



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

October 29th, 2023, marked the conclusion of the first session of the Synod of Bishops on **Synodality**. And so, I would like to share **some highlights of the Synod**.

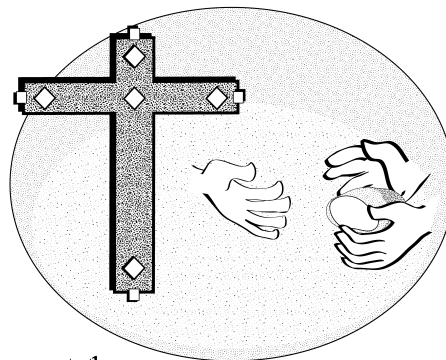
The 42-page summary report included notable proposals to establish new ministries for the laity, increase lay involvement in decision-making, create processes to evaluate bishops' performance of their ministry, change the way the Church discerns "controversial" issues, and expand the footprint of synodal assemblies going forward at different ecclesial levels of life so that no one feels excluded. Proposals came in the form of calls for changes in ecclesial decision-making to ensure that women can participate in decision-making and assume roles of responsibility and initiatives that allow for shared discernment on doctrinal, pastoral, and ethical issues that are controversial. A confidential meeting of experts was proposed.

The document stated that "synodal processes" can verify when the faithful are in consensus on a given issue whether a particular doctrine or practice belongs to the apostolic faith. The synod also proposed giving episcopal conferences more authority over liturgy and the document highlighted the need to establish new Church ministries or the expansion of existing ones.

The report is in no way a final document but will be used as the basis of the Synod on Synodality's final stage — another Vatican assembly in October 2024. That assembly is expected to produce a final text that will be presented to the pope for his consideration.

The information I have shared is minimal considering the time the Synod was in session, October 4th to October 29th.

-Fr. Raphael



The greatest among you  
must be those who serve the rest.

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## The Thirty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time (November 12th)

**Matthew 25:1-13**

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish and five were wise. The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps. Since the bridegroom was long delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. At midnight, there was a cry, 'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise ones replied, 'No, for there may not be enough for us and you. Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.' While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came and said, 'Lord, Lord, open the door for us!' But he said in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.' Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

# SING

## TO THE LORD

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### ANNUAL MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Our Parish will celebrate our annual Mass of Remembrance on Wednesday, **November 15th at 7:00pm**. This Mass has proved to be a very memorable liturgy for us who recall, in a particular way, those who have died in the past twelve months, as well as those who have gone before us in faith and in death. Votive candles will be provided. Everyone is invited to come and pray.

### REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED FRIENDS AND FAMILY

The envelopes for All Saints' and All Souls' will be placed on the altar this month of November for those wishing to remember their loved ones. Our *Book of Remembrance* also provides an opportunity to record names of deceased loved ones to be lifted up in our prayer during this month. You may also bring a picture of your loved one to be placed on the table before the St. Joseph statue in the Church and it will remain there during the month of November. Please put your name and contact info on the back of the photo.

### BREAD FOR THE WORLD POSTCARD DRIVE

Our Pax Christi/Social Justice group would like to thank all of you who participated in our annual Bread for the World letter writing campaign after the Masses last weekend. Our parishioners signed almost 200 postcards to our Congressional representative and our two U.S. senators. Your postcards show our elected officials our support as Christians both for programs that help the poor in this country as well as for global nutrition programs.



### CALLING ALL CRAFTERS AND ARTISTS

We are planning a Holiday Boutique on Sunday, **November 26th**, from 8:30am to 1:00pm. If you are interested in being a vendor at our Holiday Boutique, please contact Kathi Leal at 510-502-9010 or email at [kleal@comcast.net](mailto:kleal@comcast.net).

### VETERAN'S DAY

Friday, **November 10th**, is a federal holiday. The Parish Office will be closed and will re-open on Monday, **November 13th** at 8:30am. Have a safe and relaxing Veteran's Day weekend.



### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NEWS Warm Coat Drive

As we prepare for colder weather, St. Vincent de Paul will be collecting coats, blankets and socks in **November and December**. Our main need is men's coats in larger sizes; but we will accept women's and children's sizes too. We will have collection barrels at the 2 main entrances to the church and in the Parish Office. PLEASE DO NOT leave other items of clothing.

### Thanksgiving Day Food Donations

St. Vincent de Paul is once again accepting your gifts of food and cash during our Thanksgiving Liturgy. Please help us to help the needy in our community. Items most needed are as follows:

***Peanut butter, jam/jelly, tuna, soup/chili, cereal, granola bars, pasta, rice, canned fruit or vegetables, boxed fruit drinks, fruit cups, individual bags of chips or cookies, Safeway and Lucky gift cards.***

Many of those that we serve are single or have limited ability to cook. We give them gift cards to purchase an already prepared meal at the grocery store for Thanksgiving and then include a variety of food items that they can use at any time. We also make up lunch bags that include a sandwich and some of the items from above. Thank you for your generosity!

### Thank You For Your Contributions

St. Vincent de Paul would like to thank all of you who support us with your prayers and monthly financial contributions. Who are we helping? (names have been changed)

*Anna and her daughter have lived in the same apartment for 10 years. Recently she had some major car problems and also loaned money to a family member to help pay for a funeral. Unfortunately, that family member did not pay her back and she ended up 2 months behind on her rent. We asked her to come up with a payment plan with her landlord. We agreed to pay a chunk of it immediately. The landlord was very pleased with this arrangement and Anna and her daughter were very grateful for our help. We ended our home visit with a prayer of thanksgiving that God had brought us together.*

If you are interested in knowing more about this ministry or ways that you might help, please contact Heidi Denzler-Halsey at 510-581-2164.

saints of heaven  
pray for us!



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### ALTAR CANDLE MEMORIAL DONORS

We deeply thank the following donors who have given generously towards sponsoring our Altar Candle Memorial.

#### Given By:

Emile Lassalle  
Kaye McCann

#### In Memory of / In Honor of:

Rosina Lassalle  
John McCann



### JOIN FR. TOM CZECK St. Maximilian Kolbe Presentation November 11th

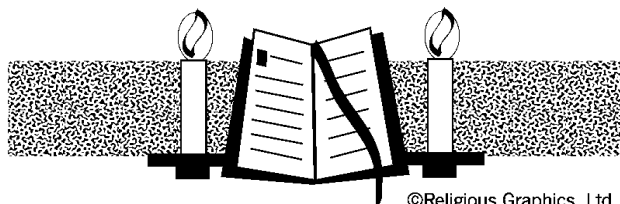
Fr. Tom Czeck who will be offering a presentation on the life of St. Maximilian and the movement that he started. Fr. Tom, who is The National Spiritual Assistant to the Militia of the Immaculata, will hold his 45 minute presentation on **Saturday, November 11th at 2:30pm** in the hall at Transfiguration Church. All are welcome!

### Pilgrimage to Ireland Spring 2024

Fr. Tom will be leading a pilgrimage to Ireland from **April 22nd to May 2nd**. Flights depart from Los Angeles and Chicago. Price per person is \$3599 plus tax. If you would like more information please call Fr. Tom at 847-367-6316 or email him at [MINationalAssistant@proton.me](mailto:MINationalAssistant@proton.me)

### ICF MINESTRONE SOUP DINNER

Branch #343 of the Italian Catholic Federation will host a Minestrone Soup Dinner on **November 9th** in Stack Center. Doors open at 5:30pm and dinner is at 6:00pm. Cost is \$10 per person. The ICF will be having their annual Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive which will replenish the St. Vincent de Paul pantry. They are seeking donations of non-perishable items as well as Safeway and Lucky gift cards.



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### SUNDAY COLLECTION

Stewardship of treasure involves trust in God. You have to really believe in God's Providence and trust that if you give 10% of your income to the Church and charity, for example, God will help you live on the rest.

#### Offerings of for the Month of SEPTEMBER:

Sunday Plate for the month:	\$ 35,339.00
<b>Month Budgeted Goal:</b>	<b>\$ 38,000.00</b>
Over/[Shortfall]	\$ [2,661.00]
Year-To-Date Over/[Shortfall]	\$ 203.00

*May God bless your continuing generosity.*



### Your Prayers Are Requested

Please lift up in your prayer those among us who are ill and those who have asked for our prayerful remembrance:

Jaime Arce  
Phyllis Barthman  
Lois Belmessieri  
Jot Brown  
Raul Cepeda  
Nancy French  
Joan Gabrielli  
Skeet Jennings  
Grace Letteer  
Brian Linney

Sheila McAlinden  
Maria del Consuelo Ortega  
Cec Penland  
Julie Richardson  
Diana Riley  
Jenny Roberts  
Al Rojas  
Alyssia Tortora  
Arthur Williams  
Peggy Winkenbach

*Please remember in your prayers the recently  
deceased in our parish families and all who mourn  
the loss of a loved one.*

#### In Memorial

**CECILIA CONTI**

**VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE IN  
THE MIDDLE EAST**

**VICTIMS OF GUN VIOLENCE**

### FAITH FORMATION CLASSES

#### Confirmation

Next Class: November 5th  
12:15pm—Stack Center

#### First Communion-Year 2

Next Class: November 5th  
10:15am—Stack Center

#### Whole Family-Year 1

Next Class: November 12th  
10:15am—Stack Center

#### Whole Family Program

Next Class: November 12th  
10:15am—Augustine Center

Humble yourself  
that you may be  
exalted

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## OUR LADY OF GRACE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



### Did You Know??

- The students celebrated Halloween with a parade of costumes as the day began and "Trunk or Treat" at dismissal. Due to the evening events, dismissal was at Noon.
- The students celebrated the *Feast of All Saints* by learning about or adopting a patron saint. The 8th graders participated in the Mass, dressed as saints and told the students all about his or her hero/ine.
- We are nearing the end of the first trimester. STAR testing will officially begin next week.
- Happy month of November!

**Come Check Us Out!** Visit [www.olgschool.org](http://www.olgschool.org) for more information.

### EXECUTION ALERTS

The following executions are scheduled to take place in **November**:

November 2nd	Emmanuel Littlejohn	Oklahoma
November 9th	Brent Brewer	Texas
November 16th	Casey McWhorter	Alabama
November 16th	David Renteria	Texas
November 30th	Phillip Hancock	Oklahoma

We ask for your prayers for these persons for the victims of their crimes, and for their families.

### MAXIMILIAN KOLBE QUOTE OF THE WEEK

*"If you were to stumble or fall, never lose confidence, because every downfall for us will turn into greater humiliation, increased vigilance, in a word into a greater good, as long as we hope as we have recourse to [the Immaculata]."*

## THIS WEEK

### Sunday, November 5th:

#### Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Communion-Year 2 Class  
10:15am—Stack Center

Confirmation Class  
12:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass  
1:00pm—Church

### Tuesday, November 7th:

Men's Cursillo Meeting  
6:00pm—Stack Center, OLG Room

Men's Faith Share  
7:00pm—Stack Center, Room 7

### Wednesday, November 8th:

RCIA  
7:00pm—Parish Office

### Thursday, November 9th:

ICF Dinner & Meeting  
5:30pm—Stack Center

Adoration & Reconciliation  
6:00pm—Church

AA Serenity Group  
7:30pm—Augustine Center

### Saturday, November 11th:

Adoration & Reconciliation  
8:45am—Church

Vigil Mass  
5:00pm—Church

### Sunday, November 12th:

#### Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Whole Family-Year 1 Class  
10:15am—Stack Center

Whole Family Faith Class  
10:15am—Augustine Center

Confirmation Class  
12:15pm—Stack Center

Spanish Mass  
1:00pm—Church





# Mass for the Intentions Week

**SUNDAY, November 5th**

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Donald Giles – D  
 9:00am Maria Que Nguyen – D  
 11:00am OLG Community  
 1:00pm The Ramos & Vasquez Families – D

**MONDAY, November 6th**

8:15am Lawrence Guerrero – L

**TUESDAY, November 7th**

8:15am Jose Duarte Ortega – D

**WEDNESDAY, November 8th**

8:15am Luis Martinez – D

**THURSDAY, November 9th**

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

8:15am Ferdinand Perdido – D

**FRIDAY, November 10th**

St. Leo the Great, Pope &amp; Doctor of the Church

8:15am Manuel &amp; Dorothy Callier – D

**SATURDAY, November 11th**

St. Martin of Tours, Bishop

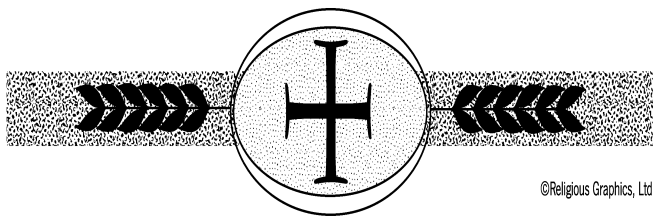
8:15am Amor Guerrero – D

5:00pm Lilia Sousa – D

**SUNDAY, November 12th**

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

7:30am Garrett Naney – D  
 9:00am Helen Maes – D  
 11:00am Jose Ricardo Sanchez – D  
 1:00pm OLG Community



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**FLOWER REMEMBRANCE FUND**

Flower donation envelopes may be found at the entrances of the church to make a donation in memory of or in honor of a loved one or other occasion. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Jay at 510-537-0806. Your donation in honor of your loved one will be mentioned in the bulletin.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

November 6th through November 12th

Monday: Romans 11:29-36; Luke 14:12-14  
 Tuesday: Romans 12:5-16; Luke 14:15-24  
 Wednesday: Romans 13:8-10; Luke 14:25-33  
 Thursday: Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9,12;  
 1 Corinthians 3:9-11, 16-17;  
 John 2:13-22  
 Friday: Romans 15:14-21; Luke 16:1-8  
 Saturday: Romans 16:3-9, 16, 22-27;  
 Luke 16:9-15  
 Sunday: Wisdom 6:12-16;  
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;  
 Matthew 25:1-13

**DEVOTIONAL CANDLES**

Candles for our candle stand are available for purchase. The candles will burn for 5 days and *are only intended for use in the church*. Please do not remove the glass globes from the stand. **The cost per candle is \$5.00.** You may put your payment in the pouch, located at the candle stand.

**ROSARY BEFORE MASS**

Come join in prayer of the Rosary 30 minutes before each of the weekend liturgies. Pray for our Parish!

**ADORATION & RECONCILIATION**

Join us on Thursdays, 6:00-7:00pm for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Reconciliation and on Saturdays, immediately following the 8:15am Mass, concluding at 10:00am.

**PAX CHRISTI QUOTE OF THE WEEK**

*"The most deadly poison of our time is indifference."*

-St. Maximilian Kolbe

To join our work with Pax Christi, please contact the Parish Office at 510-537-0806.

**THANK THEM WITH YOUR SUPPORT**

Please support our advertisers who make our weekly bulletin possible and so generously support our Parish. We are grateful to them! This week we extend our gratitude to:

**BERNIE KEMPEN CERTIFIED  
 FAMILY LAW SPECIALIST**