

THE ORATORY OF SAINTS

GREGORY & AUGUSTINE



TRADITIO | REVERENTIA | COMMUNITAS

Welcome to the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine

The Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine is pleased to welcome you. We are an apostolate of the Archdiocese of Saint Louis faithful to the teachings of the Church and striving to grow as a family of faith through the celebration of the Traditional Latin Mass and other Sacraments.

In the First Book of ***The Confessions***, the other great St. Augustine (of Hippo) wrote the following: "Thou hast made us for Thyself and our hearts are restless until they find rest in Thee." Whether you are curious about the traditional Latin Mass and interested in exploring its beauty, searching for a parish community where you and your family will feel at home, or seeking rest for your heart, we hope that the Oratory of Saints Gregory and Augustine can provide that respite for you.

Our bulletin serves to provide information about the weekly activities occurring here at the Oratory. Along with our website (www.stlouislatinmass.com), the bulletin is your point of contact with the ever-increasing activities at the Oratory. I hope this will give you some sense of the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ, and work of the Holy Spirit in our midst. I am delighted that God has brought you here! ***Oremus pro invicem!*** ~ The Very Reverend Monsignor C. Eugene Morris, Rector

MASS AND SACRAMENTS

Sunday Masses

- 6:30 am (Low Mass)
- 8:00 am (Low Mass)
- 10:00 am (High Mass)

Weekday Masses

- Monday thru Friday: 6:30 am & 12:15 pm
- First Friday: 6:30 pm
- Saturday: 8:15 am

Confession

- Sunday: 7:30 am – 10:30 am
- Monday thru Friday: 11:00 am – 12:00 pm
- Wednesday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- First Friday: 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Divine Office

- Sunday: Prime @ 7:20 am; Terce @ 9:40 am; Vespers @ 2:30 pm
- Monday: Vespers @ 6 pm; Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Tuesday & Thursday: Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Wednesday: Vespers @ 6 pm; Compline @ 6:30 pm

Infant Baptism – Baptisms are normally scheduled on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Saturdays of the month beginning at 10:00 am. Families expecting newborns and anticipating that they will be baptized here at the Oratory should schedule their baptism at the earliest convenience by contacting the Oratory office.

Adult Baptism – If you are interested in becoming Catholic or if you are an adult Catholic not yet confirmed, please contact the Oratory office for more information about adult catechesis.

Matrimony – Please contact the Oratory office at least six months prior to the desired date for the rite of marriage. The date is reserved after consultation and confirmation from the Rector of the Oratory.

Extreme Unction/Visitation of the Sick – Contact the Oratory to arrange the sacrament either at home or in the hospital.

STAFF/ORGANIZATIONS

- **Rector:** Msgr. C. Eugene Morris
rector@oratorysga.org
- **Vice-Rector:** Fr. Michael Rennie
vicerector@oratorysga.org
- **Deacon:** Deacon Steve Pieper, MD
deacon@oratorysga.org
- **Administrative Assistant:** Donna Mueller
office@oratorysga.org
- **Facilities Manager:** Ben Schubert
facilities@oratorysga.org
- **Auxiliary:** Anna Kalinowski
auxiliary@oratorysga.org
- **Almonry of Ss. Gregory & Augustine:**
almonry@oratorysga.org
- **Altar and Rosary Society:**
altarandrosary@oratorysga.org
- **Altar Servers:**
servers@oratorysga.org
- **Choir:**
choir@oratorysga.org
- **Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD):**
ccd@oratorysga.org
- **Co-Op:**
co-op@oratorysga.org
- **Events:**
events@oratorysga.org
- **Knights of Columbus:**
kofc17355@oratorysga.org
- **Schola:**
schola@oratorysga.org
- **Troops of Saint George:**
tsg@oratorysga.org
- **Ushers:**
ostiarii@oratorysga.org
- **Young Adults:**
youngadults@oratorysga.org
- **Online Giving:**
<https://www.osvhub.com/st-louis-latin-mass>

CONTACT US

314-644-2144 / stlouislatinmass.com
7230 Dale Avenue, Richmond Heights, MO 63117

FROM THE RECTOR

Christus vincit! Christus regnat! Christus imperat! – Christ conquers, Christ reigns, Christ commands. As we celebrate today the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, we make these words our own anthem of praise and adoration. In establishing this great feast, Pius XI intended to not only remind the world of the absolute sovereignty of the Lord but also the necessity for the growth and health of society to hold fast to this truth. It has been over 100 years since the establishment of this feast and if it was necessary then to remind society and culture of the authority of Christ over all men, it is even more necessary in our current age. We see everywhere the devastating effects of governing without recourse to the Lord, of living as if God does not matter, of ejecting the things of God from every aspect of life. Society would have us believe that we no longer have need of God; however, the state of man and the on-going corruption of his soul, clearly indicates that we are in desperate need of God to inhabit and inform every aspect of our existences. Segments of both modern society and the Church Herself are advancing positions and lies antithetical to the truth of Christ and the authentic nature of man: the scourge of abortion continues to wreak havoc on families; the lies of transgenderism erode the living of the truth and destroys authentic language and communication; the celebration of the perversions of homosexuality assist in the destruction of the proper understanding of generative love and the dignity of marriage and family life. It is only through our own adherence to the truth and a sincere desire and willingness to be governed by Christ and His Church that we can hope for conversion of the world and our own conversions. And this is where it must begin: to transform society and culture we must always be in a posture of receptivity to the transforming grace of God in our lives. We must strive to allow God to always govern us. In humility we must seek to conform our wills to the Divine Master knowing that apart from Him we can do nothing, but through Him we can share in the victory that Our King has gained for us on the Cross.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, 26 October:

- Prime @ 7:20 am
- Confessions @ 7:30 am
- Terce @ 9:40 am
- Eucharistic Procession @ 11:30 am
- Vespers @ 2:30 pm

Monday, 27 October:

- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Tuesday, 28 October:

- Compline @ 6:30 pm
- Choir practice @ 7:00 pm

Wednesday, 29 October:

- Adoration/Confessions @ 5:00 pm
- Catechesis Class @ 5:45 pm
- Vespers @ 6:00 pm
- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Thursday, 30 October:

- Compline @ 6:30 pm

Friday, 31 October:

- No Events Scheduled

Saturday, 1 November: ALL SAINTS

- Holy Mass @ 6:30 am
- Confessions @ 7:00 am
- Holy Mass @ 8:15 am

PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE 2025-2026

10/19-10/26 Kelly	10/26-11/02 Jones
11/02-11/09 Holman	11/09-11/16 Carapella
11/16-11/23 Cook	11/23-11/30 Hayward
11/30-12/07 Joseph	12/07-12/14 Blum
12/14-12/21 Wisniewski	12/21-12/28 Catalano
12/28-01/04 Kenney	01/04-01/11 Raymond
01/11-01/18 Hayes	01/18-01/25 Schuette
01/25-02/01 Filla	02/01-02/08 Petrick

Drop off and pick up the statue in the vestibule (back of church). Place the statue bag on the floor under one of the pews. To join or to quit the schedule contact Sharon Alexander saalexa@sbcglobal.net

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, 27 October – *Vigil of Ss. Simon & Jude*

6:30 am: Joey Mooney
12:15 pm: Dames Family

Tuesday, 28 October – *Ss. Simon & Jude*

6:30 am: Kathy Mooney
12:15 pm: Holden & Kelsey

Wednesday, 29 October – *Feria*

6:30 am: Margaret Mahfood
12:15 pm: Alec & Kristin

Thursday, 30 October – *Feria*

6:30 am: Robert A. Salmo (d)
12:15 pm: John Mendel (d)

Friday, 31 October – *Vigil of ALL SAINTS*

6:30 am: Luke Mooney
12:15 pm: Koch Family

Saturday, 1 November – *ALL SAINTS*

6:30 am: Pro Populo
8:15 am: Mary Knollmeyer (d)

Sunday, 2 November – *21st Sunday after Pentecost*

6:30 am: Pro Populo
8:00 am: John Mendel (d)
10:00 am: Thomas Brooks (d)

~ 10/19/2025 ~

Weekly Collection Total	\$ 7,297.73
Online Giving	\$ 6,037.00
Total	\$ 13,334.73
Needed	\$ 16,800.00
Year to Date Total	\$ 278,378.69

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26 October 2025

ALL SAINTS AND ALL SOULS

All Saints Day is Saturday, 1 November 2025.

In addition to the normal Saturday morning schedule, Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 am.

All Souls Day is transferred to Monday, 3 November 2025.

In addition to the normal weekday schedule Holy Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 pm with confessions before Holy Mass. The faithful are reminded of the indulgences that may be gained during the days of 1 November through 8 November and is applicable to the Poor Souls. A plenary indulgence is gained by visiting a cemetery and praying for the faithful departed. A partial indulgence is granted to those who recite Lauds or Vespers from the Office of the Dead and those who recite the prayer "*Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Requiescant in pace. Amen.*"

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THE ORATORY VESTIBULE

The Rector of the Oratory has requested that any materials left in the vestibule of the Oratory be approved before dissemination. This permission includes materials deemed pious and worthy by the individual leaving the materials. To the person(s) who continues to leave material related to the Miraculous Medal, please contact the Rector of the Oratory before leaving any more materials. The material that has been left has been collected and is being kept in the Oratory offices. This will continue to be the practice of any, and all, materials left in the vestibule or at the doors of the Church without permission: the material will be confiscated or disposed of completely.

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CRITICAL/EMERGENCY RESPONSE

The recent violence against Christians, and particularly the Catholic Church, is a serious cause for concern. While being vigilant and aware of the various situations in which we might find ourselves, we must guard ourselves against living fearfully in the world. Assisting in finding this proper balance, the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine has plans in place in the event of a critical or emergency incident. In consultation with the Rector of the Oratory, the Ushers of the Oratory will be the men in charge of responding to any emergency situation. All the faithful of the Oratory are asked to follow their directives in the case of any critical incident or emergency situation. A proper chain of command, led by those with the necessary training, will assist the whole community if a critical and/or life-threatening situation should present itself. I am grateful to Dr. Robert Morgan and Tim Turtine for their leadership and expertise along with other members of the community and all of the ushers for undertaking this necessary and serious responsibility. If anyone is interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Dr. Morgan at ostiaril@oratorysga.org to become an usher which will facilitate your participation. Finally, if any member of our community has concerns, please communicate those directly to Rector.

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CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

All Oratory Faithful are invited to consecrate themselves to Jesus through Mary on Monday, 8 December, the feast of the Immaculate Conception. Following any of the Holy Masses of that feast day, the faithful are welcome to kneel at the Communion rail in front of the Altar of Our Lady and silently pray their consecration. They should then sign their consecration prayer with their full name. To learn more about prayers of Consecration to Jesus through Mary and the 33-day preparation for consecration, please see the Wellspring of Tradition section of this bulletin. Note: the 33-day preparation period begins on 5 November. Booklets to help guide the faithful through the 33-day preparation will be handed out by Girls' Guild members following the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Masses on Sunday, 2 November and will be available in the vestibule thereafter.

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CHILI COOK-OFF

Come celebrate the changing of seasons with a Chili Cook-off at the Oratory on 9 November after the 10:00 Mass.! Top 2 winners are chosen by popular vote. Side dishes and desserts are welcomed and needed. Hot dogs will be provided. Please drop off your crock pot of chili in the St. Joseph Room before the 10am Mass.

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SIENA

High school aged girls are invited to join Siena, a Catholic sisterhood of faith formation & vocational discernment for girls in the archdiocese of St. Louis. This group meets one Friday evening a month at St. John Bosco Church in Maryland Heights. Each meeting includes faith formation by the Carmelites Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus plus Adoration + Confession provided by Fr. Schumacher as our chaplain. For more information and upcoming dates please email Lara Pizar: sienastlouis@gmail.com.

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STREET PARKING

As our community continues to grow, parking on Sundays is at a premium, especially at the 10:00 am Holy Mass. If you are parking on the street, please do not block any driveways. It was recently communicated that a driveway was blocked and the person living there was unable to get out. Fortunately, this neighbor was willing to wait until the conclusion of Holy Mass. Sadly, not all of our neighbors are happy about our presence or our growth and it is important that we work with them even if they do not want to work with us. Let's not provide any opportunity to cause or create a problem. Please be conscious of working to be good neighbors and do not block drives or park in places that are not available to us.

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CO-OP UPDATE & WISH LIST

We are so blessed to be able to have the True Good and Beautiful Homeschool co-op in our parish. The co-op is fairly self-sufficient, supported by our parents and our parish. There are a few items on our wish list that are wanted/needed by our teachers. If anyone has these (listed below) or knows of a place that might donate these, please send an email to Cory Grizzle at co-op@oratorysga.org.

- o Good condition gliders / rockers

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- Any good condition (preferably library bound) classic and/or Catholic books for our library
- Any large, easily cleanable toys for nursery that serves infants to 3 years old
- Any large teaching toys for children 3-5 years old (like toys from Lakeshore Learning or Mindware)
- Bluetooth speakers
- Rugs (8x10 or larger) - new or like new, even bound remnant from a project or local carpet store would be appreciated. We are in desperate need of replacing many rugs at the end of the year.

We are also looking for someone who would be willing to deep clean our floor of the building once a week. If you are interested or know of someone who is, please email Cory Grizzle at co-op@oratorysga.org.

SHARING OF INFORMATION (PART II)

In last week's bulletin, there was a reminder and a request regarding the dissemination of information and materials on the table in the vestibule of the Oratory. Again, this week an individual left Miraculous Medals on the table in the vestibule. While grateful for this person's generosity, it is unknown who did this and therefore permission was not given to do so. **To be clear:** there is nothing objectionable about Miraculous Medals; however, the procedure of prior permission assists in avoiding anything that would be deemed objectionable being placed in the Church. I cannot stress enough that **ANY** and **ALL** materials of any kind must be submitted to the Rector of the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine before they can be placed on the tables in the vestibule or placed on the bulletin or left on the pews in the back of Church. This would also include to the side doors at the front of the Church. **DO NOT LEAVE UNAUTHORIZED MATERIALS OF ANY KIND ANYWHERE IN THE CHURCH.** In advance, thank you for your respectful attention to this request.

OSGA CHRISTMAS GIVING TREE 2025

The Christmas Giving Tree, sponsored by The OSGA Almonry, is a way for the Oratory faithful to receive or contribute to local needs during the Advent and Christmas season. If you or someone you know could benefit from help, please let us know by 17 November by emailing almonry@oratorysga.org with the following information:

- name of person in need and his or her contact information for delivery
- specific needs in detail, cash and gift cards are acceptable

Starting Sunday, 30 November, needs will be displayed on ornaments in the vestibule for the faithful to take and fulfill. All names will be kept anonymous and gifts will be distributed prior to Christmas.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THIS PEACEFUL VIGIL

Vita Communis Young Adults will be praying at the St. Louis Planned Parenthood Abortion Facility on Saturday, 15 November from 8:15 am to 12:00 pm All Oratory members are welcome to join in this peaceful vigil for any amount of time that morning. The address is: 4251 Forest Park Ave, St.

Louis, MO 63108. Street parking in the area is available. There will be coffee and donuts provided in the convent across the street. To sign up for a half an hour or a full hour please contact youngadults@oratorysga.org. Thank you!

NEW PRO-LIFE COORDINATOR

The whole community would like to thank Rory (Aurora) Miller for serving as the coordinator of Pro-Life activities for the Oratory for the past several years. Rory has done a great job leading the Oratory's involvement in fostering the culture of life. She has elected to step down from this position and we are in need of a new volunteer coordinator.

The duties of the position in its current configuration include:

- Attends diocesan pro-life meetings at Rigali Center.
- Coordinates 40 Days for Life twice each year.
- Goes to monthly meetings at the pro-life Advocacy group.
- Gathers information about upcoming Pro-Life events and submits this for posting and publication at the Oratory of Ss. Gregory and Augustine.

The new coordinator is encouraged to explore other avenues for the Oratory community to remain involved in and part of the Pro-Life efforts of the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

If you are interested, please contact the rector, Msgr. Morris (rector@oratorysga.org). In advance, thank you for your consideration and generosity.

CONFRATERNITY OF CHRISTIAN DOCTRINE (CCD)

** Attention parents ** The Oratory is pleased to offer the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine (CCD) program once again this year. Classes began on Wednesday, 22 October and will be held every Wednesday evening (with some exceptions) in the school building at Little Flower Catholic School, 1275 Boland Place, St Louis, MO 63117. Children between the ages of 6 and 18 (**age as of 2/28/25**) may participate. A high school class is possible, depending on the number of sign-ups. The cost is \$25 per child, \$100 maximum per family. Online registration available at the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/252654585824164>.

Contact Jake & Terri Fowler with any questions: ccd@oratorysga.org.

NEW CONFESSION SCHEDULE

The Oratory resumed the offering of Confessions on Sunday mornings (effective 7 September 2025). Confessions will be heard from 7:30 until 9:00 am (approximately) and again from 9:15 am until 10:30 am. This new schedule will allow the priests celebrating the two early Holy Masses to be available for confession. So too, when Msgr. Witt hopefully returns to us, he will be able to assist as well. There will be some Sundays that will need to be adjusted because only two priests will be celebrating Holy Masses that day. Signs will indicate those Sundays as they happen. Please remember that confessions are heard Monday - Friday at 11:00 am; Wednesdays at 5:00 pm; and Saturday mornings

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at 7:00 am. Finally, please continue to pray for Msgr. Witt as he works toward a full recovery.

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ADULTS SEEKING THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

We welcome those interested in becoming Catholic. To get started in that process within the OSGA community, please email one of our priests for an introductory meeting. Their contacts are available in the bulletin. After this, candidates for Initiation at the Oratory will be directed to complete a registration form with our Administrator.

Catechism classes are held in the St Joseph Room (rectory basement) generally on a bi-monthly basis on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 5:45-6:45 pm.

The content surrounds a set of topics central to Catholic teaching, as set forth by Msgr. Morris. Deacon Pieper moderates most meetings through a questions and answer format and hopes to promote sincere dialogue with the candidates regarding those topics and/or related questions. The intent is to communicate Christ and His Church. Sacraments are offered on an individual basis, on a rolling schedule throughout the year, after mutual discernment by the candidate, our deacon and priests.

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RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

For those in our community who are new to the Traditional Latin Mass, when you approach the altar rail for holy communion it is the custom to begin filling in the altar rail at the far right near St. Joseph's altar and fill in the rail until its end at the Marian altar. This practice is not impacted by which side of the Church you happen to be seated. You are allowed, and encouraged, to switch sides in order to keep the communion line moving. This is particularly important when there are two sacred ministers distributing Holy Communion. So too, do not overly delay approaching the rail waiting for others to return to their pews. If everyone moves with attention to what is happening, there should be a flow of movement between those departing the altar rail and those approaching the altar rail. Also, for daily Holy Mass: please kneel at the rail only where the houseling cloth has been prepared for communion. Please keep in mind that we should not keep the Lord waiting but moving with grace and deliberation to the altar rail to receive our Eucharistic Lord.

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BULLETIN DEADLINE (FRIDAYS @ 10AM)

The deadline that LPI has set for our submission of the full bulletin is Tuesdays by 12 Noon each week. Consequently, the new deadline for bulletin submissions from individuals and groups of the Oratory is the prior Friday at 10:00 am.

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BAPTISMS (July-September 2025)

(In alphabetical order)

Cormac Joseph Cox (Andrew & Perpetua)
Linus Maximillian Gomez (Alex & Julie)
Anthony Leo Alexander Hughes (Tim & Erin)
Cora Sophia Kelly (Patrick & Lauren)
Felicity Therese Kenney (Dan & Elisabeth)
Margaret Irene Moritz (Michael & Katherine)

James Frassati Puthoff (Gavin & Victoria)

Julia Therese Rolwes (Jacob & Anna)

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NEW FAMILIES for SEPTEMBER (alphabetical order)

A warm welcome to our new parishioners!

- Mark Bubik
- Angie Romero

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JUBILEE YEAR INFORMATION

The Jubilee Year of 2025, (24 December 2024 through 6 January 2026), offers the faithful many opportunities to obtain the Jubilee Indulgence. Local designated pilgrimage sites are as follows: The Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis (New Cathedral), The Basilica of St. Louis, King of France (Old Cathedral), Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters (St. Louis), The Carmel of St. Joseph (St. Louis), St. Mary's of the Barrens National Shrine of the Miraculous Medal (Perryville), Monastery of St. Clare (St. Louis), Passionist Nuns of St. Louis (Ellisville), Immaculate Heart of Mary (New Melle), Immaculate Conception (Union). For more information about the Jubilee Year and how to receive an indulgence, please see the flyers on the bulletin board in the church vestibule or visit: <https://www.archstl.org/2025jubileeyear/>

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PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

In your charity, please pray for the following members of the Oratory who are ill: Mary Jane Bolte; Amanda Camarillo, daughter of Gregory & Nancy Latham; Petra Felicity Cheaney, daughter of Michael & Jaime; Jeanmarie DeCoster; Donna Hagan; Shane Kiser, husband of Maggie Kiser; Dotty Kuhlmann, mother of Donna Mueller; Mary McMahan; Donna Mueller; Michael Norfleet, son of Marsha Norfleet; Elizabeth Ryan; Mary Joseph Schenk, daughter of Nicholas & Elaine; Patrick Schneider; Sylvester Soldinie; Caleb & Sheila Ten Eyck; Lara Trudell, daughter of Sharon and Jim Alexander; Renee Weidner; Angie Wiesler; and Msgr. Witt.

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PRAYERS FOR THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

- Sherree Conoyer, niece of Mary Schuette
- Marsha Dames, niece of Mary Schuette
- Theresa Hernandez, sister of Mary Schuette
- Mary Knollmeyer
- Mark Schilling, father of Sheila Ten Eyck

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USHERS' SCHEDULE

Sunday, 26 October

6:30 am Brayden Bauman *, Chris Bauman

8:00 am Terry Conway*, Sam Ashlock, Ken Catalano,
Greg Rheinheimer

10:00 am Tom Gates*, Brandon Roberts, Mark Scheer,
Robert Morgan

Sunday, 2 November

6:30 am Bill Saccente*, Evan Adair

8:00 am Sam Ashlock*, Greg Rheinheimer, Ken
Catalano, Michael Nelson

10:00 am Brandon Roberts*, Mark Scheer, Robert
Morgan, Zach Morley

+ Altar Server Schedule: October – November 2025 +

Date	Time	MC at High Mass / Acolyte at Low Mass	Thurifer	Acolyte 1	Acolyte 2
26 October 2025	6:30	Jack Ryan			
	8:00	Michael Blum			
	10:00	Sebastian Petrick	Thomas Koschmeder	George Blaxton	Theodore Grizzle
2 November 2025	6:30	Benedict Armesto			
	8:00	Michael Rheinheimer			
	10:00	Avery Blaxton	Michael Blum	Leo Grizzle	John Paul Sinak
9 November 2025	6:30	Michael Norfleet			
	8:00	Castor Armesto			
	10:00	Peter Blum	Anthony Green	Elijah Garvey	Dominic Green

FIRST SATURDAY / FIRST FRIDAY

1 November 2025	6:30 pm	Sebastian Petrick	Augustine Rennie	Cabhan Ten Eyck	Theodore Grizzle
7 November 2025	8:15 am	John Morgan	Anthony Green	William Hayes	Dominic Green

WELLSPRING OF TRADITION, FROM THE RECTOR: CONSECRATION TO JESUS THROUGH MARY

As we approach the feast of the Immaculate Conception, I would like to offer some words to our community about the devotional practice of Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. Through the centuries, the Church has seen several different forms of this devotion, but the essential idea has always been that Christians place themselves and all of their goods, both material and spiritual, into the hands of Our Lady in order that she might direct their lives in every way and help them live their Baptismal vows unto sainthood.

In his work *True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary*, St. Louis de Montfort elaborates on Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary. In the following passage, he sums up the devotion:

“This devotion consists in giving oneself entirely to Mary in order to belong entirely to Jesus through her. It requires us to give:

- Our body with its senses and members;
- Our soul with its faculties;
- Our present material possessions and all we shall acquire in the future;
- Our interior and spiritual possessions, that is, our merits, virtues, and good actions of the past, the present, and the future.

In other words, we give her all that we possess both in our natural life and in our spiritual life as well as everything we shall acquire in the future in the order of nature, of grace, and of glory in heaven. This we do without any reservation, not even of a penny, a hair, or the smallest good deed. And we give for all eternity without claiming or expecting, in return for our offering and our service, any other reward than the honor of belonging to our Lord through Mary and in Mary, even though our Mother were not—as in fact she always is—the most generous and appreciative of all God's creatures.”

Sometimes men and women are given pause by the radical demand that Marian Consecration makes on their lives. For instance, when a man consecrated to Our Lady prays or sacrifices for particular intentions, the merits of his prayers and sacrifices may be redirected by Our Lady Herself toward other good ends. By consecrating himself to Our Lady, a man agrees to allow Her to dispose of all of the merits of his life on earth in the way that She deems best. Consecration to Our Lady is, then, the greatest act of trust. However, it may help to recall that the man who consecrates himself to Our Lady consecrates Himself to the Mother of God, the Mediatrix of all Graces. All good that comes to any Christian soul, comes through Our Lady. To pledge our radical, even blind trust in Her, unlocks for us a shower of graces that we could never conceive of as requests in our own faulty prayers. In other words, we will always profit by allowing Our Lady to manage the investment of our merits. The only requirement is that we allow Her to dispose of our goods in Her way, which is so much wiser than our own.

To learn more about Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary, read St. Louis de Montfort's excellent book, *True Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary*. If you decide that you would like to make a total consecration of yourself to Jesus through Mary, plan on following the traditional practice of making a 33-day preparation for your consecration. If you wish to make your consecration on the feast of the Immaculate Conception with many other Oratory faithful, the day to begin your preparation is Wednesday, 5 November.

There are several excellent books available that will guide you through the 33-day preparation period. Please see the recommendations below:

- 1) *Preparation for Total Consecration to the Immaculate* – available for free to all Oratory faithful in the vestibule early November or as a hand-out following the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Mass on 2 November.
- 2) *Total Consecration to Jesus Through Mary* by St. Louis de Montfort – TAN Publishers
- 3) *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, M.I.C. – Marian Press

Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us who have recourse to thee!

Ss. Gregory and Augustine, pray for us!

Perfect Love
DOULA SERVICES
Amanda Antony, Doula
doulaperfectlovedoula.com
(903) 348-6205
"Perfect love casts out fear."
1 John 4:18

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Alex Filla
Premier Real Estate Agent | Oratory Member
afilla@cbphomes.com
Office: 636-231-3122 • Cell: 636-390-2121

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