

It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:26b-28

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time/August 16, 2020

SUNDAY'S READINGS First Reading:

Thus says the LORD:

Observe what is right, do what is just; for my salvation is about to come, my justice, about to be revealed. (Is 56:1)

Psalm:

O God, let all the nations praise you! (Ps 67)

Second Reading:

Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. (Rom 11:30-31)

Gospel:

Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour. (Mt 15:28)

WEEKLY READINGS

Readings for the week of August 16, 2020

Sunday: Is 56:1, 6-7/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [4]/Rom 11:13-15, 29-32/Mt 15:21-28
 Monday: Ez 24:15-24/Dt 32:18-19, 20, 21 [cf. 18a]/Mt 19:16-22
 Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10/Dt 32:26-27ab, 27cd-28, 30, 35cd-36ab [39c]/Mt 19:23-30
 Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [1]/Mt 20:1-16
 Thursday: Ez 36:23-28/Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 [Ez 36:25]/Mt 22:1-14
 Friday: Ez 37:1-14/Ps 107:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [1]/Mt 22:34-40
 Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 23:1-12
 Next Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/Mt 16:13-20

**2020 Catholic Home Missions Appeal
Strengthening the Church at Home**

Next week, we will take up the Catholic Home Missions Appeal. Right now, over 40% of dioceses in the United States are considered mission territory because they are unable to fund essential pastoral work in their communities. Your support of this appeal eases the struggle and assists in forming vibrant faith communities. Please prayerfully consider how you can support this appeal. Thank you again for your assistance with this important work.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep in your prayers the sick and homebound of our parish and those who care for them:

Anonymous, Paul Amyot, Okgana Bajko, Joan Bellanger, Michael Birmingham, Sylvia Boulger, John Brady, Daniel Burnett, Michael Burnett, Charlotte Chase, Eleanor Chase, Major Jeffrey Chase, Susan E. Cotsonas, Dave Daly, Barbara Domigan, Michael Doyle, Beth Drzymala, Sammy Evans, Gianni Farinacci, Concetta Florientino, Michelle Foutch, Donald Gaylord, Charlene Genaway, Mary Ann Goodine, Lesha Hardgraves, Robert Havelka, Mary Hayes, Ed Helfer, William Hernandez, David Jaffarian, Craig Kingslely, Doug LaBudde, Jack Law Jr., Pinky Laviano, Kristen Law, Kevin M. Lynch, William Lindberg, Dominick Lizzi, Cindy Mahony, Erica Matthies, Kevin McCann, Gary McDonald, Edin Mercado, Marianne Martinez, Judy Martino, Kaylee Rose Meyer, Luba Mykytiw, Amelia Nabozny, Richard Norton, David Nichlos, Rita Paladino, Tommy Palmer, Elise Panico, Bonnie Pelizza, David Picchione, Pam Polashenski, Helen Rayve, Claire Renn, Tim Renn, William Robinson, Lisa Rossello, Dawn Ruchel, Rita Ryan, Alice Salvatore, Eileen Scott, Maddi Sidarous, Ralph Sitcer, Special Intentions, Bonnie Sperl, Sean Spicer, Kevin Sutton, Joan Torcello, Nancy Troutman, Matthew West, Edward Wheeler, Dan Wiltse, Marybeth Wiltse, Gary Wickes, Chrissy Wills, Carol Wisenhunt, Veronica Wistar, Robert Woodward, Erica Wordon

CHANGES TO THE BISHOP'S APPEAL

We want to let you know about a few changes to the annual campaign formerly known as the Bishop's Appeal:

- The campaign will now be known as the *Diocesan Appeal* and themed, "For we walk by faith, not by sight." (2 Corinthians 5:7)
- There will no longer be "in-pew" collection of pledges.
- The 2020-2021 Diocesan Appeal will begin with a mailing sent to parishioners from the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany (RCDA) - Office of Stewardship and Development. You should expect to receive this correspondence between now and early September; it will include a pledge card and envelope.
- Pledges and payments will no longer be processed in the parish office.
- The appeal year runs through June 30, 2021 (rather than ending in March as in the past).
- Monthly or one-time gifts by credit card can be made via secure website at donate.thediocesanappeal.org. You can also make a pledge at that site as well as pledge payments. For more information on the appeal, visit www.thediocesanappeal.org. Questions - call the RCDA Office of Stewardship & Development at 518-453-6680 or email stewardship@rcda.org As the Diocese serves as a critical partner with us in serving you, we thank you in advance for your prayerful consideration of a pledge to the Diocesan Appeal.



Pastors Blog,

When the churches closed five months ago, none of us could have predicted what worship would look like today or how deep we are still in the pandemic nationally and throughout the world. There is a fatigue we all feel, and at the same time we are trying to reignite an enthusiasm for the fall when we hope to reach out to our families in unique and special ways.

Whenever I think of “five months,” the first thing that occurs to me is the amount of time my mother spent in Hospice care and the rhythm of those days, at once sentimental and haunting. The world changed for my mother and the people who loved her, and this Sabbath time was one in which we were able to become closer even as our hearts were heavy with grief and anxiety. It was also a time of great faith and a renewal of prayer for all of us. The fact that her own mother took it so hard was particularly painful and we weren’t really surprised that she passed on about midway through this journey. Experiencing the wake and funeral for my grandmother by my mother’s side as she planned for her own was one of the most poignant experiences my family has ever shared.

My mother was diagnosed with a terminal illness on August 14, 1990 and I remember the date because I brought Communion to her in the hospital for the first time on the Feast of the Assumption. Those prayers in anticipation of my mother’s approaching path have made this Holy day rich with meaning for me. Not so coincidentally, my mother would pass from this earth on New Year’s Day 1991 on another Marian feast, this one dedicated to her as Mother of God.

As much as I miss my mother and those who have gone before us, I have been blessed over the last thirty years by my parish families and close friends who have enriched my life as my family continues to do so.

I have also been astonished at how many women who would be close to my mother’s age have been significant nurturers of loving support. It is a blessing to have companions on the journey. I feel my mother has kept the light on for me by passing the torch to others who brighten my path. Thank you, everyone.

Next week I plan on reflecting more on how blessed I have been this summer, having ministered in a true partnership with our seminarian, Daniel McHale. Dan has not only been of great assistance but his insights and perspectives have been valuable to me, especially during the long process of reopening. While seating will be limited at his deaconate ordination because of the amount of people participating and the need for social distancing, the ordination will be online. I will include that information next week as well while also sharing some of this space with Dan. God bless him and all of you!

Fr. George

Mass Schedule for Month of August

Aug. 22/23 Last name beginning with S-Z

Aug. 29/30 Last name beginning with A-D

4pm Saturday and 7:30am Sunday

Each week preference is given to those scheduled. However, often there are extra seats available.

Please call 518-758-9401. Ext. 2 to register.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

FAITH FORMATION

The Annual School Supply drive has begun. Please bring purchased items to church Saturdays 3:45-5 pm or Sundays 7:15-8:30 am.

Monday-Thursday supplies can be left at the Rectory between 9am and 1pm.

If you have any questions, please call Ruth Ellen at the Faith Formation and Youth Ministry office at 518-758-1828.