



Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time—October 15, 2017
SAINT MARY’S & SAINT ELIZABETH’S CATHOLIC CHURCHES



Phone: 701-579-4312

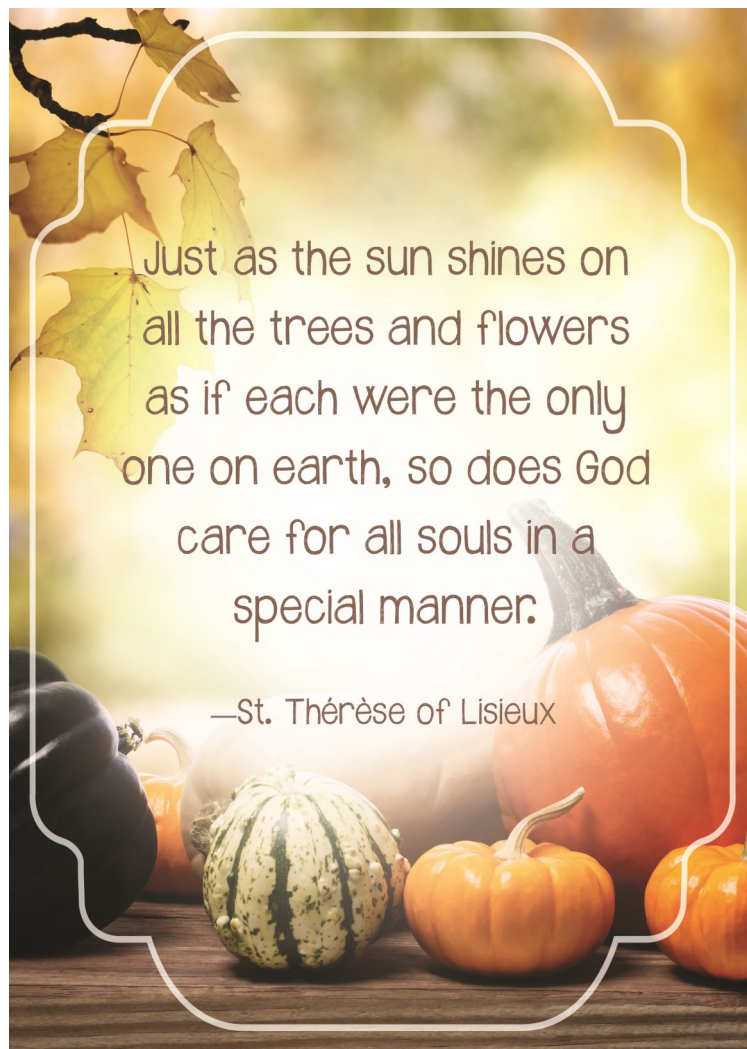
FATHER GARY BENZ-PASTOR

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VICTOR DVORAK –DEACON

“My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?”

Today’s first reading from the prophet Isaiah and Saint Matthew’s parable of the wedding feast are reminders that we are called to God’s banquet . . . eternal life in heaven. The parable reminds us that to be invited does not guarantee admission. We must be properly disposed to receive life in God’s Kingdom. At Baptism, we received the sanctifying grace of God and we were washed clean of sin. We were clothed with our “Baptismal gown” . . . the divine image of Jesus Christ forever marked upon our soul. The question is, “How well have we maintained this Baptismal gown?” Has our dignity been stained? Is our white garment no longer fit to be worn? Do we respond to Jesus’ invitation to heaven? Do we respond every Sunday to Jesus’ invitation to dine with Him at the feast He sets before us at every Holy Mass . . . the gift of the Holy Eucharist? What is the state of my soul at this moment in my Christian life? The Lord wants us to be with Him in heaven; pray to Him that we want this for ourselves as well.



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 16

7:30 AM SM—Communion Service

Tuesday, October 17

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

7:30 AM SM +Peter Ficek by Family

6:00 PM SE—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

7:00 PM SE—+Frank Miller by Loretta Miller

Wednesday, October 18

7:00 PM SM— +Bridget Urlacher by SM Altar Guild

Thursday, October 19

7:30AM SM— Anniversary of Deacon Victor Dvorak

Friday, October 20

7:30AM SM— +Vincent Steier by Family

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

Saturday, October 21

8:30 AM SM—+Adam Krebs & +Lyle Krebs by Gene & Judy Krebs

5:00 PM SM +Michael Koffler by Marge Koffler

Sunday, October 22

8:30AM SE- +Fred & +Mary Obrig 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: Archie Jalbert, 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 *It is not our perfection which is to dazzle God, who is surrounded by myriads of angels. No, it is our misery, our wretchedness, which draws down His mercy.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Thank you Scott Schmidt, Allen Schmidt, students from DPS, and volunteers who helped with the sidewalk project.**
- ◆ **Faith Formation Guest Speaker St Gianna's Maternity Home Wed., Oct. 18 2:15-3PM; All are welcome to attend.**
- ◆ **SE Harvest Fest Potluck & Dance October 21 -Lefor KC Hall starting at 6:30pm followed by dance with Stone Johnney**

St. Mary's Liturgical Assignments Oct. 21 & 22

| MINISTRY | Saturday 5 PM | Sunday 10:30AM |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Lector | Lori Fitterer | John Wert |
| Mass Servers | Zack J. & Braden R | Mark F. & John W. |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Jim K./Richard W. | Dianne B./Kent M. |
| Gifts | Molly R. | John Ehlis Family |
| Rosary Leader | Mary Fitterer | Susan Schmitt |
| Greeters | Vicki Herberholz | Helen Koppinger |
| Homebound Minister | Toni Jung | Toni Jung |

Collection Report St. Mary's Oct. 7 & 8

| Adult | Youth | |
|------------|------------------------|----------|
| \$ 2535.79 | Envelopes | \$ 30.09 |
| \$ 129.00 | Loose Plate | \$ |
| \$ 2694.88 | Total | \$ |
| \$ 4365.95 | Month | \$ 37.16 |
| \$ 719.00 | Hurricane & Earthquake | \$ |

St. Elizabeth's Liturgical Assignments October 22

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Lector | Elvin |
| Mass Servers | Stetson |
| Eucharistic Ministers | Arlene & Cindy |
| Gifts | Elvin & Kathy |
| Greeters | Greg & Marsha |
| Ushers | Arlen L. & Lenny |

Collection Report St. Elizabeth's Oct. 8

| Adult | Youth | |
|------------|------------------------|----------|
| \$ 1100.00 | Envelopes | \$ |
| \$ 77.00 | Loose Plate | \$ |
| \$ 1187.00 | Total | \$ |
| \$ 1733.50 | Month | \$ 19.00 |
| \$ 223.00 | Hurricane & Earthquake | \$ |

Fundamentals of our Catholic Faith, “Everyone is basically good and therefore almost everyone will go to heaven . . . correct?”

In a word . . . no. While it is true that everything which God has created is good, especially man, we have free will which we can use well or abuse terribly. We all abuse our free will at times and we call such abuse *sin*. In the words of Saint Paul, “All have sinned and are deprived of the glory of God” (Romans 3:23). Some people will continue in grave sin until the end of life, which culminates in hell. Others will repent of their sins and die in the state of grace; they are destined for heaven. How many people will end up in hell? How many will be with God in heaven? We simply don’t know. Sacred Scripture does not tell us the proportion outright, but it does offer unpleasant suggestions: “How narrow the gate and constricted the road that leads to life” (Matthew 7:14) and “Many are invited, but few are chosen” (Matthew 22:14). When asked by an onlooker whether only a few will be saved, Jesus replied, “Strive to enter through the narrow gate, for many I tell you will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough” (Luke 13:24).

The common idea that most people will go to heaven arises, perhaps, from a lack of a sense of the seriousness of sin and from a concentration on God’s mercy to the exclusion of His justice. More than that, the idea is that He will save even those who don’t want to be saved. God will indeed be merciful, but only to those asking of His mercy. He won’t force His mercy or salvation on anyone. Salvation is a free gift, which like any gift can be declined. We have no good reason to think that there will be only a few decliners. A simple reading of the daily headlines is a sad reminder of those who have given their lives to evil passions rather than to Jesus Christ.

The Forty Days for Life . . . An Opportunity to Pray for Life

Please join us on **Monday, October 23rd**, for our pro-life pilgrimage to Fargo to pray outside of the abortion clinic during the *Forty Days for Life*. We will leave after the 7:00 a.m. Mass at Saint Mary’s.

Not long ago, North Dakota had three abortion clinics; now we have only one, but that’s still one too many. The fact that our state is on the verge of being the only state with no abortion clinic is evidence of the power of prayer. Come join us in praying outside Fargo’s abortion clinic and let’s shut it down for good. Babies in the womb will thank us for our efforts. *Mary, Mother of Life . . . pray for us!*

October . . . The Month of the Holy Rosary

Need another reason to commit to praying the Holy Rosary daily? To save our children. Never have we lived in a society with so many dangers, especially with respect to our children and teens. Devotion to Our Lady and the family Rosary can serve as a shield against the onslaught of filth and immorality that is descending upon our world, especially upon our children and young adults. In a word, we must shield our children in the most pure and Immaculate Heart of Mary; she is an oasis, a refuge, an ark of safety and protection. Noah and his family, as well as the animals, sought refuge and protection from the deluge in the Ark. We must find refuge as well in the ark of Our Lady’s Immaculate Heart . . . the safest and surest refuge!

On the Lighter Side

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, “How do you expect to get into heaven?” The boy thought it over and said, “Well, I’ll just run in and out and keep slamming the door until Saint Peter says, “For heaven’s sake, Jimmy, come in or stay out.”