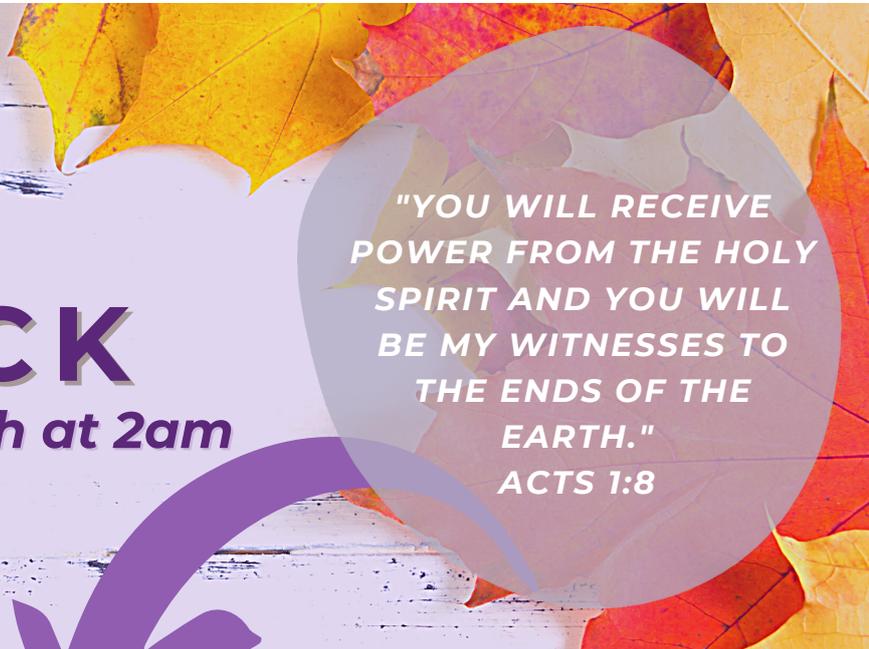


NOVEMBER 3, 2021



GROWING WITH GOD

OUR WEEKLY MARIAN STAR HERALD



"YOU WILL RECEIVE
POWER FROM THE HOLY
SPIRIT AND YOU WILL
BE MY WITNESSES TO
THE ENDS OF THE
EARTH."
ACTS 1:8

FALL BACK

this Sunday November 7th at 2am

OLSS YOUTH MINISTRY: SUBSCRIBE TO FLOCKNOTES

Text "OLSSYOUTH" to 84576.

This will ensure you receive any texts or emails we sent out about upcoming events!

Contact Us: If you have any questions, email Emily or Fr Matt.

- Alison Benton, Director youth@olsspvb.org
- Emily Meier, Admin. Assistant emeier@olsspvb.org
- Fr. Matt King, Parochial Vicar frmatt@olsspvb.org

Office Phone: 904-373-0755

For more information on our ministries, upcoming events, and forms, please visit our website! www.olssyouth.com

WHAT'S NEW?

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Alex's Thought for the Week - Project

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Vocation Awareness

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Advent Reflection Event

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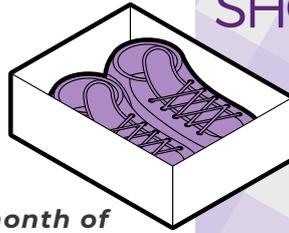
Saint of the Week

05

2022 Sacrament Updates & Calendar

ALEX'S THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

BY DR. ALEX GROPPE



I'd like to think of November as the "month of reflection" since it is bookended by the Feast of All Saints on November 1st and All Souls on November 2nd with Thanksgiving at the end of the month. While we begin the month by remembering our loved ones who have gone home to the Lord, we celebrate at Thanksgiving the abundant blessings God has bestowed upon our lives.

It is customary in our Catholic culture to remember with gratitude our deceased loved ones and memorialize them in some special way throughout November. It's also been said that we keep alive our loved ones who've gone before us by sharing their stories. What better way to do this than to break out the old pictures and share favorite family stories on a Saturday or Sunday! Who knows? Maybe it will be the beginning of a wonderful new tradition in your household that gets everyone involved!

One such fun project I'd like to recommend as a new November tradition in your home is to create a shoebox shadow box memorial. This can become a memorial for one person or for several family members; the choice is yours.

SHOEBOX SHADOWBOX SUPPLIES

- SHOEBOX
- WHITE CLOTH
- PICTURES OF LOVED ONE
- CARD STOCK
- GLUE STICK (AND/OR PINS)
- MEMENTOS (PIECE OF OLD SHIRT, GLASSES, PIN, GREETING CARD, PRAYER CARD FROM FUNERAL, FAVORITE CANDY/SNACK, ETC.)
- ELECTRIC VOTIVE CANDLE

To create the memorial, find an old shoebox and lay it on its long side. Paint the inside of the box white and find a piece of white cloth to cover the outside of the box. The white cloth symbolizes our baptismal garment and being "clothed in Christ." If you've ever wondered why the first thing that happens when a casket is brought into the Church is a sprinkling with holy water and the covering of the casket in a white pall, this is why! Listen to the words of the priest during the funeral rite as he blesses the casket at the doors of the Church: "In baptism [name of the deceased] was clothed in Christ. May he/she now share with Him in eternal glory."

Next, copy and print old pictures of your departed loved ones on photo paper. Have someone cut the pictures out and pass the pictures around, asking each family member to share their favorite stories about the loved one. Have one person with nice handwriting write on card stock favorite quotes or expressions of the loved one or family nicknames for him or her. Now use a gluestick to artfully arrange your pictures and writings on the back "wall" of the memorial.

Collect a few mementoes of sentimental value that connect members of your family to the loved one and place these on the floor of the memorial. This might be a nice place for you to include the prayer card from the funeral, if you have one.





Finally, place the entire memorial somewhere in the most trafficked part of your home and turn the vigil light on every night, encouraging each family member to say a short prayer for the deceased throughout the whole month. Place it in a prominent place during Thanksgiving dinner.

You know, the “holiday season” between Thanksgiving and New Year can be quite a challenge for the living! Consider making your memorial a fixture through Advent and the Christmas Season and ask your loved one for his or her intercession in maintaining peace during the “busy-ness” of the season! In this very tangible way, we remain connected to the Communion of Saints and they, in turn, remain a part of our holiday traditions well after they are physically departed!

I encourage you all to make time for this meaningful activity and enjoy the fruits of it throughout the next couple of months!

P.S.: If you’re comfortable sharing, we invite you to take pictures of your completed memorials and share them with us by emailing them to me @ dre@olsspvb.org!

SHOEBOX SHADOWBOX MEMORIAL

...CONTINUED

As a final touch, think about placing a small electric votive candle in the middle of the floor of the display (these can be found all over and are very inexpensive). Again, linking baptism to the funeral, our godparents lit a candle from the Paschal Candle when we were baptized. In beautiful symbolism linked to the Easter Vigil and the Resurrection of Jesus, it represents bringing the light of Christ into our hearts and homes. After the placing of the pall during the beginning of the funeral rite, the casket is brought to the edge of the sanctuary at the foot of the Paschal Candle. Here again, we are reminded of the light of Christ lighting a path for us to join Him in eternity after having lived a life being His light to the world!



ADVENT

A SEASON OF HOPE

REGISTER NOW!



All are invited to the Advent Presentation by the

MARIAN SERVANTS® of the Blessed Sacrament

An Advent Day of Reflection - "Hope Finds A Way"

INFORMATION

- **Date:** Saturday, December 11th, 2021
- **Time:** 8:30 am – 12:30 pm [begin this day at OLSS with 8:30 am mass]
- **Where:** OLSS Church and Cultural Center

REGISTRATION

As food and materials have to be ordered in advanced the deadline for registration is

Friday, November 26th

Winnie Walsh
(904) 982-5240

winnie.walsh46@gmail.com

This Day of Advent Reflection is sponsored by the OLSS ADULT EDUCATION COMMITTEE and the MARIAN SERVANTS® of the Blessed Sacrament, St. Augustine.

Link: <https://marianservantsstaugustine.org/>



NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK



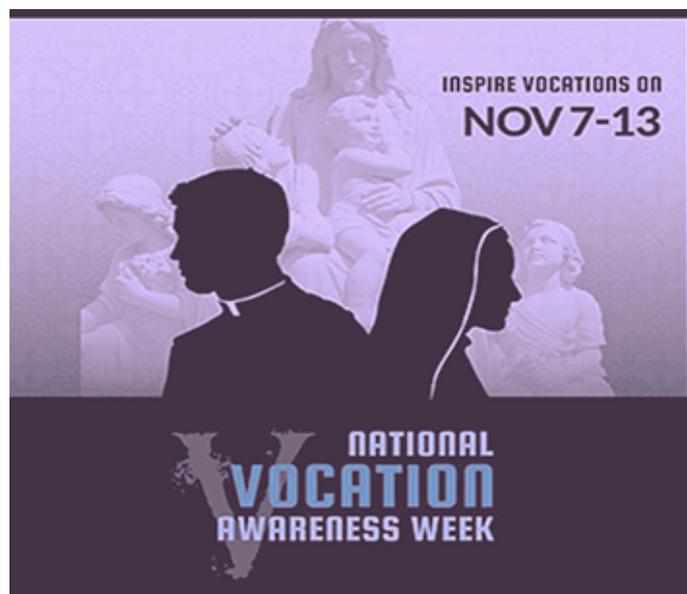
CELEBRATED NOVEMBER 7 - 13, 2021

National Vocation Awareness Week (NVAW) is an annual week-long celebration of the Catholic Church in the United States dedicated to promoting vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and consecrated life through prayer and education, and to renew our prayers and support for those who are considering one of these particular vocations. NVAW began in 1976 when the U. S. bishops designated the 28th Sunday of the year for NVAW. In 1997, this celebration was moved to coincide with the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, which falls on January 13 in 2013. Beginning in 2014, NVAW was moved to the first full week of November.

“
“Each of you has a personal vocation which He has given you for your own joy and sanctity. When a person is conquered by the fire of His gaze, no sacrifice seems too great to follow Him and give Him the best of ourselves. This is what the saints have always done, spreading the light of the Lord... and transforming the world into a welcoming home for everyone.”
 ~Pope Benedict XVI
 ”



SHORT PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS
God our Father,
we thank you for calling men and women to serve in your Son’s Kingdom as priests, deacons, and consecrated persons.
Send your Holy Spirit to help others to respond generously and courageously to your call.
May our community of faith support vocations of sacrificial love in our youth and young adults.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen



CALLING ALL PARENTS AND CHILDREN!

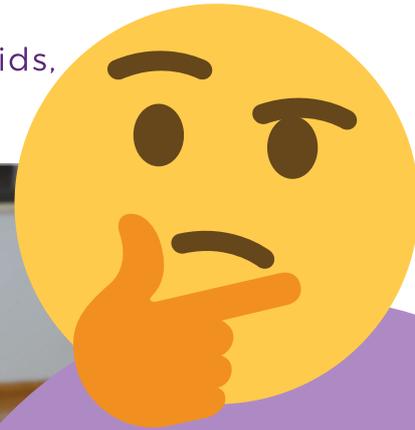
NOV. 10

PRAYER LEADING TO ACTION

Mother Teresa famously said, "I used to pray that God would feed the hungry, but now I pray that he will guide me to do whatever I'm supposed to do... Prayer changes us and we change things." The same applies to praying for vocations.

Many of us are also called to work for vocations: to talk to kids, reach out to youth, and guide our own children.

FAMILY LIFE MINISTRY



Want to get involved in the Parish and have some fun at the same



WHAT WORK IS ON YOUR HEART TO DO?

Find out how YOU can get involved in the **Family Life Ministry** Wednesday, November 10th at 10am in the Cultural Center A light brunch will be provided For more information, please contact Mary Ann Miller at 904-537-5866 via text/phone

REGISTER NOW!

SAINT OF THE WEEK

LEARN ABOUT WEDNESDAY'S SAINT OF THE WEEK!

GROWING UP IN POVERTY

In 1579, **Martín de Porres Velésquez** was born in Lima, Peru into the kind of poverty familiar to many of the world's children. He was the illegitimate son of a Spanish nobleman and a black and possibly indigenous freed slave, Ana Velásquez. The nobleman abandoned them – he acknowledged the dark-skinned boy as his son only eight years later – leaving Ana to scrape by a living for herself and her two children alone. At 12, Martín was apprenticed to a barber-surgeon.

The boy learned to cut hair and tend the sick. And increasingly, he prayed, until he was spending hours each night in conversation with God. The Lord was stirring his heart, calling him in love, but Martín was a poor, black boy with no father, in a country where the law prohibited descendants of the African slaves from becoming professed members of religious orders.

A MULATTO DOMINICAN

Love was stronger than societal custom, however. It made Martín humble, and he asked to be accepted by the Dominican priory in Lima

as a lay helper. Eight years of the humblest service, cutting the friars' hair, scrubbing, sweeping and tending to the needs of the poor, showed the prior, Juan de Lorenzana, that this "servant boy" had an extraordinary heart. So when Martín was 24 and asked to be admitted as a professed brother, de Lorenzana decided to ignore the law and allow this young mulatto to take vows.

Not all of the friars agreed with their prior. Not all had allowed the light of the Gospel, which is given to all men, to penetrate their heart to an equal degree. "Mulatto dog," some called him. One of the priests mocked him for his illegitimate birth. While Martín suffered these taunts, they did not disturb his peace. He was God's servant and the servant of his brothers, even if they were cruel. When the friary fell into debt and the prior set out to sell some of the friary's valuables, Martín begged his brothers, "I am only a poor mulatto, sell me." They did not sell him. While there may have been a few hard-hearted friars, others had eyes to see the depths of charity and prayer in this young mixed-race man who was their brother.

THE PRECEPT OF CHARITY

When he was 34, Martín was put in charge of the priory's infirmary. There, all the love that had filled his heart through prayer could spill over in compassion for others. He cared for the sick friars, but also for others, noblemen and slaves. People felt the love in him. They began to say that he could cure the sick just by bringing them a glass of water. Once Martín carried a dirty beggar covered with sores to his room to tend to him. Another friar scolded him, for the sick man was filthy. Martín responded, "Compassion, my brother, is preferable to cleanliness."



Many of the friars began to go to this simple brother for spiritual direction. They sensed the wisdom in him just as clearly as the poor sensed his love. Or perhaps they sensed that his wisdom was love. His prior, who had allowed him to take vows, learned from him, too. During an epidemic, when Martín had been forbidden from transporting the sick for fear of contagion, he was found tending to a bleeding Indian in his room. The prior began a hefty reprimand, but Martín's answer disarmed him: "Forgive me and please instruct me, for I did not know that the precept of obedience took precedence over the precept of charity." Now it was the prior's turn not to know: How could he hold back a heart so alive with compassion?

That heart followed the precept of charity – love of God and love of neighbor with a single, unified love – until Martín's death at the age of 59. At that point, his fellow friars and the city already knew: this "poor mulatto" who served the poor because he was one of them, this simple friar who humbled the proud, was their brother: St. Martín de Porres. In an almost superfluous sign, it was as if God smiled and agreed when Martín's body was found to be incorrupt 25 years after he died.



LEARN HOW TO PRAY WITH SAINTS

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

ST. MARTIN DE PORRES, DOMINICAN

“Always consider others as more holy and more worthy than you, at the same time strive to be as holy as you can be.”

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CHILDREN EXPECTING TO BE CONFIRMED IN 2022

There is a mandatory parent meeting for you to attend with a choice of day and time (pick one or the other - whichever is most convenient):

Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7pm-7:45pm in the Cultural Center during Faith Formation late session.

OR

Sunday, November 21, 2021 12:15pm-1pm in the Cultural Center after the 11AM Mass.

During this critical meeting, you will receive the complete packet of materials



to begin the journey toward your son or daughter's Confirmation on Thursday May 19, 2022.

Again, just pick one of the two dates and times and sign in as you arrive in the Cultural Center. No need to RSVP.

PARENTS OF CHILDREN 5-10 YEARS OLD: EXCITING CHANGES COMING!

ANY ADULTS INTERESTED IN ASSISTING IN THIS PROGRAM AND FOR ANY OTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT DR. ALEX GROPE @ 904 567-1960 OR EMAIL HIM @ DRE@OLSSPVB.ORG.

You've asked and we've listened!

As part of our Wave of Rejuvenation campaign, we created various opportunities for our parishioners to provide us feedback as to the direction they dream our parish take. After surveying you and listening to you throughout our listening sessions earlier this year, it has been recommended and approved by Monsignor Brennan that we establish a weekly **Children's Liturgy of the Word** for our parish.

We will launch this new program for children in grades K-4 during the 9:00 am Mass beginning the first day of the Church's new liturgical year, Sunday, November 28, 2021.

After the Collect at the beginning of Mass and before the Lector begins the First Reading, Monsignor will welcome all children in grades K-4 to come forward with Dr. Alex, our Faith Formation Director. Monsignor will then pray a short blessing over the group and Dr. Alex will process the children to the Browning Center Classroom 1 for their own special Liturgy of the Word with meaningful activities. After the homily and during the Creed, the children will return with Dr. Alex to the Church to rejoin their families.

CALENDAR

2021 UPCOMING EVENTS

November

- Monday, November 1st Solemnity of All Saints, Holy Day of Obligation
- Wednesday, November 3rd Week 9 CLASSES IN SESSION
- Wednesday, November 3, 2021 7pm-7:45pm - First Option for Mandatory Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Cultural Center during Faith Formation late session (choose this or 11/21).
- Wednesday, November 10th No Classes - Veteran's Day
- Wednesday, November 17th Week 10 CLASSES in SESSION & Family Faith Challenge #2 issued
- Sunday, November 21, 2021 12:15pm-1pm Second Option for Mandatory Confirmation Parent Meeting in the Cultural Center after the 11AM Mass(choose this or 11/3).
- Wednesday, November 24th No Classes - Thanksgiving



Featuring:

- For Children - An encounter with the tradition of St. Nicholas sponsored by our Family Life Ministry
- For Adults and Teens a free blood pressure screening sponsored by our Health Care Ministry
- For Everyone the music of Christmas performed by the acapella singing group The Bridges of Harmony, punch and cookies, and gifts in every price range
 - Divine Treasures from our very own gift shop.
- Vendors of every type from authors representing their works to sea shell crafts and handcrafted gifts for toddlers.

December

- Wednesday, December 1st Week 11 CLASSES in SESSION & Family Faith Challenge #2 due

giving to god



In today's first reading we hear about a widow who was asked to give away all the food she had. In the Gospel Jesus points out a woman who put all her money into the Temple treasury.

It pleases God when He sees us sharing what we have with the poor and the Church. But do you think He wants us to give everything away?

Everything we have comes from God and He wants us to use it well. That's called being a good steward. It means using what we need for ourselves, but making sure that we always give to the Church and those in need.



What would a bad steward do?

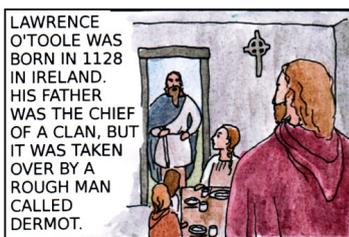
How can you be a good steward with your money?



Answers to True or False: 1. True, 2. False, 3. False, 4. True, 5. True, 6. True, 7. False.

SAINT LAWRENCE O'TOOLE

NOVEMBER 14

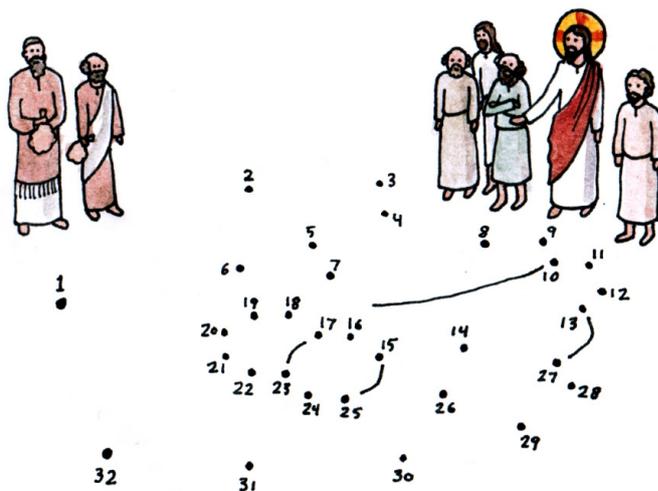


SAINT LAWRENCE O'TOOLE WAS GENEROUS AND MADE SACRIFICES TO KEEP PEACE BETWEEN KINGS AND NATIONS. GOD WANTS EVERYONE TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN PEACE WITH EACH OTHER. SOMETIMES WE NEED TO MAKE SACRIFICES TO KEEP PEACE IN OUR FAMILIES AND WITH OUR FRIENDS. DO YOU?

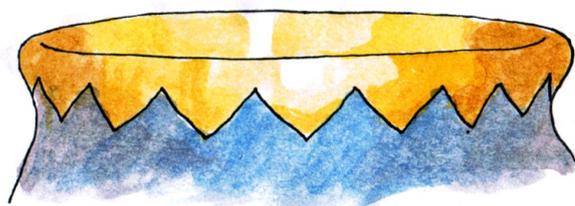
thekidsbulletin@gmail.com

The Kids' Bulletin

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
November 7th, 2021



Mark 12:38-44



In today's Gospel reading Jesus saw a poor woman putting everything she had into the Temple treasury. How much was it? Connect the dots to find out!

Elijah and the Poor Widow

1 Kings 17:10-16

How well do you know the story of Elijah and the widow? Which of these are true and which are false?

1. Elijah met a widow collecting sticks and asked her for a cup of water. True or False?
2. The woman did not want to get the water for Elijah. True or False?
3. The woman had a lot of food stored up. True or False?
4. Elijah told the woman to bake a little cake for him. True or False?
5. The woman was afraid that she would run out of flour and oil. True or False?
6. Elijah told the widow that God would not let the flour or oil get used up. True or False?
7. The widow ran out of food and could not feed her son. True or False?

