



## Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 11, 2007

My steps have been steadfast in your paths, my feet have not been faltered.  
I call upon you, for you will answer me, O. God  
-Psalm 17:5-6a

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS

The preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation began on Sunday, November 4.

The preparation started with a meeting of the parents of the children who are in the second grade. Topics included readiness, for the Sacrament, learning the history of the Sacrament and the essential parts of the Sacrament. The parents then met with the second grade catechists. The Catechists then introduced the parents to the text book on Reconciliation.. They then received a parent's guide, which will help the parents work with the children in the home. The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated for the first time with these children on Saturday, December 15, 2007 at 10a.m. The catechists for the second grade are Michelle Hogan and Melanie Penna.

Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers as they prepare for this Sacrament.

The Thanksgiving food drive began on Sunday. Students for each class were given a list of food items to bring in for those less fortunate.

### A Rose & A Prayer

Thanks to the 93 parishioners who returned cards indicating opposition to SB5, which would authorize embryo-destructive research and human cloning and your willingness to participate in prayer vigil 7 p.m. Friday, Nov 16 to 7 p.m., Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. You have another chance to help by using sign up cards in church by putting them in the collection basket or box at entrance. The church favors non-destructive stem cell research but this bill is ethically unacceptable because it allows for the destruction of an unborn human being. Thank you.

*IT'S TIME TO SAY THANKS*

*Chandler Funeral Home*

*for sponsoring the 2008 parish calendar.*

*Its photos beautiful - its messages UPLIFTING!*

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**HOLIDAY HOPE** sponsored by Dougherty Funeral Home - Saturday, Nov. 18 1-3 Christiana Hilton. Free of charge; program designed to give grieving families tools and encouragement to face the Holidays.

### PASTOR'S NOTES

The Season of Gathering In

If there is one thing we know about Jesus, it is that he definitely has not come to re-affirm the status quo. Jesus is concerned about one thing only: announcing that our true identity and "belonging" come only from belonging to God. Who your husband or wife is or was will not enter into it, because marrying is a way of relating which belongs only to this age and time. After death, in the age to come, Jesus says, people "neither marry nor are given in marriage." First and foremost, they are "children of God," no one else's.

Our true identity is found in the heart of God, and any other "identities" we borrow on earth are very temporary--even the marriage ceremony says, "Til death do us part"! Jesus reminds us not to make false idols out of the many other temporary "hats" we may wear while on earth. We need a healthy detachment from our earthly roles in order to believe in our real "claim to fame" as children of God.

In the amazing first reading today, the mother of the seven sons believes in this same transformation after death. She refused to be tempted into thinking that her relationship to her sons in this life was the most important reality. After seeing six of her sons die rather than renounce God, the mother told her sons, "... the Creator of the world...will in his mercy give life and breath back to you again...." (2 Macc. 7:22-24)

Perhaps this seems incredible, even foolish. But she and her sons placed their trust entirely in that deeper identity with God. Consider the ways in which you take your identity from your husband, your wife, or the "blood bonds" in your family. Now how would it feel to let Jesus point us to the future, and live each day from our deeper identities as "children of God"? We can begin today to tear down the idols, and let Jesus put everything in our lives in its proper perspective.

### Silent Prayer Committee

This committee stands ready to pray for you're special intentions. Cindy Clare (302) 654-6344 is chair. No meetings involved - just prayers. Besides calling in prayer requests, you can always volunteer to be on the committee for the prayer chain.

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International Women's Club Craft Fair, Consignment Sale & Bake Sale, St. Joseph Family Center, Wed., Nov. 14 9:30 - 1:00 p.m. Art, jewelry, gift items, bake sale and new or nearly new items in the consignment area.

St. Mary Magdalen School will have an Orientation and Open House on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup> and again on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> for all those interested in the 4 year old Pre-K and Kindergarten programs for the 2008-09 School Year. The Orientation will begin at 9:00 am in the Parish Life Room of the school. An Open House for those interested in Grades Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> will be held during Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> after the 9:00 am Mass and on Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 - 11:00 am. Call 656-2745 for more information.

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### A Special Partnership

Did you know that the Wilmington Diocese has a special covenant partnership with the Diocese of San Marcos, Guatemala? Fr. Ademar Barilli, CS and Maryknoll Sr. Mary Lou Daoust, PhD. from San Marcos Diocese are visiting us this week. Fr. Ademar is a Scalabrinian priest who directs a Migrant House. Sr. Mary Lou is a physician who oversees clinics and trains lay health promoters in huge rural, mountainous areas. You are all invited to meet Fr. Ademar and Sr. Mary Lou on this Monday, November 12, at 7:00 PM at St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Wilmington. They will be telling stories about life and mission in Guatemala. For further information, please contact Mary Joe Froelich at 892-2029 or [merriefroh@comcast.net](mailto:merriefroh@comcast.net) or Br. Chris Posch, ofm at 655-0518 or [chrisposch2@aol.com](mailto:chrisposch2@aol.com).

### Catholic Campaign for Human Development

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) is the Church's response to Americans struggling with poverty. CCHD works to transform lives and communities by partnering with poor and low income people to find permanent solutions to the situation of poverty in thousands of communities across the United States. Next weekend, November 18-19 we will receive this collection. Your generosity makes a difference.

### Majestic Italy

Twenty people committed to the Majestic Italy Choir Pilgrimage as of Nov. 5, but more deposits are coming in each day. Initial deposit deadline is Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>. Each week the choir is including in the mass at the offertory a communion meditation one of the pieces they are preparing to present during the ten-day tour. Dates are changed by one day to April 15-24 to make sure we get an audience with the Holy Father who will be at the UN in New York, in April. The itinerary has been switched to begin in Venice and end in Rome with a papal audience. Everyone is welcome.

Shrine to the Departed: for the month of November, along side of the pulpit to remember those buried from our church at our cemeteries from Nov 2, 2006. There is also a white carnation for each of the deceased and a votive candle burning. A chest with envelopes of names presented for our Novena of Masses is also there. Thank you Old Cemetery Committee.

UNCLE SAM WANTED THEM; THEY CAME BY THE THOUSANDS! We enjoy the greatest freedom of any people on earth because of our veterans' service. Please take a moment to say a prayer for them now and on Veterans' Day, Many of them rest in SJOB cemeteries.



Saturday (Nov. 10)

5:00 p.m. Rita Kearns by family

Sunday (Nov. 11)

7:30 a.m. Dolores Nielson by Jane Jones

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

10:30 a.m. William Kirk by John & Margaret McEvoy

Monday (Nov. 12)

7:00 a.m. Dennis Donovan by Ann & Gene Fagan

12:05 p.m. Margaret Schranck by George Dorsch

Tuesday (Nov. 13)

7:00 a.m. Lawrence O'Brien by Bill & Barbara Grubb

12:05 p.m. Carmine B. Tomaine by Margaret Speicher

Wednesday (Nov. 14)

7:00 a.m. Angie Beck by Dan & Lynn Christenbury

12:05 p.m. Mary Cochran by John & Margaret McEvoy

Thursday (Nov. 15)

7:00 a.m. Dorothy J. White by Mark Christian

12:05 p.m. Drs. William & Stephen P. Butler by Peggy Butler Baird

Friday (Nov. 16)

7:00 a.m. Dorothy White by Msgr. Joseph Rebman

12:05 p.m. Theresa Nicastro Wahl by Chuck Wahl

Saturday (Nov. 17)

8:00 a.m. Verna Accorsi by Msgr., Rebman

5:00 p.m. Ray Carr by Marie

Jesus House Prayer and Renewal Center is offering a Day of Prayer and Reflection on Tuesday, November 27, 2007 entitled, "The Ministry of Angels - Then and Now." To register, call Edie @ (302) 995-6859.

MUSIC NOTES:Our choir is singing at the Saturday vigil mass this weekend. Special music featured is *One Faith, One Hope, One Lord*, composed in 1989 by Craig Courtney, and will be repeated at the ecumenical Thanksgiving service at Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Church on November 20, 7 pm. The text is based on Ephesians 4:4-6, 13. "One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which he died, one voice, one song we lift in praise to him who was and is and shall be evermore. There is one body, one spirit, as you were called to one hope. One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all, above all and through all, who is in you all. Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts, we are given to each other for the unity of faith, that we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God, in the fullness of Christ."