## Lord, send out your

pirit,

and renew the face of the earth.





# SAINT ANDREW

1899 McCoy Road Columbus, Ohio 43220 Parish Office (614) 451-4290 www.standrewparish.cc

## **OFFICE AND CHURCH HOURS**

The Parish Office is open Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-4:00 PM. The Church is open daily 6:00 AM-8:30 PM. For more information, visit www.standrewparish.cc.

## **MASS SCHEDULE**

Saturday Vigil Mass - 4:30 PM Sunday - 7:30 AM, 9:15 AM, 11:00 AM Weekdays - 6:30 AM & 8:30 AM Saturday Morning - 9:00 AM

### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays from 3:15-4:15 PM or by appointment at 614-451-4290

To learn more about **SACRAMENTS**, call the Parish Office or visit our website, www.standrewparish.cc and select "Sacraments and Prayer."

For **ANOINTING OF THE SICK**, please contact a priest at the Parish Office.

We welcome **NEW MEMBERS!** To register or learn more about St. Andrew Parish, please contact our office by phone, or email Jen Wenzke at jwenzke@standrewparish.cc.

#### OUR MISSION

St. Andrew Church is a community of Catholics committed to serving God by living our faith. We exist to fulfill the mission of the Roman Catholic Church at the local level by continuing the saving work of Christ. We accomplish this through the celebration of the sacraments, proclaiming and living the Gospel, reaching out to others in justice and charity, and providing all parishioners abundant spiritual, educational, and social opportunities to be known as a faith-filled, engaged, and generous parish.



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## STAFF DIRECTORY

<b>CLERGY</b> Msgr. Stephan Moloney, Pastor Rev. Lawrence Tabi, Parochial Vicar Deacon Thomas M. Berg, Jr. Deacon Daniel Dowler Rev. William DeVille, In Holy Service whd22@aol.com	614-451-4290 Ext. 101 Ext. 103
Rev. Paul Noble, In Residence, pnoble@columbuscatholic.org	614-451-4290
Thomas Conigy, Business Manager tconigy@standrewparish.cc	Ext. 106
Jen Wenzke, Parish Secretary jwenzke@standrewparish.cc	Ext. 100
Joe Tomlinson, Accounting accounting@standrewparish.cc	Ext. 105
Mary Beasecker, Communications mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc	Ext. 104
Emily Jaminet, Adult Faith/RCIA ejaminet@standrewparish.cc Greg Price, Buildings Superintender gprice@standrewparish.cc	Ext. 110 nt
Philip Lortz, Director of Music plortz@standrewparish.cc	614-451-1839
<b>RELIGIOUS EDUCATION</b> Tina White, Director	<b>614-451-2855</b> Ext. 304
twhite@cdeducation.org Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordina	
twhite@cdeducation.org Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordina kdowler@standrewparish.cc Liz Meyers, Administrative Assistant emeyers@standrewparish.cc	tor Ext. 305
Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordina kdowler@standrewparish.cc Liz Meyers, Administrative Assistant emeyers@standrewparish.cc	tor Ext. 305
Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc Liz Meyers, Administrative Assistant emeyers@standrewparish.cc <b>SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF</b> Joel Wichtman, Principal	tor Ext. 305
Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc Liz Meyers, Administrative Assistant emeyers@standrewparish.cc <b>SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF</b> Joel Wichtman, Principal jwichtma@cdeducation.org Jenni Duffy, Assistant Principal jbucher@cdeducation.org	tor Ext. 305 Ext. 303 614-451-1626 Ext. 234 Ext. 235
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Kathy Dowler, Catechesis Coordinat kdowler@standrewparish.cc Liz Meyers, Administrative Assistant emeyers@standrewparish.cc <b>SCHOOL ADMIN/STAFF</b> Joel Wichtman, Principal jwichtma@cdeducation.org Jenni Duffy, Assistant Principal jbucher@cdeducation.org Julie Strayer, Administrative Assista jstrayer@cdeducation.org Heather Roush, School Secretary hroush@cdeducation.org Kyletta Scheirmann, Latchkey kscheirmann@cdeducation.org	tor Ext. 305 Ext. 303 614-451-1626 Ext. 234 Ext. 235 nt Ext. 223 Ext. 228 Ext. 105
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## MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>May 18 Vigil, Pentecost Sunday</b>
4:30 p.m.	Gregson Ochab
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>May 19, Pentecost Sunday</b>
7:30 a.m.	For the People of St. Andrew Parish
9:15 a.m.	Norma Johanni
11:00 a.m.	John Germaine
Monday:	May 20, The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
6:30 a.m.	Matt Pequignot
8:30 a.m.	Marilyn Webster
Tuesday:	May 21, St. Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Martyrs
6:30 a.m.	Mary Bonfante
8:30 a.m.	Richard Schumacher
	r: May 22, St. Rita of Cascia
6:30 a.m.	Special Intention
8:30 a.m.	Joe and Louise Karam
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>May 23, Weekday Mass</b>
6:30 a.m.	Cecilia Kohrmann
8:30 a.m.	Nancy Crumrine
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>May 24, Weekday Mass</b>
6:30 a.m.	Paul Santilli
8:30 a.m.	Eileen Condike
<b>Saturday:</b> 9:00 a.m.	<b>May 25, Weekday Mass</b> Living and deceased members of the Mallett and McCort Families
4:30 p.m.	<b>May 25 Vigil, The Most Holy Trinity</b> James T. Callaghan
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>May 26, The Most Holy Trinity</b>
7:30 a.m.	For the People of St. Andrew Parish
9:15 a.m.	Rita Melaragno
11:00 a.m.	Diane Nester

#### BAPTISMS

Jack Thomas Hounshell, son of Seth and Jessica

**BANNS OF MARRIAGE...** Nicole Stock and Aleck Kelly Sophia Fisher and Benjamin Beaudet

## PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FAMILIES OF ...

Michael Cantwell Jeanne Davis, mother of parishioner Julie Keckstein Ronald Walters

## MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Pentecost! Today, we celebrate the Feast of Pentecost, which is sometimes called the "Birthday of the Church."

The word "pentecost" means literally "the 50th day." There was a Jewish festival known as Pentecost that occurred seven weeks after the harvest began. Our Christian Feast of Pentecost commemorates the gift of the Holy Spirit that descended upon the apostles like tongues of fire, and enabled them to go out and proclaim the Gospel boldly to all people of every language. Pentecost occurs 50 days after Easter. Tradition tells us that Jesus appeared to His disciples after He rose from the dead over a period of 40 days, then He Ascended into heaven, but told them to wait for the Gift of the Spirit, which He would send. That's why we traditionally celebrate the Ascension 40 days after Easter, and Pentecost on the 50th day after Easter.

The Feast of Pentecost should remind us that we have received the gifts of the Holy Spirit already. We became temples of the Holy Spirit when we were baptized, and we were anointed with the Holy Spirit when we were confirmed. Sometimes, we may allow those gifts to go dormant because we do not use them as we should. Pentecost reminds us to stir those gifts into flame, and, like the disciples, to go out to all the world and proclaim the Good News of salvation! We have been given the gifts of Spirit; let us then use them in service to the church.

Thanks to all who have made a pledge or gift to The Appeal 2024. After the first week, we have \$70,306 in pledges toward our goal of \$221,413, so we are off to a good start. Only \$151,108 left to go! Thank you for your generosity and support of The Appeal. It is truly very important for our Diocese of Columbus because without your support, we could not fund our seminarians formation, Catholic education, or social outreach. So thank you for your support!

May the Holy Spirit be with you all!

Your Pastor,

Msgr. Stephan Moloney

**BLOOD DONORS ARE NEEDED!** Our next blood drive will be **Thursday, May 23, from 1:00-6:00 p.m. in the Nugent Parish Hall**. If you would like to schedule an appointment to give blood at St. Andrew Parish, wist **PadCrossPload are** spanser sade: SACC

visit **RedCrossBlood.org**, sponsor code: SACC, or call 1-800-733-2767. We also have a need for helpers to sign up as substitutes for registration and snack table. If you would like to be added to the list, call the Parish Office at 614-451-4290.



SUNDAY, MAY 19 // 5:00-5:30 P.M. REED ROAD PARKING LOT



The Scouts of St. Andrew will demonstrate their appreciation for our chartered organization and parishioners with a flag retirement ceremony. ALL are welcome to attend this special event! Scouts will be accepting any American flag that you would like to have appropriately retired. The donation box will remain in the church parlor if you didn't drop off a flag in time for the ceremony. You can also arrange to have your flag picked up by contacting Jim Galvin at **powelloh@tutoringclub.com** or 614-397-8930.

## CALLING ALL KNITTERS AND CROCHETERS!

#### MONDAY, MAY 20 6:30-8:00 PM // PARISH HALL

All are welcome to our monthly Knit & Crochet meeting. We have needle workers of all levels. Please bring your own knitting needles (size 7 or 8) and/or crochet hooks (size G or H). Each monthly meeting includes fun and laughter while we make items for those in need. Easy patterns are provided and experienced knitters and crocheters are available to answer questions and provide guidance. For more information, contact Darla Reed at **drdjreed@outlook.com**.

#### MILLIONS OF MONICAS MONDAY, MAY 20 // 6:00-7:00 PM // CHURCH

All women of the parish are welcome to join the Millions of Monicas Prayer Ministry. Millions of Monicas is a group of women who come together in prayer to lift up our children of all ages. Many of us have children who struggle with their Catholic faith or have left the faith entirely.



For information about Millions of Monicas, visit **www. millionsofmonicas.com**. For information about this St. Andrew prayer ministry, contact Amy Tague at **amyliss14@gmail.com**.

After Monday, May 20, Millions of Monicas will take a break for the summer and will return in August.

## SUNDAY OFFERING

	MAY 5	YTD
BUDGET	\$ 32,212	\$ 1,449,519
ACTUAL	\$ 42,528	\$ 1,493,020
LAST YEAR	\$ 42,299	\$ 1,532,353

Thank you to all who are responding generously to our financial need. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

We encourage you to consider Online Giving, which is safe, secure and convenient. To sign up, visit <u>osvhub.</u> <u>com/st-andrew-parish/funds</u> or contact Business Manager Thomas Conigy at **tconigy@standrewparish. cc** or 614-451-4290, ext. 6.





### Tuesday Evening Study Last Session ENCOUNTER THE REALITY OF OUR EUCHARISTIC LORD

#### TUESDAY, MAY 21 7:15 - 8:30 PM PARISH HALL

All parishioners are encouraged to join us for a reprise of last fall's Eucharist Revival small group study sessions. This adapted seven-session series will immerse you in the kerygmatic proclamation (Sessions 1-4) and unveil God's saving work in the Eucharist (Sessions 5-7).

**Session 7: Bread for the Journey** – The Eucharist sustains us on our spiritual journey. Our participation at Mass through the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist is an offering of thanksgiving to God. We are then sent forth to share what we have received.

Each session includes prayer, a video, and small group discussion. The main lesson is drawn from content created by the Augustine Institute.

For more information, contact Kathy Miller at **kathy.** miller725@gmail.com or 614-451-7622.



## EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Please join us for Eucharistic Adoration on Tuesdays from 6:00-9:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration is simply the act of being in Christ's real presence while the Eucharist is on the altar. Adorers may stay as briefly or as long as they would like. At 8:45 p.m., Adoration concludes with Compline (end of day

prayers) followed by Benediction. Make time to be in Christ's presence and open yourself to the graces that flow from the Eucharist!

**Weekly Adoration Hosts:** Parish Council (first Tuesday); St. Vincent de Paul (second Tuesday); Women of St. Andrew (third Tuesday); Men of the Parish (fourth Tuesday); First Called Youth Ministry (fifth Tuesday).



FRIDAY, MAY 24 6:00 PM - DOORS OPEN 7:00 PM - PLAY BEGINS NUGENT PARISH HALL



Cost is \$25/person and includes food, soft drinks and euchre. All skill levels are welcome. Win cash prizes! Participants must be 21 and older.

For more information or to register, contact Joe DelTosto, 614-371-7901 or **jdelto43@gmail.com**.

Proceeds support K of C charities.

#### **DONUT SUNDAY: JUNE 2!**

The St. Andrew Hospitality Ministry is hosting Donut Sunday on June 2 in Nugent Parish Hall after ALL morning Masses. Stop by and learn



about this new ministry and upcoming activities while enjoying a donut and juice, coffee or tea. Ministry leaders will be available to answer questions and take your contact information if you would like to join the ministry.

If you would like more information about Hospitality and want to become involved, contact Jake and Ciara Decot at **jdecot284@gmail.com**.



#### ST. ANDREW PROGRESS REPORT **THROUGH MAY 13:**

Pledged:	\$ 70,306.00
Collected:	\$ 42,379.00
Remaining:	\$ 179,034.80
Goal:	\$ 221,413.80

THANK YOU TO ALL who have made a gift or pledge already. If you haven't yet made your gift to this year's Appeal, please consider doing so in the days ahead. Your gift, regardless of amount, is vital to the success of this diocesan-wide campaign. The Appeal supports essential ministries, formation, Catholic education, and social outreach efforts. Money in excess of our goal will be returned to the Parish.

Pledge envelopes are available in the pews. Feel free to drop them in the collection basket with your pledge or

donation, or mail them to The Appeal, 197 E. Gay Street, Columbus, OH 43215. Make checks payable to The Diocese of Columbus and include "St. Andrew Parish - Appeal" in the memo section. You may also pledge online at **www.** columbuscatholicgiving.org/appeal or scan the QR code.



## DEPARTMENT OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (PSR): Registration for the 2024-25 PSR school year is underway. Kindergarten through seventh grade students meet on Wednesdays from 4:30-5:45 p.m., and eighth grade students meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Registration information and forms will be emailed soon.

For more information about registration, contact the Religious Education Office at 614-451-2855.

FIRST CALLED YOUTH MINISTRY (FCYM): FCYM is open to school and PSR students who are in middle and high school. FCYM's focus is to support parents in their mission of passing on the Catholic faith. FCYM meets on Sundays from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Bryce Eck Activity Center unless otherwise noted.

FCYM IS LOOKING FOR ADULT VOLUNTEERS to help plan and implement programming for the 2024-25 year. Planning will begin this summer. FCYM volunteer requirements include: love Jesus, participate in Mass, and enjoy sharing the faith with our young parishioners! Protecting God's Children compliance is also required.

LOOKING FOR FAMILY FUN THIS SUMMER? Check out the Living Word Outdoor Drama in Cambridge, Ohio. This one-of-a-kind center offers programs that share the Gospel of Jesus Christ through the presentation of outdoor dramas and other wholesome family productions. The 2024 season runs from June 14 through September 27. Friday, June 21, is TEEN NIGHT. All kids ages 19 and younger will receive FREE admission. For more information and to view the current schedule, visit https://livingworddrama.org/.

For information about FCYM or to become a volunteer, contact Maria Moore at mmoore@standrewparish.cc, 614-459-1402.

WELCOME OUR BLESSED MOTHER INTO YOUR HOME! There are many sign-up opportunities to have the Blessed Mother statue in your home for prayer and devotion.

Each week begins on Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and ends the following Saturday at 4:30 p.m. The statue is dropped off and picked up each week in the St. Andrew Chapel.

A new summer schedule is now available! Use the QR code or visit our SignUpGenius page to view upcoming available dates and learn more: tinyurl.com/ourlady2024.



For more information, contact Deb McEllistrem at 614-309-4645 or dmcellistrem@yahoo.com.

#### SPRING/SUMMER CLOTHING DRIVE JUNE 1 & JUNE 2 // MCCOY ROAD PARKING LOT



The annual Society of St. Vincent de Paul Spring/Summer Clothing Drive is scheduled for the first weekend in June! Look for the white truck and team of volunteers in the McCoy Road parking lot before and after

Masses. We accept bagged, clean, gently used (or new) items, including women's and men's summer clothing. We especially need children's clothing and new towels. Please hold winter clothes for the SVdP fall clothing drive. All items are delivered to the SVdP Free Clothing Center downtown.

JOIN US IN THE GARDEN: The Garden Club meets every Monday from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. (weather permitting). Club members maintain the perennial garden by the grotto, the garden in front of the parish office, and the canna flowers in the McCoy Road parking lot throughout the spring and summer.



Each week, we meet near the flower garden with the swing. You can come as often as your schedule allows. Bring your own garden gloves and hand tools. For more information, contact Karen Bruns at **kbruns145@gmail.com** or 614-216-4694.

PARISH COUNCIL NOMINATIONS ARE UNDERWAY!

Please consider service in this important role in our Parish! The purpose of the 12-member council is to advise and assist the Pastor in matters of importance to the Parish, provide strategic planning, and foster communication and coordination among parish organizations. **We will accept nominations/applications now through Friday, June 21**. Elections will be held at the end of June. If interested, complete and return the Nomination/ Candidate Application included in this bulletin or fill out the nomination form online at **tinyurl.com/SAP-Council-2024**. For more information, contact Gene Perry at **gene.perry@outlook.com**.

**YOU MAY HAVE NOTICED** that the green and yellow recycling dumpster designated for parishioner use in the McCoy Road parking has been overflowing. Unfortunately, the provider is no longer able to service/ empty the bin. As a result, the dumpster will be removed from the parking lot. Please do not use the other dumpsters in the lot. If you need access to recycling dumpsters, there are bins available at Northcrest Park, 5095 Reed Road, just south of Bethel Road.

## LITURGICAL VOLUNTEERS

#### SAT, MAY 25: Vigil, The Ascension of the Lord

4:30 PM Mass	
Vicky Macklin	EMHC-B - B1
Kevin Carpenter	EMHC-B - B2
Jim Macklin	Lector - A
Pamela Sprigler	Lector - B
Jackson Wenzke	Altar Server
Kara Busch	Altar Server

#### SUN, MAY 26: The Ascension of the Lord

7:30 AM Mass Bob Slater Darla Reed John Pashke Colin Bellantis Hannah Gandu Jerry Kaltenbach

9:15 AM Mass

Jane Dickson Iris Freisner Bob Chambers Suzanne Meyers Mark Pardi Lindsay Kaleta Donna Kring Carson Reider Jennifer Schaefer Ave Holowchak Nora Ott

#### 11:00 AM Mass

Laddie Waldegar Jeff Wenzke Marty Majka Damion Faulkner Gabrielle Martin (Sub req.) Daniel Martin EMHC-B - B1 EMHC-B - B2 Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server Altar Server

EMHC-B - B1 EMHC-B - B2 EMHC-B - B CHOIR EMHC-C - C1 EMHC-C - C2 EMHC-C - C CHOIR EMHC-C - C3 Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server Altar Server

EMHC-B - B1 EMHC-B - B2 Lector - A Lector - B Altar Server Altar Server

To volunteer, visit **www.rotundasoftware. com/ministry/standrewcolumbus**, or use the QR code here. If you need help with your username or password, contact the Parish Office, 614-451-4290.



**BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS**: Send requests by Monday at 10:00 a.m. for the following weekend. Include a brief description, date, time, location, contact name, and send to **bulletin@standrewparish.cc**. Bulletin requests may be edited for clarity or space.

**ePOST WEEKLY EMAIL:** To subscribe, contact Mary Beasecker, **mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc**. The ePost includes information about upcoming parish events and activities. To submit information, email Mary before Noon on Mondays. ePOST submissions may be edited for clarity or space.

#### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. ANDREW SCHOOL

St. Andrew School has several job openings for the 2024-2025 school year.

#### Full-time:

- Kindergarten Teacher
- Spanish Teacher (grades K-5)
- Fifth Grade Social Studies and ELA Teacher
- Intervention Specialist

If interested in these full-time positions, contact Principal Joel Wichtman at **jwichtma@cdeducation.org**.

#### Part-time:

Intervention Team Aide, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Classroom Aide, 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
If interested in either of these part-time positions, contact Principal Joel Wichtman at jwichtma@ cdeducation.org.

•Part-time After School Care Assistant, 2:45-6:00 p.m. If interested, contact After School Care Director Kyletta Scheirmann at **kscheirmann@cdeducation.org**.

#### ARE YOU COMPLIANT TO VOLUNTEER AT ST. ANDREW PARISH?



If you are 18 years or older and interested in volunteering with youth activities at St. Andrew Parish, you must attend a PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN training session, provide a clear background check, sign the code of conduct and complete a volunteer application before you can volunteer. For full details, visit **www.** standrewparish.cc/parish-involvement/volunteers/.

To register for a training session through the Diocese of Columbus, visit **www.virtusonline.org.** Upcoming Virtus Protecting God's Children (PGC) sessions:

- May 21: Church of the Resurrection (New Albany), 6:00 p.m.
- May 22: Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Grove City), 6:00 p.m.
- June 1: Blessed Sacrament Elementary (Newark), 8:30 a.m.

For more information, contact Mary Beasecker, 614-451-4290 or **mbeasecker@standrewparish.cc**.

**THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL ADVERTISERS.** Show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. **ADVERTISE IN OUR BULLETIN!** Please help support our parish by advertising in our bulletin. Contact Kati at Dee Printing 614-777-8700 or kati@deeprinting.com.

## AROUND THE DIOCESE

**CATHOLIC MEN'S LUNCHEON:** Join us on **Friday, June 7, at St. Patrick Church** in downtown Columbus for a luncheon featuring a presentation by Patrick Madrid, "Ten Recent Discoveries That Point to the Existence of God." Holy Mass (optional) begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by lunch at 12:10 p.m. and the presentation. No reservations are necessary. \$12 covers the lunch and meeting. Bring a friend! There will be no luncheons in July and August as we take our traditional summer break. Plan to join us when we resume on Friday, September 6, for a presentation from Don Schlegel, "The Catholic Record Society: 50 years of Keeping Diocese History." Mark your calendar now so you don't miss it!



#### SEPTEMBER 28, 2024 PONTIFICAL COLLEGE JOSEPHINUM 7625 NORTH HIGH STREET

Event parking provided at Crosswoods Center I office park located at 100 Crosswoods Blvd. Jessing Center parking may be used by those with small children, or mobility challenges.

Packet pickup: 7:30am | Start time: 9am Swag: All participants receive bread and a bottle of wine, or bread and a jar of Trappist Monastery jam.

Family rate: Save \$5 per person when registering at least 3 participants at one time.

PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE JOSEPHINUM



bethesdahealing.org

ST. ANDREW PARISH COUNCIL
Nomination/Candidate Application
<ul> <li>Candidate Eligibility Requirements:</li> <li>Must be a registered member of St. Andrew Parish</li> <li>Must have received the Sacrament of Confirmation</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>Parish Council Member Expectations:</li> <li>Serve a three-year term beginning in July of the year elected</li> <li>Attend at least nine of the twelve regular meetings per year</li> <li>Serve on Parish Council subcommittee(s) on an assigned basis</li> <li>Be compliant with the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy within six weeks of election</li> </ul>
Name:
Address:        Zip:
Phone: (cell or home) Email:
I have been a registered member of St. Andrew Parish since:
I received the Sacrament of Confirmation at (Parish Name):
Family Information:
Parish Organizations I am involved with:
What skills/experience would you bring to Parish Council?
What would you like to accomplish on Parish Council?
Primary Focus: Community Building Greater Involvement Hospitality Social Justice Spirituality
Nominees should email this form to Gene Perry at gene.perry@outlook.com by June 21.



## "Do This in Remembrance of Me" A Step-By-Step Walk Through the Mass

Fr. Luke Spannagel

## + Part 28: The Creed as Profession of Faith +

What does the word **Creed** mean? According to Fr. Guy Oury, "A Latin word for the Creed is *symbolum*. Its first meaning is that of a sign, a mark of recognition by which an envoy is accredited or strangers know each other as belonging to the same group. The 'symbol' of faith identifies Christians. People who are not Christian cannot profess it without a lie on their part" (*The Mass*, p. 71). In addition to being a sign of our unity, the Creed also is a summary of core doctrines we believe in and an important part of the Mass.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal states, "The purpose of the Creed or Profession of Faith is that the whole gathered people may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings taken from Sacred Scripture and explained in the Homily and that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith by pronouncing the rule of faith in a formula approved for liturgical use and before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist begins" (*GIRM*, no. 67). In summary, Charles Belmonte says, "The symbol or Creed expresses our response and assent to what we have just heard in the readings and in the homily" (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 99). Having heard the truths of the Faith in the Liturgy of the Word, now we profess them in the Creed.

#### **Stand and Profess**

Why do we stand up to profess our Faith? As the Diocese of Peoria teaches, "Through the Creed, we as a community of believers stand and profess, in precise terms, the foundations of our faith. We stand for the Creed because of its importance in our Church and in our lives. Of important note is another gesture the Church asks of us as we profess the Creed. As we say '[and by] the Holy Spirit [was incarnate] of the Virgin Mary and became man,' we are to bow in adoration of the Incarnation and birth of our Lord. Interestingly, on those respective solemnities (Annunciation and Christmas) we are to retain the ancient custom of genuflecting during those lines" ("A Study of the Mass," p. 10). As we have reviewed previously, each of the gestures and postures within the liturgy has a meaning and can help us pray more deeply.

Throughout the Mass, we stand together for the principal prayers. In a very practical way, standing is another way of giving our assent, as when a crowd stands in applause. Standing adds an additional fervor to the recognition. In a similar way, standing to pray together adds an element of strength to the words we proclaim. Bowing while we recall the Incarnation acknowledges in a humble way how much we honor that significant moment in world history. Genuflecting on the Solemnities of the Annunciation and Christmas adds even more solemn praise to the joy of that moment, reflecting our adoration of our Lord who took on a human nature, becoming man for our sake.

As we profess our faith together, we are joined in a unity that began at our Baptism. "As on the day of our Baptism, when our whole life was entrusted to the 'standard teaching,' let us embrace the Creed of our life-giving faith. To say the Credo with faith is to enter into communion with God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and also with the whole Church which transmits the faith to us and in whose midst we believe" (CCC, no. 197). The *Catechism* quotes St. Ambrose: "'The Creed is the spiritual seal, our hearts' meditation and ever-present guardian; it is, unquestionably, the treasure of our soul'" (CCC, no. 197).

Reflecting upon St. Ambrose's words recalls for me the amazing gift we have been given through our Baptism, being invited into the very life of God. That is definitely worth standing up and professing together!

#### For Reflection:

- 1. Consider your posture(s) during various forms of prayer. What prompts you to stand in respect and fervor? What leads you to bow your hand in awe and wonder? Pay attention to praying with your whole self, including your bodily posture.
- 2. The next time you pray the Creed alone, call to mind your unity with all Christians who profess this faith.

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