

**IF TODAY YOU HEAR
HIS VOICE, HARDEN
NOT YOUR HEARTS.**

Chapter 18 of Matthew's Gospel provides the fourth major discourse of Jesus, the community

discourse. Jesus first insists that a childlike attitude is necessary for greatness in his kingdom (18: 1-5). He also teaches the terrible fate of those who scandalize the "little ones" in the community (18:6-14).

In today's Gospel Jesus gives instructions on how the local community should deal with a member who sins. The whole purpose of the steps that he outlines is to win the sinner back from sinful ways by true repentance. The community must reflect the merciful love of Christ. If the intervention of one person does not succeed, then two or three witnesses must try to bring the person back into the fold.

If those steps fail, the sinner is to be reported to the church (18: 17). Here church refers to the local church, the local community. Resistance to the church can lead to excommunication. Jesus gives the community the right to excommunicate, to bind and to loose, a right that shall be ratified by God (18: 18). One who resists the church is to be treated as "a Gentile or a tax collector" (18: 17). This standard phrase refers to those who were by their way of life outside the Jewish community and now the Christian community. Christ and the early church certainly worked with these two groups whenever there was faith and repentance. Matthew, a tax collector himself, is a perfect example (9:9-13).

Excommunication was not vindictive, but rather a strong measure with a loving purpose, namely to bring the sinner to his or her senses and to repentance. Paul encourages the kindness of Jesus in dealing with sinners. "Even if a person is caught in some transgression, you who are spiritual should correct that one in a gentle spirit, looking to yourself, so that you also may not be tempted" (Galatians 6: 1).

Jesus also promises to be "in the midst of them" (Matthew 18:20), even when only two or three community members pray together. These words fulfill the promise of Emmanuel-"God is with us" (1:23)-and the last words of the Gospel, "I am with you always, until the end of the age" (28:20).

Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by

Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis

Readings for the Week of September 7, 2008

Sunday	Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20
Monday	Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30; Ps 13; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Tuesday	St. Peter Claver, priest 1 Cor 6:1-11; Ps 149; Lk 6:12-19
Wednesday	1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 45; Lk 6:20-26
Thursday	1 Cor 8:1b-7, 11-13; Ps 139; Lk 6:27-38
Friday	1 Cor 9:16-19, 22b-27; Ps 84; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday	St. John Chrysostom, bishop, doctor 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 116; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday	Exaltation of the Holy Cross Nm 21:4b-9; Ps 78; Phil 2:6-11; Jn 3:13-17

WOMEN'S EVENT COMING TO ST. ANN PARISH

Saturday October 11, 2008 9am to 4pm. Mark your calendars women for a delightful time in the Lord! Come join others in celebrating our faith, be uplifted, enlightened, and immersed in the Spirit of Love.

Arise Woman! A New Day Dawns Invite a friend.

100th Anniversary

The Opening Centennial Celebration was wonderful! Many, many people joined together to make it such a spectacular event. Thanks to everyone who helped in any way, and thanks to all who participated in the beautiful Mass and Benediction and the reception that followed. This will be a very special year for our parish. Hopefully everyone will be able to participate in the festivities. Our next Centennial meeting will be Monday, September 8th, 7:00PM in the Parish Center. Please join us!

ST. ANN SCHOOL NEWS At the beginning of each school day, all the students gather in the cafeteria for announcements and Morning Prayer. Last school year during the month of May, each student was given a green and white rosary, and everyone prayed a decade of the rosary together as Morning Prayer. The intention for this prayer was for the success of our school and parish. This year the students will continue to pray the rosary daily and continue this intention. Please join the school children in this prayer intention.

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or RCIA is a program for those considering the possibility of joining the Catholic Church. Perhaps you are a Catholic, but were never confirmed? The RCIA is a great way to remember forgotten lessons. Perhaps you are a cradle Catholic who simply would like to relearn the basics?

Classes will begin for RCIA here at St. Ann's on Wednesday, September 10th from 7:30 until 9:00 p.m. in the Parish offices. If you are interested, please phone or email the parish office at 863-4963 or slmcabee@gmail.com.

ST. ANN CCD will begin on Sunday, September 14th with registration at 8:30 a.m. Classes begin that day at 9 a.m. Registration forms will be available that day or online at www.stanncc.org. For more information, please contact the Parish office at 863-4963.

We give thanks to God for the generosity of so many, who lovingly contributed over \$5000 to the Dick Schmidt Memorial Scholarship Fund at Badin High School. This amount of money enabled a grant-in-aid to be awarded for the 2008 -09 school year to a member of St. Ann Parish, who enrolls in Badin High School, displays a good character, and a team spirit of cooperation and leadership. We are very proud to announce that Andy Groh, son of Pete and Jan Groh is the first recipient of your generosity and caring. Please continue to support Badin's Financial Aid Program whenever you can and pray for us. *Sincerely, the family of Dick*

SACRED HEART CHURCH MISSION COMMISSION CRAFT SHOW will be held in the Sacred Heart gym and cafeteria, 400 Nilles Road, Saturday, September 27th from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and Sunday, September 28th from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Gifts, decorations and floral arrangements by local crafters. Lunch available and raffle valuable prizes.

TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, September 7th
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass
Monday, September 8th
 7:00 p.m. Centennial meeting in Parish office
Tuesday, September 9th
 7:00 p.m. Education Commission meeting
Wednesday, September 10th
 7:00 p.m. Basic Catechism Class
Lesson 14 Sacrament of Marriage
 7:15 p.m. Choir
 7:30 p.m. R.C.I.A.
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul
 8:00 p.m. P.A.C. meeting
Thursday, September 11th
 6-8:00 p.m. Pack 907 Scouts
Saturday, September 13th
 3:30 -4:30 p.m. Confessions
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass
Sunday, September 14th
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 8:30 a.m. CCD Registration
 9-10 a.m. CCD classes begin
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 2:00 p.m. EM & Lector picnic at Joyce Park

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS Thank You - The Rosary Society was very appreciative of all those who help make the reception after the opening of our 100 years' celebration a special event. It was wonderful to have so many volunteers help set up, serve, and clean up. The food provided by the parishioners was delicious and bountiful. The remaining food (fruit, vegetables, dips, cheese ball, sandwiches, cookies, etc) were taken to the One Way Farm after the reception. I hope they enjoy it as much as we did. It is heartwarming to see so many parishioners participate in this event. Thanks again.

PICNIC FOR ST. ANN EM'S AND LECTORS All of the Extraordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors from St. Ann, along with all of their family and friends, are invited to a picnic at Joyce Park on Sunday, Sept. 14, at 2 p.m. If your last name begins with A-I, please bring a main dish to share. If your last name begins with J-R, please bring a side dish to share. If your last name begins with S-Z, please bring a dessert. Please rsvp to the Conns at 275-3973. We look forward to seeing you there!

The newly formed teen youth group C.R.E.W. (Christ's Really Eager Workers) would like to invite all teens to take part in the upcoming events. Contact Jean Schaefer at 383-2735 for more information.

Sept. 21, 2008 6:00 – 8:00 Youth Night and finalize plans for CREDO (Parish office).

Sept. 26-28, 2008 - CREDO – A Eucharist centered youth conference. Go to www.credoibelieve.org.

Oct. 5, 2008 – National Life Chain Sunday 2-3:00 p.m. downtown Hamilton. 3:30-6 p.m. St. Ann cafeteria.

Oct. 19, 2008 – Youth night at St. Ann 6-8:00 p.m.



Saturday, September 6th **Twenty Third Ordinary Sunday**
 5:00 p.m. Joseph J. Keller – 9th Anniversary (Family)
Sunday, September 7th **Twenty Third Ordinary Sunday**
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Bob Newton & Florence Flaig-10th Anniversary (Debbie & Steve Mignery)
Monday, September 8th **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
 7:15 a.m. Thelma Faucett (Bill & Mary Fehring)
Tuesday, September 9th **Weekday**
 7:15 a.m. Intentions of Ed & Francis Rue
Wednesday, September 10th **Weekday**
 7:15 a.m. Frances Magee Hammond – Birthday Remembrance (Paul Fenzl)
Thursday, September 11th **Weekday**
 7:15 a.m. Communion Service
 8:00 a.m. Mass at St. Joseph Church in Hamilton
Friday, September 12th **Holy name of Mary**
 8:00 a.m. Mary Ellen Solazzo (Family)
Saturday, September 13th **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
 7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant
 5:00 p.m. Thomas J. Brady – Birthday Remembrance (Rosalie Brady)
Sunday, September 14th **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Mike Palmieri – Birthday Remembrance (Mickey & family)

Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
08/31/2008	\$ 7,694.62
Shortfall	\$ (4,377.38)
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 108,648.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 82,249.02
Shortfall	\$ (26,398.98)

If you are interested in understanding more fully what we believe as Catholics, a sixteen lesson Basic Catholic Catechism Horne Study Course will be offered covering the essentials of the Catholic faith in a systematic and comprehensive way. Written by the late Jesuit Father John A. Hardon, this challenging home study course is open to everyone. It will help you grow to a deeper knowledge and love of Christ and His Church. Study is done independently then participants meet twice a month to review the questions and answers and engage in a lively discussion of the lesson. An informational meeting will be held at St. Ann Parish Center on Oct. 1, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. Course materials will be explained and will be available for purchase. For more information or to register, contact Viv Sullivan @ 868-9865 or Mary Eichhold @ 863-3345. **The Benefits:** Adult education at home; participation in the New Evangelization as requested by our late Holy Father Pope John Paul II; greater confidence in knowledge of your Catholic faith; deeper love for the Lord.

BADIN RAMS VOLLEYBALL 4th Annual Car Wash will take place Saturday, September 13, 2008 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at 2646 Pleasant Avenue (Funeral Home). Donation \$5 (rain date September 14, 2008). Please come out and support our Badin girls.