



Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, the Lily of the Mohawks

St Kateri's feast day is Thursday. She is the first Native American to be canonized a saint by the Church. She was born in 1656, in the Mohawk village of Ossernenon in what is now New York. She contracted smallpox as a four-year-old child which scarred her skin. The scars were a source of humiliation in her youth. At age 19, Kateri Tekakwitha converted to Catholicism, taking a vow of chastity and pledging to marry only Jesus. Her decision was very unpopular with her adoptive parents and their neighbors. Some neighbors started rumors of sorcery. To avoid persecution, she traveled to a Christian native community south of Montreal.

Kateri was very prayerful. She often prayed for the conversion of her fellow Mohawks. Kateri was very devout and was known for her steadfast devotion. She was also very sickly. Just five years after her conversion to Catholicism, she became ill and died at age 24, on April 17, 1680.

Her name, Kateri, is the Mohawk form of Catherine, which she took from St Catherine of Siena. St Kateri Tekakwitha was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on Oct 21, 2012. She is patroness of people in exile and of Native Americans.

the 15th Sunday in the Year

July 10, 2016

Saint Bernadette Parish

Saint Mary Parish

1343 Wheeling Road NE
LANCASTER, OH 43130-8701
(740) 654 • 1893

602 Marietta Street
BREMEN, OH 43107
(740) 569 • 7929

[stbernadetteparish . net](http://stbernadetteparish.net)

Sacramental Life

BAPTISM

To have a child baptized, you must register and attend a class as a couple (unless attendance just isn't possible, in which case some discussion with Kathy Kehnast will be necessary). Sessions are held quarterly for both parishes. The next session will be **July 20. Take the class before the child is born.** If you are expecting, call Kathy to register for the class.

Please don't ask if you "have to go." This is an opportunity to meet with parents of children about the same age as your little one; they are in the same wonderful boat as you are.

At least one parent must be a practicing Catholic. **Both godparents need to be practicing Christians, at least one a practicing Catholic.** If you don't attend Sunday Mass regularly, there is something you can do about it: Start coming to Sunday Mass. If you can't come (health, severe weather, employment requirements, etc.), speak to your confessor. He will help you.

PENANCE

The priest is available for Penance

- at St Bernadette Saturdays at 3 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 PM, and
- at St Mary Bremen on Sunday at 8 AM.

In addition to Advent and Lenten Penance Services, every Catholic priest is available whenever there is a need. There are Penance opportunities for parochial school children **four times during the year so that they will learn the beauty of frequent confession.** The Church's law requires us to receive the sacrament of Penance at least once a year.

ANOIDING AND CARE OF THE SICK

The Sick receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick **when dangerously ill, facing major surgery, or suffering from the ravages of old age.**

We celebrate the sacrament communally at a Sunday Mass before Advent and during the Easter season so that we can all pray with you for "health of mind and body."

And, we are happy to bring Penance, Anointing, and Holy Communion to the homes or hospitals of the sick or shut in. It is very helpful to **call the parish office to let us know before a hospitalization or when it has been too long** since the sacraments were last available.

HOLY MATRIMONY

Couples wishing to marry sacramentally should contact the parish office six months before they wish to celebrate the sacrament. Why so long? Because **this sacrament, not just the ceremony, requires serious preparation.** And the Church needs to be involved in that preparation. She tries to support couples through the years of their married life. For this reason our diocese offers programs to enhance married life. To learn how, watch the weekly bulletin.

Our Parishes

FATHER THOMAS KESSLER pastor (614) 634-0499
wthomaskessler@icloud.com

AT BOTH PARISHES

KATHY KEHNAST 654-1893 stbernaparish@yahoo.com
pastoral coordinator
ANGIE & KENT KERNS 654-2588 kwkerns@gmail.com
religious education
JULIE & CHASE STALFORD 808-7294 maristellaspirt@gmail.com
youth ministry
NIKKI SCHMELZER 654-1893 businessmstbparish@yahoo.com
bookkeeper

AT BREMEN ST MARY PARISH

BEN FACTOR, liturgical music b_factor@lancaster.k12.oh.us
JIM SCHMELZER, maintenance chair
TYNA FOX-SCHMELZER religious education
(614) 371-7702 schmelifox@earthlink.net
BREMEN ST VINCENT DE PAUL 569-3710

The St Mary Parish office is at the church vestibule.

Hours are 9-11 AM, Tu.

602 Marietta St, Bremen, OH 43107

(740) 569-7929

AT ST BERNADETTE PARISH

DEACON MARK SCARPITTI 438-3970 den.mark@frontier.com
DEACON JEFF CARPENTER 681-9918 carpenter.277@osu.edu
ANN ESSMAN pastoral minister 653-9347 aessman001@att.net
STEVE HUBER facilities coordinator 654-3137 shuber57@yahoo.com
LIZ LATORRE liturgical music 243-1872 lizlatorre@gmail.com

The St Bernadette Parish office is in the Mary Good Center, across the back parking lot from the school.

Hours are: 9 AM-1 PM, MWThF; 11 AM-1 PM, Tu.

1343 Wheeling Rd NE, Lancaster, OH 43130 (740) 654-1893

AT ST BERNADETTE SCHOOL

PAM ELTRINGHAM, principal peltring@cducation.org
BARB HUBER, secretary bhuber@cducation.org

Saint Bernadette School is located at

1325 Wheeling Rd, Lancaster, OH 43130-8701

www.stbernadetteschool.com 654-3137

stberlan@cducation.org

let us pray

ON THE 15TH SUNDAY

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

AND WITH POPE FRANCIS IN JULY

His universal intention is about indigenous peoples

That indigenous peoples, whose identity and very existence are threatened, will be shown due respect.

His evangelization intention is about Latin America and the Caribbean

That the Church in Latin America and the Caribbean, by means of her mission to the continent, may announce the Gospel with renewed vigor and enthusiasm.

in both our parishes

vacation church school

It is going to be a fantastic time! St Mary Parish in Bremen invites the families of all local children (especially those from Bremen St Mary and St Bernadette Parishes!) to **Vacation Church School** (not just a Bible school, but a Church school!). This exciting event happens this week in the evenings of July 11-15, from 5:30–8 PM (with a family dinner at 5:30). It happens **at Schmelzer's Grove**, that wonderful little park on Sacred Heart Road(!) about 4 miles south of Bremen, the site of the original home of St Mary Parish. This year's theme is

**The Saints teach us about
the Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love**

Volunteers are needed and should contact Angie Kerns at kwkerns@gmail.com.

we still need extraordinary ministers

The Church doesn't call them "*distributors*"; a distributor is a mechanical device which controls the flow of gasoline to an automobile engine; it might also be a person who puts a plastic bag of advertising on your porch. The **Eucharistic Minister** in the Catholic Church is the bishop, the priest, or the deacon. Because of the relative shortage of these, a local bishop is currently endowed with the faculty to appoint **extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion** from among a list of trained parishioners submitted to him by the pastors of parishes. These ministers are appointed for two year terms in this service in a specific parish. Their ministry is valuable for their parish. There are two reasons to have such ministers:

- They help the priest and the deacons make the distribution of Holy Communion go reasonably expeditiously at Mass, and
- They take the Sacrament to parishioners and other Catholics who are in the hospital, in a nursing home, or shut in at home, especially on Sundays.

This service is not a sign of accomplishment or prestige. It is not an item for a curriculum vitae. The requirements are knowledge and acceptance of the Eucharistic faith, as well as availability, reliability, and decorum in service to the Church. Oh, and you would need to be a Catholic "in good standing" which means not in any public way living contrary to the law or the teaching of the Church.

We particularly need men for this task. It is hard to say why it is, but we currently have a disproportionate lack of men serving in this ministry in our parish. The women are great, serving well. But we must restore balance. We currently send the inadvertent message that this ministry is a woman thing and not for men to do. Men need to step up, too, if we are to use extraordinary ministers.

If you can help, contact Kathy Kehnast this week.

helping the Church in ecuador

Church communities in Ecuador are reeling from a 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck on Apr 16, claiming more than 500 lives and destroying thousands of homes and roads. As many as 100,000 people have been affected. **Catholic Relief Services** teams, along with Church partners on the ground, are **focusing on meeting immediate needs in remote towns that have not received aid yet**. This includes clean water, temporary shelter, food and living supplies. CRS will also work to ensure sanitation and hygiene to prevent diseases. **You can donate** by phone at 1-877-

HELP-CRS; online at donate.crs.org/Ecuador; or by check at Catholic Relief Services, Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203-7090.

baby bottle campaign

Thank you for your participation in the Baby Bottle Campaign benefitting Pregnancy Decision Health Centers. The amount of \$1,210.59 raised by our parishes (with additional bottles to be delivered) directly provides free services, such as pregnancy tests and ultrasounds, to mothers in central Ohio. Thank you for your support and prayers.

Mass times and intentions

at St Bernadette		at St Mary	
4 PM	<i>for the people</i>	Saturday, July 9	
		Sunday, July 10	8:30 AM <i>for the people</i>
11 AM	<i>for the people</i>	Sunday, July 10	
8:20 AM	<i>Kenneth Hauser</i>	Monday, July 11	
		Tuesday, July 12	8:20 AM <i>deceased of Leo & Eileen Schmelzer family</i>
8:20 AM	<i>Helen Henry</i>	Wednesday, July 13	
6 PM	<i>Andrew Sammler</i>	Thursday, July 14	
8:20 AM	<i>William Henry</i>	Friday, July 15	
4 PM	<i>intention of Jim & Rita Merk</i>	Saturday, July 16	
		Sunday, July 17	8:30 AM <i>for the people</i>
11 AM	<i>for the people</i>	Sunday, July 17	

be sure to serve him faithfully

Liturgical ministers should try to find a substitute when they are unable to fulfill their assignments.

get ready for Mass

If it is something special, we get ready for it. That goes for Sunday Mass. The most important way to get ready is to be in—or get into—the **state of grace** so that we can receive Holy Communion worthily. Then we need to **fast** (a tough word for a very easy task) for at least an hour before we receive Communion. And we could try to prime the pump, as it were, for hearing the Word of God as it will be read that day by **reading and pondering that little portion of the Word** of God. Those are matters of spiritual readiness.

But to go to Mass is to approach the great sacramental mysteries, approaching physically as well as spiritually. Old-fashioned rural Protestants were on to something when they spoke of wearing their "Sunday-go-to-meetin'" clothes. We could all **dress up** a little bit, not to show off our fancy wardrobe but to "do something beautiful for God." And think of what we say to our kids before a trip or before a film or a concert: We tell them to **go to the bathroom ahead of time**. Emergencies can happen to just about everybody. And each of us has the health she/he has been blessed with. But with a little extra precaution we could be (and help others to be) even more single-minded about worship and to avoid the procession to and from the rest rooms. Thanks for thinking about all these things.

bremen st mary

st vincent de paul

St Vincent de Paul Society thanks you for your generosity recently. The collection amounted to \$360 between June 12 and 26 and \$717 at the monthly collection last Sunday for a total of \$1,077. The next meeting will be on the third Tuesday of this

month, July 20, at 7 PM. New members are always welcome. If you have questions, call Angi Skinner at (740) 438-0027.

summer square dances

St Mary Parish will have a square dance at Schmelzer's Grove for the whole family this evening, July 10, and again on Sunday, Aug 14, from 7-9 PM. This is a tradition which goes back to the 19th century. (The pastor's aunt says that her father played the fiddle, in a band of his brothers, for Schmelzer's Grove square dances before her mother and father were married ... on Thanksgiving of 1904. Folks with earlier memories of this Sacred Heart tradition are asked to share them with the parish.) Cost is \$3 @ person.

ministers at mass at bremen st mary

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Communion	gifts	sacristan / usher
Sunday, July 10 8:30 AM	Barb Van Fossen-Cook	Spencer Conrad Isaac Schmelzer	Pam Redding, Tyna Schmelzer-Fox, Barb Van Fossen-Cook	Nick Schmelzer family	Joe Young
Tuesday, July 12 8:20 AM	Jim Schmelzer				Jim Schmelzer
Sunday, July 17 8:30 AM	Karen Wolfe	Abageal Bell Reagan Conrad	Leo Kunkler Sr, Jim Schmelzer, Karen Wolfe	John Schoenlaub family	Jim Schmelzer

parish contributions

The *St Mary offertory collection* for July 3 came to \$3,188.

gardening for our parish

If you would like to *help landscape and maintain the yard of St Mary*, contact Kathy Kehnast to volunteer.

st bernadette

st bernadette school registration

St Bernadette School looks forward to registering students from St Bernadette and St Mary Bremen parishes for next school year. We accept enrollment for new students grades K-5, and 3, 4, and 5-year-old preschool students. Bring a copy of their birth or baptismal certificates. St Bernadette *preschool* offers kindergarten-readiness goals, within a flexible schedule.

Elementary grades (full-day-kindergarten through 5th grade) offer a program of academic excellence and positive experiences. Make St Bernadette School *your "primary" choice for a really Catholic Education!* For information, call the school office at 654-3137.

eucharistic adoration

St Bernadette Parish has *solemn exposition* of the Blessed Sacrament at 9 AM on *Wednesdays*. We have commitments for people to keep watch for the time from 9 AM until 1 PM. We could *extend exposition further into each Wednesday*. If you can commit to a regular presence for adoration for an hour from 1-2 or from 2-3, call Kathy at the parish office.

You can come to church to adore Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament *any day during the daylight hours*.

job opening at st bernadette school

St Bernadette School is offering part-time employment in the following area for the 2016-2017 school year:

- **Cafeteria manager** The cafeteria manager is responsible for the overall operations of the National School Lunch Program in our school. This includes cafeteria finances, lunch preparation, and cafeteria staff. An applicant must complete and maintain current BCI/FBI background checks and participate in *VIRTUS Protecting God's Children safe environment program*. Contact Malissa at malissaguerke@hotmail.com for information or to apply.

scholarships

Income-Based EdChoice Expansion Scholarships allow more students to attend St. Bernadette School. Students, meeting the income eligibility (e.g.: family of 4, income \$48,600), can attend St. Bernadette School next fall *at no cost* to parents, thanks to 8000 vouchers available from the Ohio Department of Education. Scholarships are available for kindergartners, 1st, 2nd and 3rd graders. This is *a great opportunity for single parents, one-income homes, fixed-income house-holds, and working families*. Every family can explore this possibility. Contact the school office for information.

ministers at mass at st bernadette

	lector	servers	extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion	
Saturday, July 9 4 PM	Brad Rider	Abby, Mary & Sam Frazier	Susan Garrett Kathy Kehnast Denise McGuire	Mary Steyaert Shelia Taylor Kathy Wagner
Sunday, July 10 11 AM	Jim Merk	Samantha Kerns, Logan & Tori Loy	Nancy Griffith Ben Peters Teresa Scarpitti	Valerie Shaw David Shonk Julia Whitehead
Monday, July 11 8:20 AM	David Shonk	Avee Solt Mitchell Ortiz	Pat Dreyer	Kathy Kehnast
Wednesday, July 13 8:20 AM	Bob Christy	Addy Myers Carly Matson	Mary Guinan	Mary Jane Vajen
Thursday, July 14 6 PM	Kathy Kehnast	Emeline Neighbor Jack Gentile	Lee Guinan	Paul Lonergan
Friday, July 15 8:20 AM	Jim Merk	Kendall Cox Emma McCrady	Jim & Rita Merk	
Saturday, July 16 4 PM	Jennifer Spiegel	Gus & Olivia Spiegel, Analisa Waibel	Terry Carpenter Rosalie DeFillippo Marguerite Grimm	Joyce Guenther Jim Kuhn Becky Kuhn
Sunday, July 17 11 AM	Teresa Scarpitti	Brooke, Bryson & Zachary Vogel	Pat Dreyer Lee Guinan Jim Merk	Rita Merk Larry Sanford Becky Wickham

parish contributions

The *St Bernadette offertory collection* for July 3 came to \$7,902.

in the diocese of columbus

help needed

The Sisters of Children of Mary just excavated 4 acres of land and they need help clearing trees and building permanent pastures for their cows at their convent in Newark. Any day is fine. Call (740) 323-1977 or email childrenofmary@juno.com. Find information at www.childrenofmary.net.

healing Mass

A Mass of Healing and Healing Service will be celebrated on Monday, July 18, at 6:30 PM at Saint Joseph Cathedral. After Mass there will be a service of healing with exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and veneration of a relic of the True Cross of Christ, followed by an opportunity for each person to speak with a priest.

The sacrament of Anointing of the Sick will be available. The evening will close with Benediction. All persons who seek Christ's healing are invited—especially those with cancer, heart, and other physical infirmities, and those in need of emotional and spiritual healing. Caregivers, family members, and members of the medical community are invited as well.

officiating classes

Officiating classes *for football, volleyball, and soccer* will be held at St Mary Magdalene School in Columbus starting Monday, July 25, at 6 PM. Cost is \$125; to register, visit www.officials.myohsaa.org. For information, contact Julius Palazzo at (614) 276-9373.

men's retreat

The Catholic Laymen's Fall Silent Retreat happens at St Therese Retreat Center from 6 PM on Friday, Sept 9, through noon Mass on Sunday, Sept 11. In reflection sessions, *Fr Stephen Hayes op* will lead men to appreciate the value of the medieval crusades by developing his theme "*Taking up the Cross: Becoming Modern Crusaders for the New Jerusalem of Christ.*" Cost is \$130. For information and registration contact Charles Kielkopf at (614) 268-0175 or kielkopf.1@osu.edu.

get your marriage in shape

Are you exercising and dieting, jogging, swimming, and playing tennis to stay fit and trim? What are you doing to keep your marriage in good shape? Why not *try a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend*? The next two weekends in central Ohio are Aug 5-7 and Nov 11-13. For information or to register, contact Paul or Marilou Clouse at (614) 834-6880 or visit www.wmecolumbus.org.

**bishop's annual appeal 2016
"be his hope to others"**

Here are the results at our parishes after eleven weeks.

households participating	St Bernadette	St Mary
total pledged	\$ 38,180	\$ 20,710
average gift	\$ 271	\$ 345
total paid	\$ 19,130	\$ 5,345
parish BAA goal	\$ 43,136	\$ 12,703

The Appeal *supports our parish schools of religion and the education of our future priests and deacons, and many families in need of our help.* Your gift and your prayers will help to make this year's appeal a success. The Diocesan Goal is \$6,300,000. Every contribution counts; every dollar that we raise over the stated goal will be returned to our parishes to benefit our communities directly.

Last year St Bernadette pledged slightly over and collected slightly under the goal. Bremen St Mary pledged well over the goal and has received the rebate from the diocese. But the diocese has needs and so do the parishes.

We know *we can reach the goals* and support the diocese as well as go over and support the parishes. It requires thoughtful consideration and prayer, with every one giving according to our ability. We are blessed with much; let us remember the needs of others, as well as the needs of our own parishes.

catholic youth summer camp

Catholic Youth Summer Camp (CYSC), a ministry based in our diocese, is a 6-day and 5-night experience providing students with a week full of *high adventure actives and high adventure faith.* CYSC is open to all students entering grades 6-12, and there are 8 sessions

available this summer. CYSC offers a truly Catholic and safe environment with daily catechesis that awakens faith and builds missionary disciples. A week at camp includes daily Mass, adoration, reconciliation, small group conversations, worship, service, and authentic community. For information, visit www.cysc.com.

in the deanery

logan st john picnic & ice cream social

St John Parish in Logan is celebrating their 175th anniversary celebration with a Parish Picnic & Ice Cream Social on Sunday, July 17, from 4-7 PM at the church grounds (school hall and outside). We have been invited to join them. The afternoon will include free food, music, children's games and fellowship. If you wish to participate, call their parish office at (740) 385-2549 x 4 with the number attending in your group.

confessions & weekday Mass nearby

These are the regularly scheduled times. They sometimes change, though, so call ahead

parish	confessions	Mon	Tues	Weds	Thurs	Fri	Sat
Bremen St Mary	8 am Sunday		8:20 AM				
Lancaster St Bernadette	5:30 Thursday 3 PM Saturday; 8:30 AM 1 st Sat	8:20 AM		8:20 AM	6 PM	8:20 AM	1 st Sat 9 AM
Lancaster St Mary	4 PM Saturday	7 AM	9 AM	7 AM	9 AM		
Lancaster St Mark	5:30 PM Saturday	8 AM	8 AM	6 PM	8 AM	8 AM	
Sugar Grove St Joseph	½ hour before each Mass	8 AM	NOON	8 AM	NOON	8 AM	
Circleville St Joseph	4 PM Saturday	9 AM	7 PM	9 AM		9 AM	10 AM
Logan St John	4 PM Saturday	8 AM	8 AM	9 AM		8 AM	9 AM

help lancaster st mary athletic association

The Saint Mary School Athletic Association is still looking for some more parental involvement for next school year. Terms are for two years beginning at the August meeting and all Saint Mary School parents (grades K-8) are eligible to apply. Visit the Athletics page (saintmarylancaster.com/athletics) to learn about the roles and responsibilities of the association. Applications can be downloaded; deadline is Monday, Aug 1. Contact Cheryl Cale with questions at ccale@saintmarylancaster.org.

tune in ewtn 820 am

EWTN offers extensive *coverage of World Youth Day 2016.* Saint Gabriel Catholic Radio, AM 820 can take you on an *historic journey to Poland to celebrate the Lord's mercy* with Pope Francis and thousands of young adults. Their coverage, July 27-31, includes on-location broadcasts of the events plus interviews with Catholic youth and religious men and women from around the world. For information, go to www.ewtn.com.

No matter where your summer travels take you, take EWTN Radio with you. Check out AM 820 Columbus or tune into Channel 130 on SiriusXM, EWTN's home on satellite radio. **No radio? No problem.** Download Tunein, iHeartRadio or EWTN's free app that allows you to stream live radio shows right to your mobile device or computer. Find EWTN around the dial, around the globe, and listen to your favorite Catholic programs today.

living mercy in a jubilee year

mercy: beating heart of the gospel

Pope Francis writes that *“Mercy is the beating heart of the Gospel”* (*Misericordiae Vultus*). We seek God’s mercy because we know he *is full of mercy* and is overflowing with *generous with his mercy*. His only *requirement is that we, in turn, be merciful*.

So what we need to do is go to God, humbly seeking his mercy saying “please” and gratefully saying “thank you”. You know in what need of his mercy you are—even when the mercy given isn’t exactly what you had in mind (“You don’t always get what you want, but sometimes you get what you need!”). And you know better than to forget to say a grateful “thank you”.

But *crucial to that thanksgiving is actually living mercy yourself*. The Church helps us along in that by teaching us the works of mercy. To live mercy, we must rediscover both

the *spiritual works of mercy*,

- *counsel the doubtful*
- *admonish sinners*
- *forgive offences*
- *pray for the living and the dead,*
- *instruct the ignorant*
- *comfort the afflicted*
- *bear patiently those who do us ill*

and the *corporal works of mercy*,

- *feed the hungry*
- *clothe the naked*
- *heal the sick*
- *bury the dead.*
- *give drink to the thirsty*
- *welcome the stranger*
- *visit the imprisoned*

Learn all 14 by heart. Have trouble memorizing? Post them where you’ll see them often, on your refrigerator or your mirror or someplace. But most of all make it your daily practice to live them. Examine your conscience about them. It’s not always easy. But anyone can do it. The works of mercy are a must for anyone who seeks to follow Christ. They will bring you joy ... and bring you to eternal joy.

the Church’s plan for reading God’s word this week

Sat	July 9	Fifteenth Sunday	Deuteronomy 30:10-14	Colossians 1:15-20	Psalm 69	Luke 10:25-37
Sun	July 10					
Mon	July 11	St Benedict	Isaiah 1:10-17		Psalm 50	Matthew 10:34-11:1
Tues	July 12		Isaiah 7:1-9		Psalm 48	Matthew 11:20-24
Weds	July 13	St Henry	Isaiah 10:5-16		Psalm 94	Matthew 11:25-27
Thurs	July 14	St Kateri Tekakwitha	Isaiah 26:7-19		Psalm 102	Matthew 11:28-30
Fri	July 15	St Bonaventure	Isaiah 38:1-8		Isaiah 38	Matthew 12:1-8
Sat	July 16	Our Lady of Mt Carmel	Micah 2:1-5		Psalm 10	Matthew 12:14-21
Sun	July 17	Sixteenth Sunday	Genesis 18:1-10	Colossians 1:24-28	Psalm 15	Luke 10:38-42

God’s plan for your marriage

CAN SOME METHODS OF BIRTH CONTROL REALLY CAUSE AN ABORTION?

Some methods of birth control are aimed at preventing the union of sperm and egg and therefore act only as contraceptives. These would include *barriers such as condoms and diaphragms*.

By contrast, *hormonal methods* like “the Pill” may work in several ways. They can *suppress ovulation* or *alter cervical mucus to prevent fertilization*, and thus act contraceptively. But they may *at times have other effects*, such as *changes to the lining of the uterus*. If the contraceptive action fails and fertilization takes place, these *hormonal methods may make it impossible for a newly conceived life to implant and survive*.

That would be a *very early abortion*. Medical opinions differ on whether or how often this may occur. Currently there is no way to know precisely how these drugs work at any given time in an individual woman.

Concern about the risk of causing an early abortion is stronger in the case of pills taken after intercourse to prevent pregnancy (“*emergency contraception*” or “*morning-after pills*”). In some cases these pills are taken when sperm and egg have already joined to create a new life, in which case the drug could not have any effect except to cause an early abortion.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF CONTRACEPTION ON SOCIETY? ON MARRIED COUPLES?

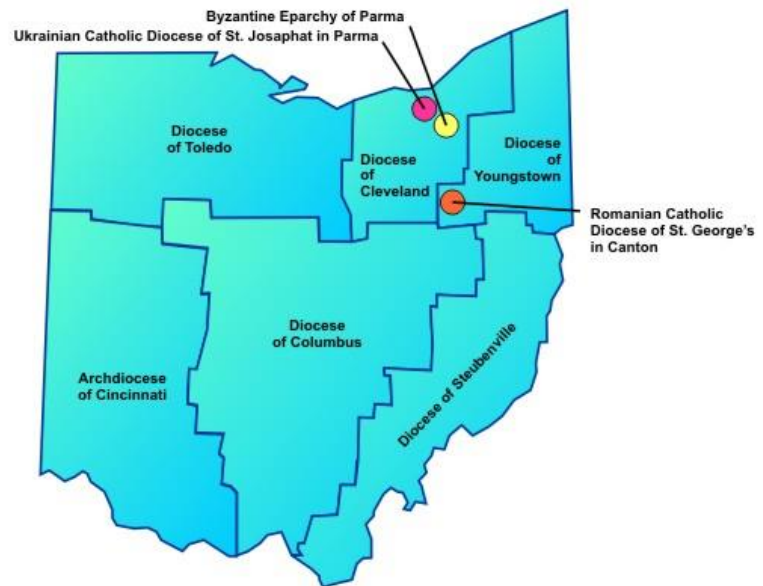
Many would likely be surprised at how long *all Christian churches agreed on this teaching against contraception*. It was only in 1930 that some *Protestant denominations began to reject this long-held position*. Those opposed to this trend predicted an increase in premarital sex, adultery, acceptance of divorce, and abortion. Later, in 1968, *Pope Paul VI warned that the use of contraception would allow one spouse to treat the other more like an object than a person*, and that, in time, governments would be tempted to impose laws limiting family size. *Pope John Paul II called attention to the close association between contraception and abortion*, noting that “the *negative values inherent in the ‘contraceptive mentality’* ... are such that they in fact strengthen this temptation [to abortion] when an unwanted life is conceived” (*Evangelium Vitae*, § 13).

These predictions have come true. Today we see *a pandemic of sexually transmitted diseases, an enormous rise in cohabitation, one in three children born outside of marriage, and abortion used by many when contraception fails. A failure to respect married love’s power to help create new life* has eroded respect for life and for the sanctity of marriage.

excerpt from MARRIED LOVE AND THE GIFT OF LIFE, a USCCB publication

How the Diocese of Columbus Happened

In 1808, Father Edward Fenwick, a Dominican priest, was asked by Bishop John Carroll of Baltimore to visit the Dittoe family living about 15 miles east of New Lancaster, Ohio, along the Zane Trace. They had written to the bishop asking for a priest to visit and minister to them and other German Catholic families in their vicinity. Upon finding the Dittoe family, Father Fenwick began the first known Catholic ministry in Ohio at what would become the town of Somerset, Ohio. Eventually, St Joseph's Church was built and then blessed on December 6, 1818. The oldest Catholic parish in Ohio, St Joseph's remains in Somerset serving its people to the present day, still under the direction of the Dominican fathers.



As the Catholic population of Ohio grew, its first diocese—the Diocese of Cincinnati—was erected by Pope Pius VII on June 19, 1821. Father Fenwick was named Cincinnati's first bishop. The Catholic population in Ohio grew during the 19th century, leading the Vatican to erect the Diocese of Cleveland in 1847 and the Diocese of Columbus on March 3, 1868. The new diocese included counties in central, south central, and southeastern Ohio, roughly running from the Scioto River on the west across to the Ohio River along the east. The fledgling Diocese of Columbus comprised 32 parishes and 40 missions. About 41,000 Catholics called the new diocese home. Columbus' first bishop was Sylvester Rosecrans (1868-1878).

During the late 19th and early 20th century, the diocesan population kept growing. By 1900 there were 60,000 Catholics in the Columbus Diocese, and by 1940 there were 137,000. In the late 19th century, the diocese coped with a tremendous influx of immigrants from Europe who were settling in the eastern counties near mining and mill towns. Each cultural group, like the Poles, Slovaks, Italians, Hungarians, Lithuanians, and so forth wanted parishes where their language was spoken and their culture was understood.

By the 1940s, language barriers were not as much of a problem as older immigrants came to better understand English and their children spoke English almost exclusively. Over time the ethnic nature and patterns of diocesan parishes became blurred. Today only two ethnic parishes remain in the Diocese of Columbus: Santa Cruz (Spanish) and St John the Baptist (Italian), both located in Columbus. All other parishes serve geographic regions. But the influx of Hispanics from the last quarter of the last century has begun to change that.

Throughout the 20th century, the rural population of the Diocese of Columbus declined, with a major shift to urban life beginning in the 1920s. After World War II, the Columbus city population began a major shift from an urban setting to the suburbs. With these shifts came changes in parishes. As the people moved, the Church moved as well. Parishes in some areas where the population dropped would sometimes be closed or consolidated and new ones opened in areas where the population boomed.

In 1944, the Vatican erected the new Diocese of Steubenville from the Ohio River counties on the eastern side of the Diocese of Columbus. Additionally, a small strip of the eastern part of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati was transferred to Columbus, giving the Diocese of Columbus its present configuration of 23 counties in central and south central Ohio.

The post-World War II years brought tremendous growth, and the 1960s brought many changes, both culturally and in the Church as a result of the Second Vatican Council. As the 20th century ended and a new millennium dawned, the Diocese of Columbus was the fastest growing in Ohio, with the Catholic population approaching 300,000 and served by 106 parishes, 219 priests, 90 deacons, 281 sisters, and countless lay ministers. In more recent years many of those numbers have been in decline.

Text from the Columbus diocesan website www.colstdioc.org/ (altered), and map from the Ohio Catholic Conference website, [/www.ohiocathconf.org](http://www.ohiocathconf.org).

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