

**DIVINE
MERCY**
Sunday

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday: 4:00 pm • **Sunday:** 10:00 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday & Tuesday: 8:30 am

HOLY DAY MASSES

Consult your weekly bulletin.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

OFFICE IS CLOSED TO PUBLIC

1305 E. Erie Avenue Lorain, OH 44052

Phone: 440-288-0106 • **Fax:** 440-288-0143

www.stanthonylorain.org

Monday-Friday:

9:00 am - 3:00 pm

ADORATION CHAPEL

Monday-Friday: 8 am - 3 pm

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS

CONFESSION: Saturday 3:00 pm or by appt.

BAPTISM: At least one parent must be a parishioner & actively attend Mass prior to calling the Office.

Baptisms will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month

MARRIAGE: At least one member of the couple must be a parishioner & actively attend Mass prior to calling. Couples need to make arrangements *at least 6 months in advance*. No date may be reserved until discussion with priest of the parish.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Call the Parish Office

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR)

Mondays 6:15 - 7:30 pm

psr@stanthonylorain.com

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

440-288-2155 • www.stanthonylorain.org

Julio Alarcon, *School Principal*

alarconj@stanthonylorain.com

PASTORAL STAFF

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**FROM THE DESK
OF FR. SMITH**

I think that on our best days, we who profess to be Catholic are storytellers. Today I have three stories for you. Two of which we know the ending; the third is a work in progress.

The first story is from Shakespeare's tragedy *King Lear*. It is a complex story, as complex as life, but there is one thread I find particularly memorable. King Lear wants to retire and so devises a practical plan to divide his kingdom among his daughters. His plan is to apportion their inheritance based on their expressed love for him. The oldest daughters, who are as practical as their father, say whatever they have to in order to gain the largest share. The youngest, Cordelia, simply says that she loves her father and nothing more. Lear doesn't consider how the actions of Cordelia's life have written large her love. Lacking the profusion of spoken love, Lear disinherits her believing his retirement years will be better spent with the enthusiastic love of the other two daughters. It is the calculus of a small minded person whose concern is only for himself. Of course, life does not work out as Lear planned. Eventually his two daughters, now holding power and resources, reduce their father to a mad old man wandering around the bogs of England. That is when he encounters Cordelia. Lear is a realist, he expects to receive from her what he knows he deserves. However, contrary to expectation or reason, she does not scold or shame him, but forgives him. She opens up for him the wide world of grace, mercy, and forgiveness. What Cordelia does for Lear, Jesus does for the whole world. But Lear does not pass through the gate into a new world. He descends into the darkness of his own small, disintegrating world. It is a Shakespearean tragedy.

My second story comes from today's gospel and our encounter with "Doubting Thomas." The scene opens with Jesus appearing among the disciples although Thomas is not with them. Interestingly no one among them says "Welcome back" or "We knew it," or even "What took you so long?" No one anticipates Jesus' return. Did they doubt or disbelieve? Scripture does not say. Upon his return Thomas does not believe, openly declaring he will not believe unless he places his finger in the wounds of Jesus. And so we label him "Doubting Thomas." But I wonder why Thomas wasn't there the first time? Is his disbelief consistent with what we know about Thomas? This is the same Thomas who otherwise is depicted in the Gospel according to John as authentic, straight-forward, sincere, and even courageous. There is something terribly pragmatic about Thomas and he is no retiring wall flower. In the Gospels, you know what he is thinking. And in this case you know what he disbelieves. When the other disciples were cowering in fear in the Upper Room, Thomas was not there among them. We don't know where he was, but I'm guessing that the ever practical Thomas was getting on with his life, figuring out what was coming next and getting on with it. Thomas is, first and foremost, a realist. His world is shrinking to the practical matter of taking care of himself.

(Continued on page 5)



Sunday - April 11th - Sunday of Divine Mercy

10:00 am - Living & Deceased Members
of the Marian Guild
Requested by: The Marian Guild

Monday - April 12th - Easter Weekday

8:30 am - †Werner Wirth
*Requested by: Jeff & Maureen
Smith*
(School Mass Grades 6-8)

Tuesday - April 13th - St. Martin I, Pope & Martyr

8:30 am - †Warren Roy Smith
*Requested by: Jeff & Maureen
Smith*

Saturday - April 17th - Easter Weekday

4:00 pm - †Jesse Camarillo (1st Anniv.)
Requested by: Elaine Harasty

Sunday - April 18th - 3rd Sunday of Easter

10:00 am - †Paula Tobias
Requested by: Family

MANY PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY
To Chris, Matt, Stephanie & family
upon the death of their son & brother,
Eric Banes on March 28, 2021.



*May Eric's soul and the souls of all
the faithfully departed, through the
mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen*

LIFE IS CHANGED, NOT ENDED.

OFFERTORY REPORT

Amount Budgeted Weekly..... \$4,807.69
Sunday Collection (3/21/21)..... \$3,390.00
Sunday Collection (3/28/21)..... \$4,071.00
7/1/19 to Date over/(under) Budget..... (\$42,616.00)

MY GIFT TO GOD REFLECTS HIS GENEROSITY TO ME.

If you are unable to contribute, please submit your envelopes all the same as it is our most clear indication of active participation for Mass.



**RECEIVE SPECIAL GRACES TODAY ON
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Let's begin by reading what is arguably the most important passage in St. Faustina's *Diary*, when Jesus tells St. Faustina: *I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet (699).*

There it is: **Jesus promises that the soul that's been to Confession and receives Holy Communion will be completely wiped away of the two stains that are on our soul.** Those stains are sin and the punishment due to sin. The special grace promised by our Lord for Divine Mercy Sunday is nothing less than the equivalent of a complete renewal of baptismal grace in the soul. Don't let this grace pass you by.



Learn more at
www.thedivinemercy.org/.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 11, 2021

- Sunday:* Acts 4:32-35/Ps 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24 [1]/1 Jn 5:1-6/Jn 20:19-3
- Monday:* Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9 [cf. 11d]/Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday:* Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday:* Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [7a]/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday:* Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20 [7a]/Jn 3:31-36
- Friday:* Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [cf. 4abc]/Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday:* Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19 [22]/Jn 6:16-21
- Next Sunday:* Acts 3:13-15, 17-19/Ps 4:2, 4, 7-8, 9 [7a]/1 Jn 2:1-5a/Lk 24:35-48

ADORATION CHAPEL



“Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth, the tabernacle, and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. You can come to me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace.” “O Jesus, hidden in the Blessed Sacrament . . . with the trust and simplicity of a small child, I give myself to you today.”
 ~*St. Maria Faustina, Divine Mercy Diary*

They practice mercy, that beautiful virtue of which it’s said, “Mercy is the distinctive feature of God.” We practice it, too, and must do so all our lives: corporal mercy, spiritual mercy, mercy in rural areas and in the missions by hastening to meet the needs of our neighbor.
 ~*St. Vincent de Paul*

PRO-LIFE THOUGHT OF THE WEEK - LET’S FACE THE FACTS & TRUTH ABOUT ABORTION CONT.
 As Catholics, we must boldly speak the truth and contradict the untruths and misleading rhetoric which surrounds the issue. **The next few weeks will explore some myths about abortion.**

Myth 3 - Abortion is not about *"a woman making a decision about her own body"*. **The child** in the mother's womb **is a separate, human being with its own heartbeat, DNA, blood type and finger prints**. About 50% of the time; the child is not even the same gender!

Myth 4 - The vast majority of abortions are done as a form of birth control because the baby is *"inconvenient", "too expensive" or a "burden"*, **Very few abortions** have anything to do with the health of the mother and less than 1 % is performed as a result of rape or incest



PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Gilbert Amador	Vicky Aring	Gloria Badillo	Lindsey Marie Ballas	Janet Baxter	Joanne Bilancini
Tim “Swampy” Burton	Gary Butchko	Chuck Camera	Lynn Coscho	Ann Cusella	Ann DiFrancesco
Alfredo DiLuciano	Evelyn Donovan	Jerry Donovan	Anna Mae Ebinger	Bea Ellis	Denise Ellis
Deacon Jose Flores	Scott Friges	Bea Giacobbe	Virginia Glass	Brian Grace	Renee Golowenski
D’Arie Gonzalez	Delores Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez	Jose Gonzalez Jr.	Juan Gonzalez	Fr. John Raphael Hadnagy, OFM Conv
Nancy Hartman	Tim Haupt	Deacon Paul Heise	Clara Hodorowski	Kevin Holley	Phyllis Holomuzki
Jennifer Humphrey	Al Jacobs	Devin Jarvis	Sylvia Johnston	Ralph Koontz	Pepsi Lachowyn
Barbara McCalland	Deacon Luis Maldonado	Dolores Melley	Jen Mitterholzer	Ellen Morgan	Victor Munoz
Mary Nazario	John Pavic	Liz Profant	Elizabeth Raddell	Emily Raddell	Amy Schmidt
Andrea Taylor	Jack Tocchi	Audali Torres	Rosa Torres	Peter Uies	Stacie Velasquez
Sherri Wedgeworth	Cathy Weston	Paul Winkler			

Call the Parish Office if you would like to add someone to this list. Please notify us when to remove the name.
 +++++
 Call the “Prayer Line” for immediate prayer requests, **Georgianna: 440-288-1644 or Dee: 440-984-3874**

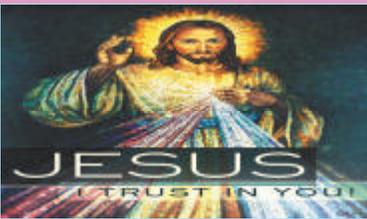
PASTOR'S COLUMN CONTINUED

One week later, everything changes. What changes for Thomas is the world, his reality, or at least his perception of this life. *"Peace be with you."* Then he said to Thomas, *"Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe."* Jesus uses Thomas' own mocking words, not to humiliate or scold him, but simply to confront him with the possibility that his reality was too small, his vision of what is possible too limited. When Jesus calls him to faith, to trust, Thomas is being invited into a much wider, larger world of newness, new life, and new possibilities. And Thomas passes through the open gate of mercy, reconciliation and forgiveness. Thomas now knows what is possible for God. It is no Shakespearean tragedy, but a Gospel story of redemption and healing.

The third story is still in progress. It is the story of our lives. It is not a story about our doubts, but a cautionary tale about the world we perceive. Are we small-world Catholics who are governed by limitations and tempted to justify that with a layer of "pragmatic realism" – *we'll always have the homeless*. Is the vision of our world defined by failure instead of possibility, governed by scarcity instead of abundance, ruled by remembered offenses rather than by forgiveness, reconciliation, and mercy? Are there relationships we are about to give up on, disappointments we can't seem to get over, the wrongs we have done – or have been done to us. These are the markers of a small and shrinking world. Easter and the Resurrection is Christ holding open for us the gateway to a bigger world. A world where relationships can be restored, disappointments dissolved into new Hope, the old wrongs forgiven, and all things can be raised to new life.

How will your story end? Tragedy or Redemption? Darkness or eternal light? Limits or the possibility of all things? It is your story to write, to choose the madness of Lear or to proclaim with Thomas, *"My Lord and My God."*

~Rev. Edward J Smith



HOW CAN I MAKE A DEVOTION ON DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY?

Divine Mercy Service in our Area All are welcome!

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Lorain at 3 pm

St. Vincent de Paul Church, Elyria at 3 pm

Watch EWTN

There will be a **Divine Mercy Preview Show** beginning 12 pm with **Mass from the Divine Mercy Chapel in Stockbridge, MA** at 1:30 pm. **The Chaplet of Divine Mercy** will be prayed at 3:00 pm followed by **Live Adoration** from EWTN Chapel & **Divine Mercy Holy Hour** at 4:00 pm.

PRAYING THE DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET

Begin with the Our Father, Hail Mary, & the Apostles Creed. Using regular rosary beads, work your way around the five decades with the prayers below.

On the standalone beads, pray:

"Eternal Father, I offer you the body, blood, soul, and divinity of your dearly beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world."

On the decade beads, pray:

"For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us & on the whole world."

At the end, pray the following three times:

"Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

It is typical to conclude the Divine Mercy Chaplet with the words: *"Jesus, I trust in you."*

It's OK to have a lot of questions. We're here to answer them.

Attend our **FREE** seminar to learn more about the burial planning process including:

- Full body, cremation, and natural burial in-ground vs. above-ground burial Catholic funeral tradition

April 17, 2021
1:00 PM

St. Joseph Cemetery
32789 Detroit Rd.
Avon Ohio 44011
216-641-7575 Ext. 8

We kindly ask that you RSVP to this event, so we can make arrangements for proper social distancing. Attendees are required to wear a face covering throughout the seminar.

Please contact Bob DeJohn at 216-670-5839 or bdejohn@clecem.org.

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www.clecem.org
855-852-PLAN

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER FLOWERS IS THIS MONDAY, APRIL 12TH!

BLOOM Mother's Day/Spring Flower Sale!

BLOOM Spring Flowers are coming to *St. Anthony of Padua School!*

DID YOU ENJOY YOUR MUMS IN THE FALL??

Well, The BLOOM Spring Flowers Program consists of this year's most popular spring flower and veggie choices from the same Greenhouse that grew your beautiful fall mums!!!

DON'T FORGET YOUR WIFE, MOM, GRANDMA, AUNTIE, or GODMOTHER FOR MOTHER'S DAY!!



*ST. ANTHONY SCHOOL WILL RECEIVE 25-30% PROFIT FROM EACH PLANT SOLD!
OUR GOAL IS \$1,500.00 TO BE ADDED TO THE PLAYGROUND FUND!*

NO NEED TO GO SHOPPING WHEN YOU CAN ORDER RIGHT HERE!!

Order Form Sales

We accept cash, check (*made payable to St. Anthony*), credit card and VENMO.

Please call the parish office to order.

We will only be having **one pick up day**, so **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR SATURDAY, MAY 1** beginning at **10:00am** (more info will follow for staggered pick-up!!)

Online Sales

For easy selling online, please visit <https://app.fundraiseit.org/shop.php?code=C9AFC> or go to www.stanthonylorain.org & click on Spring Flower Sale in the top yellow bar
This is our main St. Anthony Parish online link where you can pay by credit card

Sale Ends (Order forms/money due to school--online sale ends): **MONDAY, APRIL 12**

Delivery day/time/location: **Saturday, May 1** beginning at **10:00am** on the St. Anthony grounds

AS ALWAYS, THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT

MONTHLY SUNDAY GRIEF SUPPORT GROUPS IN-PERSON & VIRTUALLY

The Catholic Cemetery Association continues with our free Monthly Grief Support Groups in two formats: In-Office and Virtually. **Both the in-person and virtual meetings will take place on Sunday, April 18th.** You can join the in-person meeting from 3-4 pm at 6 locations with the closest being the St. Joseph Cemetery, 32789 Detroit Rd., Avon or log in to Zoom at 5 pm for the virtual session. Both meetings will cover the same topic. The April topic is "*Mother's Day Grief*" & "*Renewed Hope in the Midst of Grief*". We offer a comfortable, private & safe environment where you are free to explore your grief.

If you choose to attend the in-person session from 3-4 pm, there will still be limited seating & proper sanitizing to keep everyone safe. *Participants are requested to RSVP* so appropriate social distancing can take place. You are also asked to please wear a protective face covering. RSVP by contacting Rhonda at rabrams@clecem.org or at 216-930-4866.

To register for the virtual meeting from 5-6 pm, simply go to <http://bit.ly/ccavirtualgriefsupportgroup>. The Zoom link will be sent to you after you register. Reach out to Rhonda with any questions you may have.



CLUSTER PARTNERS WEBSITES

St. Teresa of Avila Parish
stteresaparish.com

St. Thomas the Apostle Church
saintthomaschurch.net

If you would like to submit an article for an upcoming Bulletin, please send requests to obermillerk@stanthonylorain.com by Monday at 10 am.

Bulletins are sent to print every Tuesday!

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