



## *Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time*

August 19, 2007

Jesus endured the cross, despising its shame, and has taken his seat at the right of the throne of God.

- Hebrews 12:2

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**CONFIRMATION:** This sacrament is administered to Grade 10 students. Preparation for the sacrament is a two-year program, Phase I, Grade 9 and Phase II, Grade 10. This is a requirement for students in Catholic, Private or Public Schools. Registration Forms were mailed to Grade 9 students who are presently enrolled in our program. Those who are not in our program need to call the office at 656-7185 and a Registration Form will be mailed to you.

**CATECHISTS:** We are still in need of Catechists: One for Grade 1, One for Grade 4 and ONE for Grade 6. Can you please HELP? Please call 656-7185. Thank You.

**RECONCILIATION / HOLY EUCHARIST:** These sacraments are usually received in Second Grade. If children attend Catholic School they are required to attend our religious instruction classes in Grade 2 in preparation for the reception of these sacraments. Parents need to call the office 656-7185 to register.

**RE-REGISTRATION 2007- 2008:** Family Re-Registration Forms with Reports were mailed to the parents on Monday, May 14. Some forms have been returned for which we are very grateful. We will be delighted to get the rest of the forms so that we can arrange our classes for the NEW DRE. *Thank you.*

**NEW FAMILIES:** We will *WELCOME* new families into our Parish Family and Religious Education Program. Parents are asked to call the office at 656-7185 regarding registration and to make an appointment. Children entering Pre-School must be three years old by February 2007. Children entering Kindergarten must be in Kindergarten in regular school.

**CALENDAR DATES:** Sunday, Sept. 9, Pancake Breakfast; Sunday, Sept. 16, Enrollment of Catechists and Classes for Grades 1 - 6; Sunday, Sept. 23, Classes for Grades 7 - 8 begin; Sunday, Sept. 30, Pre-School and Kindergarten begin; Sun. Oct. 14, Confirmation Classes Grades 9 / 10 begin. *Please NOTE the beginning date for Grades 7 and 8 Classes. This is so that their Catechists can take part in the Enrollment Ceremony at 9:00am. Liturgy.*

**CLASSES:** All classes are held on Sunday, morning. Grades 7-10, 8:45-10:00am. Pre-School during the 9:00am. Liturgy. Kindergarten- Grade 6, 10:00 - 11:15am.

**LOOKING AHEAD:** Catechetical Congress, Saturday, October 27 at Chase Riverfront Center, Wilmington. All who are ministers in the field of Religious Education are encouraged to attend.

### **PASTOR'S NOTES**

A Healthy Division

I hope that none of you are still under the illusion that we are living in a society that is based upon Christian values. Our choice is between following the teaching of Jesus or the teachings of our society. Our choice often divides us from one another, as Jesus so strongly puts it in today's Gospel reading. It is true that at times our society's values may be the same as our Christian values, but, unfortunately, there are many, many instances where there is a clash between what our society holds up as a value, and what our faith holds up as a value.

The danger for believers today is not being arrested for what we believe. The danger we face is being lost in the crowd, being swallowed up by the current thinking and behaviour that is all around us. When Jesus tells us that we will be divided from others, that kind of division is not something we should avoid. It is an unavoidable and necessary division. None of us want to be divided from others, but we can't give up our basic principles just to get along well with others.

This is so because the love that Jesus calls us to is not always an easy or approving love. If you have ever raised a child, you know that your love often meant you had to say 'no'. To do otherwise would have been harmful to your kids. Well, on a larger scale we have to say a strong 'no' to many of the things that are going on around us. To do otherwise is to bring harm to our community.

I'm not naïve about this. It is a very difficult task to stand up for what we believe, both as individuals and as a community. It's so much easier to melt into the crowd than to be known as ones who think differently from what millions

#### *"Tending the Flock"*

We're still counting on *you* to reach our goal for the Annual Catholic Appeal. Thanks to recent, one-time gifts, we are only 6,561 from our \$252,100 goal. Remember, no gift is too small. All gifts are welcome. We can't make the goal without your support!

### Wedding Anniversary Liturgy

Sunday, September 23, 2007, Bishop Michael Saltarelli will celebrate Mass with all couples in the diocese celebrating 25 and 50 or more years of married life. The Mass will be *celebrated at St. John the Beloved at 12:30. A reception in the hall will be provided at no cost for those married 25 years or 50 or more years no charge.* We ask each couple wishing to attend this celebration contact the Family Life Bureau, Catholic Charities, 655-9624. Forms are also in the back of church (no later than September 10, 2007)

### Happenings!

Sidewalk repair began last week. We are sure many have noticed deteriorating conditions of certain sections of brick pavements leading to and from the church. A three-stage contract has been set for \$25,500 after a one-year study and multiple bids. Funding is possible from the *Vision for the Future Fund (1991)*. Time for the job will be two weeks. We apologize for any inconvenience.

Ushers need help! We're still looking for help with Ushers. *This is truly a ministry.* We don't want to deprive the congregation of the opportunity to give their offerings for church support. We need four collectors for mass. Ushers also take attendance.

### **Sign Up Now for Our Fall Adult Education Program**

#### *Six Weeks with the Bible*

Check out today's insert

Golf for a Cause: 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia. Monday, Sept. 17 at Springhaven Club, PA. Proceeds to benefit ministries of St. Francis. Call (610) 558-5352 for details.

### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Long ago, a signet ring was an essential part of the wardrobe of influential people. A letter or document would be sealed with hot wax, and a signet ring plunged into the wax would affirm the origin of the document. In the case of the pope, at least from the thirteenth century, the ring was used to seal public documents with hot lead, saving the red wax for private letters. The public documents were called *bullae* after the Latin name for the lead stamp, and we still call them "papal bulls." It is not surprising, therefore, that a signet ring has long been bestowed as part of the inauguration of a pope. The ring is called the *Pescatorio*, or "Ring of the Fisherman." It reminds the wearer of his link with Peter, and his responsibility to continue the apostolic ministry of "fishing for human beings." Until 1842 it actually functioned as a signet ring. Now, each pope receives a new gold ring at the beginning of his ministry. It goes on the fourth finger of his right hand and bears some fisherman design, usually St. Peter casting nets from a boat, as well as the pope's name in Latin. A custom that endures for the pope, but not so much for bishops, is for people being introduced to him to kiss the *Pescatorio* as a sign of respect for his teaching authority. Another enduring custom is for the ring to be smashed and defaced at the pope's death, originally a way of preventing counterfeit deathbed documents

Saturday (Aug. 18)

5:00 p.m. Ray Carr by Marie

Sunday (Aug. 19)

7:30 a.m. Theresa Nicastro Wahl by Chuck Wahl

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. Ann & Clover Knotts by daughters Bev & Carol

Monday (Aug. 20)

7:00 a.m. Robert Mitchell by Karen Dougherty & Jim Erickson

12:05 p.m. Joseph Costanzo by Msgr. Joseph Rebman

Tuesday (Aug. 21)

7:00 a.m. Kibbe Porter by family

12:05 p.m. Dr. William F. Butler and Dr. Stephen P. Butler by Peggy Butler Baird

Wednesday (Aug. 22)

7:00 a.m. Dr. John L. Kron by family

12:05 p.m. Jane Wagner by Mr. & Mrs. Peter Eason

Thursday (Aug. 23)

7:00 a.m. Piotr Molewski by Msgr., Joseph Rebman

12:05 p.m. Margaret & Daniel McGrath by Margaret Hoffman

Friday (Aug. 24)

7:00 a.m. Mary Byrne by Cathy MacFarlane

12:05 p.m. Chloe Curran Schultz by Arlene & Bernard Daney

Saturday (Aug. 25)

8:00 a.m. Caroline Richards by Maureen Murphy

5:00 p.m. David O. Beatson by Lisa & David Beatson

Divorced? Separated? Widowed?

Next Step is a support/social group sponsored by the Family Life Bureau, Diocese of Wilmington..

Call (302) 762-6306 for more details.

### Pilgrimage to National Shrine

Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> is the date. SJOB thirty-voice choir directed by Mary Ellen Schuaber with Michael Marinelli will provide music. Bishop Saltarelli is celebrant at the Shrine Mass at 11 a.m. Departure by bus from parishes between 7 - 8 a.m. \$25 per ticket. Call Marge Danz (302) 994-3874 for reservations.