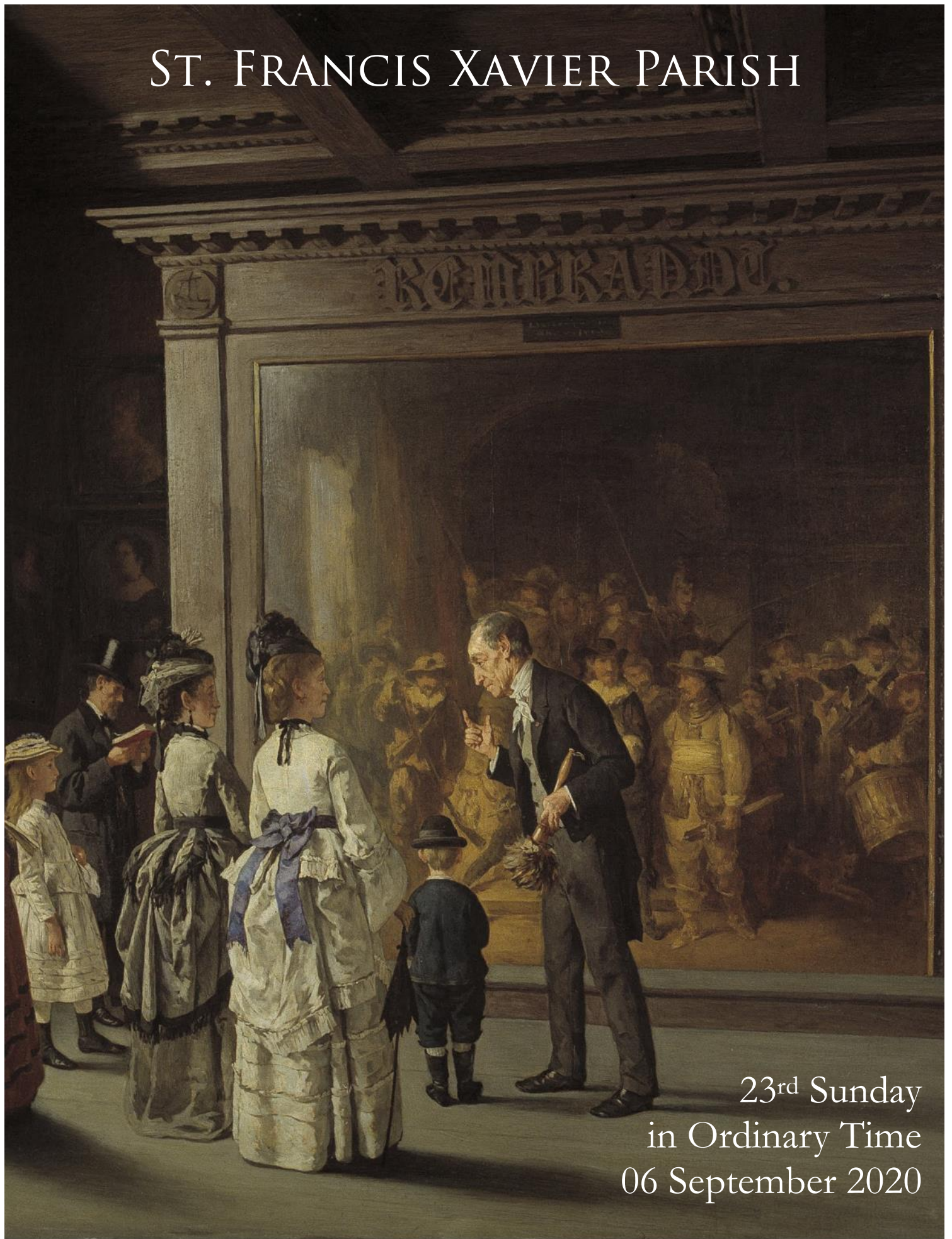


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



23rd Sunday
in Ordinary Time
06 September 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(September 5th - September 13th)

Sat.	Sept. 05	23rd Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) Paulino, Ana Vieira & Daughter
Sun.	Sept. 06	23rd Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) Dorothy Fouts <i>Pro Populo</i>
Mon.	Sept. 07	Feria (Gr) Bill Duggan & Jon Joseph LaFlamme
Tues.	Sept 08	Nativity of Mary (Wh) Robert Vigeant
Wed.	Sept 09	St. Peter Claver; Priest (Wh) Gerald St. Laurent
Thurs.	Sept 10	Feria (Gr) Harold Seguin
Fri.	Sept 11	Feria (Gr) Manuel da Ponte & Ilda Alexandre 9/11 Memorial Mass
Sat.	Sept. 12	Most Holy Name of Mary (Wh) Intentions of Michelle Poirier & Scott Silverstein
Sat.	Sept. 12	24th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) <i>Pro Populo</i>
Sun.	Sept. 13	24th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) Jean, Helen & Donny Guenette For Peace in Our Country <i>Month's Mind</i>

Financial Report

Income:

22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	\$4,512.00
Diocesan Assessment	\$1,924.50

Prayers Please

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory.

Sanctuary Lamp

*During this time of our absence away from Eucharistic Adoration please pray at home for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle at the main altar still burns this week: **Cesar Fernandes & Mr. & Mrs. Jose DeSousa***

CONFESSION

Monday: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday: 9:30 to 10:00am
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45pm

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

THE DOUBLE MEANING OF LABOR DAY

Tomorrow's celebration of Labor Day has a theological significance which can oftentimes be forgotten. Ever since the dawn of the labor rights movement in the 1800's the Church has spoken out in favor of the rights of workers. In 1891 Pope Leo XIII wrote his encyclical letter *Rerum Novarum* on this topic, among other things supporting their right to form unions. He wrote how the rights of workers are not simply the basic human rights due to every person, but also involve the consideration of work's relationship to human dignity. As it is justice for a worker to give an honest day's work to their employer, so it is justice for an employer to provide a fair wage and safe working environment to their employees. It is through our work that we support ourselves and our families, and also exercise our creative abilities. Work is an essentially human – and therefore dignified – activity that embraces all of our powers, both physical and mental.

At the same time, work is not our purpose for living. The Third Commandment commanding us to keep holy the Sabbath Day is concerned with more than our presence at worship. It is also a reminder that the human person does not exist for work, but rather the opposite: work is an important part of our lives, but it is not the purpose of our lives. Leisure – time off – is the time we have to be most human: it is time for us to enjoy the company of family and friends, pursue our own interests and hobbies, and – yes – even to take a nap. A life without work cannot be lived, while a life that is nothing but work is no life at all. It's all about balance, and the command to rest on the Sabbath Day is one of those guides towards balance.

St. Joseph has always been honored as the model of Christian workers. Devoted to his family, he supported Jesus and Mary by his long hours at work in his carpenter's shop. Of all the families and homes into which God could be born in the person of Jesus Christ, He chose a carpenter as His foster-father. This is a profound point of reflection: it shows both God's closeness with those who labor, as well as echoing God's role as a worker in the act of creating the universe. In Europe, Labor Day is marked on 1 May, which is why Pope Pius XII made it the feast day of St. Joseph the Worker in 1955. As we take some time to rest and be with our families and friends on this Labor Day may we have the figure of St. Joseph before us, reminding us both of the dignity of work as well as its role in supporting our family and enabling us to continue to grow into being the people that God calls us to be.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Religious Education: 508-998-7445

School: 508-995-4313

School Fax: 508-995-0456

ACCESSIBILITY

- Open for Prayer Every Day
- Wheelchair Lift
- Cry-room

St. Francis Xavier Parish **125 Main Street** **Acushnet, MA 02743**

tel: (508)-995-7600 fax: (508) -995-1794

email: info@sfxparish.com

Fr. Riley J. Williams, Pastor

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

Deacon David Pepin

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

[ministry@sfxacushnet.com]

Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services

[sng@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

HOLY MASS

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Latin/Extraordinary Form: As Announced

CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

(9:30am-10:00am on Monday Holidays)

Saturday 9:30-10:00am

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

First Fridays 6:45-7:15pm

Any Time by Appointment

ADORATION

Monday 9:30am-8:30pm

Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm

Friday 9:30am-8:30pm

Saturday 9:30 am-2:45 pm

VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

ON THE COVER

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. (Ez 33:7)

The Church offers “vigil” Mass because of the many duties and complications the modern world has imposed upon Sunday especially the requirement of work. Still, there was a time when the vigil was not the celebration itself, but the liturgical preparation with accompanying prayers and fasting for the celebration to follow the next day. The vigil was once the expectation; it was not the culmination.

In any case it is vital that the Church recapture the practice of keeping *vigil* especially in our trying times. The term “vigil” is of course closely related to its first cousin: *vigilance*. To be vigilant means to be “watchful”. This is why the vigil rite was once only preparative to the main celebration asking us to wait upon the Lord with alert anticipation like an eager child waits for Christmas morn.

Toward our culture we have not been vigilant. Over the long watch of decades or even centuries we have not kept vigil over the increasing secularization of daily life. Perhaps if Christians had peacefully but firmly refused the requirement to work on Sunday, we would not be so reliant now upon the vigil Mass, while certainly we would have shown our state authority that while we respect its administration of the work day, we reject its incursion on the Lord’s Day.

Yet, Catholics and other Christians are a compliant lot. We have been taught to respect authority and not to disobey unless in the case of great moral failing. The problem is that when great moral failing finally arrives it finds us comfortable and sleepy, unable to be roused to address injustices against religious liberty. Christians are not “of-the-world” hence we are the antithesis of the Marxist protestor who in succumbing to be reduced to an economic and political unit claims the world as his own. Yet, while the world may not be our destiny, Christians are still the stewards of the world for the Creator, still defenders of what is rightly God’s.

For this **23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time**, we place on our bulletin cover a work by Swedish painter **August Jernberg** entitled *Night Watch* (1885). Jernberg was an academic painter and practitioner of the Dusseldorf School which put forward genre and allegorical works. The *Night Watch* of Jernberg was itself an allegorical work which incorporated the original *Night Watch* of Rembrandt as the basis of its symbolic message.

Here we see visitors to Trippenhuis, the Netherlandish academy of arts, which houses the original *Night Watch* of Rembrandt situated on the large wall in Jernberg’s image. In this painting a militia captain and his civic guardsmen set out into the city to keep civil order. The ladies and gentleman standing near the painting represent society’s attachment to the comfort provided by this order. Only the young boy standing completely still facing the wall is thoroughly engrossed by the painting within the painting. It is as if he sees the inevitable discord that arises when pleasure replaces virtue as the culture’s primary motivation.

We are the Church Militant. We watch against sin and temptation and the injustice it incurs and we warn the world against these. The world may not listen, but this does not mean that we abandon our post. We keep up the watching and the warning for all those who will listen.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time - September 6, 2020

Religious Education



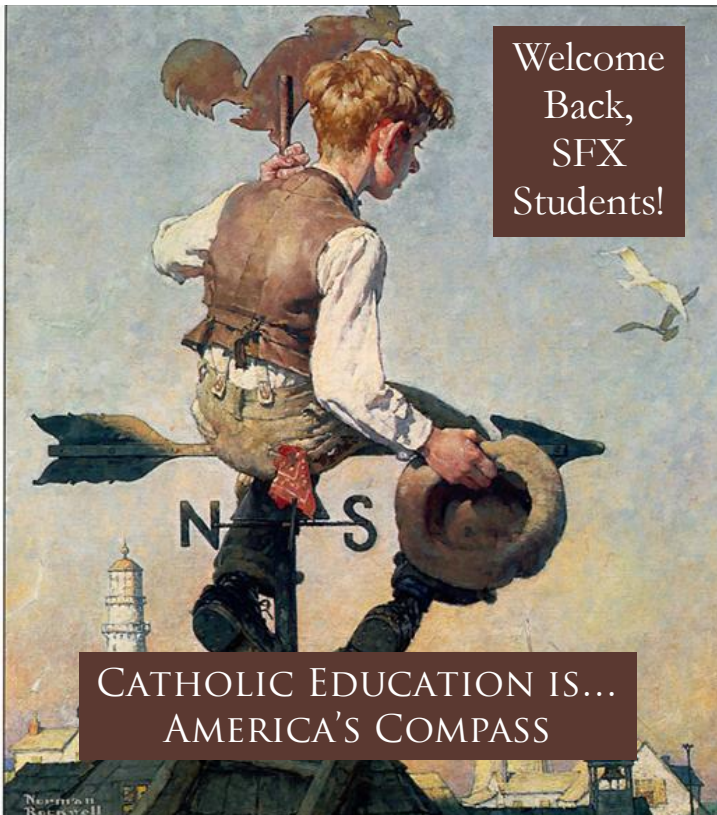
2020/2021 Religious Education Classes:

Plans are underway for the start of the coming year. We will be returning with a *hybrid model* of remote learning and in-person classes, social distancing and wearing masks. We will be providing each child with their own lap desk and writing instruments for those registered in the Religious Education Program. There will also be some remote learning this year depending on class sizes. If you are registering your child this coming year but are still apprehensive about returning to a classroom setting please contact Mrs. Hammarquist and special arrangements will be made.

Registration forms will be sent via email for those previously registered in the program. Please return the form via mail, parish metal drop box (outside of the office) or the collection basket at Mass (write Religious Education on the outside of envelope) by September 21. If you are parishioners and you have a child that is in public school Grades 1-8 (9th Public or Catholic School) and would like him/her to attend our program for the 2020/2021 year please call the office to set up an appt. with Mrs. Hammarquist. Classes begin on Sunday September 27th. *Catholic School families will be receiving information soon for Sacramental years.*

Religious Education Office hours are Mon, Tues, & Fri 9:30-Noon until Sept. 11th.

Stay Safe, Healthy and Holy
God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist



Welcome
Back,
SFX
Students!

CATHOLIC EDUCATION IS...
AMERICA'S COMPASS

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

September 13th - Parish Building Fund
September 20th - Diocesan Assessment



Peasant Counsel
Stefan Dimitrescu (20th Century)

"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses." (Mt 18:15-16)



OUR SUMMER "POP-UP" FUNDRAISER: SVDP would again like to thank our beautiful parish for the continued support of our mission to support our clients, homeless and those in need.

On Saturday August 22nd at our Pop Up fundraiser we raised \$725 in gift cards and \$1,223 in cash and checks. Many people will be touched by these funds which will make their days a little bit brighter.

Mike Bachstein - President

HOLY MASS ON 9/11: To commemorate those who fell during the attack on our country on **September 11, 2001**, we will hold our annual Holy Mass this coming Friday evening at **5:30 PM**. Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, the Acushnet Fire Department will not hold the customary memorial on their grounds this year. However, we will continue to pray and gather for the Holy Eucharist as we do each year in memory of those who died that day. There are no reservations needed for this Mass, however we will follow the limitations of our seating requirements.

SFX
WOMEN OF
GRACE

*“Hail,
Full of
Grace”*

HOLY MASS - 9 AM
12 SEPTEMBER
MOST HOLY NAME
OF MARY

The Parish Office will be closed this Monday, 7 September in observance of Labor Day. Have a blessed holiday!

GIVING IN
faith

WE GIVE, HE MULTIPLES

JOIN US

Saturday, September 12th
at 10 am, 3 pm, or 7pm
on YouTube or Facebook.

Hear stories of lives being saved, be inspired to partner with us, and be encouraged by local worship groups!



Your Options Medical
Free Pregnancy Testing & Ultrasound

Options Medical is a Fall River-based pregnancy resource center that is also known as “A Woman’s Concern”. To learn about their “Virtual Day of Giving” go to <https://partnersofyom.org/event/virtual-day-of-giving/>. This is the agency which we support each year through our Baby Bottle campaign. Thank You.

READINGS FOR WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2020

Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-20
Monday: 1 Cor 5:1-8/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Ps 5:5-6, 7, 12 [9]/Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c [Is 61:10]/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Wednesday: 1 Cor 7:25-31/Ps 45:11-12, 14-15, 16-17 [11]/Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: 1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13/Ps 139:1b-3, 13-14ab, 23-24 [24b]/Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27/Ps 84:3, 4, 5-6, 12 [2]/Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Cor 10:14-22/Ps 116:12-13, 17-18 [17]/Lk 6:43-49

NEW SUNDAY MASS TIMES COMING

Below is the new Mass Schedule to begin on Sunday, September 13th:

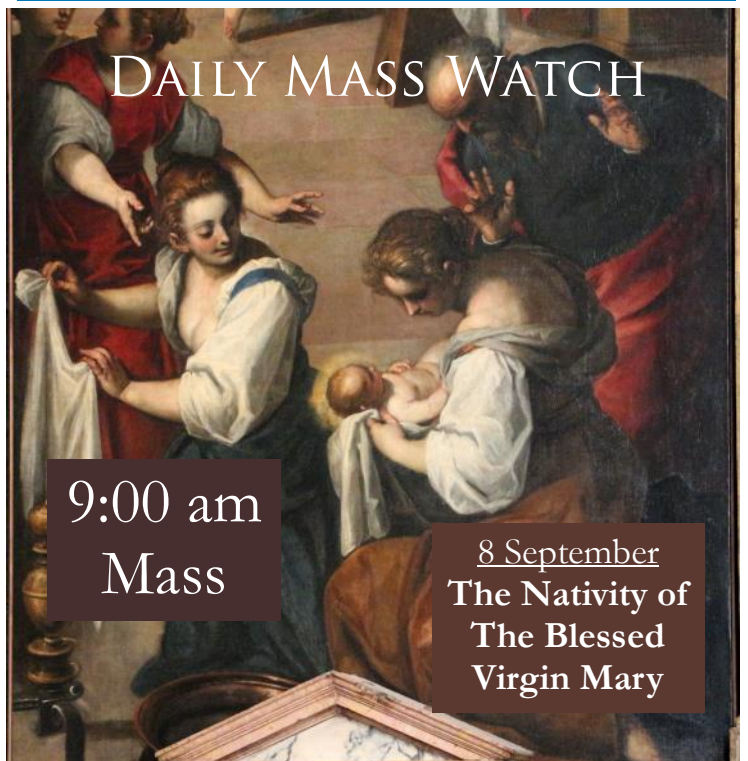
7:00 AM
9:00 AM
11:00 AM

If you are a regular Sunday Mass goer please email or call the parish Office to inform us of your full name, the Mass you are now attending, and which of the three new Sunday Mass times you wish to attend. Thank you.

DAILY MASS WATCH

9:00 am
Mass

8 September
The Nativity of
The Blessed
Virgin Mary



THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 6 SEPTEMBER

ProceSSIONAL Hymn: Praise to the Lord

*Praise to the Lord the Almighty, the King of creation;
O my soul praise him, for he is my help and salvation,
All ye who hear, Now to his altar draw near,
Joining in glad adoration.*

1st Reading: Ex 33: 7-9

Thus says the LORD:
You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me.
If I tell the wicked, "O wicked one, you shall surely die," and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death.
But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

Responsorial Psalm: *If today you hear His voice, harden not your hearts.*

2nd Reading: Rom 13: 8-10

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law.
The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."
Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Gospel Reading: Mt 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples:
"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that 'every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.' If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.
For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

Offertory Hymn: Be Thou My Vision

Communion Hymn: I Heard the Voice of Jesus

Recessional Hymn: There's a Wideness in God's mercy

*There's a wideness in God's mercy Like the wide-
ness of the sea
There's a kindness in his justice Which is more than
liberty
There is plentiful redemption In the blood that has
been shed
There is joy for all the members In the sorrows of
the head*