

July 24, 2016

Ordinary Time
Seventeenth Sunday



Why Pray?

This question speaks to one of our most essential human needs. Jesus knows that his disciples needed to share in the relationship he had with God. He therefore taught us a simple, honest and profound prayer. We pray because the words we utter in God's presence are the breathing that sustains our lives. God is nearer to us than our own heartbeat. The day we cease to pray, we cease to live and to be who we are before God and others.

Today's Bulletin is sponsored
in memory of the Welfl & Keil Families
by Shirley & Heather Welfl.

Flowers for the altar this weekend
are donated by the Altar Society.

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, July 30

6:30 p.m. Grace Schoenvogel

Sunday, July 31

6:30 a.m. Margaret & Alphonse Simper

9:30 a.m. Spec. Int. – Dolores & Ben Scott

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY

Next weekend is *The Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23

Responsorial Psalm: 90

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

A.C.T.S. Community Annual Family Picnic, Aug. 7 at Splashway Water Park, Sheridan. Mass at 10:00 a.m. followed by lunch furnished by A.C.T.S. Core. Fellowship to follow. Individual and family swim time, 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. For more information and to RSVP contact Tina Trejo (361) 772-1392.

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of the Welfl & Keil Families.

2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2016 Assessment \$17,080.00
Contributions So Far \$10,310.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed \$ 6,770.00

Do please consider making a donation.

DONATION TO ST. JOSEPH'S

We received a generous donation of \$5,000 this week from a couple who are parishioners. They commented, "Father, we do not want our names mentioned. The oil well we are pooled in on is doing very well and we wanted to give a donation to the Church." We thank them for their donation and for their continuous support of the parish.

LOOKING AHEAD

On The Journey to Jerusalem

From the 18th to the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the framework of the *Journey to Jerusalem*, the Gospel according to St. Luke has incorporated certain teachings of Jesus that function as a course on discipleship. These teachings may appear to be disjointed and illogical, but they are not.

The four gospel passages read from the 18th through the 21st Sundays are grouped under the heading: *In all things consider the End*. These teachings of Jesus are seen from the perspective of the End of all things – eternity, the Master's return, judgment, and entry into the Kingdom.

- The happy End of human life does not depend on wealth, and it is foolish to hoard it when what is needed is to grow rich *in what matters to God* – 18th Sunday.
- One must therefore dedicate oneself to gathering a never-failing treasure, behaving as a *faithful and prudent steward* – 19th Sunday.
- Such conduct and behavior contrasts sharply with the world's ways of acting often leading us to conflict with those who do not appreciate all things in the light of this *End* – 20th Sunday.
- Yet entry into the Kingdom requires these choices – 21st Sunday.

L.A.M.B. Representative Needed

We need somebody to represent the Parish at the meetings for L.A.M.B. They meet quarterly at Hallettsville. Contact the Parish Office if you are interested. We thank Ray Bacak for his many years of service as the Parish Representative.

THE WEEK AHEAD

TUESDAY – Quilting Group Meets, Quilting Room
– Women's A.C.T.S. Team Meeting, 6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Parish Hall
THURSDAY– Quilting Group Meets, Quilting Room
– KC Bingo, KC Hall
FRIDAY – Parish Office closed on Fridays. For any
Pastoral emergency, call the Office at any time.

REFLECTION

How Do We Talk To God?

Today, we hear Abraham talking to God about the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah. In the conversation Abraham gets close to God and barter with God on behalf of the just people who may live in the city. For Abraham, the just should not be punished for the sake of the wicked. Abraham's prayer is conditioned by his knowledge of God as caring, merciful and personally involved in the affairs of humans.

Jesus' disciples on the other hand want to know how he talks to God, like a child with a parent, like a Son to a loving Father. Jesus' teaching about prayer is offered within the context of his own prayerful communication with God. The disciples saw him at prayer. Their request is understood as a desire to share in the union that Jesus shares with the Father. Jesus' Father is our Father. He asks for *our* daily bread and forgiveness for *our* sins. Jesus' talking to God is all *we* and *us* and not *I* and *me*. When we talk to God as Jesus has taught us, we are drawn into his relationship with God and with all he loves as brothers and sisters. Attached to the Our Father is a series of teaching on prayer. Through the parable of the friend knocking at midnight, Jesus encourages persistence in prayer. The dotting attention we receive from God must be translated into selfless acts of caring for others. Do you acknowledge and accept all others as children of the same Father? Or is your talking to God mere lip service? How do you talk to God?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jul. 24 – Barbara Castro, Kathy Seale
Jul. 27 – Marvin Rothbauer, Catherine Wenske
Jul. 28 – Matthew Terra
Jul. 29 – Daniel Bohuslav, Ervin Patek
Jul. 30 – Molly Jalufka

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Jul 28 – Phyllis & Kenneth Schoenfeld

UPCOMING RETREAT

Lead Me Retreat by God's Embrace!! Come from wherever you are to experience a deeper walk with Jesus. The Retreat will be held at God's Embrace Ministries Retreat Center located at 1601 High Hill Rd, Schulenburg, TX. Weekend begins 5:00 p.m. Friday, July 29, and concludes with Sunday Mass July 31. Open to men, women and couples. Space is limited. Register online at www.godsembrace.org or call 979-561- 8883.

Vacation Bible School

In pictures. See Bulletin Insert.

CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD PICNIC – SEPTEMBER 18

My dear friends,

It is Summer time and therefore Picnic time. Monday, August 15 is Praha's and Sunday, September 18 is Mouton's. Sandwiched between these is the Dinner with Fr. Gabriel on August 28. It will be hectic but I am looking forward to a great time.

In preparation for our Picnic we will meet with the Picnic Chairpersons today. It is evident that parishioners are gearing up for the Picnic as well. Many have purchased their Raffle Tickets and picked up extra tickets to sell. Some have already brought in their auction items and made various donations. We are off to a good start. Keep up the good work.

Raffle Tickets: Thanks to these early birds who have turned in their raffle stubs and donations to kick off our Picnic. Have you bought your tickets yet?

<i>Betty & Harry Maskey</i>	<i>Annette & Jerry Fojtik</i>
<i>Gloria & David Reindl</i>	<i>Pat & Tom Lawrence</i>
<i>Jeanette & Carl Henke</i>	<i>Elsie & Marvin Jasek</i>
<i>Karla & Eugene Kresta</i>	<i>Pat & Joe Lombardo</i>
<i>Karin & Kenneth Filipp</i>	<i>Dolores & Ben Scott</i>
<i>Irene & Carlos Portales</i>	<i>Tracey & Dale Gold</i>
<i>Kathy & Marvin Dornak</i>	<i>Adela & John Beran</i>
<i>Lisa & David Rothbauer</i>	<i>Gene Schoenvogel</i>
<i>Rose & Marvin Rothbauer</i>	<i>Hattie & Bob Olle</i>
<i>Jennifer & Don Rothbauer</i>	<i>Maynard Wagner</i>
<i>Caroline & James Freytag</i>	<i>Georgia Wagner</i>
<i>Jeannette & Oscar Tousek</i>	<i>Eleanor Wagner</i>
<i>Debbie & Marlon Novosad</i>	<i>Charlene Simper</i>
<i>Alisha & Wesley Rothbauer</i>	<i>Gussie Machalec</i>
<i>Linda & Michael Mikulencak</i>	<i>Ernie Novosad</i>
<i>Phyllis & Kenneth Schoenfeld</i>	<i>Cliff McLain</i>
<i>Ollie & Alfred Haikenwaelder</i>	<i>Irene Gold</i>
<i>Roberta & Preacher Mejias</i>	<i>Lucretta & David Fike</i>
<i>Melanie & Jonathan Mikulencak</i>	

We thank the following for picking up extra tickets to sell:

Steven Gold – 2 Tickets
David Reindl – 8 Tickets
Nancy Wood – 10 Tickets
Boyce Etlinger – 10 Tickets
Gene Schoenvogel – 4 Tickets
Phyllis Schoenfeld – 12 Tickets

Could you also help sell some Raffle Tickets?

Picnic Chairpersons Meeting Today after the 9:30 Mass.

Picnic Meat Fund Letter in the mail soon

Praha Raffle Tickets available for sale at the Parish Office.

6 for \$5

30 for \$25

46 prizes to be given away.