



# Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.  
Pastor*

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Pastoral Associate*

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Parish Office*

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Web site: <http://www.stwen.org>

Lyceum

2100 E. Madison St.....410-675-3320

*St. Wenceslaus is "twinned" with St. Ann Church,  
at Greenmount Ave. and E. 22nd St.  
410-235-8169*

*Masses at St. Ann: Sunday – 9:45 a.m.  
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

## MASSES

SUNDAY  
WEEKDAYS  
HOLYDAYS

8:00 and 11:45 am  
8:00 am  
As announced in the bulletin

## CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

## DEVOTIONS:

**Infant of Prague Novena** - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena** - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.

**First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations** - 8:30 a.m.

## BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

## MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

## PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Lyceum from 9:30 to 11:30A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

## PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

### Check:

New Registration  Moving out of Parish

Change of Address  Want Envelopes

Catholic Review  Yes  No

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

**SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH**  
**Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time**  
**September 11, 2016**

## *From the Pastor . . .*

### **My Sisters and Brothers:**

The author of today's first reading wrote "*for the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns*" (see Wisdom 9:15). In today's Gospel, Jesus warned his disciples that "*those who came to him without hating their father and mother, wife or husband and children, brothers and sisters, and even their own lives, were not able to be his disciple*" and "*those who did not renounce all of their possessions were not able to be his disciples*" (cf. Luke 14:26).

As living, breathing human beings, who live day to day in this world, with all of the ordinary and even necessary burdens we must carry, how are we supposed to understand these words of wisdom in our own time? Are we called to reject our families, our possessions, and even the needs of our mortal bodies in order to spend all of our days and energy focused on only things of heaven? It's likely that many mystics, contemplative religious people, monks, and nuns in the history of the church attempted to do just such in their responses to these scriptural mandates. Even today, there are some who strive to do the same. But is this required of all the rest of us as well? Certainly not!

It's definitely laudable for a chosen few to have embraced austere lives completely focused on heaven and detached from all worldly concerns. But this was and is certainly not the reality for everyone else – that is, the ninety-nine point-nine percent of the rest of the Christian population throughout all of history and in our own time. So what did Jesus mean when he taught his disciples "*to hate their fathers and mothers, wives, husbands and children, brothers and sisters, and even their own lives?*" After-all, this mandate seems extremely harsh to say the least!

When we contemplate the teachings of Jesus, it's *always* important to recall that he frequently used a popular teaching method, common during those days, which used hyperbole or exaggeration in order to drive home a specific point. Therefore, those who heard Jesus' words would have understood they were not actually required to hate their family members, and/or their very selves, in order to be his followers. Instead, they surely would have understood that care for others, attention to one's bodily needs, and prudent stewardship over one's material possessions, were certainly necessary. But it would have also been clearly understood that these concerns were always and actually "*secondary*" to the more important heavenly and spiritual realities. And our own understanding of these teachings must be the same.

The Book of Wisdom reminds us that "*the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns,*" but it doesn't suggest we need not take care of our bodies or reject the material things we must have in order to survive. I don't believe Jesus would have suggested otherwise. As spiritual people who long for the day we meet God face-to-face, let's not then neglect our many earthly responsibilities! And so, are family and relational issues, the realities of health concerns, financial difficulties, job related challenges, and etcetera dragging us down? Jesus tells us, and all of those who truly wish to be his "*disciples,*" not to become so burdened by these things that they distract us from higher realities. Instead, he promises to "*have our backs*" when dealing with all of these ordinary and even necessary aspects of our lives! Let us encourage each other with this promising message of our faith!

**Praise God!** *Friar Timothy*

### PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our sick and homebound, especially **Donald Benedict, Beatrice Hradsky, Nancy Gist, Sheila**

**Lambert, Albert J. Novak, II, Mary Schwartz, Charles Supik, Joan Pittman** and all the needs recorded in our parish prayer intention book.

**SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH**  
**Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time**  
**September 11, 2016**

**MEN'S CLUB**

There will be a meeting of the **ST WENCESLAUS'S MEN'S CLUB HOLY NAME SOCIETY** on Sunday, September 25 at 10:00 am. The purpose of this meeting will be to select and confirm new officers and to plan for the upcoming events for 2016/2017. All Men of the Parish are encouraged to attend. "We Need Your Input"

**ALTAR FLOWERS**

Parishioners are invited to make altar flower offerings in honor of their loved ones. Please call the parish office for more information.

**MASS OF THANKSGIVING IN HONOR OF  
ST. TERESA OF KOLKATA**

We will celebrate the canonization here at St. Wenceslaus with a special Mass on Saturday, September 10th at 11:00 am! On that day, our dear Sisters, the Missionaries of Charity, will host the Mass to be celebrated by Archbishop William Lori of Baltimore. Please join the Sisters, invited clergy members, friends, and our parishioners for this special Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of St. Teresa of Kolkata. After the Mass, the celebration will continue with a luncheon in the Lyceum during which a short film presentation on the life of Mother Teresa will be presented. Please plan to come as we celebrate the canonization of St. Teresa of Kolkata! The Mass and the luncheon are open to all who come! For more information, please call the Sisters at Gift of Hope Convent at 410-732-6056

**NEXT SUNDAY**

**Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1st Reading	Amos 8: 4-7
2 <sup>nd</sup> Reading	1 Timothy 2:1-8
Gospel	Luke 16:1-13 or 16: 10-13

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Sun. Sep 11	8:00 am	Barbara Smith
	11:45	For the Parishioners
Tues. Sep 13	8:00	William & Margaret Smetana
Wed. Sep 14	8:00	Bro. Clarence CSSR
Thur. Sep 15	7:00	Raymond Kabara (Gift of Hope)
Fri. Sep 16	8:00	Kathryn R. Goldbeck

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

A teacher's meeting will be held on Sunday, September 11th at 9:30 a.m. in the church. Please see Edith Pumphrey for more information.

**BRACE MEETING**

There will be a meeting held on **Monday, September 12** at **6:00 p.m.** in the lyceum for community members that may have questions or concerns. All members of the community are encouraged to attend.

**PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The Parish Pastoral Council will have its next meeting on **Tuesday, September 13th** in the parish rectory at 7:00 pm. This will be the first regular meeting held after the summer recess. All members are expected to attend!

**OUTREACH CENTER**

The Lucielle Fitzgerald Food Pantry is open every Wednesday and Thursday, from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. We assist those families, inside and outside of the parish, who are in most need. For more information contact Alicia Champlin at the Outreach Center, 410-675-3320.

**FUND RAISING COMMITTEE MEETING**

There will be a meeting of the Fund Raising Committee held on **Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:15 pm** in the parish rectory. All committee members are encouraged to attend.

**SIGHT & SOUND TRIP UPDATE**

This is the final Sunday to pay your balance for our trip to Sight and Sound. If you know of someone who wants to join us but thought it was too late to see Samson on October 29th, let them know there are seats still available. Cost of trip is \$130 for adults and \$85 for children ages 3-12. Payments can be given to Alicia, Shrene, Antoinette or turned into the church office.

**PRE-NATIONAL BLACK CATHOLIC  
CONGRESS**

Calling all Parishioners, Pastors, Youth Groups and Young Adults to attend the Pre-National Black Catholic Congress XII Gathering on Saturday, October 29, 2016 from 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. St. Cecilia Church Hall, 3301 Windsor Ave., Baltimore, MD 21216. Register today at [OBCM@archbalt.org](mailto:OBCM@archbalt.org) or call 410-625-8472. Pre-registration will include lunch and all materials. For more information see fliers in back of church.

**FEAST DAY CELEBRATION**

Remember, Sunday, September 25 is the feast of St. Wenceslaus and the annual celebration of the anniversary of our parish. There will be more information in the next bulletin.

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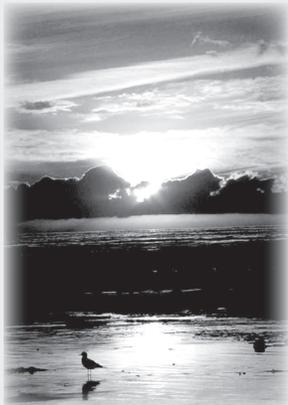
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