

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sunday, February 9, 2025



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



5th Sunday
IN ORDINARY TIME

Simon said in reply, "Master, we have worked hard all night and have caught nothing, but at your command I will lower the nets." - Lk 5:5

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

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MASS Intentions

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February 8, Saturday - Sobota

Blessed Virgin Mary

- 9:00AM For the Members of Our Lady Mother of Mercy
Secular Discalced Carmelites ❖ For Mary Ghesquiere
❖ For Kendall Keil req. Sharon Brown & Family
❖ †Teresa Nguyen Thi Xuan Lan req. Ho Thu
- 5:30PM For John & Sandi Brady
❖ For Bev & Frank Moran req. Friend
❖ For Nahla Katty & Family req. Friend
❖ For Linda Hliebav & Renae req. Friend
❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
❖ †Daniel J. Ballew req. Mike MacDonald
❖ †David Chupa req. Family

February 9, Sunday - Nedela

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Is 6:1-2a,3-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

- 7:30AM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
❖ For Menard & Daniel Families
❖ For Teresa Carreon (B'Day)
❖ †Raphael Cayetano (B'Day)
❖ †Louis Allawerdi (Ann.)
❖ †John Maciag req. Wife
❖ †Ronald B. Neal req. Michael MacDonald
- 9:30AM For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 11:30AM (Slovak) For a Special Intention
❖ For Sebastian & Cinthia ❖ For Carroll Schuller
❖ For Hend Maku & Family ❖ For Raid Jebroo
❖ †Victims of Airplane & Helicopter Crash in DC
❖ †Nikolla Lulgjura
- 8:30PM For Faith & Rita Herfy (B'Days) req. Family
❖ For Steven & Christine Herfy (Ann.) req. Family
❖ For Nora Jerjosa ❖ For Manjola
❖ For Living & Dec. Members of the Potempski Family
❖ For Families of Airplane & Helicopter Crash Victims
❖ †Sherry Ohotnický req. Newell Family

February 10, Monday - Pondelok

Memorial of Saint Scholastica, Virgin

- 9:00AM For Therese Stout req. Karen Rockholt
❖ For Paul Wojnar
❖ †James Thibodeau req. Deborah Cousens
❖ †Michael Beste req. Family
- 12:00PM For Aaron Bustillo (B'Day) req. Parents
❖ For Amy Shamoon
❖ For Linda Caul req. Paul & Cindy Cobb
❖ †Lucila Evangelista

February 11, Tuesday - Utorok

- 6:00AM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory ❖ For Hollya
❖ †Nikolla Lulgjuraj ❖ †John & Anna Badowski
- 12:00PM For Living & Dec. Members of the Drozdowski Fam.
❖ For Bernadette & Lourdes Shamoon
❖ For the DiCicco Family
❖ †Thomas Hall Seabron req. Sharon Brown & Family

February 12, Wednesday - Streda

- 9:00AM (Latin) For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
❖ For Living & Deceased Members of the
Weidemann Family ❖ For Steve Rybinski
❖ For Valsamma Jose

- 12:00PM For Tony Robin
❖ For Tim & Victoria Roddy & Family
❖ For Diana Taylor req. Paul & Cindy Cobb
❖ †Lucila Evangelista

February 13, Thursday - Štvrtok

- 6:00AM For Drew Manor req. Langlois Family
❖ For the Hines & Desser Families
❖ †Margaret Mary req. Sister
❖ †Paul & Helena Szwarz
- 12:00PM For Fr. Fidelis Moscinski req. Friend
❖ For Jose Manuel Izquierdo ❖ For Jenson & Tina
❖ For Danielle Brown req. Sharon Brown & Family
- 7:00PM For Ethan Drozdowski (B'Day)
❖ For Jillian Marie Haio req. Mom & Dad
❖ For Bob & Barbara Flood
❖ †Sabriya, Hanna & Iman Boutany

February 14, Friday - Piatok

Memorial of Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius Bishop

- 6:00AM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory
❖ For John Desser (B'Day)
❖ †Dawn Stanley ❖ †Nikolla Lulgjuraj
- 12:00PM For a Special Intention ❖ In Thanksgiving
❖ For Chiara Bernadette req. Sharon Brown & Family
❖ For Sam & Amy Shamoon

February 15, Saturday - Sobota

Blessed Virgin Mary

- 9:00AM For Living & Deceased Members of the Beni Family
❖ †Theo Hanson req. Cousin Karen
❖ †Matthew Margiewicz
❖ †Filippo Marrocco req. Family
- 5:30PM For the Poor Souls in Purgatory req. RMG
❖ For Fr. Michael Lenz req. Mirka Plzak
❖ For Karen Brannigan & Family req. Dailey Family
❖ For the Vitale & Monsu Families
❖ †Dave Covington
❖ †Mary Wais req. Mike MacDonald

February 16, Sunday - Nedela

Solemnity of Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius Bishop

- 7:30AM For Issac Louth
❖ †Henry & Olga Toenjes
❖ †Daniel J Ballew req. Mike MacDonald
❖ †Gene Kucharek req. Wife
- 9:30AM In Thanksgiving req. Sam Babbie
❖ For Matthew Dailey (B'Day) req. Papa & Grandma
❖ For Living & Deceased Members of the Schnapp Family
❖ For the Members of the Knights of Columbus -
Council 7011 & Assembly 1839
❖ †Ernie Nash House req. Nash Brown Family
❖ †Dr. Matthew Holden Jr. req. Nash Brown Family
❖ †Ronald B. Neal req. Michael MacDonald
- 11:30AM (Slovak) For the Intentions of All Parishioners
- 8:30PM For Monir & Alia Korkis & Family
❖ For Jerjosa Family ❖ For Manjola
❖ For Brandon Mendoza
❖ †Ellen Komer
❖ †Laurene O'Donnell
❖ †Clare Bosscher req. Family



Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time • Sunday, February 9, 2025

Fr. Libor Marek, Priest in Solidum • lmarek@saintcyrils.church
Fr. Juraj Nuota, Priest in Solidum • jnuota@saintcyrils.church
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Ss. CYRIL & METHODIUS HOLY MASS SCHEDULE:

SATURDAYS: 9:00AM & 5:30PM (Vigil) / SUNDAYS: 7:30AM, 9:30AM, 11:30AM (in Slovak) & 8:30PM
MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: 9:00AM & 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 6:00AM & 12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 6:00AM, 12:00PM & 7:00PM

Ss. CYRIL & METHODIUS CONFESSION SCHEDULE:

MONDAYS & WEDNESDAYS: 8:30AM - 9:00AM & 11:30AM - 12:00PM
TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS: 5:30AM - 6:00AM & 11:30AM - 12:00PM
THURSDAYS & FIRST FRIDAYS: 5:30AM - 6:00AM, 11:30AM - 12:00PM & 6:30PM - 7:00PM
SATURDAYS: 8:30AM - 9:00AM

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAYS: 10:00AM - 5:00PM
TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS: 11:00AM - 5:00PM
WEDNESDAYS: 10:00AM - 2:00PM
***Office is closed during 12:00PM Holy Mass**

OVERNIGHT EUCHARISTIC ADORATION:

THURSDAYS, 1:00PM - FRIDAYS, 12:00PM (until 7:00PM on First Fridays)

Celebrating 100 Years of the Rosary Society ◊ Reflection and Gratitude

I have known the Rosary Society and most importantly -- many of its members -- for several years now. Years filled with official meetings and countless informal conversations, it has been a time of richness in which strong relationships were formed, growing from business to trust and ultimately to friendships. I know a number of members by name and many more by face, and they have all enriched my world. Many ladies have joined during my time here at the parish, while several have passed or moved away. The Rosary Society ebbs and flows with the people who make it up, and the vitality of the Society lives through its members. Each member is valuable and each helps to carry on the mission and purpose of the whole.

I have always found it fascinating and enriching to think of the Rosary Society as a parallel, but miniature, image of how the entire Church functions. The Church can only remain healthy if it relates to God; if its members relate to each other and then step outside of their small circle to engage with the larger world, and if each individual member maintains their personal wellbeing.

The Rosary Society has always put an emphasis on relating to God. Acts of worship, the shared prayer of the rosary and participation in various devotions become external expressions of our desire to connect with God and transform our lives. A spiritual dimension and our relationship to God save us from falling victim to activism and a performance mentality.

While it is beautiful to relate to God in a spiritual way, we often encounter him in very tangible forms -- in the people around us. The closer we get to God -- the focal point of all of our circles, the closer we get to the other people who surround us. Therefore, the Rosary Society functions as a ministry with many interactions that facilitate connections: bake-sales and luncheons, fundraising activities and shared recreation moments, serving the parish community or preparing delicious meals for priests... All of these are greatly appreciated, not just for their usefulness (and yes, these are crucial for the functioning of the parish in its present form), but much more than that. All of these activities shape us and transform us from self-centered and self-focused individuals to a loving and caring people who see Christ in others.

Finally, each person must also realize and take care of their own needs. Following the words of Christ, when we love our neighbor, we also must love ourselves and do what is good for us. While we are inclined to sacrifice and work for God and others, we need to care for our own physical, mental, and spiritual health.

I cannot be grateful enough for the presence of the Rosary Society in our parish over the past 100 years. I wish and pray that they continue to be a source of enrichment and spiritual health for everyone.

Fr. Libor Marek





Catechism Corner

Class Schedule

Wednesday, February 12, 6:15PM: Class

Wednesday, February 19:

NO CLASS (Mid-winter Break)

Wednesday, February 26, 6:15PM: Class

Saturday, March 1: 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation Retreat

Wednesday, March 5: NO CLASS (Ash Wednesday)

If you have any questions about Catechism, please contact:

Paul or Carroll Schuller at (586) 685-1069 or
cschuller@saintcyrils.church



Eucharistic Adoration

HEART'S DEEPEST LONGING

This week we will discuss the forth element in our growing in understanding to do God's will in our lives. The forth aspect is to grow in virtue every day. We must first have a serious and honest desire to be a saint. To become a saint is to live in imitation of our Master, Jesus Christ all the while holding strong to Our Lady's guidance along the way. The more we grow in virtue, the more we become Christ-like. At our Baptism we were infused with the virtues of faith, hope, and charity (love) by God directly. These are the Theological Virtues. We have other virtues that were not infused in us that we must continue to grow in for them to become habitual. These are called the Human Virtues. Now, the Human Virtues are rooted in the Theological Virtues which prepare us to do God's will in our lives. The Human virtues are called the Cardinal Virtues, which are: Prudence, temperance, justice, fortitude. When lived, we exhibit the Fruit of the Spirit as proof of the Holy Spirit and virtues in operation within us. The fruits are: Charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity. These Fruits require work on our part. God needs to place us in times where our patience can be tested in order to grow, same thing with our generosity, gentleness, kindness, etc. All of these are found grounded in the Cardinal Virtues and Theological Virtues. It's like trying to lose weight. When we first start it's difficult and we oftentimes quit trying. But if remain determined, we begin to see results. Living the virtues are similar. To first practice them it's hard and we don't necessarily like to do it. But in time and practice we begin to see the results in our lives. It's the way to lasting happiness, peace and joy. It's what God created us for!

- Paul A. Ray

Can You Spend One Hour with Our Lord?

At Gethsemane, Jesus said to the apostles, "Couldn't you watch with me even one hour? Keep watch and pray so that you will not give into temptation. For the spirit is willing but the body is weak." (Matt 26:40-42) Our Lord is calling you to stay with Him for one hour.

If you are able to commit to spend one hour with Our Lord EACH WEEK, please contact: Annette, (586) 247-7214

ADDITIONAL COMMITTED ADORERS ESPECIALLY NEEDED:

THURSDAY: 10:00PM - 11:00PM

THURSDAY: 11:00PM - 12:00AM

Saints Cyril & Methodius Solemnity of the Patrons of the Parish February 15 (Vigil Mass) and February 16 (All Masses)



The Slovaks who started to gather in the early 20th century in the east side of Detroit with the purpose of having a place for the community, for living their faith, and for instructing their children in their mother tongue, chose Saints Cyril and Methodius, the apostles of the Slavs, as patrons of their new church.

Now, more than 100 years later, Saints Cyril and Methodius are still venerated as the patrons of the Parish which is home to Slovak people and many Catholics of all ethnic backgrounds.

The Feast Day of Ss. Cyril & Methodius is on Friday, February 14, and will be celebrated as a Solemnity in our Church as follows:

◇ Saturday, February 15, 5:30PM

◇ Sunday, February 16, at 7:30AM, 9:30AM,
11:30AM (in Slovak), and 8:30PM

Attend one or more of these Masses to celebrate in thanksgiving for the patrons of our beautiful Parish.

N.O.W. Teen Ministry • Monday, February 10

TOPIC: "Change your Life Today:

How a Relationship with God is an Adventure"

TIME: 7:00PM - 8:45PM

LOCATION: Fr. Mikus Hall

N.O.W.-Navigating our World with Christ-offers high schoolers a variety of ways to deepen their relationship with God through weekly youth group meetings called "N.O.W. Nights." They include: Teaching & Testimony, Spiritual Formation, Games & Social Time, Snacks and Prayer Time.

We ask that teens have turned 14 years old before December 1 of last year and be at least a freshmen to attend.

The next N.O.W. night takes place this Monday, February 10, from 7:00PM - 8:45PM, in the Fr. Mikus Hall.

Questions about N.O.W. Teen Ministry:

Heidi Normile, (586) 859-0194

EDGE Middle School Youth • Thursday, February 13

TOPIC: "The Heart of Jesus:

Burning with Love for Us"

TIME: 7:00PM - 8:45PM

LOCATION: Fr. Mikus Hall

EDGE offers 6th, 7th, and 8th graders a variety of ways to deepen their relationship with God through weekly youth group meetings called "EDGE Nights." They include: Teaching and Testimony, Prayer Time, Games & Social Time, Snacks and Fun!

The next EDGE Night takes place this Thursday, February 13, from 7:00PM - 8:45PM, in the Fr. Mikus Hall.

Questions about EDGE Middle School Ministry:

Heidi Normile, (586) 859-0194

Going Deeper Into What the Catholic Church Teaches

Tuesday, February 11 • 7:00PM-9:00PM • Overflow Room

TOPIC:

THE FOUR LEVELS OF HAPPINESS

All are welcome to join the OCIA sessions to learn more about what we believe as Catholics. Whether you've already been Baptized and Confirmed doesn't matter.

~ Simply come to listen and learn ~



FAMILY EVENT: Ice Skating at Dodge Park Tuesday, February 18

Come meet Fr. Libor and fellow friends at Dodge Park in Sterling Heights for an evening of ice skating on Tuesday, February 18, from 6:00PM - 8:30PM.

Sterling Heights Residents:

Free with valid ID

Non-Residents: \$5 per person

Skate Rentals: \$4 per person

Learn About the Liturgy • February 22

You have been told that the Holy Mass is the summit of our Catholic faith. You know that the bread and wine are transformed into the Body and Blood of our Lord, but do you understand what the liturgy is? What place does the liturgy have in the spiritual life? Do you know the meaning behind the prayers, gestures, motions, and actions of the priest and people throughout the Mass? Do you know how to participate in the celebration?

Explore the depths of the mystery of liturgy with Father Juraj. Even if you have not attended previous sessions, feel free to come and learn. Father will guide you through the world of liturgy in order to better understand why the priest, deacon, altar servers, and the people of God do what they do, say what they say, and participate as they do in the liturgical rites of the Mass and in other sacraments. It will help you as well to consciously join in the celebration. There will also be time for questions and answers.

Join Father Juraj and your fellow parishioners in the Overflow Room on the 4th Saturday of each month. The next session takes place on Saturday, February 22, immediately following the 9:00AM Holy Mass.

Can You Help Serve Your Church?

Anyone who consistently attends a weekend Holy Mass, please consider that you could help your Church as a Lector or Usher!

LECTORS: If you would like to read the Word of God, lectors are needed at each Holy Mass. Please talk to a lector at the Mass you attend or call the Parish Office at (586) 726-6911.

USHERS: Gentlemen who would like to meet and greet parishioners and/or help with collections during the Holy Mass, your assistance is needed and appreciated.

Please talk to an usher at Mass or call:

Frank Moran, (586) 254-6534, Lou Persichetti, (248) 561-1240
or the Parish Office, (586) 726-6911

Fellowship ~ February 16

FELLOWSHIP WITH
BAGELS & COFFEE
IN THE FR. MIKUS HALL
AFTER THE
9:30AM HOLY MASS ON
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16!

BAGELS & COFFEE



Everyone is Invited!

Total Consecration to Jesus thru Mary

33-Day Preparation Begins: February 20

Consecration On: March 25, The Annunciation of Our Lord

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 Thursday, February 20, for all who wish to make, or renew their Consecration on Tuesday, March 25, the Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord.

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

Questions or to register to make (or renew)
your Total Consecration, please contact:
the Parish Office: (586) 726-6911

JUBILEE 2025



Jubilee of Hope † Archdiocese of Detroit

For more than 700 years, the Church's Jubilee Years have marked the passage of years and centuries and served as holy times to pause, pray, seek the Lord's pardon, and praise him for his merciful grace.

One of the most important observances of a Jubilee Year is the pilgrimage, making our way through the world so as to appreciate the beauty of creation, recall the need for silence and recollection, form friendships with fellow travelers, and seek Christ, who is the way (John 14:6) and the gateway (John 10:9) to eternal life, in every encounter and situation.

Knowing that very few of us can travel to Rome to pass through the jubilee's Holy Doors in the Eternal City, Archbishop Vigneron has designated several pilgrimage sites throughout the Archdiocese where the faithful will be able to pray the official prayer for Jubilee Year 2025 and unite themselves spiritually with all who will journey as pilgrims to Rome.

Pilgrims of Hope: The Scriptures envision hope as *"an anchor for our soul"* (Heb 6:19) by which we *"hold fast"* to the promise of eternal life *"that lies before us"* (Heb 6:18). Those who have hope—a desire for heaven and trust in God's promise of eternal life—are pilgrims journeying in confidence toward their true home in Heaven.

In *Spes non confundit*, the document officially announcing the Jubilee Year, Pope Francis tells us that our witness as a pilgrim Church is like *"leaven of authentic hope"* in the world: *"The coming Jubilee will thus be a Holy Year marked by the hope that does not fade, our hope in God ... May the witness of believers be for our world a leaven of authentic hope, a harbinger of new heavens and a new earth (cf. 2 Pet 3:13), where men and women will dwell in justice and harmony, in joyful expectation of the fulfillment of the Lord's promises."*

When does the Jubilee Year begin and end? The Jubilee Year officially (began) on December 24, 2024, when Pope Francis open(ed) the Holy Door of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It will conclude on January 6, 2026.

How can I participate in the Jubilee Year? In the Archdiocese of Detroit, Archbishop Vigneron encourages the faithful to embrace the invitation to become true pilgrims of hope, both spiritually and physically. Catholics are encouraged to go to (or return to), the sacrament of reconciliation, *"one of the greatest acts of hope a Catholic can make ... entrusting yourself fully to God's divine mercy. God is always ready to forgive."*

In addition, one is encouraged to visit one of the official archdiocesan pilgrimage churches, where you will be able to pray the official prayer for Jubilee Year 2025, unite yourself spiritually with all who will journey as pilgrims to Rome, and obtain an indulgence freeing you from the temporal punishment caused by sin.

What is an indulgence? An indulgence is the remission of the temporal punishment (the effects of sin that linger in us) caused by sin. Because sin is a preference for self-love, it leaves behind an unhealthy attachment to (or a disordered love for) earthly things, even after it is forgiven. The Church teaches that these earthly attachments can be purified either here on earth (through an indulgence) or after death in Purgatory. God's abundant mercy is such that he offers to free us from earthly attachments through the granting of indulgences by means of heavenly remedies, such as prayers, pilgrimages, devotions, and works of mercy.

How can I obtain an indulgence during the Jubilee Year 2025? During the Jubilee Year 2025, the faithful can obtain a plenary indulgence—that is, complete remission of the temporal punishment due to sin—by making **SPACE** for God in their day:

- Avoid** SIN (have complete detachment from all sin, even venial ones)
- Offer** PRAYERS for the Pope (Our Father and Hail Mary)
- Perform** the ACTION (see activities below)
- Go to** CONFESSION (about 20 days before or after the action is performed)
- Receive** the EUCHARIST (within about 20 days of performing the action)

Jubilee activities include the following:

Pilgrimages:

- †Basilica of Ste. Anne (Detroit), †Blessed Solanus Casey Center (Detroit), †Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament (Detroit)
- †Holy Sepulchre Cemetery (Southfield), †National Shrine of the Little Flower Basilica (Royal Oak)
- †Our Lady of Fatima Shrine (Riverview), †Our Lady of Hope Cemetery (Brownstown)
- †Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Chapel (Livonia), †Shrine of Jesus, The Divine Mercy (Clinton Twp.)
- †Shrine of St. John Paul II (Orchard Lake), †Shrine of St. Joseph (Detroit), †Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary (Pontiac)

Works of Devotion: †Participating in a parish mission, †Studying the documents of Vatican II or Catechism of the Catholic Church

Works of Mercy: †Visiting those in need or in difficult (e.g. the sick or prisoners, those who are lonely, elderly or disabled, etc.)

Works of Penance:

- †Abstaining from distractions (e.g., the use of smartphone apps or social media) at least one day a week, †Abstaining from certain food and drink (fasting) at least one day a week, †Abstaining from meat (abstinence) at least one day a week. †Donating money to the poor, †Supporting the work of those who defend and protect life in all its phases, supporting the ministry of those who work with abandoned children, young people in difficulty, the needy or lonely elderly people, or migrants, †Dedicating one's free time to community service or parish ministry.

The Jubilee Prayer: Father in heaven, may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.

May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel. May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished, your glory will shine eternally.

May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven. May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth. To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen

Franciscus

Update on March for Life • Washington DC • January, 2025

Dear Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parishioners and Visitors,

It was a real joy for me to send students, young adults, parents and chaperones to Washington, DC for the 52nd March For Life, the 3rd Post-Roe March. Some of the people in this group were from our parish!

People ask “why do we still go to DC to march?” Well, our most important work as Pro-Life Advocates is changing hearts and minds to save precious pre-born lives and save women from physical, emotional, and spiritual harm. The goal of the March for Life in DC is not only to change laws at the state and federal level, but to change the culture to ultimately make abortion unthinkable! Many of us are dedicated to march with hundreds of thousands of others in our nation’s Capitol until a culture of life is restored throughout the whole United States of America!

In a video message at the Rally before the March, the 47th President of the United States promised to ‘stand proudly for families and for life.’ I wanted to share a small part of his message: *We will work to offer a loving hand to new mothers and young families, and we will support adoption and foster care. We will protect women and vulnerable children.*

To all of the very special people marching today in this bitter cold, I know your hearts are warm and your spirits are strong because your mission is just very, very pure: to forge a society that welcomes and protects every child as a beautiful gift from the hand of our Creator.

Thank you for never losing hope and never giving up. Thank you for your tremendous support. God bless you, and God bless America.

You can watch the whole video clip here: https://youtu.be/kL570XDQYw?si=6jI5ZlaQ-g6aNK_F

Right after the President’s video message, our Vice President took the stage to a very excited crowd! Part of his message included: *We are proud to march with you; and, yes, we will be back next year.*

The excitement, the passion, the unwavering conviction that every single person here on the National Mall clearly feels. It is deeply moving to me and means more to President Trump and I than I could possibly say.

I want more babies in the United States of America. I want more happy children in our country, and I want beautiful young men and women who are eager to welcome them into the world and eager to raise them.

We need a culture that celebrates life at all stages, one that recognizes and truly believes that the benchmark of national success is not our GDP number or our stock market, but whether people feel that they can raise thriving and healthy families in our country..

Now yesterday, President Trump issued a strong endorsement of the Born-Alive Abortion Act, ensuring that those babies who survived botched abortions enjoy the equal protection under law, which is the obligation of every citizen to enjoy in this country.

Thank you for being here, and thank you for marching here today; and most importantly, in your works, you remind us that the March for Life is not just a single event that happens on a frigid January day. The March for Life is the work of the pro-life movement every single day from this point forward. Now, it is a lifelong call to action, a moment in time; but every single day that you guys do what you do, from supporting young moms and dads to fighting for the unborn, to working with our legislatures at the state and federal level, you make it possible for us to stand here and say that America is fundamentally a pro-baby, a pro-life and a pro-family country.

It is a joy and a blessing to fight for the unborn, to work for the unborn and to march for life! God bless you all, and thank you for having me. It’s an honor to be with you.

You can watch the whole video clip here: <https://youtu.be/gGGJkvGIfaA?si=-Inh19zTa5jsI9UO>

Right to Life–LIFESPAN will send buses again in January 2026! If anyone is interested in more information for next year, please email me with your name, cell number and let me know if you are a student, young adult, parent or other adult at oakmac@rtl-lifespan.org. I will add you to my list and send you details as they become available later this spring and over the summer. Planning a bus trip like this starts now and continues through the year.

Lynn Gura, Youth Director, Generation Truth, Right to Life – LIFESPAN Ed Fund



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