



Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church

132 Butcher Street, Bethalto, IL 62010

Website: <https://www.olqpbethalto.org/parish/>

Fr. Tom Liebler, Pastor

Rector: 618-377-6519; Cell: 618-409-7444; Email: tliebler@aol.com



Let the children come to me;

do not prevent them,
for the kingdom of God
belongs to such as these.

Mark 10:14

GOD DOES NOT GIVE UP

Our readings today point to God's deep commitment to human relationships. Our passage from Genesis begins with the declaration that God created human persons to be social beings, who can only thrive when they live in deep connection with each other and with God. The author of Hebrews teaches that the coming of Jesus as one of us shows God's radical commitment to human life. Jesus' teaching about divorce, described in today's Gospel, shows God's deep investment in marriage and, implicitly, all human relationships. When our personal relationships with others are distant or broken, God seeks to heal them. When social structures serve to maintain oppression, or to keep groups in ongoing conflict, God is working to overthrow them. Even when we give up on each other, God does not give up. God will work ceaselessly, in us and through us, within all the pain and joy of the human situation.

LIKE A CHILD

Today's passage from Mark's Gospel is in the context of Jesus' teaching about the kingdom, or reign, of God. A common understanding was that entering the kingdom was based on family origin, or achievement, or status in the community. Jesus pushes back on this, and presents a child as a model of receptivity and openness.

This is not to suggest that adults must somehow reject the wisdom gained through adult experience and return to childhood. Adult maturity also includes the difficult journey, usually later in life, of letting go of illusions that we have built up about our own virtue, skills, and autonomy. Jesus' teaching pushes back against our culture, which honors energy and vigor, expertise and achievement. These valuable gifts can fail us if we cannot accept our dependence on God who provides and cultivates these gifts. We can accept God's graciousness in our life when we open our hearts as a child does.

PROUD TO BE HUMAN

This is the first of seven consecutive Sundays that we will share passages from the Letter to the Hebrews. The letter is an extended sermon by an unknown author directed to a Christian community where likely many were converts from Judaism. The author attempts to link Jesus to the story of the people of Israel, building toward an image of Christ as God's perfect high priest. Christ the High Priest is described as the central link between humanity and God.

When we reflect upon the life and death of Jesus, we can more deeply accept that through Jesus, God knows what we humans experience. Jesus the High Priest embraces his humanity. In today's passage, the author claims that Jesus is proud to be human, proud to be our brother in the family of God. The letter to the Hebrews is not only a celebration of Christ, it is an affirmation of the dignity of our own human life.

TODAY'S READINGS

Genesis 2:18-24
Psalm 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5, 6
Hebrews 2:9-11
Mark 10:2-16 [2-12]

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 3, 2021

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Mass Schedule

Monday.....8:30 am
Tuesday.....8:30 am
Wednesday.....6:30 pm
Thursday.....8:30 am
Friday.....8:30 am
Saturday.....4:30 pm
Sunday...8:30/10:30 am

Confession

Saturday.....3:30 pm
Also, by appointment

Baptism

Parents of infants to be baptized, call parish office to request a meeting with Fr. Tom.



Parish Office

Hours:

Monday through
Thursday
8:30 am—4:00 pm
(Closed 12-1, Lunch)
618-377-6519
618-377-9550 (fax)

Email:

church@olqpbethalto.org

Office Manager:

Terri Zykan

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School Secretary:

Elaine Withers

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Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mass Intentions

Sat., Oct. 2 4:30 pm	The Holy Guardian Angels Louis Rexing
Sun., Oct. 3 8:30 am 10:30 am	27th Sunday in Ordinary Time Bob & Jeannie Berghoff For the Parishioners
Mon., Oct. 4 8:30 am	St. Francis of Assisi Barbara Toppmeyer
Tues., Oct. 5 8:30 am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Anthony & Jeanie Ventimiglia
Wed., Oct. 6 6:30 pm	Weekday in Ordinary Time Carol Alcorn
Thur., Oct. 7 8:30 am	Our Lady of the Rosary Jacob Rose
Fri., Oct. 8 8:30 am	Weekday in Ordinary Time Bob Berghoff
Sat., Oct. 9 4:30 pm	Weekday in Ordinary Time Bob Zakrzewski
Sun., Oct. 10 8:30 am 10:30 am	28th Sunday in Ordinary Time For the Parishioners Fred Spence

Prayer Requests

The sick: Conor Vogel, Keita Salantai, Mary Wagner, Charlie Mattingly, Noah Rogers, Becky Gray, Marguerite Hufker, Dan McRae, Mary Overton, Maxine Calhoon, Gloria Matthews, Dianne Morin, Vi Perkhiser, John Richter, Jennifer Price, Robert and Pauline Lange, Elli Wiemers, Christine Scheffel, Toni Stanford, Tim Phillips, Kennedy Stalcup, William Henderson, Helen Nagy, Peggy & Ralph Ruhmann, Mike Byers, Bea Albarado. **For prayer requests in the bulletin, call the parish office, 377-6519. For prayer requests to be added to the email prayer chain, send requests to Marie at rejoy128@gmail.com**



40 Days for Life

Be a silent witness by participating with other Christians with prayer and fasting. OLQP has adopted Monday, October 11, 7 am—6 pm. Two prayer partners each hour to stand peacefully in prayer at Hope Clinic for Women in Granite City. Visit: www.40daysgc.com for more information. Contact Mary Terry, 830-0104 to fill up the day. Thank you for your participation!



Public Square Rosary Rally—Next Saturday

Sat, Oct 9th, 12 noon in front of the school by the Mary Statue. Bring rosary and chair and join us as we pray together for our families, our parish, our school, our community and our world. Information, call Andy Kerkemeyer (andy.kerkemeyer@woolpert.com) or Brenda Tebbe (628-407-0233 or btebbe8356@att.net).



Dear Parishioners,

Do You Know Your Prayers?

(Name the prayer that each line below is taken from.)

1. "...never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection..."
2. 'O my God, I am heartily sorry...'
3. '...I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic...'
4. '...show unto us the blessed fruit of your womb...'
5. '...God from God, light from light, true God from true God.'

Welcome Father Benz



Please welcome the priest visiting our parish next weekend. He comes to us from Cross Catholic Outreach and will share some touching stories about the amazing work Catholic missions are accomplishing worldwide. Since Cross Catholic Outreach empowers existing Catholic missions, its programs are extremely cost-effective, and the majority of the resources it collects go into program services that help the poorest of the poor around the world. To learn more about Cross Catholic Outreach, please go to CrossCatholic.org/outreach, text BLESSINGS to 474747.

OLQP Hog Roast

This Saturday following the 4:30 Mass until 9 pm.

It's not too late so please join us! We will have pulled pork sandwiches, all the fixings, with homemade ice cream, beer, margaritas, tea and lemonade and a silent auction on pies. Games for the kids and great fellowship for the parish. The cost is just what you want to donate.

PSR Registration

Hello OLQP families! PSR registration is still open for students K-8, and the registration form and handbook are available on the church website and in the church office. Please submit completed forms to the church office or bring them to your first PSR session. PSR sessions are on Wednesday evenings, with Mass at 6:30 PM, followed by a class period 7:00-8:00 PM. September 22nd was the date of our first class period for this school year, but there is still time to join us!

We would also like to emphasize that PSR is for confirmed students who have already received their First Holy Communion, along with those who have yet to receive those sacraments. Learning about our faith is a journey that continues after the Sacraments of Initiation, and the PSR program is here to support your student and family on that journey!

Please send an email to psr@olqbethalto.org or call Sam Waldo at 580-8725 with any questions. Thank you and God bless you!

John Rogers Explorer Classic Golf Tournament

October 8th, 12 pm, Spencer T. Olin Golf Course! Registration: www.marquettecatholic.org/golfclassic or call the Development Office, 463-0585 ext. 1. \$125/golfer or \$500/team. All proceeds benefit Marquette HS!

October 3, 2021

Liturgical Ministries

4:30 pm	Saturday, October 9
Lector	JoEllyn Patterson
E. Ministers	Rich & Sue Hayes
Ushers	Jim & Jackie Page Brad & Teri Fulk
Rosary	Tim Zacha
Music	Craig/Kathy
8:30 am	Sunday, October 10
Lector	Mary Ann Klunk
E. Ministers	Carol Beste Jay McCurdy
Ushers	Dan & Martha Smith Joe Grabowski & Ray Meyer
Rosary	Andy Kerkemeyer
Music	Adult Choir
10:30 am	Sunday, October 10
Lector	Teri Fulk
E. Ministers	Kateri Dance Lee Friedel
Ushers	Kathy Wilson & Diane Waldo Tim & Tammy Sasek
Music	Praise Team

RCIA News

This week in RCIA..... Our Wednesday evening Inquiring sessions have started and we are missing some people! Those "missing" include your loved ones, co-workers, relatives and friends, or someone who you see frequently, perhaps that significant other waiting to pop the question. It may even be someone you have been holding in prayer, many if not all who are waiting to be invited by you or by me to learn more about the Catholic faith. There is still time to join the journey with us. If you have questions or need more information please call the church office at 377-6519 or call or e-mail, Tim Zacha @ 377-5725, Tzac54@sbcglobal.net, or Jay McCurdy @ (217) 827-1406, jay@allied.construction. Or check out our website at <http://www.church.olqpbethalto.org/>

St. Teresa of Calcutta's Words of Wisdom

"The first person in the world to welcome Jesus, to recognize Him in the womb of His mother was a child: John the Baptist. How wonderful, God chooses an unborn child to announce the coming of His redeeming Son."

Community Hope Center Toy Drive

We will again participate in this popular Christmas Toy Drive for the Hope Center. Donation barrels will be dropped off soon for the back of church and in the school lobby. (Deadline for families to register to receive toys is Oct. 29). Drop off new, unwrapped toys for girls and boys, ages 0-12 or donate money at:

www.communityhopecenteril.org

Do You Know Your Prayers Answers

1. Memorare
2. Act of Contrition
3. Apostles' Creed
4. Hail, Holy Queen
5. Nicene Creed

Reflections on the Readings

THERE IS NO GETTING AROUND IT. Today's Gospel will hurt. Let us acknowledge that pain and admit there are no simple answers when families struggle with divorce.

The lectionary allows a shorter version of today's Gospel reading. Don't do it. To better understand this difficult passage, we need to hear it within the larger context of Mark's Gospel. And the concluding section here of Jesus blessing the children gives us that connection.

Mark's main focus is on the outsider: John the Baptist in the desert; the healings of the outcast or foreigner. Throughout Mark's Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples that God's reign is not found in the powerful but in those who have been left out of society's care. By putting children front and center today and the last two Sundays, Jesus continues to turn our gaze to the vulnerable.

Recognizing that Jesus is drawing our attention to God's will and not to the rules of divorce, we can avoid simplistic statements that imprison couples in bad marriages "for the sake of the children." With Mark's focus and in light of the first reading, we can announce instead the good news: God does not want us to be alone. God created us for one another, especially for those cast off. Whatever divides one from another—racism, sexism, hate, violence, selfishness—is never God's will for us.

—Diana Macalintal

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Marriage—On the Way to Heaven

"...and the two shall become one flesh." Mark 10:8

I can only imagine what it's like to lose a spouse. Over many years as a weekend assistant at a local parish, I have seen the face of grief. Am I seeing this as it really is? Such losses are etched on the faces and in the bearing of those left behind. It's as though the process of aging has been accelerated.

One should not be surprised. We are made for communion, and so is the great blessing of marriage. Life is meant to be shared, and marriage and family are where that takes place for most of us. This is a cornerstone of God's plan for human life, this intimate bond that extends out to the care and education of children and radiates beyond the family to those in need. Its flourishing counts so much toward the common good.

Lord, may they serve you—happily and faithfully together—until, at last, one should lay the other into the arms of God.

Fr. Dennis Gallagher, A.A.
Living Faith

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