

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 25, 2020

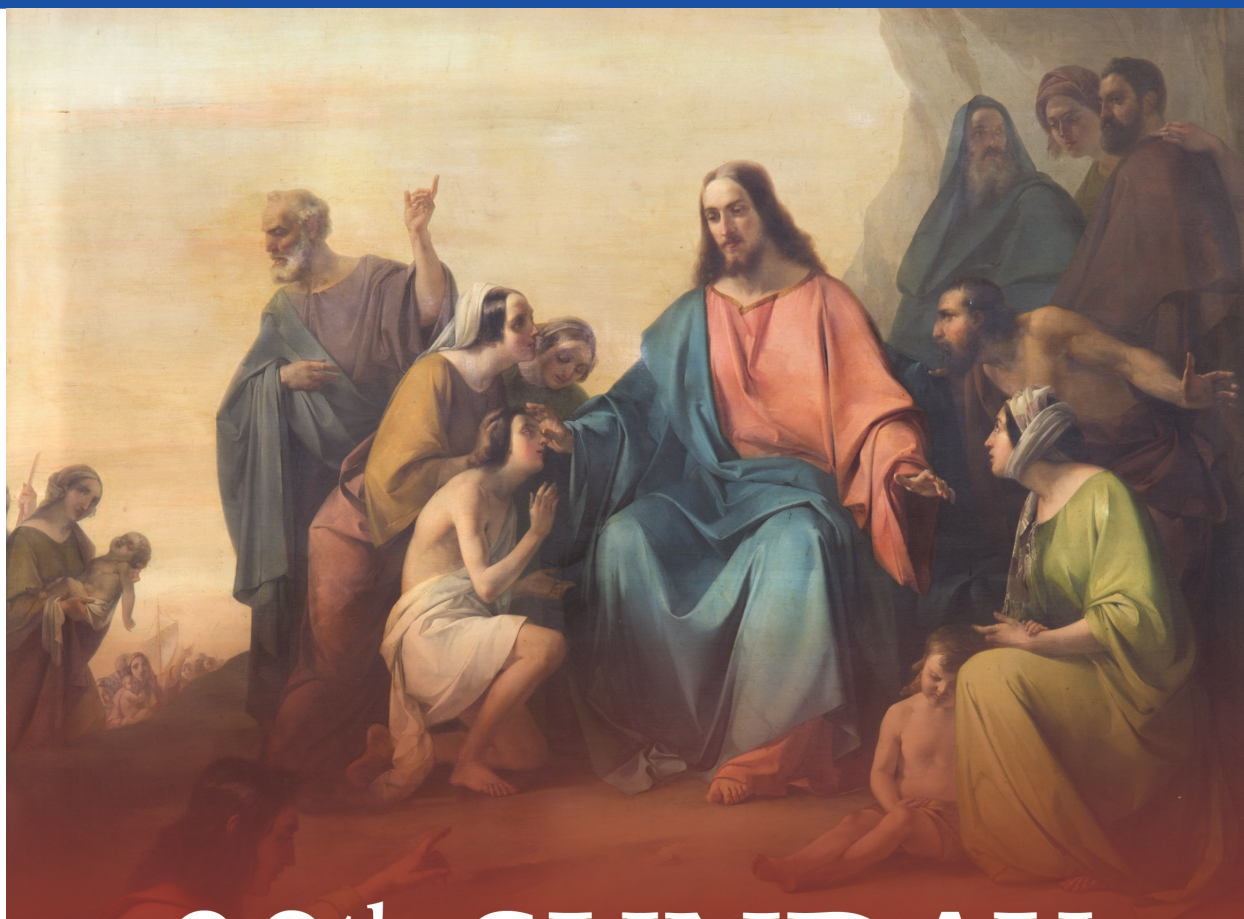


SAINTS CYRIL AND
METHODIUS PARISH

FARNOSTĚ SVĚTÝCH
CYRILA A METODA



A Personal Parish Established To Serve The Slovak Catholic Community In The Archdiocese Of Detroit



30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He said to him, “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment.” - Mt 22:37-38

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

41233 Ryan Road, Sterling Heights, MI 48314 • (586) 726-6911 • Fax: (586) 685-1070 • www.saintcyrils.church

October 24, Saturday - Sobota

- 9:00AM For Fictoria Hannakeachel & Family
 ❖ For the Meyou Sisters
 ❖ †Ralph & Janet Reising (50th Wed. Ann) req. Miller's
- 4:30PM *Baptism: Ryan Vincnet McMahon
- 5:30PM For James & Marilyn Jaczkowski (40th Wed. Ann.)
 ❖ For Ken & Mary Ann Warner (Wed. Ann.)
 ❖ For Vernon & Joyce Davenport (Wed. Ann.)
 ❖ For Veronica Bartold (25th B'Day)
 ❖ For the Gammo & Gill Families
 ❖ For Nedhal Aziz ❖ †Florence Russell

October 25, 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Nedela

Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40(148)

- 7:30AM For the Intentions of the Members of the St. Monica Sodality
 ❖ For Glen & Amy Varchetti & Family
 ❖ †Virginia Pierce req Cindy & Dennis Zitny
 ❖ †Richard Walczyk req Lucille Zreliak
 ❖ †Louis Kerry (36th Ann.) req. Family
 ❖ †James Zabawski req. Wife
 ❖ †Daniel Fluker req. Cindy & Dennis Zitny
 ❖ †Mary Klebans req. Vince & Mickey Larose
- 9:30AM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 11:30AM (Slovak) For President Donald J. Trump req. North Family
 ❖ For Pro-Life Candidates req. Smith Family
 ❖ For Alexandria Waldecker
 ❖ For Drana Gojhij ❖ For the Orlowsky Family
 ❖ †Kola Kalaj ❖ †Mary Klebans req. Family
 ❖ †Maria Kalaj ❖ †Jcesmen Gojcaj
 ❖ †Paul Szwarc ❖ †Arthur Orlowsky
- 6:00PM (Tridentine) †Robert Stout, Jr.
- 8:30PM For Ibrahim Aziz ❖ For Aziz & Audrianna Mariya
 ❖ For Elizabeth req. Rita ❖ For Thomas E. Rooney
 ❖ For the Cusumano Family
 ❖ For Bob Wiertel req. Marie Kerry
 ❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
 ❖ For Julian Schultheis (B'Day)
 ❖ †William Porter req. Dennis & Cindy Zitny

October 26, Monday - Pondelok

- 9:00AM For Nate & Theresa Robinson & Family
 ❖ For James and Grette Varchetti
 ❖ For Samantha & Nagham
- 12:00PM For Samantha & Brandon Mansoor & Family
 ❖ †Ben & Lorraine Drozdowski (Ann.) ❖ †Mary Klebans

October 27, Tuesday - Utorok

- 6:00AM In Thanksgiving req. Kola Peter Gojcaj
 ❖ For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Carl & †Stephanie Varchetti & Family
- 12:00PM For Nedhal Aziz ❖ For Miguel & Cheri Graham
 ❖ For Aziz & Audrianna Mariya

October 28, Wednesday - Streda

- 9:00AM (Latin) For Elyse Mazurkiewicz (B'Day)
 ❖ †Richard & Esther Baginski
 ❖ †Charles and Isabella Varchetti
- 12:00PM For Gary & Annette Rudzewicz
 ❖ For James & Grete Varchetti ❖ †Esther Beski

October 29, Thursday - Štvrtok

- 6:00AM For Mary Katherine Hines (B'Day)
 ❖ For Kola Peter Gojcaj ❖ †Charles & Isabella Varchetti
- 12:00PM For Sam & Amy Shamoon & Family
 ❖ For Rosemary Shamoon ❖ †Matthew Margiewicz

- 7:00PM For Mark Varchetti ❖ For Edward and Mary Kelly
 ❖ For Ernest and Maria Gaiera

October 30 Friday - Piatok

- 6:00AM For Kelly Chasney (B'Day) ❖ For Al & Ann Varchetti
 ❖ For Erik Mischker ❖ †Jacquelyn Pantano req. Family
- 12:00PM For Karen & Mary Beth Marquard req. Uncle Leo
 ❖ For Michele Chandler (B'Day) ❖ †Richard Walczyk
 ❖ †Virginia Pierce req Cindy & Dennis Zitny
 ❖ †Daniel Fluker req Cindy & Dennis Zitny

October 31, Saturday - Sobota

- 9:00AM For Yvette Berman (B'Day) ❖ For Al and Ann Varchetti
 ❖ For Samantha Shamoon (B'day)
- 4:30PM *Baptism: Ryan Vincent McMahon
- 5:30PM For Vicki Babbie ❖ For Nedhal Aziz
 ❖ For Amy Perugi req. Ken & Mary Ann
 ❖ For Ernest & Maria Gaiera ❖ For Paulette Kranik
 ❖ †Edward Polakowski req. Wife, Shirley
 ❖ †Hasina Babbie (Ann)

November 1, Solemnity of All Saints - Nedela

Ex 22:20-26; 1 Thes 1:5c-10; Mt 22:34-40(148)

- 7:30AM For George & Helen Emmendorfer
 ❖ For Derek Chandler ❖ For the Meyou Sisters
 ❖ †Virginia Pierce req Cindy & Dennis Zitny
 ❖ †Richard Walczyk req Lucille Zreliak
 ❖ †Daniel Fluker req Cindy & Dennis Zitny
 ❖ †Christina Loccrichio req. Friend ❖ †Gene Kucharek
 ❖ †William Porter req. Dennis & Cindy Zitny
- 9:30AM President Trump req. Annette Rudzewicz
 ❖ For Jenna Hines (B'Day) ❖ For Lucas Dubon (B'Day)
 ❖ †Matthew Margiewicz ❖ For Marie Hollerud
 ❖ For the Dec. Members of the Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council & their Families ❖ †Richard Charen
 ❖ †For Julia Russo ❖ †Roberto Pablo
 ❖ †Benedict Evola req. Shermetaro's
- 11:30AM (Slovak) For the Holy Souls in Purgatory
 ❖ For Zuzana Puschenreiter (B'Day) req. Kopil's
 ❖ For Tibor and Iveta Kopil (5th Wed. Ann.)
 ❖ For Judy Schmidt ❖ For Drana Gojhij
 ❖ †Paul Szwarc ❖ †Peter Piatek
- 6:00PM (Tridentine)
 For the Intentions of all Parishioners
- 8:30PM For the Citizens of the United States
 ❖ For Antonina Albino & Family
 ❖ For the Shamoon Family
 ❖ For the Conversion of Sinners ❖ For Akhlas Gappy
 ❖ For Patrick, Stephanie & Emmanuel Korkis
 ❖ For Nagham & Anthony Korkis
 ❖ †Ruth Bader Ginsburg req. Vicki
 ❖ †Paolo Persichetti req. Annette & Gary Rudzewicz

Wedding Banns!

November 7, 2020: Katharine Moses & Douglas Wright





30th Sunday in Ordinary Time • October 25, 2020

Jesus Christ, The High Priest

Fr. Libor Marek, Pastor • lmarek@saintcyrls.church

Fr. Juraj Nuota, Associate Pastor • jnuota@saintcyrls.church

Deacon Phil McCown • wadephil@yahoo.com

Deacon Gerald Smigell • vgsmigell@gmail.com

Parish Office • parishoffice@saintcyrls.church

Holy Mass & Office Schedules

HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAYS: 9AM & 5:30PM (Vigil)

SUNDAYS: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM (Slovak), 6 PM (Latin Tridentine) & 8:30PM

MONDAYS: 9AM & 12PM

TUESDAYS: 6AM & 12PM

WEDNESDAYS: 9AM & 12PM

THURSDAYS: 6AM, 12PM & 7PM

FRIDAYS: 6AM & 12PM

*WEEKDAY OFFICE SCHEDULE:

MONDAYS: 10AM - 2PM

TUESDAYS: 11AM - 2PM

WEDNESDAYS: 10AM - 2PM

THURSDAYS: 11AM - 5PM

FRIDAYS: 11AM - 2PM

*Office is closed during 12 PM Holy Mass

Face masks must be worn at all times in the Church building.

Please keep 6' social distancing.

*CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday: 10:30AM - 11:30AM & Tuesday & Thursday: 6:00PM - 7:00PM

Registration Forms for Confession are Available on the Parish Website: www.saintcyrls.church

Confessions are outdoors. Please wear a face mask.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: EVERY THURSDAY: 1:00PM - 7:00PM (in the Church)

COMMEMORATION OF ALL THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

November is All Souls' Month. In Christian charity, we pray for the Holy Souls in Purgatory and offer up Masses for the relief of their suffering. We especially remember our dearly departed relatives and friends. For this, you are invited to list the names of your loved ones who passed away this year in our Remembrance Book which is located in the vestibule. It will be brought into the church during the month of November. Throughout November, the Masses will be said for the souls of the people whose names are inscribed in the Remembrance Book.

Remembering Our Beloved Deceased

Memorial Mass and Service • Saturday, November 7, 5:30PM Holy Mass

For Our Deceased Parishioners and Friends

"Precious in the Eyes of Lord is the Death of His Faithful Ones"

Phyllis Jean O'Neil, Robert John Leonard, Edwin George Laabs, Mary Jane Grivas, Paolo David Persichetti

Mary Catherine Lucas, Paul Magusin, Jr., Gary Charles Polisano, Maxine Klim, Paul Joseph Palace

Diane Roberta Corrigan-Calley, Timothy R. Konowalski, Brenda DiGiovanni, Brian Keith Czach

Sylvia A. Bieniek, Anna Nota, Richard Thomas Walczyk, Germaine Malburg, Marilyn Paielli

Kevin Dalzell, Mary Elizabeth Klebans, William John Mumby, Michael Andrew Zeranick, Iole Goetz

Joseph Michael Vassallo, Albert Jerome Krakosky, Patricia Ann Doak, James Francis Mullen

Listed above are the names of our dearly departed parishioners and friends who entered into Eternal Life in the past year. Family, friends and fellow parishioners are cordially invited to the Memorial Mass and Service held on their behalf. The Memorial Mass and Service take place on Saturday, November 7, at 5:30PM.

Memorial Display Wall

A Memorial wall with pictures of the deceased listed above
is displayed in the vestibule





TRUNK OR TREAT • Saturday, October 31

The Knights of Columbus St. Nicholas Council 7011 is sponsoring a Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 31, from 7:00PM-8:00PM. The event will take place in the church parking lot.

Each participant:

- ♦ BRING CANDY FOR THE CHILDREN
- ♦ DECORATE YOUR CAR (optional)
- ♦ DRESS YOUR CHILDREN IN COSTUMES

Participants arrive at 7:00PM to set up. The children will go trunk to trunk to collect candy from all participants.

Please call if you plan to attend and also for more details:

Joseph White, Grand Knight

(586) 556-2122, gk7011@mikofc.org

Catechism Corner

Catechism Class Schedule:

Wednesday, October 28: **Class**

Wednesdays, November 4, 11 & 18: **Class**

Wednesday, November 25: **NO Class**

Wednesdays, December 2, 9 & 16: **Class**

Wednesdays, December 23 & 30: **NO Class**

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please call:

Paul or Carroll Schuller, Directors of Religious Education, at:

cshuller@saintcyrils.church or

(586) 726-6911 (parish), (586) 254-9212 (home)

Life Teen High School Ministry • Monday, October 26

Join us for LIFENIGHT this Monday, October 26,

from 6:45PM-8:45PM in the church parking lot.

TOPIC: Lay It Down - Ephesians 5 and Imitating Christ

Life Teen Fall Retreat - "Advance" • December 12 & 13

This December, as we take in the Advent season and prepare for our Lord, we will reflect on what we are waiting for in ourselves. What is stopping us from being the saints we were meant to be? What keeps us from being everything God created us to be? What are we waiting for?

Space is limited - please inquire about registration today by emailing: Kimberly at kambrosio@saintcyrils.church.

Parents, please register new AND returning teens at: <https://tinyurl.com/lifeteenedge>

If you have questions, would like to be put on our mailing list or would like to volunteer, please contact:

Alexandria Lewis, (586) 641-7672 or lifeteen@saintcyrils.church



EDGE Middle School Ministry

EDGE will not take place this week!

Congratulations Alex Lewis, Youth Minister, on your marriage to Eric Collins this weekend.

May your life be full of blessings & love!

Missalettes for 2021

If you are interested in having a copy of your own Missalette for 2021, the "Breaking Bread Missalettes with Daily Propers" have arrived and are now available. (Suggested Donation: \$6) Missalettes may be picked up in the Parish Office during regular hours or you may contact the Parish Office at (586) 726-6911.

BREAKING BREAD
2021



Wearing Face Masks in the Church

With all Holy Masses being inside in the Church, we must be more diligent in adhering to the rules issued for all Parishes by the Archdiocese of Detroit: social distancing, wearing face masks, and sanitizing the church.

More than ever, diligence in wearing face masks is crucial so that all people feel welcome in our Parish. There is a significant number of people who – subjectively or objectively – would not feel comfortable coming to Church if people were not wearing their masks. No matter what anyone's personal stand is, wearing a mask is an act of charity we owe to those who are more vulnerable and more sensitive. Saint John reminds Christians: If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. (1 John 4:20)

Most people do not like wearing a mask, but Jesus calls us to even do things we do not like, and Jesus Himself was first in line. Our self-denial and sacrifice are a way for us to imitate Jesus and they are also a source of grace for our lives. Wearing a mask can be an act of self-sacrifice offered up for the upcoming presidential election and for peace in the nation.

Since the beginning of the pandemic, many people have offered their help and assistance. My particular gratitude goes to the maintenance and cleaning staff as well as the many volunteers who have stepped up to help make our Parish open for everybody. Their efforts allow us to offer the liturgy and other services and they should not be taken for granted.

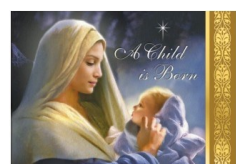
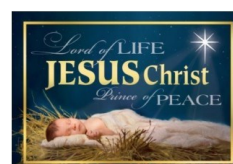
The Parish needs your help now. Discipline and compliance with face masks will help make our Parish a place where all feel comfortable and welcome; a place to experience the love of God and love of neighbor.

2020 LIFESPAN Christmas Cards

Right to Life – LIFESPAN Christmas Cards, as shown below, are now available. The cards come 10 in a package, and are \$7/package.

You can place an order for them by calling the LIFESPAN office at (248) 816-1546 or you can email the office at oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org (please put SSCM Christmas Cards in the subject line). Your support is appreciated this year even more than ever before!

Thank you for your consideration. Lynn Gura, L.I.F.E. Ministry





Total Consecration to Jesus thru Mary 33-Day Preparation begins : NOVEMBER 5



St. Louis de Montfort (1673 – 1716) had a profound and deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and wrote extensively on the virtues of Our Lady, what true devotion to her consists of, and how the faithful need to turn to her as the way to her Son, Jesus Christ. He recommends that the faithful formally consecrate themselves to the Blessed Mother. For this end he developed a specific 33-day program consisting of various prayers and readings to help the faithful detach themselves from the world and bond themselves more closely with Christ through the example and intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St. Louis de Montfort stands in a long tradition of saints completely devoted to Our Lady, and his work has been influential in the lives of many other saints, one of the most famous among them is Pope St. John Paul II, who took his papal motto, "Totus Tuus" (Totally Yours) from de Montfort.

This "Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary" consists of an initial 12-day preparation followed by a period of three consecutive weeks, each week focusing on a different theme. It is recommended that the consecration be done on a major feast day of Our Lady, meaning that the preparation would begin 33 days prior. That is, after the 33-day program is completed, the formal Act of Consecration is made on a Marian feast day. Once you make the consecration, it is for life. It can then be renewed annually. Keep in mind that this is a formal consecration to Our Lady, like a vow. Through this 33-day program you are giving Mary ALL of yourself - your heart, your mind, and your soul - in order to bring you closer and help you be more faithful to her Son, Jesus Christ. Also, that she may use you as a holy instrument in her battle with Satan - i.e. this consecration allows her the free reign in your life to make you holy (she assists you, through the Holy Spirit, to conform to her virtues) and to use your prayers, sacrifices, and sufferings for the greater glory of God.

The next preparation begins on November 5, for all who wish to make, or renew their Consecration on December 8, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception.

"Preparation for Total Consecration" books are available in the parish office for \$10.

For questions about making your Total Consecration, or to register to make (or renew) your Total Consecration, contact the Parish Office: (586) 726-6911

All Souls Day Novena Begins Monday, November 2

Novena Mass Cards for All Souls Day are available now. You may pick up a card in the Parish Office on weekdays or you may have your card mailed to you or your loved one.

If you would like to have your card mailed, please email: parishoffice@saintcyrils.church and put "All Souls Novena" in the subject line. List the names AND addresses of :

- ♦ where you want each individual card mailed and
- ♦ indicate how you would like each card signed.

You may make your donation by either using PushPay on our website or make a check payable to "Ss. Cyril & Methodius Parish". In the memo line, write "All Souls Novena" and mail it to the Parish Office.

Suggested Donation:
\$10 each

*The Holy Sacrifice
of the Mass
is the greatest gift
anyone can receive.*



November Indulgences for "The Holy Souls in Purgatory"

Please pray for the faithful departed throughout the month of November, and especially on November 2. The Church gives us ample opportunities today to help those suffering in Purgatory. **All the faithful can seek to obtain a plenary indulgence for a soul in Purgatory.** We would certainly want people to help us through their prayers if we go to Purgatory. And if we help get someone to Heaven, you can be sure that they will help us and pray for us before the Throne of God.

What is an indulgence? "Indulgences are a part of the Church's teaching on the forgiveness of sins. Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we receive forgiveness for our sins, and all punishment is remitted. Through the Sacrament of Penance, sins are also forgiven, and the eternal penalty that is due to sin—namely, damnation, the eternal loss of the presence of God—is taken away. However, consequences still remain that the sinner must bear. This is what is traditionally called the temporal punishment for sin. This consequence of sin disrupts our relationship with God, with the Church and with others. Those who have received forgiveness for their sins may still have an obligation to undergo a process of purification to restore these disrupted relationships. The necessary and painful process that brings this reconciliation and purification can take place in this life or in Purgatory, because whatever part of the process remains unfinished at death must be completed in Purgatory" (*Indulgences and our Spiritual Life*). An indulgence (full or partial) is what we receive when the Church lessens the temporal (lasting only for a short time) penalties to which we may be subject even though our sins have been forgiven.

Plenary (Full) Indulgence Available on All Souls Day (November 2)

* Piously visit a church to pray for the faithful departed. * Say one "Our Father" and the "Creed" in the visit to the church. * Say one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary" for the intentions of the Pope. * Worthily receive Holy Communion (ideally on the same day). * Make a Sacramental Confession within 20 days of (before or after)

All Souls Day Plenary Indulgence Available from November 1 to November 8

* Devoutly visit a cemetery and pray for the dead, even if the prayer is only mental. * Say one "Our Father" and one "Hail Mary" for the intentions of the Pope. * Worthily receive Holy Communion (ideally on the same day). * Make a Sacramental Confession within 20 days of (before or after) All Souls Day.

A partial indulgence, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, can be obtained when the Eternal Rest is prayed especially during the month of November: *Eternal rest grant to 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.*

THE GENERAL CONDITIONS REQUIRED FOR GAINING A PLENARY INDULGENCE:

- All attachment to sin, even venial sin, must be absent. If one's disposition is less than perfect or if some of the above conditions are not fulfilled, the indulgence becomes partial.
- One must also remember that one can acquire only one plenary indulgence a day.
- The above indulgences are applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory.
- Several Plenary Indulgences may be gained on the basis of a single Sacramental Confession; only one may be gained, however, on the basis of a single Eucharistic Communion and prayer for the Pope's intentions.



*Together We Pray
United We Stand
In Prayer*

**ONLY 9 DAYS
UNTIL THE
PRESIDENTIAL
ELECTION!**

DAILY OUTDOOR PUBLIC ROSARY FOR OUR COUNTRY

WEEKDAYS at 5:30PM WEEKENDS at 8:30AM

★ ★ ★

Our country needs prayers ... and fasting and sacrifices! Please come as often as you can to support each other and our country in this peaceful and prayerful way. Please bring a chair and do not park in front of the Slovak Cross. (NOTE: On Election Day Tuesday, November 3, a last-minute effort to storm heaven with prayers will begin at 5:30PM. All 20 decades of the Holy Rosary will be recited.)

Outdoors. Please dress accordingly. Please practice social distancing.

"I pray that they may be [one] in Us, that the world may believe that You sent Me." -John 17:21

Are YOU Prepared to Vote?



It is our patriotic duty and privilege to vote. If you are 18 years or older you must be registered in order to vote. The website Michigan.gov/vote allows you to register on-line, find out if you are already registered, view a sample ballot, find your voting location, track your absentee ballot and more! **After October 19, you will have to register in person.** Do good by avoiding evil in determining which candidate is a greater threat to morality and liberty. Always pray before you vote. God Bless America!

For more information regarding prolife candidates check: RTL.org/vote

Event Purpose

The UNITE OUR NATION "Rally to the Eucharist" project, of which the UNITE MICHIGAN is a part of, is a grassroots inspired movement. The UNITE OUR NATION processions have ignited the laity across the nation. The massive Eucharistic processional events have become a rallying point for faithful Catholics everywhere. They offer an opportunity for Catholics to come together in Christian solidarity to pray, adore and to do public reparation for the deep divisions that have cut across our nation. Divisions seeded by unrepentant sin and a general weakening of the faith among our people. We seek to petition heaven for mercy, with full confidence in God's redemptive power. His grace will crush the diabolical strongholds that hold captive our public & governmental institutions. Strongholds that have darkened so much of our culture and spiritually blinded so many to the presence of God.

Event Details

The Eucharistic event will begin at 11:30 AM at Our Lady of the Rosary with confession, adoration and a priestly exhortation. The procession will then move to the Sweetest Heart of Mary parish for benediction and a recitation of the patriotic rosary. At the completion of the recitation of the rosary, the procession will move to St. Joseph Shrine for a final benediction, repose of the Blessed Sacrament and an inspirational summation of the day by lay evangelist, Bobby Hesley. Conclusion of the event will be at 4 PM.

Busses will be available to transport participants back to their cars at the conclusion of the event. Med-care vans will also be available along the route to assist adorers who may require medical assistance, water, or transportation.

The Knights of Columbus, Knights of the Holy Sepulcher and the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem are also expected to participate for the entirety of the procession. St. Paul's Street Evangelist will also provide street level ministry to those who may be drawn to observe the procession of the Blessed Sacrament.



UNITE MICHIGAN
A PATRIOTIC ROSARY RALLY

DETROIT
**SATURDAY
OCTOBER 31**
11:30 am

WE PROCESS UNITED ONE NATION UNDER GOD

Priorities at the Polls

By Most Reverend Joseph F. Naumann,

Archbishop of Kansas City, Kansas and Chairman of the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities

As Catholics approach the polls, we are asked to weigh many important issues. The U.S. bishops have reaffirmed that “the threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed.”(1) While they did warn us not to “dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life and dignity such as racism, the environmental crisis, poverty, and the death penalty,” they did give priority to upholding and defending our brothers’ and sisters’ most basic right — to live.

Abortion tragically ends someone’s life when he or she is most vulnerable and most in need of loving protection. Abortion is an intrinsic evil, meaning that it is never permitted or morally justified, regardless of individual circumstances or intentions. The personal and societal consequences of attacks against human life, whether at its earliest stages or at its final stages, are all the more serious because most often they are “carried out in the very heart of and with the complicity of the family — the family which by its nature is called to be the ‘sanctuary of life.’”(2) This is the place where a person should be the most loved, cherished, and protected.

Catholics are called to defend human life wherever it is threatened and stand up for human dignity wherever it is violated. The enormous number of human lives destroyed by abortion is one factor that elevates its importance. The most recent available data indicates over 2,000 children per day die from abortion in the United States. Since abortion was legalized in 1973, over 61 million children have been killed — and untold numbers of women and men suffer in the aftermath.

The tragedy of abortion is also distinct in that it is currently legal to directly and intentionally take the life of an innocent human being. Current laws in our country fail to protect the lives of unborn children. Our highest Court does not recognize children in their mothers’ wombs as persons and claims that abortion is a constitutional right. Further, many political leaders work actively to increase access to abortion. Some falsely describe it as health care and even as a basic human right.

People of good will must boldly stand up against this intrinsic evil, especially when it is occurring on a massive scale, implemented in law and funded, in some instances, by the government. As believers and citizens inspired by the Gospel and guided by the shepherds of our Church, we must do what we can to end violence in the womb, to ensure that unborn children are fully recognized and protected by our laws, and to support mothers and fathers in embracing life.



SIGN UP: votervoice.net/usccb/register

Take action and contact your elected representatives about important pro-life issues.

Make your voice heard.



1) *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States*, Introductory Letter, p.6. Washington D.C.: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2020.<https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/upload/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship.pdf>

2) Pope John Paul II, *Evangelium vitae*, (Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1995), 11.

Please find the full text of *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* at www.faithfulcitizenship.org



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

Secretariat of Pro-Life Activities | usccb.org/prolife



fb.com/usccbrespectlife



[@usccbprolife](https://twitter.com/usccbprolife)



[@ProjectRachel](https://twitter.com/ProjectRachel)



[@walkingwithmoms](https://www.instagram.com/walkingwithmoms)