

# MOSACK'S

Church Goods & Religious Gifts



## EMANUELE FONTANINI APPEARANCE TOUR



MOSACK'S is honored to host a Personal Appearance Tour with Emanuele Fontanini, one of the fourth generation family members now leading the House of Fontanini in Bagni di Lucca, Italy. We are one of only 20 retailers nationwide where members of the Fontanini family will appear in 2015. Our Special Event is scheduled for **Friday, Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> from 11-3:00 pm.**

In addition to Fontanini collection to be signed. Nativity Sets, Stables and Refreshments will be served. Figurines, special heirloom pieces available for this Appearance Tour include: the 2015 Holy Family Ornament, Nicodemus 2015 limited edition figure, and Dominic 2015 Tour Figure. Fontanini figures purchased on the event day will be adorned with Emanuele's sought-after signature. Collectors may also bring two pieces from their personal



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## NOV. TIME TO COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS!

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING!** In 1863 Abraham Lincoln set aside the fourth Thursday in November as a Day of National Thanksgiving for Americans. Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> is a time for family and friends to gather with all the laughter of happy children, the glad greetings of family re-united and the humble gratitude of the Christian heart shared with those less fortunate.

Take time to count your blessings as you feast on turkey with all the trimmings and prepare for the official launch of the Christmas Shopping season! MOSACK'S carries serving dishes, figurines, decorations, books and gifts for Thanksgiving.

### THANKSGIVING DINNER BLESSING:

*Almighty and gracious God, we give thanks for the fruits of the earth in their season and for the labors of those who harvest them.*

*Make us faithful stewards of your great bounty, for the provision of our necessities and the relief of all who are in need.*

*We spend this day among family and friends sharing the blessings you have given us. Guide us in the service of your name.  
Amen.*

### NICHOLAS A Saint for Christmas

Jesus was born in a Bethlehem stable, but He came to find a home in our hearts. St. Nicholas shows us how to respond to the gift of God's love. Born about 17 centuries ago in what is now the country of Turkey, Nicholas was a kindly bishop known for his generosity to the poor. He gave away his money to those in need, but tried to do it secretly so no one would know he was responsible. When people found out and praised Nicholas, he reminded them that God is the source of all goodness. Often children leave their shoes out the night before St. Nicholas Day (Dec 6<sup>th</sup>) in the hope that they will be filled with treats by morning. Cookies, cakes, candies left by a secret giver who was filled with the love of Jesus are traditional favorites. The tradition of Santa Claus came from St. Nicholas.

## ADVENT: WAKE UP TO JOY!

What make you JOYFUL? Christians are people whose true happiness comes from following Jesus and living by the call to love God and neighbor. Jesus came to share our life so that we might have joy and have it to the full (John15:11). Advent is the perfect time to take stock of our lives, to pray, and to invite Jesus into our hearts.

Don't let the hustle and bustle of holiday preparations, gift-giving, Christmas carols, tree trimming, and parties overwhelm you. BE JOYFUL! Remember the warmth of friendship and the support of loved ones that sur-

rounds you. Spread joy to those less fortunate or burdened. The wonder and joy of Christmas is knowing our Savior came to free us from sin and death so that we might share the very life of God, now and forever!



## OCTOBER MONTH OF THE ROSARY – RESPECT LIFE

St. Pope John Paul II called the Rosary “*the school of Mary*” a special devotion that teaches about the close relationship between Mary and Jesus. “*The Rosary is a prayer loved by countless Saints ... Simple yet profound, it is a prayer of great significance, destined to bring forth a harvest of holiness ...With the Rosary, the Christian people sits at the school of Mary and is led to contemplate the beauty on the face of Christ and to experience the depths of his love. Through the Rosary the Faithful receive abundant grace, as though from the very hands of the Mother of the Redeemer*”. (*Rosarium Virginis Mariae*) October 7<sup>th</sup> celebrates the Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary honoring Mary's example and guidance to her child, Jesus. By praying the rosary and meditating on the mysteries, we open our lives to Mary and Jesus. We learn how to share God's love with the world.

Whether you are looking for a special Swarovski Crystal, Natural Gemstone, Mother-of-Pearl,



Birthstone, or Wood Rosary MOSACK'S is your shopping destination. We even have inexpensive plastic and cord rosaries. Rosary bracelets, finger rosaries and chaplets are also in stock. Scriptural Rosary Books, and Mysteries of the Rosary pamphlets will help you focus on the lives of Jesus and Mary and pray without distractions.

October is also dedicated to prayer and sacrifice for Respect Life. The National Campaign for Life (Sept 23rd through Nov 1st) encourages 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. As we consider life issues during October, let us open our eyes to the many ways in which human life is at risk in our world and find constructive ways to witness the Gospel of Life.

### RESPECT LIFE PRAYER

Father, Creator of all: You are God. Yet, we have replaced Your order with our chaos. You have made us in Your image. Yet, we deny this truth and deface Your image through abortion. Have mercy on us.

Some of us have tolerated or promoted abortion rights. Some of us have been indifferent or apathetic toward the unborn. Some of us have participated in abortions. Have mercy on us all.

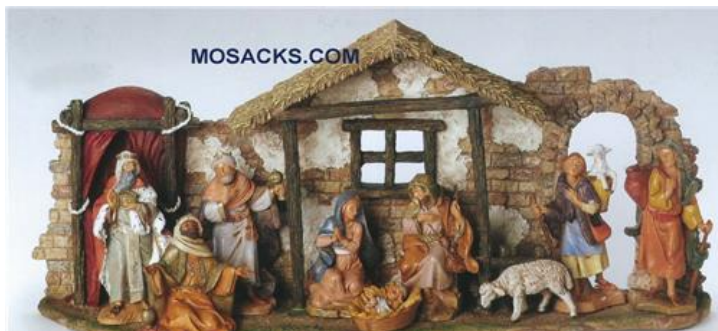
Open our eyes to the inherent dignity of each person. Give us the courage to stand for life. Show our nation how to cherish and protect the unborn. Teach us again the beauty and wisdom of chastity. We ask this through Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen

Father Robert Franco  
St. Peter Church – North Ridgeville, Ohio

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS

### ***The Advent wreath is full of symbolic meaning:***

- **The Evergreen Branch:** Symbolizes that God's love is never ending and lasts forever. God is life and we have life by dwelling with Him.
- **The Circle:** The Advent wreath is made in the circle because it shows that God is one, and shows that He loves us without stopping. Also as a circle has no beginning and no end so does God and his love for us.
- **The Red Berries:** Demonstrates to us the sacrifice that Jesus makes for us on the cross.
- **The Purple Candles:** The purple candles symbolize the prayer, penance, and preparatory sacrifices and goods works that we should do at this time. Purple is also a color of royalty, which a king would wear. There are normally 3 purple candles.
- **The Pink Candle:** The pink candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent. This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, which is Latin for Rejoice Sunday. We rejoice because the coming of Christ is near.
- **The white candle:** The white candle which is normally in the center of the Advent wreath symbolizes the purity of Jesus and Mary who are without sin.



**CRIB BLESSING:** *God of every nation and people, from the very beginning of creation you have made manifest your love. When our need for a Savior was great, you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary. To our lives he brings joy and peace, justice, mercy and love.*

*Lord, bless this crib and all who look upon it. May it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus, and raise up our thoughts to him who is God-with-us and Savior of all, and who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.*



**Advent Calendars** help families count the days until Jesus' Birthday.

**Mini Book Calendar:** For the first 24 days of December there is a mini book that relates a Bible Story, offers a special prayer, or features a familiar Christmas song. Once you read each little book, you can hang it on your Christmas Tree. The unique Advent Calendar makes celebrating Advent at school or home truly meaningful.

**Chocolate Calendar:** Upon opening each window of the Stable Chocolate Advent Calendar, one finds a wonderful piece of gourmet milk chocolate along with a bible text that tells a part of the Nativity story



**Oplatki** is an Eastern European wafer like bread, almost identical to altar bread. However rather than being round, Oplatki is shaped like a rectangle and may have the image of the Holy Family, the three wise men or a star. Normally it comes in a pack of four, three white ones and a pink one. European cultures such as the Polish break the Oplatki at the Christmas Eve feast. After prayer, the head of the family breaks off a small piece of it and passes it down. Once everyone has a piece of the Oplatki, they eat it, then begin their feast.

This is to symbolize unity of the family who are united through Christ.

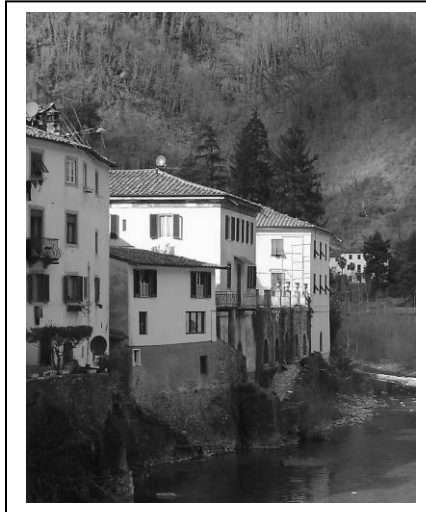




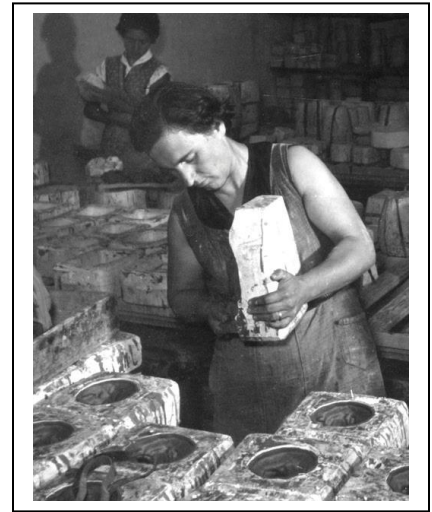
## FONTANINI FAMILY HISTORY



Emanuele Fontanini  
Founder of Fontanini



Bagni Di Lucca  
House of the Fontanini Family



Molding process of figures

In a one-room shop in a northern Italian village, an artistic heritage was born. The year was 1908. The place was Bagni di Lucca. The creative force was Emanuele Fontanini. With dreams and talent, he apprenticed at age 13 with a Luccan artist. To increase his artistic knowledge and skills, Emanuele traveled to the artistic centers of Europe. He returned home with money from the sale of his wares to launch the House of Fontanini.

Bagni di Lucca, in Italy's Tuscany region, is known for the fine art of figurine-crafting. Emanuele worked with the best painters and sculptors from this region to bring his ideas to life.

The first Fontanini figures were plaster, then papier-mâché with moveable arms and fabric costumes. Crèche figures, a popular Italian Christmas tradition, became the nucleus of the Fontanini® Heirloom Nativity® Collection. The Fontanini family spread this Italian Nativity custom throughout the world. Emanuele's three sons followed in his footsteps, as did their sons. Today, the fourth generation continues the legacy with great-grandsons Emanuele, Stefano, Marco and Luca.

Emanuele's son Marco pioneered a new material for crafting figures that is still used today. A high-density polymer holds the fine undercuts and delicate sculpting that was not possible with papier-mâché, plaster or clay. This material is used for all but the largest figure sizes. Fontanini produces for home and institutional display (2.5" to 50" tall).

Pope John Paul II kept a 50" set in his private quarters. Other sizes have been featured in films and television, and chosen by churches and cathedrals around the world. Today the House of Fontanini continues to bring new depths of meaning to the Nativity story.

### EMANUELE FONTANINI OF THE HOUSE OF FONTANINI

Together, Emanuele and Stefano Fontanini are the fourth generation to lead the celebrated House of Fontanini in the village of Bagni di Lucca, Italy, where it was founded nearly over a century ago. Priding themselves on "Building Family Traditions," these men are honored to follow in the footsteps of their father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. Breathtaking in detail and workmanship, Fontanini® Heirloom Nativity® is comprised of figures and accompanying structures in seven different sizes—from miniatures to nearly life-size sculptures. Presenting a well-researched step back in time to Biblical Bethlehem, Fontanini Nativity structures are made perfect with figures of extraordinary grace and beauty.

*(continued on page 5)*



## Emanuele Fontanini

(continued from page 4)

Great grandson and namesake of the House of Fontanini's founder, Emanuele began his apprenticeship in the Nativity crafting process as a young boy and studied all facets of the business at his father Ugo's side. Every day after school he would come to the factory where he worked closely alongside his father. Taking an active role in his son's education, Ugo was never more than a few steps away from his son. Emanuele took on increasing responsibilities as he learned about production schedules, sculpting techniques, and shipping challenges.

Following the deaths of his father and his Uncle Piero in the mid-1990s, Emanuele, only in his late twenties, assumed the helm of the company that had been in his family for more than eight decades. In his current role, Emanuele acts as the liaison between the sculptors, including Master Sculptor Elio Simonetti, and the artisans who translate original sculpts into finished pieces. In addition to his responsibilities with the family business, Emanuele enjoys playing golf and spending time with his son Michele.

Emanuele made his first collector appearance in 1989. Since then, he has joined members of his family to make personal appearances on national retailer tours. As a result of extensive personal tour appearances, Emanuele has become a popular personality at U.S. collectible stores. Since 1908, the House of Fontanini has created magnificent old-world nativities and sculptures treasured by collectors and revered by worshippers in some of the world's most famous cathedrals.

## 2016 JUBILEE YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis calls for a special year-long celebration of God's Mercy:

**"The call of Jesus pushes each of us never to stop at the surface of things, especially when we are dealing with a person. We are called to look beyond, to focus on the heart to see how much generosity everyone is capable of."**



**No one can be excluded from the mercy of God; everyone knows the way to access it and the Church is the house that welcomes all and refuses no one. Its doors remain wide open, so that those who are touched by grace can find the certainty of forgiveness. The greater the sin, so much the greater must be the love that the Church expresses toward those who convert.**

**Dear brothers and sisters, I have often thought about how the Church might make clear its mission of being a witness to mercy. It is journey that begins with a spiritual conversion. For this reason, I have decided to call an extraordinary Jubilee that is to have the mercy of God at its center. It shall be a Holy Year of Mercy. We want to live the Year in the light of the Lord's words: 'Be Merciful, just as your Father is merciful' (LK 6:36)."**

The Holy Year will begin on Dec. 8, 2015, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception, and will end on Nov 20, 2016 the Feast of Christ the King. Check MOSACK'S website for Pope Francis books, rosaries, statues, medals, holy cards, and more. Jubilee Year of Mercy product will be added as it becomes available in the next few months. Plan now to take advantage of the special graces and blessings of this Holy Year.

**"I am convinced that the whole Church will find in this Jubilee the joy needed to rediscover and make fruitful the mercy of God, with which all of us are called to give consolation to every man and woman of our time. ... We entrust this Holy Year to the Mother of Mercy, that she might turn her gaze upon us and watch over our Journey"** (Pope Francis)

### RAFFLE WINNER!

Mike K. is the winner of the Joseph Studio Solar Angel Birdbath – it will be a great addition to his garden. Our next In-Store Raffle will be for a 6 piece Fontanini Nativity Scene – stop in the store today to pick-up your tickets! Drawing will be held Nov. 24<sup>th</sup>.



## A MOMENT OF GRACE A PRAYER FOR REFUGEES

God of our wandering ancestors, long have we known that your heart is with the refugee: that you were born into time in a family of refugees fleeing violence in their homeland, who then gathered up their hungry child and fled into alien country. Their cry, Your cry, resounds through the ages: "Will you let me in?"

Give us hearts that break open when our brothers and sisters turn to us with that same cry. Then surely all these things will follow: ears will no longer be deaf to their voices, eyes will see a moment for grace instead of a threat, tongues will not be silent but will instead advocate, and hands will reach out – working for peace in their homeland and working for justice in the lands where they seek haven. Lord protect all refugees in their travels. May they find a friend in me and so make me worthy of the refuge I have found in You.

Amen

## SAINTS FOR CONSECRATED LIFE:

### ST THERESA OF THE CHILD JESUS: FEAST Oct 1<sup>st</sup>

Born 1-2-1873 Died 9-30-1897 The Little Flower – The Little Way

Theresa was the youngest of nine children; she lost her mother at an early age. She entered The Carmelite Convent in Lisieux by special dispensation and spent her life fulfilling routine duties with extraordinary faithfulness and love. As Novice Mistress she guided those entering the community in spiritual formation. After her death from tuberculosis the publication of her autobiography *The Story of a Soul* revealed her remarkable interior life and her spirit of the "little way" where everything she did became a pleasing gift for God.

### ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Feast Day Oct 4<sup>th</sup>

Born in 1182 Died 10-3-1226 Patron of the Poor and Animals

St Francis was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant in Assisi Italy. He renounced wealth and position to answer the call "Francis, go and rebuild my house; it is falling down". Joyful, simple, a lover of people and nature, Francis soon attracted companions who shared his love of Christ and the Gospel. The Franciscan order was officially recognized by the Pope in 1210 – St Clare joined him soon after beginning the Poor Clares in 1212. His deep affection for the events of Jesus' life inspired him to recreate the Birth of Jesus with the first Christmas Crib at Greccio in 1223. He was well-known as a lover of nature and animals. Francis received the stigmata – the wounds of the Passion of Jesus- in 1224. In poor health and half blind, St Francis died in 1226 during the reading of the Passion of Jesus from the Gospel.

**ST FAUSTINA KOWALSKA:** Feast Day October 5<sup>th</sup> Born 8-25-1905 Died 10-5-1938 Canonized in 2000

Apostle of Divine Mercy

St. Faustina had only 3 years of formal education and began working as a domestic at the age of 16. She joined the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and filled the post as gardener, cook and doorkeeper in various convents in Poland. In Feb of 1931, she had a vision of Jesus with one hand raised and the other at his breast. Jesus told her to have an image made of this vision with the words "Jesus I trust in You". He also asked that she promote the Second Sunday of Easter as a feast of Divine Mercy. Her visions, revelations, hidden gifts of the Stigmata, reading of souls and prophecies are recorded in *The Diary of St Faustina*.

**ST. MARY SOLEDAD:** Feast Oct 11<sup>th</sup>

Born 12-2-1826 Died 10-11-1887 Canonized 1970 Patron: Caregivers Emanuelea Torres-Acosta was born in Madrid Spain. From her earliest days

she felt called to the service of God and the vowed religious life. She was rejected by the Dominican order because of poor health, but asked to head a new community of women whose purpose was to minister to the sick poor in 1848. Taking the name of Mary Soledad she oversaw the beginnings of the Handmaids of Mary Serving the Sick. She served as prioress for 35 years. The order worked heroically during the Madrid cholera epidemic of 1865 and expanded through Europe and the Americas – founding 46 houses.

**ST JOHN LEONARDI:** Feast Oct 9<sup>th</sup>

Born 1541 Died 1609

John was born in Lucca Italy in 1541, the Council of Trent completed the great reforms to the Catholic Church during his early years. Ordained in 1572, he founded a community of priests to foster the work of catechetical instruction recommended by the Council. This became the Clerk Regular of the Mother of God in 1595. He also founded the

Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, wrote a catechism book and sought to train laity as teachers of religion. In 1603 his efforts led to the foundation of the College of the Propagation of the Faith which has trained thousands of missionary priests over the past 300 years.

**ST TERESA OF AVILA:** Feast Oct 15<sup>th</sup>

Born 3—28-1515 Died 10-4-1582

Doctor of the Church

As a child, Teresa was drawn to religion, avidly reading the lives of the saints. She entered the Carmelite monastery at Avila in 1531 despite her father's objections. She experienced great graces of prayer and described her experiences in her *Autobiography*, *The Way of Perfection* and *The Interior Castle* – both are spiritual classics. With the help of John of the Cross she reformed and founded new Carmelite communities throughout Spain.

**ST. MARGARET MARY:** Feast Oct 16<sup>th</sup>

Born 1647 Died 1690 Devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

St. Margaret Mary suffered from a rheumatic illness as a youth. After intensive treatments she entered the Visitation Convent at Paray-le-Monial, France in 1671. Here she received special revelations in which the Lord called her to reveal to the world the love of his Sacred Heart. With the help of her confessor, Claude de la Columbiere, she promoted the devotions of the nine first Fridays and the Holy Hour, establishing the Feast of the Sacred Heart and fostering popular devotions.

**ST ISAAC JOGUES (died 1647), ST JOHN DE BREBEUF (died 1649) and COMPANIONS:** Priests and Martyrs

These two priests were some of the eight members of the Society of Jesus who were killed in North America by Indians from the Huron and Iroquois tribes between 1647-49. These brave missionaries were responsible for the first beginnings of the faith in North America as they willingly endured many hardships to bring the word of the Gospel to a new continent.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CABRINI:** Feast Nov 13<sup>th</sup>

Born 7-15-1850 Died 12-22-1917

Patron: Immigrants, hospitals, orphans

Saint Francis Xavier Carbini was born in Lombardia Italy. She was the youngest of 13 children. When she was 18 she tried twice to enter into a convent however due to her poor health she was unable to do so. She then stayed home to take care of her parents until their death and help her siblings out on their family farm. The Bishop of Todi requested that Frances and 7 followers move into an abandoned friary to found the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to care for orphans in schools and hospitals. In 1880 the order was approved and spread to Rome and Milan.

**ST. ELIZABETH OF HUNGARY:** Feast Day: Nov. 17<sup>th</sup>

Patron: homeless people, death of children, bakers, widows, falsely accused

Saint Elizabeth of Hungary was a princess, married at a young age to Louis the king of Hungary. Ever since she was a young girl she was very holy and enjoyed serving the poor. Even though she was a queen she wore clothes similar to that of a peasant and would often wear a hair shirt as an act of penance. Elizabeth never put on her jeweled crown, since Jesus wore thorns. Many criticized her because she ate very little. Her mother-in-law did not like her and did not think that she would be a good queen because of her holiness and charity to the poor. King Louis knew this and because of his love for his wife he would try to prevent her from taking care of the poor. Once, while Elizabeth was going out into the streets with an apron full of bread, her husband asked her what she was doing. She did not say anything and when he opened her apron, flowers appeared rather than the bread. When King Louis died from the Crusades, her family ousted Elizabeth and her four children from the palace. She lived for a time with her uncle who was the Bishop of Bamberg. After sometime, her family allowed her to come back as queen and her son as the rightful heir. The rest of her life was that of constant prayer and charity.

**ST CATHERINE LABOURE** Feast Day: Nov. 28<sup>th</sup>

Born: 5-2-1806 Died: 12-31-1876

Patron: Miraculous Medal devotion to Mary

Saint Catherine Laboure was born in Cote d'Or France. At the young age of 9, her mother died and she helped to raise her younger siblings. In the year 1803 she entered the Daughters of Charity, a religious community that would take care of the sick. During her years in the convent she received many apparitions of our Blessed Virgin Mary. Mary forewarned her about the anti-clerical revolution that would take place in 1870, and that she wanted to give Catherine a mission which would cause her great suffering. On November 27 Our Blessed Mother came to Saint Catherine again, speaking to her in detail of a medal that she wished to have made and spread to all people. This medal is known as the Miraculous Medal and is still worn with great devotion this day.

**ST. FRANCIS XAVIER:** Feast Day: Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> Patron: Missions, plague epidemics, propagation of the faith

Saint Francis was born to a wealthy family. While studying at the University of Paris he met St. Ignatius of Loyola. After much thought and prayer, Francis joined Saint Ignatius' new religious order, known as the Society of Jesus; Jesuits. He was soon sent to Japan and India to do missionary work. The journey was a long and hard one. He was shipped wrecked three times, went days without food or water, and was attacked by Muslims. During his missionary work Saint Francis took care of the sick and imprisoned, educated children, corrected immoral behavior, worked many miracles, raised 25 dead people to life, baptized thousands of people, destroyed forty thousand idols, and built over 100 churches. He wanted to travel to China to educate people about the faith however his ill health prevented him from doing so. Many Catholics in the Orient are very proud of the missionary saint. Saint Francis Xavier's body is incorrupt to this day.

**ST. JUAN DIEGO:** Feast Day: Dec 9<sup>th</sup>

Born: 7-12-1474 Died: 5-30-1548

Patron: Devotion to Our Lady of Guadalupe

Saint Juan Diego was born in Cuautitlan of the Texcoco Kingdom in Mexico. When Franciscan Missionaries came to Mexico, Juan and his wife were baptized into the Catholic faith. His wife died five years later, leaving Juan and his uncle alone. Juan Diego had great love and devotion for his faith, so much so that every weekend he would walk 9 miles to mass and catechism. On Saturday December 9, he heard beautiful singing on top of Tepeyac hill. When he reached the top, he saw a beautiful lady, who was the Blessed Virgin Mary. She requested that a chapel be built on the hill in her honor. Mary asked him to go before the Bishop. Juan was sure that the Bishop would not listen to a peasant such as himself, yet he went faithfully bringing the lady's request. The Bishop sent Juan away several times, until a miracle occurred. When Saint Juan's Uncle became deathly ill, Juan attempted to avoid the beautiful Lady, yet



she appeared to him, knowing his distress. She told him not to worry about his uncle, that he would be healed. He told her to find someone who had more influence and power, in order that her request may be granted, but she told him that it was he that she chose and wanted. Mary then told him to pick some roses, which were very rare in the area and bring them back to her. Juan followed her orders, filling his tilma with beautiful flowers. Mary arranged the flowers in his tilma and sent him off to the bishop. When Saint Juan came before the Bishop, he opened the tilma revealing the roses. Imprinted on his tilma was a beautiful image of Our Blessed Lady, exactly as she appeared to Juan. Saint Juan's uncle was cured, and Our Lady's Chapel was built. These apparitions became known as Our Lady of Guadalupe. The divine image on the tilma is still present today. On Mary's mantle there are stars, which are positioned the same way the star constellations were during the time that she appeared. If one looks closely at her eyes, they show Juan revealing the tilma to the Bishop. There are many other miraculous facts about this tilma, which prove that it could only have been painted by a miracle.

**Saint Thomas Becket:** Feast Day: Dec. 29<sup>th</sup>

Born: 12-21-1118 Died: 12-29-1170

Patron: clergy, Portsmouth, England

Saint Thomas was born in London, England, on December 21, 1118. His father was a prosperous merchant. Thomas was very well educated and soon became the assistant to Theobald, Archbishop of Canterbury. Theobald sent Thomas as a delegate to Rome. Due to his intelligence and ability to speak well, King Henry II appointed him chancellor and the two became friends. In the year 1161, Theobald died, giving King Henry the opportunity to appoint Saint Thomas Becket as the archbishop, hoping to be able to control the church. Thomas surprised the Henry II though because he would defend the church and all its teachings, which the king did not agree with. Their friendship soon ended. Saint Thomas fled England in 1164, and was in exile in France until 1170. When he returned, King Henry II knights, assuming that the king wanted him dead, killed Thomas while he was praying in the Canterbury Cathedral.



#### PRAYER TO OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE

O Virgin of Guadalupe, Mother of the Americas, grant to our homes the grace of loving and respecting life in its beginnings, with the same love with which you conceived in your womb the life of the Son of God. Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Fair Love, protect our families so that they may always be united and bless the upbringing of our children.

Our hope, look upon us with pity, teach us to go continually to Jesus, and if we fall, help us to rise again and return to Him through the confession of our faults and our sins in the Sacrament of penance, which gives peace to the soul.

We beg you to grant us a great love of all the holy Sacraments, which are, as it were, the signs that your Son left us on earth. Thus, Most Holy Mother, with the peace of God in our consciences, with our hearts free from evil and hatred, we will be able to bring to all others true joy and peace, which come to us from your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who with the Father and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.  
(Pope John Paul II.)





## CLERGY APPRECIATION MONTH

October is Clergy Appreciation Month. Take time to pray for and support your priest, deacon, or church minister. They work tirelessly to meet your needs throughout the year. Show that you care! Send a card, or write a personal note of thanks. Use an October calendar to schedule volunteers for a month-long schedule of surprise treats. Each day of the month, the pastor will receive a surprise token of appreciation from a church member, committee or group. The tributes can vary widely. Some ideas include: Letters from School children, an apple pie, or a gift certificate. After a whole month of pleasant surprises, won't your pastor feel appreciated?

### Prayer for Church Leaders:

**Almighty God, you give your Church holy leaders filled with charity, goodness and prayer – good shepherds like your Son, Jesus. Through the prompting of your grace may they always realize that they are your chosen ones, called by name. Comfort them more dearly when they are discouraged, lonely or greatly beset by temptation. Be with them in their troubles; with you they can do all things. Let them know the warmth and support of their congregations and fill them daily with your blessings. Amen**

## BOOK REVIEW: LAUDATO SI: On Care For Our Common Home



Laudato Si, the most recent encyclical by Pope Francis, encourages readers to be protectors of creation and sharers of God's plan which is inscribed in nature. Pope Francis calls us to protect one another and the environment.

Laudato Si, On the Care for Our Common Home follows and expands on Catholic teaching on humankind's responsibility to care for God's creation, and to protect and care for

the most vulnerable. This letter builds on the teachings of previous popes including Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and Pope Saint John Paul II.

The Church is likewise conscious of the responsibility which all of us have for our world, for the whole of creation, which we must love and protect. The Laudato Si edition published by Our Sunday Visitor includes reflection questions, making it perfect for individual or group study.

**MOSACK'S**   
Church Goods & Religious Gifts

8562 Mentor Ave

Mentor, OH 44060

Phone:(440) 974-2221

Fax:(440) 974-4004

E-Mail:info@mosacks.com

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