

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 23, 2007

God...wills everyone to be saved and to come
to knowledge of the truth.

- 1 Timothy 2:4

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWS



Classes for Grades 1-6 started on Sunday, September 16. Students received their new books and headed off to the class rooms to begin the new year. The catechists were honored at the 9am Mass with a blessing by Msgr Rebman and a show of support by the members of the parish.

At a meeting for the catechists on Wednesday, Sept 12, the catechists were presented with copies of the new religious education curriculum guidelines, prepared by the Diocese of Wilmington. The curriculum is based on 6 key concepts. Knowledge of the Faith, Liturgical Education, Moral Formation, Teaching to Pray, Education to pray. Education for Community Life and Missionary Initiation.

On Sunday Sept 30 the Pre School and the Kindergarten begin their session. The catechist for the Preschool is Martha Zazzarino. The catechist for the Kindergarten is Virginia Slattery. We are still in need of substitutes and hall monitors, as well as office help on Sunday mornings. Please call 656-7185 if you can help.

The Catechetical Congress will be held on October 27 at the Chase River Front Center. Please consider attending. Please 656-7185. We would like to have a good representation from our parish.

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

St. Joseph on the Brandywine Bible Study series *Six Weeks with the Bible* may be your perfect solution. Our October/November sessions will focus on the Old Testament books of Jonah and Ruth, two ancient books with relevant messages for our modern lives. Participants will receive a study guide that includes all biblical text, eliminating the confusion that sometimes arises when people are using different translations of the Bible. Each session will include readings from the appropriate passages, explanation of the historical context, discussion of biblical passages, and suggestions for applying the lessons to our lives. Facilitator Pamela Nash has graciously agreed to offer both afternoon and evening sessions if we can attract a sufficient number of participants for each series. Monday Series 12:45 to 2:15 p.m. October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and November 5; Wednesday Series 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, and November 7. *Each series must have a minimum of 5 registered participants.* So we know how many study guides to order, please register in advance. Registration closes on *Sunday, September 16*. To register, contact Loretta Carlson at 302.836.5883 or lcarlson@tree-tech.com.

Marian Pilgrimage - National Shrine - Oct. 20th. Bishop Saltarelli celebrates the 11 a.m. Mass, SJOB Choir provides the music. Fr. Andrew Apostoli of the Friars of Renewal will preach the Holy Hour at 3 p.m. Flyers are in the back of church. Call Marg Danz 633-6352 to register. Bus is \$25 - departs at 8 a.m., returns @ 7 p.m.

PASTOR'S NOTES

An Energy Crisis

There are at least two very closely related lessons in today's Gospel. One is that we must not be a slave to money and possessions, and the other is that we must expend whatever energy we need to, as we seek to love God and our neighbor. It's amazing how courageous and daring many of the saints were. They dared to think differently. They most definitely thought outside of the box. They didn't allow the customs or expectations of their culture to trap them in narrow ways of seeing the world.

The basic problem here seems to be one of energy. When it comes to working hard to get more money to buy more things and live more comfortably, many people are willing to expend a great deal of energy. But when it comes to serving God, we often find that there is an energy crisis. Being a follower of Jesus Christ takes energy and time. We don't love those in need by just wishing them well. Jesus praised the unfaithful steward, not for his dishonesty, but because he showed such ingenuity and cleverness. The steward saw a problem and took great pains to make sure that the problem was taken care of.

Sometimes we suffer from a spirit of timidity or fear. Perhaps we are able to see the needs as well as anyone else, but fear moves in on us. It then shows us all the difficulties we would meet if we tried to help others in some particular way. And so we back off, telling ourselves that we couldn't possibly overcome all of those roadblocks we would encounter. We need to somehow recapture the spirit of the pioneer. For the pioneer, roadblocks are only obstacles, which need to be overcome. We need to harness the collective energy of the community if we hope to make any difference in our world. Gandhi once said that "The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems." It's time to close the gap.



This weekend we are taking up the third annual Share in the Spirit collection for tuition assistance. If you are not prepared to contribute this weekend, drop your contribution off or mail it to the parish office. This collection helps deserving families ease the burden of Catholic school tuition. For further information, please visit www.cdow.org/sharespirit.html

OFFERING THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP

✕ Donations are needed again for our Food Pantry. Suggested items are tea, coffee, peanut butter, canned fruits and vegetables, tuna fish, rice (5lb. bags or smaller) dry cereals, beans, pasta and pasta sauce. Donations are distributed to the poor in St. Michael's in Georgetown and in the Wilmington area. Please leave the items in the back of the church. Many thanks for your generous contributions in the past!



✕ Outreach Committee members will meet on Monday, September 24, at 10 a.m. in the Family Center. Marci Perkins, Director of Women's Ministry at Friendship House in Wilmington, will be our guest speaker. Marci will talk about her program for homeless women preparing for employment and offer suggestions on how we can help. The meeting is open to all.

✕ The Outreach committee (*formerly the Hispanic Ministry committee*) includes ministry to anyone in need as well as responsibility for the Food Pantry collection for Wilmington and St. Michael's in Georgetown, DE



Stepping Stones

The Family Life Bureau of Catholic Charities is happy to announce that in October we will begin the fall series of "Stepping Stones," a six-week program for separated and divorced persons. The program will take place at two different sites: Catholic Charities, 4th and Greenhill, Wilmington, on Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m., beginning October 9.



The Communication and Education Committee is proud to kick off this year's education series on Wednesday, September 26, with an interactive program for adults and teenagers. Patrick Donovan, executive director of the Office for Catholic Youth Ministry and co-author of

Reaching Teens through Film, will present "Using the Remote to Channel Jesus." This look at the billion dollar television and movie industry will show us through lecture, discussion, and film clips how we can use television and the movies to teach the lessons of the Bible, our faith, and our God. Please join us in the Family Center from 7 to 8:30 p.m. for what promises to be an evening of lively discussion!

IN HONOR OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI: Fr. Francis A. Sariago, O.F.M. Cap. is offering a "Busy Person's Mini Retreat." 8-8:35 am and 7-8:15 pm - October 1-3, 2007 with celebration of the Transitus on October 3. Capuchin Franciscan Friars, St. Francis Renewal Center, Wilmington, 798-1454, or call for a brochure 345-1841.

Mass for Social Justice will be celebrated by Msgr. John Barres at Holy Cross Parish, 5 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 13th. The Msgr Paul Schierse Award will be presented. All are invited to a light reception following Mass.



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Saturday (Sept. 22)

5:00 p.m. Phyllis W. McDonald by Donald & Donald McDonald, Jr.

Sunday (Sept. 23)

7:30 a.m. Edith Giacco by family

9:00 a.m. Parishioners

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

Monday (Sept. 24)

7:00 a.m. Paul & Frances Leahy req. by the family of James S. Grant, Jr.

12:05 p.m. Mary Jane Cochran by John Cochran

Tuesday (Sept. 25)

7:00 a.m. Lucille & Walter Brady by Margaret Seitz

12:05 p.m. Brother Daniel Curtin by Kathleen Aikens

Wednesday (Sept. 26)

7:00 a.m. Chloe Schultz by Jim, Peter & Jimmy Horthy

12:05 p.m. J. Nicole Serpe-Laird by Jennifer Lee-Boring

Thursday (Sept. 27)

7:00 a.m. John Vahey by Aunt Mary Vahey

12:05 p.m. Deceased members of Grady family by family

Friday (Sept. 28)

7:00 a.m. Doris Watson by the Watson family

12:05 p.m. Diane Simkaitis by Liz Stevens

Saturday (Sept. 29)

8:00 a.m. David O. Beatson by Lisa & David Beatson

5:00 p.m. Rita Kearns by family

TENDING THE FLOCK! As of 9/18/2007 we have \$250,329 toward our goal of \$252,100 for the Annual Catholic Appeal. We're getting close! Together we can achieve this goal!

MUSIC NOTES



"Send out thy light and thy truth, let them lead me, And let them bring me to thy holy hill; O God, then will I go unto thy altar, On the harp we will praise thee, O Lord our God! Why, O soul, art thou sorrowful, And why cast down within me? Still trust the loving kindness of the God of thy strength, And my tongue yet shall praise him, Who hath pleaded my cause! Lord our God! Thou wilt save thine anointed, Thou wilt hear us from heaven; Though in chariots some put their faith, our trust is in thee! They are brought down and fallen, But the Lord is our helper, we shall not be afraid."

ANIMAL BLESSINGS!

The blessing of animals will take place Oct. 7th in the Family Center lot at 12:00 We do this in memory of St. Francis of Assisi (Feast Day October 4th) who loved all God's creatures. *Capture the moment - bring your camera!*