

WELCOME to ST. JOHN EVANGELIST PARISH



SEPTEMBER 17, 2023 TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MASS SCHEDULE

2nd & 4th Saturday	4:00 pm
Sunday	9:00 am
Wednesday & Friday	7:00 am
1st Friday-Pine Haven.....	10:00 am
2nd Friday-Prairie Crossing	10:00 am

PARISH OFFICE

Hours: Monday-Friday 7:30 - 3:30 PM

601 Valley Road, Kohler WI 53044

Telephone..... (920) 452-9623

Email stjohnnev@btsje.org

Website stjohnkohler.org

Please contact the Parish Office to:

1. Join the Parish
2. Schedule a Baptism
3. Schedule a Mass Intention
4. Any other questions or concerns

PARISH STAFF:

Administrator: Rev. Jonathon Schmeckel

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 206

Anointing or Emergency: 920-550-1145

Parish Administrative Assistant:

Gretchen Free 920-452-9623 ext. 201

Director of Liturgy & Music:

Zach Holzer E-Mail: zach@btsje.org

Directors of Religious Education:

Jeanne Bitkers (Gr. 4K-6)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 220

E-Mail: jeanne@btsje.org

Teresa Bettag (Gr. 7-12)

Phone: 920-452-9623 ext. 218

E-Mail: teresab@btsje.org

Co-Directors of Catholic Life Center:

John O'Dell E-Mail: john@btsje.org

Mary Waitkus E-Mail: maryw@btsje.org

FINANCE COUNCIL:

Finance Council Chair Rob Wenberg

Bob Goldsmith

Ryan Kuhn

PASTORAL COUNCIL:

Chairperson..... Bridgitt Zielke

Vice Chairperson..... Steve O'Neil

Rich Tauferner Norma Horne

Nick Cinquepalmi Paul Gami

Rita Gast Carol Marksteiner

Rick Michaletz

Trustees: Toni Sarafin, Trustee Treasurer

Michael Pellegrino, Trustee Secretary

PRAY THE ROSARY DURING THE WEEK:

Wednesday & Friday at 6:40 am

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

1st Fridays-6:00 - 6:45 am St. John Evangelist

Sundays 8:00 - 8:45 am St. John Evangelist

1st, 3rd, & 5th Saturdays-3 :00 pm-Blessed Trinity

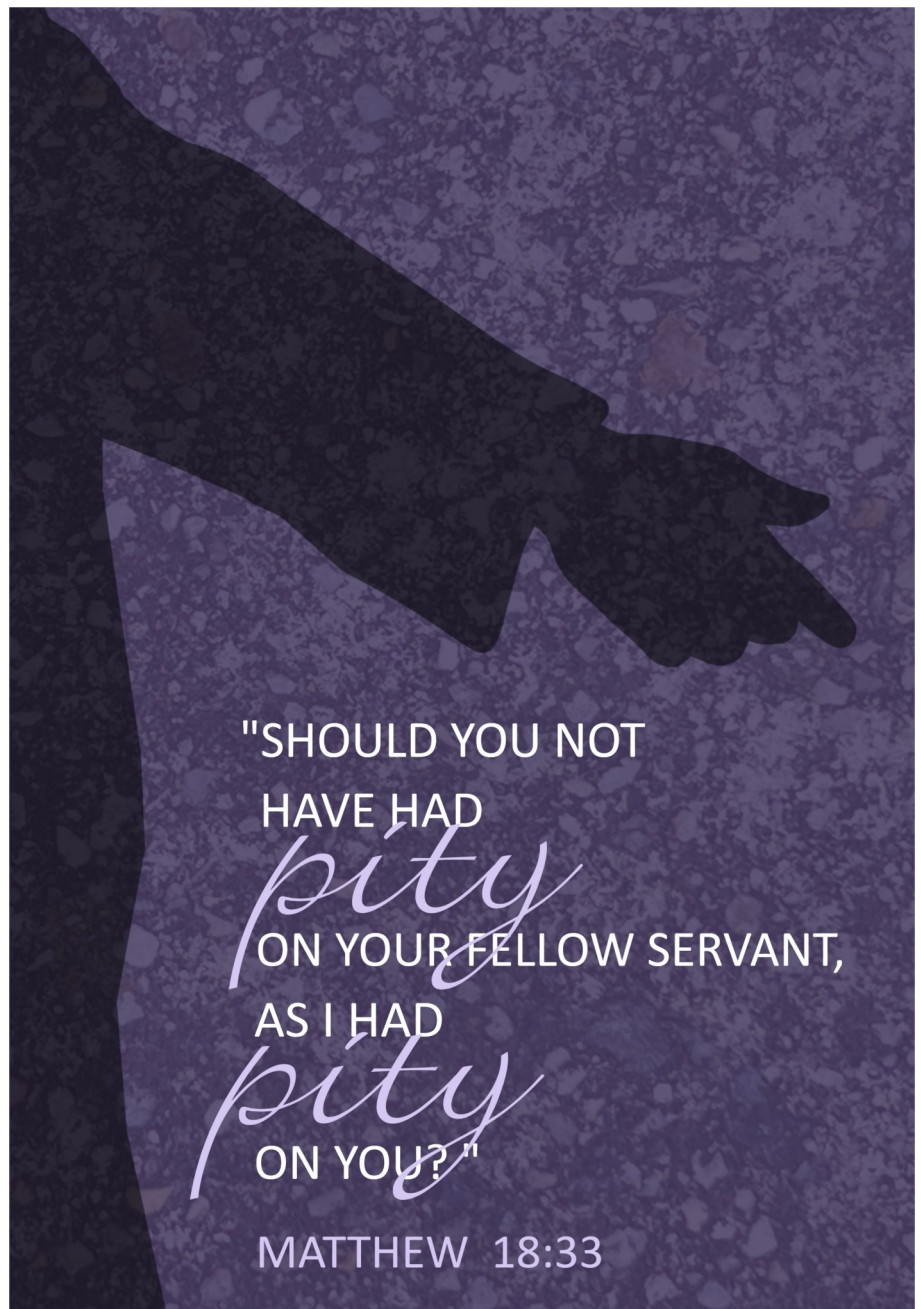
2nd & 4th Saturdays-3:00 pm-St. John Evangelist

Readings for the Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

1st Reading: Sirach 27:30-28:7

2nd Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35



"SHOULD YOU NOT
HAVE HAD
pity
ON YOUR FELLOW SERVANT,
AS I HAD
pity
ON YOU?"

MATTHEW 18:33

From Father Schmeckel:

About prayer and Eucharistic adoration, Pope Francis recently said this:

“How do I pray? Only in adoration, only in the presence of the Lord, do we truly rediscover our taste and passion for evangelization. Oddly enough, we have lost the prayer of adoration; and everyone, priests, bishops, consecrated men and women, need to recover it, this ability to be quiet in the Lord's presence. Mother Theresa, busy about so many things in life, never neglected adoration, even at times when her faith was shaken and she wondered if it was all true or not.”



As you have already heard me say, we are beginning Eucharistic adoration on Thursdays from 6:00 AM until 9:00 PM, starting on October 5 at Saint John (as an effort of *both* parishes). We are still looking for people who are willing to commit to a weekly hour of prayer before the Lord in the Church – especially during the afternoon. Please take a moment to look at the sign up in the back of both churches and consider taking one of the 'shifts' of prayer.

And to continue my recent articles regarding the **Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick**, this week we will focus on how the Sacrament is celebrated.

The ritual book for the Anointing of the Sick gives priests a lot of flexibility and options for how to celebrate this sacrament. There are three distinct and integral aspects of this sacrament: 1) the prayer of faith, 2) the laying on of hands, and 3) the anointing with oil.

The “*prayer of faith*” usually includes some penitential act (Confession is recommended when possible) – recognizing that the sick person and all of us are sinners; a short reading from Sacred Scripture; and prayers asking God to heal and be with the sick person.

The “*laying on of hands*” is another important part of the ritual. The priest is supposed to silently place his hands on the head of the sick person and pray for them. This gesture repeats and echoes what Jesus Himself often did when healing people throughout the Gospels and also what the Apostles did in their own ministry of healing and reconciliation.

The “*anointing with oil*” is really the ‘heart’ of the Sacrament. The priest uses the Oil of the Sick. This is olive oil that is usually blessed by the Bishop at the Chrism Mass during Holy Week. First, the priest anoints the sick person's forehead saying,

**“Through this holy anointing
may the Lord in His love and mercy help you
with the grace of the Holy Spirit.”**

Then he anoints the person's hands, saying:

**“May the Lord who frees you from sin
save you and raise you up.”**

These three parts are the essentials of the celebration of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. A priest does have some flexibility and options (though *not* with the words in bold above). Most priests will try to adapt the celebration depending on the wellness of the person, the number of people participating in the prayer, and other individual circumstances.

MASS INTENTIONS

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Saturday	September 16	Blessed Trinity	4:00 pm	†Victor & Helen Kampmann by Family, †Carol Schuessler by Family, †Juergen Pietzner by Family
Sunday	September 17	St. John's	9:00 am	†Orville & Dorene Hoerz
Sunday	September 17	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	Mass for Parishioners
Tuesday	September 19	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Donna Jozwiak by Francois Pietzner
Wednesday	September 20	St. John's	7:00 am	†Phyllis Biskup
Thursday	September 21	Blessed Trinity	9:00 am	†Mitchell Daharsh by Doug & Cindy Dorn
Friday	September 22	St. John's	7:00 am	†Fr. Louis Wilimek
Saturday	September 23	St. John's	4:00 pm	†Hubert & Lucille Marchand and Carol Mertzig by Family
Sunday	September 24	St. John's	9:00 am	Mass for Parishioners
Sunday	September 24	Blessed Trinity	10:30 am	†Rosemary Eigenberger by Paul & Jessica, †LeRoy & Francis Juckem

THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Will be offered at St. John Evangelist Parish on Saturday, September 22 at 3:00 pm and on Sunday, September 23 from 8:00 to 8:45 am.

LAY MINISTERS FOR SEPTEMBER 23/24

MASSES	Saturday, 4:00 pm	Sunday, 9:00 am
Lectors	Bill Moffatt Carter Udovich	Erin M. Charlotte B.
Servers	Annaleise B. Anthony B.	Anthony J. Patrick B.
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Judy Loth	Clyde or Sharon Kometer
Ushers	Randy Miller Ken Udovich	John Multer Jeffrey Goodchild
Sacristan	Connie Katchkey	Julia Rodemeier Steve O'Neil
Greeters	Judy Grey	Reilly Family

FINANCIAL: SEPTEMBER 9/10:

Collection: (contribution envelopes, electronic giving and loose offering): \$6,780.35.

2nd SATURDAY USHERS:

We are in need of two individuals or a couple to usher during the 4:00 pm Saturday Mass on the 2nd Saturday of the month. **Last Saturday there were no ushers.** No experience is necessary. Training will be provided. Please contact the Parish Office at stjohnnev@btsje.org or 920-452-9623 to volunteer.

The Blessing of Pets on Wednesday - October 4 5:15 pm St. John Evangelist Parish Grounds:

In honor of St. Frances of Assisi and his love for all creatures, we invite you to a "Pet Blessing" ceremony on **Wednesday, October 4 at 5:15 pm (Immediately following 4K - Grade 6 Religious Education Classes)**. All friendly pets, leashed or in a carrier, are welcome to attend. If you would like to join us but are unable to bring your pet, you or your child are welcome to bring a photograph of your pet so they can be included in the blessing that Fr. Schmeckel will give. Please come prepared to clean up after your pet. Any questions please contact Jeanne Bitkers at jeanne@btsje.org or the parish office at 920-452-9623.
-Jeanne Bitkers - Director of Religious Education 4K - Grade 6



EVENTS CALENDAR

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

9:30 - 11:00 am Women's Group
12:00 pm AA Meeting
Church Hall

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

8:00 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

7:00 am Mass
4:00 - 5:15 pm Religious Education
4K - Grade 6
6:30 - 7:45 pm Religious Education
Grades 7 - 12

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

10:00 - 10:45 am Tiny Saints Storytime
Classroom #8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

7:00 am Mass
9:00 - 11:00 am Mother's Ministry
Lost Woods Park

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

9:30 - 11:00 am Women's Group
12:00 pm AA Meeting
Church Hall
3:00 pm Reconciliation
4:00 pm Mass

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

8:00 am Reconciliation
9:00 am Mass



SATURDAY MORNING WOMEN'S GROUP: Will run through December 16 (except November 25) from **9:30-11:00 am** in the St. John Evangelist, Narthex and Gathering Space. The Fall program will be Wild Goose a 14 part video series helping explore a deeper connection with the Holy Spirit. Women can attend any or all of the series. Please contact Julia Rodemeier at julia.rodemeier@gmail.com for information or to register. Registration is not required.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



Friends OF THE POOR® WALK/RUN

2 Mile Walk ~ September 30, 2023 ~ 9:00 am-Noon
Firehouse Park - 3805 County Y – Sheboygan

9:00 am Registration 9:45 Blessing and Start Time

\$5.00 Children \$20.00 Adults \$40.00 Families \$60.00 Team of 4

Registered walkers raise awareness to the challenges faced by neighbors in need, especially the children of Sheboygan County. The walk generates significant funds for use in direct service to those children living in need by offering shoes, coats, and beds.

Register at the event by cash or check
Or
at the Sheboygan or Plymouth St Vincent de Paul stores



SAFEGUARDING ALL GOD'S CHILDREN: All staff and volunteers who work with or have contact with children under the age of 18 years old, must attend a Safeguarding class. Safe Environment Education training session information can be found here: <https://www.archmil.org/offices/safeguarding/Safeguarding-Events.htm>. Please contact the Parish Office at 920-452-9623 or stjohnnev@btsje.org if you have any questions about signing up your Safeguarding status.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE GRADES 7 - 12:

Today we hear in Matthew's Gospel (18:21-35), the parable of the unforgiving servant. This can basically be summed up in the one sentence from the Our Father prayer taught to us by Jesus himself when He said, "forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." (Mt. 6:12) In other words, to expect to be forgiven, we need to forgive....as simple and sometimes as hard as that! The amazing grace though is that God is ALWAYS ready, willing and able to forgive us. We just need the honesty, humility and courage to ask for it. How blessed we are as Catholics to have the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we can go to God Himself, acting in his vicar, the priest, and be forgiven and absolved of ALL of our sins!! Please avail yourself of this encounter with Jesus by going to Confession sometime soon. Make time for it-you will not be disappointed. Speaking of making time, during this new RE year and this time of Eucharistic Revival, let us all strive to center our lives and our families around getting to Mass each week and receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. Yes, life is busy, but we make time for what is important and what is more important than our relationship with God? Certainly not sports, the Packers, screentime or other agenda items. Our patron saint, St. John Evangelist wrote in his first letter that "God is love." (1Jn4:8) And what is this love? It sacrifices and creates. I challenge all of us to put God first, to center your life, your families, your week around God and not to just plug Him in when convenient. By putting Jesus first, you will find the peace, mercy, freedom and JOY that you long for. **Let's try this by getting our kids to Religious Education on Wednesdays and then to Mass on the weekend.** To pray before meals and before bed. St. Pope John Paul II used to tell his Swiss guards that "I cannot wait for you." Your decision to make an intentional choice for God each day just may have a huge evangelizing impact on your kids and others to be faithful and courageous. After all, God is well pleased by our desire to please Him and He is a God that created everything out of nothing, so He can create time too. Give it a try. See you at Mass!



~Teresa Bettag, Director of Religious Education Grades 7 - 12

WINTERFEST 2024: St. John Evangelist Parish 39th Annual Winterfest is scheduled for **Sunday, January 28, 2024**. We are currently looking for a few people to help chair areas of the event. We are looking for Chairpersons for the kitchen, for beverages, and for donation procurement. We need to have all chair people in place by October 15 to move forward with this event. If you are able to help or can suggest others who may fill one of those roles, please contact Shelly Cieszynski at cieszyns@yahoo.com or the Parish office at 920-452-9623.

HUMAN CONCERNS/SOCIAL JUSTICE FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN: Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to work at the packing event on October 7. The gift of your time is greatly appreciated. If you would still like to support this event, monetary donations are always welcome. Please make out the check to St. John Evangelist Parish and put "FMSC" on the memo line. Each meal costs only 25 cents so every donation goes a long way.

CHOIR: Choir begins with practice this **Tuesday, September 19** from **6:30 - 8:00 pm**. New members are always welcome. Contact Zach at zach@btsje.org with any questions.

CATECHETICAL SUNDAY:

As part of a 1935 initiative to recognize and celebrate the faith that Catechists give to their parish communities by volunteering their time for the education of children, the Church began what we know today as Catechetical Sunday.

Always the third Sunday in September, this weekend we celebrate and come together as both a Parish and Church community to acknowledge the dedication of those who serve as Catechists in our parish family. Parents and guardians are also honored because they are the true First Catechist who share the Catholic Faith with their families. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all Catholics to rededicate themselves to the mission of handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel as a Community of Faith.

Thank you to all who share our Catholic Faith with the children/youth/young adults of our parish and beyond.

2023 - 2024 CATECHIST:

4K - Grade 6

Catechists:

Delair Avery	Jane Stark
Nick Cinquepalmi	Rich Tauferner
Lorrie Free	Susan Vavra
Eve Michaletz	Patti Wenberg

Substitutes:

Maria Augustine	Crystal Perez
Steve Kovacs	Sharon Reilly
Lori Lee	Meriel Radloff

Grades 7 - 12

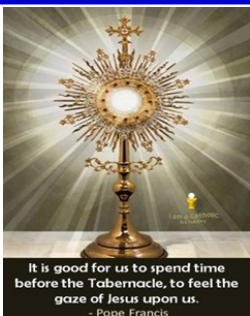
Catechists:

Jen Meyer	Mark Weber
Ken Udovich	Patti Wenberg
Susan Vavra	

Substitutes:

Mark Bettag	Lynn Justinger
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NEEDED: Volunteer Catechists who share our Catholic faith with the children of our parish. **WE ARE IN NEED OF ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER CATECHISTS SINCE** some of our classes are large and there is a need to find additional adult volunteers to work with students. Our 4K through Grade 6 students meet from 4:00 PM to 5:15 PM most Wednesday afternoons during the school year. Materials and training are provided. Please contact: Jeanne Bitkers, Director of Religious Education, 4K-Grade 6 930-452-9623 or jeanne@btsje.org if you are able and willing to serve.



It is good for us to spend time
before the Tabernacle, to feel the
gaze of Jesus upon us.
- Pope Francis

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

St John Evangelist Parish - Kohler

THURSDAYS Starting October 5th

6:00 am until 9:00 pm

Enter through Canopy Doors

Sign up board is in the Gathering Space. Thank you to everyone who has already signed up. **We are in need of people especially for the 12:00 - 6:00 pm times.** A schedule will be sent out before the first date. **If you are not ready to commit to a slot, please sign up as a substitute!**

Any questions contact Susan Vavra at iamsgrtv@gmail.com or 920-254-0898

CATHOLIC LIFE CENTER UPDATES:

Enrich Your Sundays: Bishop Barron Series: Sunday, September 17 immediately following the 9:00 am Mass in Classroom #8 at St. John Evangelist Parish. **Sacred Meal** gives insights into Christ's presence in our lives in the Holy Sacrament of the Eucharist.

Conversations Over Coffee with Fr. Schmeckel, Theme: Mass: On **Tuesday, September 19** from **10:00 - 11:00 am** in the Catholic Life Center Meeting Room at Blessed Trinity Parish. Enjoy coffee and refreshments and have your questions about the Mass answered.

St. John Evangelist/Blessed Trinity Singles 55+: Walkabout in Bookworm Gardens (1415 Campus Drive, Sheboygan) on **Thursday September 21**, weather permitting, at 10:00 am. Meet in the Blessed Trinity Church Parking Lot and carpool or caravan from Church to the meeting place at the park. Bring your own lunch if you desire a picnic. Picnic tables are available. If you are interested or need a ride, please contact Jim Klich by Sunday, September 17 by calling or texting 920-946-0809.



Real Estate Trends with Donna Krueger: On **Tuesday, September 26** from **10:00 - 11:00 am** at St. John Evangelist Parish Lower Level Conference Room. Hear from Donna Krueger, St. John Evangelist parishioner, on the current real estate market. She will take questions after.



MOTHERS' MINISTRY:

Mothers of young children are invited to join other moms and their kids on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month anytime from 9:00 - 11:00 am at varying parks in the area! Connect with other Catholic moms as the kids play. Any questions, please contact Maria Schuette at 920-309-2418.

September 22: Lost Woods Park in Kohler

October 13 and 27: Cleveland Park in Sheboygan

tiny saints
STORYTIME

3rd Thursday of the Month
10:00-10:45AM
Starting September 21

IDEAL FOR CHILDREN AGES 1-4 AND THEIR CAREGIVERS
STORYTIME MEETS IN THE CLASSROOMS AT
ST. JOHN EVANGELIST - 601 VALLEY ROAD, KOHLER

Join us for a religious themed story activities & crafts themed around the story caregiver talking points for conversation

Dear Padre,

Why are churches doing away with the confessionals?

In many churches, when it is feasible, the traditional confessional box is modified or even replaced by a more spacious, less darkened reconciliation room. In 1974, the US Conference of Catholic Bishops decreed that “small chapels or rooms of reconciliation be provided in which penitents might choose to confess their sins through an informal face-to-face exchange with the priest, with the opportunity for appropriate spiritual counsel.” Later, a further elaboration recommended austere furnishings and decoration in this space, “with nothing superfluous in evidence beyond a simple cross, table and Bible. The purpose of this room is primarily for the celebration of the reconciliation liturgy; it is not a lounge, counseling room, etc. The word ‘chapel’ more appropriately describes this space.” If a reconciliation chapel does not provide a fixed screen or grille between the penitent and confessor, it must be offered elsewhere, according to canon law. “The purpose of this norm is...to afford the penitent anonymity if he or she desires and to make certain that there is no suspicion of impropriety in the confessor-penitent relationship” (Code of Canon Law, 964 commentary).

Ideally, the environment of the reconciliation chapel helps the penitent and confessor feel they are “on holy ground” (Exodus 3:5) in encountering God in this sacrament. It offers an inviting sacred space to celebrate a powerful expression of God’s mercy and unconditional love. ●



PASQUALE SENATORE / SHUTTERSTOCK

Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
September 18 Weekday 1 Tm 2:1-8 Lk 7:1-10	September 19 Weekday 1 Tm 3:1-13 Lk 7:11-17	September 20 Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn, Priest, and Paul Chŏng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs 1 Tm 3:14-16 Lk 7:31-35	September 21 St. Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Mt 9:9-13	September 22 Weekday 1 Tm 6:2c-12 Lk 8:1-3	September 23 St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest 1 Tm 6:13-16 Lk 8:4-15	September 24 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time Is 55:6-9 Phil 1:20c-24, 27a Mt 20:1-16a

Know Someone Overly Anxious About Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit ScrupulousAnonymous.org.



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

As I was celebrating Mass, I paused, touched by a phrase... from the book of Sirach....“Remember the end of your life, and cease from enmity.” A beautiful phrase! Think of the end! Think that you will be in a coffin...and will you take hatred there? Think of the end, stop hating! Stop the resentment.

ANGELUS, ROME, SEPTEMBER 13, 2020