



Today's reading from John's Gospel is the conclusion of the lengthy section in chapter 6 on Jesus as the bread of life. This reading illustrates Jesus' forthright clarity in proclaiming the word of God and calling people to accept this word no matter what the cost.

Earlier in John 6 we heard about people complaining about what Jesus is saying (John 6:41-42, 52). But today's passage marks a watershed. Now it is no longer the larger crowd, who complain, but Jesus own disciples have problems with his "hard sayings"; they cannot see how Jesus' words can be accepted (6:60). Jesus' response is to confront the issue head-on. He asks them if they take offense at his words, and then he startles them with even more difficult words: that he will ascend to God from whom he came (6:61-62).

Why burden his disciples with another difficult saying when they are already having problems believing? Is Jesus not concerned that he might lose disciples if he doesn't move them more gradually to the understanding necessary to accept his words? For Jesus, two ideas seem to be at work. First, people have already had preparation from God. If they have learned from God, they will come to Jesus (6:44-45, 65). Second, there is a need for unambiguous witness in a society in which clear witness is threatened with death (5:18), without such witness, one might keep disciples but there would be no chance for mature belief.

The result of Jesus' question to the disciples who cannot accept his words is predictable: many leave him (6:66). But then Jesus calls the Twelve who were silent to make a decision based on what they have heard (6:67). His unambiguous witness must be met with unambiguous declarations of faith. Candor enables people to receive and accept the rich implications of faith.

*Scripture Reflections and Commentaries by  
Msgr. Ralph Kuehner and Rev. Joseph J. Juknialis*

**Readings for the Week of August 23, 2009**

Sunday	Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Ps 34; Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32; Jn 6:60-69
Monday	Saint Bartholomew, apostle Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145; Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday	Saints Louis of France and Saint Joseph Calasanz, priest 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139; Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday	1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139; Mt 23:27-32
Thursday	Saint Monica 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90; Mt 24:42-51
Friday	Saint Augustine, bishop, doctor 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97; Mt 25:1-13
Saturday	The Martyrdom of Saint John the Baptist 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 71; Mk 6:17-29
Sunday	Twenty-second Sunday In Ordinary Time Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Join us Saturday, August 29th at 6:30 PM for a contemporary Catholic music concert presented by ROMANS in the church parking lot after the 5:00 Mass. As part of the St. Ann Centennial celebration, this concert is being provided free of charge. Grilled items and soft drinks will be available to purchase, and donations will be accepted. *Bring your lawn chairs!*

**SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, August 30, 2009; 10:30 a.m.** Mass. This will be the closing Mass for St. Ann's Centennial year. The Most Reverend Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will be the main celebrant. There will be a reception to follow in the school cafeteria.

**HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT BECOMING CATHOLIC?** The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults or "R.C.I.A." is a program for those considering the possibility of joining the Catholic Church. Perhaps you are a Catholic, but were never confirmed. The R.C.I.A. is a great way to remember forgotten lessons. Perhaps you are a cradle Catholic who simply would like to relearn the basics.

Classes are now forming for R.C.I.A. here at St. Ann Church that will be held Wednesday evening's beginning in September. If you are interested, please phone the Parish office or email the secretary at [slmcabee@gmail.com](mailto:slmcabee@gmail.com).

**Looking for more Vendors/Crafters:** The St. Ann Interest Group is hosting an "Under One Roof Shopping Event" on Friday, November 6th. We are looking for Vendors and Crafters to register. Only one vendor from each home party company will be able to sell, so space is limited. Please call Rhonda Feenstra at 844-6192 or email at [rhondajh@hotmail.com](mailto:rhondajh@hotmail.com) for details.

**OLAN MILLS Pictorial Directories** are in. Contact Joyce in the school office for more information. Extra directories will be available during the Centennial Celebration on August 29 and 30<sup>th</sup> for \$5 each.

**RECYCLING CANS FOR SCHOOL CASH** Thank you to all who are depositing cans in the bin. **PLEASE** do not put plastic bags in the bin. There is a trash can beside the shed for your plastic bags. The Recycle Challenge - Recycling for the next generation. Visit [www.therecyclechallenge.com](http://www.therecyclechallenge.com). *Proceeds benefit Roots & Wings.*

ST. ANN CCD REGISTRATION has begun. You may get a form from the Parish office or online at [www.stanncc.org](http://www.stanncc.org). Classes begin on Sunday, September 13. Registration will begin at 8:30 and classes will start at 9 a.m. For more information, please call the parish office at 863-4963.

KEEP HOPE ALIVE WOMEN'S EVENT! Save the date of Saturday, October 3, 2009 as St. Ann Catholic Church welcomes Rev. Timothy P. Schehr, PhD, Professor of Biblical Studies. This promises to be an uplifting day for women. Registration forms are now available in the parish office or online at [www.stanncc.org](http://www.stanncc.org). The celebration of the Eucharist will be followed by talks with discussion (Seven Women of Faith) by Fr. Schehr. Treat yourself, family and friends to a blessed day of reflection and leave encouraged as women of faith.

**TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



**This Week in our Parish**

**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
**Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:00 p.m. Last Centennial meeting – *everyone welcome!*  
**Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:00 p.m. Basic Catechism Class  
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul  
**Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>**  
 3:30-4:30 p.m. Confessions  
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass  
 6:30 p.m. **ROMANS** *in concert*- parking lot after Mass  
**Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>**  
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass  
 10:30 a.m. Centennial closing Mass with Archbishop Schnurr  
*Reception in school cafeteria to follow.*

**Learning to Love** In Washington, DC in 1994 Mother Teresa said that we fight abortion by teaching the mother what love really means: "to be willing to give until it hurts...So, the mother who is thinking of abortion, should be helped to love, that is, to give until it hurts her plans, or her free time, to respect the life of her child." Gustave Thibon has said that the true God transforms violence into suffering, while the false god transforms suffering into violence. The woman tempted to have an abortion will transform her suffering into violence unless she allows love to transform her, and make her willing to give herself away. The Eucharist gives both the lesson and the power. Mom is to say "This is my body, my blood, my life, given up for you my child." *Priests for Life Liturgical resources*

**Experience Franciscan Values as Practiced at Michaela Farm**  
 A Come and See Weekend for single, Catholic women ages 18 - 45 interested in learning more about Franciscan religious life on Saturday and Sunday, October 3 – 4 at the convent and farm of the Sisters of St. Francis, Oldenburg, IN. The convent is located 3 mi. off I-74E at exit 149 half way between Indianapolis and Cincinnati. Come meet the sisters and celebrate St. Francis Day with the Franciscans; no charge; For more info or to register, contact Sr. Joan Miller, PO Box 100 Oldenburg, IN 47036; phone: 812-455-9348; email [joanm@oldenburgosf.com](mailto:joanm@oldenburgosf.com)

Celebrate the feast day of Blessed Teresa of Calcutta with mass, discussion of her life and impact, Indian cuisine and activities: Saturday, Sept.5, 9:30am to 1pm or later. Free will donation. Our Lady of the Holy Spirit Center 5440 Moeller Ave, Norwood, 513-351-9800 for information.

**The Athenaeum of Ohio** is offering a day long workshop on Appreciative Inquiry and Pastoral Planning. This method of planning uses the blessings and resources already present in the community as the starting point. Pastoral staff, educators, committee members and anyone engaged in planning at any level of an organization will find it beneficial. The workshop includes concepts and real life applications and examples. Celebrate What's Right In Your Parish: Appreciative Inquiry and Effective Pastoral Planning is offered October 2nd, 9:30 to 3:30, at the Athenaeum of Ohio, 6616 Beechmont Avenue in Cincinnati. Cost is \$45 per person which includes a continental breakfast and lunch. Visit our website [www.athenaeum.edu](http://www.athenaeum.edu) or call 513.231.1200 for the registration form.



**Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>** **Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 5:00 p.m. Marilyn Cassano – 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary (Family)  
**Sunday, August 23<sup>rd</sup>** **Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 a.m. Liss & Paul Verdin - Anniversary  
 10:30 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People  
**Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>** **Bartholomew, apostle**  
 7:15 a.m. Alice Pfirman (Richard)  
**Tuesday, August 25<sup>th</sup>** **Weekday**  
 7:15 a.m. Danny Vitale-Anniversary (Elvira & children)  
**Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup>** **Weekday**  
 7:15 a.m. Ruth & Russ Jones (Tom Jones Family)  
**Thursday, August 27<sup>th</sup>** **Monica**  
 7:15 a.m. Tess Fontaine (Roberta Heermann)  
**Friday, August 28<sup>th</sup>** **Augustine, bishop & doctor**  
 8:00 a.m. Shirley Poppel – Birthday Remembrance (Family)  
**Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup>** **Martyrdom of John the Baptist**  
 7:30 a.m. Intentions of the Celebrant  
 5:00 p.m. Dolores Bach (Darlene & Tim Baker)  
**Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup>** **Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People  
 10:30 a.m. Vicki Brandenburg – Birthday Remembrance (Family)

ST. ANN FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP	
Budgeted Weekly Offering	\$ 12,072.00
08/16/2009	\$ 8,218.99
Assumption Collection	\$ 1,228.00
Year to Date Budgeted Offering	\$ 84,504.00
Year to Date Actual Offering	\$ 63,300.16

ST. ANN ALUMNI continue to sell LaRosa Buddy cards. They are now available in the Parish offices. You can pick them up or we will deliver. Cost is \$10 and the proceeds benefit the St. Ann Alumni committee in their efforts to hang past Class pictures at the school.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

As our Centennial celebration nears, we have several ways that you can help us prepare.

- ✓ Items are still needed for our reception decorations. These include: grape vine baskets, old lace that can be cut, old crucifixes and statues under 10". You can bring these to the Parish Center during business hours or put them in the back of church. Questions, please call Heidi Keller at 863-6121.
- ✓ We need food for our reception. Donation requested include: coffee cakes, bagels, muffins, donuts, fruit and vegetable trays, cheese and crackers. Food donations may be dropped off in the school cafeteria Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 a.m. until Noon or Sunday, August 30<sup>th</sup> after 9 a.m. Questions, call Mary Jo Haizman at 863-1700.
- ✓ **Thank you** to everyone who helped clean the inside and outside of the church last week. It looks fabulous!