

THE PRECEPTS OF THE LORD GIVE JOY TO THE HEART.

How can service be the driving force in one's life? Mark provides three perspectives on an answer to this question. Mark's Jesus initially defines excellence in terms of service. The first of all will be the last of all, and the last of all will be the servant of all (9:36). Second, Mark presents Jesus as showing the value of everyone who is served as a means of encouraging service to them. One finds Jesus and the Father precisely in the one who needs help. So assisting the needy is welcoming God (9:37).

The third way that the Markan Jesus encourages service is by promoting inclusivity rather than exclusivity. Thus, when John says to Jesus that the disciples forbade a man who was casting out demons to do so "because he was not following us," Jesus offers them a one hundred eighty—degree change of perspective (9:38-41). He says, "Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me" (9:39). This saying is piercingly ironic. In fact, by exorcising demons in Jesus' name the man was not only unlikely to speak ill of Jesus but was also undoubtedly causing many others to speak favorably of Jesus. So the question is, where is the love of the disciples directed: to themselves or to Jesus? If their love is for Jesus, then they will foster the inclusivity that promotes the service of others where Jesus is met. Nurturing more people's gifts for ministry will lead to more people being served.

Finally, Jesus bolsters the disciples' desire to serve by intertwining their future with the future of the people they serve. Impairing the faith of anyone is impairing one's own faith and so risking the loss of eternal life (9:42-48).

Distinction through service, the great value of those who are served, inclusivity, and interconnected destinies are the means through which Jesus energizes a life of service.

Dennis D. Sylva and Rev. James A. Wallace, CSSr

Readings for the Week of September 27, 2009

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Sunday | Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time Nm 11:25-29; Ps 19; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 |
| Monday | Saints Wenceslaus, martyr; Lawrence Ruiz, martyr, and his companions, martyrs Zec 8:1-8; Ps 102; Lk 9:46-50 |
| Tuesday | Saints Michael; Gabriel; Raphael, archangels Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a; Ps 138; Jn 1:47-51 |
| Wednesday | Saint Jerome, priest, doctor Neh 2:1-8; Ps 137; Lk 9:57-62 |
| Thursday | Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus, virgin, doctor Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12; Ps 19; Lk 10:1-12 |
| Friday | The Guardian Angels Bar 1:15-22; Ps 91; Mt 18:1-5, 10 |
| Saturday | Bar 4:5-12, 27-29; Ps 69; Lk 10:17-24 |
| Sunday | Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Gn 2:18-24; Ps 128; Heb 2:9-11; Mk 10:2-16 |

KEEP HOPE ALIVE WOMEN'S EVENT! St. Ann Parish – Saturday October 3, 2009 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Mark your calendars for a delightful time in the Lord! Come join others in celebrating our faith and be uplifted, enlightened, and immersed in the Spirit of Love. Special guest speaker and author Fr. Timothy Schrer, PH.D., Professor of Biblical Studies at the Athenaeum of Ohio, will present Seven Women of Faith, a reflection on the lives of women in the Bible who are models for Christian living today. For more information and flyer call Cheryl at 513-515-6697 or Susan at 513-863-4963 or on the web at : www.stanncc.org.

CCD / PREP Our classes have begun and we are excited to announce a new curriculum for the upcoming school year. If you haven't registered your child or children, it's not too late. If you would like more information on St. Ann's faith formation for children, please call the Parish office at 863-4963.

Introducing...St. Ann's Youth Ministry. Beginning Sunday, October 4, 2009 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. All youth grades 7-12 are invited. Parents, too! Adults are needed to help (parents, grandparents, and single). Call Randi Hom for more information at 513-594-1168 or email randihom@yahoo.com.

NOTE: Please join us at the National Life Chain, a pro life event on Sunday October 4. Meet at the Butler County Court House at 1:45 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE St. Ann's Interest Group is hosting an "Under One Roof" Shopping Event Friday, November 6th from 7:00 - 10:00pm. The event will be located at St. Ann School 3064 Pleasant Ave in Hamilton. Ladies, Here is your chance to buy all your holiday gifts in one place.

Over 35 Vendors and Crafters will be selling their items. Admission is \$3.00 and includes refreshments and door prizes. Wine, Fruit & Cheese, Specialty Desserts and Coffee Bar will be available. Our Chinese Raffle will have over 40 items from the Vendors & Crafters as well as Vera Bradley, Food Network, Gift Certificates etc... Come join us for shopping, food and fun.

HOLY NAME CHURCH, Trenton, OH, will host a Photographic Exhibit of the Eucharistic Miracles of the World. The exhibit will be opened all day 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Tuesday, October 6 through Sunday October 11. For more information, call 513-988-6335.

The next Eucharistic Festival of Praise will occur on Saturday, October 3, at St. Susanna Church from 7:30p-9:30p. St. Susanna Church is located at: 616 Reading Road, Mason, Ohio 45040. We will have Eucharistic Adoration, praise and worship music, scripture reflections, and opportunities for confession. A reception will follow. www.EucharisticFOP.org
For more information, please contact parishioner Ed Lekson at 513-919-4883 or edwardlekson@hotmail.com.

HELP NEEDED....On Friday mornings, after Mass, help is needed cleaning the church. Please prayerfully consider helping out in this important ministry to St. Ann Catholic Church. Thank you!

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



This Week in our Parish

Sunday, September 27th
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass
Wednesday, September 30th
 8:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul
Thursday, October 1st
 6-8:00 p.m. Cub Scouts
Saturday, October 3rd
 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Women's Event – *Keep Hope Alive*
 3:30-4:30 p.m. Confessions
 4:40 p.m. Rosary before Mass
Sunday, October 4th
 7:40 a.m. Rosary before Mass
 9:00 a.m. CCD Classes
 10:10 a.m. Rosary before Mass

ROSARY SOCIETY NEWS

Baby Jesus Shower – The Respect Life Committee and the Rosary Society are asking for new or gently used baby clothing, blankets, diapers, and other items needed for babies. We also accept cash donations to buy these items. Please bring them to the Rosary Society meeting on October 6th, leave them on my porch at 898 Corwin Ave., or contact Tracey Hingsbergen at 856-8945 or Mary Jo Haizman at 863-1700 for pick-up or questions.

Rosary Society Meeting – Our October meeting will be held at 7:00 pm on Tuesday October 6th in the Parish Center. We will gather at the shrine to say the rosary and follow with a business meeting. Please remember to bring your contributions for the Baby Jesus Shower.

Gardening Help Needed – For the last year, Sister Mary has taken care of the flowers around the parish. Now that she has moved to Oldenburg, we need some help to continue this task. We need people to water the flowers, help plant the shrine and pots in front of church for the fall. If you can help with this project in any way, please call Mary Jo Haizman at 863-1700. Thanks for your help.

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.

A Blessing of Animals will take place on Saturday, October 3, 2009 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Julie Billiart Parish in Hamilton. The custom of blessing animals is in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures, whose feast day we celebrate on October 4. The brief prayer service will take place outside in the court yard on the side of the church building, near the flower garden and statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The St. Stephen Fraternity of the Secular Franciscan Order based at St. Julie Billiart Parish is organizing this event. If you have any questions, please call Mary Richter, 856-7327.



Saturday, September 26th Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 5:00 p.m. Sylvia Williman (Kathleen Wolf)
Sunday, September 27th Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Annette Marie Pater – 35th Anniversary
Monday, September 28th Weekday
 7:15 a.m. Communion Service
Tuesday, September 29th Michael, Gabriel, Raphael, archangels
 7:15 a.m. Communion Service
Wednesday, September 30th Jerome, priest & doctor
 7:15 a.m. Communion Service
Thursday, October 1st Therese of the Child Jesus, virgin & doctor
 7:15 a.m. Communion Service
Friday, October 2nd Guardian Angels
 8:00 a.m. Communion Service
No First Friday services tonight
Saturday, October 3rd Twenty Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
 7:30 a.m. Communion Service
 5:00 p.m. Mary Eschenbrenner (Steve & Margaret)
Sunday, October 4th Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
 8:00 a.m. For the Intentions of St. Ann People
 10:30 a.m. Tom Eichhold (Mark & Tracey Hingsbergen & Family)

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Budgeted Weekly Offering | \$ 12,072.00 |
| 09/20/2009 | \$ 7,866.61 |
| Year to Date Budgeted Offering | \$ 144,864.00 |
| Year to Date Actual Offering | \$ 108,337.92 |

Sacred Heart Church (Fairfield) will offer a six-week series entitled "Catholics Returning Home" beginning October 1, 2009, at 7:00pm in the church undercroft. The sessions are for non-practicing Catholics who are seeking answers to questions about returning to the church. If you know someone who has left the church, please invite them to join us. For more information, call Marianne Fleckenstein at 858-4213.

Queen of Peace is having our 2nd annual Monte Carlo Night with a Draw Down set for Saturday November 7th; in the Parish Center located in the back of the school. Tickets are now on sale \$25 admission fee includes Draw Down ticket, \$10 for an additional person with no additional Draw Down ticket; an admission fee of \$10 for entrance into the Monte Carlo, with NO Draw Down ticket. If you are interested please call the Church office at 863-4344.

WOMEN MEETING for six weeks begins Tuesday, Oct. 6, 09 at 6:30PM at St. Raphaels 610 High St. Balance our lives with our six inner powers. Call St. Raphaels 981-4207

At St. Raphaels we need volunteers to be host and hostess during office hours and two evenings. You will be trained in security and safety procedures. Please call 981-4207 Sr. Adelaide Linksfp

PLEASE SEE THE BULLETIN INSERT FOR A FOOD COLLECTION TO HELP ST. RAPHAEL. THE DATES ARE OCTOBER 3 & 4 AND OCTOBER 10 & 11.