

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 23, 2015

August Parish Stewardship

Sister Parish in Haiti

Budget amount
needed for each week:
\$7,300.00

August 15 and 16

Stewardship Back to the Lord

Envelopes: \$5,729.00

Youth: \$3.00

Total: \$5,732.00

EFT: \$705.00

Total: \$6,437.00

Thank You

Sunday Contributions YTD . . . \$51,100.00

Actual YTD \$48,414.50

Stewardship: In today's first reading, Joshua challenges the people to decide whom they will serve. Recalling God's faithfulness to them and to their ancestors, the people declare, "We also will serve the Lord, for He is our God." May we, too, be mindful of God's gifts to us and renew our commitment to serve Him with grateful hearts.

League of Catholic Women: As summer draws to a close we will resume our regular meeting schedule. St. John Paul II Parish will host our Sept. 15th meeting at 469 Shattuck Rd (former St. Josaphat site). The meeting will begin with Mass at 11 am followed by the luncheon. Everyone is invited. Bring a friend. The cost of the luncheon is still \$12. Please have your money in the office by Thursday, Sept. 10th. Please mail your check to LCW, PO Box 6932, Saginaw, MI 48608. We are looking forward to an interesting and informative year. Joyce

This Week's Events

Sunday, August 23

8:00 am Rosary

11:30 am Individual Reconciliation
(Bannister)

6:00 pm Youth Group Bonfire

Tuesday, August 25

Fr. Bill's 36th Ordination Anniversary

Saturday, August 29

8:00 am Rosary

Sunday, August 30

8:00 am Rosary

11:30 am Individual Reconciliation
(Bannister)

Rosary Devotions: Rosary devotions are prayed every morning from 8:00-9:00 am.

Faith Formation

Check your mailbox! The 2015-16 Faith Formation Brochure and Registration forms have been mailed out. If you did not receive a mailing, please contact the Faith Formation office at 845-1797. A reminder that if your child is receiving a Sacrament this year they must have participated in a Faith Formation program last year. Doris

Youth Ministry

There will be a Kick-off Bonfire for all youth entering 6th-12th grades on Sunday, August 23rd from 6-8 pm. There will be hot dogs, s'mores, lanterns, games and fun! If you have any roasting sticks please bring them with you! Join us for a night of fun and bring your friends. Katie



Save the Date! The Bishop's Charity Golf Classic is Wednesday, September 16th. Golfing at Swan Valley Golf Course in Saginaw (morning & afternoon flights). \$100 each/\$400 per foursome.

Thursday, September 17th Dinner Banquet & Silent Auction. Reception and silent auction at 5:30 pm hors d'oeuvres and cocktails served; 6:45 pm dinner and program. Please RSVP for golf and/or dinner by Thursday, September 10th by email psupes@dioceseofsaginaw.org or calling 989-797-6693.

Liturgy this Week

Sunday, August 23

8:30 am Mass

Wednesday, August 26

9:00 am Mass (Bannister)

Thursday, August 27

8:00 am Mass (Chesaning)

Saturday, August 29

4:30 pm Mass

Lectors:

Jeanne Gewirtz and Meredith Adelman

Eucharistic Ministers:

Meredith Adelman, Lisa Coon, Ellen Martz, Tim Martz and Doris Mahoney

Altar Servers:

Emma Adelman and volunteer needed

Sunday, August 30

8:30 am Mass

Lectors:

Penny Apsey and Bernard Coonrod

Eucharistic Ministers:

JoAnn Ostipow, Bernard Coonrod, Penny Apsey, Kathy Stewart and Michelle Vrable

Altar Servers:

Isaac Tessman and Gavin Tessman

Readings for the Week

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mk 6:17-29

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sponsor of the Week

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Attention Eucharistic Ministers: Here are the nearest locations for formation sessions for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Wednesday, September 2 at the Cathedral, Saginaw; Thursday, September 3 at Blessed Trinity Church, Frankenmuth; Wednesday, October 21 at St. Agnes Church, Freeland. All sessions begin at 6:30 pm and will end at approximately 8 pm. There is a session on Saturday, October 31st from 1-2:30 pm at St. John Paul II (St. Matthew Church), Zilwaukee. The session on Oct. 1st is canceled. If you have been a Eucharist Minister from July, 2009 to current, you will need a copy of your baptismal certificate. This formation session is required for all Eucharist Ministers.

Save the Date! Tony Alonso in Concert on Friday, September 11th at 7 pm at Holy Spirit Church, 1035 N. River Rd., Saginaw. Joining Tony in concert at Holy Spirit will be guitarist Steve Petruank, Holy Spirit's choir and 18 of our Diocesan priests. Cost for the concert is \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door. Children 12 and under \$5. Please call 989-781-2457 or email laura@saginawhsp.org for more information.

Catechist Needed: We are looking for a Catechist for Sunday night Faith Formation for first grade. Please call Doris at 845-1797 if you are interested or would like more information.



THOSE ASKING FOR PRAYERS:

Val Perkins, Terry Kennelly, Joann Richardson, Tina Schultz, Mary Lou Kligar, Bradley Blakeselle, Petrina Workman, George Czeisperger, Chantel Fondren, Tim Apsey, Irene Nietling, Laurie Tufts, Brenda Lienau, Mechelle Kuchar, Vickie Daniels, Sarah (Chernow) Fischer, Mark Zvonek, Wolfgang Franke, Albert & Judy Storch, Sherry Storch, Joe Lane, Fran A. Gross, Sue Bucholz, Evelyn Schaft, Joseph Klasek, Ray Tithof, Rose Bonkowski, Derrick Knieper, Bertha Hart, Roger Nietling, Jim Fusina, Esther Lickman, Brady Carroll, Fred Lane, Ernie Newcomb, Rita Amman, Jay & Kay Glover, Susan Addington, Nancy Dennis, Rich Greenfelder, Joey Kligar, Barb Wenzlick, Jeannette Zajdluk, Diane DeVoe, Sue Adams, Roxann Timm, Gayle Shooltz, Judy Wakeman, David and Marianne Sutter, John Sims, Bessie McSwain, Judy (Willitts) Balderrama, Melanie Thiel, Brian Clark, Gloria Bates, Jeannette Somers, Kim Bruder, Gary Cech, Edward List Sr., Virginia Lawton, Gary J. Tanner, Mel Gross, Nichole Horn, Bill Krzicok, Franklin Bates, Henry Huntoon, Jolene Archibald, Will Lucio, Al Hundt, Ruth Vrable, Johannes Vogelaar, Jerry Hoover, Tom & Julia Mahoney, Jennie Hunt, Bob & Jacob Albers, Madeline Klopp, and Joseph Sedlar Sr.

Joshua Mesh, Christopher Lickman, Garrett Mishler, and Bill Lickman Jr.



Mark Your Calendars! St. Cyril's annual Chicken & Ham Dinner is Sunday, September 13th at 11:00 am in the parish hall. Adults are \$8; children 12 and under are \$4; and preschool are free. Everyone is invited!

Praise in the Park! J.A.M.— Jesus and Music, Praise and Worship Band will have a free concert on Wednesday, August 26th from 7-9 pm at Tittabawassee Twp. Park, "Old" Midland Rd, Freeland. This concert is presented by the Lion's Club. Go to www.freelandparks.com for information.

The Saginaw Diocesan Council of Catholic

Women: Will hold their Annual Conference on Wednesday, Sept. 2nd at the Diocesan Center for Ministry in Saginaw. All women of the diocese are invited to attend. Registration will be from 9:45 to 10 am. The morning speaker will be Margie from the Underground Railroad, and her topic will be Domestic Violence of Women. The afternoon speaker will be Peg McEvoy from the Diocese who will speak on the New Evangelization. Mass will be celebrated. The cost for the day is \$13, which includes lunch. The meeting will end at approximately 2:45 pm. Please RSVP to Rita Maher (989) 635-7072 by Friday, August 28th (need luncheon numbers).

A Reflection on the Gospel from the 2015

Living Liturgy: We love to have choices between two goods—that way we cannot lose. The disciples in this gospel are faced with a choice. This choice, however, is not between two goods. It is a choice between life and death. Just as Joshua sets before the Israelites a choice ("decide today whom you will serve") so, too, does Jesus set before us a choice ("Do you also want to leave?"). Staying with Jesus is a choice for "eternal life." It cannot be a half-hearted choice. It is a choice that must be backed up by who we are and the way we choose to live.

Jesus' teaching about the Eucharist is the fulcrum upon which this choice rests, for it is the Eucharist which draws together our relationship with Jesus as well as with one another in lives of self-giving. And this is what makes choosing to follow Jesus so difficult: the demand of discipleship is that we embrace *all* of Jesus' way of living—we embrace the goodness of who he is and the demands of self-giving living as he did. On our own, we could not even make such a demanding and all-encompassing choice. But Jesus also reminds us that we are not alone; the Spirit is given us as well and enables us to make the choice to which Jesus calls us.

"It is the spirit that gives life." The Holy Spirit dwells within us and is the sources of our life in the risen Christ and of our commitment to follow Jesus wholeheartedly. Without the Spirit we would not be able to shoulder the demands of discipleship, and we would return to our "former way of life." the Spirit enables us to enter into the rhythm of paschal mystery living—of dying and rising, of self-giving and the Life of the indwelling Spirit. Constant vigilance and openness to the Spirit within nudges any halfhearted response to a wholehearted one to choose Jesus and the way of living to which he invites us.