

From the Pastor's desk

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 4, 2022

One day, a young disciple of Christ who wanted to become everything that God had in mind for him visited the home of an elderly Christian seeking his advice. He had heard that this old man had never lost his love for Christ in all the years he had known the Savior. The old man smiled and replied, "Let me tell you a story:

One day I was sitting here quietly in the sun with my dog. Suddenly a large white rabbit ran across in front of us. Well, my dog jumped up, and took off after that big rabbit. He chased the rabbit over the hills with a passion. Soon, other dogs joined him, attracted by his barking. What a sight it was, as that pack of dogs ran barking across the creeks, up stony embankments and through thickets and thorns! Gradually, however, one by one, the other dogs dropped out of the pursuit, discouraged by the course and frustrated by the chase. Only my dog continued to hotly pursue the white rabbit. In that story, young man, is the answer to your question."

The young man sat in confused silence. Finally, he asked, "I don't understand. What is the connection between the rabbit chase and the quest for God?" "You fail to understand," answered the older man, "because you failed to ask the obvious question — 'Why didn't the other dogs continue on the chase?' And, the answer to that question is that they were only joining the excitement of the group. They had not seen the rabbit. Unless you have actually seen the rabbit, the chase is just too difficult. You will lack the passion and determination necessary to keep up the chase."

And this brings us to an important question: Have you seen the Lord? Have you really seen Him? Do you realize and accept that He is carrying a cross? Do you understand what it means to be a Christian? In order to follow after Him, we must actually see Him and understand what it means to be called to Christian discipleship.

Let us follow in hope and faith,

Fr. Dennis



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**St. Mary's Council #9675**

**Church of Saint Mary New England**

**Church of Saint Elizabeth Lefor**

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
September 4, 2022

So if you [Philemon] regard me as a partner, welcome [Onesimus] as you would me.

PHILEMON 1:17

**Scripture Readings**

**Sunday, September 4th:**  
Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29; Psalm 68; Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a; Luke 14:1, 7-14

**Monday, September 5th:**  
I Corinthians 2:1-5; Psalm 119; Mark 6:17-29

**Tuesday, September 6th:**  
I Corinthians 2:10b-16; Psalm 145; Luke 4:31-37

**Wednesday, September 7th:**  
I Corinthians 3:1-9; Psalm 33; Luke 4:38-44

**Thursday, September 8th:**  
I Corinthians 3:18-23; Psalm 24; Luke 5:1-11

**Friday, September 9th:**  
I Corinthians 4:1-5; Psalm 37; Luke 5:33-39

**Saturday, September 10th:**  
I Corinthians 4:6b-15; Psalm 145; Luke 6:1-5

A WORD FROM Pope Francis


Charity is not a barren service nor a simple offering to be made in order to ease our conscience. What we must never forget is that charity has its origin and its essence in God himself; charity is God our Father's embrace of every person, particularly of the least and the suffering.

ADDRESS TO CARITAS INTERNATIONALIS, MAY 27, 2019

MASS & ADORATION	
<b>Saturday, September 3rd</b> 5:00 PM SM—+Frank Kilwein by Robert Binek	
<b>Sunday, September 4th</b> 8:30 AM SE—+Herbert & +Mary Emmil 10:30 AM SM—Pro Populo	
<b>Monday, September 5th</b> 7:30 AM SM—Communion Service	
<b>Tuesday, September 6th</b> 7:30 AM SM—Communion Service	
<b>Wednesday, September 7th</b> 7:30 AM SM—Communion Service	
<b>Thursday, September 8th</b> 7:30 AM SM —Communion Service	
<b>Friday, September 9th</b> 7:30 AM SM—+Harvey Herberholz by Larry & Betty Heick	
<b>Saturday, September 10th</b> 5:00 PM SM—+Deceased parents of Ervin & Diane Binstock	
<b>Sunday, September 11th</b> 8:30 AM SE—+Eleanore Messmer by Fran & Cindy Martin 10:30 AM SM—Pro Populo	
<i>Father Dennis will be out of town <b>September 5th—8th</b> at the fall clergy conference. In case of emergency please contact him on his cell phone.</i>	
Confessions will be offered before each daily Mass and before Saturday Vigil Mass at St. Mary's.	



St. Mary's Liturgical Ministers			
September 10th & 11th, 2022			
MINISTRY		Saturday 5:00 PM	Sunday 10:30AM
Lector		Connie J.	Dan G.
Mass Server		Schmidts	Brock E./Josh E.
Rosary Leader		Martina S.	Vivian H.
Gifts		Connie J family	Elliott Ehls family
Collection Report St. Mary's			
August 27th & 28th, 2022			
Adult		Youth	
\$ 3181.95	Envelopes	\$	
\$ 76.00	Loose Plate	\$	
\$ 3257.95	Total		
\$ 7719.95	Monthly Total		
Saint Elizabeth's Liturgical Ministers			
September 11th, 2022			
Sunday 8:30 AM			
Lector			
Mass Server			
Ushers			
Gift			
Collection Report St. Elizabeth's			
August 28th, 2022			
Adult		Youth	
\$ 470.00	Envelopes	\$ 0.00	
\$ 98.00	Loose Plate		
\$ 568.00	Total		
\$ 2351.00	Monthly Total		

<b>Knights of Columbus</b> <b>Council #5477</b>		<b>Knights of Columbus</b> <b>Council #9675</b>
Meetings held monthly at the Lefor KC Club. For more information contact <b>Fran at 483-6091</b>		Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday at St. Mary's. For more information contact <b>Mike at 701-290-2493</b>

**Saint Hildegard in Menoken will host their fall dinner Sunday, September 11th following 10:00 AM Mass. Food, kid's games, bingo, produce and baked goods. More information on flier.**

**Saint Mary's Birthdays & Anniversaries**  
*September 7th: Jess Schulz; September 8th: Randy Christianson; September 9th: Doug Madler, Brock Ehls; September 11th: (A) June & Jim Gardner*

**Saint Elizabeth Birthdays & Anniversaries**  
*September 10th: Duane Grundhauser*

**St. Mary's Announcements:**  
\*St. Mary's parish council will meet Tuesday, September 13th following Mass.  
**St. Elizabeth Announcements:**

**Dickinson Catholic Adults is geared towards adults (21-50) from the Dickinson area who are seeking community and to deepen their faith. Our next event will be on Friday, September 9, at 6:30 PM at 618 Palm Beach Road, Dickinson. Our featured speaker will be Father Dominic Bouck. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be served. For more information, join our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/groups/dickinsoncatholicadults/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/dickinsoncatholicadults/))**

**Stewardship**  
Jesus tells the crowd that only those who renounce all of their possessions can be His disciples. Is He truly asking us to give up everything? Perhaps instead He is trying to help us see that everything we think we own is really a gift from God. Good stewards know that and strive to use those gifts accountably.  
• Stewardship Thought: "Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have; God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind." (Hebrews 13:16)


**Please Keep in Your Prayers:** Donna Jirges, Dennis McDevitt, Keith Witte, Lacy Gutenkunst, Marietta Hollinger, Kent Maershbecker, Belinda Lynch, Doretta Wiegum, Nicole Leck, Gene Wert, Rick Schaefer, Anthony German, Kent Candrian, Dan Mollman, Rod Crane, Bob Barnes, Bart Rohan, Derek Benz, Todd Leach, JoAnn Urlacher, Katie Stolz, Bonnie Benz, Andy Prokop, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz, Linda Reisenauer, Howard Schiwal, Yvonne Fettig, Kim Kuhn, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick  
**Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents:** Ann Wert, Grace Bach, Leona Schiwal, Violet Dobitz, Beverly Held, Theresa Decker, Marilyn Wert, Gilbert Buzalsky, Joe & Aggie Wandler, Charlotte Krebs, Sylvia Koppinger, Leona Gordon, Donnella Koppinger, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick  
**Keep in your prayers our deceased loved ones:** +Mary Hanson, +Fred Heidecker, +Theresa Tarpo, +Anton Krebs, +Josie Steier, +Melanie Fitterer, +Lawrence Urlacher, +Leonard Gartner, +Arlene Schaefer, +Jim Krebs, +Lea Madler, +Juanita Koppinger, +Eleanor Kilwein, +Dorothy Kohl, +Kevin Schaefer, +Drew Madler, +Fran Serr, +Harvey Herberholz

**No Longer a Slave**  
Paul urges Philemon to treat a runaway slave, Onesimus, as a brother in Christ, not a slave. He didn't ask Philemon to free the man. Nor did he encourage him to work for the eradication of slavery. Why not? The letter doesn't tell us. Yet if we look deeply at this issue, we might discover that Paul was asking for something much more profound than a change in law. The United States outlawed slavery more than 150 years ago. But that change did nothing to erase the political, economic, and social biases of many citizens. Some people still consider African Americans and other people of color as inferior, untrustworthy and dangerous. Laws cannot change thinking or prejudices. Had Philemon simply freed Onesimus, would the slave's situation have been improved? In the ancient world, slaves were often branded, thus alerting everyone to their servile position in society. Might this have prevented him from living a full life as a free man? Even if the law had changed, would ancient Rome have provided for former slaves any better than contemporary America has? Paul pressed Philemon to go deeper into his heart, to change his perception of Onesimus' status in his household. Paul is probably not talking about a blood bond, but the bond that joins Christians to each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. If we really treat each other in this way, discriminatory customs will crumble and there will no longer be any kind of slavery. Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

**Dear Padre:** It seems like the Church always asks for money. Why should I donate? The Church is a global organization representing institutions with growing needs—parishes, schools, charities, and mission societies, for example. If it seems like they "always ask for money," it's because there is a constant need to maintain these services. Indeed, the Vatican donates substantial funds to many charities. Financial support has always been part of Christian community life. Jesus instructed his apostles to rely on the generosity and hospitality of those to whom they preached (see Luke 10:7). Early Christians gave contributions to the apostles to be distributed among widows and orphans. In fact, the early Church's charitable activities were so extensive, it led to the formation of the diaconate, with deacons focusing on charitable work while the apostles preached (see Acts 6:1–6). Some observe that the Church owns splendid churches and artwork. "Why doesn't the Church sell these assets to fund their operations?" they ask. Indeed, as worshipers leave inner-city parishes for the suburbs, dioceses have tried to sell decommissioned churches. They have discovered that few people can or want to buy a church. As for art treasures, they are part of the Church's patrimony from previous generations that continues to inspire Catholics today and into the future. Ultimately, we give in charity, recognizing that it's Christ to whom we give when we give to the needy. Almsgiving is part of Christian life because of what it does for the recipient and for what giving does for the giver (see Acts 20:35). Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSsR Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

We offer our prayers and condolences to the family of Mary Hanson, Mary's Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated last week at Saint Mary's. For a life lived well here on earth, may she now be rewarded with the eternal life of heaven. Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her. May she rest in peace. Amen.

**Alumni Newsletter Time:** It is time once again for the annual alumni newsletter. We are seeking articles, information on special events, celebrations (births, weddings, graduations, anniversaries), or obituaries to include in this years newsletter. Please submit any articles or information to the parish office by Tuesday, September 6th! Thank you in advance for your help!

R	H	T	A	E	D	O	R	C	P	JESUS	QUESTION	JOHN	CHRIST
A	E	C	N	U	O	N	E	R	H	STRICT	SUFFER	ELDERS	DEATH
N	C	W	S	A	T	A	O	A	S	CROSS	PROPHETS	RENOUNCE	LIFE
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**Kids Corner**

**Pastor:**  
**Rev. Dennis Schafer**  
**Cell: 701-301-0609**  
**Email:**  
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**Deacon:**  
**Deacon Victor Dvorak**  
**Phone: 701-579-4384**

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**Email: julienesm@ndsupernet.com**  
**Phone #: 579-4312**

**Office Hours:**  
**Monday—Thursday 8:30am—3:00pm**

**Website:**  
**www.stmarychurchnewengland.com**

**Mass Schedule**  
**St. Mary**  
Tuesday: 7:00 PM  
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 7:30 AM  
Last Saturday: 9:00 AM (Adoration Chapel)  
Saturday: 5:00 PM; Sunday: 10:30 AM

**St. Elizabeth**  
Wednesday: 7:00 PM  
First Friday: 7:00 PM  
Sunday: 8:30 AM

**Eucharistic Adoration**  
**St. Mary—Tuesday: 6:00 PM; Adoration Chapel at your convenience**  
**St. Elizabeth—Wednesday: 6:00 PM**

**Marriage:** Contact Pastor at least nine months prior to your wedding date.  
**Baptism:** Pre-Baptism preparation session required.  
**Anointing of the Sick:** By request.