Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 10, 2018

Father's Day Sale -- Bakers & Buyers Needed

Stop by after 8 Mass at Holy Family on the 17th to buy some delicious baked goodies -- take some home to pops! Bakers would be appreciated to make this a successful sale!

Graduates' Reception & Coffee Hour

There will be a reception and coffee hour to celebrate our graduates on June 24 after the 11:15 am Mass at St. John. Come and extend best wishes to the graduates.

Healing Mass in Hancock

St. Paul the Apostle Church in Hancock will be celebrating a charismatic-style Mass for Healing on Sunday, June 24, at 2 pm. Experience the healing power of our Lord alive and active in the world! Individual prayers for healing and laying on of hands by Father Richard McAlear will follow Mass along with the Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament.

A BIG Thank You

We thank all those who helped in the improvements to the front of Saint Peter's Church: the SUNY students and staff, the Environmental Committee, and all the others who contributed. Thanks!

Catholic Charities RAFFLE

On June 30 and July 1, Catholic Charities representatives from our parish will partner with the Knights of Columbus to sell tickets for the annual raffle after all Masses. Raffle tickets are $20 each, and there are three money prizes-- First Prize: $1,200, Second Prize: $500, and Third Prize: $250. Catholic Charities celebrates over 100 years of assisting the poor and vulnerable in our area and the proceeds from this raffle help us to continue our mission. Pamphlets are available outlining the organization's continuing role. Only 300 tickets will be sold for this raffle. Thank you for your support and good luck!

Catholic Communications Campaign

Next weekend is the annual Catholic Communications Campaign. Last year Pope Francis' message about this collection reminded us, *"In Christ, God has shown His solidarity with every human situation. He has told us that we are not alone, for we have a father who is constantly mindful of His children."* We communicate this message by utilizing these funds to provide educational and prayer resources as well as to organize communities to speak out against the death penalty.

This campaign helps connect people with Christ through the internet, television, radio, and print media. (Fifty percent of the collection remains in our diocese to fund local communi-cation efforts.)

Health Services of Older Refugees

The next Patient Advocates Telephone Teach-in is on Tuesday, June 19, from 10 to 11 am. New York State has a long history and tradition of being a place of hope for refugees. Learn possible ways our community can help along with:

1) context of the general refugees' situation,
2) challenges faced by older refugees,
3) successes & failures found in developing services,
4) refugee resources, and
5) discussion on how communities can help them to integrate and thrive

Reserve your spot by calling 800.333.4374. On Tuesday dial 1.712.832.8300, press 6258645, and listen to the session. The line will be opened for questions and comments after the speaker is finished with the presentation.

Marriage Moments — Susan Vogt

"Love does not consist in gazing at each other but in looking outward together in the same direction."

~Antoine De Saint-Exupery

The little prince knew something of marriage. Look out over your life and see beyond the crabgrass. What is your most cherished common goal?

Parenting Pointers — Susan Vogt

"For whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother."

Mark 3:35

Family matters, but perhaps our definition of "family" is too small. Try to identify someone outside of your immediate family who did the will of God this past week. Tell them you noticed.

The Promised One

Jesus has just been healing and casting out demons in Galilee. Along with the crowds, who flock to Him so that He can't even take a break to eat, come people who do not understand what He is doing. Even His friends think He has lost His mind and needs to be taken away for a while, but the scribes who came down from Jerusalem are not just honestly mistaken; they accuse Him of being possessed by the prince of demons. The reality is just the opposite. Jesus is revealing Himself as the one promised. He is the seed of the woman who has come to crush the head of the demonic serpent.

In the parable of the strong man, Jesus reveals that He has come not just to punish the devil but to free those bound by him. As St. Bede explains, "The Lord has also bound the strong man, that is, the devil: which means, He has restrained him from seducing the elect, and entering into his house, the world; He has spoiled his house, and His goods, that is men, because He has snatched them from the snares of the devil, and has united them to His Church."

The scribes blaspheme by attributing this work of the Holy Spirit to demons. Jesus adds a statement that shocks us at first: "whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness." That does not mean that there are any limits to the mercy of God. Rather, the only sin that cannot be forgiven is the deliberate refusal to accept the mercy offered through the Holy Spirit. Instead, we must imitate those who sat at Jesus' feet. For, as He said, "Whoever does the will of God is my brother, and sister, and mother." Dr. Scott Hahn

Jesus, then, loved us infinitely,
we might even dare to say desperately.

~ Blessed Ildefonso Schuster

Family Perspective — Bud Ozar

Jesus reminds us *"a house divided against itself will not stand."* Are the tensions and issues which divide your home worth the struggle? Even if you win an argument, you lose a relationship. Don't let pride and pettiness divide your home.

Monastic Experience Weekend

If you are serious about God, what does He want you to do next? Listen. Listen and act. Why not try listening and acting in a monastery. Job shadow a monk for a weekend. The weekend of June 22 to 24, St. Mary's Monastery in central Massachusetts are offering such an opportunity.

Single Catholic men 18 to 40 years of age are invited to live in the monastery, not the guest house, participate in the prayer, the work, and shared and private talks with the monks. Learn and experience prayer -- work -- community based on the balanced and rhythmical contemplative Benedictine monastic life with a 1,600 year history.

If you are interested or would like more information, contact Father Gregory at monks@stmarysmonastery.org or give him a call at 978.724.3350.

Vocation Discernment

Women ages 19 to 45, who are discerning a religious vocation, are invited to come experience the life and charism of the Dominican Sisters of Hawthorne on June 23 in Philadelphia or July 27 to 20 in Hawthorne. Those attending join in our community prayers, witness our apostolate and meet some of our sisters.

The Dominican sisters believe in and witness to the sanctity of life until natural death and uphold the teachings of the Catholic Church. In their apostolate, they seek to bring Christ to those approaching the end of life by providing care and comfort, both physically and spiritually. At the same time, seeking to find and serve Christ in the poor suffering from incurable cancer.

Reservations are required. For more information or to reserve your spot, please contact: Sr. Alma Marie at 845.745.1319 or vocationdirector@hawthornedominicans.org today.