



# Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time—October 1, 2017

## SAINT MARY’S & SAINT ELIZABETH’S CATHOLIC CHURCHES



Phone: 701-579-4312

FATHER GARY BENZ-PASTOR

frgarybenz@yahoo.com; Cell Phone 701-509-9504; Rectory 701-579-4874

VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON

***“Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you.”***

It is ironic that those who were most despised in first century Palestine—tax collectors and prostitutes—were some of the first ones who accepted the Gospel message of Jesus. They were considered “defiled” in the minds of the priests and elders, who considered them grave sinners, beyond any hope of salvation. Yet, these sinners who seemed to have said “No!” to God were the ones who in the end became believers. Meanwhile, the “holy ones” (priests and elders), who seemed to have said “Yes!” to God were the ones who rejected Him, by rejecting Jesus Christ, His Son. Their self-righteousness led to their downfall. Sometimes, perhaps we fall into this camp; we can be pretty self-righteous and oblivious to our sins. We are the ones who believe ourselves to have said “Yes!” to God, but in looking honestly at our behaviors, it is clear that we are fooling ourselves. Perhaps through a daily examination of conscience and frequent Confession, we will judge ourselves more and judge and condemn others less.



### October is Pro-life Month

In the Gospel, Jesus commands us to care for the least among us, those who are weak, vulnerable, and under attack. In our world today, these persons include the unborn, the elderly, the sick, and the dying.

Our current culture wants to push them aside, destroy them, because they are an “economic” and “emotional” drain on our lifestyle. Their voices cry out to us for help and we are compelled, as their brothers and sisters in Christ, to come to their aid.

The month of October, Pro-life Month, and the Forty Days for Life (September 26<sup>th</sup>-November 5<sup>th</sup>) are great opportunities to come to the aid of those under attack by our Culture of Death. Need some ideas to promote the pro-life cause? Consider the following: 1) Join us on Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> (departing after the 7:00a.m. Mass) for a one-day pro-life pilgrimage to Fargo, where we will pray outside of the abortion mill. We have one abortion mill left in North Dakota; that’s one too many. 2) Pray the Holy Rosary every day, individually or as a family, for the intention of life. What a great way to combine the Pro-life Month and the Month of the Holy Rosary (October)! 3) Offer one hour each week in Eucharistic Adoration for the pro-life cause. 4) Abstain from meat and fast every Friday during the month of October. 5) Give to a pro-life charity, for they are in the trenches, fighting for human life. These are just some suggestions; the Holy Spirit may have others in mind when you take this important matter to prayer. Remember that being pro-life is not an option; it is expected of all who call themselves true followers of Jesus Christ, who preached the Gospel of Life.

#### Mission Statements

##### St. Mary’s Parish

Brothers & sisters in Christ, accept as our mission:

Christ Reigns-Our Salvation

Christ Conquers– Our Hope

Christ Commands—Our guide to build the Kingdom of God.

We are all one in Christ Jesus & through Him, strengthen & inspire the faith of our community.

##### St. Elizabeth’s Parish

Walking in Faith, with Integrity.

#### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saint Mary’s: Before Mass

Saint Elizabeth’s: Before Mass

#### SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Office 9 months prior to wedding date.

#### SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Meeting with the Priest is required.

#### ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Call the Parish office.

## MASS & ADORATION SCHEDULE

**Monday, October 2**

**7:30 AM SM—Communion Service**

**Tuesday, October 3**

**7:00 AM SM—Rosary & Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions**

**7:30 AM SM—+Jim Schumer by Dennis Dorner**

**Wednesday, October 4**

**6:30 PM SM— +Rose Krebs by Anton & Em Krebs, Art Krebs**

**Thursday, October 5**

**7:30AM SM— Special Intention of Karen Madler**

**Friday, October 6**

**7:30AM SM— SM Altar Guild Members by SM Altar Guild**

**12PM-3PM SM— Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**6:00 PM SE—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament**

**7:00 PM SE—SE Christian Mothers by SE Christian Mothers**

**Saturday, October 7**

**8:30 AM SM—Special Intention of Susan Schmitt**

**5:00 PM SM Herberholz Families by Harvey & Vicki Herberholz**

**Sunday, October 8**

**8:30AM SE- +Chelsa Miller by Loretta Miller**

**10:30AM SM—Pro Populo**

*Please Keep in Your Prayers:*

Andy Prokop, Mason Urlacher, Henley Johnson, Duane Grundhauser, Pete Schaefer, Alice Candrian, Jeff Hewson, Marilyn Jacobs, Leo Heck, Ross Thomas, Keith Herold, Arlene Rohr, Brenda Barton, Elven Kaufman, Suzette Printz, Jackie Deplanche, Duane Grundhauser, Cely Stagl, Linda Reisenauer, Rose Krebs (SE), Russ Lefor, Lori Lefor, Herbert Emmil, Reggie Gentz, Cindy Martin, Tim Theil, Howard Schiwal, Theresa Decker, Alyssa Binstock, Yvonne Fettig, Dale Reindel, Kim Kuhn, Don Miller, Carla Rohan, Shari Obritsch, Charlotte Krebs, Eugenia Stagl, Bart Rohan, Katherine Splichal, Bonnie (Krebs) Dick, Dorothy Kohl, Colleen Churchill, Thresiamma (Fr. Biju's mom)

**Assisted Living and Nursing Home Residents:** Benny Benz, Joan Binstock, Joe Wandler, Sylvia Koppinger, Mike Urlacher, Leona Gordon, Ardelle Kovar, Joan Madler, Cecelia Jung, Donella Koppinger, Marilyn Jeske, Willie Emmil, Frances Heick, Dale Schroeder

**Our Deceased Loved Ones** +Jeanne Kovar +Bridget Urlacher, +Laura Grundhauser, +Florian Urlacher +Paul Schiwal, + LeRoy Jacobs +Victor Roller +John Herold, + Viola Martin + Viola Neprash +Maggie Schoch, +Rose Lefor, + Mary Ficek + June Stockert +Adeline Bogner +Vern Honeymann, +Kasper Heidt, +Caroline Pechtl, +Jacob Frank,

**A Point to Ponder**

*The unborn child is not a potential life, but a life with potential.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **SM Parish Council Oct. 4 after 6:30PM Mass**
- ◆ **Keith Herold Benefit** Sunday Oct. 1 at Lefor KC Hall following 10:30AM Mass
- ◆ **St. Benedict's Mass** with Polka Music Oct. 6 at 10AM
- ◆ **Steak & Shrimp Supper** Saturday October 7 at the Lefor KC Hall serving from 5:30-8:00PM.
- ◆ Collection for Hurricane Irma, Maria & Mexico Earthquake relief will be take up the weekend of October 7 & 8
- ◆ Bea Grundhauser, Nita Iverson & Loann Wegh are on for coffee & rolls October 22 after Mass

### St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments Oct. 7 & 8

MINISTRY	Saturday 5PM	Sunday-10:30AM
Lector	Richard Wandler	Kris Ehlis
Mass Servers	Zach M./Will S.	Matthew B./Brock E.
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary F./Leonard G.	Betty H./Larry H.
Gifts	Jim Krebs	Marc & Ann Wolf
Rosary Leader	Kathy Gartner	Ann Wandler
Greeters	Connie Jalbert Family.	Victor & Lynn Dvorak
Homebound Minister	Martina S.	Maartina S.

### Collection Report St. Mary's September 23 & 24

Adult	Youth	
\$ 1801.00	Envelopes	\$ 8.00
\$ 126.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1935.00	Total	\$
\$ 18,573.96	Month	\$ 43.35
\$ 200.00	Hurricane Harvey	\$ 603.94 Catholic Charities

### St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments October 8

Lector	Dustin Kuhn
Mass Servers	Nathan
Eucharistic Ministers	Cindy & Fran
Gifts	Mary & Gregg
Greeters	Greg & Marsha
Ushers	Arlen L. & Lenny

### Collection Report St. Elizabeth's Sept. 24

Adult	Youth	
\$ 345.00	Envelopes	\$ 6.00
\$ 121.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 472.00	Total	\$
\$ 7102.00	Month	\$ 51.00

**Fundamentals of our Catholic Faith, “Why do Catholics believe that Jesus Christ is sacrificed at each and every Mass, when Scripture plainly states that He was sacrificed on Calvary, once for all?”**

Most non-Catholics do not realize it, but Jesus Christ Himself offered the first Holy Mass, at the Last Supper. At the Last Supper, He offered (i.e. sacrificed) Himself to His Father in an unbloody manner, that is, under the form of bread and wine, in anticipation of His bloody sacrifice to be offered on the following day on Mount Calvary. In the Holy Mass, not now by anticipation, but rather in retrospect, Jesus Christ continues to make that offering of Himself to His Father---by the hands of the priest: “And while they were at supper, Jesus took bread and said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to His disciples saying, ‘Take and eat. This is my Body.’ And taking the chalice, He gave thanks and gave it to them, saying, “Take and drink, for this is my blood of the new covenant, which will be shed for you, for the remission of sins” (Matthew 26:26-28).

Jesus Christ ordered His Church to perpetuate that sacrificial rite for the continued sanctification of His followers, saying, “Do this in remembrance of Me” (Luke 22:19), so the Catholic Church complies with His order in the Holy Mass. In other words, every Mass is a re-enactment of our Lord’s one sacrifice of Calvary. The Mass derives all its value from the Sacrifice of the Cross; the Mass is that same sacrifice, not another. It is not essentially a sacrifice offered by men (although men join in), but rather is the sacrifice of Jesus Himself.

Jesus Christ’s bloody sacrifice on Calvary was accomplished once, just as Scripture says (c.f. Hebrews 10:10). The Catholic Church likewise teaches that the sacrifice of the Cross was a complete and perfect sacrifice---offered once. But the Apostle Paul also bears witness that the sacrificial rite which Jesus Christ instituted at the Last Supper is to be perpetuated; it is not only important for man’s sanctification, but is the principal factor in man’s redemption. In I Corinthians 11:23-26, Saint Paul tells us how, at the Last Supper, our Lord said, “For as often as you will eat this bread and drink this cup, you will show the death of the Lord until He comes.” Thus, at every Holy Mass, a Catholic has the opportunity to worship God with this one perfect sacrifice and to absorb more of Jesus Christ’s saving and sanctifying grace which was offered to man by the Sacrifice of Calvary. This grace is infinite and the Christian should continuously grow in this grace until his death. The reason the Holy Mass is offered over and over again is not from any imperfection in Christ, but from our imperfect human nature, which is wounded and in need of continued healing.

Finally, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass fulfills the Old Testament prophecy: “For from the rising of the sun to its setting, my name is great among the Gentiles, and in every place there is sacrifice, and there is offered to my name a clean oblation, for my name is great among the Gentiles says the Lord of Hosts” (Malachi 1:11). The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass is offered every day throughout the world and in every Holy Mass, one true oblation is offered, Jesus Christ Himself. What a blessing as a Catholic to go back to Mount Calvary at each and every Mass, to be present at the Sacrifice of Jesus Christ, and to thank Him from the depths of our heart.

**Final Answer-** Having put a new Mass schedule in the bulletin last week, I finally got the true feedback I wanted and a lot of it, which was good. Thus, having filtered through it, considering the need for prudent Mass times and the need for adequate Confession time, I propose this new and final Mass schedule: 1) All year round, 8:30 a.m. Sunday morning Mass at Saint Elizabeth’s and 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning Mass at Saint Mary’s 2) Wednesday evening Mass at Saint Mary’s at 7:00 p.m., with one hour of Confessions before Mass, thus allowing church night (free of all school activities) to become an opportunity for more Confession time at Saint Mary’s. Saint Elizabeth’s weekday Mass will now be at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, with the exception of First Friday. 3) Saturday Vigil Mass at Saint Mary’s remains at 5:00 p.m.

We will implement this schedule in two weeks, on the weekend of October 14<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>. If you don’t like this Mass schedule, let me know, and I can offer the Mass at your home during the halftime of the Sunday afternoon NFL games. This may be the only perfect Mass schedule in the minds of some. Make sure you have little Smokies for after the Mass!

## **On the Lighter Side**

Question: When you have 100 people of all different opinions, what do you have?

Answer: A Catholic parish.