

September 6, 2020



Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,' and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" (Rom 13:8-9)

St. Ann's Church

652 Main Street, PO Box 488, North Oxford, MA 01537

Rectory # 508-987-8892

To help us to keep in touch with you please email us at stannsrectory@hotmail.com

Please check out our website for live streamed Masses www.stannschurch.us

Please send prayer requests to StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com

Fr. Michael Lavalley, Pastor

Deacon James Denning (Retired)

Mary Lajoie, Administrative Assistant

Peggy Moynahan, Religious Education Secretary

Dennis O'Brien, Maintenance Director

CONFESSIONS

Fr. Michael is able to hear confessions outdoors in the Chapel in the Woods throughout the season. If weather is inclement, he can also meet you in the parish hall for the Sacrament. To schedule an appointment please call him at the Rectory #508-987-8892. Confessions are available by appointment only during this time.

Saturday, Mass 4:00 pm Live streamed directly to our website www.stannschurch.us

Sunday, Mass 9:00am & 11:00 am



Dear Friends in Christ,

This weekend we celebrate Labor Day, the traditional end of the Summer season. Yet, Summer itself extends well into September and, for Summer-lovers like me, that's great news!

The original idea of Labor Day was to honor the contributions of men and women throughout the country who labored hard, daily, in order to provide for their families. The celebration of Labor Day is an acknowledgement of their hard work and sufferings which have made America the great country that it is.

Today, as we endure this pandemic, we are aware that some among us struggle to find employment and meet the financial deficits which unemployment causes. As we consider the plight of the jobless we recognize that work is a blessing that some do not currently enjoy.

Work is sometimes the cause of great growth for us as we work with co-workers whom we relate to in ways beyond our comfort zones. Work also fine tunes our skills and talents, which God has given us, so that they are brought to perfection. When we honestly and diligently apply ourselves at work, the Church teaches us that we act in charity, being productive and helpful to our employer and others around us.

As we celebrate Labor Day, let us pray for our nation that God deliver us from this pandemic, protect us from illness and provide grace to us which we so need.

In Christ,

Fr. Michael



Handicap Ramp Replacement

Many parishioners have noticed that the handicap ramp is greatly in need of replacement. Our maintenance director has attempted to make temporary repairs to make the ramp as safe as possible while we attempt to raise funds to replace it. The first fundraiser will begin in September. Honey donated by **Almost A Farm Beekeepers** will be on sale for **\$10 per 1 lb jar**. All proceeds will benefit the replacement of the handicap ramp. The honey will be available in approximately three weeks for pick up. Please call or email the Rectory to place an order.



- Saturday, Sept. 5 4:00 pm David Bourdeau, requested by Mark Bourdeau.
- Sunday, Sept. 6 9:00 am Richard & Rita Rowe, requested by Dick Rowe.
- 11:00 am Ralph LePore, requested by St. Ann's Parish.
- Monday, Sept. 7 8:30 am Mr & Mrs Alfred Greene, requested by the Lavallee family.
- Tuesday, Sept. 8 8:30 am Pearle M. O'Brien, requested by David Dumais.
- Wednesday Sept. 9 8:30 am Victor Fernando, requested by David Dumais.
- Thursday, Sept. 10 8:30 am Denise Dodd Mutz, requested by David Dumais.
- Saturday, Sept. 12 4:00 pm Peter Stanley, requested by SVDP.
- Sunday, Sept. 13 9:00 am Walter P. McCarthy, requested by his wife.
- 11:00 am Anne Marie Faust, requested by the family.

Offertory for August 30 through September 3

Offertory	\$ 2,053.00
Children Offertory	\$ 4.00
Maintenance	\$ 55.00
Bottles & Cans	\$ 41.00
Online Giving	\$ 120.00
Other	\$ 40.00
Total	\$2,313.00

SVDP (Mail) \$ 70.00

To donate to SVDP on line please visit our website



Thank you to all who have contributed to our parish financially during this difficult time.

Online giving can be found on our website stannschurch.us

Announcements

- **Office Hours at the Rectory are Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9-12.**
Fr. Michael will be available to meet with parishioners outdoors at this time.
- Memorial Masses are a wonderful way to remember our deceased loved ones and to pray for them with the Church. Masses may also be offered for the needs of family members and friends or for "a special intention." Currently, dates are available for Mass intentions during the next several months. Kindly speak to Fr. Michael at the Rectory to request a Mass intention. Thank you."
- For anyone wishing to send a card to Deacon Tom his address is: Deacon Tom Creamer, 359 Leadmine Road, Fiskdale, MA 01518.

Prayers for the Sick

Please send prayer requests to StAnnParishPrayerline@hotmail.com.

To request that a sick loved one be remembered at Mass, please send an email to stannsrectory@hotmail.com by **Friday morning** in order for us to include the names on the prayer list for the Masses on the weekend or speak directly to Deacon Jim before Mass.



St. Ann's Partners in Charity 2020 Appeal Goal \$40, 000.

Thank you to all who made a donation to this Diocesan Appeal.

Our total is **\$22,190.00.**



If you are a parishioner and are in need of assistance, please call #508- 987-8892 and leave a message on the SVDP private line and someone from the SVDP will return your call. Maybe you have lost your job and are behind on your utilities or can't afford to have oil delivered. We can help. We also can point you in the direction of other resources that are available.

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE at stannschurch.us



Sunshine Ministry September Birthdays

Nancy Mott

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

READING 1.....EZ 33:7-9

Thus says the LORD:

You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel;

when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me.

If I tell the wicked, “O wicked one, you shall surely die,”

and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way,

the wicked shall die for his guilt,

but I will hold you responsible for his death.

But if you warn the wicked,

trying to turn him from his way,

and he refuses to turn from his way,

he shall die for his guilt,

but you shall save yourself.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM.....PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;

let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship;

let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God,

and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:

“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as in the day of Massah in the desert,

Where your fathers tempted me;

they tested me though they had seen my works.”

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

READING 2.....ROM 13:8-10

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

ALLELUIA.....2 COR 5:19

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL.....MT 18:15-20

Jesus said to his disciples: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”



**ST. PAUL CENTER
FOR BIBLICAL THEOLOGY**

By Dr. Scott Hahn
To Win Them Back

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time (Cycle A)

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Psalms 95:1-2, 6-9

Romans 13:8-10

Matthew 18:15-20

As Ezekiel is appointed watchman over the house of Israel in today's first Reading, so Jesus in the Gospel today establishes His disciples as guardians of the new Israel of God, the Church (see Galatians 6:16).

He also puts in place procedures for dealing with sin and breaches of the faith, building on models of discipline prescribed by Moses for Israel (see Leviticus 19:17-20; Deuteronomy 19:13). The heads of the new Israel, however, receive extraordinary powers - similar to those given to Peter (see Matthew 16:19). They have the power to bind and loose, to forgive sins and to reconcile sinners in His name (see John 20:21-23).

But the powers He gives the apostles and their successors depends on their communion with Him. As Ezekiel is only to teach what he hears God saying, the disciples are to gather in His name and to pray and seek the will of our heavenly Father.

But today's readings are more than a lesson in Church order. They also suggest how we're to deal with those who trespass against us, a theme that we'll hear in next week's readings as well.

Notice that both the Gospel and the First Reading presume that believers have a duty to correct sinners in our midst. Ezekiel is even told that he will be held accountable for their souls if he fails to speak out and try to correct them.

This is the love that Paul in today's Epistle says we owe to our neighbors. To love our neighbors as ourselves is to be vitally concerned for their salvation. We must make every effort, as Jesus says, to win our brothers and sisters back, to turn them from the false paths.

We should never correct out of anger, or a desire to punish. Instead our message must be that of today's Psalm - urging sinner to hear God's voice, not to harden their hearts, and to remember that He is the one who made us, and the rock of our salvation.

A service of the St. Paul Center for Biblical Theology
www.SalvationHistory.com

WORDSEARCH

Can you find and circle the words listed below?

- | | | |
|--------|--------|--------|
| HOUSE | SING | WON |
| WARN | PSALMS | CHURCH |
| WICKED | KNEEL | PRAY |
| DIE | LOVE | LISTEN |
| GUILT | WRONG | WORD |

Solution to last week's crossword

P	O	W	E	R		C					
		I				W	O	R	L	D	
	F	L	E	S	H		Y				
F	A	L	L		O						
	S		D			M	O	C	K	S	
		T	H	E	Y			H		A	
				R			H	E	A	R	T
C	R	O	S	S				R		A	
O		U				B	E	G	I	N	
W	A	T	E	R				E			

S	H	O	U	S	E	G	J	S	D	L	H
T	W	L	O	V	E	U	N	K	I	I	M
P	A	I	D	G	E	I	W	O	N	N	E
S	R	W	C	F	I	L	N	Q	R	I	G
A	N	R	B	K	A	T	M	P	E	P	O
L	C	O	H	M	E	C	H	U	R	C	H
M	T	N	U	L	J	D	K	O	Z	A	U
S	R	G	Q	L	I	S	T	E	N	X	Y
W	W	O	R	D	G	Z	C	F	W	V	D
P	V	B	S	X	A	Y	K	N	E	E	L

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