



Mass Intentions

Sat., November 5

Phil 4:10-19; Ps 112:1b-2, 5-6, 8a, 9; Lk 16:9-15

4 pm ... ☩ Anne & ☩ Harold Magarian by Charles Magarian

Sun., November 6 XXXII Sunday in Ordinary Time

2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14; Ps 17:1, 5-6, 8, 15; 2 Thes 2:16 — 3:5;

Lk 20:27-38 [27, 34-38]

7:30 am ... Our Parish Family

9:30 am ... ☩ Larry Cote by Jeannine Cote

5 pm ... ☩ Colleen Grady by Sylvia Grady

Mon., November 7

Ti 1:1-9; Ps 24:1b-4ab, 5-6; Lk 17:1-6

12 pm ... ☩ Mary Marszal by Faye Kelly

6:30 pm ... All Saints Vigil Mass

Tue., November 8

Ti 2:1-8, 11-14; Ps 37:3-4, 18, 23, 27, 29; Lk 17:7-10

12 pm ... ☩ John Eagan by Pat Morrissey

Wed., November 9 Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22

12 pm ... ☩ William W. Wojnicki, Jr., by P. Jerome

Thur., November 10 Saint Leo the Great

Phlm 7-20; Ps 146:7-10; Lk 17:20-25

8:30 am ... ☩ Edith C. Clark by Anne Clark

Fri., November 11 Happy Veterans Day—Office Closed

2 Jn 4-9; Ps 119:1-2, 10-11, 17-18; Lk 17:26-37

9 am ... Mass

Sat., November 12

3 Jn 5-8; Ps 112:1-6; Lk 18:1-8

4 pm ... Our Parish Family

Sun., November 13 XXXIII Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mal 3:19-20a; Ps 98:5-9; 2 Thes 3:7-12; Lk 21:5-19

7:30 am ... ☩ James Harnden by Stu & Denise Harnden

9:30 am ... ☩ Lucille M. Kelley by the Kelley family

5 pm ... ☩ Joan De Guglielmo by Betty Breuder

Weekly Collection

Weekend of October 30, 2016

Regular Offertory \$3,176.00
Make-Up Offertory 267.00
Loose Offertory 662.50
Online Parish Giving 195.00
Total

\$4,300.50

Stewardship 90.00



Christ the King
SUNDAY Brunch
Sunday,
November 20 is the Solemnity of Christ the King. Following the 9:30am Mass, we will have a brunch in the parish hall. Please join us for brunch, conversation, and fellowship!



The 2016 Annual Campaign has ended. We were \$4,305 away from reaching our goal of \$26,000. Thank you to those who contributed and for extending the compassionate hand



NATIONAL VOCATION AWARENESS WEEK Nov. 6-12 2016
Please pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life. We need to educate Catholic children about the various vocations and inspire young adults to consider a vocation to the priesthood or religious life. We must also highlight excellent examples of priests and religious men and women and aid parents in teaching their children to remain open to God's call.

SRP Respect Life Committee is holding its annual fundraiser this weekend. A playpen has been placed at the back of the church to collect clothing and other items to benefit **BirthRight & Our Place Pregnancy Centers**. Light refreshments will be served following the **Sunday, Nov. 6 9:30 am Mass**. Please bring NEW and unwrapped items and place them in the playpen located at the church entry. Thank you for your interest and




Sanctuary candle The sanctuary candle burns this week for all of our Veterans who have served our country.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun., November 6
9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall

Mon., November 7
7—8:30 pm ... Youth Ministry
7—8 pm ... Food Pantry

Tue., November 8
12:30 pm ... Parish Nurse—Church Conf. Room

Thur., November 10
9:30 am ... Scripture study—Church Conf. Room

Sun., November 13
9:15 am ... Religious Education—Parish Hall

In Sympathy Please pray for the repose of the soul of ☩ **Alma Gendron**, who died on Oct. 29 and whose funeral Mass was celebrated last week by P. Jerome.



Saint Raphael Food Pantry On Monday, Oct. 31, the food pantry served 21 families and gave out 31 bags of groceries. We need fruit, peanut butter, and cereal. We can always use brown paper bags, too. Thank you!



Christmas Fair
Please join us on **Saturday, Dec. 3 from 9am—4pm**. We will have over a dozen of a variety of vendors, as well as several crafters for you to peruse and shop! We will also have authentic Polish food to eat and/or take home! We have something for everyone on your list! Join us and bring a friend.



Nursing Home and Homebound greetings
Please remember our SRP parishioners and friends in nursing homes or homebound by sending them a Thanksgiving greeting card. Pamphlets with names and addresses are in the Information Nook at the main entrance. Thank you for your

Benedictine hope in face of 'quake: What is cut down blossoms anew

While Americans this week will wrestle with the choices they confront for U.S. president on Election Day on Tuesday, Nov. 8, **Italians in Umbria** in the central part of the country north of Rome are struggling with the consequences of four major earthquakes since August. I must confess my thoughts are with them and my heart goes out to them. I am usually a little suspicious of "love at first sight." It takes time to come to know and value someone or someplace, but to my surprise, I was smitten by the little town of Norcia.

One of the worst hit communities during the latest "terremoto," Norcia is believed to be the **birthplace of Saint Benedict in 480 A.D.**, whose *Holy Rule* inspired Western monasticism 1,500 years ago and continues to guide the lives of monks and nuns around the world. Something about Norcia captured my imagination when I had the good fortune to climb into Umbrian hills and then the Appenines, the rugged mountain spine of the Italian boot.

It's hard to say what exactly caught my interest and affection. Maybe it was the charm of the streets and the little shops and cafes surrounding the **Piazza di San Benedetto**. Perhaps it was the beautiful hills surrounding Norcia – and the strange fact that they reminded me both of the Berkshires in western Massachusetts, where I grew up, or the rolling countryside in a light rain that spoke to me of my own family's roots in County Tipperary in Ireland. Maybe it was the history that surrounded us in the piazza, the friendly townspeople who never let language interfere with a smile or a sale or the shadows cast by our movements amid flickering candlelight in the crypt of the basilica.

It was my good fortune to lead a group of Saint Raphael parishioners and friends on a **Routes/Roots of Faith pilgrimage** to Italy in October of 2012. There is no end to the beauty, history, charm and splendor that Italy can provide, and we saw much of it in Venice, Padua, Florence, Siena, Rome, Naples and

Pompeii. We saw where Saints Anthony of Padua, Catherine of Siena and Francis of Assisi lived and worked, and Assisi too captured a bit of my soul. We visited the great Benedictine sites of **Montecassino**, where Saint Benedict wrote the Holy Rule, and **Subiaco**, where he first entered into the caves of the region for a solitary monastic experience. But it was little Norcia, tucked away in the hills and mountains, that claimed my greatest affection.

It was so unpretentious, so charming and even so magical! That people should have to cope with the devastation wrought by a 6.6 magnitude earthquake hardly seems possible, although I know central Italy is laced with fault zones and seismic activity as always being a threat.

At the center of Norcia, four physical objects, all destroyed or damaged by the earthquake, provided the focus for the life of the community. As one comes down the street from the city's elaborate main gate, one enters the central piazza. To the left is the **municipal hall** of the Norcia "commune," the legal corporation of the town. The hall was damaged badly, and although its tower is still standing, it leans precipitously. Next, at center left is the **basilica**, with only its medieval façade upright. Turning to the right, one discovers both the **cathedral** and the **town museum**, also damaged, while at the center of the town is an elegant statue of Saint Benedict gesturing toward the basilica.

The basilica, erected in the late 14th century, was a domed structure built in the shape of a cross. It was modestly decorated with some **late Gothic frescoes and elaborate woodwork**. On one side of the basilica, a **portico** provided space for an open-air market for townspeople. The basilica rose over an 8th century oratory, built to accommodate pilgrims who wanted to pray at what was considered the birthplace of **Saint Benedict** and his twin sister, **Saint Scholastica**. In the crypt one can see the remains of what is believed to be the home from he left to study in Rome. The structure was renovated in 1859 and features three significant artworks, depicting the Madonna and Child with angels, by Vincenzo Manenti; Saint Benedict with barbarian king, Totila by Filippo Napoletano (1621) and the Resurrection of Lazarus by Michelangelo Carducci (1560).

Benedictine monks first came to Norcia permanently in the **10th century** and the community in one form or another existed until **1810**, when the imposition of the Code Napoleon in parts of Italy forced the monks to

flee. After World War II, a community of **Lithuanian monks**, displaced by the war and unable to return to their homeland, absorbed by the Soviet Union, maintained the monastic presence in Norcia. By the time the Iron Curtain fell, and Lithuania was re-established as an independent nation in 1990, there was need yet again for a new Benedictine community. The current community, international in membership but led by **Dom Cassian Folsom, O.S.B.**, an American and the founding prior, was formed in Rome in **September of 1998**, then transferred to Norcia in **December of 2000**, during the Great Jubilee Year of the Third Millennium. Dom Cassian served for a time in New Hampshire at Magdalen College, now Northeast Catholic College, Warner.

The community is formally dedicated to Our Lady under the title *Maria, Sedes Sapientiae*, "Mary, Seat of Wisdom." The monastery the monks were rebuilding and renovating was **damaged badly** during the August and October earthquakes. The monks observe a traditional and contemplative monastic lifestyle, seeking through prayer and retreats to assist the "New Evangelization" of the European continent. Saint Benedict was named patron of Europe in 1964 by Pope Paul VI. When our pilgrims visited Norcia in 2012, the monks had just celebrated the opening of their brewery and the introduction of **Birra Nursia** (Italian for beer plus the Latin for Norcia). Whether the beer helps in the New Evangelization remains to be seen, but the brewery's motto, "*ut laetificet cor*," comes from Psalm 104 and means "that the heart may be gladdened"!

More than 300 deaths and much destruction characterize the earthquakes since August, and many individuals and families have suffered terrible losses. We should keep them in our prayers, remembering too our brother Benedictines and the loss of some beautiful and precious historical artifacts and structures, not least of which is the Basilica di San Benedetto. At some point, I hope Saint Raphael will be able to undertake **a special collection to assist the people and monks** in Norcia as they rebuild their homes, town, basilica – and their lives.

Over the centuries, many Benedictine achievements have risen only to fall to time, despots, war and disasters. The coat of arms of the Norcia monks includes a stump from which three new leaves blossom, a reminder of Isaiah 11:1 that "there shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse." In God's grace and mercy, monks often discover that what is cut down sprouts anew! © Rev. Jerome Joseph Day, O.S.B.

