

October-December 2023



In Touch



***Christ led,
Christ fed,
Hope filled!***

Priority One

Creating a Culture of
Vocations

Priority Two

Strengthening Faith
Formation in Family Life

Priority Three

Building Parishes with Living
Stones

**Renew Faith,
Nurture Hope,
Discover Love**



**Diocese
of
Ogdensburg**

*Soften the ground of my being
and hallow a space for the planting of
Your Presence.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
I hope you have had a joyful Christmas celebration and that
this week has been a relaxing one for all.*

*This newsletter was begun back in October. It got toward the
end of that month so I decided to make it a combined letter for
October and November. Well, as you can see, that didn't hap-
pen either. So, now you are getting 3 months in one!!!*

*We mourn the passing of Sr. Catherine Mary Cummings,
RSM who died on December 11. She certainly touched
many lives through her ministry to the sick and elderly.*

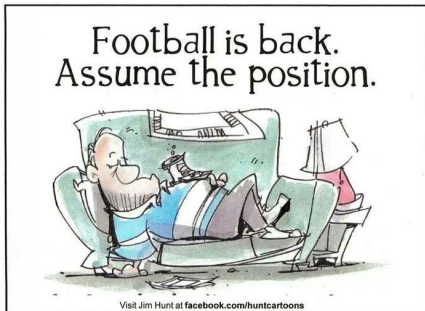
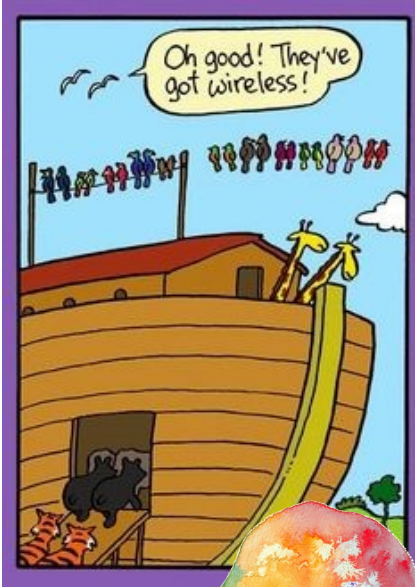
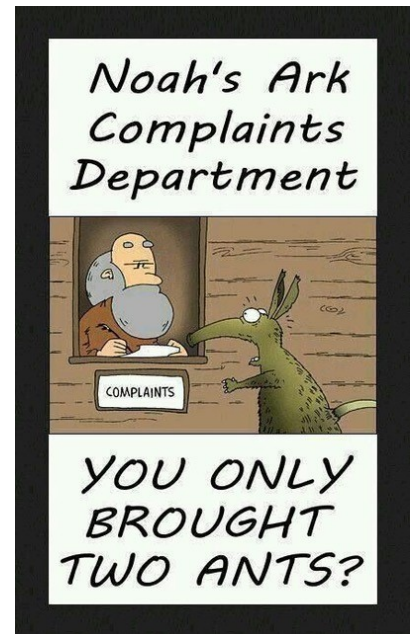
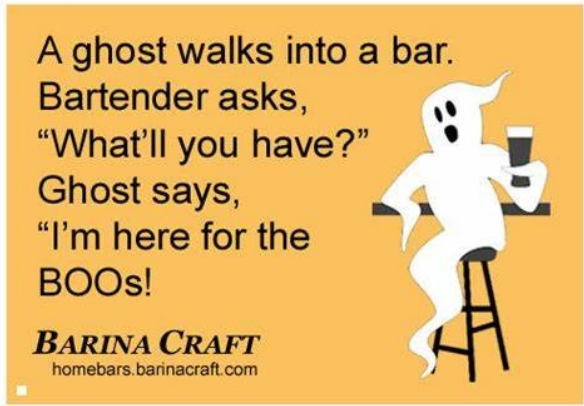
*Please keep Sr. Rani and Sr. Deepali in your prayers as
they travel to India for their home visits. We pray that they
have safe trips and no problems getting back into our country
on their return.*

***The Christmas manger,
the first message of the divine Child,
tells us that
God is with us, he loves us,
and he seeks us.
So take heart!***

-Pope Francis



A Bit of Humor



Wisdom from the October Saints



St. Therese of Lisieux

Holiness consists simply in doing God's will and being just what God wants us to be.

Frequently, only silence can express my prayer.

When one loves, one does not calculate.

St. Francis

Remember that when you leave this earth, you can take with you nothing that you have received – only what you have given.

Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary.

A single sunbeam is enough to drive away many shadows.

St. Faustina Kowalska

Patience, prayer and silence-these are what give strength to the soul.

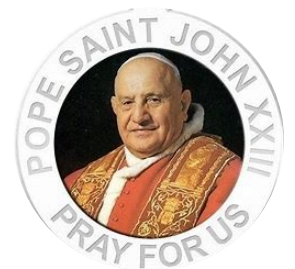
For there are three ways of performing an act of mercy: the merciful word, by forgiving and by comforting; secondly, if you can offer no word, then pray - that too is mercy; and thirdly, deeds of mercy. And when the Last Day comes, we shall be judged from this, and on this basis we shall receive the eternal verdict.

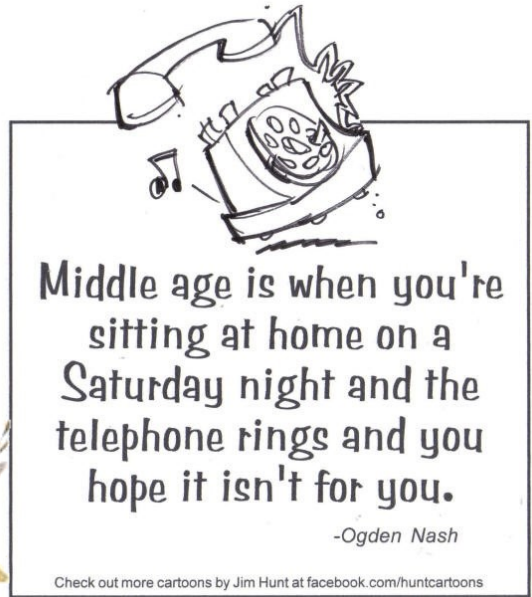
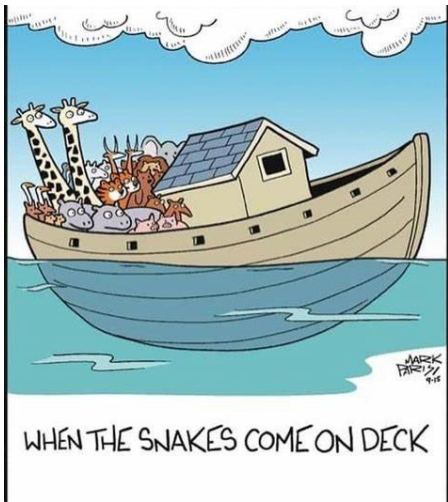
St. John XXIII

Do not walk through time without leaving worthy evidence of your passage.

Never hesitate to hold out your hand; never hesitate to accept the outstretched hand of another

Prayer is the raising of the mind to God. We must always remember this. The actual words matter less.





Wisdom from the November Saints

St. Martin de Porres

Everything, even sweeping, scraping vegetables, weeding a garden and waiting on the sick could be a prayer, if it were offered to God."

Do not complain, that shows discontent with the will of God in the present moment. That is also proof of impatience.

St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

Prayer is powerful! It fills the earth with mercy, it makes the Divine clemency pass from generation to generation; right along the course of the centuries wonderful works have been achieved through prayer.

If you are in danger, if your hearts are confused, turn to Mary; she is our comfort, our help; turn towards her and you will be saved.

St. Miguel Pro

If I meet any long-faced saints in Heaven I will cheer them up with a Mexican hat dance!"

Here in the midst of the vortex I am amazed by the special aid of God, the very special graces He grants us in such perils, and how His Presence is now more intimately felt when discouragement comes to make our souls

Viva Cristo Rey!

St. Gertrude the Great

Every time we look at the Blessed Sacrament our place in heaven is raised forever.

I understand that, each time we contemplate with desire and devotion the Host in which is hidden Christ's Eucharistic Body, we increase our merits in heaven and secure special joys to be ours later in the beatific vision of God

"Soften my hard self-opinionatedness, which time has hardened so exceedingly

St. Charles Borromeo

Charity is that with which no man is lost, and without which no man is saved.

"If a tiny spark of God's love already burns within you, do not expose it to the wind, for it may get blown out... Stay quiet with God. Do not spend your time in useless chatter..."

We must keep ourselves in the presence of God as much as possible and speak to Him in prayer as we would to a friend.





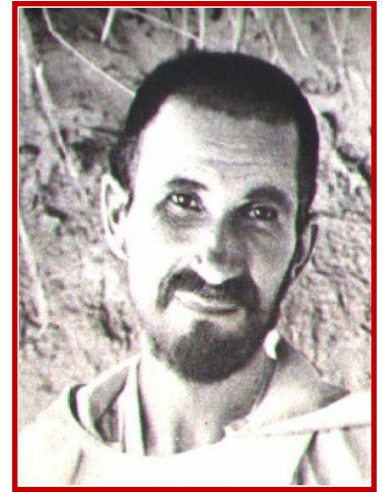
Wisdom from the December Saints

Bl. Charles de Foucauld

Above all, always see Jesus in every person, and consequently treat each one not only as an equal and as a brother or sister, but also with great humility, respect and selfless generosity.

We should never forget the two axioms: 'Jesus is with me' and whatever happens, happens by the will of God.

What great faith our Lord Jesus Christ asks of us - and how just that is. Do we not owe him such faith? It looks impossible to us, but Jesus is Master of the impossible.



St. John of the Cross

Live in faith and hope, though it be in darkness, for in this darkness God protects the soul. Cast your care upon God for you are His and He will not forget you. Do not think that He is leaving you alone, for that would be to wrong Him.

Silence is God's first language.

Contemplation is nothing else but a secret, peaceful, and loving infusion of God, which, if admitted, will set the soul on fire with the Spirit of love.

Whenever anything disagreeable or displeasing happens to you, remember Christ crucified and be silent.

St. Francis Xavier

"If you cannot do what you want to, then try to want to do what you can."

"Make yourself loved, and this way you'll influence them. If you employ friendliness and treat others well, you'll see admirable effects."

"Love is what gives value to all our works; it's not thanks to the greatness and multitude of our works that we please God, but thanks to the love with which we do them."

St. Mary Di Rosa

"I can't go to bed with a quiet conscience if during the day I've missed any chance, however slight, of preventing wrongdoing or of helping to bring about some good."

