



BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD



Lou: Hey Joe, I know the score of any professional sports score before it happens.

Joe: No you don't. That's impossible.

Lou: Wanna bet?

Joe: Okay Lou. What's the score of the Steelers vs. the Browns game before it happens?

Lou: That's easy. The score of the game is going to be 0-0 BEFORE it happens.

(Editor's Note: And the Browns and Steelers game ends in another tie.)



November 5
Vanessa McGinnis

November 8
Cathy Sader

November 9
Bob Florek, Brent Walters, Nathan Willey

November 10
Gayle Paetzel

November 11
Tyler Harner, Anna Vilvens

news
AROUND
THE PARISH

Veterans of St. Mary and Community will be honored on November 11, 2018, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us to recognize those brave men and women who have served in the military. A carry-in meal will follow Mass in Father Luehrmann Hall. St. Mary Youth Group is the host and will provide the meat, drink, dessert and table service. The parish is invited and asks to bring a covered dish to share.

Samaritan's Purse, Operation Christmas Child, benefits children in over 130 war-torn and famine-stricken countries around the globe. Shoeboxes are filled with everyday necessities such as hygiene items and school supplies as well as one 'wow' toy (such as a doll or stuffed animal), and then distributed to children as they hear about God's love. Shoeboxes, brochures with packing ideas and instructions will be available. Shoebox drop-off location hours are now available in the Narthex through November 19th.



SERMON FOR THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY

I witnessed a powerful display of love. After years of hard work, Cincinnati Children's Hospital created a surgery to transplant part of a liver from a family member to a baby. The very first surgery was a mother giving part of her liver to her baby daughter. Before the surgery, the mother, a devout Catholic, requested the prayers of a priest. I was summoned to a room near the operating room. I found both mom and baby lying on separate wheeled stretchers. Doctors and nurses gathered around. Hope and excitement filled the air for this first-ever transplant of a living donor mother to her child. I remember praying this line, "May the power of God, the same power that created the first human, Adam, come into these doctor's hands to create new life for this baby today."

The mother knew there were risks for her, but she didn't care. She said, "I am giving my baby a second birth. I would gladly give my life to see her live." As mom said this, she extended her arm and reached her finger over to the baby. The baby instinctively wrapped her little hand around mom's finger. A doctor whispered to me, "This is like Michelangelo's painting of God's finger touching Adam's finger in the creation. God is going to create something special today. Father, I think your prayer has been heard." The love in that room was so palpable, so real. The operation was completely successful. That mother's total love gave her daughter a second chance to live. Both livers will grow to normal size.

You know what makes our Christian religion different from all other religions in the world? When you invite God into your life, God Himself lives within you. It is a personal love where God makes His home in your soul. No other religion teaches this. Catholics take this one step further. We believe God even gives us His complete self, Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity in the Holy Communion. The love talked about in today's Gospel is called "agapao." Agapao is love where you give yourself totally to someone else, just like that mother to her baby and Jesus for us at the Mass.

Jesus calls you to love God with all your soul, your mind and your strength. How do you know if you are loving God with agapao love? You'll know it when you do good, not to earn God's favor or earn your way to Heaven, but simply to please God and make Him happy. Have you ever done an act of kindness for someone to simply bring them joy even though they can't pay you back? God does that for you every day. Jesus says, do that for someone else. Agapao love to your neighbor pleases God a lot.

I close with a tribute to my mother. As a young boy, I got real sick one week before Christmas. The doctor said I could get pneumonia and may have to spend Christmas in the hospital. Mom was not going to let that happen. She nursed me around the clock with Vick's VapoInhalers and hot mustard plasters on my chest. To this day, I have no hairs on my chest because mom burned it all away. I ate enough chicken soup to fill a Campbell's soup factory. Two days before Christmas my fever broke. On Christmas day, I was happily playing with my presents. Mom lay sick in bed that Christmas day. I visited her. She asked, "Michael do you feel OK?" I said I feel good. Mom smiled happily. As I walked out of the bedroom door, I turned around and asked, "Mom do you want some chicken soup?"