

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 19, 2018

Last Week!

Backpack Project deadlines: August 27 donations need to be dropped at First Presbyterian Church or August 26 items dropped at St. Peter. Checks, made out to "First Presbyterian Church," are also appreciated (*note 'school supplies'*).

COLCHESTER FOOD BANK

Please bring a needed item or two when you attend Mass: cans of pasta, tuna, stew, chili, and pasta sauce. The Colchester Food Bank is open Wednesdays 1 to 2:30 pm.

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE JUBILEE

The 46th Annual Diocesan Marriage Jubilee Liturgy will be held Sunday, October 7, at 2 pm at The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Albany. Couples celebrating their 25th, 40th, 50th, or other special wedding anniversaries are invited. Bishop Edward Scharfenberger will celebrate the Liturgy at 2 pm and greet couples and their guests at a reception in the gathering area at the Cathedral immediately following Mass. Please register through your parish office or by email to Marriage.Jubilee@rcda.org.

Youth Retreat

What is required of a disciple? Courage. As Blessed Titus Brandsma once said, *"Those who want to win the world for Christ must have the courage to come into conflict with it."*

Fearless Retreats are for teens in grades 8-12 and bring them to the foot of the Cross, inviting them to sainthood, and setting them on fire for Christ in the Eucharist. Activities: basketball, laser tag, ultimate frisbee, soccer, Mass, praise and worship, Eucharistic Adoration, along with talks and testimonies by guests including the Franciscan Friars and Sisters of the Renewal, other clergy and religious.

Date: September 28-30. Place: Coleman Catholic High School, Hurley, NY. Cost: \$45. Registration deadline: September 21 at fearlessretreats.com.

Home Missions Appeal Next Weekend

To date 40 percent of dioceses in the U.S. are considered home mission territory because they are unable to fund the essential pastoral work needed in their communities. Dioceses that cover large areas with so few Catholics (and priests) face challenges such as lengthy travel time and limited funding. Supporting this appeal helps ease the struggle of these areas -- please prayerfully consider how you can help.

Sixth Annual Walk to Fight Suicide Sunday, September 30

Join the walk thru Delhi and the SUNY Campus to help raise funds to bring awareness and \$ for Delaware County resources. Check-in/registration: 1 pm, walk begins at 2 pm & ends at 4 pm.

For more information, contact: Lori Osterhoudt at 746.4692 or osterhbl@delhi.edu.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT TRAINING

Beginning Friday, September 21, an 18-hour Bereavement Support Group Facilitator Training will be held at Our Lady of the Assumption Church in Latham [9 am to 3 pm on Friday, 9/21, 9/28, and Saturday, 9/29]. It will provide information on: defining normal grief, identifying gender differences in grieving, discussing the impact of religion, spirituality and culture on grief, identifying coping mechanisms and destructive ways of coping, and bereavement resources.

Training sessions include information on discernment and boundaries, presentations, interactive exercises, readings, prayer and reflection. Fee: \$100 (includes lunch, a book, manual, and all handout materials). Registration is necessary and limited to 20. Registration deadline: Sept. 14.

CATHOLICISM SERIES

Beginning Wednesday, August 29, the *Catholicism* series will be presented each Wednesday at 7 pm in Father Willis Hall with light refreshments provided by our Knights of Columbus.

PARENTING POINTERS Susan Vogt

Wisdom has built her house. Proverbs 9:1

May your home be smarter than your phone. Sometimes children can teach us deep truths. What deeper truth have you learned from your child this week?

Body & Blood

John 6:51-58

The Gospel elaborates further on the teaching that Jesus began last week when Jesus said that He had come down from heaven because they knew Jesus to be the son of Joseph. Now some have difficulty with Jesus' teaching that He is the living bread sent from God. Recall that Jesus had told them that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life: Jesus Himself is the bread sent by God.

Among the stumbling blocks for those who heard but did not understand Jesus is the teaching that the bread that Jesus will give is His own flesh. In response to the people who quarreled over His words, Jesus teaches with even greater emphasis that salvation comes to those who eat His Body and Blood. Jesus doesn't seem to answer the question posed about how salvation will come about perhaps because this reality can only be understood after His death and Resurrection. Instead, He teaches about the life that He will give to the world.

To many ears, Jesus' words are jarring and difficult to hear, and many who heard Jesus could not accept what He said. This is the mystery that is at the heart of our eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are made truly present, and when we share in His Body and Blood, Jesus Himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's body for the life of the world.

Sunday Connection

FAMILY PERSPECTIVE Bud Ozar

Parents often feel devoured by the demands of family life. This is unavoidable, for children grow in the soil of sacrificial love. Parenting is not part-time work -- it is a consuming lifetime commitment.

Hearts Aflame Eucharistic Congress

Hearts Aflame is only one month away, and it is important to register in advance. Bishop Scharfenberger: *We have planned to celebrate to develop a deeper awareness and understanding of the importance of the Mass to our happiness on earth and, ultimately, our eternal salvation.*

When: September 22 from 9 am to 3 pm. Where: Shrine of the North American Martyrs in Auriesville. Registration: rcda.org/heartsaflame [If you do not have computer, call St. John or St. Peter's office.]

MARRIAGE MOMENTS Susan Vogt

Two questions to consider when you disagree: 1.) Tell me about what you are seeing that you think I might be missing. 2.) What are you most concerned about or worried might happen?

~ Bishop's Appeal Six Month Tally ~ thebishopsappeal.org

Online you can easily make your outright gift or pledge and have automatic monthly payments.

	Gifts & Pledges	# of Parish Members	Total	Deficit
St. John:	36	325	\$10,202	\$9,140
St. Peter:	34	157	10,910	4,347

A MINISTRY OF IMMENSE LOVE

If you have a friend or loved one in need of Holy Communion or a visit, please give them a Pastoral Care Ministry pamphlet with more information, which is located in the vestibules at St. Peter and at St. John. Notify the church at 865.7394, extension 207 if they would like communion or just a visit.