

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2019

Faith Formation

First day: September 22.

Register at the Parish Picnic 9/7 or first day of class.

St. Peter Catechists: meet 9/8 after Mass

Catechists/assistants needed for both Parishes.

St. Peter Catechist Meeting

There will be a St Peter's catechist meeting in the Rectory Sunday, September 8, after 9:30 Mass.

Needed! Catechists

Both parishes are in need of volunteers to help with the Faith Formation programs. Contact Katherine at 437.7474 or katherine.gielskie@live.com if you can give an hour on Sunday.

Parish Picnic Saturday the Seventh

Our Parish Picnic will be held Saturday following the 4 pm Vigil Mass at St. John the Baptist. There will not be a 5:30 pm Vigil Mass at St. Peter. Pot Luck, please bring a dish to pass.

Now Accepting

items you want to donate for the Fall Penny Social at S. John when doing your Fall cleaning. Items may be dropped off Monday thru Friday between 10 am and 4 pm. Call Jim O'Dell at the office, ext. 203, to let him know when you will be in and if you would like help unloading.

Saint Padre Pio Feast

Rosa Mystica in Edmeston will be honoring Saint Padre Pio with a weekend conference September 20 to 22. \$25/local commuters, \$125/local commuters with meals, or \$250/three days/two nights with meals. Register at: RosaMysticaMargie@gmail.com or 516.624.9033.

WALTON ITALIAN DAY PICNIC

Come picnic on Sunday, September 15, at 12 pm at the Club Royal on Delaware Street. Please bring a dish to pass and a memory to share.

Walk to Fight Suicide September 28

Be part of the Out of the Darkness Walk, which will take place at SUNY Delhi at 12 pm (check-in/registration, 11 am). With a goal of reducing the suicide rate 20% by 2025, this walk helps raise funds for research, educational programs, advocate for public policy, and support survivors of suicide loss. Register: afsp.org/DELAWARECOUNTY.

Community Harvest Dinner Sunday

Gather around the table on the 15th from 4 to 7 pm on Church Street, Delhi to enjoy a community harvest dinner with live music -- one giant table with a place for everyone! Bring your own food to share, drink, and table setting.

God Calling You???

Maybe the Order of Franciscan Seculars is what is waiting for you. Want to learn more? We invite all adults to join us at St. Vincent de Paul Blessed Sacrament Church located at 465 Clubhouse Road, Vestal, NY on September 8 for 10:30 am Mass with information presented following the Mass. Find out how this Third Order might be just the right calling for you.

If you would like more information, you may contact Eileen Esposito 607.865.4154.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Happy Grandparents Day! Most grandparents would appreciate a call, visit, or home-made expression of affection more than a store bought gift. This could be an occasion to link up with history. Ask a grandparent to tell stories, maybe even slightly embarrassing stories, of how you were raised.

Snowbirds

The Diocese gets inundated with returned billing statements and tax receipts during winter for parishioners who are temporarily away. Before flying south, please contact them with your winter address at 518.453.6680.

Counting the Cost

Like a contractor about to build a tower, we have to count the cost as we set out to follow Jesus. Our Lord tells us up front the sacrifice it will take. His words are addressed to whoever wishes to be His disciple. That only makes His call all the more stark and uncompromising. We are to "hate" our old lives, to renounce all the earthly things we rely upon, to choose Him above every person and possession. He tells us that the things we have, even our family ties and obligations, can become an excuse, an obstacle that keeps us from giving ourselves completely to Him.

Jesus brings us the saving wisdom we are promised in the First Reading.... He is that saving Wisdom. Weighed down by many earthly concerns, the burdens of our body and its needs, we could never see beyond the things of this world; we could never detect God's heavenly design and intention. So in His mercy He sent us His Spirit, His Wisdom from on high, to make straight our path to Him. Jesus Himself paid the price to free us from the sentence imposed on Adam, which the Psalm recalls. No more will the work of our hands be an affliction or are we destined to turn back to dust.

Like Onesimus in the Epistle, we have been redeemed. We have been given a new family and a new inheritance, made children of the Father, brothers and sisters in the Lord. We are free now to come after Him, to serve Him no longer slaves to the ties of our past lives. In Christ, all our yesterdays have passed. We live in what the Psalm beautifully describes as the daybreak, ready to be filled with His kindness for He has given us wisdom of heart and taught us to number our days aright.

Dr. Scott Hahn

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat

Hurting from abortion? Experience the healing love of Jesus Christ on a Rachel's Vineyard weekend retreat September 27-29 at Joshua House in Altamont. The weekend will combine discussions, spiritual exercises, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, A Memorial Service, and a Mass of Entrustment.

Participation is strictly confidential and offers a beautiful opportunity to experience God's love, forgiveness, and compassion. Cost: \$160. Some financial assistance is available. For more information or to register: Pat Mousa, 518.222.1160 or Denise Freeman, 607.353.0039, or email: rachelsvineyardalbany@yahoo.com. For a complete listing of retreat dates and locations: 877.HOPE-4-ME or visit Rachel's Vineyard website: www.rachelsvineyard.org.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

September 11 took people by surprise (as did the recent shootings). You do not know the time or the place you or your beloved will die. Take advantage of the time you have today to show your love.

October Albany Marriage Encounter: Put God first in your marriage by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend is in Albany October 18-20. In November on the first thru third, there will be one in Manchester, Connecticut. For information: Pat & Mary Jo, 860.315.2127 or at wwmectw.org.

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The Gospel is clear: commitment to another involves sacrifice. Before we accept a commitment such as marriage or parenting, we must plan carefully like the king. These are serious commitments, which demand complete self-giving and are not for the faint hearted or selfish.