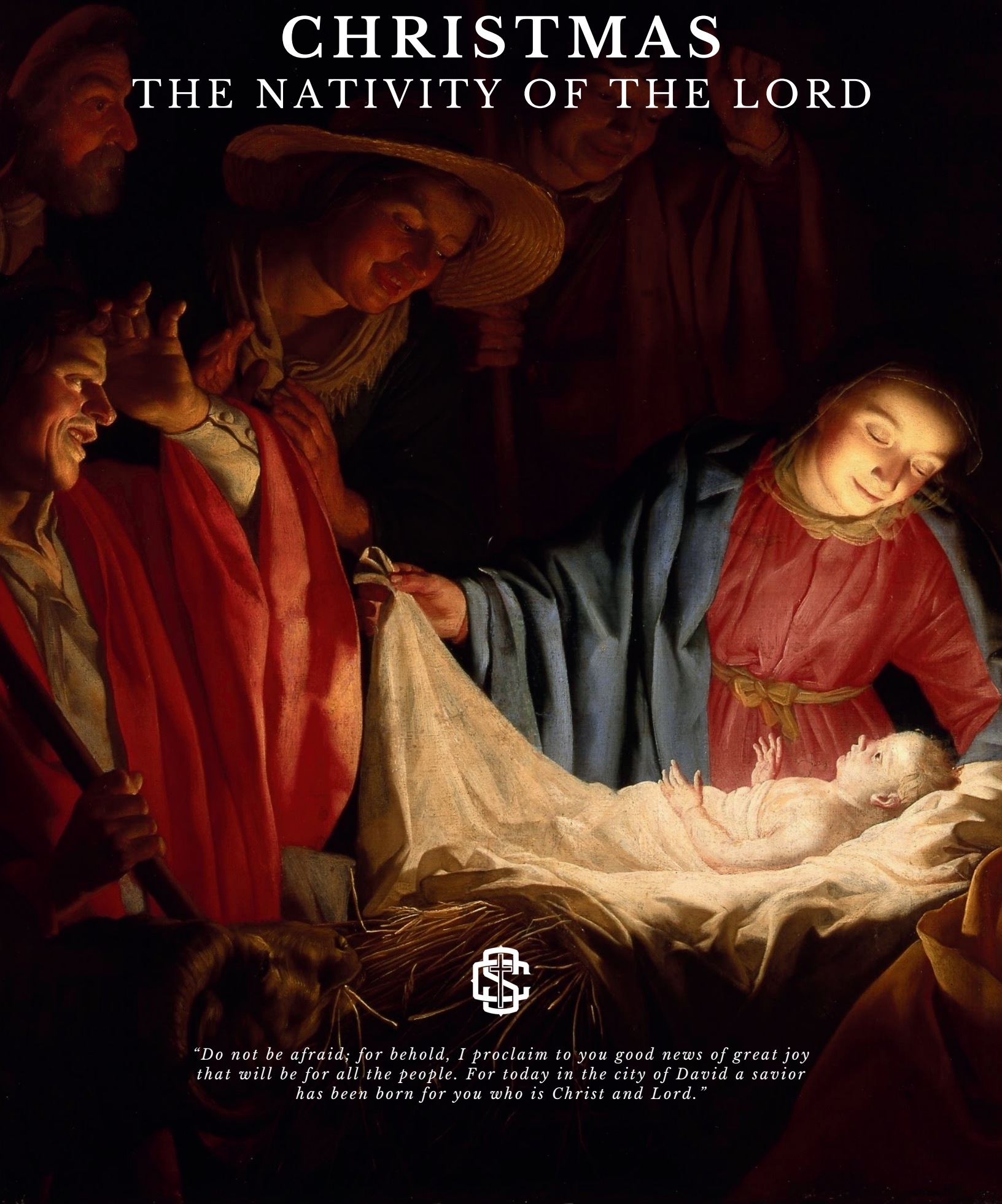


CHRISTMAS

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD



"Do not be afraid; for behold, I proclaim to you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you who is Christ and Lord."



The Mass

“Do This in Remembrance of Me” **A Step-By-Step Walk Through the Mass**

Fr. Luke Spannagel

✦ Part 29: The Creed as Statement of Faith in the Trinity ✦

Having considered the Creed in general, let's take a closer look at the contents of this statement of our Faith. As we look through the phrases, the Creed is very clearly laying out the main truths about the Holy Trinity, our belief in One God in Three Persons. As our current *Catechism* quotes from the *Roman Catechism* (or the *Catechism of the Council of Trent*), explaining “The Creed is divided into three parts: ‘the first part speaks of the first divine Person and the wonderful work of creation; the next speaks of the second divine Person and the mystery of his redemption of men; the final part speaks of the third divine Person, the origin and source of our sanctification’ (CCC, no. 190).

The Three Parts of the Creed

Charles Belmonte expands this introduction to the three parts of the Creed:

- *A confession of faith in God, the Father, our Creator, maker of heaven and earth, of all [things visible and invisible].*
- *A confession of faith in Christ, our Lord. He is God, who by the power of the Spirit became incarnate [of] the Virgin Mary and was made man. Then we focus on Christ's Passion and Death on the Cross; his*

Resurrection, Ascension, and participation in the judgment to reign forever, as it was announced by the angel to the Virgin Mary (Lk. 1:33).

– A confession of faith in the means of salvation, supplied by God, the Holy Spirit, the giver of supernatural life. We declare how he works through the Church (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 100-101).

Continuing through the last part of the Creed, Belmonte writes, “[I] believe in one holy, catholic, and apostolic Church. [The word] *catholic* means ‘universal’—a reminder that the Church exists throughout the world and embraces the entire revelation of God... The Church is apostolic because she traces her origins back to Christ through the apostles and always teaches the message the apostles received from him” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 101). The Church is one and holy because it is founded by Christ and led by the Holy Spirit toward the unity and holiness that Jesus calls all Christians to live. We call this list the Four Marks of the Church. These characteristics are like landmarks or distinguishing features that help us to know the one true Church of Jesus.

Words to Speak... and Believe

As we go through each phrase, we are reviewing the truths we believe in, and we are also invited into a reflection on the ways that God has made himself known to us. We recall the steps of salvation history and the moment when God dwells among us. We remember the ultimate gift of God’s love and the gift of the Holy Spirit who helps unite us and strengthen us for life in that love. As Belmonte concludes:

“The Creed is none other than the marvelous history of God’s love for us... In these times of doctrinal confusion, we should be careful not to compromise the content of our faith, not even in small things... It is worthwhile, above all, to decide to take our Christian life seriously. When we recite the Creed, we state that we believe in God the Father Almighty, in his Son, Jesus Christ, who died and rose again, and in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life. We affirm that the Church—one, holy, catholic, and apostolic—is the body of Christ enlivened by the Holy Spirit. We rejoice in the forgiveness of sins and in the hope of the resurrection. But do those words penetrate to the depths of our own heart? Or do they remain only on our lips?” (*Understanding the Mass*, p. 102).

We say the Creed often, and many of us can likely follow along without even really thinking about the words. But wouldn’t it be fruitful to truly ask ourselves what we are saying? What truths are we proclaiming together? What do we mean when we say those words?

For Reflection:

1. Take time to reflect on each of the four marks of the Church (one, holy, catholic, apostolic), using the Catechism or another resource. Consider how you experience the unity, holiness, universality, and living tradition of the Church in your own life.
2. In your reflection on the Creed, which line(s) or phrase(s) most stand out to you? Pray with these sections and invite the Holy Spirit to lead you to deeper understanding of the mysteries of our Faith.

Source: www.eucharisticrevival.org/blog



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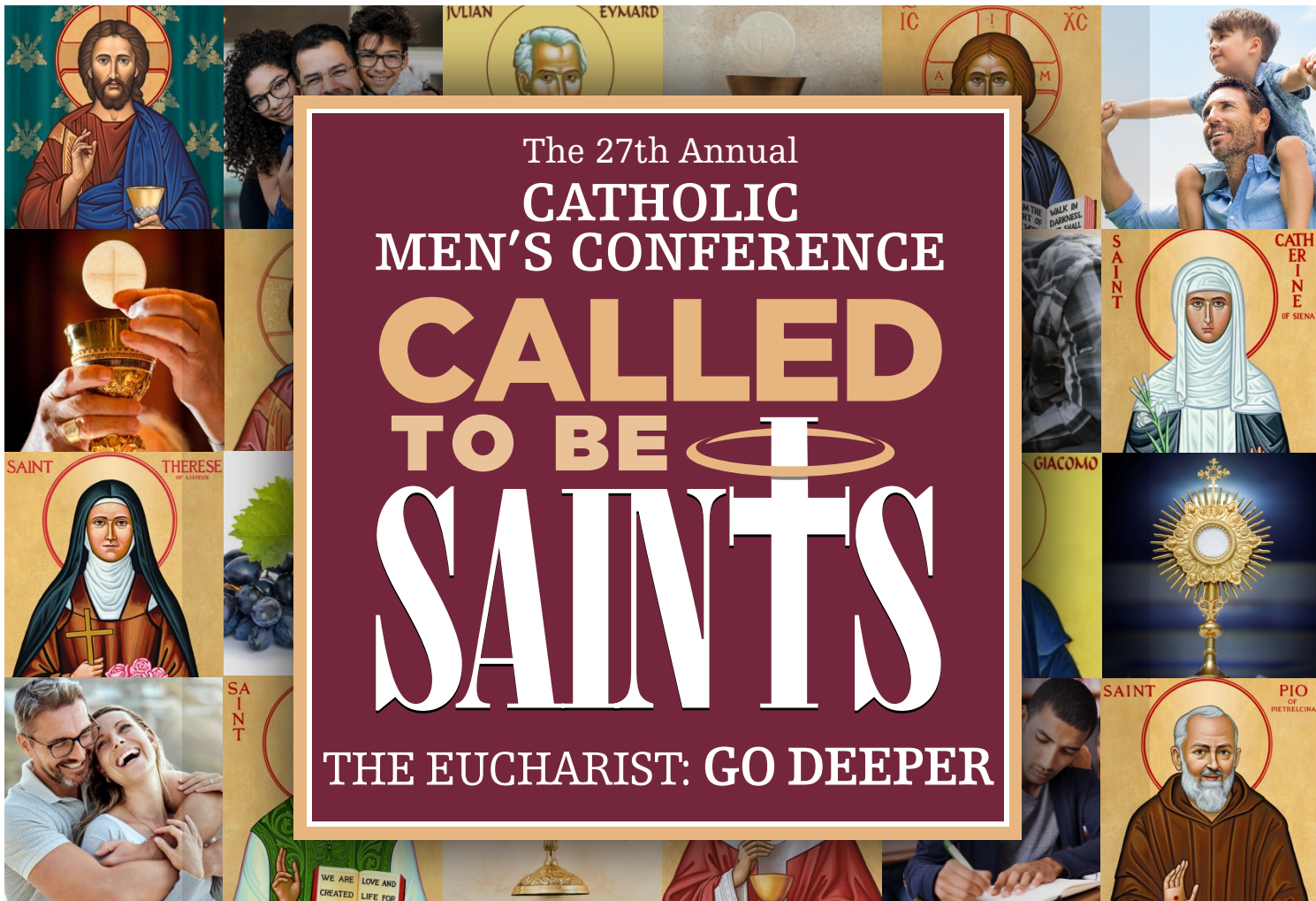
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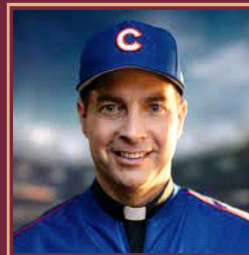
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A NOTE ON PARISH MEMBERSHIP AND THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING REGISTERED

The word parish comes to us from the Jews and references a particular group of pilgrim people. The Church now uses it to denote a particular church community in a diocese, on pilgrimage to the Heavenly Jerusalem. This local parish community is under the care of a pastor who is under the authority of the local bishop. This provides for the mission of the Church - the care and sanctification of the faithful at the parish church and the church's outreach of evangelization and works of mercy in the local area.

By registering at a parish, you are declaring your desire to be part of a Catholic faith community. If you have recently moved to the area or have been worshipping with us for a while, but haven't registered in the parish, please do so soon. Additionally, sometime after a young adult turns 18 and has stability in this (or another) community, he/she should register in the local parish church.

Parish Registration is not a passive process. You may be surprised to learn that if you were married here, if your child attends St. Catharine School, or if you grew up at St. Catharine, for example, you are not automatically registered once you become an adult.

Why should you register at St. Catharine or another Catholic Parish?

- A sense of belonging and identity in a parish community
- It is a commitment to practice your faith
- Registration enables the parish pastor and staff to get to know you better, to welcome you and to better minister to you. This is especially important during a time of sacramental preparation for a child, a time of engagement toward preparing for matrimony, or a pastoral crisis of an illness or death.
- Registration helps you stay connected with your parish and helps your parish stay connected with you. Providing your contact information is important so that parishes provide you with timely updates via email, direct mail, phone, etc. Once you are registered, please notify the parish office of any changes in address or phone number!
- Accurate Census numbers can help aid local parish care and programs within the diocese.

Download the Parish Registration Form at <https://stcatharine.com/parish-registration> or click the QR Code
Drop the completed form at the Parish Office, in the collection basket at Mass, or email to info@stcatharine.com
Not sure if you are registered? Has your information changed?
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SCAN ME



The Next Two Weeks...

Week of December 24th Fourth Week of Advent/The Octave of Christmas

Sunday, December 24th

Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:30am Holy Mass (People of the Parish)
11:00am Holy Mass (Nickie Eramo)

Christmas Eve: The Nativity of the Lord

4:00pm Holy Mass (Araceli Tomisoloso & Joan Birtcher)
6:30pm Holy Mass (People of the Parish)
10:00pm Holy Mass (Don Borowy)

Monday, December 25th

Christmas Day: The Nativity of the Lord

11:00am Holy Mass (Elizabeth Roderick Haus)

Tuesday, December 26th

Feast of Saint Stephen, First Martyr

7:00pm Holy Mass (Sister Patricia Mitchell)
7:30pm Confessions

Wednesday, December 27th

Feast of Saint John, Apostle and Evangelist

9:00am Holy Mass (Bonnie DiNapoli)

Thursday, December 28th

Feast of the Holy Innocents, Martyrs

7:30am Men's Rosary
8:00am Holy Mass (Bud Babbitt)
7:00pm ADORE Night (Confession & Adoration)

Friday, December 29th

The Fifth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:00am Holy Mass (Darlene Easley)

Saturday, December 30th

The Sixth Day in the Octave of Christmas

8:30am Holy Mass (Leadriton & Aurora Asuncion)
9:00am Confessions

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Week of December 31st Christmas Season

Sunday, December 31st

Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:30am Holy Mass (People of the Parish)
11:00am Holy Mass (Intentions of the Burkhardt Family)
5:00pm Holy Mass (Dennis Blank)

Monday, January 1st

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God

11:00am Holy Mass (Tom Easley)

Tuesday, January 2nd

Sts. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of Church

7:00pm Holy Mass (Andrew J. Pallay)
7:30pm Confessions

Wednesday, January 3rd

Memorial of the Most Holy Name of Jesus

9:00am Holy Mass (Bob Babbitt)

Thursday, January 4th

Memorial of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

8:00am Holy Mass (Thomas Fredrick Beck)
9:30am Little Saints
5:30pm Squires of St. Catharine
7:00pm ADORE Night (Confession & Adoration)

Friday, January 5th

Memorial of Saint John Neumann, Bishop

8:00am Holy Mass (John Knauer)

Saturday, January 6th

Memorial of St. André Bessette, Religious

6:30am Women at the Well
7:15am That Man Is You!
8:30am Holy Mass (Bill Diehl Jr. and Sr.)
9:00am Confessions

Sunday, January 7th

The Epiphany of the Lord

8:30am Holy Mass (William Manierre Sr.)
11:00am Holy Mass (Jack Ryan Jr.)
5:00pm Holy Mass (People of the Parish)
6:00pm High School Youth Jesus Night
6:00pm Catechism in a Year Dinner and Discussion

Monday, January 8th

The Baptism of the Lord

8:00am Holy Mass (William Manierre Jr.)

Sunday, December 17th
Total Offering \$12,778.41
Diocesan Tax (8%) -\$1,022.35
Net \$11,757.05

2nd Collection: Coats for Kids
Total Offering \$883.00

Sunday Mass Attendance
8:30am 293
11:00am 308
5:00pm 270
Total 871

Securely Give Online

To quickly give online, simply scan this QR Code. This will take you to our secure online giving platform at Our Sunday Visitor.



Eucharistic Adoration Chapel

Sunday-Friday
6:00am-12:00am
Saturday
6:00am-4:00pm

Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Fridays at 3:00pm

Confession Times

Tuesday 7:30pm
Thursday 7:00pm
Saturday 9:00am

By appointment

info@stcatharine.com
614-231-4509

www.stcatharine.com

info@stcatharine.com

Find us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

614-231-4509

500 S Gould Rd

Columbus, OH 43209



WELCOMING CHILDREN AT ST. CATHARINE

TO THE PARENTS OF OUR YOUNG CHILDREN, MAY WE SUGGEST...

RELAX! God put the wiggle in children, so don't feel that you must suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

Sit towards the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what is going on. You can also quietly explain the parts of Holy Mass.

Sing the hymns (yes dads, you too), pray the prayers, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to step out during Mass, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home here! Thank you for making the effort to be here, and never stop coming to Mass.

TO THE MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH

The presence of children is a gift to the Church and they are a reminder that our congregation is growing. Any noise that our children may make during Mass is pleasing to God's ears!

Please welcome our children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.