

"8th Annual Stocking for Soldiers":



The eighth annual STOCKINGS for SOLDIERS collection is taking place now. Needed items for the "Stocking for Soldiers". Small individual packages of cookies, cheese or peanut butter crackers, playing cards, hard candy, gum, beef jerky, Slim Jims, all types of Granola bars, power bars and fruit bars. The donations can include anything from tooth past and deodorant to gum and candy to small games. Please no perishable food or large items.

To all who donated so graciously last year, a heart-felt thanks!

Donations can be placed in the Christmas themed boxes in the entry area of the church until Sunday, October 27th.

Questions? Contact Jim & Carol Sirl at 440-298-1472. or call the office 440-298-1327

Some suggestions:

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|---------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| * Small cribbage boards | * Lip balm | * Individual packages of tissues |
| * Small portable games | * Bug spray | * Protein powder mix |
| * Hard candy & gum | * Small Calendar | * Slim Jims |
| * AA batteries | * Small pack Band-Aids | * Rubix cubes |
| * Dominoes, Yo-Yo's, etc. | * Lip balm | * Non-perishable food items |
| * Hand sanitizer | * Shaving crème | * Puzzle books: crosswords, Sudoku, etc. |
| * Deodorant | * Disposable razors | NON PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS |
| * 3 X 5 Memo Pads | * Liquid bandage | * <u>Granola/power/fruit bars</u> |
| * Wet wipes | * Shampoo/conditioner | * <u>Small, individual packages cookies, cheese or peanut butter crackers</u> |
| * Body & face lotion | * Post-its | * <u>Candies, gum (No Chocolate)</u> |
| * Foot powder | * AT&T calling cards | * <u>Beef Jerky, nuts,</u> |
| * Body & face soaps | * Pen/mechanical pencil | * <u>Powered drinks</u> |
| * Eye drops | * Small picture frames | |
| * Sunglasses | * Toothbrush & paste | |
| * Sunscreen | * Dental floss | |



Divorce Recovery for Catholics, an 8 Week Support Group

Designed to meet the needs of those who are divorced or separated, this group will begin Wednesday, October 2 and conclude on November 20, 2019, at St. Francis of Assisi Parish, 6850 Mayfield Rd., Gates Mills. The group meets from 7-9 pm. Sessions are tailored to meet the needs of the participants and offer support and encouragement along with the tools for coping and moving on. For more information or to register, please call Catholic Charities at 352-6191 or 1-800-242-9755, or email kjubeck@st-gabriel.org. There is no charge for this program, all materials are provided, and it is open to people of all faiths.

Geauga County Department on Aging —Meals on Wheels

There is a current need for volunteer drivers to deliver meals in the Thompson area weekly on Wednesdays. If you can help with this need please call The Geauga County Department on Aging, at 440-270-2130

The Miracle

Between May and October of 1917 three shepherd children, Lucia Santos and her cousins Jacinta and Francisco Marto, reported visions of a luminous lady believed to be the Virgin Mary. She appeared to the children in the Cova da Iria fields outside the hamlet of Aljustrel near Fatima, Portugal. She appeared to them on the 13th day of each month at approximately noon, for six straight months. The only exception was the month of August, when the children were arrested by the local administrator.

Lucia described seeing the lady as “brighter than the sun, shedding rays of light clearer and stronger than a crystal glass filled with the most sparkling water and pierced by the burning rays of the sun.” According to Lucia’s account, the lady confided to the children three secrets, known as the Three Secrets of Fatima. She urged the children to do penance and to make sacrifices to save sinners. The children wore tight cords around their waists to cause pain, abstained from drinking water on hot days, and performed other works of penance. Most important, Lucia said that the lady asked them to say the Rosary every day, reiterating many times that the Rosary was the key to personal and world peace. Many young Portuguese men, including relatives of the visionaries, were fighting in World War I at that time.

Our Lady of Fatima explained to the children that war is a punishment for sin and warned that God would further castigate the world for its disobedience to His Will by means of war, hunger and the persecution of the Church, the Holy Father and the Catholic Faithful. God’s Mother prophesied that Russia would be God’s chosen “instrument of chastisement,” spreading the “errors” of atheism and materialism across the earth, fomenting wars, annihilating nations and persecuting the Faithful everywhere.

“If My requests are not granted, Russia will spread its errors throughout the world, raising up wars and persecutions against the Church. The good will be martyred, the Holy Father will suffer much and various nations will be annihilated.” In all Her appearances at Fatima the Blessed Mother repeatedly emphasized the necessity of praying the Rosary daily, of wearing the Brown Scapular of Mount Carmel, and of performing acts of reparation and sacrifice. To prevent the terrible chastisement at the hands of Russia and to convert “that poor nation,” Our Lady requested the solemn public Consecration of Russia to Her Immaculate Heart by the Pope and all the Catholic bishops of the world. She also asked that the Faithful practice a new devotion of reparation on the first Saturday of five consecutive months (“the Five First Saturdays”). Thousands of people flocked to Fatima and Aljustrel in the months following the reports of the visions and miracles. On August 13, 1917 the provincial administrator and anticlerical Freemason, Artur Santos (no relation), believing that the events were politically disruptive, arrested the children before they could reach the Cova da Iria that day. Prisoners held with them in the provincial jail later testified that the children, while upset, were consoled by the inmates and then led the inmates in saying the Rosary. The administrator interrogated the children and unsuccessfully attempted to get them to divulge the content of the secrets. In the process, he tried to convince the children that he would boil them one by one in a pot of oil unless they confessed the secrets. The children, however, resisted. That month, instead of the usual apparition in the Cova da Iria on the 13th, the children reported that they saw the lady on August 19 at nearby Valinhos.

The heart of Our Lady’s Message to the world is contained in what has come to be called the “Secret” which She confided to the three child seers in July 1917. The Secret actually consists of three parts, the first two of which have been publicly revealed. The first part of the Secret was a horrifying vision of hell “where the souls of poor sinners go” and contained an urgent plea from Our Lady for acts of prayer and sacrifice to save souls. The second part of the Secret specifically prophesied the outbreak of World War II and contained the Mother of God’s solemn request for the Consecration of Russia as a condition for world peace. It also predicted the inevitable triumph of Her Immaculate Heart following Russia’s consecration and the conversion “of that poor nation” to the Catholic Faith.

The last part of the secret (known as the “third secret”) was written down in 1944 in a letter by Lucia Dos Santos, the last living Fatima seer. It was placed in the care of The Holy See, with instructions that no one should read it until 1960. Most informed sources speculate that this portion of the Secret concerns chaos in the Catholic Church, predicting widespread apostasy and a loss of faith beginning in the 1970’s. However, it is now believed that it predicted the 1981 assassination attempt of Pope John Paul II.

Fatima now attracts thousands of pilgrims from all over the world, particularly on the pilgrimage days in May and October. The large torch-lit processions in the evening are particularly impressive, often lead by Cardinals and Bishops. The pilgrims gather in Cova da Iria in an enormous plaza where a little chapel was built and where the Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared to the children. Around the plaza are a considerable number of shops and stalls selling various religious articles. On the far side of the plaza rises the great basilica, built in the neo-classical style, with a central tower 65 meters high, the construction of which was begun on 13 of May 1928. It is flanked by colonnades linking it with the extensive convent and hospital buildings. In the basilica are the tombs of two of the three visionaries, siblings Francisco and Jacinta Marto, who died in 1919 and 1920 respectively, and were beatified in 1970. The third seer, Lucia dos Santos, died in 2005.

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION - MONTHLY GRIEF SUPPORT – OCTOBER 20TH

The next Support Group is Sunday, October 20th 3:00pm at St. Joseph Cemetery, Avon (temporary trailer office); Holy Cross Cemetery, Akron (office); Holy Cross Cemetery, Brook Park (office), Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland (office), and our new location – All Saints Cemetery, Northfield (office). The topics for October will be: Children's Grief and Family Dynamics in Grief.

We have three new Sunday Grief Support Group locations starting this Fall: Calvary Cemetery, Cleveland (Miles Ave) started September 15th; All Saints Cemetery, Northfield starts October 20th; All Souls Cemetery, Chardon starts November 17th. If you are interested in participating at these new Grief Support Group locations, please contact [Rhonda](#) or call 216-930-4866. A reservation is not required, but is appreciated.

**November 1 Holy Day Mass
Online for the Homebound**



Is someone you love unable to join us at church for the November 1 Holy Day Mass in celebration of **All Saints Day**? Please invite anyone you know who cannot get out to church to experience the spiritual comfort of this joy-filled Catholic Mass. Online video will be available at www.HeartoftheNation.org all day. (For those who can attend at church, the online liturgy will not fulfill the Holy Day Mass obligation.)

CATHOLIC CEMETERIES ASSOCIATION – CEMETERY SUNDAY MASS - NOV 3RD 3:00PM

Cemetery Sunday Mass is a national day of observance to honor our departed loved ones in their sacred Catholic places of rest. We celebrate this special memorial Mass on November 3, 2019 at 3:00 pm. Join us in the celebration of Mass at the following Catholic Cemetery locations:

All Saints Cemetery	480 W. Highland Rd, Northfield OH	Nativity Mausoleum
All Souls Cemetery	10366 Chardon Rd, Chardon OH	Service Building
Calvary Cemetery	10000 Miles Ave, Cleveland OH	Main Office
Calvary Cemetery	555 N. Ridge Rd, Lorain OH	Our Lady of Guadalupe Mausoleum
Holy Cross Cemetery	100 E. Waterloo Rd, Akron OH	Sacred Heart of Jesus Mausoleum
Holy Cross Cemetery	14609 Brookpark Rd, Brook Park OH	Service Building
St. Joseph Cemetery	32789 Detroit Rd, Avon OH	St. Joseph Mausoleum
St. Mary Cemetery	4720 E. 71 st Street, Cuyahoga Hts OH	Service Building

For more information please email Rhonda Abrams at rabrams@clecem.org or call 216-930-4866.

Join us at Gilmour Academy for our Nature Workshop!



You and your child will have the opportunity to harvest herbs and greens from our gardens, Discover which came first - the chicken or the egg - at our new chicken coop, Find out what the buzz is around our bee hives. Who knew learning could be so much fun? We did! Space is limited. Register today at gilmour.org/natureworkshop



A retreat for young adults in their twenties and thirties:

Are you interested in taking time away with God? Perhaps this Silent Retreat weekend designed to help young adults personalize and deepen their relationship with God is for you! The retreat will be held at Bethany Retreat Center in Chardon, OH. It starts on Friday, November 15 at 7 p.m. and concludes at 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 17th. Mass is included in the retreat. The cost is \$50 and includes private accommodations, meals and supplies. Scholarships are available. For more information or to register, contact Sr. Kelley Rush, SND at krush@ndec.org or 440-241-3124.