

14th Weekend in Ordinary Time July 8 & 9, 2017

Mass Intentions

Saturday

5:00 PM For Judith Gormley by Anne & Fred D'Antuono

Sunday

9:00 AM For Louise & Ben Placella by Michael Placella

Monday

7:30 AM For Nicholas D'Agvano by his mother, Ursula

Next Saturday

5:00 PM For Jeffrey Michalenka by Donna & Peter Perry

Next Sunday

9:00 AM For Clara Pietros by her son, Steven

Parish Stewardship

Weekend of July 1 & 2, 2017

The financial report for last weekend will be published in next week's Bulletin because the Bulletin copy for this week was due on June 30th at the printers.

Religious Education News

A volunteer is needed to teach 3rd grade in our Religious Education program. Please contact Mrs. Cedor @ 401-946-3399 if you would be willing to help. Please leave a message and she will get back to you. Classes are from 3:30 – 5:15 PM on Tuesdays.

Free Shredding Day – July 18

There will be a free paper-shredding day here at St. Brigid's on **Tuesday, July 18th**. All paper needs to be boxed. Paper products include: invoices, contracts, tax returns, insurance documents, leases, computer printouts, sealed bids, statements, balance sheets, personal papers, newspaper, magazines, etc. Staples, paper clips, rubber bands, folders, etc do NOT need to be removed. Boxes can be dropped off at the rectory garage any Saturday between 12:00 – 3:00 PM if you cannot bring them on July 18th.

Note for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors

Please try to inform Fran Wilkie via e-mail (fran@wilkem.com) or by phone (401-474-6128) if you are unavailable on a particular weekend or day by the 15th of the month before. This will help her put the schedule together. Also, if you would like to be scheduled for a particular mass, she can do this as well.

Prayer Line Ministry

Just a reminder that our Parish Prayer Line Ministry is a group of parishioners who each day pray for the intentions of our parishioners. If you wish to join the ministry or if you have intentions to be prayed for, please call Sandy Cerrito at 944-0437.

Awareness and Caution

Please be aware that many of our parishioners find it difficult to climb and descend the church steps. Upon leaving mass on weekends, please do not crowd around the side handrails so that those who need them may reach them with as little difficulty as possible.

Housekeeping Help

In order to keep our church neat and welcoming for all, please do not leave Bulletins in the pews or racks and please replace missals and prayer cards in the racks before you leave mass. Thank you.

Parking Issues

As we all know, we have parking issues since we do not have a parking lot (and it seems that a parking lot is not feasible). Please park as close to the curbing as you can and as close to the car in front of you. This may mean having to wait for the person in front of you to leave, but more importantly, it will allow parking for a few more cars.

Personal Care Items Needed

Personal care items such as soap, toothbrushes & toothpaste, tissues and toilet paper, are needed for the clients of the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry. Items may be left in the food bin in the foyer of the church.

Father Bob's Ramblings

The celebration of Independence Day this past week is a clear reminder that we are truly in the midst of the summer season. For many of us, that means a more leisurely schedule, a little bit of time off, working in the garden, and maybe a time to travel. There is something about these months that gives us a different feeling about life than during other seasons of the year.

In our Liturgical celebrations, we call this Ordinary Time during Summer. These Sunday liturgies mostly focus on the public life and ministry of Jesus, and the readings for Sundays are centered on the parables, teachings, miracles, and sayings of Jesus. This year we hear the Gospel readings from Matthew, which were written for the early Jewish Christians. Because of that, there are many references to the Old Testament.

Although summer calls us to a more leisurely living, the liturgies of the Church call us to fasten our belts around our waist and take care that our lamps are lit, waiting for the master. It is the time to give attention to how we live as followers of Jesus. It is time for us to focus on our lives as Christian lives.

In the liturgies of Ordinary Time during Summer, we get a taste of *Summer School for Disciples*. Of course, the greatest action we do as disciples is to gather in the name of the Lord to break bread, that is, to participate in the Eucharist. For here, the life of the disciple is given clear meaning and direction: to proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes in glory. Each Sunday we do this with faith and in joy, trusting that the Lord is with us until the end of time.

As we take time to relax and slow down during these summer months, let's try not to forget that we are disciples of the Lord, nourished and fed by his Word and Sacrament to be his presence in the world.

To all our visitors, I say, welcome. And to all who are vacationing, I say enjoy some rest and relaxation.

"FEAR KNOT"

"Fear not, for I am with you. Be not dismayed, for I am your God." (Isaiah 41:10)

There are over 350 instances in the Bible when we are exhorted to "**Fear not**" or "**Don't be afraid.**" This translates into a "**Fear not**" for almost every day of the year. God knows us well. How easily we can forget to turn toward Him and away from fear.

Although I hear the words "**fear not,**" I'm still quite adept at starting out with a small strand of anxiety. Then, before I know it, I've created a giant "**fear knot**" which strangles my peace and confidence.

I believe in the Lord and by His grace have grown in managing many of my fears. Yet there are still times when I create a "**knot of fear.**" While fearful images can seem very real on the screen of my mind during the day, at night my imagination can soar and create fear-based, technicolor, full-length productions.

As I get older, I'm more aware of fears' detrimental effects on my body, mind, and spirit. Like so many of us, I'm trying to find more effective ways to untangle those anxious knots.

Lord, please help us to respond when you challenge us to "**FEAR NOT.**" When a "**FEAR KNOT**" is forming, help us to recognize it right away and turn to You. Assure us, Lord, that You are with us . . . even in the midst of dreadful and difficult situations. Teach us to take to heart Your words. . . .

"Fear not, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name and you are mine. Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you and through waters; they will not swallow you up. Should you pass through the fire, you will not be burned and the flames will not harm you. For I am Yahweh, your God, the holy one of Israel your savior." (Isaiah 43:1-3)

Joanne Grant

