



Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time—September 24

SAINT MARY’S & SAINT ELIZABETH’S CATHOLIC CHURCHES



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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON

“Are you envious because I am generous?”

The purpose of Jesus’ parable is not to illustrate an unfair action by an unfair owner. In fact, the opposite is true; it is to illustrate God’s generosity. A central theme of the parable is the landowner’s question: “Are you envious because I am generous?” The landowner knew that if he paid the later workers only for the time that they had actually worked, they wouldn’t have enough material resources to go to the market to buy food for their hungry families. So, he gave them a day’s wage, with loving concern for their families in mind.

There is a spiritual challenge in this parable for us: just as God’s love is without measure, so must our love be for one another. Such generous love enables us to resist the tunnel vision of being concerned for only my needs, at the expense of seeing the often-greater needs of others. Our lives are not our own, they are at the service of Jesus Christ. All true servants of Jesus Christ are called to mirror His measureless generosity.

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GENEROSITY

“When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Summon the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and ending with the first.’” - Mt 20:8

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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, September 25

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, September 26

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

7:30 AM SM—Mason Urlacher by Mike & Angie Urlacher

Wednesday, September 27

7:30 AM SM— +Irene Benz by Lori & Randy Fitterer

6:00 PM SE—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE +Caroline Pechtl by Pam, Peg & Nancy Schiwal

Thursday, September 28

7:30AM SM— +Adam Krebs by Gene & Judy Krebs

Friday, September 29

7:30AM SM— +Victor Roller by Marge Koffler

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

Saturday, September 30

8:30 AM SM—+Joseph Schwartzbauer by Patty Flohr

7:00 PM SM— +Kyle Binstock, +Joe & Ida Binstock, +James & +Inez Hanson by Ervin & Diane Binstock

Sunday, October 1

8:30AM SM - Pro Populo

10:30AM SE— Keith Herold by KC #5477

Please Keep in Your Prayers:

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, Donnella 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

No matter how much you nurse a grudge, it won't get better.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Support our Brother in Christ**—Please join us for a benefit in honor of *Keith Herold* of Saint Elizabeth's Parish of Lefor, who is battling cancer. It will take place at the KC Hall on **Sunday, October 1st**, after the 10:30 Mass at Saint Elizabeth's Church. Until then, please remember to keep Keith in your daily prayers. *Saint Peregrine, patron of cancer patients . . . pray for him.* If you would like to donate an auction item for the Keith Herold medical benefit please contact Dorita Kuhn at 224-3280 or 590-4084, Cindy Martin at 483-6091 or 690-1137, or Deran Lefor at 483-5085 or 290-3466
- ◆ **Coming Together Sunday Oct. 1— 8:30AM Mass SM; 10:30AM Mass SE**

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments Sept. 30 & Oct. 1

MINISTRY	Saturday 5PM	Sunday-8:30AM
Lector	Diane Binstock	Kris Ehlis
Mass Servers	Leonard G./Katie S.	Brock E./Paige E.
Eucharistic Ministers	Mary F./Martina S.	Dianne B./Bonnie J.
Gifts	Connie Jalbert Family	Kent & Angie M.
Rosary Leader	Kathy Gartner	Mary Fitterer
Greeters	Nicholas D & Eileen L.	Jake Wolf
Homebound Minister	Reenie T.	Reenie T.

Collection Report St. Mary's September 16 & 17

Adult	Youth	
\$ 936.00	Envelopes	\$ 18.10
\$ 18.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 1465.20	Total	\$
\$ 16,638.96	Month	\$ 35.35
\$	\$	

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments October 1

Lector	Deran
Mass Servers	Bailey
Eucharistic Ministers	Fran & Trish
Gifts	Cindy S. & Jessica S.
Greeters	Greg & Marsha
Ushers	Arlen L. & Lenny

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's Sept. 17

Adult	Youth	
\$ 260.00	Envelopes	\$ 20.00
\$ 57.00	Loose Plate	\$
\$ 337.00	Total	\$
\$ 6630.00	Month	\$ 45.00

Fundamentals of our Catholic Faith, “Why do Catholics practice fasting and abstinence from meat on certain days?” Catholics give up eating meat, for example on Good Friday, to commemorate and honor Christ’s Sacrifice on that day and to follow His instructions to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Him (c.f. Matthew 16:24). It is a practice that dates back to the earliest days of the Church; Tertullian and Clement of Alexandria both mention it in their writings from the first century. It is a practice which is thoroughly Christian, for we note that Jesus Christ Himself recommended fasting, saying, “When you fast, anoint your head and wash your face . . . and your Father who sees you in secret will repay you” (Matthew 6:17-18). In the same vein, the Apostle Paul described his own sufferings for Christ “in hunger and thirst, in fasting often” (II Corinthians 11:27). Fasting was practiced by Christ’s followers (Acts of the Apostles, 14:22) and by Jesus Christ Himself (Matthew 4:1-2). Our Lord also told His disciples that some devils cannot be cast out “but by prayer and fasting” (Matthew 17:20).

Abstinence from meat is not binding on all Catholics. Young children, the elderly, the sick, and nursing or pregnant women are excused from this penance. But for all Catholics, throughout the year it is a holy and pious practice to abstain from meat on all Fridays. In fact, the Church expects us to do so; if we do not abstain from meat every Friday, we should take part in another penance. In doing so, we are showing our love for Jesus Christ and our gratitude for His Cross, our hope of salvation. In comparison for His great Sacrifice, our penance of abstinence and/or fasting is quite meager, yet it remains a powerful source of grace for our salvation.

New Mass Schedule

After listening to suggestions and praying about this matter, we will initiate a new Mass schedule for our parishes on the weekend of **October 8th, 2017**. It will be a rotating summer and winter schedule: 1) April to September, 8:30 a.m. Mass at Saint Mary’s and 10:30 a.m. Mass at Saint Elizabeth’s; 2) October to March, 8:30 a.m. Mass at Saint Elizabeth’s and 10:30 a.m. Mass at Saint Mary’s. 3) The 5:00 p.m. Saturday Vigil Mass at Saint Mary’s remains the same.

This Mass schedule allows us to meet the needs for adequate Confession time at each parish and for other liturgical and spiritual needs. Let’s try it for a year and evaluate it next October; we will go from there.

Some Clarity to Alleviate Concerns

It has come to my attention that there are concerns about certain financial matters on the diocesan and parish level that have some wondering about the proper use and handling of material resources. I will address them briefly here, but encourage you to contact me if you have further questions.

1) The Bishop has taken our parish’s money! Actually, the diocese hasn’t confiscated our money, but only *manages* it for us, like a bank or other financial institution. They do so to: monitor our books (some parishes have suffered from embezzlement); to give us good rates of interest on our investments; and to offer loans to parishes wishing to expand their physical plant in some manner. We retain ownership of our money and have access to it anytime we want to make use of it.

2) Priests cannot receive gifts; they go to the diocese. There is truth and falsehood in this statement. In terms of stole fees, the gifts people used to offer a priest for weddings, funerals, baptisms, or anything involved in the celebration of a Sacrament, these must now go to the parish. People do not have to make an offering for the celebration of a Sacrament, but if they insist, it goes to the general fund of that parish. Even if one wants to offer a gift card for the celebration of a Sacrament, that goes to the parish to be used for needs that arise. But, a stipend, the normative \$10 offering for a Mass, goes to the priest who celebrates that intention.

But, as for personal gifts, the priest is allowed to keep them for himself. So, for birthdays, Christmas, ordination anniversaries, or just in gratitude for keeping the homilies short, the priest can keep that offering as a gift; it does not go to the diocese or the parish. This applies as well if a parish organization, such the Altar Society or the Knights of Columbus, gives the priest a gift. It remains his personal possession; the diocese has no control over personal gifts.

3) Can a priest be paid in peach kuchen? Yes, but only if fresh peaches and real cream are used.

On the Lighter Side— When the family returned from the Sunday morning Mass, the father criticized the homily, the daughter thought the cantor’s singing was off-key, and the mother found fault with the organist’s playing. The subject had to be dropped when the small boy of the family said, “But it was a good show for a dollar, don’t you think, Dad?”