From The Pastor's Desk

"We are unprofitable servants;
we have done what we were obligated to do."

That's not exactly the kind of motto you would use to recruit people as followers of Christ, is it? I'll bet you a hundred dollars you won't find that saying on any Christian poster or banner. It's not on our hit parade of favorite Gospel passages. Yet, here it is the conclusion to today's Gospel.

Our world today is into rewards in a big way. At one time, a person with a credit card considered themselves lucky just to be able to get one. Now, there seem to be as many kinds of credit cards as there are fish in the ocean. Each card offers you a different kind of reward for using your card. It's not enough to just offer the service anymore. We now must be rewarded for using the service. Even some charity walks these days give prizes to those who walk if they collect a certain number of pledges.

The simple reward that consists in the satisfaction of having done something for others doesn't seem to be enough anymore. We have to get people on board by giving them stuff as a kind of reward. All of this makes today's Gospel even more difficult to swallow. We don't want to be reminded that we are worthless slaves and that we have done only what we ought to have done.

The point is not that as disciples of Christ we are not worth anything in ourselves. But, the fact is, that just because we have done our duty, this does not empower us to lay claim upon God that we are worthy of God's graciousness. That graciousness is and remains sheer gift. Our service should be done out of a free and loving heart. Imagine how you would feel if someone was kind to you only because they thought someone else was looking at them, and they just wanted to make a good impression. We would hardly consider that act of kindness to be genuine, would we?

Today's Gospel story suggests that we should not seek or expect thanks for the good that we do. We should take for granted that is what we ought to have done. If thanks are due at all, it is for the grace of God which gives us life and enables us to do any good at all. It is because of God's love that we are able to love. It is because God gives life that we live. So, thanks be to God who is the giver of all good and worth-while gifts.

The very real danger here is that we will become proud of how good we think we are. If after doing some good deed no one thanked you and you became disappointed, that is a clear sign that you wanted recognition for your goodness. You did what you did hoping someone would notice how wonderful you are. When that didn't happen, you became angry or upset. That's a far cry from saying: "*We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obligated to do*."

Fr. Joe

Weekly Readings & Activities

Sunday, Oct. 2	*Hb 1:2-3, 2:2-4; 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14; Lk 17:5-10*
Monday, Oct. 3	*Gal 1:6-12; Lk 10:25-37*
Tuesday, Oct. 4	*Gal 1:13-24; Lk 10:38-42*
Wednesday, Oct. 5	*Gal 2:1-2, 7-14; Lk 11:1-4*
Thursday, Oct. 6	*Gal 3:1-5; Lk 11: 5-13*
Friday, Oct. 7	*Gal 3:7-14; Lk 11:15-26*
Saturday, Oct. 8	*Gal 3:22-29; Lk 11:27-28*
Sunday, Oct. 9	*2 Kgs 5:14-17; 2 Tm 2:8-13; Lk 17:11-19*

Sunday, Oct. 2 World Communion Sunday & Respect Life Sunday

8:00 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Loraine Getlinger
8:30 a.m.	Sunday Food & Fellowship
9:15/11:15 a.m.	Children's Faith Formation
	6th Grade Mornings with Moms & Dads
9:15 a.m.	Adult Clusters: 1 "The Mass" / 2 "The Prophets"
9:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Jim Finger
10:30 a.m.	First Sunday Rosary
11:15 a.m.	Adult Cluster 3 "Estudio Biblico"
11:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Marcel & Flora Osuji
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—Alejandro Aillon, MD
6:30 p.m.	Youth Ministry

Monday, Oct. 3

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Loraine Getlinger
9:15 a.m.	Monday Morning Scripture Study
6:30 p.m.	Catholic Daughter's General Meeting
7:00 p.m.	Monday Evening Scripture Study

Tuesday, Oct. 4 ***St. Francis of Assisi***

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Rev. Jack Hopka DFS
6:00 p.m.	Blessing of the Animals
7:00 p.m.	"Divine Mercy" Class
7:30 p.m.	K of C 1st Degree Team Installation

Wednesday, Oct. 5

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Deceased Members of the Flusche/Schultz Families
9:30 a.m.	Legion of Mary
6:00 p.m.	Confessions
6:00 p.m.	Family Prayer Group
7:00 p.m.	R.C.I.A. Catechetical Session
	Wednesday Evening Scripture Study
	"33 Days to Morning Glory" Class
	Art Committee Meeting
	Outreach Commission

Thursday, Oct. 6 ***St. Bruno***

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Loraine Getlinger
7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice

Friday, Oct. 7 ***Our Lady of the Rosary***

8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Herta Ritzel Tamara
9:00 a.m.	First Friday Holy Hour/Exposition & Adoration
1:00 p.m.	R.C.I.A. Fall Retreat
7:00 p.m.	Long/Cordova Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday, Oct. 8

7:00 a.m.	R.C.I.A. Fall Retreat
8:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—For Those Hurt by Abortion
2:00 p.m.	Long/Cordova Wedding
3:30 p.m.	Confessions
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Jim Stavinoha
7:00 p.m.	2nd Saturday Cinema

Sunday, Oct. 9

8:00 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Zeb Baird
8:30 a.m.	Sunday Food & Fellowship: K of C Pancake Breakfast
9:15/11:15 a.m.	Children's Faith Formation
	5th Grade Mornings with Moms & Dads
9:15 a.m.	Adult Clusters: 1 "The Mass" / 2 "The Prophets"
9:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—†Roger Murphy
11:15 a.m.	Adult Cluster 3 "Estudio Biblico"
11:30 a.m.	Holy Mass—Intentions of Judy Hawkins
1:00 p.m.	Confirmation Preparation Session
5:30 p.m.	Holy Mass—†Barnard Francis Languell
6:30 p.m.	Youth Ministry

Youth Ministry

Tonight is a Spirit Night! All grades will be in the dining room for a large group presentation. Tonight's theme is about being Pro-Life. We will get to experience a live ultra-sound! Please pray for all the unborn children and for women to receive healing after an abortion!

If talking about the pro-life cause inspires you tonight, then we hope you will join us for our annual **Youth Stand for Life** trip! open to all 9th-12th grade students. We attend the National March for Life in Washington, D.C. Mark your calendars to attend this year's march coming up **Jan. 25-29, 2017**.

Thank you to all of our teens who helped last weekend at the Fall Festival. If you need someone to verify/approve your hours for your school service requirements, you may list Devyn Buschow. Contact her at x16 or via Email: DevynBuschow@holyspiritcc.org.

Thank You

to all
committee chairs, co-chairs,
volunteers, sponsors,
and participants
in the 2016 Fall Festival
for your help in making it
a wonderful success!

We raised over $62,000 for the
parish technology project for the church!
Thank you for all of your support!

CONGRATULATIONS RAFFLE WINNERS:

1st Prize:	**Siobhain Bierschenk**
2nd Prize:	**Eric Spolar**
3rd Prize:	**Gary Piña**
4th Prize:	**Mary Piña**
Fitbit Charge HR:	**Kathy Anderson & Edgar Navarro**

Altar Flowers are given on the occasion of the **46th Wedding Anniversary of Marcel & Flora Osuji** requested by Flora Osuji.

The Sanctuary Lamp will burn in honor of **Sheila Balagna** requested by **Juanita Ramsden.**

Sacramental Preparation

Registration for this year's sacramental preparation program is now closed. If you missed the first **PARENT ONLY** meeting for the Sacrament of Confirmation on Sunday, Sept. 18, please contact Devyn Buschow at ext. 16. **The next Confirmation preparation session, which includes both parent and youth, is NEXT Sunday, Oct. 9, 1:30-3:45 p.m. in the Gym. If you need childcare for younger siblings, please contact Sharon Bush, x19 for a reservation.**

Our first PARENT ONLY (no kiddos!) meeting for the Sacrament of Eucharist is Sunday, Oct. 16, 1:30-3:45 p.m. Please contact Sharon Bush, x19 for childcare needs.

Information and paperwork regarding infant Baptism (ages 6 and under) may be directed to Lisa Estrada, x12. Our next baptismal preparation class for parents and godparents is **Saturday, Nov. 5, 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.** All completed paperwork should be completed and on file two weeks prior to the class date.

Congratulations and welcome to the newest members of our parish community, baptized on Saturday, Sept. 17: Victor Gonzalez, Jr., Nikolas Hernandez and Elias Macias!

Blessing of the Animals: ***THIS Tuesday, Oct. 4, 6:00 p.m.,*** in the Courtyard, the blessing of the animals in the courtyard will be offered. Bring your dogs, cats, and other pets for this special blessing! For the safety of everyone, please have your animals contained on leashes or in carriers.

Upcoming Special Collections:

World Mission Sunday	Weekend of Oct. 22-23
Diocesan Priest Retirement	Weekend of Oct. 29-30

Finances

Sept 24/25

Contributions	$38,226.15
Average Weekly Expenses	($24,785.00)
Surplus	$13,441.15

Balance in the Future Fund: $35,286.00

Thank you for your continued generous support of the parish, our diocese and the global Catholic Church. May God bless you!

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION

Grab your "mummy" and make plans to join us on Halloween night, Monday, Oct. 31, 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the Community Center Gym for our annual

HALLOWEEN SPOOKTACULAR!

There'll be lots of games, snacks, lots of treats and maybe even a few tricks. Be sure to bring a treat bag and your cutest costume (let's keep it from being too creepy) and enjoy an evening of ghostly fun!

We are also graciously accepting donations of bagged Halloween candy, treats and prizes (we'll need a lot as this is one of our largest community events)! Please drop your donations off at the Community Center front desk, attention Deborah. Also, if you would like to volunteer to help out (Confirmation families, here's a great service project!), contact Deborah or Devyn.

Faith Formation classes resume THIS Sunday, Oct. 2 after a hugely successful Fall Festival! We hope everyone had an opportunity to come out and enjoy all the fun and festivities and support our parish's annual fund-raiser.

Our newly revamped "Mornings with Mom & Dad" begin THIS Sunday, Oct. 2 in the dining room with the 6th Grade. Mom & Dad, plan on joining your child for some **one-on-one** time and experience what they are learning in their Faith Formation class. Our first 6th Grade session includes a presentation by the Theology of the Body Evangelization Team (TOBET). To ensure minimal disruption, our nursery is available for younger siblings. **Please note that Mornings with Mom & Dad ARE NOT associated with our sacramental preparation program.**

5th Grade "Mornings with Mom & Dad" sessions are NEXT Sunday, Oct. 9 in the Dining Room and will include a presentation by TOBET.

Registration for the 2016-2017 Faith Formation year is now closed *except for PK3, PK4, Kindergarten and children who are already sacramented (pending class availability; many classes are now at capacity and FULL). This is so first year children are able to fulfill the two-year diocesan requirement for sacramental preparation.*

Additionally, registration for the 2016-2017 sacramental preparation year is also officially closed. If you missed this year's deadline, please contact Lisa Estrada, x12, for First Communion or Devyn Buschow, x16, for Confirmation.

Adult & Family Ministry

For information about any of our Adult & Family Ministry programs, please Email:
Richard Johnson: richardjohnson@holyspiritcc.org
Veronica Houston: veronicahouston@holyspiritcc.org

Joined in Marriage

Congratulations to Kenneth Long & Elisa Cordova who celebrated the Sacrament of Matrimony on Oct. 8 at Holy Spirit Catholic Church. May God bless you with many years to celebrate this beautiful Sacrament of Matrimony and grant you the graces needed to live your vocation of marriage according to His divine plan.

A Divine Mercy Moment

"Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbors' souls and come to their rescue."
- St. Faustina (Diary 163)

Live Theatrical Drama Coming
to Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Monday, Oct. 24 – 7:00 p.m.
More info: (972) 298-4971 or DivineMercyDrama.com
Tickets on sale NOW!
Get yours at the Community Center
or online at:
www.holyspiritcatholic.com/adult-and-family

"Blessed are the merciful…"

Living Beyond the Year of Mercy
Parish Retreat

MERCIFUL LIKE THE FATHER

Saturday, Nov. 5
Program 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.
Continental breakfast provided

Featured Speaker: Maryknoll Lay Missioner Ken Eppes

For singles, couples, & families of all ages!
Cost: Adults: $5.00. ages 13 –18 years-old: Free
Childcare provided ages 1-12 yrs. Please call (972) 298-9460 to reserve your space!

Holy Spirit Catholic Church
Women's ACTS Retreat
Oct. 20-23

Sign-up in the Narthex after weekend Masses!

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
ELSA YZAGUIRRE 214-718-6102
MARY LINDSEY 972-824-3677
JENNIFER GARZA 214-668-9570

Community Life Ministry

Sunday Morning Food and Fellowship

TODAY: Coffee & Donuts (Sponsored by ACTS)
Come and enjoy breakfast in the Gym.

NEXT Sunday, Oct. 9: Pancake Breakfast (Sponsored by The Knights of Columbus)

Autumn Family Social

(*formerly...a Welcome Dinner) Please see the insert in today's bulletin for more info.* ***All parishioners are welcome to enjoy dinner and fellowship.*** Please RSVP by **Tuesday, Oct. 11** to Cindy Meyer x24 or cindymeyer@holyspiritcc.org.

Outreach Ministry

Today is
Respect Life Sunday!

First Sunday Rosary for the end to abortion is TODAY at 10:30 a.m. in the church.

40 Days for Life is a focused pro-life effort that consists of 40 consecutive days of prayer and fasting, peaceful vigil, and community outreach. Each day people will pray **6:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.** outside of the Planned Parenthood abortion facility, 7989 West Virginia Dr., Dallas. Holy Spirit has adopted **Sunday, Oct. 23** as our day to cover this facility in prayer. If you would like to be a part of this day of peaceful and prayerful witness, please contact Donna Greenlee, x20.

Is your family or someone you know in need of help from our "St. Nick's helpers?" Please submit names and information to Donna Greenlee, x20, by **Oct. 16**.
All information is kept confidential.

Rachel's Corner: *"Hope is not outside us; it sings in our bruised hearts when some person reaches out to us at the moment we feel like giving up. The Spirit works through the touch of the person who believes in us enough not to give up on us; this action of another makes the deadened filaments of the soul glow once again; it is through persons who give us their light when we are in darkness that we experience the power of Resurrection."* (Eugene Kennedy, "The Joy of Being Human")

Come on a Rachel's Vineyard™ Retreat and meet us waiting there for you and receive His light to end your darkness. Please contact Abortion AfterCare-Healing/ The Rachel Ministries (214) 544-CARE or healing@racheldallas.org. All inquiries are strictly confidential.