Around the Parish

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

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Blood of St. Januarius 'completely liquefied' on feast day



Archbishop Domenico Battaglia holds up the reliquary with the liquefied blood of St. Januarius on the martyr bishop's feast day Sept. 19, 2023. The announcement that the blood had liquefied was made at the start of Mass in the Naples Cathedral by Abbot Vincenzo De Gregorio. Screenshot / YouTube channel Chiesa di Napoli

The blood of the martyr St. Januarius again liquefied in Naples on Tuesday.

"We have just taken from the safe the reliquary with the blood of our patron saint, which immediately completely liquefied," the abbot of the chapel of the treasury of the Naples Cathedral announced on Sept. 19.

The declaration that the miracle had again taken place was made at the start of Mass by Abbot Vincenzo De Gregorio.

The archbishop of Naples, Domenico Battaglia, held the relic of the blood, moving the glass ampoules to demonstrate the liquid state of the blood to the sounds of strong applause,

On Sept. 19, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast of St. Januarius, bishop, martyr, and patron saint of Naples, Italy. Traditionally, on this day and on two other occasions a year, his blood, which is kept in a glass ampoule in the shape of a rounded cruet, liquifies.

It is believed the miracle has taken place since at least 1389, the first instance on record.

The liquefaction process sometimes takes hours or even days, and sometimes it does not happen at all. In local lore, the failure of the blood to liquefy signals war, famine, disease, or other disaster.

At Mass Sept. 19, Battaglia spoke about the miracle and what it is — and is not.

"Every year we see firsthand how the witness of a man who generously gave his life for the Gospel, until his last breath, until his last drop of blood, is not something of the past, a historic event useful only to write about in some pages of a book," he said.

"No," Battaglia continued, "it's a testimony that is present, living, current, and capable of speaking to the heart of every believer, pushing him to more consistency, beyond courage, to a life of giving, steeped in sharing."

He reminded those present that the blood of St. Januarius "is not an oracle to consult and even less a city horoscope whose function is to predict misfortune or fortune for the city. No, the relic we bless is simply a road sign, a finger that points us to the necessity, the urgency, the requirement to follow the Gospel in a radical way, being unreservedly attracted by its liberating beauty, listening with an open heart and mind to its word of life and hope."

Battaglia said the blood of St. Januarius makes him think of the unjust bloodshed that hap-pens every day "whenever a person is wound-ed, humiliated, not respected in his dignity."

"I believe that the real miracle will take place the day this blood [of St. Januarius] is forever hard, compact, clotted!" the archbishop said. "Yes, I believe that the real miracle will happen when justice kisses peace, when good while the deputy of the wisdom of the people overpowers evil forever, when the good news waved a white cloth of Jesus Christ dries up the pain of the world, illuminates the darkness for good, brings all things to completion, enters so deeply into the hearts of men and women that their words, their deeds, their thoughts will be nothing but goodness, benevolence, beauty."

> After the Mass, the relic of St. Januarius' blood will remain on display for veneration in the Cathedral of Naples until Sept. 26 in thanksgiving for the miracle.

> > www.catholicnewsagency.com



Our Religious Education started the second Tuesday in September for students in Grades 1 through 8. We have many catechists returning from the past years. Both parents of former Sacred Heart children and Sacred Heart school teachers who retired, are back to help our Religious Tuesday 1.

gious Ed. students.

This gives our program a sign of consistency and reliability because good catechists make all the difference! We are extremely thankful for them. September 19 we celebrated Catechetical Sunday in our church in unison with the Bishops of the USA that asks us to acknowledge our catechists once a year. Once again, we had good participation during the 9:30 AM Mass where our Rel. Ed. catechists, together with Sacred Heart school teachers, got commissioned to go and proclaim the Good News of Salvation and Love of Jesus Christ to our children.



Blessed are those who mourn for they shall be comforted. (Matthew 5:4)

This announcement is for the organization of a Bereavement Ministry to be conducted at Sacred Heart Church.

Are you a compassionate understanding listener? Can you be a patient supportive friend for a stranger in pain from grief? If your answer is, yes, will you consider volunteering as a Group Leader? There will be training sessions conducted for six consecutive weeks. For more information email:

sacredheartbereavement1@gmail.com

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



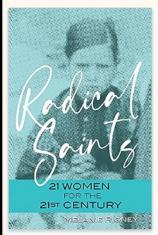
Allen Brody Manz

Born September 17, 2022

Son of Tyler and Samantha Manz



Sacred Heart Book Club



We will meet again in September to discuss a book. If you are interested, you can purchase, read the book on your own, and join us on:

October 5, 2023 @ 7:00 P.M.

In the Bornemann Room

Radical Saints, 21 Women for the 21st Century

by: Melanie Rigney



† St. Vincent de Paul

Our Group will be serving at the Kennedy House Soup Kitchen on October 14th and October 15th. The

time commitment would be approximately 10:30 - 1:00 p.m. If you would like to know more about this volunteer opportunity to help those in need, please email John and Marsha Gleason at: jm6gleason@comcast.net



October 2023 LECTOR SCHEDULE

26th Sunday Sept. 30/1 5:00 PM 7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM Oct. 7/8 5:00 PM Mike Gallagher 7:30 AM JoAnn Schmura

Oct. 14/15 in Ordinary Time Sandie Wrable 5:00 PM Dean Reber 7:30 AM Denise Mogel 9:30 AM Margaret Hueske 11:15 AM 27th Sunday in Oct. 21/22 **Ordinary Time**

in Ordinary Time Mary Ann Kelly Kathy Nevel Mary Ann Kase Bill Wellock

29th Sunday in **Ordinary Time** Ann Reber

28th Sunday

Joe Tharp John Gleason Beth Tharp

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Oct 28/29

5:00 PM 7:30 AM 9:30 AM 11:15 AM

Lou Sutherland

Karen Ann Cameron

Steve Bell Vince Moffitt Lori Anewalt John Sylvester

5:00 PM

7:30 AM

9:30 AM

11:15 AM





9:30 AM

11:15 AM

St Vincent de Paul Society of Sacred Heart Church

Be a part of something special and donate \$5 to support SVDP at Sacred Heart! In return, you get a 25% Off Shopping Pass!



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH, 2023 **ALL BOSCOV'S STORES 8AM-11PM**

Shopping Pass Proceeds Benefit the Participating Non-Profit Organization of Your Choice

BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR!

25% OF

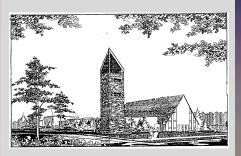
DONATE \$5 TO YOUR FAVORITE PARTICIPATING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND GET A 25% OFF SHOPPING PASS THAT CAN BE USED ALMOST **ANYWHERE** IN THE STORE.







UPCOMING EVENTS



Visiting Missionary Fr. Joeseph J. Arackal V.C. Sacred Heart Church Masses September 30th & Oct.1st

> Blessing of the Pets **Sacred Heart Church**

Outside in front of Church October 4th @ 6:00 p.m.

Sacred Heart Book Club Sacred Heart Church

Bornemann Room October 5th @ 7:00 p.m.

Kennedy House Soup Kitchen Saint Vincent de Paul

@ Kennedy House October 14th & 15th @ 10:30 a.m.

> Coats for Kids **KoC** and Boscov's

@ Sacred Heart Church Masses October 14th & 15th

Friends Helping Friends Saint Vincent de Paul

@ Boscov's

October 18th @ 8:00 a.m.





tores in Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersev. Marvland. New York.

WIN A \$100 BOSCOV'S SHOPPING SPREE ACH STORE WILL GIVE AWAY A \$100 BOSCOV'S GIFT CARD







It's hard to believe that our Monsignor Bornemann Council of the Knights of Columbus, Council #16066, is venturing into its 9th year! During this time, we have promoted varied programs in our parishes such as:

- RSVP Program: Financial Support of local Seminarians Roses & Rosary Program Council presence at Baptisms Support of *LifeLine of Berks County* Promote & Support Sacred Heart School Events Promote devotional events at both parishes

- Ø Coats for Kids Program

Our success in these programs is directly related to YOU, the parishioners of Sacred Heart and Holy Rosary. Thank you for your prayers, financial support, and involvement with our ministries during these past 8 years.

Recitation of the Rosary is now on the weekly schedule, and we hope you can join us on Sunday mornings after the 9:30am Mass in the church and at 5:30pm before Mass on Tuesday evenings. All are welcome!

Important 2023 K of C dates for your calendar:

September 30/October 1 - Holy Rosary Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sale after Masses

October 5 - Officer's Meeting - IHM Room 7:00 p.m.

October 7/8 - Holy Rosary Spaghetti Dinner Ticket Sale after Masses

October 8 - Holy Rosary Feast Day Mass 10:00 a.m. HR

October 11 - Holy Rosary 10th Annual Spaghetti Dinner Social

October 16 - PA March for Life - Harrisburg PA 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

October 19 - Membership Meeting/Council 9th Anniversary - IHM Room 6:30-8:30 p.m.;

Rosary at 6:30 before the meeting.

October 29 - Deceased Council Members Memorial Mass 11:15 a.m.

October 30 - December Officer's Meeting, IHM Room 7:00 p.m.

Other future dates:

NOVEMBER - Annual Holiday Pie Sale - Pies will be sold after the Masses on November 4/5, November 11/12, and November 18/19

November 21 - Pie pickup in the IHM Room at the School 2:00-6:00 p.m.

November 23 - HAPPY THANKSGIVING

The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council membership is open to all practicing Catholic male adults, aged eighteen and over, who wish to serve their parish and community. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. To join, contact John Sylvester at 610-451-6980, or go to bornknights.org and fill out the Contact Form located on our website OR sign up directly using the online KofC link.



Coats for Kids

This is a Knights of Columbus annual worldwide initiative that our council partakes in, but on a more local level. We partner with Boscov's Department Store to purchase discounted coats for distribution. Each year we average purchasing and distributing about 30 Youth/Teen coats to Catholic Charities in Reading, and 12 Infant coats to LifeLine of Berks County. In the past 3 years, we donated 98 combined Youth and Teen coats and 35 infant coats. Our goal this year is to distribute 60 or more coats total. There has been an expressed interest in giving a monetary donation to help increase what can be distributed.

until October 14/15 weekend, if you want to donate a few spare dollars to this worthy

cause, simply place your donation in the marked envelopes KofC Coats for Kids (available on the Narthex selling table) and place the envelope in the collection basket during Mass. We appreciate whatever you can spare. Large or small, any donations will help us increase our count and keep more kids warm this winter.

Thank you.

2024 MASS REQUEST FORM SACRED HEART PARISH

"It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead.

2 Maccabees 12:46

Yours in the Sacred Heart of Jesus,

It is once again the time of the year to remember to pray for our beloved deceased. Scripture reminds us and the Church encourages us to do so. The book for scheduling Masses for 2024 will open Monday, 02 October. Over the course of a year, Mass is celebrated nearly 500 times in Sacred Heart. A number of these Masses have pre-assigned parish intentions, such as the weekly Pro Populo Mass (For the People of the parish), Memorial Society Masses, Novenas for the Faithful Departed, and Mothers, and Fathers.

Please use this form to request Masses for the coming year. After completing it, return it with the appropriate stipend, by mail, or the collection basket, or the front-door mail slot. Requests are filled on a timely basis, usually by Christmas. Dates will be honored to the best of our ability on a first-received--first-scheduled basis. The appropriate stipend must accompany all Mass requests.

No one can/nor will be given Sunday/weekend Masses exclusively. After all requested Masses are filled (around the end of the calendar year), other requests can be scheduled in person at the Parish Office, depending upon availability of a date.

Because fewer priests are available to celebrate Mass, to accommodate requests, two intentions may occur at weekday Masses. If the necessity arises to cancel a scheduled Mass, the Mass intention will be celebrated, if possible, the next day.

I am edified and heartened by your devotion. I encourage you to pray always for our beloved dead as well as for the living. Thankful for your faithfulness and dedication, I remain