


**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

Saturday, February 18, Vigil
4:00 p.m. - St. Patrick
Parishioners

Sunday, February 19, 2017
9:30 a.m. - Charles Deak
(Denis & Lillian Grau)

Monday, February 20, 2017
through
Friday, February 24, 2017
NO MASSES

**EIGHTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

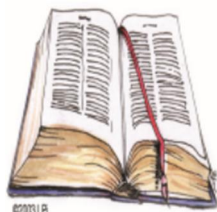
Saturday February 25, Vigil
4:00 p.m. - Jacob Rago
(Deacon Phil & Betty Kraynik)

Sunday, February 26 2017
9:30 a.m. - Charlotte &
Dave Eardley, Jr.
(Dave Eardley)

*Weekday Masses, Monday
Through Friday, at St. Mary in
Chardon are at 7:30 a.m.*

Daily Scripture Readings
FEBRUARY

20 Sir 1:1-10/Mk 9:14-29
21 Sir 2: 1-11/Mk 9:30-37
22 1 Pt 5:1-4/Mt 16:13-19
23 Sir 5:1-8/Mk 9:41-50
24 Sir 6:5:1-17/Mk 10:1-12
25 Sir 17:1-15/Mk 10:13-16
26 Is 49:14-15/1 Cor 4:1-5/
Mt 6:24-34



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FEBRUARY 19, 2017: SEVENTHSUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Parish Family,

The Gospels are filled with the words of Jesus Christ. We enjoy hearing when Jesus tells us that we are loved by God the Father and that we are to love others. Today's Gospel tells us to love, not only those who love us, but we are to love our enemies and to pray for those who persecute us. Now this is something that many find as a challenge and some find hard to do especially when it affects us personally. On September 13, 2001, two days after the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and the plane crash in Pennsylvania, on the Thursday of the Twenty-third Week in Ordinary Time, St. Luke's version of today's Gospel was read. How providential that our Lord, Jesus Christ wanted us to hear his words to love and to forgive. Most people were not ready or willing to even accept these words. Most were like the people of Jesus' time who would love their neighbor but hate their enemy. How are we to be perfect, like our heavenly Father is perfect, if we do not do what he does, as shown to us by his Son, Jesus the Christ? Next week will be the Fifth Anniversary of the Chardon High School shootings. Are we any closer to doing what Jesus is telling us to do or are we still like those who hate our enemies? Maybe a story of a saint will help us to begin the process to radically live out the Gospel message of loving our enemies and praying for our persecutors and to forgive them.

St. Marie Goretti tragically died on July 6, 1902 at the age of eleven. She was sexually attacked by Alessandro Serenelli. Even though the attempt failed, he stabbed her 14 times out of anger for his failed sexual assault. Before she received communion, for the last time in the hospital where she died, Maria said, *"I forgive Alessandro Serenelli ... and I want him with me in heaven forever."* During his prison sentence Maria appeared to Alessandro and forgave him. That act of mercy and forgiveness—that act of love—filled Alessandro with contrition for his crime. It was also a turning point for him where grace entered his heart. From that point on, he lived a beautiful and converted life of holiness, eventually becoming a Franciscan lay brother. Pope St. John Paul II said this about St. Maria Goretti on the Centenary of her death: *Those who were acquainted with little Maria said on the day of her funeral: "A saint has died!" The devotion to her has continued to spread on every continent, giving rise to admiration and a thirst for God everywhere. In Maria Goretti shines out the radical choice of the Gospel, unhindered, indeed strengthened by the inevitable sacrifice that faithful adherence to Christ demands.*

If you find it difficult to love your enemies, to pray for your persecutors and to forgive them, then look to the example of St. Maria Goretti, and ask Christ to help you find the strength, courage and fortitude to do what she did. She was dying, like Christ on the Cross, and loved her enemy, Alessandro, like Christ loved those who were putting him to death: the local civil authorities, the Romans and all of us because of our sins. Today's words in the Gospel are not the "warm and fuzzy" kind of message that we like to hear from Jesus the Christ, but they are the words that we must put into practice that will make us perfect like our heavenly Father is perfect and will bring us into Paradise, where Maria Goretti and Alessandro Serinelli are.

God Bless you.

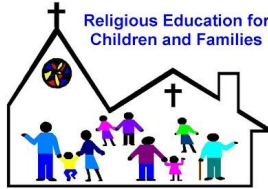
Fr. Edward J. Janach

LITURGICAL MINISTERS for FEBRUARY 25 & 26, 2017

	February 25	February 26
LECTOR	Linda Ropchock	Jonathan Dudd
EMHC	Mary & John Husek	Gayle & Tom Zarack
PLA	To be announced	
SERVERS	Gabriella Mills, Evan Heller	Anthony & Nicky Rosati
COUNTING CREW	A Team	

Religious Education: Parish School of Religion

Valentine's Day gave our PSR students an opportunity to share their love with others! We gathered with our prayer partners under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Mark Oravec to create beautiful placemats which will be shared with the residents of the Geauga Assisted Living in Montville as well as with St. Patrick residents who are homebound. Our students enjoyed working with each other as they shared their time and talents to reach out to others in our community. A special thank you goes to Mrs. Kathy Oravec who planned and organized this project and to all of our other catechists who helped the children in their efforts to create "love filled placemats"!



The 9:30 a.m. Mass on Sunday, March 5 is designated as a PSR Family Mass where 4th and 5th grade students will participate in various ways before, during and after the Mass. Catechists in Grades 4 and 5 will have a sign-up sheet at the next PSR class (February 21) where students will have the opportunity to volunteer for different ministries.

Please continue to keep our second graders who are preparing for First Holy Communion in your prayers. First Holy Communion will be on Saturday, April 29 at the 4:00 p.m. Mass. There are two important events that need to be added to the PSR calendar that applies to second grade parents: Sunday, April 2 is the PSR Family Mass with Grade 2 participation. In addition to participation in the Mass, we will also have the Rite of Enrollment for First Holy Communion. Parents and second graders will participate in this. Also, on Saturday, April 22nd, we will have our First Communion Retreat where we will be baking bread with our families. Time for the retreat is 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Looking ahead to our summer calendar: Vacation Bible School, 2017, will take place on July 11, 12, and 13 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Anyone interested in helping with VBS, please contact Marilyn Schwartz at 440-298-1845.

2017 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal—Thank you!!

Your support of the 2017 Catholic Charities Annual Appeal is truly appreciated!! Your donation helps us to carry out the mission that Jesus entrusted to us: "I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Your gift that will change the lives of the 400,000 who are served each year in Northeast Ohio. Please pray for the success of the appeal, which provides for essential programs and services in need throughout all eight counties of the Diocese of Cleveland.

Amen, I say to you,
whatever you did
for the least among us,
you did it for me.


On behalf of the poor and needy of Northeast Ohio, thank you! We invite you to view the stories of inspiration and more information at www.catholiccommunity.org/2017Appeal.

Offering for:
February 12, 2017

February 12: \$ 3074.00
Votive Candles: \$ 26.00
Capital Improv. \$ 20.00
St. Pat Reverse Raffle \$ 750.00
86 envelopes and loose checks

*Thank you for your
generous support
of our parish
ministries and operations.*

**St. Patrick,
pray for us!**



WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE ILL. MAY GOD BLESS THEM WITH HOPE AND HEALING

In a special way, we pray for Ed Baitt, Barbara Bock, Joan & Jerry Catalano, Cathy Colvin, Frank Foote, Laura Gyorki, Kim Hamilton, Don Holt, Rick Kawalec, Mella McCain, Andrew & Anthony Mihalic, Jennie Oravec, Joseph & Hildegard Redmond, Connor Sayers, Fr. Paul Sciarrotta and Katy Sirna.

WE PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO HAVE DIED, especially JEANNE KORITANSKY.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace. Amen.

