

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

June 7, 2020

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Permanent Deacon Grant Holt

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Baptism Classes

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Mary Claire Maggio

RCIA

Kim Ritchie

RCIC

Dana Wagner & Marcy Pavlock

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David Marlow President,

Daniel Otto, Russell Pasket, Marcus Reaves,

Thomas Sechelski, Linda Toler, Dana Wagner

Jerome Klawinsky

June Mass Schedule

Tuesday Noon

Wednesday Noon

Thursday Noon

Friday Noon

Saturday 4:15

Sunday 8:00 am & 10:00 am

Office hours are Tuesday-Friday
8:00 to 4:00

June 7, 2020

*"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood
remains in me and I in him, says the Lord." John 6:56*

God is one and yet three –
a Trinity of pure love.

**1511 Hwy 90 South
Anderson, Texas 77830**

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Email: ststan@embarqmail.com

Web: www.saintstans.org

On Mount Sinai, Moses encounters the God of Israel as a God of compassion and kindness. Saint Paul urges the Corinthians to live in fellowship and peace as brothers and sisters, children of the one God. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that his mission is grounded in the total love of the Father for all of creation.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday June 9th noon

Wednesday June 10th noon

Edward Pasket

Thursday June 11th noon

Friday June 12th noon

David & Pearl Busa, Joe & Willie Vezurk

Saturday June 13th 4:15

Anton Sicinski, Daniel Sicinski & Deaven Szymanski

Sunday June 14th 8:00 am

Sunday June 14th 10:00 am

Donna Benoit

ONLINE GIVING

go to www.saintstans.org

Click on Stewardship

Then click online giving.

Mail

P O Box 210

Anderson, Tx 77830

Father Eli

lopez.eli68@gmail.com

www.houstonvocations.com

www.FORMED.org

Enter Parish code:
MVMZKF to register



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Liturgical Ministers Schedule

Saturday June 13th 4:15pm

Lectors:

Susan Wisnoski

Rosary: Dorothy Pasket

Ushers:

Johnny Pasket Jr. Darrell Wagner, Michael Wisnoski, Stephen Pasket

NO E.M.H.C. or Altar Servers

Sunday June 14th 8:00am

Lectors:

Volunteers

Rosary: Volunteer

Ushers:

Volunteers

NO E.M.H.C. or Altar Servers

Sunday June 14th 10:00am

Lectors:

Marion Szymczak

Rosary: Eugene Yanchak

Ushers:

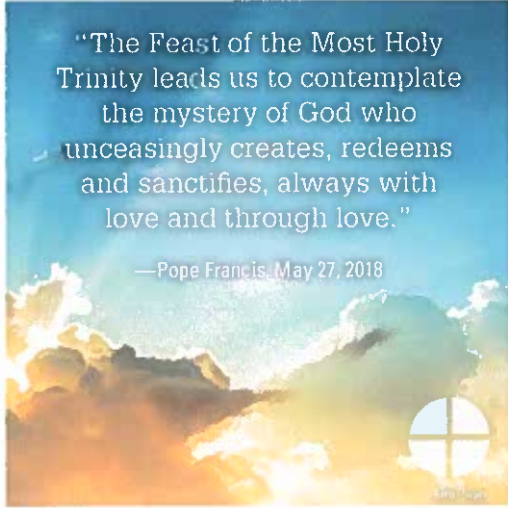
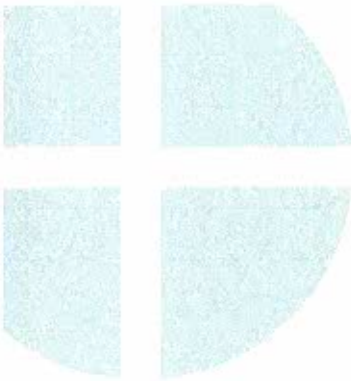
Gary Klodzinski, Daniel Klawinsky, Don Sowell, James Busa

NO E.M.H.C. or Altar Servers



If you cannot be present,
please find a replacement

Most Holy Trinity Sunday



"The Feast of the Most Holy Trinity leads us to contemplate the mystery of God who unceasingly creates, redeems and sanctifies, always with love and through love."

—Pope Francis, May 27, 2018

The mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith and life. God reveals himself as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The doctrine of the Trinity includes three truths of faith.

First, the Trinity is One. We do not speak of three gods but of one God. Each of the Persons is fully God. They are a unity of Persons in one divine nature.

Second, the Divine Persons are distinct from each other. Father, Son, and Spirit are not three appearances or modes of God, but three identifiable persons, each fully God in a way distinct from the others.

Third, the Divine Persons are in relation to each other. The distinction of each is understood only in reference

to the others. The Father cannot be the Father without the Son, nor can the Son be the Son without the Father. The Holy Spirit is related to the Father and the Son who both send him forth.

All Christians are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. The Trinity illumines all the other mysteries of faith.

Saint of the Week

Saint Ephrem, Deacon and Doctor of the Church
c. 306–373 | FEAST DAY JUNE 9

Known to Syrian Christians as "the harp of the Holy Ghost," this Mesopotamian from Nisibia was baptized at 18 and may have accompanied his bishop to the Council of Nicaea in 325. He served as head of the cathedral school and left Nisibia only after it became Persian. In 363 he moved to a cave overlooking Edessa but preached frequently in the city and wrote many poems, hymns and biblical commentaries; he organized a choir of women to sing his hymns during liturgies. About 370 he visited St. Basil in Caesarea. The winter before his death, he earned praise for managing relief supplies during a severe famine in Edessa. Ephraem is the only Syrian father declared a doctor of the church.



CNS Photo



Catholic
Current

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BULLETIN

Three in One, or One in Three?

Our thinking moves far from the reality of God when we limit our reflection of the Trinity to numbers. The characterizations of an old man, a younger man, and a dove do not help much either. However, these are attempts to somehow talk about the mystery of all mysteries. We cannot adequately conceptualize or characterize God, but we try. Each reading today makes its own attempt.

In the Exodus passage, God actually describes God's own self: "gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in love and fidelity" (Exodus 34:6).

The Gospel passage tells us how these divine features play out in our lives: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son" (John 3:16). This Son is God in the flesh. What greater love can there be?

The prayer in Paul's letter seems to scoop us up

like an adoring parent would into the embrace of the Trinity: "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the holy Spirit be with all of you" (2 Corinthians 13:13).

Theologians tell us that each person of the Trinity interacts with us and the rest of the created universe in a way unique to each person. Though different, each way is an expression of self-emptying love. The only response required of us is openness to that love. God only asks that we accept that love and allow it to transform us. Then we will be the living example of the Trinity's love for all.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ Say the Gloria slowly, reflecting prayerfully on the meaning of the words.
- ★ What in today's readings touches you the most? Why?

God so loved
the world that he
gave his only Son,
so that everyone
who believes in
him might not
perish.

JOHN 3:16



Dear Padre,

Why was the confusing word *consubstantial* added to our Creed some years ago? What was wrong with the old “one in being with the Father”?

The Creed or Profession of Faith is said at Mass so that the assembly “may respond to the Word of God proclaimed in the readings...and explained in the Homily and that they may also honor and confess the great mysteries of the faith...before the celebration of these mysteries in the Eucharist begins” (*General Instruction of the Roman Missal*, 67). The Nicene Creed normally is used, although the Apostles’ Creed may replace it at Masses



with children or on Sundays during the seasons of Lent and Easter.

In the Nicene Creed, “We believe” changed to “I believe” because a profession of faith is a profoundly personal act, even when it’s made in public while at Mass. Plus, the literal translation of the Latin word *credo* is “I believe,” not “we believe.”

The word *consubstantial* indicates that Christ isn’t simply united with the Father but that they share the same substance. In other words, Christ is not a different God, but he’s the same God with the Father, since our God is One. They’re coequal and coeternal. In St. John’s Gospel, Philip asks Jesus to “show us the Father, and that will be enough for us.” Jesus replies, “Whoever has seen me has seen the Father....Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else, believe because of the works themselves” (John 14:8–9, 11).

—Fr. Byron Miller, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

With our eyes fixed on Jesus and his merciful gaze, we experience the love of the Most Holy Trinity....His person is nothing but love, a love given gratuitously....The signs he works, especially in favor of sinners, the poor, the marginalized, the sick, and the suffering, are all meant to teach mercy.

—MISERICORDIAE VULTUS, APRIL 11, 2015

Calendar

Monday

JUNE 8

Weekday

1 Kgs 17:1–6

Mt 5:1–12

Tuesday

JUNE 9

Weekday

1 Kgs 17:7–16

Mt 5:13–16

Wednesday

JUNE 10

Weekday

1 Kgs 18:20–39

Mt 5:17–19

Thursday

JUNE 11

St. Barnabas,
Apostle

Acts 11:21b–26;
13:1–3

Mt 5:20–26

Friday

JUNE 12

Weekday

1 Kgs 19:9a, 11–16

Mt 5:27–32

Saturday

JUNE 13

St. Anthony of Padua,
Priest and

Doctor of the Church

1 Kgs 19:19–21

Mt 5:33–37

Sunday

JUNE 14

Body and Blood
of Christ

Dt 8:2–3, 14b–16a

1 Cor 10:16–17

Jn 6:51–58





St. Stanislaus Catholic Church

June 28th

11 to 2

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Visa \$500 Gift Card | Donated by Ben & Christi Leman Family |
| 2. Walmart \$400 Gift Card | Donated by Serres & Son Plumbing |
| 3. Visa \$300 Gift Card | Donated by David & Jesslyn Borski |
| 4. XBOX One - \$200 | Donated by Michael & Susan Wisnoski |
| 5. Sceptre 50" 4K Ultra HD LED TV - \$200 | Donated by Linda Moore |
| 6. Grand Station \$200 Gift Card | Donated by Carl & Tina Schroeder |
| 7. Shark Ion Robot Vacuum \$170 | Donated by Charles & Delores Posinski |

Need not be present to win

Tickets Compliments of Don and Gail Sowell

\$2.00 each ticket or \$10.00 for a book of 6

- We will have a modified Spring Festival benefiting the CCE program on Sunday June 28, 2020 to included lunch, raffle, auction, and limited activities. At this event we will encourage social distancing and ensure the hall is fully sanitized before the event.



Welcome to St. Stanislaus Kostka

Please contact the parish office if you wish to register or know someone who would like to become a member of our parish.
936-873-2291

Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions for June

The Way of the Heart: We pray that all those who suffer may find their way in life, allowing themselves to be touched by the Heart of Jesus.

Announcements

Spring Festival

We will have a modified Spring Festival benefiting the CCE program on Sunday June 28, 2020 to include lunch, raffle, auction and limited activities. At this event we will encourage social distancing and ensure the hall is fully sanitized before the event.

Today's feast is a celebration of God's self-revelation to us through the mystery of the Incarnation. For it is in Christ that we come to know that within the Godhead there is a Trinity of three divine persons to whom belong all glory, praise, and honor, and from whom all life flows.

Graceful Generosity

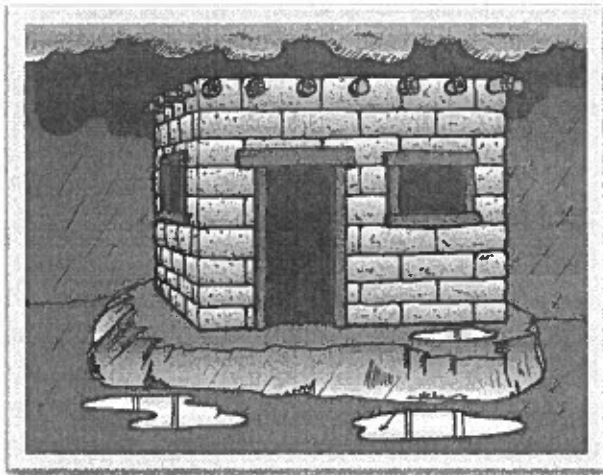
Published to help you grow as a steward of God's grace.

Worshipping God through Giving

We worship God through our worship services as we pray, sing, and give him praise. We can live lives that give him honor and glory; however, in some ways, the money that we give to God is one of the most special ways that we can worship him. It is difficult to give money because there are many things that can be purchased with our money to make our lives easier and more comfortable. The giving of our money is a testimony of our praise and gratitude to God. Is there anything more worshipful than honoring God with our money?

Testing your Knowledge of Scripture

What parable could the following picture refer to?



If you said the Parable of the Two Builders, you were right. *"Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on a rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock. But everyone who hears these words of mine and does not put them into practice is like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the*

winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell with a great crash" (Matthew 7:24-27).

The wise builder selects a site on a rock. Then he will not need to worry about heavy rains or strong winds. A house built upon rock has a foundation that lasts. A foolish builder constructs his house as though he is pitching a tent.

Through this parable, Jesus is telling us that a person who hears his words and puts them into practice is like the wise builder. It is foolish to hear the words of Jesus and not obey them. Such a person may be compared to a builder who builds his house on the sand without a foundation. Jesus wants us to hear his words and obey them.

The Pump Needs to be Primed

If you've ever been on a farm, you may be familiar with old-fashioned water pumps. When pumps have been out of use for a time, they can often be pumped fruitlessly. The problem can be solved by priming the pump with water, which expands the cork, bringing up water, rather than just air.

Life can be compared to that pump. In order to receive, one may need to give first. We have to put something into life to get something out of it. Paul stated this principle in Galatians 6:7: *"A man reaps what he sows."* Rewards and successes in life are earned; they result from hard work and time.

This principle of priming the pump, of sowing and reaping, applies to our giving as well. It is true that God provides for all. Jesus himself said, *"He [God] causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous"* (Matthew 5:45). However, he also promised a special blessing on those who are generous in their giving: *"A generous man will prosper; he who refreshes*

others will himself be refreshed" (Proverbs 11:25).

As redeemed children of God, our main motivation for giving is our desire to respond with grateful hearts to him for his marvelous gifts to us, especially the gift of his Son, Jesus, who brought us forgiveness of sins and life eternal. We will desire to give, not for reward, but to honor him with our lives and our time, our talents and our treasures. We will find that we cannot out-give God. Speaking through the prophet Malachi, God challenged, "*Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it'"* (Malachi 3:10). Accept God's challenge: put him to the test. Prime the pump.

Your Final Message

Most people want to put off thinking about and preparing for the time when the Lord will take them to his eternal home. You should be prepared because only God knows each person's timetable. Whether you are given a short or long life, you can have a final opportunity, through a will or trust, to share a message of your love for Christ and a gift to continue your faithful stewardship.

Your last will and testament can proclaim your love of the Lord and provide an encouragement to your families and friends to grow in their faith. Through a Christian Preamble, which is the way you can begin a will or trust, you have your last opportunity to witness to your loved ones.

If your will or trust gives a final testimony of your trust in the Lord, it will be a real source of encouragement to those you leave behind. It will comfort your family and friends to know that you believed and trusted in the promise that Jesus gave in John 11:25-26, "*I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in me*

will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in me will never die. If your Christian preamble is in a will, your message will go beyond your family and friends, because a will is filed in probate court which is public record.



A will or trust is also a wonderful time to put your love for the Lord into action with a gift for the Lord's work through your church. For many Christians, this may be the biggest gift they make. A bequest in your will gives the message of Christ's importance to you. A gift for the Lord's work acknowledges God's ownership of your life and things and that you are simply returning them to God who provided them for your use. As J. Gregory Pope said, "Planning an enduring gift that supports and perpetuates the Gospel message is a significant ... sometimes final ... witness of a faithful and maturing disciple in response to the grace of a loving God."

May God grant us all an abundant measure of his grace so our final messages will bring glory to him.

Blessings on Your Stewardship Journey!

Growing in FAITH™

Discovering hope and joy in the Catholic faith.

June 2020

Christ Our Light Catholic Church and St. Stanislaus Church

Rev. Elias Lopez, Pastor

One Minute Meditations

St. Francis Caracciolo

Originally named Ascanio, Francis was born in the Abruzzi region of Italy to a noble Neopolitan family. Even as a child, he was noted for his gentleness and virtue. Upon recovering from a life-threatening illness, he became a priest. With a holy nobleman, Adorno, he co-founded the Minor Clerks Regular. St. Francis served reluctantly but effectively as the superior of the order. He was known for his love for the poor and devotion to the Blessed Sacrament.



Alone with God

We live our lives in God's presence whether we are aware of him or not. Take advantage of it and be alone with him as often as possible. Soon you will see him everywhere you are.

"... And in the wilderness, where you have seen how the Lord your God bore you, as a man bears his son, in all the way that you went until you came to this place"

(Deuteronomy 1:31)



Four ways to find peace

When the world around us looks very different from what we expect, we lose the calming, soothing peace Christ wants to give us. The best chance we have for achieving peace in the midst of chaos is to move in harmony with God's will. Try these tips for a more peaceful life.

1. Don't fear what is coming next. Fearing consequences of the pandemic, worrying about finances, feeling anxious about our health or the health of our loved ones can lead to frustration and dismay. There's no peace in trying to go it alone. Instead, be open and place all your hopes, plans, and efforts at God's feet. Let him handle your concerns for you.

2. Be kind and gentle. Resentment, anger, and frustration rob you of peace. Be gentle and considerate of your neighbor. Remember, Jesus was "meek and humble of heart"

(Matthew 11:29).

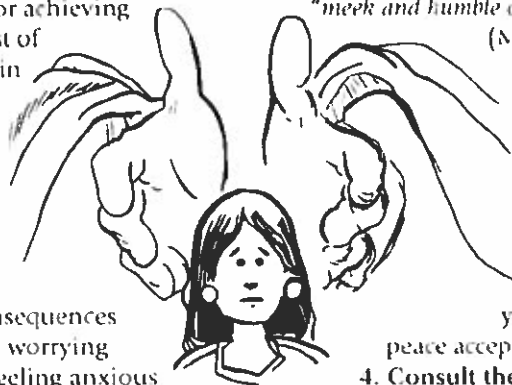
3. Learn to live with what you cannot control.

When you let God help you rise above such things, you'll have the

peace acceptance brings

4. Consult the Church for

answers. It isn't always easy for us to discern God's will, so Jesus created the Catholic Church. When in doubt, turn to Scripture, the Catechism, or a trusted priest or religious for advice. After all, helping us to achieve Heaven is what they're here for!

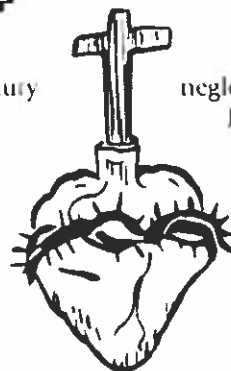


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics honor the Sacred Heart of Jesus?

In the late seventeenth-century France, Jesus appeared to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque and revealed the infinite love of his heart, wounded by sins. He urged her to spread this devotion, back when people were so afraid of God, they

neglected his love. On this feast, Jesus addresses each of us: "Behold this Heart which has so loved you, yet is so little loved." When we consider the many proofs of his love, we can't help but love him in return.

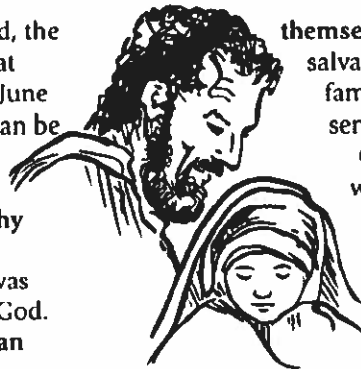


St. Joseph, a model for great fathers

Imagine the arms that held Jesus as a child, the hands that guided his first steps, the lips that pressed his forehead. During the month of June when we reflect on fatherhood, St. Joseph can be an inspiration and role model for great fathers.

Great fathers give their children a healthy childhood. St. Joseph showed Jesus love, ensured he got an education in carpentry, was kept out of danger and taught him to love God.

Great fathers serve a purpose greater than



themselves. St. Joseph knew he had a special role in salvation history, raising Jesus, and protecting his family. He faithfully fulfilled his role rather than serve his own needs.

Great fathers don't give up. Considering his wife was born without original sin and his son was God, St. Joseph could have given up, knowing he could never match their holiness. Instead, he used his own gifts to care for his family. These included his skills as a worker, his humility, and his deep love for Jesus and Mary.

from Scripture

Matthew 10:37-42, Discipleship: challenging but rewarding

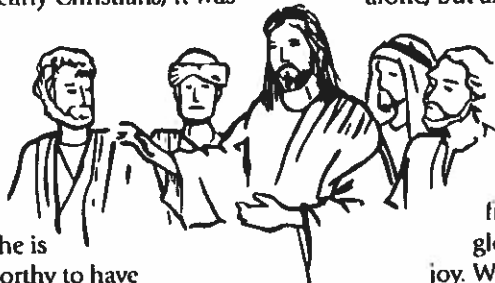
In this Gospel passage, Jesus outlines the demands of discipleship in stark terms. First, there's the question of priorities. For the early Christians, it was illegal to be Christian and the penalty was prison, or worse. To be a follower of Jesus literally meant risking everything. Since he is God, only he is worthy to have first claim on our hearts and lives.

Being a faithful Catholic today has its challenges, too. Much of what Christ and the Church ask of us goes against much of what secular culture approves. Even

without worldly temptations, we have crosses to carry. Following Christ includes taking up our crosses – never alone, but always with him.

The good news is that Jesus did what he did so we can do it too.

He passed through death to eternal life, from suffering to glory, from sorrow to joy. We will too, if we stay close to him. Each day, with his grace, we can choose to keep his commandments and remain in his love. In Heaven, we'll see clearly that it was all worth it.



Q & A

What is a cardinal in the Church?

Cardinals are bishops who elect the Pope. Traditionally, only the Roman clergy did this. Now that the Church is global, cardinals are chosen from dioceses around the world to represent the Church in the election. They live in their own dioceses but are given titles to Roman parishes. This way, they are like U.S. Senators.



There are different kinds or "levels" of cardinals. The cardinal bishops are the bishops with dioceses in Rome. This group also includes the patriarchs of Eastern Catholic Churches. Cardinal priests have dioceses outside Rome but are nominal pastors of Roman parishes. Cardinal deacons work in the Curia (papal court) full-time.

Only the Pope can choose cardinals from the bishops, priests, or deacons, but they must become consecrated bishops first. In a special ceremony, the new cardinal receives a scarlet skullcap, a four-cornered hat, and a ring that symbolizes his union with Rome. The cardinals also wear scarlet to symbolize their dedication to spreading the Faith, even to the point of shedding their blood, if necessary.

Feasts & Celebrations

June 1 – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church (2018). On the Cross, Jesus gave us his mother to be our mother (John 19:27). Even in Heaven, she continues to pray and care for us as our spiritual mother.

June 11 – St. Barnabas (1st Century). A contemporary of the Apostles, his name means "son of encouragement." He was a sponsor for St. Paul and accompanied him on his first evangelical journey.

June 13 – St. Anthony of Padua (1231). St. Anthony gave up a life of

comfort and wealth to become a Franciscan friar. After spending many years in prayer and study, St. Anthony was asked to preach to the heretics, and used his knowledge of Scripture and theology to help convert them.

June 24 – The Nativity of St. John the Baptist (1st century). Before St. John was born, his father, Zechariah received a message from the angel Gabriel foretelling his birth. His doubt was punished by his being struck speechless until John's birth.



Our Mission

To provide practical ideas that promote faithful Catholic living
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Stewardship

Inspiring a deeper understanding of true giving

June 2020

The ambivalent steward speaks of conflicts in which we are all embroiled. I am someone who tends to disobey the authorities. Although I strive to improve my errant ways, still, more than thirty percent of my calories come from fat and I exercise a lot less than three times a week.

I still sleep with an alarm clock near my head, and often get more sun than I should.

Sometimes my children watch more than two hours of TV a day. Please don't think that I am looking forward to heart disease, a brain tumor, skin cancer, or couch potato children. I want to do what is right, but what is "right" isn't always what I make time to do.

I am also disobeying my ultimate authority, Jesus Christ. His guidance regarding stewardship can be found in the Gospels. Matthew 16:24 reads ... "Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone would come with me, he must forget himself, carry his cross and follow me.'" I wish to do what is right. I want to devote my life to the Lord. But in reality, I find myself torn in many direc-

tions when confronted with choices. I am ambivalent.

When asked to ponder what stewardship means to me, the first word that comes to mind is ambivalent. Ambivalent is defined as "uncertain or changeful, especially composed of contradictory emotions." I am uncertain and changeful regarding my giving plan because I am full of contradictory emotions. Let me share some of my personal conflicts with you. In some you may find yourself.

As everyone knows, we are living in tough times. My husband works for a major corporation. I used to talk about his company confidently and proudly. Now I mention it almost in a whisper in case anyone responsible for down-sizing overhears and notices that he still has a job. In spite of raises, money seems to keep getting tighter. For some reason, I am still astounded when informed of my total at the end of the supermarket checkout line. How could I have spent that much, I wonder. Articles in some magazines nearly send me into heart failure. I should have HOW much saved by now for retirement? And HOW much for the children's

Countless people have contributed to our formation in ways that are not always obvious. Think, for instance, of the many church members who volunteered their time and talent to serve their church. Parents, grandparents, relatives, neighbors, friends, church members - all are the means that God uses to make faith and hope and love come alive and grow in the hearts of people. You are called to do for them what others once did for you.



Continued on page 4




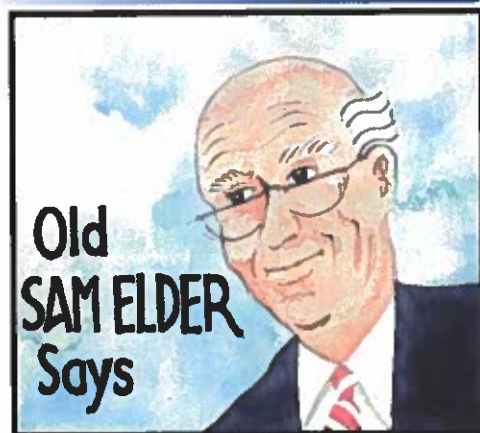
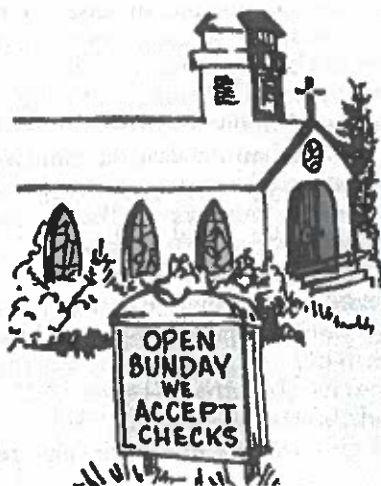
Jesus tells us that we are stewards of the gifts God has given us, and that just as he managed well what and whom the Father gave him, we are to accept the role of manager in faith. What do we manage? We manage our time, our special talents and the possessions we have to love and help others and we recognize that this sharing is a response, in thanksgiving, for God's beneficence to us.

The Treasured Dollar

There is a delightful story about a little church that was having a reunion celebration, to which former members who had moved away were invited. One former member who attended was a man who became a self-made millionaire. He, along with others, gave a testimonial on their growth in faith.

The rich man talked about when he was a little boy in that church. When he had earned his first dollar, he decided to keep it forever. But, then, a visiting missionary came to the church and preached about the urgent need for money in the mission fields. Deeply moved, a great struggle came over the little boy when the offering plate was passed. He continued the story: "However, the Lord won, and I put my treasured dollar in the offering basket. And I am convinced that the reason God blessed me so richly is that when I was a boy, I gave God everything I possessed!"

The congregation was all caught up in his testimonial when a little old lady in front piped up and said, "Mister, I dare you to do it again!" 



"Sam, how do you manage in your retirement?" asked Pastor Don Goodly. "Just like the old slogan: Make do, or do without," old Sam Elder replied. "Get the last bit of wear out of my clothes. Decide the old furniture is more comfortable than new." "I worry about you old-timers, what with high living costs and all," said the Pastor.


"I'll tell you where high living costs worries me," Sam began. "It seems that everything I'm using is past its expected serviceable life; our car, the washing machine, the lawn mower. If I have to replace just one item, it will really hurt. Come to think of it, I'm reaching the end of my serviceable life."

"How do you mean, Sam?" asked Don Goodly. "Well, it used to be so easy to do things for the church. I used to work on building projects, or cleaning up the grounds. My arthritis won't let me do that any more. And for example, I use to help on the finance committee. Know what? I can't even make my bank statement balance any more."

"You have earned your right to take it easy after all the years you have served the church," the Pastor soothed him. "They tell me, you are still a generous giver."

"I do my best," Sam confessed.

"My dollars have to work in my place. Money has become my easiest gift."

"I'm sure that God welcomes your gifts," the Pastor added. "As I look back, although I didn't realize it at the time, money always was my easiest gift," Sam concluded. 

Positive Thinking

Once, at a convention of salespeople, the speaker placed a white sheet in front of the audience. On the white sheet, he had placed an ink dot the size of the quarter. He asked the thousand people in the audience to write down what they saw. Almost all wrote down that they saw a black ink spot. None wrote that they saw a white sheet, even though there was a lot more of the white sheet than there was of the ink spot.

The speaker who made the test maintained that this is the great trouble with people who are in the business of selling. They concentrate on the negatives and fail to see the positives. They see only ink spots, when they should see a whole white sheet.

The problem is not limited to those in sales. Listen to those who complain about life. You will find that their lot is no worse than that of most others. In fact, it is often better than the life of those to whom they are complaining. Their problem is

Nothing But Style

You may have heard the story of the man who attended a fair and saw another man leading a fine-looking horse.

"Is that a saddle horse?" the first man asked.

"No siree. This animal will buck off any saddle placed on him."


"Is he a driving horse?"

"Not that either. I hitched him to a cart once, but he bucked so much, the cart was reduced to kindling."

"Well, what is he good for? Why is he here?"


The second man answered, "Style, man, style. Just look at the picture he makes." Continuing on, he said, "You know, I attended a church once and saw all sorts of beautiful people coming to

that they always see the worst, when they could be seeing the best. Take the case of New Yorker, Winston Coburn. He saw the positive side of things. He saw the church as a force for good in a world that needed all the good it could get. Winston felt that the least he could do was to become more active in the church and give it his support.

He found time to study the Bible. He grew in cautious steps from giving ten dollars a Sunday until finally he was tithing his gross income. Said Winston, "I agree that I lacked faith. I am still awestruck when I read about devout souls who tithed all their lives from the first dollar they ever earned. Compared to them, I was like a man venturing out on thin ice, testing the strength of the ice at each step." For years, Winston assumed that his reward would be in the hereafter. He said, "I now know that the reward is immediate. For when I began to achieve substantial giving, I felt for the first time that I truly belonged to the church; that I had a valid positive purpose in life." 

the service. I asked the preacher, 'Are these workers in the church?' to which he answered no. 'Well, are they visitors to the poor and sick?'

But the preacher informed me that they weren't that either. 'Just like my horse,' I said to myself. 'Nothing but style.'"

Being stylish, to be seen and admired, doesn't get God's work done! Use your talents to show love to another and to keep your church stable and effective. 



Tithing teaches an awareness of the presence of God. The principle behind tithing is that every material thing ... although you may call it yours ... actually belongs to God.

*God owns it all:
Your land, your property, your income, your life.
This is God's world.
When you tithe, you are only setting apart for God's use one-tenth of God's money that has been entrusted to you.
The people who tithe do so because they know whose world this is.*

Continued from page 1

The Ambivalent Steward...

college education? Funny, it was not that long ago that I finished paying off my own college education. Now the race is on for the children.

I am preoccupied with more questions that may plague other Christians. How many of God's gifts do I keep for myself? How much money should we spend for our own enjoyment? God gave us a beautiful world to explore and enjoy. When people are starving in this world, am I free to vacation in it? God entrusted us with beautiful children to enrich our lives. How much money should we spend on them? Should we straighten our son's teeth when others do not have adequate food passing over their teeth to fill hungry stomachs? I am torn between giving as the Lord commands and wanting to keep the Lord's gifts for my own enjoyment and enrichment.

My conflicts over stewardship do not end with my financial giving. We are asked to share of our time and talents also. Here is a sad, hard fact. There are only sixteen waking hours in a day and only limited energy to spend in them, but the demands on our time stretch to infinity. God must have been smirking when he established our time and energy constraints, then commanded that we "love our neighbors as ourselves." Again the ambivalence arises. For example, I have promised to God and my husband that I would be married "as long as we both shall live." A marriage takes much nurturing, and nurturing involves time. What time is left for the nurturing when the children, demanding jobs, and annoying chores suck every breath out of the day? God gave me the gift of children, and entrusted their care to me.


Everyone tells me what a special time this is in our lives, and to enjoy them while they are young. Yet each church activity in which I partake, puts them in front of the TV more, with the babysitter more,

or shortens my patience with them as I am tired and taxed. I work to accomplish what I can while they play, but the interruptions are countless.

God made my mind and my body very human, subject to fatigue, illness, and the need for replenishment. I have chosen to stay home with my children, so you can well imagine my need for intellectual and social stimulation. If I don't take time for this stimulation, I will have no spirit left to give to anyone. Yet when I take time for my own restoration, there is less time for ministry. Conflicts, quandaries and ambivalence.

I have asked for advice on how to resolve my stewardship conflicts. Some advise: "Just say No." Others say, "Enough is enough." This doesn't sit well with my personal beliefs. In keeping with my beliefs, I need to find ways to "Just say Yes!" A former pastor once advised, "Give until it hurts." This is consistent with my belief that one is never done repaying our debt to God.

However, I need to find comfortable, compatible ways in which I can "give until it helps." I have many more questions than answers, but will share a few ideas that make giving of time and talents easier: Serving with my family "kills two birds with one stone;" the need to share quality time with them and the need to serve. Serving with my friends is a lot more fun than going it alone. I invite someone I really like to sign up with me. When I have been discouraged or frightened from tackling a project at church, sharing my feelings with someone in the congregation is amazingly uplifting and enabling.

So I continue to stab, stumble and fumble with my giving plan. I search for answers. I take hope that the resolution to my conflicts will come through the comforts and strength of prayer. 



Weekly Collections:

May 30th & 31st
\$ 4,694.00
May online giving
\$3,705.00

Upcoming 2nd Collections:

June 14th St Mary Seminary
Peter's Pence (Rescheduled to Oct. 4th)

Please pray for those in active military duty:

Andrew Anderson, Austin Barnes,
Andrew Burzynski, Don Fontaine,
Travis Hayes, Cody Klawinsky,
Travis Klawinsky, Joe A. Lopez,
Matthew Macejewski,
John McKnight, Phillip Walkoviak



Please pray for our parish family who are ill and/or homebound:

Laverne Backhus, Janet Bienski, Ralph Cervantes, Pat Davis, Don Dobiynski, Margaret & Praslin Fann, John Faust, Dolores Holler, Mae Dell Izard, John Koch, Caroline Kolbasinski, Helen Molitor, Kellyanne Katkoski, Tammy Kitchen, BiBean Loukins, France Loukins, Mathew Oliver, Regan Oliver, Henry Ostermann, Ashley Paskett, Charlie Pasket, Marcus Reaves, Kenny Sechelski, Katie Smith, Chris Szymczak, LaNell Szymczak, Anna Mae Vezurk, Ann Wesolick, Fr. Richard Hinkley, Fr. Louis Sikorski





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proverbs 3:5