

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 13, 2017

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, August 15, Masses:

St. Peter: 8 am & 6 pm

St. John: 9:30 am & 7:15 pm

Adoration Cancellation

St. John's Adoration is cancelled Thursday the 17th.

Annual Missionary Coop Weekend

Father Raphael Ezech, from the Missionary Society of St. Paul (MSP), will celebrate Mass with us next weekend.

The Missionary Society of St. Paul, a congregation of 255 priests working in ten countries--Africa, Grenada in the West Indies, the US, England, Sweden, and Ireland.

One of their missions provides rehabilitation and support for over 300 orphans who lost their parents due to AIDS. They need our assistance to continue this mission by: 1) providing fresh water wells and education in rural communities; 2) sponsoring seminarians, and 3) supporting priests in the founding/building of new churches.

Your support to this worthy cause will be an immense encouragement to the MSP as they continue to take the good news to those desperately in need of it. (There will be a second collection to support them in their work.) May God bless you!

Faith Formation Begins

Faith Formation classes start September 17: 8:30 am at St Peter, 10 am at St John. Both churches' programs can use additional volunteers as teachers, assistants, & substitutes. For more information or to find out how you can help, contact Katherine Gielskie 607.437.7474.

Church Annual Picnic

The annual Church picnic, hosted by our Knights of Columbus, will be held at St. John Saturday, August 26, immediately after the 4 pm Mass. Please bring a dish to pass. The Knights will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, and drinks. Knights of Columbus scholarships will be awarded at the picnic.

Aging in Community: Village Movement

Staying in their own homes for as long as possible may present various obstacles for seniors such as driving, home repairs/maintenance, social events becoming more difficult to attend, etc.

The Village movement was founded with the idea of 'neighbors helping neighbors' to remain in their homes for as long as possible, and to develop social connections in activities, programs, and events. A forum will be held on September 14 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Hearst Media Center in Albany and will cover the future of aging in community, the origins of the movement, the components of operating and developing a Village, along with presentations by seven existing Villages. The goals: to assist individuals and groups by providing information on incorporating and operating one, best practices to expand services and allow for networking. Register by September 7 by calling 518.269.3976.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

What do you and your child think God looks like? - a grandfather, wind, an earthquake, fire, a cloud, a ghost... (1 Kings 19: 9-13) Each of you draw your idea. Talk about the qualities of God that are beyond what you can draw.

~ On-Going Bishop's Appeal ~ thebishopsappeal.org

Knights of Columbus

Calling all inactive Knights as well as any men who have an interest in joining: increased membership is needed to help Father regarding issues facing our combined parishes. Please contact Pete Bracci at 267.8336 or braccipj@hotmail.com. The next meeting is on September 11 at 6 pm at Ed Rossley's home (contact Pete for directions).

Taizé Prayer

Taizé Prayer, a service of song, silence, and contemplation, is held every third Thursday of each month at 7 pm at various Delhi Churches. On August 17, United Ministry and on September 21, St. John's Episcopal Church.

(St. Mary's Church in Oneonta will resume their Taize Prayer after Church renovations.)

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The apostles were "afraid" when Jesus was transfigured in front of the. Change is often frightening, especially in relationships, but inevitable. Children grow up, parents age, and people mature. The only constant is our commitment to one another.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

We honor Mary because of her important role in Jesus' life from her initial "Yes" to her presence with the apostles after His death. Although we don't expect to be assumed into heaven, spouses sometimes get into trouble by assuming they know what the other thinks. Don't mind read. Check it out with words.

Gospel Reflection

Matthew 14:22-33

Now, at last, Jesus finds some time for quiet and prayer. He sends His disciples ahead of Him by boat, dismisses the crowds, and then withdraws to the mountain to pray. The disciples do not fare well. They struggle to weather the wind and waves making little progress in their journey. (We are reminded when Jesus (previously calmed the seas.) This time, however, Jesus does not calm the seas, and the disciples do not express fear until they see Jesus walking toward them on the water -- it is not the storm that is feared but the sight of Jesus before them, whom they mistake for a ghost.

Clues like these suggest that this story is about the disciples' growing understanding of the identity of Jesus. In continuity with the feeding of the multitude, this Gospel is also about what the disciples' faith in Jesus will enable them to do. Jesus calls to the disciples and calms their fears. He is not a ghost. The impulsive Peter seeks proof that the person is indeed Jesus. He asks Jesus to call him out onto the water, and Jesus grants his request. Peter's fear and doubt overtake him, however, once he is walking on the water. Jesus reaches out to Peter and saves him. When Jesus and Peter enter the boat, Matthew reports that the wind ceases, and the disciples confess that Jesus is the Son of God.

Faith in Jesus will enable the disciples to do the work that Jesus has done -- Peter walks on water, the five loaves and two fish fed a multitude of people. The disciples can and will participate in the work of the kingdom of heaven.

When Peter fears and doubts the person of Jesus, however, he falters. Peter's example teaches us that true Christian ministry emerges from the faith that Jesus is the Messiah, God's only Son.

God does everything, foresees everything with the purpose of leading you to Himself.