

Father Tony's Corner *(continued from front page)*

through all the right motions and looking great on the outside but not opening our hearts to God, not getting to know him on a personal, and intimate level. That is a risky way to live our faith: we could easily end up separated from the Father for good, missing out on the joyful celebration of the Father's love. It is sometimes hard for our fallen human nature to see God's mercy clearly. We tend to be judgmental, so we also tend to project that - wrongly - onto God. This wrong conception can be detrimental to our maturity and peace of mind. It puts a wall around our own hearts, so that God's love cannot reach in and transform us. And it also puts a wall between us and other people. We become so fixated on their flaws that we become blind to their true value as God's children. God rejoices when we return to him, as the shepherd rejoices upon retrieving his sheep, and as the woman rejoices upon recovering her coin - every sinner who returns to God causes a joyful celebration to break out in the halls of heaven and the heart of the Father. This portrait of goodness is set in high relief by the contrary attitude of the Pharisees, whose self-righteous and judgmental comments provided the occasion for these parables. The Pharisees see God as harsh and judgmental, when the truth is that God is a dedicated shepherd. They want to see that all sinners are destroyed. God feels anxiousness in regards to sinners, not anger. He wants them back. He does not want to condemn them. The Pharisees cannot understand this, because they have painted their image of God in their own likeness. They enjoy condemning others for being less perfect than themselves, because it feeds their vanity, making them feel superior. But the Lord has no vanity, only love. One of the best ways that we can make progress in the area of mercy is by using frequently the sacrament of confession: the mercy and forgiveness we experience there helps us to be more merciful and understanding toward others. Let us make use of the means that God has provided us to enjoy and experience his mercy and forgiveness.

Faith Formation by Jill Gerling, Coordinator



Thank you to all the families who attended the first evening of Faith Formation class of the 2019-2020 season. Thanks to the catechists for volunteering your time to assist parents in teaching their children the Catholic faith. Thanks to the Knights of Columbus and Wayne Nobsch for continuing the meals for those that don't have time between their activities and the start of class to get a meal. And thank you to Father Tony, Tammy Doud, and Brenda Wedemeyer for jumping in to assist me with the first class Wednesday night.

◆ Parents: There is a bulletin board near the north doors that will have important Faith Formation items; please check it for updates and information. If you have not signed your children up for classes, there is still time. Contact Jill Gerling at allsaintsff@outlook.com or 523-1943.

Calendar with Mass Times, Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>Sunday 9/15</u>	<u>Monday 9/16</u>	<u>Tuesday 9/17</u>	<u>Wednesday 9/18</u>	<u>Thursday 9/19</u>	<u>Friday 9/20</u>	<u>Saturday 9/21</u>
<u>Adair</u> 7:30am Rosary & Confession 8am Mass for Elizabeth Lillard (health)		<u>Stuart</u> 6pm Mass	<u>Adair</u> 8:30am Mass BD: Patti Craig, Don Fillman, Kari Schneider & Blair Carney	<u>Stuart</u> 9:00am Stuart Care Center BD: Jim Doud ANN: Marty & Julie Doud 1992	<u>Stuart</u> 8:30am Mass BD: Pat Marnin, Ismael Leyva & Nick Smith ANN: David & Sharon Doud 1986	<u>Stuart</u> 3:30pm Confessions 4:05pm Rosary 4:30pm Mass for the People ANN: Tyler & Jessica Johnston 2013
<u>Stuart</u> 10am Mass for the People BD: Mason Richter ANN: Mark & Kari Tisl 1990						

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Antony Mathew
Phone: 712-304-4836 (cell)
E-mail: amathew8@sbcglobal.net
Secretary/Bookkeeper: Tammy Doud
Email: allsaintsoffice@gmail.com
Faith Formation Coordinator:
Jill Gerling – allsaintsff@outlook.com
Phone: 515-523-1943
Website: stuartallsaints.org
Website: adairstjohn.org



Office Hours

Tuesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Wednesday: 8:30am - 3pm
Thursday: 8:30am - 3pm

Bulletin Deadline:

Noon Wednesday



All Saints Mass Schedule

Tuesday: 6pm
Thursday: 9am (Care Center)
Friday: 8:30am
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 10am

St. John Mass Schedule

Wednesday: 8:30am
Sunday: 8am

Father Tony's Corner



Christ's parables always teach us something about God, but they also teach us something about ourselves. Today's three set of parables: the lost sheep, the lost coin, and the prodigal son clearly highlight God's mercy and his active love for sinners. Let us look at them in detail. When a sheep is lost and separated from the flock, it is helpless and vulnerable. It needs the flock and the shepherd to protect and guide it. Just so, every human person is created to find meaning and fulfillment in communion with God and others - thus the two great commandments of loving God and loving our neighbor. We were not created to be isolated, self-sufficient islands. We are meant to depend on God and others as we pursue happiness. The lost coin is completely without value unless it is possessed by its owner, unless it is part of the household's economy. Even though it is of great value, it would be completely worthless if it stayed buried in the dust under the sofa - it would be of absolutely no use to anyone. Likewise, our actions and efforts in life only have real value when they are connected to the mission of the Church, the mission of building up Christ's Kingdom. Outside of the Kingdom we can do things and have adventures that appear exciting, but they lack the eternal value that they are meant to have, just like the coin that was lost. The parable of the prodigal son offers countless beautiful insights into what it means to follow Christ. One of the insights we often overlook has to do with the greatest danger we face as so-called 'practicing Catholics'. It is the danger of living our faith only on the surface, of not letting it penetrate the depths of our hearts. This parable teaches us that it is possible to live 'in the Father's house' without really getting to know the Father. The younger son did not really know his father. He did not know how much his father loved him and how eagerly his father wanted to bequeath him prosperity and joy. As a result, he paid his father a colossal insult by demanding his share of the inheritance while his father was still alive. It was a way of saying that his father would be of more use to him dead than alive. The older son was no better. On the surface he seemed to do everything right, but he had no idea about how much his father cared for him, and so he resented the celebration at this brother's return. Although they had lived their entire lives under the same roof, the two brothers had never opened their hearts to their father. They had closed themselves into the petty little world of their egoism. We can easily do the same: spend our whole lives as 'practicing Catholics', going *(continued on back page)*

Sacraments:

Reconciliation: 3:30pm Saturday in Stuart; 7:30am Sunday in Adair; or by Appointment
Anointing of the Sick: Call Fr. Tony before/after hospitalization
Baptism: Call the office during pregnancy for preparation class
Marriage: Call the office at least nine months to one year ahead to plan marriage preparation. Wedding Date should not be set until preparations have begun
Annulment/ Marriage Validation: Call Fr. Tony to learn more about this process with Diocesan Tribunal if you are divorced and remarried or never married in the Catholic Church.
RCIA: Call Fr. Tony if you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or the RCIA process.
Membership/Registration: If you are new, welcome to our parish. Please register by calling the office. If you are moving away, please contact the office to notify us before moving.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Mass Intentions:** The tradition of offering Masses for others, particularly the dead, originates in the very early Church. When we face the death of someone, even a person who is not Catholic, to have a Mass offered for the repose of his soul and to offer our prayers are more beneficial and comforting than any other sympathy card or bouquet of flowers. To have a Mass offered on the occasion of a birthday, anniversary or special need is appropriate, beneficial and appreciated. If you would like to offer Mass for a deceased family member, someone who is sick, celebrate someone's birthday or celebrate a couple's wedding anniversary, kindly contact the parish office.
- **All Saints: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) begins on Tuesday, November 5th:** The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism who are above the age of infant baptism. Candidates are gradually introduced to aspects of Catholic beliefs and practices. The basic process applies to adults and older children, with younger children initiated through an adapted version sometimes incorrectly referred to as the Rite of Christian Initiation of Children.
⇒ **New session begins Tuesday, November 5th at 7:00 pm in the music room**
- **Stewardship:** Jesus calls and his call comes not as nameless people in a faceless crowd. He calls us individually, by name. Each one of us has a personal vocation. He gives us a unique role in carrying out his mission. The challenge is to understand our role, and to respond generously to that call. He calls us to a Christian way of life, or a Christian way of discipleship. Christian discipleship is a commitment of life after the model and example of Jesus Himself. It involves stewardship – meaning it requires making time for personal prayer. It means choosing to serve in parish ministries. It means planning a generous, consistent gift to the weekly offertory. Over time, as each person embraces his or her personal commitment, our parish can become a powerful witness to the abundant life that Jesus has promised. Thank you for what you are; and for what you bring to all of us through your life, gifts, and ministry.
- **St. John's Parishioners Meeting convened:** There was a meeting of St. John's parishioners on Wednesday, September 4, 2019 at 7:00 in the parish hall. Approximately 15 members and Father Tony were in attendance. Please see the bulletin insert for information regarding discussion items and motions to move forward. If you have additional questions, or would like more information, please contact Deb Hollinrake at 641-740-0039.

Book Study at All Saints

How to Pray Like Mary
by Sonja Corbitt



All Saints is having a fall Book Study group to read "How to Pray Like Mary" written by Sonja Corbitt. This is a newly released book that looks at how Mary prayed and the ways we can pray like Mary. You will learn a powerful practice for daily prayer as Mary models it: L-Listen, O-Observe, V-Verbalize, E-Entrust. This model is called "L.O.V.E. the Word". Sonja draws from vivid biblical texts to show you the key to loving Scripture and deepening your relationship with God.

The group will be meet on Tuesday, September 17 at 9:00am at All Saints. Future sessions will be established at the first meeting. A sign up sheet is on the table in the gathering space. The fee of \$15 covers the cost of the book and will be yours to keep. For more information contact Jill Gerling at allsaintsff@outlook.com or call 523-1943.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Business Expenses:** All Saints and St. John Fiscal Year end reports will be published the last weekend of September. Your partnership is very essential to the financial wellbeing of our parish families. Please consider signing up for automatic donations. The form following may be found on the table in the gathering space at All Saints. St. John Parishioners, please call the office at 515-523-1943 if you are interested in auto withdrawals. Thank you for remembering us while you are away.
→ **Automatic Withdrawal:** I want to share the information that All Saints has the capability of accepting automatic withdrawal from your bank account. Some people may have concerns about the security of such a transaction. I want to address such concerns by assuring you that it is safe and secure. It makes it easy for you in the sense that you don't have to carry your check book or cash with you all the time. It makes it easy for the parish staff for accounting purposes, and for the money counters in the sense they have less money to count. Considering all the advantages, may I ask you to think about automatic withdrawal. If you agree, we ask you to provide the requested information here below. Fr. Tony (forms are available on the table the gathering space)

Authorization for Automatic Withdrawal

Name _____
 Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
 Phone (home) _____ (Cell) _____
 E-mail _____
 Name of the Financial Institution _____
 Account Number _____ Routing Number _____
 Signature _____
 Attach a Voided Check _____
 Date of debits to be made: - 5th of the month _____ 20th of the month _____
Note: we can accept automatic withdrawal only two days (either 5th or 20th) of the month.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

All Saints

Saturday, September 21

Rosary: Frank Holle
Ushers: Mark Tisl & Dave Boss
Altar Server: Connie Drake
Lector: Anita Hilgers
Commentator: Roni Wilson
Greeters: Mark & Kari Tisl
EMHC: Mark & Kari Tisl & Dan Hilgers

All Saints

Sunday, September 22

Ushers: Neal & Symantha Crawford
Altar Servers: Iean Hoffman, Gabe Gerling & Nate Gerling
Lector: Wayne Nosbisch
Commentator: Gary Riordan
Greeters: Neal & Symantha Crawford
EMHC: Larissa Crawford, Jill Gerling & Linda Lee O'Neel

St. John

Sunday, September 22

Cross Bearer: Jovie Denney
Greeters: Mr. & Mrs. Cody Moreland & Family
Lector: Theresa Elgin
Host: Sister Nesta
Cup: Adella Vogl & Les Elgin
Altar Servers: Belle Fagan & Addy Richter
Traveling Chalice: Les & Theresa Elgin

MONEY COUNTERS

Tuesday, September 17 @ 1pm: Donna Olson & Gina Ocheltree
 Tuesday, September 24 @ 9am: Diane Messinger, Dennis Van Pelt & Dave Vigon

All Saints Financial Partnership

September 8, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 1,550.00
Children's Offering: \$ 15.50
Electronic Donations: \$ 590.00

St. John Financial Partnership

September 8, 2019

Weekly Offering: \$ 510.62
Children's Offering: \$ 17.00