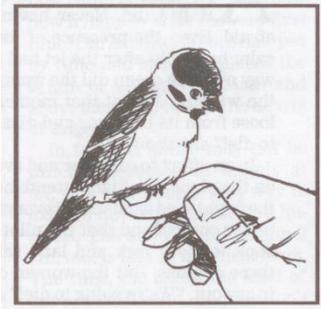


June 25, 2017

Ordinary Time

Twelfth Sunday



The Joy of Discipleship

As glorious and as much of an honor as discipleship may be, it can also be very different. The strength needed to continue to carry on Jesus' mission in the world despite its hardships can only come from God. We are not thrown into the world to fend for ourselves. God cares for us more than for the sparrows yet even they are fed by God. How comforting it is to know that.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 1

4:30 p.m. Anton Okruhlik

Sunday, July 2

8:00 a.m. Benjamin Smolik

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY



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

First Reading: 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 89

Second Reading: Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

Gospel: Matthew 10:37-42

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



You don't have to be skilled or have to know someone who knows someone to get the job. The Kingdom has lots of positions open... Jesus will train you! Jesus does not hire the equipped he equips the

hired. Apply by asking Jesus in prayer what is his will for you.

2017 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2017 Assessment	\$7,670.00
Contributions So Far	\$ 2,415.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 5,255.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Anna & Michael Fishbeck

Betty Patalik

Rosemary & Arthur Klekar

Jane Schneider

Do please consider making a donation.

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Mary & Blaine Tucker, Sugar Land, TX - \$100

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

LITURGICAL ORIENTATION

Wearing The Green Vestments

We have been in Ordinary Time for two weeks already but this is the first Sunday we go back to green vestments and leave behind the Solemnities that follow the Easter Season. This is the Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time. In today's Second Reading, Paul offers a crucial truth that could well be our theme for all of Ordinary Time and beyond.

For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man, Jesus Christ overflow for the many. (Romans 5:15)

What an important and central truth of our faith! Yet only a few Catholics really see that God's grace is stronger in us than our own sins. We still labor under the weight of centuries of over-emphasis on sin and guilt as a way to push people into moral behavior. We have been much less focused on pulling people toward good behavior by reminding them of God's love for them. We need to grow beyond fear, guilt and shame to a deep awareness of God's grace in our lives. Gratitude for God's gifts should be the motivation for our lives. It is also the basis for our celebration of the Eucharist. When we feel grateful to God then our celebration becomes a joy rather than an obligation. When people see us sharing God's love in service to others, people feel attracted to Christ and to the Church. However, if our attitude is not different from theirs – distracted by many things and shaped by consumer culture that is ultimately self-centered then we are not fulfilling our mission. Most people are not attracted by those who spend their energy judging and condemning others but by those who show others God's mercy and compassion.

REFLECTION

Fear No One

This Sunday we continue to read Jesus' instructions to the twelve as he sends them out to preach the good news of the Kingdom. Jesus warns them that they will suffer persecution so he shows them how to act when they are facing persecution. The disciples are told: *Fear no one* because they should be confident that good will prevail and the truth will win out.

They are also told that they need not fear because God is in charge and that no event occurs without the Father's knowledge, even one so apparently insignificant as the death of a sparrow. Jesus challenges our tendency to fear God's inattentiveness to our issues. He assures us *Even all the hairs of our head are counted*.

Jesus encourages us to choose fidelity to our mission over fear of our persecutors. Fidelity is the path to eternal life and eternal life is the fruit of fidelity.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



June 26 – Michael Hanslik
June 27 – Amy Koncaba
June 28 – Haley Moeller
June 29 – Esther Brautigam
July 1 – Elizabeth Decker

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

July 1 – Fr. Gabriel: Ordination Anniversary!

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



Remember to pray for the following prayer requests:

For A Safe Trip

For JoAnn & Bob C.

For My Wife's Health

Healing For Kira & Trent

For Our Health and Our Priest

For Jason & Holly and Brother

For Jessie – Injured Navy Seal

For Freddy & Claudia Ortega

Pray For My Dad's Health in Mind & Spirit

For Anisa, Michael & Bernadette. Don & Pat Wile

For The Successful Surgery of My Dad, Son, Sister

For An Increase of Vocations to the Priesthood &

Religious Life

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

PETER'S PENCE



The Peter's Pence collection enables the Holy Father to respond with emergency financial assistance to requests to aid the neediest throughout the world – those who suffer as a result of war, oppression, and natural disasters. It likewise provides the faithful with a tangible opportunity to not only empower the weak, defenseless, and voiceless, but also sustain those who suffer.

Please be generous.

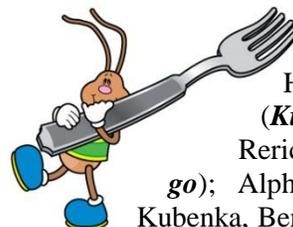
CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 15

Update on Picnic Chairpersons Meetings

The Picnic plans are coming together. We have been meeting with the chairpersons of the various work stations/booths. We thank all the chairpersons for their continued dedication and hard work for the success of our Picnic. Here is a brief breakdown of the meetings:

The Meal Chairpersons: Junior Chaloupka (*Stew*); Johnnie Hoffman & Jared Tousek (*Chicken Frying*); Helen Schaefer & Josie Kubenka (*Kitchen*); Theresa Tousek, Brittani Rerich & Barbara Jasek (*Plates-to-go*); Alphonse Kubenka, Leon & Greg Kubenka, Bennie & Earlene Okruhlik, and Pat Masek (*Kettle Cashier/Dinner Tickets/Plate Distribution*) are finalizing their supply lists.



During the meeting we discussed ways to continue to be more efficient. Here are a few of the suggestions:

- We need a few people to bring the stew/food to the plates-to-go plate filling line.
- We need a couple of people to help with the sauerkraut.
- We need somebody to help with the sauce for the green beans.
- We will have the Drive Thru line for the Business Plates only.
- Walk-up plates-to-go will also be available as in the past.
- The Meat-to-go line will be open at 12:30 p.m.

Look for more information about the Picnic Meetings in next week's bulletin.

Picnic Letter/Raffle Ticket Mailing

It's not too soon to start thinking about what to donate to the auction and other Picnic donations. Look out for something in the mail soon.

Area Picnics

Today – Sts. Peter & Paul, Plum

July 2 – Sts. Cyril & Methodius Church Dubina

July 4 – St. John Parish, St. John's

July 16 – Ascension of the Lord, Moravia