CHRISTIAN CONNECTIONS

MOSACK'S Church Goods & Religious Gifts

MOSACK'S IS CELEBRATING 70 YEARS OF SERVICE





MOSACK'S Church Goods & Religious Gifts began in 1947 as a supplier of religious products to Christian Churches in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. A showroom and small retail shop opened in 1966 in Mentor-on-the-Lake, Ohio. Then in 1977, operations moved to a larger building in Fairport Harbor, Ohio.

Fifteen years later, MOSACK'S Church Goods & Religious Gifts re-located to its present 6,000-square-foot store in the Historic District of Mentor, about 25 miles east of Cleveland. Today, the family-owned business is run by Betty Mosack Vento and her husband, Joe Vento, along with a specially-trained staff with many years of experience. MOSACK'S has blossomed with thousands of loyal customers who visit the 12-room century home and storefront, shopping for inspirational and faith-based religious merchandise.

At MOSACK'S, our prayer is that customers find nourishment, serenity, comfort, spirituality and peace of mind -just as the early followers shared the spirit of Christ in the home. We believe our love of Christ is reflected in service to God and Country through our extensive line of religious goods, including:

- Complete Church Goods line including Slabbinck, RJ Toomey, Beau Veste, Cathedral Candle, and KBrand.
- The largest selection in Ohio of the world-renowned Fontanini Heirloom Nativities
- Full assortment of, Willow Tree, Precious Moments, Heartwood Creek, Foundations, and Joseph's Studio Collectibles
- Gifts for Easter, St. Patrick's Day, RCIA, First Holy Communion, Birthdays, Weddings and every other special occasion
- Books, Music, DVDs, including many selections for children
- Advent and Christmas collection, including wreaths, candles, nativities, and cards with Christ-centered messages
- Flags, flagpoles and memorial plagues

We can engrave or emboss a wide variety of our merchandise

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CELEBRATE FIRST COMMUNION



Whether you are receiving Holy Communion for the very first time, or have received for many years, come to the sacrament with the trusting heart of a child before God. St. Therese of Lisieux encourages us "To remain a child before God means to recognize our nothingness to expect everything from God....to receive communion often, very often That is the only remedy if you want to be healed and Jesus has placed this attraction in your soul." (Letters of St Therese Vol 1). Find out more about St. Therese and the "Little Way" on page 6.

WALK WITH JESUS THROUGH HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY

Hold your palms high as you recall the triumphal entry of Jesu into Jerusalem at church today – then continue the celebration at home.

Jesus Centerpiece: place a statue or picture of Jesus at the center of your dinner table and lay palm branches around it.

Talk about ways to make Jesus the center of your life and your faith.



GOOD FRIDAY

This day commemorates the crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus. Does your home have a crucifix?

Spend time in church: pray the Way of the Cross, attend services of the reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, Seven Last Words, and Communion

Quiet time: Tradition places the events of Good Friday between 12 noon and 3:00 pm, turn off the computer or social media and read the bible account of Jesus' death.

Forgive: Imitate Jesus and reach out to someone who has hurt you. Forgive and forget!

Photographs are from the Galleria Davina Collection

visit www.mosacks.com.



HOLY WEEK PREPARATION DAYS

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Clean the House: Think of spring housekeeping as a prayerful preparation for Easter and celebrate all that is fresh and new.

Buy a Lily: The white flower heralds the resurrection of Jesus – share a plant with someone who needs to hear "good news".

Color eggs: Decorated eggs are a symbol of new life that comes with the resurrection. Try writing "Alleluia" or "Christ is Risen" on the eggs with a crayon before coloring them.

HOLY THURSDAY

This day recalls the Last Supper when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and shared a sacred meal with them. It reminds us that we are called to serve one another. Here are some ideas:

Attend church service: Listen to the readings that mark the beginning of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

Share a meal: If your church doesn't have a community meal, plan your own with neighbors or friends.

Read and reflect: Read one of the Gospel accounts of the Last Supper and reflect on how this encounter with Jesus changed the disciples. How does it change you?



HOLY SATURDAY

This day commemorates the time of darkness and waiting when Jesus was in the tomb.

Volunteer as a family: Help decorate the church for Easter, or deliver baskets to the homebound.

Talk about the symbols of fire and water, signs of Jesus the light of the world and fountain of new life.

CELEBRATE EASTER JOY EVERY DAY

Everyone is happy and ready to celebrate on Easter Sunday yet too often the joy of Easter fades faster than the lilies that decorate the church. How can you keep the good news of Jesus' Resurrection going throughout the year? The secret may lie in three simple virtues: faith, hope, and love.

FAITH: Lent was a long 40 days of preparation – now we rejoice for 50 days until Pentecost. Every Sunday is a "little Easter" as we celebrate the resurrection. Make it special – go for breakfast after church, have a family dinner, walk in the park, play board games – make it different than the rest of the week.

WAYS TO PRACTICE FAITH AS A FAMILY:

- Plan a retreat day 3-4 times a year when other activities stop and you enjoy one another
- Read religious books or take a bible study course
- Start a Prayer Journal
- Watch a Christian movie or DVD, listen to Christian radio station, attend a concert



HOPE: Are you caught up in the daily struggles of life and worried about all the things that are going wrong? Make a conscious effort to be positive! Find hope by turning your thoughts outside of yourself and to the Lord. Let go and trust your worries to God.

WAYS TO INCREASE HOPE:

- Create a Blessings List reflecting on all the gifts God has given you and your family.
- Recall times that you have struggled in the past and how God has answered those struggles. Remembering prayers answered gives hope that the current needs will be filled.
- Treat negatives as an opportunity to improve if you got a poor test grade, try a new study group – if a work project failed, seek a new challenge.



LOVE: Love is more than an emotional response. True Christian love is a decision to treat one another as Jesus does. It is embracing an attitude of charity to all people in all circumstances. It's easy to write a check for a good cause, or donate some clothes that we have outgrown or no longer use – it can be much harder to become *personally* involved in serving one another.

THINGS TO CONSIDER:

- Volunteer in a soup kitchen or homeless center
- Use your talents as a coach, tutor, drama instructor, scout leader or other activity that encourages and nurtures children
- Do something kind for someone in your neighborhood – mow the lawn, share a plate of cookies, run errands for an elderly neighbor
- Forgive someone who has hurt you and begin anew

A Prayer for Mothers

All-Loving God, we give you thanks and praise for mothers old and young.

We pray for young mothers, who give life and count toes and tend to our every need; may they be blessed with patience and tenderness to care for their families and themselves with great joy.

We pray for our own mothers who have nurtured and cared for us; may they continue to guide in strong and gentle ways.

We remember mothers who are separated from their children because of war, poverty or conflict; may they feel the loving embrace of our God who wipes every tear away.

We pray for women who are not mothers but still love and shape us with motherly care and compassion.

We remember mothers, grandmothers and great-grandmothers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.

Amen

By Heidi Busse



A Prayer for Fathers

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old. We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation; may they find the courage and perseverance to balance work, family, and faith in joy and sacrifice.

We pray for our own fathers who have supported and challenged us; may they continue to lead in strong and gentle ways. We remember fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering; may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.

We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice. We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who are no longer with us but who will live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love. Amen

By Heidi Busse

SPRING IS HERE! PLANT SEEDS OF FAITH

Even if you had a mild winter this year, it's still a joy to see plants come alive! As temperatures climb and flowers begin to bloom it's time to get out in the garden. Dig in the dirt, plant some seeds and watch nature put on the show!

Why not add an inspirational focal point to enhance your garden? MOSACK'S carries out-door statues of Jesus, Mary, St. Joseph, St Francis, St Anthony and Holy Angels. Statues are available in cement, resin, and PVC with full-color, white, or grey stone finishes. Birdbaths, wind-chimes and other garden ornaments are also in stock and ready for you. Colorful garden flags and stakes are popular additions to our website. When you're done planting the garden, sit back and relax in a beautiful Adirondack Chair.



May, Month of Mary

Our Model as a Disciple

Mary followed the teachings of her Son, Jesus. At the wedding feast of Cana she asked him to perform a miracle instructing the servants to "do whatever He tells you". Mary is present in the heart-wrenching agony of the crucifixion and death of Jesus. From the cross, Jesus gave the care of His Mother to John and entrusted John and all of us to her motherly protection. Mary is believed to have traveled with John to Ephesus, in modern day Turkey. A small house in the hills above the historic ruins of the city is venerated as Mary's House. Three popes have journeyed to this pilgrimage site; it is known as a place of healing and peace.

Our Model as a Woman of Faith......

Jesus' practice of and understanding of the Jewish faith as recorded in the New Testament points to the fact that His parents were observant members of the people of Israel. Mary and Joseph followed the Jewish religion in their home - following the Torah keeping the Sabbath, holy days and festivals, and attending the Luke depicts Mary synagogue. praying with the other women in the Upper Room at Pentecost, establishing her as a prominent member of the early Christian community in Jerusalem.



Our Mother.....

The Gospels tell us that Mary was a peasant woman who became a mother at a young age. She was a woman of integrity who when faced with the awesome responsibility of becoming the Mother of God, said yes without hesitation. Mary experienced many of the same joys and challenges as parents today. In Luke's gospel we read of her anxiety when Jesus was lost in the Temple for three days. What panic she and Joseph must have felt! When found, Jesus tells them not to worry for He was in His Father's house. Relieved at finding Jesus safe, Mary "kept all these things in her heart". She treasured His words of faith and commitment to God.



Spiritual Bouquet to honor Mary in your home

A Spiritual Bouquet consists of prayers and deeds offered as a special gift. During the month of May, give Mary a spiritual bouquet in thanksgiving, for a special request, or simply to honor her example of faith.

As a reminder cover the kitchen or dining room table with a blue cloth, place a statue of Mary in the center with one or more candles aside of it. Lay a rosary at the base of the statue and keep a vase of fresh flowers there to remind you of your spiritual bouquet.

How to Find Time to Pray the Rosary:



The Rosary is a favorite Catholic Devotion. It is said that if you know the mysteries of the Rosary, you know the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As such, it is a great way to teach the foundation of our faith to our families. With the friendly chaos of our home life, it can be difficult to find time to eat dinner together let alone pray the rosary! Here are some ways to integrate this beautiful prayer into your daily routine:

Pray the rosary as you work out – while your mind is cleared and free of distractions you can feel focused.

Divide the Rosary into decades and find small chunks of time while running errands, doing housework or laundry to pray a decade.

Pray on the way to work, or school – the 10-15 minute drive can be a quiet time of prayer instead of a harried trip.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY April 23, 2017

- Established by Pope John Paul II as an invitation to face the difficulties and trials of humanity with confidence in God's love and mercy.
- Sr. Maria Faustina Ko-walska canonized in 2000, first saint of the new millennium. Mystic and visionary, her message: "Jesus, I trust in You!"
- Read more: <u>Diary of St.</u>
 <u>Faustina</u> Watch: <u>Fount of Mercy</u> DVD
- Pray: Novena and Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Hour of Great Mercy.

IMMERSE YOURSELF IN DIVINE MERCY

The Feast of Divine Mercy (established by St. Pope John Paul II) is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter each year. April 23, 2017 is a special day to reflect on God's love for us. God's Mercy pours out in blood and water from his Sacred Heart.

The Divine Mercy Image should be in every Christian home and parish! Our Lord's words to St Faustina Kowalska as recorded in her Diary are clear:

"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory."

The Divine Mercy Chaplet is prayed daily by many faithful believers. Often the chaplet is recited at the bed of the sick and the dying. To find out more about devotion to Jesus and the image of Divine Mercy, read the Diary of St Faustina or the *I am Your* Jesus Of Mercy series. Visit the Divine Mercy section of our website www.



mosacks.com to shop for rosaries, medals, and Divine Mercy gifts.



BOOK REVIEW: Trust In St. Faustina's Foosteps by G. Gorny and J. Rosikon tells the story of St Faustina, a great Christian mystic of the 20th century, and her devotion to the Divine Mercy. This lavishly illustrated book tells of God's immense love for his people and the reciprocation of this love by the humble Polish nun declared a saint by Pope John Paul II in 2000. The book traces the life of St. Faustina with beautiful photographs of the places in eastern Europe where she lived – Warsaw, Krakow, Plock, Vilnius, etc. Observations and impressions from those who knew her – St. Pope John Paul, Blessed Michal Sopocko make this mystic come alive. "One of the best books available on the life of St. Faustina! Beautifully illustrated and historically informative, thie book is a Divine Mercy gem!" (Fr. Donald Calloway MIC)

FEAST OF THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND THE IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY COMING IN JUNE

Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus (June 23rd) became popular in the 17th century through the mystic visions of St Mary Margaret Alacoque. Christ reveals that His Sacred Heart, though wounded by our sins, is overflowing with mercy and love, a fount of heavenly gifts to all who honor Him home as a sign that the Heart of Jesus reigns over their family.

Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary (June 24th) was popularized by St John Eudes in the 17th century. As Mary's heart was a fit dwelling place for the Holy Spirit at the Incarnation, we pray that we may be filled with that same Spirit and become worthy temples of God's glory.

Pope Pius XII consecrated the world to the Immaculate Heart of Mary in

1942. Mary serves as our Model, our Intercessor, and our Mother in making our lives an offering to God.



FIRST COMMUNION GIFTS

AVAILABLE ITEMS INCLUDE:

Communion Dresses * Suits * Veils * Gloves * Socks * Purses Ties * Tie Clips * Lapel Pins * Jewelry * Patron Saint Medals Four-Way Medals * Sports Medals * Rosaries * Rosary Boxes

Wall Crosses & Crucifixes* Statues * Figurines * Valencia Seraphim Classics Angels * Joseph Studio Collection Saint Statues * Willow Tree * Precious Moments* Communion Dolls Plaques * Music Boxes * Holy Cards * Communion, Confirmation and RCIA Candles

Adult & Children's Books & Music * Prayer Books New Missals * Bibles for All Ages

Communion & Confirmation Photo Frames & Photo Albums Invitations * Thank You Notes * Party Goods Greeting Cards



As First Communion and Confirmation approachis year, we invite you to visit our Catholic sto or shop online at www.mosacks.com. Find the items and gifts that will help your family members and friends on their journey with Christ. Our embossing and engraving service is veraffordable and adds a personal touch to yo keepsakes, which will be treasured for years come. Our courteous staff is looking forward serving you.



CONFIRMATION GIFTS:

Patron Saint Statues and Medals, Bracelets, Rosaries, Keepsake Boxes, Holy Spirit Pins, Pocket Stones, Holy Cards, Keychains

Wall Crosses & Crucifixes, Plaques, Frames

Bibles, Prayer and Meditation Books, YouCat and Teen Scripture Study Books



Every day men and women put their lives on the line in service to their country. As we celebrate Armed Forces Day on May 20^{th} , Memorial Day on May 29^{th} , and Flag Day on June 14^{th} , we stand in gratitude for their dedication and their sacrifice.

CONFIRMATION

MOSACKS.COM

Mosack's provides a wide range of flags made in the U.S.A. including United States flags, military flags, state flags, foreign flags, logo flags, religious flags, sports flags, and message flags. We also carry presentation sets, parade flags and patriotic bunting. Memorial flag display cases are large enough to hold 5' x 9.5' flags. In addition, MOSACK'S sells commercial aluminum flagpoles and residential aluminum flag-poles in a variety of finishes and sizes and fiberglass flagpoles in a variety of sizes. We also

have a complete line of telescoping flagpoles. Other flag and flagpole accessories outdoor flags and indoor flag sets are also available.

We are constantly adding to our wide variety of flags and accessories. Please contact us for availability of other flags and flagpoles. We look forward to serving you!



Prayer for Those In the Service

Almighty God, we stand before You asking for Your Divine Mercy and protection. Embrace with Your invincible armor our loved ones in all branches of the service.

Give then courage and strength against all enemies both spiritual and physical and hasten their safe journey back to their homes and families Amen.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

As graduates move forward to times and bad. We build a solid take their place in the world, future on the lessons we have we offer some reflections: learned and the subjects we

Though we leave friends behind as we say goodbye we know that there is One who will never leave, One who walks with us all our days. Though events change our lives, God is ever there walking with us through good

times and bad. We build a solid future on the lessons we have learned and the subjects we have studied. As we continue our journey in life, we take God's wisdom and keep him in our hearts. With God's loving guidance our choices will be smart and we will be able to follow the dreams within our hearts and build a better world.



World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Father in heaven, you sent us your only Son to redeem us and to build your kingdom on earth. Please give us the wisdom and strength we need to follow His call.

Grant to the faithful a spirit of generosity, that Church vocations may flourish.

Bless our priests with holiness and courage that they may lead your people to Christ. Help all sisters and brothers to fulfill their sacred promises and be effective signs of your kingdom.

Lord, invite more men and women to your service. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

MOSACK'S 8562 Mentor Ave Mentor, OH 44060 Phone:

(440) 974-2221

Fax:

(440) 974-4004

E-Mail:

info@mosacks.com We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.mosacks.com



