retreat: † The Deceased
 (by the Diocese of Scranton Society for the Propagation of the Faith)

Thursday, November 7 **Weekday**
No Mass; Father Bryan Away on Retreat:
 † Holy Souls in Purgatory (by Nicole Ostapowicz)

Friday, November 8 **Weekday**
No Mass; Father Bryan Away on Retreat:
 In honor of Kirk Euson (by The Ostapowicz Family)

Saturday, November 9 **VIGIL, 32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 4:00 pm, Holy Child: † Parishioners

Sunday, November 10 **32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**
 9:00 am, St Mary's: † George Manikowski (by Leona Ruberto)
 11:15 am, Holy Child: † Justin & Mary Himlin (by Katie Sleboda)

SANCTUARY LIGHT INTENTIONS: THIS WEEK
 Saint Mary's: † Victoria Simpson (by The Family)
 Holy Child: † Charles & Rita Chamberlain (by Daughters)
*The Sanctuary Light burns to remind us of the
 Real Presence of Christ reserved in the tabernacle.*

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION
 SATURDAYS—2:15 PM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
 FIRST FRIDAYS—9:00 AM—HOLY CHILD CHURCH
 FIRST SATURDAYS—10:00 AM—ST. MARY'S CHURCH
 ~OR BY APPOINTMENT~

PARISH OFFERINGS RECEIVED 10/21-11/1. THANK YOU!

Sunday Envelopes	\$5,292.00
Loose	629.00
Dues	25.00
Fuel	553.00
All Saints	878.00
Total:	\$7,377.00
World Mission Sunday	15.00
Care & Education of Priests	45.00
Campaign for Human Development	10.00

PRO-LIFE RESOURCES

Heart of Tioga Crisis Pregnancy
 Center: 570-948-2020



Project Rachel Helpline: 888-456-
 HOPE for help after abortion

heartoftioga@gmail.com
 24/7 ONLINE NURSE CHAT

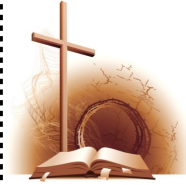
Abortion Pill Reversal 24/7 Hotline: 1-877-558-0333

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. Bless those who need special prayers:

Judi Bonk-Guy ♦ Kirk Euson ♦ Richard Faber ♦ Bernice Frederick ♦ Catherine Gallagher ♦ Lance Hall ♦ Ann King ♦ Tony Lupkowski ♦ Tom MacBlane ♦ Jane Mahonski ♦ Christopher Mortensen ♦ Terri Nash ♦ Richard Niemczyk ♦ Sandy Parker ♦ Ethel Sandstrom ♦ Lori Sherant ♦ Kenneth Simpson ♦ Yolanda Tacka ♦ Jack Watson ♦ Ron Yanuzzi

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



To request prayer for someone due to illness, surgery, hardship, or other reason, please contact the Parish Office. To respect 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.

The Lord is always listening.

Pray the Rosary Every Day

VISITS TO THE HOMEBOUND

If you or someone you know would like to receive Holy Communion, a Pastoral visit, or a mailed bulletin, please contact the Parish Office.



Would you or someone you know enjoy a friendly visit, a partner to play cards or games with, someone to read to them, or simply keep company? As an outreach of Marian Ministries, Mary Hohman has offered to visit local residents and nursing homes, to spend time with people who may feel alone. Contact Mary at (717) 203-9090.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sun 11/3	Dt 6:2-6	Ps 18:2-4,47,51	Heb 7:23-28
		Mk 12:28b-34	
Mon 11/4	Phil 2:1-4	Ps 131:1-3	Lk 14:12-14
Tue 11/5	Phil 2:5-11	Ps 22:26-32	Lk 14:15-24
Wed 11/6	Phil 2:12-18	Ps 27:1,4,13-14	Lk 14:25-33
Thu 11/7	Phil 3:3-8a	Ps 105:2-7	Lk 15:1-10
Fri 11/8	Phil 3:17—4:1	Ps 122:1-5	Lk 16:1-8
Sat 11/9	Ez 47:1-2,8-9,12	Ps 46:2-3,5-6,8-9	1 Cor 3:9c-11,16-17
		Jn 2:13-22	
Sun 11/10	1 Kgs 17:10-16	Ps 146:7-10	Heb 9:24-28
		Mk 12:38-44 or 12:41-44	



We have met **58%** of our Parish Goal.
 Donate now at AnnualAppeal.org, call (570) 207-2250 or click this QR code



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Nov 3: *Why We Worship* Session 5 following 11:15 Mass
Nov 3: KofC Meeting, 6:30pm, Holy Child Hall
Nov 6: Health Ministry, 10:30 am, Holy Child Hall
Nov 10: *Why We Worship* Session 6 following 11:15 Mass
Nov 11: Veterans Day Mass, 6pm, and Dinner, Holy Child
Nov 14: Pastoral Council starting with 6pm Mass, Holy Child
Nov 16: Rosary Rally & Holy Hour, 1:30-3:45pm, Holy Child
Nov 19: Ladies Guild, 6:00pm, Holy Child Hall
Nov 21: Finance Council starting with 6pm Mass, Holy Child



ALL SOULS DAY

NOVEMBER 2ND
and throughout November

*Eternal rest grant unto them,
O Lord, and let perpetual light
shine upon them.*

*May the souls of the faithful
departed, through the mercy of
God, rest in peace. Amen.*

Why Do Catholics Celebrate All Souls Day?

The Church is composed of the faithful living upon the earth and those who have gone before us. The latter includes the Saints in Heaven and the faithful Souls being purified in Purgatory. Just as on November 1st we honor those who are with God, on November 2nd Catholics celebrate a Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed. Also known as All Souls Day, on this day we honor them for their fidelity in life, and we pray for them, since they are being purified before entering the All Holy Presence of God. As Revelation 21:27 says of the Heavenly Jerusalem, "... nothing unclean shall enter in."

Does the Catholic Church still believe in Purgatory?

From the earliest days of the Church, Catholics have believed in a place of final purification for the faithful who died. Those who died a martyr were recognized as already with God, since they were perfectly conformed to Christ and His Cross by their martyrdom. For the believers who never had the opportunity to give such a public witness, the Church offered prayers, especially the Mass, that having been purified from every imperfection they would enter into Heaven. This can be found in many ancient texts, catacombs, and tombs. In the Middle Ages the theological explanation was developed and the name Purgatory began to be used, since it aptly describes the belief of the Church from the beginning through the present.

All who die in God's grace and friendship, but still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven. The Church gives the name Purgatory to this final purification of the elect. (CCC 1030-1031)

Is Purgatory Biblical?

The word "Incarnation" is not in the Bible, but all Christians believe the Incarnation is a scriptural belief. The word "Trinity" is not in the Bible, but all Christians believe the Trinity is a scriptural belief. While the word "Purgatory" does not appear in Scripture, the possibility of purification after death certainly does.

Scriptural Principle #1 – there is the possibility of punishment for sin even after one has received forgiveness. (2 Samuel 12:13-18) "David said to Nathan, 'I have sinned against the Lord.' And Nathan said to David, 'The Lord also has put away your sin; you shall not die. Nevertheless, because by this deed you have utterly scorned the Lord, the child that is born to you shall die.' And the Lord struck the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and it became sick... On the seventh day the child died." David sins. He realizes he has sinned. He repents.

He is forgiven; the Lord "put away" his sin. Yet, David receives punishment for his sin; his child dies.

(Matthew 5:25-26) Our Lord advises us to settle our affairs before going before the judge, or else we may be thrown into prison until our debt is paid. "Make friends quickly with your accuser, while you are going with him to court, lest your accuser hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you be put in prison; truly, I say to you, you will never get out till you have paid the last penny."

This is a basic principle of justice—debts of justice must be paid. We cannot pay our debt to God, it is infinite. Christ paid that debt, uniting our nature to His Divine Nature, and we receive forgiveness when we turn to Him in repentance through those whom He appointed for this purpose (John 20:21-23; 2 Cor. 3:5-6). The temporal guilt, due to the consequences in us, in others, in the good order of society, remain, and we must settle them to the extent we are able—returning stolen money, correcting injury to someone's good name, asking forgiveness of someone we hurt, physically, emotionally, morally and so on—if not in this life, in the next. It is these debts within our power to repair we cannot simply set aside, whether in life or in death.

Scriptural Principle #2—Nothing unclean (with the stain of sin) will enter Heaven. (Revelation 21:27) "But nothing unclean shall enter it..." This is referring to the New Jerusalem – Heaven.

Scriptural Principle #3—There is a way, a process, through which the spirits of the "just" are "made perfect." (Hebrews 12:22-23) "But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem...and to a judge who is God of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect." Notice, it speaks of the "spirits" of just men (who, as Catholics would say, are those that died in a state of grace), who are in Heaven, and who have been "made perfect."

(2 Maccabees 12:39-46) Judas Maccabee sends an offering to the Temple on behalf of his fallen men who committed a superstitious act. "It is therefore a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead, that they may be loosed from sins." Though the book of Maccabees is not in the Protestant Bible, as it was removed by the Reformers, it nonetheless reflects the faith of Israel in the 2nd century B.C.

Scriptural Principle #4—There is a place, or state of being, other than Heaven or Hell. (1 Corinthians 3:13-15) "...each man's work will become manifest; for the Day [judgment day] will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done. If the work which any man has built on the foundation [Jesus Christ] survives, he will receive a reward. If any man's work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire." Where is this place that a man, after he dies, has his works tested, and could suffer loss, as through fire, but still be saved? Hell? No, once you're in Hell, you don't get out. Heaven? No, you don't suffer loss as through fire in Heaven. It must be somewhere else; purgatory.

What about a common sense perspective on Purgatory?

Are you perfect right now? In every single way — physically, mentally, emotionally, and/or spiritually? Do you have any attachment to sin? Never have a bad thought, say a bad word, do something you shouldn't, don't do something you should? Ever get sick?.....

God forbid, let's say you were to die this very instant and you were to go to Heaven. Would you be perfect in Heaven? Yes, you would be. You would be perfectly united to the Body of Christ, no more sin, no more pain, no more anguish, no more illness. Your soul would be free from sin and your body — after the Resurrection of the Dead — would be in its glorified state. You would be perfect in Heaven.

Well, think about that. You die imperfect; but you enter Heaven perfect. How did that happen? There was some process by which the spirit of the just was made perfect. Your imperfections were "purged" from you. That process is what Catholics call "Purgatory."

"Four Biblical Principles that Show the Reality of Purgatory."
John Martignoni. National Catholic Register. September 8, 2016

Indulgences for Poor Souls in Purgatory

Indulgences are a sharing in the treasury of the merits of Christ and the Saints, which the Church applies to the remission of the temporal guilt of sin, whose eternal guilt has already been forgiven in the Sacrament of Reconciliation (by the merits of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection) (see Scriptural basis of Purgatory on previous page and CCC1471). An indulgence is a mercy given by Christ through the Church when we do certain acts of prayer, penance, or charity specified by the Church. These works are specified by the Church as capable of obtaining either a **plenary** indulgence or **partial** indulgence; that is, the full or partial remission of the temporal punishment of sin. Besides the intrinsic value of the act before God, the Church attaches an additional value through the power of the keys given to St. Peter (Mt 16:13-18). A Catholic may gain an indulgence for his or herself, or for the Poor Souls, but not for another living person—whose will alone determines their receptivity to God's mercy.

Indulgenced Act: a special good work with special conditions of place and time. To obtain a plenary indulgence for souls in Purgatory:



- **November 1 to 8**—visit a cemetery and pray, at least mentally, for the souls in Purgatory.
- **November 2**—visit a church or an oratory and recite one Our Father and one Creed.

Conditions:

- State of grace at least when performing the indulgenced act
- Complete detachment from sin, even venial sin
- Confession (20 days before or after the indulgenced act)
- Communion (20 days before or after the indulgenced act)
- Prayers for the Holy Father (at least 1 Our Father and 1 Hail Mary) (20 days before or after the indulgenced act)

Incomplete fulfillment of these conditions yields a partial indulgence. One plenary indulgence may be acquired per day. Multiple partial indulgences may be acquired per day. In addition to indulgenced acts specified by the Church, any pious prayer, any penitential act, and any charitable act can be done to gain a partial indulgence.

<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/seasons-and-feast-days/all-souls-20378>

★ ★ ★ ★ ★
VETERANS DAY MASS & POTLUCK DINNER
Monday, November 11th, 6:00pm,
Holy Child Church

THANK YOU VETERANS In honor of our veterans, please join us for 6pm Mass in Holy Child Church followed by a potluck dinner in the Hall!



ROSARY RALLY

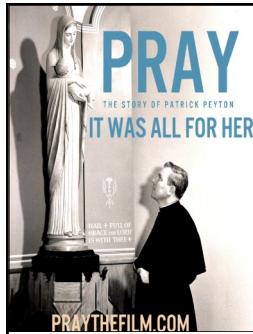
Saturday, November 16th, 1:30pm,
Holy Child Church

To commemorate our country's first ever Rosary Rally—led by the "Rosary Priest" Fr. Patrick Peyton in Scranton in 1949—Bishop Bambera is asking every parish in the Diocese of Scranton to pray the Rosary and hold a Holy Hour **for an increase in family prayer**. On Saturday, November 16th in Holy Child Church, Father Bryan will lead us in the Rosary at 1:30pm, with Adoration, Benediction, & Confession available until 4pm Mass. Please join us for this important and powerful opportunity. More next week...



GOBBLE UP THE CASH RAFFLE!

Now is your chance to Gobble Up The Cash with Holy Child Ladies Guild's annual parish fundraising raffle. They make great gifts for yourself or your family and friends. Tickets have been mailed parishioners. Ticket returns are due Nov 17 to Parish Office. Winning tickets will be drawn on Nov 19.



SPECIAL MOVIE—NEXT SUNDAY
"PRAY—The Story of Patrick Peyton"
November 10 after 11:15 Mass

Please join us for refreshments, followed this special movie about the life and mission of Venerable Fr. Patrick Peyton, who led our country's first Rosary Rally in Scranton in 1949. This moving documentary will show you why our Diocese and our Parish are commemorating his life and mission to promote **Family Prayer** with a **Rosary Rally on Saturday November 16 at 1:30 pm**. Please join us!



Composed by Fr. Chad Ripperger to consecrate U.S. elections to the Blessed Virgin Mary, invoking her intercession for the moral and spiritual well-being of the United States and its leaders.

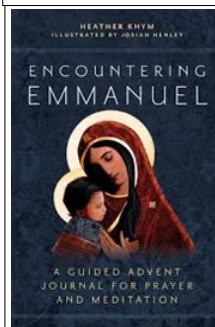
In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored and served by angels and men, Queen of Heaven and Earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that lower than God, Patroness of the United States of America, sorrowful and mind of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to thee, our refuge and hope.

Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works, and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of thy Son, we humbly ask that thou wouldst turn thine eyes upon our country to bring about its conversion. We consecrate to thee the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of thy Son.

Give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and thy maternal care, we have perfect confidence that thou wilt take care of us and will not leave us forsaken. O Mary Immaculate, pray for us. Amen.

MARIAN MINISTRIES

Online Advent Book Study—Dec. 1-24



"Embark on a transformative journey this Advent with author Heather Khym as she extends a heartfelt invitation to embrace stillness and silence amid life's chaos, allowing God to dwell in the depths of your being. While the world moves at an ever-faster pace, Heather encourages you to pull back from the hustle and create space for our Savior to come into every area of your life—to transform and heal it through His love." (Google Books) Heather's beautiful reflections will help us experience the peace of Christ throughout Advent. Contact Linda (570-404-2180), Chris (570-404-7278), or marian-ministries@outlook.com **by Sunday Nov. 17th**. Suggested \$10 donation in envelope marked "Book Study" can be returned through the collection.



GUIDANCE FOR CATHOLIC VOTERS

Your Role as a Catholic Voter

Refusing to choose is a choice unto itself. Catholics have a moral obligation to promote the common good through the exercise of their voting privileges (CCC 2240). "Service of the common good requires citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community" (CCC 2239). Citizens should participate in the political process at the ballot box. (CA)

Truth is something we receive, not something we make. With so much good at risk and so much evil, it is a great challenge to avoid fear and anger. As St. Paul says, put on the "mind of Christ" (1 Cor 2:16). Take time away from television and social media, and spend time with the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Scripture, and Church teaching, which provide wisdom to form our consciences—to discern true hope, justice, and mercy, rather than our opinions & feelings. (FCFC)

Voting cannot be arbitrary. To the greatest extent possible, Catholics must avoid voting for any candidate who intends to support programs or laws that are intrinsically evil. *When all of the candidates endorse morally harmful policies, citizens must vote in a way that will limit the harm likely to be done, mindful of what follows, below.* (EV 73; CPL4; CA)

Foundational, Preeminent Moral Principles

When political activity comes up against moral principles that do not admit of exception, compromise, or derogation, the Catholic commitment becomes more evident and laden with responsibility (CPL). In the public arena, the Church's principal focus is the protection and promotion of the dignity of the person, and she thereby consciously draws particular attention to non-negotiable principles (B):

- **Protection of life in all its stages**, from the first moment of conception until natural death;
- **Recognition and promotion of the natural structure of the family – as a union between a man and a woman based on marriage** – and its defense from attempts to make it juridically equivalent to radically different forms of union which in reality harm it and contribute to its destabilization, obscuring its particular character & irreplaceable social role;
- Protection of **the right of parents to educate their children**.

The Church advances these natural law principles to save pluralistic society from its own ruin. Or as Benedict XVI put it—to neglect these minimal contributions of the Christian tradition is to threaten "democracy itself, whose strength depends of the values that it promotes." *This is what's really at the heart of non-negotiable principles and why they're worth preserving with your prayers & votes.* (A)

Do All Issues Carry the Same Weight?

"Not all moral issues have the same moral weight. For example, if a Catholic were to be at odds with the Holy Father on the application of capital punishment or on the decision to wage war, he would not for that reason be considered unworthy to present himself to receive Holy Communion. While the Church exhorts civil authorities to seek peace, not war, and to exercise discretion and mercy in imposing punishment on criminals, it may still be permissible to take up arms to repel an aggressor or to have recourse to capital punishment. There may be a legitimate diversity of opinion even among Catholics about waging war and applying the death penalty, but not however with regard to abortion and euthanasia" (WRHC3; CCC 2309, 2267).

The same is true of many other issues that are the subject of political debate: the best way to help the poor, to manage the economy, to protect the environment, to handle immigration, and to provide education, health care, and retirement security. Catholics may legitimately take different approaches to these issues, as they admit of many options.

Intrinsically Evil Actions of Preeminent Importance

Preeminent threats to human life and dignity directly attack life itself—the most fundamental good, and the condition for all others. A person's value does not change based on their abilities or who wants or desires them because human beings have intrinsic value and dignity that no one can take away. (FCFC)

Intrinsically evil actions are those that fundamentally conflict with life and the natural moral law and can never be deliberately performed under any circumstances. It is a serious sin to deliberately endorse or promote any of these actions, either directly or indirectly (by voting in favor of candidates who propose to advance them; choose the candidate likely to do the least harm) (CCC, Encyclicals):

Abortion—Abortion is the intentional, direct killing of an innocent human being, and therefore it is a form of homicide. The unborn child is always an innocent party. Even when a child is conceived through rape or incest, the fault is not the child's, who should not suffer death for others' sins. Abortion is never medically necessary (see insert). (EV 73)

"Abortion is the Antichrist's demonic parody of the Eucharist. That's why it uses the same holy words, 'This is my body', with the blasphemous opposite meaning." – Peter Kreeft, Catholic apologist. Advocacy for abortion is incompatible with Catholicism.

Euthanasia, Assisted Suicide, Medical Aid in Dying—These are forms of homicide or hastening death, by action or omission, often out of a misplaced sense of compassion. They also create a sinful social pressure for people to choose it so they won't be a burden to their friends and family. The end of life is as sacred as the beginning. No one must deny available medical care or pain relief, or suffer "heroically", but no person has a right to deliberately hasten or take their own or another's life. (EV 73)

Manipulation, Exploitation, and Destruction of Human Embryos—Human embryos are human beings. Manipulation, exploitation, and destruction of human embryos—for the creation of children, for research, or even for potential cures—are always wrong. **In Vitro Fertilization** (see IVF insert), **Embryonic Research**, and **Human Cloning** each result in the destruction of embryonic humans, and each opposes the dignity both of human procreation and of the conjugal union (RHL I:6, CRF 4b, USCCB). They are also invariably tied to many other ethical problems (see IVF insert).

"Marriage" & "Gender" Ideology—The family founded upon marriage is the basic cell of human society. Marriage must be defined, recognized, and protected as a lifelong exclusive commitment between a man and a woman, as the source of the next generation, and as the protective haven for children. Legal recognition of any other union as "marriage" undermines true marriage and encourages persons to persist in objectively immoral arrangements, harmful to them and the common good. "Gender" ideology undermines marriage and family by dismissing sexual difference and the complementarity of the sexes, and by falsely presenting "gender" as a social construct or psychological reality that a person may choose at variance with his or her biological reality. (UHP10; FCFC)

References: (CCC) Catechism of the Catholic Church; (FCFC) USCCB Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship; (EV) Evangelium Vitae; (CPL) Doctrinal Notes on Some Questions Regarding the Participation of Catholics in Political Life; (B) Benedict XVI Address to European Parliament; (WRHC) Worthiness to Receive Holy Communion; (RHL) Instruction on Respect for Human Life in its Origin and on the Dignity of Procreation; (UHP) Considerations Regarding [...] Unions Between Homosexual Persons. Additional References: usccb.org/resources/Women's%20Health%20Infographic.pdf; usccb.org/resources/IVF_Human_Cost_2024.pdf; (A) aleteia.org/2014/10/30/do-catholic-voters-have-non-negotiable-issues; (CA) stbern-bv.org/Voters-Guide-Catholic-English-1p.pdf

The Truth About **Abortion** & **Women's Health**

Abortion does not save women's lives.

Abortion is the **direct** and **intentional** killing of a child in the womb.

Abortion is never medically necessary. It does not treat or solve any pregnancy-related complication.

Outlawing abortion will not affect treatment for miscarriage.

Treatment for miscarriage and abortion is not the same thing.

There is a complete moral and legal difference between losing a child through miscarriage and intentionally taking the life of a child.

In the tragic case of miscarriage, surgery may be necessary—and is an ethical treatment—to remove the remains of an unborn child who has *already died*.

While the same surgery is done to perform an abortion, abortions impose this procedure on a **living child** with the **intention** of ending his or her life.

Women can get the lifesaving treatments they need—without abortion.

In rare cases, and in the absence of better alternatives, life-threatening maternal health conditions may require interventions that **indirectly** and **unintentionally** lead to the death of an unborn child. **Abortion restrictions will not prevent women from receiving these treatments.**

When the lives of mother and child are in immediate danger, the goal is to fight to save both patients. **Effective treatments exist that seek to save the life of the mother and never to intentionally harm her unborn child.**

When a woman's life is at risk in pregnancy, preterm delivery may be used as a lifesaving medical intervention to preserve the life of both mother and child.¹

Ectopic pregnancies result when an embryo implants outside the uterus—often in the fallopian tube. Sadly, such embryos cannot survive and this condition can pose serious risks to the mother. While ectopic pregnancies sometimes resolve naturally, interventions are often necessary.

When done ethically, treatment for an ectopic pregnancy is not abortion. Ethical interventions include the removal of the damaged fallopian tube containing the embryo or, if embryo death has already occurred, medication can be used to resolve the ectopic pregnancy.

Bottom line: **Abortion restrictions never prevent women from receiving life-saving treatment.**²

If you or someone you know is struggling after involvement in an abortion, the Church offers confidential, compassionate help through Project Rachel Ministry. Visit www.hopeafterabortion.org for more information.

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¹ Busk Miller, C. 2018. "The ethics of interstitial and cesarean scar ectopic pregnancies: four case studies and a review of the literature". The Linacre Quarterly 85(3): 252-269.
² For further information on these topics, reference: [1] National Catholic Bioethics Center, "Medical Interventions During Pregnancy in Light of Dobbs," <https://www.ncbcenter.org/nchc-news/bioethics-public-policy-report-august-12-2022-gzqx2>. [2] American Association of Pro-Life Obstetricians and Gynecologists, "Myth vs. Fact: Correcting Misinformation on Maternal Medical Care," https://aaplog.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/AAPLOG-Myth-vs-Fact_v5.pdf.



HEALTH MINISTRY NOTES

Are you aware that the politicians count on Christians not voting? That's right! We unfortunately have a track record of not using one of our country's greatest freedoms. The right to vote and elect people to represent us within the political system. Please take time on Tuesday, November 5th to vote. Check with your friends and neighbors and see if they need a ride to the polls. Let your voice be heard!

HEALTH MINISTRY—AVAILABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT:

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Baskets for walkers | Transfer Bench |
| Canes | Toilet Handles |
| Crutches | Transfer Board |
| Emesis Basin | Tub Handle |
| Foot Bath | Tubing |
| Hospital Bed | Walkers |
| Hoyer Lift | Walker with Seat |
| Ice Therapy Machine | Wash Basin |
| Knee Crutch | Wheelchairs |
| Knee Scooter | Wheelchair Cushion |
| Potty Chairs | Baby Items at the Welsh's: |
| Raised Toilet Seats | Bath tub |
| Rising Frame for Chair | Booster seat |
| Rollator Walker | Bed rails |
| Shower Bench | Safety gate |
| Shower Chair | |

ATTN: HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS—CAPUCHIN SISTERS OF NAZARETH

Details: capuchinsisters.com

Nazareth Group (11a-4:30p): 12/7, 2/1, 4/5, 6/7

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Come for an exciting weekend of discovery. The Capuchin Sisters of Nazareth are traveling from Pennsylvania to be with us and give us a glimpse into their life. Deepen your relationship with Christ, build new friendships and grow in the knowledge of the call to be His beloved child.

**TO REGISTER OR FOR MORE INFO:
CONTACT MAUREN BENOIT AT
SHPDRE@GMAIL.COM OR 774-289-0249**

Registration deadline Nov 1st



HOLY CHILD PARISH

ANNUAL COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING DINNER

Volunteers are needed for this special event. If you would like to help in any way please fill out the volunteer form below and drop it in the collection basket or call the office.

JOIN US FOR DINNER!

Please fill out the reservation form below and drop it in the collection basket or call the office if you would like to eat with us from 12-2 pm or prefer to pick-up your meal. Delivery is available to the homebound in the Mansfield, Covington and Blossburg areas.

RESERVATIONS DUE BY THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST.

YES! I/we would like to volunteer for Thanksgiving dinner.

NAME: _____

Phone #: _____

_____ make a dessert (please bring to hall by 9 AM

Thanksgiving morning. Door will be unlocked during business hours on Wednesday as well.)

_____ prepare for dinner ____ (8-10 AM) ____ (10-12 AM)

_____ deliver meals (arrive by 10:30 AM)

_____ serve (12-2 PM)

_____ clean-up (starting at 2 PM)

YES! I/we would like to join you for Thanksgiving dinner.

NAME: _____

Phone: _____

in party: _____

_____ dine-in

_____ pick-up (11 - 11:30)

_____ delivery

Delivery address: _____


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**Book Recommendation
from Father Bryan...**
**A Church in Crisis:
Pathways Forward**
By Ralph Martin

Hunting-Fishing-Trapping-Trekking-Camping-Foraging



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Thank you for your support!

Reminder for Funerals...
Eulogies are permitted during:
♦Funeral home vigil services
♦Graveside committal services
♦Luncheons after Funeral Masses
*Eulogies are not permitted during
Funeral Masses (CCC1688). Thank you.*

**Your Ad
Here!**
**Please contact the
Parish Office.**

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved throughout the world, now and forever. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. St. Jude, help of the homeless, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times a day, by the 8th day your prayers will be answered (if it be God's will). It has never been known to fail. Thank you, St. Jude. Amen.



**The Blessed
Sacrament is
reserved in the
Tabernacle.**
*Please help to
maintain a prayerful*
SILENCE AND REVERENCE

Binding Prayer for Fair & Moral Elections by Father Chad Ripperger
By the Power of the Precious Blood, with the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, I petition Our Lord Jesus Christ, to bind any spirit that interferes with fair and moral elections in the United States, to go to the foot of the Cross † and receive their sentence. Amen. †