

# ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

833 Main Street  
Agawam, MA 01001

[www.stjohnagawam.com](http://www.stjohnagawam.com)

[sje.information@gmail.com](mailto:sje.information@gmail.com)

Office Phone: 413-786-8105 | Fax: 413-455-3100



## Welcome!

No matter what your present status in the Catholic Church,  
No matter what your family or marital situation,  
No matter what your past or present religious affiliation,  
No matter what your personal history, background, race or other,  
No matter what your own self-image or esteem,  
You are invited, welcomed, accepted, loved and respected here at St. John's.

## EUCCHARIST:

Lord's Day Mass: *Saturday* 4:00 pm, *Sunday* 8:00 am, 10:30 am

Weekday Mass: Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Friday at 8:00 am & Wednesday at 6:00 pm | Adoration: Wed. 12:00 - 6:00 pm

CONFESSION: Saturday 2:45 to 3:45 pm, Wednesday 4:30 to 5:30 pm, or by Appointment.

BAPTISM: Please call the parish office to schedule.

MARRIAGE: To be arranged at least one year in advance. Please call the parish office.

ANOIDTING OF THE SICK: Is available in the Confessional every Saturday or see Father after Mass. If you or a loved one needs Father to come to you, please call the parish office.

CONFIRMATION: Takes place in 11th Grade, please contact the Director of Religious Education to enroll in classes. If you are an adult and need to make your Confirmation, please contact the same office and ask about the RCIA program.

HOLY ORDERS: Are you thinking about a vocation to the priesthood or religious life? Please call Fr. Pierz at the parish office, or call the Office of Vocations at (413) 452-0811.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT: *We are a Roman Catholic community inspired by the Holy Spirit to follow the example of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ by sharing, growing and spreading God the Father's love through our parish ministries, and by coming together as a community in meaningful prayer and worship to celebrate that love.*

**Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time—October 10, 2021**

## **28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

*When offered the choice between true knowledge or riches, Solomon prays for wisdom of heart. When given the choice between following Jesus or remaining attached to his material wealth, the man chooses his possessions. God's word challenges us to be attached to Jesus, and to him alone.*

### ***PARISH OFFICE HOURS***

*Monday-Thursday - 9:00 am - 3:00 pm*

*Friday - Closed*

***Pastor:*** Fr. Michael Pierz

*sje.priest@gmail.com*

***Parochial Vicar:*** Fr. John Hurley

*sje.curate@gmail.com*

***Deacon:*** Deacon Dave Picard

*sje.deacon@gmail.com*

***Priest in Retirement:*** Fr. John Lis

***Office Manager:*** Andreana Perkins

*sje.operationsmanager@gmail.com*

***Parish Secretary:*** Debbie Whitehead

***Reception Volunteers:*** Mary Talarico,

Patricia Brown, Shirley Cusluski

***Pastoral Ministry to Sick & Homebound:***

Francesca Brandt

*sje.homebound@gmail.com*

***Director of Religious Education:*** Claire Riberdy

*sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com*

***Director of "In the Beginning"***

***Pre-School Ministry:*** Claire Riberdy (Interim)

*sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com*

***Pre-School Teachers:*** Isabel Dunn

***Director of Music Ministry:*** Isabella Manning

*sje.musicdirector@gmail.com*

***Maintenance Supervisor:*** Beth Thomas

*sje.maintenance@gmail.com*

***Child Advocate:*** Mary Beth Swindell

Private Line: (860) 386-6009

### ***Finance Council:***

David Ross (Chair)

Cecile Fragoso

Dale Marie Breault

Suzanne Lamkins

### ***Pastoral Council:***

Cecile Fragoso (Acting Chair)

Luke Hollwedel

Dorota Maliszewska

Jessica Pokora

Jane Trevethan

Megan Baillargeon

Jeffrey Kraus

Leo Marinak

Jane Seaver

Cara Waterman

**Bulletin Submissions are due 9 days prior to print**

**Email: *sje.parishsecretary@gmail.com***

## ***Thoughts from the Rectory ...***

Dear friends of St. John the Evangelist,

"I prayed, and prudence was given me; I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me" (Wis 7:7). What encouraging words we hear right from the start as we celebrate the Liturgy of the Word at Mass this weekend. "All good things together came to me in her company, and countless riches at her hands"! Wisdom comes to us richer than the finest gold, brighter than the most splendid light! Wisdom comes to those who seek and pray, accounting nothing else in comparison to Her.

Would that we have such conviction and resolve. Would that we seek the things above more readily than the things that seem to drag us down.

The young man in today's Gospel stands precisely where so many of us have stood and stand today. He comes to meet Jesus. He kneels before Him. We've come to meet Jesus ... Isn't that why you came to Mass today? We've knelt before Him ... Don't you still feel it in your knees?!

With the young man and with each other, our seatmates in the pew, we hear Jesus voice the commandments: you shall not kill; you shall not commit adultery; you shall not steal; you shall not bear false witness; you shall not defraud; honor your father and mother", and with the young man we exclaim "Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth"! Yes, how many of us have been faithful through the many years of our life, hearing the words of Sacred Scripture, studying Sacred Tradition, practicing the ways of faith and charity. How many of us find ourselves in this very position: encountering Jesus, recognizing Him right there before us!

Here we meet Jesus face to face, and here His penetrating gaze falls upon us. "Come, follow me". Possessed by our possessions and weighed down by the weight of the world, we are invited to leave these earthly distractions behind and to follow Him on the journey on which He has been setting out from the beginning. "Come, follow me". He invites us to move our hearts and pass from that which is impossible for Man to that which is possible in God! "Come, follow me". Let us be that Church that walks with Christ throughout our lives and every day and so enter the Kingdom of God. From where we stand, now we set out and follow Him.

*St. John the Evangelist, pray for us!*

### **Fr. Pierz**

In a practical way, I invite you to pray ardently for the great participation and success of the Synod of Bishops opening this month. Pope Francis is calling all bishops, and with them, each and every one of us, to share in an experience of journeying together with Jesus. More details will come, but please already pray for wisdom!

## **28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Saturday, October 9th**

**4:00 pm—FOR THE PEOPLE**

**Sunday, October 10th**

**8:00 am—Stella Tyburski ☩**

Requested by Her Daughter

**10:30 am—Nazare Lopes☩**

Requested by the Francisco Family

**Monday, October 11th—Saint John XXIII, Pope**

**8:00 am—Jim Miller ☩**

Requested by the Family

**Tuesday, October 12th**

**8:00 am—Steve Tripi ☩**

Requested by Rick and Cheryl Passanisi

**Wednesday, October 13th**

**6:00 pm—Mary Georgeady ☩**

Requested by the Breault Family

**Thursday, October 14th—Saint Callistus I, Pope and Martyr**

**8:00 am—Eugenia Fortier ☩**

**In Loving Memory**

Requested by Marcella Kratovil

**Friday, October 15th—Saint Teresa of Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church**

**8:00 am—Rita Cross ☩**

Requested by the Family

## **29th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**Saturday, October 16th**

**4:00 pm— FOR THE PEOPLE**

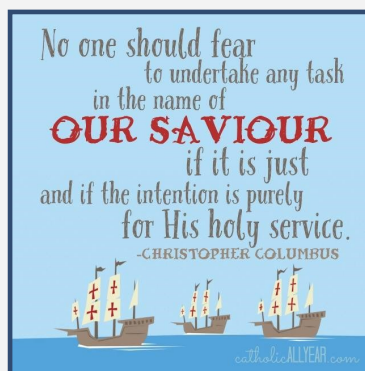
**Sunday, October 17th**

**8:00 am—Olivia Rachael Ross ☩**

Requested by Mommy and Daddy

**10:30 am—Jeffrey Bok ☩**

Requested by the Family



*Please note, the Parish Office will be closed Monday, October 11th in Observance of Columbus Day.*

## **SANCTUARY LAMP**

**OCTOBER 10-16**

WILL BE LIT IN MEMORY OF

**JILL STEFANIK**

REQUESTED BY

**MOM AND DAD**

If you would like to request the Sanctuary Candle to be lit in honor of or in memory of someone, please contact the parish office.

**Please remember in your prayers:** Please pray for the sick and dying of our parish. Remember all who are in hospitals, nursing homes and homebound. Pray for the hungry, the unemployed and under-employed. Pray for an end to abortion and a true respect for all life, from conception to natural death. Pray for peace. In a concrete way we pray for all those who have died and all the deceased members of our parish and diocese, especially Kathleen Renaud, Ellen Safford, and Dave Ladizki.



**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.**

*And let perpetual light shine upon them.*

**May they rest in peace. Amen.**

**May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

*If you would like to include someone who has recently passed away, please call the parish office or email: [sje.pariahsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sje.pariahsecretary@gmail.com).*

## **IN MY MOTHER'S ARMS PRAYER LINE:**

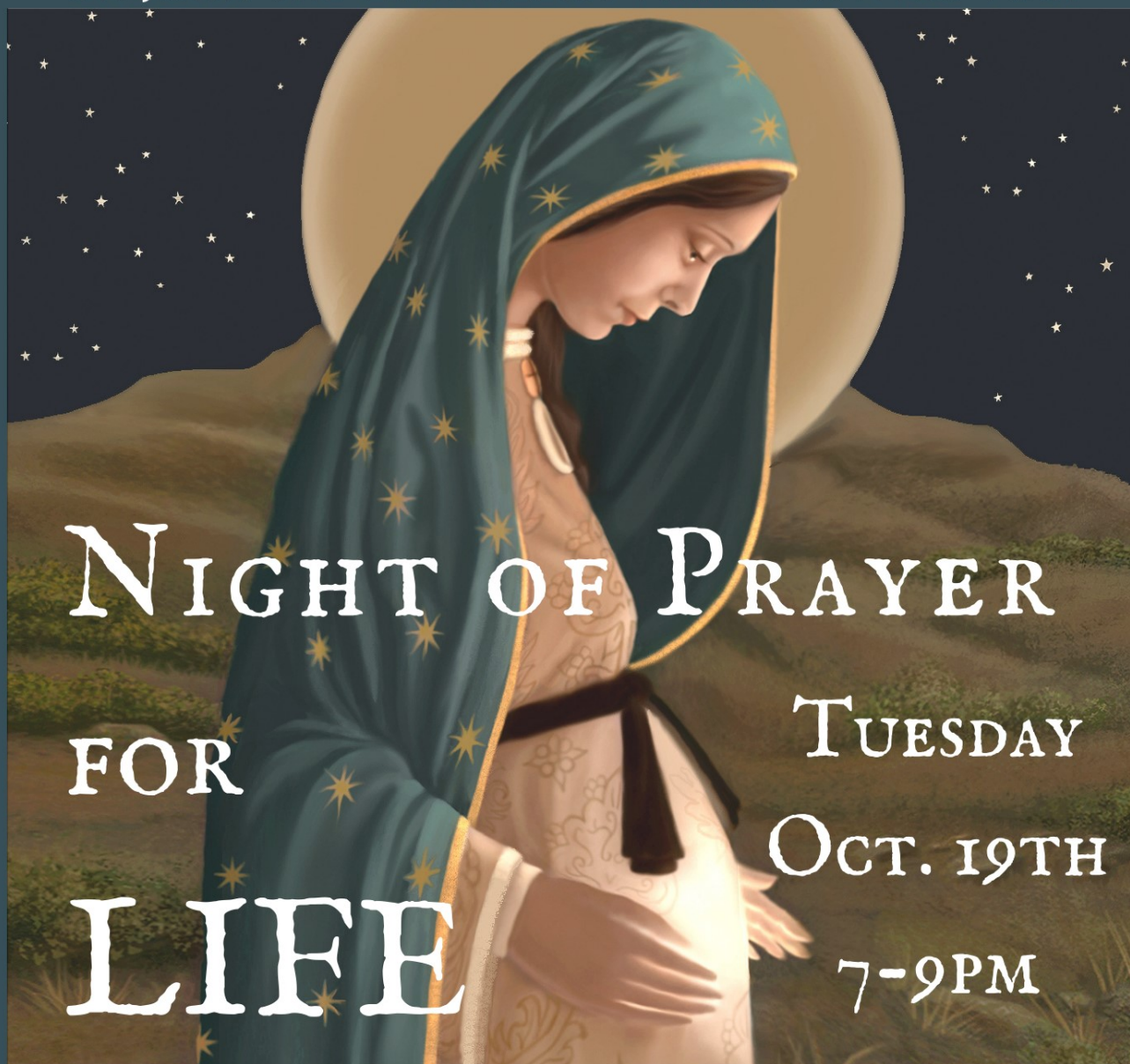
If you have a serious intention that you need prayers for: surgery, sufferings, medical, illness, cancer treatment, a sick child, or anything like that, please give Pat (786-3023) or Mary (786-9671) a call and you will have countless rosaries and prayers.

*If anyone else is interested in being a prayer partner, please call Pat or Mary.*





ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH INVITES YOU!



# NIGHT OF PRAYER FOR LIFE

TUESDAY  
OCT. 19TH  
7-9PM



JOIN US AS WE ADORE THE LORD IN THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND PRAY FOR THE UNBORN. WE WILL PRAY A ROSARY FOR LIFE, A LITANY FOR LIFE, AND A DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET IN ADDITION TO PRIVATE ADORATION AND REFLECTION. CONFESSION WILL BE AVAILABLE. COME SPEND TIME WITH OUR LORD.

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH, 833 MAIN ST., AGAWAM

### COMING UP AT ST. JOHN'S

**Daily Mass Times: 8 am (M, T, Th, F) 6 pm (W)**

**Confession Times: Wed. 4:30 pm, Sat., 2:45 pm**

#### Monday, October 11th

- 4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)
- 6:00 pm Ladies Exercise (PC3)

#### Tuesday, October 12th

- 5:15 pm Dance (PC3)
- 4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)
- 5:30 pm Catholic Women's Club (Gym)
- 6:30 pm Music Ministry (Church)
- 7:00 pm Evangelization Commission (FJR)
- 7:00 pm Spiritual Life Commission (PCO)

#### Wednesday, October 13th

- 10:00am Knitting Group (FJR)
- 4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)
- 7:00 pm Diocesan Men's Group (Lower Church)

#### Thursday, October 14th

- 4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)
- 6:00 pm Ladies Exercise (PC3)

#### Friday, October 15th

- 4:00 pm Basketball (Gym)

#### Saturday, October 16th

- 8:00 am Adult Confirmation (FJR)
- 9:00 am CWC Tag Sale

#### Sunday, October 17th

- 8:00 am Take and Eat (Kitchen, FJR)
- 9:00 am CCD (K-8) Children (LC)/Parents (Gym)
- 11:30 am CCD (Gr 11) (Lower Church)
- 6:00 pm CCD (Gr 9-10) (FJR)
- 6:30 pm Scouts (PC3)

Join Bishop Byrne and Fr. Pierz  
at the **Opening Mass for the Synod**  
Sunday 10:00 AM, on October 17, 2021,  
at St. Michael's Cathedral!



*Pope Francis wants to hear from **you** on how  
we journey together as the Church of Christ!*

**St. Teresa of Avila** entered the monastery November 2, 1535 while the bells were ringing for All Souls Day. She was always abandoned to God's will, and was a very determined woman who knew where she was going. She often used to say, "I am yours, Lord; I was born for You. What do you want from me?"



Source: <https://aleteia.org/2017/10/15/12-interesting-facts-about-st-teresa-of-avila/>

### Weekend of October 3rd

**"Pray, brethren, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father"**

Weekly: \$3,603

Maintenance: \$1,028

Fuel: \$275

Loan: \$1,548 / \$74,777.64 / (\$171,337.49)

Loose: \$240.69

Online Giving: \$1,297

**Total: \$7,991.69**

#### Loan Update:

Original Loan Amount : \$275,000

Loan Repayment Collected this week: \$1,548

Loan Repayment Collected as of 8/31/21: \$74,777.64

Loan Balance as of 8/31/21: (\$171,337.49)

**"May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of His name, for our good and the good of all His holy Church."**

### Catholic Women's Club Rosary & Meeting



The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will meet to pray the rosary **Tuesday, October 12, 6 pm** in the Church. Members are requested to arrive by 5:30 pm. All are welcome to join club members in this special devotion to our Blessed Mother, Mary. The monthly club business meeting and refreshments will follow in the Parish Center.

Welcome to St. John the Evangelist Church!

This card is one of the many ways we can get to know you. Please complete this card and return this card in the mail to our office or in the weekly offertory basket. Thank you and God bless.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ First time visitor

☐ Update information

☐ Would like a visit

☐ Please contact me





## 40 Days For Life

At Planned Parenthood, I have seen tears and sadness as I watch women going into Planned Parenthood to end the life of their baby. They may be feeling overwhelmed or pressured to abort their baby.

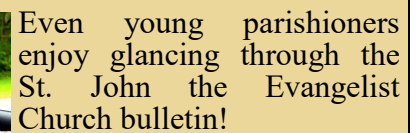
I have also seen joy and hope when a woman chooses life for her baby. When she chooses life, many times it is because she saw someone praying for her baby. I have seen a baby saved because someone reached out to a woman before walking into Planned Parenthood. It is a fact that, years later, a woman will come back and thank us for saving her baby.

A woman with short brown hair and glasses is holding a large white sign. The sign has the text "Abortion Hurts Everyone." in large black letters, with "Everyone." underlined. Below this, it says "Talk to us. 262-8517". On the right side of the sign is a black and white photograph of a smiling pregnant woman. The woman holding the sign is wearing a light blue button-down shirt under a grey vest and light grey trousers. She is standing on a sidewalk in front of a brick building. In the background, there are trees and a parking lot with several cars. A metal ramp or door is visible on the ground to the left of the woman.

## Pray at Planned Parenthood:

- Please email me the date and time that you can pray with me at Planned Parenthood, also any questions that you may have at [ledouxdt@gmail.com](mailto:ledouxdt@gmail.com).

## Youngest Reader Award Goes to...



In addition to the printed bulletin, you can view the weekly bulletin online at [StJohnAgawam.com](http://StJohnAgawam.com), and on MyParishApp (published every Saturday at 5:05 pm).

## Calling Youth In Grades 5-8

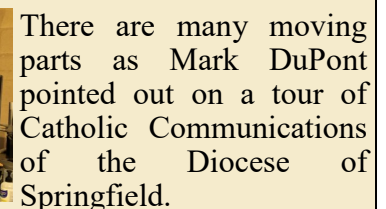
We plan to meet every First Saturday in the gymnasium of the Pastoral Center for First Saturday Mass, fellowship and adventures.



Interested families can contact the parish office or approach parishioner Ben Kronlund.

NOTE: At least one more parishioner is required to begin CIA. Please consider chaperoning.

## Catholic Communications Field Trip Report



SJE parish secretary, Debbie Whitehead, visited the Diocesan Pastoral Center to explore these moving parts, from the offices of *Real to Reel* and *Catholic Mirror* to the recording studio of the St. Michael's Chapel, where *Chalice of Salvation* is taped each week.

# Divine Mercy for Women Retreat Day

**Presented by Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle**  
**Author, Journalist and International Speaker**

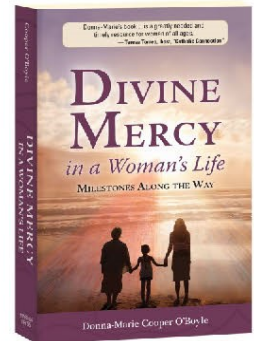
Most Recently, Donna Marie is the Author of

*Divine Mercy in a Woman's Life: Milestones Along the Way*

Donna-Marie will introduce you to St. Faustina, God's "Secretary of Divine Mercy," and will cover both blessings and burdens, surveying key moments in the lives of modern Catholic women to equip those looking ahead and help guide the reflections of those pondering the past to see all through the lens of Divine Mercy, and ultimately to discover their God-given gifts. Donna-Marie weaves in astonishing miraculous stories, sure to stir your heart. You won't want to miss this unique retreat for women!

**Saturday, October 23, 2021**

- 9:00 am Registration and Light Breakfast
- 10:15 am 1st Session with Donna-Marie Cooper O'Boyle
- 11:10 am Workshop
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 1:15 pm 2nd Session with Donna Marie Cooper O'Boyle
- 2:10 pm Book Signing\*, Confession
- 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 4:00 pm Holy Mass



Donna-Marie's many books, as well as her newest book (selling at \$18), will be available and autographed at the event. She'll also bring some signature Novena Bracelets and DVD's.



**Donna Marie Cooper O'Boyle is a Catholic wife, mother and grandmother.** She loves teaching the Faith and has served as a Catechist for thirty years, is a retreat and pilgrimage leader, and an award-winning best-selling author of more than thirty books. She's also an award-winning journalist, International speaker, and the EWN Host and creator of three television series. Donna-Marie knew St. Teresa of Calcutta for a decade, received a special blessing on her writing from St. John Paul II, was invited by the Holy See to participate at a Vatican women's Congress and has appeared on many programs including Fox News, Zenit News, EWTN News Nightly, Vatican Insider, Rome Reports, Vatican Radio, The Choices We Face (with Ralph Martin), and At Home with Jim and Joy. She is a frequent guest on EWTN's Bookmark, Women of Grace, and Sunday Night Prime, as well as radio and television. Her memoir is entitled *The Kiss of Jesus*. Learn more at [www.DonnaCooperOboyle.com](http://www.DonnaCooperOboyle.com).

**Register online at [www.StJohnAgawam.com](http://www.StJohnAgawam.com), or use this form:**

*Retain upper portion of this flyer for your records.*

*Prior to October 23rd, payment and form can be placed in collection basket at Mass, brought to the parish office, or mailed to St. John the Evangelist Church: 833 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ tickets (\$45 each)

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ additional donation to cover cost of event

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ total contribution

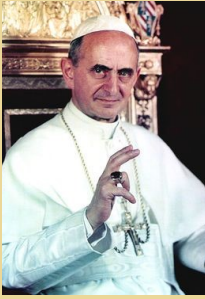


**Divine Mercy for Women Retreat**

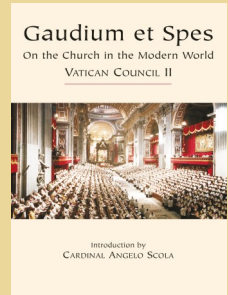
**Saturday, October 23, 2021**

**St. John the Evangelist Church, Agawam**





PASTORAL CONSTITUTION  
ON THE CHURCH IN THE  
MODERN WORLD  
*GAUDIUM ET SPES*  
PROMULGATED BY  
HIS HOLINESS  
**POPE PAUL VI**  
ON DECEMBER 7, 1965



**PART II, CHAPTER I: FOSTERING THE NOBILITY OF MARRIAGE AND THE FAMILY**

**CHAPTER II: THE PROPER DEVELOPMENT OF CULTURE**

**SECTION 1: The Circumstances of Culture in the World Today**

56. In these conditions, it is no cause of wonder that man, who senses his responsibility for the progress of culture, nourishes a high hope but also looks with anxiety upon many contradictory things which he must resolve: What is to be done to prevent the increased exchanges between cultures, which should lead to a true and fruitful dialogue between groups and nations, from disturbing the life of communities, from destroying the wisdom received from ancestors, or from placing in danger the character proper to each people? How is the dynamism and expansion of a new culture to be fostered without losing a living fidelity to the heritage of tradition. This question is of particular urgency when a culture which arises from the enormous progress of science and technology must be harmonized with a culture nourished by classical studies according to various traditions. How can we quickly and progressively harmonize the proliferation of particular branches of study with the necessity of forming a synthesis of them, and of preserving among men the faculties of contemplation and observation which lead to wisdom? What can be done to make all men partakers of cultural values in the world, when the human culture of those who are more competent is constantly becoming more refined and more complex? Finally how is the autonomy which culture claims for itself to be recognized as legitimate without generating a notion of humanism which is merely terrestrial, and even contrary to religion itself. In the midst of these conflicting requirements, human culture must evolve today in such a way that it can both develop the whole human person and aid man in those duties to whose fulfillment all are called, especially Christians fraternally united in one human family.

**SECTION 2: Some Principles for the Proper Development of Culture**

57. Christians, on pilgrimage toward the heavenly city, should seek and think of these things which are above. This duty in no way decreases, rather it increases, the importance of their obligation to work with all men in the building of a more human world. Indeed, the mystery of the Christian faith furnishes them with an excellent stimulant and aid to fulfill this duty more courageously and especially to uncover the full meaning of this activity, one which gives to human culture its eminent place in the integral vocation of man. When man develops the earth by the work of his hands or with the aid of technology, in order that it might bear fruit and become a dwelling worthy of the whole human family and when he consciously takes part in the life of social



groups, he carries out the design of God manifested at the beginning of time, that he should subdue the earth, perfect creation and develop himself. At the same time he obeys the commandment of Christ that he place himself at the service of his brethren. Furthermore, when man gives himself to the various disciplines of philosophy, history and of mathematical and natural science, and when he cultivates the arts, he can do very much to elevate the human family to a more sublime understanding of truth, goodness, and beauty, and to the formation of considered opinions which have universal value. Thus mankind may be more clearly enlightened by that marvelous Wisdom which was with God from all eternity, composing all things with him, rejoicing in the earth, delighting in the sons of men. In this way, the human spirit, being less subjected to



material things, can be more easily drawn to the worship and contemplation of the Creator. Moreover, by the impulse of grace, he is disposed to acknowledge the Word of God, Who before He became flesh in order to save all and to sum up all in Himself was already "in the world" as "the true light which enlightens every man" (John 1:9-10). Indeed today's progress in science and technology can foster a certain exclusive emphasis on observable data, and an agnosticism about everything else. For the methods of investigation which these sciences use can be wrongly considered as the supreme rule of seeking the whole truth. By virtue of their methods these sciences cannot penetrate to the intimate notion of things. Indeed the danger is present that man, confiding too much in the discoveries of today, may think that he is sufficient unto himself and no longer seek the higher things.

Those unfortunate results, however, do not necessarily follow from the culture of today, nor should they lead us into the temptation of not acknowledging its positive values. Among these values are included: scientific study and fidelity toward truth in scientific inquiries, the necessity of working together with others in technical groups, a sense of international solidarity, a clearer awareness of the responsibility of experts to aid and even to protect men, the desire to make the conditions of life more favorable for all, especially for those who are poor in culture or who are deprived of the opportunity to exercise responsibility. All of these provide some preparation for the acceptance of the message of the Gospel a preparation which can be animated by divine charity through Him Who has come to save the world.

58. There are many ties between the message of salvation and human culture. For God, revealing Himself to His people to the extent of a full manifestation of Himself in His Incarnate Son, has spoken according to the culture proper to each epoch. Likewise the Church, living in various circumstances in the course of time, has used the discoveries of different cultures so that in her preaching she might spread and explain the message of Christ to all nations, that she might examine it and more deeply understand it, that she might give it better expression in liturgical celebration and in the varied life of the community of the faithful. But at the same time, the Church, sent to all peoples of every time and place, is not bound exclusively and indissolubly to any race or nation, any particular way of life or any customary way of life recent or ancient. Faithful to her own tradition and at the same time conscious of her universal mission, she can enter into communion with the various civilizations, to their enrichment and the enrichment of the Church herself. The Gospel of Christ constantly renews the life and culture of fallen man, it combats and removes the errors and evils resulting from the permanent allurements of sin. It never eases to purify and elevate the morality of peoples. By riches coming from above, it makes fruitful, as it were from within, the spiritual qualities and traditions of every people of every age. It strengthens, perfects and restores<sup>(6)</sup> them in Christ. Thus the Church, in the very fulfillment of her own function, stimulates and advances human and civic culture; by her action, also by her liturgy, she leads them toward interior liberty.

59. For the above reasons, the Church recalls to the mind of all that culture is to be subordinated to the integral perfection of the human person, to the good of the community and of the whole society. Therefore it is necessary to develop the human faculties in such a way that there results a growth of the faculty of admiration, of intuition, of contemplation, of making personal judgment, of developing a religious, moral and social sense. Culture, because it flows immediately from the spiritual and social character of man, has constant need of a just liberty in order to develop; it needs also the legitimate possibility of exercising its autonomy according to its own principles. It therefore rightly demands respect and enjoys a certain inviolability within the limits of the common good, as long, of course, as it preserves the rights of the individual and the community, whether particular or universal. This Sacred Synod, therefore, recalling the teaching of the first Vatican Council, declares that there are "two orders of knowledge" which are distinct, namely faith and reason; and that the Church does not forbid that "the human arts and disciplines use their own principles and their proper method, each in its own domain"; therefore "acknowledging this just liberty," this Sacred Synod affirms the legitimate autonomy of human culture and especially of the sciences. All this supposes that, within the limits of morality and the common utility, man can freely search for the truth, express his opinion and publish it; that he can practice any art he chooses; that finally, he can avail himself of true information concerning events of a public nature. As for public authority, it is not its function to determine the character of the civilization, but rather to establish the conditions and to use the means which are capable of fostering the life of culture among all even within the minorities of a nation.<sup>(10)</sup> It is necessary to do everything possible to prevent culture from being turned away from its proper end and made to serve as an instrument of political or economic power.

*(Second Vatican Council. GAUDIUM ET SPES. Dogmatic Constitution on the Church, 7 December 1965, 56-59)*

# Beloved



*St. John the Evangelist Parish is offering*

## **Beloved: A Marriage Preparation Program**

Six sessions will be covered  
in three afternoons:

**Sunday, October 24, 1-4 pm**

**Sunday, November 7, 1-4 pm**

**Sunday, November 21, 1-4 pm**

Sessions will be held at St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church  
833 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001  
Register through the Parish Office: 786-8105

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PARISH

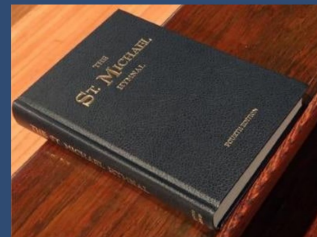
## **WILL YOU HELP US PURCHASE NEW HYMNALS?**

Please prayerfully consider making a  
donation of \$25 for one of these  
beautiful new hymnals for our parish.\*



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR PARISH AND OUR MUSIC MINISTRY!**

Envelopes will be distributed in each pew and you  
may place them in the collection basket at the  
Masses or you may stop by the parish office.



\*With your donation, you may  
dedicate the hymnal in honor or  
memory of a loved one. You may  
write this on the envelope provided.

To learn more about these beautiful  
St. Michael Hymnals, please visit:  
[www.stmichaelhymnal.com](http://www.stmichaelhymnal.com)

## **What's Happening around the Diocese and beyond...**

*St. Elizabeth Parish, Ludlow presents . . .*

## **Date Nights for Catholic Couples**

Enrichment Evenings for Married and Engaged Couples

**"We ALL want OUR marriages to do more than  
just survive; we want them to THRIVE!"**

Marriage is a vocation to Love. From our first days as husband and wife through our golden years, we have the awesome task of witnessing to God's faithful love to each other, to our children, and our society. No couple does this perfectly. We all have room to grow—whether we are just starting out in marriage or have fifty years under our belts. Of course we sometimes run on autopilot, caught up in the daily tasks of creating a home together, working, caring for children, and serving others. Every relationship needs attention and care to thrive, and "Date Nights" are a perfect time to just focus on one another as a couple. [Foryourmarriage.org](http://Foryourmarriage.org)

"Date Nights" are down-to-earth structured evenings that include an opening prayer, introduction of a theme, and a video highlighting an aspect of married life, followed by husband & wife private discussion time, a closing prayer and then light refreshments.

There are no group discussions.

All discussion and sharing is strictly between husband and wife.

**Fridays 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

*October 15, 2021*

*November 5, 2021*

*December 10, 2021*

*January 14, 2022*

*February 11, 2022*

*March 25, 2022*

Couples need **not** attend all sessions. Choose the session dates that work with your schedule, then come—join us!

Come take advantage of this opportunity to spend time together and focus on your relationship as a  
Christ-centered vocation! Your marriage deserves this kind of attention!

Note that the evening's set-up will provide for social distancing.

The evenings are free of charge and will be held at the St. John the Baptist Pastoral Center, 201 Hubbard Street, Ludlow.  
Entrance and parking lot are located behind the St. Elizabeth Parish at 191 Hubbard St. (via Oak and Walnut Streets)

For more information, contact Dick & DuAnne Pasquini at 413-610-0509 or email them at [dewey@pasquini.net](mailto:dewey@pasquini.net).

## **Autumn Youth Retreats**

This fall, *Youth Revolution*, an initiative of the Diocesan Office of Youth Ministry will offer eight in-person and virtual youth (ages 14-18) retreats across the diocese in October and November. Featuring dynamic speakers, small group time, and prayer each retreat will cost just \$5/student. For more information or to register, contact Claire Riberdy at St. John's, or go to [youthchooseChrist.org](http://youthchooseChrist.org).



**YOUTH  
REVOLUTION**



ST. MARY'S  
HIGH SCHOOL

JOIN US FOR  
**OPEN  
HOUSE**

EXPERIENCE THE **STM** DIFFERENCE

**SATURDAY, OCT. 16**  
**10AM-12PM**

**MONDAY, OCT. 18**  
**6PM-8PM**

**TUESDAY, OCT. 19**  
**6PM-8PM**

- INTRODUCTION TO FACULTY, CLUB ADVISORS, AND COACHES
- STUDENT-LED TOURS
- MOCK STM LESSON
- PARENT TESTIMONIALS

LOCATION: 27 BARTLETT ST.  
WESTFIELD, MA

DRAWING FOR \$1000 SCHOLARSHIP

PLEASE PRE-REGISTER AT [WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/STMSAINTS](http://WWW.BOOKWHEN.COM/STMSAINTS)  
OR EMAIL [CWATERMAN@STMSAINTS.ORG](mailto:CWATERMAN@STMSAINTS.ORG) FOR MORE INFO