

# St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church

*A Roman Catholic Parish in the Diocese of Trenton*

## MASSES

Saturday -----4:00 pm

Sunday ----- 8:00, 10:00 am & 12:00 pm

*Please consult special schedule for Holy Day Masses, as times may vary.*

## Daily

Monday - Friday ---- 8:00 am & 12:00 pm

Saturday -----8:00 am

*Daily Masses in All Saints Chapel unless otherwise specified.*



**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME  
October 20, 2024**

**30 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD  
WHITING, NEW JERSEY 08759**

Phone----- 732-350-5001

Fax ----- 732-350-0912

E-mail ---- parishoffice@easeton.org

Website-----www.seaswhiting.org

## Parish Office Hours

Mon. - Thurs.--- 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Friday-----9:00 am to 12:00 pm

## SERVED BY

Rev. Evarist Kabagambe -----*Pastor*

Rev. Pasquale A. Papalia ----- *Retired Pastor*

Deacon Christopher Buono

Deacon Peter Downing      Deacon Jerry Purcell

Deacon Joseph H. Rider      Deacon Bob Scharen

Rev. Msgr. Richard A. Rusconi----- *Associate*

Rev. Vincent Euk----- *Associate*

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Phone ----- 732-350-7391

E-mail----- ldowning@easeton.org

Youth Ministry -----kamico@easeton.org



St. Vincent de Paul ----- 732-350-9421

All Saints Columbarium ----- 732-350-5001

St. Mary Academy ----- 609-597-3800

## SACRAMENTS

### BAPTISMS

Sunday. Please notify the Rectory at least a month beforehand, so each parent may attend instruction.

### MARRIAGE

The Sacrament of Matrimony requires a time of spiritual preparation. The couple should attend the Pre-Cana Conferences soon after their engagement. Arrangements should be made at the Rectory one year prior to the date of the marriage.

### CONFESSIONS

Saturday: 2:30 - 3:30 pm in Church

### SICK CALLS

In case of serious sickness or accident, call the Parish Office any hour, day or night 732-350-5001.

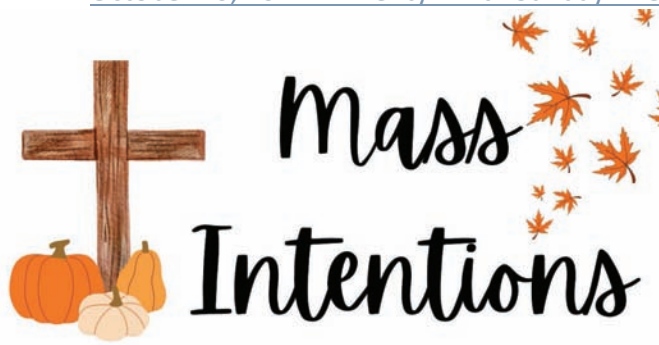
### COMMUNION CALLS

For those who are homebound, disabled due to physical impairment, we will be happy to bring Holy Communion to you periodically in your home. Please call the Parish Office to notify us.

### Gospel: Mark 10:35-45

Two of the disciples ask Jesus that they be allowed to sit at his right and left side when he comes into his glory. Jesus explains that they should not be concerned with their position. Instead they should concern themselves with serving others just as Jesus was planning to serve many in giving his own life for their sins.

For more information regarding Parish Ministries, please visit our website, [www.seaswhiting.org](http://www.seaswhiting.org).



# Mass Intentions

**Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 Angelina Sterio by loving son, Anthony
- 4:00 John F. Urbaniak, Sr. by daughter & son

**Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 People of the Parish
- 10:00 Giovanni Sciorilli by Mary Heinis & children
- 12:00 Annis Herold by Vincent Herold

**Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>**

- 8:00 Raul Rodriguez by family
- 12:00 Matilda Pantozzi by Michael & Regina Foreman

**Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>**

- 8:00 Mary & Frank Sparacino by sons
- 12:00 Multi-Intention

**Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

- 8:00 Michael O’Connell by Diane Johnson
- 12:00 Peter Haas, Sr. by Pete & Lori

**Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 John Forgione by Paul & Muffy Antico
- 12:00 Mary & Frank Sparacino by sons

**Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 Steve Corsilli by Amy & Vinny Rapacciuolo
- 12:00 Margaret & James O’Hara by Dorie Carne

**Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 Deacon William Barlow
- 4:00 Manus Divers by Teresa’s Family

**Sunday, October 27<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:00 People of the Parish
- 10:00 Raul Rodriguez by family
- 12:00 Carol Evans by Clare

**Offertory Total:**

W/E 10/13- \$14,495.50

Thank you! We are grateful to all those who financially support our parish and ministries each week. We especially thank those who faithfully use weekly contribution envelopes or online giving through Parish Giving.

**Deficit Solution Total:**

W/E 10/13- \$7,723.00



## MEMORIAL OFFERINGS

**The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church is offered for Richard Hesterhagen, by Marilyn & Jack**



**The Bread and Wine in the Chapel is offered in loving memory of Pamela Sroczyński by John & Peter Sroczyński**



**Please pray for the Deceased**

*in particular:*



*Janielle R. Werr  
Dorothy M. Turner  
Pamela A. Sroczynski  
Ida P. Rasmussen*



**Please also remember in your prayers those who have recently died, all the deceased members of our parish, and the souls in purgatory. May God grant them eternal rest. Amen.**



*Prayer Requests*



***Please pray for the hope and healing of the below mentioned:***

Thomas Shmiegel, Karen Schmiegel, Francisc Turos, Josephine Schoenfeld, Tony Captiottie, Kathleen & Tom McCann, Christopher Bengel, Martha Sehrenbach, Karen Miller, Dave Milecki, Elaine Critelli, Bill Teborsky, Moen Family, Greg Russell, Stephen C. Hayward, Lou Clevenger, Danielle Rolon, Esposito Family, Totorelli Family, William Focarazzo, Gina Guzzone, Casey Braco & Baby, Esther Bengel, Dick & Joy Bengel, Amanda Glover, Margaret Krall, Anthony & Judy Capriottie, Kathy Towey, Justine Merlen, Richard Fagan, Jeanette Koziol, Susan & Thomas Nieradka, Mary Ann Graf, Judy Capriottie, Tony Capriottie, Joan Williams, Laurie McAvoy, Doug Costner, George DeCataldo

***To have a name added to the Prayer Request List, please call the Parish Office, Monday to Thursday 9am-3pm and Friday 9am – 12noon.***

***Names appear on the list for 4 weeks.***

**Multi Intention Mass  
Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> 2024 ~  
12:00pm**

**Mass held in the Chapel**

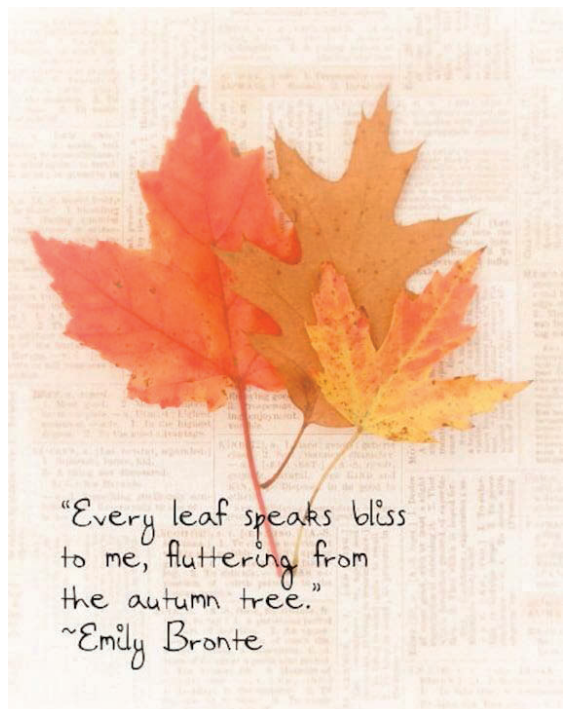
Joseph Bieksha by wife, Joanne  
Robert Boehm, Jr. by Michele Pridmore  
Peter Pizza, Jr. by Michele Pridmore  
Marissa H. Vasquez by the Vasquez Family  
Anna Callahan by Joanne Healy  
Patricia Fagan by Friends  
Jessie W. Heard by Bev Linane  
John Henry Brehm III by Rebecca & Wayne  
Anthony DelBarto by MaryEllen

**For Healing...**

Mary Irwin by Jayne Gherardi  
Kathleen Gagliostro by Jayne Gherardi  
Lisa Savarese by Irene  
Patricia O’Connell, by your loving sister Eileen

**Special Intention...**

Patricia Berkey by Joanne Healy  
Special Intention by Bev Linane



*“Every leaf speaks bliss  
to me, fluttering from  
the autumn tree.”  
~Emily Bronte*

## Weekly Calendar

### Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>

#### Special Collection: World Mission Sunday

NJ Right to Life Raffle Sale After All  
Weekend Masses

### Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup>

#### Special Collection: World Mission Sunday

NJ Right to Life Raffle Sale After All  
Weekend Masses

### Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>

12:00 pm	AA Big Book Mtg.	St. Mark's Rm
12:30 pm	BINGO	Parish Hall
	doors open at 10:00	
1:30 pm	Respect Life Mtg.	Library
4:00 pm	Religious Ed.	Parish Center
6:30 pm	Girl Scouts	St. Matthew's Rm

### Tuesday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>

9:30 am	Food Pantry	Parish Center
1:00 pm	Bereavement Support St. Matthew's Rm	
1:00 pm	Rosary of the Seven Sorrows St. Matthew's Rm	

### Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>

**10:00 am-12:00 pm Library Open!**

1:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal	St. Matt's Rm
1:30 pm	Rosary Makers	St. Matt's Rm
4:45 pm	Religious Ed Family Session Grades 1-6 (Grade 2 Family Meeting)	
6:30 pm	Religious Ed Confirmation Prep Grades 7-8	
5:00 pm	RCIA	Rectory

### Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup>

#### No Chair Yoga!

9:00 am	Parish Council Mtg.	St. Matt's Rm
11:00 am	Al-Anon	St. Mark's Rm
1:30 pm	Holy Spirit Prayer Group	Library
2:00 pm	Women's AA	St. Mark's Rm
5:00 pm	Patriotic Rosary	Chapel

### Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>

11:00 am	AA Step Meeting	St. Mark's Rm
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### Weekend of October 26<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup>

NJ Right to Life Raffle Sale After All  
Weekend Masses

## Parish News

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Please join us in the Chapel on Thursday, October 24 at 5:00PM. We will be praying a Patriotic Rosary for the United States as we approach the election. We will NOT be praying for any particular candidate, but for the United States. The choir will be leading us in the Patriotic songs that accompany the Patriotic Rosary. The evening will also include Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. Thank You.

### NJRTL Raffle

Volunteers will be stationed at all the doors of the Church this weekend as well as the weekends of October 26 – 27 and November 2 -3. They will be selling raffle tickets for NJ Right to Life.

First prize is a brand new Volvo! Tickets are \$10 each and may be paid for by cash or check. Checks should be made payable to NJ Right to Life. Thank you.

### **World Mission Sunday** is not just another Sunday!

It is a powerful reminder of our call to be missionaries. The collection taken up on this day is unique as it is mandated by the Code of Canon Law and is essential for the survival and growth of the Church in mission territories. These funds support the pastoral and evangelizing work of the Church, including building churches, providing healthcare and education, and training future priests and religious. In places where resources are scarce, your generosity makes a profound difference.

As we reflect on the theme "Go and invite everyone to the banquet," let us remember that our participation and support help invite countless souls to the feast of God's love.



## Mission Perspectives

***“Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there also will my servant be. The Father will honor whoever serves me”*** (John 12:26)

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Welcome to the World Mission Sunday when we reflect on and pray for the missionaries and the activities they carry out throughout the world! In addition to the spiritual and moral support, we also support them financially and materially. Thank you for your supportive generosity so that missionary activities may continue to be executed worldwide.

Last Saturday, the long-prepared for Designer Bag Bingo took place and it brought in sixteen thousand dollars, which will be very helpful in improvement of lighting around the parking lot where some of the security lights are currently dysfunctional. We are very grateful to Amelia and the entire team of helpers with whom she worked on this, many of whom are not even parishioners! We also thank all the donors from different businesses who answered our requests. Thank you too to all of you who patronized this event by not only purchasing the raffle tickets but also participating in and making it so colorful. May God continue to reward all of you for making this possible!

Your involvement in all works of apostolate through your volunteering in our parish is amazing. In this spirit, we have recently witnessed the repainting our benches, collection boxes and gazebo. A big thank you to all of you who have taken part in this renovation! There are, however, two areas where we are in dire need of volunteers – we need more ushers and choir members. Please call the parish office or talk to me directly if you are willing to help in those areas.

Thanks too for the extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion who reach out to the parishioners who are unable to attend Mass due to infirmity! You are their consolation, not only due to your kindness in speaking with them but also bringing them Holy Communion for which they always long. Recently, a generous parishioner gave us some pyxes and carrying bags with straps. In case you don't have your own pyx or carrying bag, please see me to get one.

As I wrote in this space last week, you are invited to praying the *Patriotic Rosary* and the adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. The main purpose of this prayer service is to pray for peace generally, especially as we look forward to polls. We shall be praying for ourselves to peacefully exercise our right to responsible citizenship but also pray for all the candidates and those responsible for handling the electoral process that they may do so freely and fairly.

Our Lord has reminded us that he did not come to be served but to serve and he expects no less of us. This is what the missionaries do throughout the world and we too are expected to do in our local communities. We pray for that zeal since as Jesus teaches us, greatness is in serving not in being served. God bless you all!

Yours in the Master's service,  
Fr Evarist.

**Knights of Columbus Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest**

The Our Lady of the Pines Knights of Columbus Council 9852 is participating in the National Catholic Citizenship Essay Contest. We are inviting any high school students (grades 9-12) who are members of our parish community to participate. It does not matter if you go to public school, Catholic school, or are home-schooled- if you are a Catholic High School student in our parish we welcome you to participate.

This year's theme is, "What are the two most important virtues for an elected leader to possess, and why? How can you determine if the leader has these virtues?"

All essays must be 500-750 words in length, typed and double spaced. All essays must be received by December 1, 2024. Winners at each grade level will be awarded a share of \$400 in prize money and their essays will move on to state and regional competitions. Essay entry forms and rules are available in the parish office, or you can email our Grand Knight at [crstreet78@gmail.com](mailto:crstreet78@gmail.com) to receive a digital copy.

**Counters Schedule**

Date	Team	
Oct 21	Team A	
Oct 28	Team B	
Nov 4	Team C	
Nov 12	Team D	

**VOLUNTEER FOR PRISON MINISTRY:**

The Diocese of Trenton is committed to bringing God's Word to the imprisoned. Please join this ministry. Bring God's Word to the incarcerated with experienced team members in a safe environment at the Ocean County Jail. These young people are hungry to hear the Gospel and to participate in the Communion Rite of the Catholic Church. Contact Jim Collery at [jcollery@gmail.com](mailto:jcollery@gmail.com)



SEAS Parish will be sponsoring a Bus Trip to the **Surflight Theatre in Beach Haven for a performance of "Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street: The Musical" on December 14, 2024.**

The bus will leave SEAS at 9:45 AM and arrive back around 6:30 PM.

Lunch is included at The Waterfront prior to the show. Entrée choice can be made at the time of ticket purchase.

**Tickets are \$125.00 per person, and on sale until October 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Please contact Tina at (609) 513-1758 with any questions!



**Make Your Gift Today**

2024 Annual Catholic Appeal

# ONE

Love • Faith • Family

**GOAL: \$90,000**

**Paid: \$75,050.68**  
(83% to goal)

**Pledged: \$79,675.00.00**  
(89% of goal)

as of October 14, 2024

The 2024 Annual Catholic Appeal is still underway!! If you have yet to give, please pick up a pledge form or visit [www.dioceseoftrenton/catholicappeal](http://www.dioceseoftrenton/catholicappeal) to donate.


**Thank you for your prayers and support!**



Our Parish Raffle was drawn on Saturday! Our Parish Hall lighting redo has been completed thanks to your generosity and the hard work of Rene and Dan. We are also thankful for the parishioner donation of the \$900 grocery store gift cards which were the prizes. Our only expense was \$98 in raffle printing. Our raffle profit was \$6042!

**First prize winner: Gerri Koff**

**Second prize winner: Nancy DelDuca**



**Monsignor Shenrock Library**

ST ELIZABETH ANN SETON PARISH  
WHITING, N.J.

Our Parish Library has officially re-opened! It is open to all on Wednesday mornings from 10 AM to 12 PM.

# Designer Bag



Our Designer Handbag Bingo was an enjoyable sold-out success. We had family and friend groups from all around the state, as well as from Staten Island and PA. Our volunteers had been steadily working for this day and their efforts were rewarded in a fun day for all and a profitable one for our Church. Thank you to our sponsors, our players, our volunteers, and those who helped us along the way. Until next time....



The caring people of this parish generously restocked the Food Pantry during the Food Drive last week. A heartfelt thank you! It is good to know that you are behind our efforts to support those in need. This week we made 20 bags to restock shelves for the Pantry hours on Tuesday. Each bag needed soup, peanut butter, instant potatoes, cereal, rice, tuna, and various canned goods. All those items and more were on the pantry shelves.

Blessings to you all!

*Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done. —Proverbs 19:17*



Join us as we learn how Catholics can navigate the often morally complex choices offered by modern medicine to couples struggling with fertility issues. Encounter the beauty of the teachings of the Church regarding fertility while discovering very effective cutting-edge medical treatments for infertility that are morally acceptable and that uphold the dignity of life and marriage.

**October 26, 2024**

**St. Mary of the Pines Church,  
Manahawkin.**

**This event will include:** 8am Mass in the Church, 8:30 hot breakfast, 9-12 noon seminar featuring Fr. Tad Pacholczyk, Ph.D., Senior Ethicist at the National Catholic Bioethics Center.

The event will include time for Q&A and free resources. Cost is \$10, free for clergy.

Seating is limited, advance online registration required using: 10, free for clergy. Seating is limited, advance online registration required using: <https://longing-for-life-st-mary-s-parish.pushpayevents.com>

**GRIEF  
SUPPORT  
GROUP**



Nothing in life prepares us for the death of a loved one. Most of us have felt the pain of saying goodbye to someone whose life we treasured know well that grief is the price we pay for love. The deeper the love, the more intense is our grief reaction.

The Bereavement Support Group is a Christ-centered group designed to help you through this difficult time. The group offers a caring, compassionate, confidential atmosphere for the sharing of experiences. Since there is no timetable for grief, the loss may have occurred days, months, or even years ago.

Meetings are held twice monthly on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, at 1:00 pm in St. Mark's Room. Parishioners and non-parishioners are welcome to attend with no registration required, as we are an informal gathering.



## Apologist's Corner

*Please be sure to read the Apologist's Corner each week.  
Your Question may be one of those answered!*

### Apologist's Corner

**This form is for questions you have on *Faith and Morals*.**

Please write clearly.

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#### **Question 1**

*Is the building of the Third Temple relevant for the new era? If so, would the sacrificial system be back? Since Jesus made the old obsolete, can you explain what the New Temple's purpose is? Is it possible to have one Jewish Temple and one Catholic Church for the sacrificial means or is it another conspiracy theory?*

#### **Answer 1**

The rebuilding of the temple, which you referred to as the "Third Temple" is a hope for the Jewish people and a mere possibility for some Christians. Why "Third Temple"? It is referred to as the "Third Temple" because the first temple built by King Solomon was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587BC while the rebuilt temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70AD. So, where there stood the second temple now stands just the "Western Wall", which is also known by some people as the "Wailing Wall", where prayers are offered especially when pilgrims to Jerusalem join the local Jewish people to pray in that place.

The Jewish people hold the hope to rebuild the temple so that they can resume the offering of sacrifices which were stopped when the second temple was destroyed, since sacrifices could only be validly offered in the temple. On the part of Christians, the resumption of temple sacrifices is unnecessary since the death of Jesus put an end to animal and bird sacrifices (cf. Hebrews 8:1-3, 6-7, 13, 9:11-12, 23-24). For this reason, Christian apologists don't see need for rebuilding of the temple because there is no need for resumption of sacrifices. However, for the Jews who don't believe that the Messiah has already come, see need for the rebuilding of the temple so that sacrifices may continue to be offered until the Messiah comes.

## Question 2

*If I want to vote with a clear conscience in my Catholic faith, what things do I need to consider and what issues should I strongly consider before casting my vote?*

## Answer 2

What a timely question in this season of political campaigns where early voting has started in some states!

We have all heard, I assume, of the warning, “Church and state must stay separate”. Some people say, “Keep the Church out of politics” or “Faith and politics must not mix.” To a certain extent, such statements are true; Church leaders must not usurp the role of political (civil) leaders in the same way the latter must never usurp the role of the former. However, given the fact that some of the people under the leadership of the political arena are also Christians, there are points of intersection whereby an interplay must take place to balance the political and moral expectations they face. For that reason, the Church never advises people to just focus on spiritual matters while neglecting their civic duties. On the contrary, paragraphs 2238 to 2243 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* explain the duties of citizens, but paragraphs 2239 and 2240 in particular encourage us to take an active role in responsible civic activities that are poignant to your question.

Paragraph 2239 says, “It is the duty of citizens to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity and freedom...”

Paragraph 2240 which is even more relevant to your question reads, “Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to exercise the right to vote, and to defend one’s country...”

To help us live as responsible citizens, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops put together a document *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* which you can access at <https://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/forming-consciences-for-faithful-citizenship-title> This document touches all social and moral issues affecting us as Catholics but it is by no means precise since it includes issues with no possibility of middle-ground as well as those where middle-ground can be achieved through prudential judgment. It addresses issues regarding the economy, healthcare, migration, other social and moral teachings... For that reason, some people who read that document are left wondering what specific issues among all those written about they should focus upon as Catholics. To help people answer that question, a group of Catholics who refer to themselves as Catholic Answers Action put together a document titled *Voter’s Guide for Serious Catholics* in 2006 to summarize what the non-negotiable issues (issues with no middle-ground) for Catholic voters are. You can read that entire document at <https://stbern-bv.org/Voters-Guide-Catholic-English-1p.pdf> Mentioned in that document as non-negotiable issues include: abortion, euthanasia, embryonic stem cell research, human cloning and homosexual “marriage” (which some people call gay marriage). Eighteen years later since then, the list has grown to include religious freedom and transgenderism, which were not concerns in 2006.

So, it is incumbent upon all of us to pay attention to the positions of whichever candidates we have before us to see who agree with the Catholic Church on those issues. Catholics are therefore advised to listen to and learn which candidates may be opposed to Church teaching in those matters and therefore vote for those who are in line with Church teaching. To note here is

the fact that by “...who are in line with Church teaching” shouldn’t be understood to mean those who are necessarily Catholic; because we know of Catholic politicians who make every effort to oppose what the Catholic Church teaches regarding those issues, while many non-Catholic candidates support the Catholic Church’s positions. Also, we don’t mean that candidates, especially non-Catholic ones, must agree with every detail of Church teaching in such matters, but at least must make effort to publicly indicate that they are not at enmity with such teachings. The least denominator for candidates Catholics can vote for with a clear conscience must be those who, although they may not be able to fight what they refer to as “culture wars”, agree that Catholic teaching is right and declare upholding the freedom for the Church not to be forced to adhere to do what is opposed to the moral conscience of her believers. Similarly, although not specifically Catholic, Faith & Freedom Coalition touches upon the same issues. You can check this out at <https://www.ffcoalition.com/guides/> when you follow the drop-box ISSUES.

Whenever we face the obligation to fulfill our right to vote, we must do so but be realistic enough, remembering that we are not voting for saints but for men and women who are trying to do the best for people of different philosophies and beliefs. However, if such candidates positively indicate not only lack of support for what the Church teaches but are likely to violate religious freedom for the Church to exercise such teachings, as it has already been witnessed in some places, it wouldn’t be right to vote them into power. This would be the proverbial self-shooting in the foot.

### Question 3

*How often should I go to confession? Every time I commit a venial sin? Can a venial sin be forgiven during Mass?*

### Answer 3

The frequency of going to confession should generally depend on the necessity for doing so. That necessity arises whenever we commit a mortal sin – that is, intentionally going against God’s commandments or the teachings of the Church with full consent and freedom.

To understand this better, we can use the analogy of a shirt which is worn by somebody. If the shirt is clean, there is obviously no need to wash it, but if it gets dirty, there is certainly need for washing it. Somebody may not wear a shirt for a month and therefore can go for a whole month without need to wash it but if the owner wears it within a week after it has been washed clean, it needs to be washed. So, it goes with the frequency of our confession; sometimes a person may not commit a mortal sin for a month or several months and therefore may not need to go to confession. So, for that reason, the precept of the Church demands that we must go to confession at least once a year, but that is the minimum since it is very difficult not to commit a mortal sin for a whole year. However, the Church does not recommend that if we commit a mortal sin and go to confession, we should wait for a whole year before going to confession again even if we have again committed sin. Briefly, **the frequency of going to confession must be tailored to how often we commit mortal sins.**

Regarding venial sins, they can be forgiven through Confession but not necessarily. They can also be forgiven through devout prayers, doing corporal and spiritual works of mercy, devout attendance of Mass, worthy reception of the Eucharist and any other holy acts carried out with humility. So, if you commit a venial sin, you are not required to go to confession, but if you

bring venial sins into the confessional, you're not doing anything wrong because it is the surest way that even such sins are forgiven rather than wondering whether whatever prayers we said or acts we performed really addressed it.

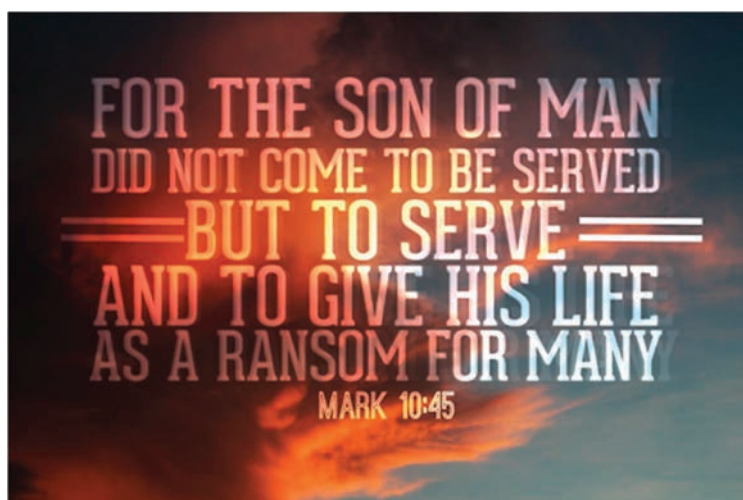
#### Question 4

*In John chapter 20, Jesus gives the apostles the authority to forgive sins in His name. Why does the Church believe that the apostles had the authority to pass along that same authority to their successors (what would become the first bishops of the Church) and for the bishops to pass along to their priests? Is there any scriptural support for this?*

#### Answer 4

It is true that Jesus gave the apostles the authority to forgive sins as we read in John 20:23, “Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.” It is also true that the apostles passed along this authority. As to how the apostles passed along this authority to bishops who in turn passed it along to priests, that is the process known as apostolic succession, which is emphasized in paragraphs 77-79 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. That apostolic succession was in place by the beginning of the second century because St. Ignatius of Antioch wrote about the bishops, priests and deacons in one of his seven letters which he wrote on his way to Rome where he faced martyrdom in 107AD. That particular letter is *The Letter to the Trallians* where he wrote, “...without these three offices we cannot be called a Church” (cf. *Trallians* 3:1-2).

Before looking into the scriptural background for apostolic succession, let us first be clear about the rendering of the word apostle. In its Greek root, the word apostle refers to one who is “sent”. In Scriptures, that word has specific and general uses. The specific use of the word apostle refers to the Twelve who were chosen by Jesus and therefore upon his ascension bequeathed his ministry to them. That specific usage also includes others such as St. Paul who was directly chosen by Jesus through an extraordinary conversion (cf. Acts 9) and his fellow co-workers during that first century. In a general sense, the term apostle is applied upon all the baptized because by their baptism, they are all sent by Jesus to be his agents. It should be unambiguously understood that the scriptural background we are looking for concerns the particular use of the word apostle. Here are some scriptural passages: Acts 14:23, 20:17, Titus 1:5-7. For a more comprehensive treatment of apostolic succession, please check out the article at <https://www.catholic.com/magazine/print-edition/successors-of-the-apostles>



***“Finances at a Glance” September 2024*****Standard Monthly Income: \$94,565.69**

Weekly Collections - \$71,665.00

Online offerings - \$9,142.00

Other Perquisites - \$75.00

Funerals - \$1,345.00

Donations - \$5,750.00

Flowers - \$80.00

Religious Articles - \$541.00

Votive lights - \$1,267.00

Religious Ed. tuition - \$105.00

Dividends - \$1,714.69

Bingo - \$2,881.00

**Standard Monthly Expenses: \$98,910.40**

Payroll - \$42,474.08

Medical Insurance - \$2,616.00

Asst. Clergy's stipends - \$1,700.00

Payroll/bank/ fees \$185.65

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