

ST. MARY'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

VERY REV. RICHARD I. LAMBERT

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Youngstown, Ohio 44509

Rectory 330-799-8163

Social Center 330-792-1578

June 4, 2023

Page 211

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

SAT.	4:30 p.m.	Health & Blessings of Parishioners
SUN.	10:30a.m.	+Nicholas & Catherine Sopkovich by Dr. Mrs. Tom Sopkovich
MON.	10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
TUE.	10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
WED.	10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
THU.	10:30 a.m.	No Liturgy
FRI.	10:30 am.	No Liturgy



SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 11, 2023

SAT.	4:30 p.m.	+Theodore Edgar In Loving memory by wife, Joni	Pg 125
SUN.	10:30 a.m.	Health & Blessings of Parishioners	

Your Church throughout the world, O Lord, clothed with the blood of your martyrs as with royal purple linen, cries out to You through them, O Christ God; send down Your mercies upon Your people, grant peace to Your world and great mercy to our souls.

*God is wondrous in his saints, the God of Israel, the God of Israel.
God is known in Judah; In Israel His name is great.*

CHURCH DONATIONS May 28, 2023
Candles \$ 33.00 Monthly Dues \$5.00
Pentecost \$110.00
Maintenance \$105.00
Offertory.....925.00

SOCIAL GAMES

Games are played every Sunday...Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Games begin at 6:30 p.m. Don't miss out on our Great Prizes and a FUN NITE out with Family & Friends. Also....Bingo is held the second Wed. Of the Month. Hope to see you here!

SUPER BINGO

We will hold a Super Bingo in our Center on Sept. 9, 2023. If you need more information on this EVENT please call the office and we can inform you of how it is run. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR...You do not want to miss out on this FUN EVENT! 330 792 1578.**

There is an evident effort in nature to be happy. Everything blossoms to express beauty, as well as lead to fruitage. Even the inorganic fashions itself into crystals that absorb and flash back the sunlight. If one examines nature with the microscope, or considers the heaven at night, he finds three things: truth as transparent, beauty beyond that which can be spoken, and goodness everywhere. God speaks through all things, with an eternal desire to create happiness. The deep distress in the world comes in when we lose our anchorage of faith in our God.



SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS

The eighth Sunday after the Resurrection, that is, the first Sunday after Pentecost, is called the Sunday of All Saints. This feast completes the cycle of moveable feasts. On this day the Eastern Church pays particular veneration to all those who are the fruit of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

"Today, we celebrate the feast of All Saints all over the world. Our holy Fathers instituted this feast and directed it to be kept after the feast of the Descent of the Holy Spirit, as if to set before us an example of how the coming of the Holy Spirit enabled them to attain sanctity. He made them holy and wise those who were of the same nature as we in order to give the place forfeited by the fallen angels. Through Christ, he brought them to God..some through suffering and martyrdom; others through perseverance. The Deacon Constantine, in his sermon on the Sunday after Pentecost says; "The Greek Church, by a distinguished and very illustrious feast, honors the memory of those immortal flowers which the whole earth brings forth from that soil which is continuously refreshed by the flowing streams of the Holy Spirit."

ETERNAL LOVE, YET PERSONAL

St. Ignatius was once walking down a path in a garden of flowers. He stopped and stooped to pick one of the flowers. While holding it and marveling at its delicacy and beauty, this thought came to him: "God from all eternity has planned this flower for my enjoyment at this particular moment." So striking a thought was this that the saint went into ecstasy.

It is a tremendous thought, isn't it? All of us ought to give it mature consideration in relation to ourselves. It will help us realize several important realities: the presence of God for each of us, His eternal concern for each of us individually, the goodness of God to each of us.

What is true of the flower I pick, is true of every other thing God prepares for my use. God created the world, together with its endless number of benefits of man in general. A certain portion of the goods of the world, however, He set aside for Me in particular.

Thousands, perhaps millions, of years have passed since the creation of the world. Centuries have rolled on into eternity. Finally I came into being, and God had prepared for me things I would need in life. He has, as it were, set a table for me, and surrounded me with his gifts. He has seen to it that I have my flowers, my clothes, my home, my garden, my book, my pen...my everything. God made for me the air I breath, the water I drink, the pleasures I enjoy. Real romance enters into my spiritual communion, raised this priest's hand in absolution over me, set aside this shell of water for my washing in baptism when my life began and this vial of oil for my anointing at life's end.

God gave me my whole life, my own heart, my eyes, ears, mouth, hands, feet. He gave me features that set me aside as myself from every other person of the millions in the world today, and the billions of the past and of the future. I have my own smile, my own tone of voice and expression, my own talents and mannerisms. And Jesus Himself says that the very hair on my head are known, numbered, and commanded by Him.

One could go on in an endless litany recalling God's love of me personally and His gifts to me individually. He meant it literally when He said, "*I have loved thee with an everlasting love!*"

POWER IN KINDNESS

I often wonder why people do not make more of the marvelous power there is in kindness. It is the greatest lever to move the hearts of people that the world has ever known...greater by far than anything that mere ingenuity can devise or suggest. Kindness is the kingpin of success in life. It is the prime factor in overcoming friction and making the human machinery run smoothly.