

November 1, 2020

All Saints Sunday in Ordinary Time

A litany of saints

The COVID-19 pandemic is most frequently portrayed in numbers: the number of new cases a day, the number of hospitalizations, the number of deaths.

But some of us know all too painfully that every one of those numbers is a human being: someone who loved and was loved, someone whose life was a story worth telling and remembering.

A new Twitter feed has been set up to tell those stories.

@FacesofCovid combs newspapers — from The New York Times to small-town weeklies — collecting the stories of the more than 200,000 Americans who have died of the coronavirus. It reads like a litany of saints: Margaret, the loving mother and grandmother, remembered by family and friends for her selflessness and generosity.

Wendell, the beloved school bus driver, known for his limitless good humor and care for every child on his bus. Reva, 86, who dropped out of high school to care for her younger brothers and sisters, then returned to school later in life and would go on to be an educator herself, helping others to complete their GED.

Rebecca, an infectious-disease specialist who helped other physicians deal with COVID-19 as well as treating hundreds of her own patients before succumbing to the virus herself.

Michael, a 33-year veteran volunteer firefighter and EMT in his community who died after contracting COVID-19 during a response to a residence where the patient had a known case of the virus.

Ashlee, 34, a middle-school special-ed teacher, adored by her students, who was known to use her own money to pay for whatever a student needed, from school supplies to clothes.

Cheryl, 60, who impacted countless lives in her long career as an ICU nurse.

Tyler, 29, a husband, dad and youth hockey coach.

Maria, 63, known as the "mother" of the emergency room where she worked as head nurse. One of her four adult daughters — all of whom are nurses — said of her mom, "She showed me how to be selfless."

Ali, 59, a former boxer and respected trainer who joined his son to make a downtown gym a safe haven for kids for families at risk.

@FacesofCovid is the work of Alex Goldstein, a communications company executive. "I think it is very easy in moments like this to allow ourselves to become numb to the statistics and not see the faces that are behind these numbers."

It was the death of 9/11 first responder Anthony Iraci of New York who died of the virus that inspired @FacesofCovid.

"He had a weakened immune system and compromised respiratory system because of his response to 9/11, which made him much more susceptible to COVID-19. That was a lot," Goldstein explained.

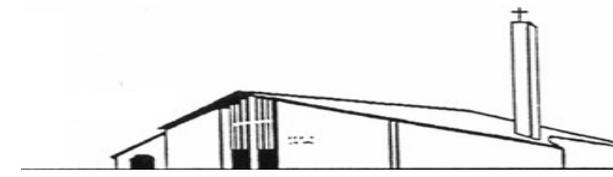
@FacesOfCOVID has been up and running on Twitter since the end of March. With the help of his friend Scott Zoback, Goldstein spends some time each day scouring the websites of about 40 top regional newspapers across the country. They read every story so they can add a thread about the individual's life — and how family and community were blessed by his or her presence. Their work is a "litany of saints" for this difficult time.

[Fast Company, April 10, 2020; The Boston Globe, May 12, 2020.]

Today we celebrate the feast of all the saints — not just the "official" saints like the Elizabeth Setons and the Francises and the Thomas Mores and the Mother Teresa's — but the saints we have known and who have lived among us, the "blessed" of the Gospel through whom God touches us and our world. Today we honor the holy men and women who have walked among us and who have touched our lives by the example of their humility and selflessness, their generosity and compassion. Let us remember with gratitude today the blessings they have been to us; may the lives of our own "litany of saints" inspire us to follow the example of their grace-filled lives so that, one day, we may join their company in the dwelling place of God.

St. Stephen's Parish

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November 1, 2020

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

BISHOP OF CORNER BROOK & LABRADOR: Most Rev. Bart Van Roijen

Administrator: Fr. Krishnarao Mekala (Kris) Associate Priest: Ft. Vanathuraj Rayappan (Ray)

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIR FINANCE COMMITTEE CHAIR

Warren Quinton Rosa Dollard
St. Anne's Guild SECRETARY

President Millicent Penton Carolyn O'Quinn

RESPONSIBLE MINISTRY COORDINATOR: Theresa Dollimont

LITURGY COORDINATOR: Bernice Maddock

Knights of Columbus - Grand Knight Clyde Russell

4th Degree Assembly - Faithful Navigator Bob Miller

MARRIAGES. Six months notice is required; a year's notice is recommended.

BAPTISM PREPARATION- Please call to register.

ST. STEPHEN'S PARISH SCHEDULE

Table with 2 columns: SUNDAY MASSES (Saturday Evening - 6:00 P.M., Sunday Morning - 10:30 A.M.) and REGULAR WEEKDAY MASSES (Online Daily Due to COVID-19). Bottom row: MARIA REGINA PARISH SCHEDULE with SUNDAY MASSES (Saturday - 4:30 P.M., Sunday - 9:00 A.M.) and ROSARY RECONCILIATION (Saturdays at 11:00 am, By Appointment).

PRAYER MEETINGS:

St. Stephen's Prayer Group — Wednesday at 7:45 P.M. in the Parish Meeting Room.

Word & Spirit Prayer Group — Tuesday at 8:00 P.M. in St. Anne's Hall.

OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY - 1:00 pm - 4:30 pm, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY and THURSDAY 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, FRIDAY - 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
CLOSED DAILY 12:00 - 1:00 PM

RECEIVED WITH THANKS

October 4th - \$3479.65
October 11th & 18th - \$5323.00
October 25th - \$4132.00



SCENT-FREE

Please be aware that some people have allergic reactions to perfumes and other scents. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated!

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday, November 2nd

For the Late Eric & Katherine Penney
Intentions for Geraldine White

Tuesday, November 3rd

For the Late Bruce Pellerin

Wednesday, November 4th

For the Late John Penney

Thursday, November 5th

For the Late Herma Compagnon

Friday, November 6th

For the Late Colin Penney

NO RENTALS

For your information, the rental of St. Stephen's Parish Hall and St. Anne's Hall has been discontinued, due to COVID-19.

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES AND MISSALS

For those interested, we have a variety of items and religious articles available at our Parish office, such as St. Anne's oil and rosary beads, among others. We have also received our Sunday Missals for 2020-2021. If you would like to purchase such items, please visit our main office.

HOLY FATHERS INTENTIONS FOR NOVEMBER: UNIVERSAL

People who suffer from depression - We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

ALL SOULS DAY MASS

St. Stephen's Parish will be having a special Mass for all departed souls on Monday, November 2nd at 10:30 a.m. The Mass will be held in the main church. Attendance will be limited to a 100 person capacity. All are welcome to attend.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

The month of November is dedicated to prayers for all departed souls.

There will be a Mass of Remembrance on Monday, November 9th at 7:00 p.m. In remembrance of family mem-



bers who have passed away, the names of those who have died in the past year will be printed on the program and read aloud at this special Mass. If you have family members who have passed away within the last year, you may call the Parish office at 643-2523 to register their names. Cards will not be available as in past years for the names of loved ones. However, you are welcome to compile a list of the names of loved ones who have died previous to November 2019 and drop it in a box available in our downstairs Chapel, or at the Church during weekend Masses. We invite prayers for all our beloved family and friends who have died, regardless of their religion in life. These names will be presented at the altar during this Mass. The offertory boxes will be available at the entrance of the Church for anyone who wishes to make a monetary contribution. Please note, as we are limited to 100 attendees at Mass, to allow room for the close family members of those who have passed away in the last year, attendance will be by invitation only.



THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS

November 1st - Today especially, we should be encouraged by those who have gone before us, who now rejoice in the heavenly kingdom. Our saints are cheering us on, lifting us up by their prayers. Our saints "from every nation, race, people and tongue" know what it is to be poor in spirit, to mourn, to be persecuted and insulted. They strove to remain meek, merciful and clean of heart.



They say to us today, "follow my lead!" These holy women, men and children are an inspiration, and we should know their stories. We should know about Augustus Tolton, the first black priest born in the United States and Katharine Drexel, who established schools and missions where her Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament served Native American and African American students. We should know Peter Claver, who stood up for human rights in the 1500s and 1600s, and Maximilian Kolbe, who gave his life so that another man might live and return to his family. In effect, all the saints say to us: "Work for justice. Hunger for righteousness. Be a peacemaker. Show mercy." Jesus today is calling each of us to live in exactly this way.

DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE

The annual Development and Peace pledge usually held in March was not promoted this year as the pandemic caused a disruption to this appeal. November 7th and 8th we are asking you to donate to Development and Peace using the Blue envelope provided in your box of envelopes or use a regular envelope and put your name

and envelope number on it and drop it in the collection

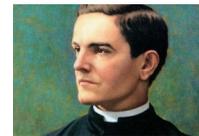
BEATIFICATION OF FATHER MICHAEL J. MCGIVNEY

OLPH Council will be holding an event to celebrate the Beatification of our founder Father Michael J. McGivney on Saturday, October 31st at the Knights of Columbus building, 97 West Street.

11:30 a.m. - Holy Rosary in honour of Father McGivney

12:00 p.m. - Video on the miracle attributed to Father McGivney

12:30 p.m. - Live stream mass from the Cathedral of St Joseph in Hartford, CT



This event is open to all Council members and their families as well as members of our Parish. Please come out and attend this afternoon of prayer and spiritual reflection on this momentous occasion in the history of our Order.

A SPECIAL REQUIEM MASS

A special Requiem Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Bart at the Cathedral on Monday, November 2 at 7:00 p.m. for all those who lost their lives due to the pandemic. For those who are not able to attend, please join him in praying the rosary at this time.

FEAST OF ST MARTIN DE PORRES NOVEMBER 3RD

Martin spent his life doing as Jesus taught - caring for the sick, the poor, and the slaves in Peru. His life provides us with an example of social justice. Catholic Social Teaching - rooted both in the Hebrew prophets who announced God's special love for the poor as well as in the life and teachings of Jesus Christ - helps us understand who we are and how we are called to live in community with one another. The Church's social doctrines touch upon seven core themes: life and dignity of the human person; call to family; community and participation; rights responsibilities; option for the poor and vulnerable; the dignity of work and the rights of workers; solidarity and care for God's creation. There's a good video on YouTube called The Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching that explains each theme.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

We would like to congratulate the Year 2 students of our Religious Education program on the completion of their First Holy Communion Sacrament held earlier this week. Below is a list of all of our children who participated in this sacrament.

Anna Gallant

*Beth White
Cayenne O'Quinn
Chayse LeCointre
Colton Tobin
Emma Hynes
Emmie Bradbury
Jace Benoit
Kayla Hinks
Lauren Ryland
Madison Formanger
Matheo Martin
Natalia Perrier
Natalie Parsons
Reese Dennis
Rose Ploughman
Sadie Young
Sophia Bennett
Tanner Greene-Gale
Ty Rouzes
Zoey Benoit*

May you feel the warmth and blessings of God as you continue your journey to Confirmation.

WE WELCOME FATHER RAY

St. Stephen's Parish would like to wish Father Vanathuraj Rayappan (Ray) a warm welcome in joining our Church community. Father Rayappan spent two years as Associate Pastor of the Cathedral of the Most Holy Redeemer and Immaculate Conception in Corner Brook and will now fill the role of Associate Priest here in St. Stephen's Parish. God bless, Father Ray, and welcome!

