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My dear parishioners:

The last couple of weeks have been very painful ones for the Catholic Church in the United States. The news that former-Cardinal Theodore McCarrick, retired archbishop of Washington, D.C. had a substantiated allegation of sexual misconduct against a minor over 60 years ago, and subsequent additional breaches of chaste celibacy against young adult seminarians and priests, caused shock and grave sadness. How could someone with this in his past rise up the ranks of ecclesial hierarchy? Only two weeks later our hearts would ache with deep sadness for the victims and deep anger for the perpetrators, as the Attorney General of Pennsylvania released a report detailing information provided him by the dioceses of the State of Pennsylvania regarding priests who have had allegations of sexual misconduct of minors made against them dating back over 70 years. This report rips the scab off a wound as the Church is once again faced with the realization that a very few number of priests have caused tremendously great harm to innocent children and to the Church.

Included in this weekend's bulletin is a statement made by Cardinal Daniel DiNardo in his role as president of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). Please take a moment to read the statement. Allow me a brief explanation as to the importance of this statement.

In 2002 the U.S. Catholic bishops approved a charter for the preventing and addressing of sexual abuse of minors by clergy (and Church volunteers). It gave very clear and strict procedures for the investigation of allegations of sexual misconduct of minors by clergy; and provided guidelines for bishops on how to implement programs and procedures to create the safest possible environment for minors and other vulnerable people. To my knowledge, every bishop took this Charter very seriously and fully implemented its requirements. Every few years each diocese is audited by an independent national team to ensure continued full compliance.

The one thing the U.S. bishops did not do in the Charter was to provide any type of structure to discipline bishops when allegations were made against them or for failure to properly address allegations of deacons/priests when they occur. The U.S. bishops felt that the discipline of bishops needs to come from the Holy See as each diocesan bishop reports directly to the Holy Father. The revelations of the misconduct of Archbishop McCarrick has reignited the discussion for the need for such procedures to investigate bishops, and Cardinal DiNardo has publicly stated that he will be directly asking Pope Francis to investigate this issue and provide these needed procedures.

In no way do I want to lessen the horror of the crimes against children committed by the priests in the Pennsylvania AG's report, but I do think as a matter of fairness it is important to keep in mind that the report addresses allegations beginning over 70 years ago. Of the 300 named priests, 100 are dead and the other 200 have been out of ministry for years or decades. Only two of the cases of the 1,000 victims is still within the statute of limitations for being able to prosecute the perpetrator and in Pennsylvania law criminal charges can be filed until the victim reaches the age of 50.

Much has been done the last 20 years to more fully screen applicants for the seminary (including now having much improved psychological

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August 25 - September 2, 2018
Readings and Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 25 4:30pm—Mass
6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 Ez 43:1-7ab/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [cf. 10b]/Mt 23:1-12

Sunday, August 26 9:00am—Mass
 Jos 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b/Ps 34:2-3, 16-17, 18-19, 20-21, 22-23 [9a]/ Eph 5:21-32 or 5:2a, 25-32/Jn 6:60-69
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

Monday, August 27 4:30pm—Mass
 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 4-5 [3]/Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday, August 28 No Mass
 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday, August 29 4:30pm—Mass
 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mk 6:17-29
Mass intention for

Thursday, August 30 8:30am—Mass
 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday, August 31 9:30am—Communion Service
 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday, September 1 4:30pm—Mass
6:30pm—Spanish Mass
 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 33:12-13, 18-19, 20-21 [12]/Mt 25:14-30

Sunday, September 2 9:00am—Mass
 Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
Mass intention for the People of the Parish

Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
(Ps 34)

Online Giving
 If you would like to give electronically, visit our website,
www.ourladyofthepinescatholicchurch.com, and click on

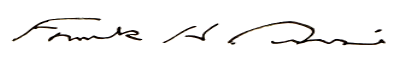
DONATE NOW

(Continued from first column)

testing for psycho-sexual dysfunction) and to provide much higher quality formation on intentional celibacy, appropriate boundaries, etc. Though there is not a way to guarantee that no cleric will sexually abuse a minor now or in the future, it has most certainly become much more rare. I am convinced that dioceses will continue their strong efforts to ensure the greatest possible protection of parishioners from any type of abuse by Church clergy and laity.


Please pray for the victims of sexual abuse by Church personnel. They need and deserve healing. And please pray for bishops, priests, deacons, and men and women religious, that this present scandal will not deflate their enthusiasm for ministry but rather renew their commitment to serve well the people that God has entrusted to their care. The overwhelming majority of Church ministers serve with great distinction and they deserve our support and our prayers.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Msgr. Frank H. Rossi
 Pastor

Sun. Aug 26	Mon. Aug 27	Tues. Aug 28	Wed. Aug 29	Thurs. Aug 30	Fri. Aug 31	Sat. Sep 1
Twenty First Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:00-8:45am—Divine Mercy Chaplet and Eucharist Adoration 9:00am—Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	4:30pm—Mass		4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am—Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass
Sun. Sep 2	Mon. Sep 3	Tues. Sep 4	Wed. Sep 5	Thurs. Sep 6	Fri. Sep 7	Sat. Sep 8
Twenty Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 9:00am—Mass Adult Faith Formation following Mass	LABOR DAY 4:30pm—Mass	10:0am—Senior Social 11:30am—First Tuesday Mass Noon—Lunch 1:00pm—Altar Society Meeting	4:00pm—Rosary 4:30pm—Mass 5:00pm—Choir 6:00pm—CCE	8:30am—Mass 9:00am—Divine Mercy Chaplet	9:30am—Communion Service	3:45-4:15pm—Confessions 4:30pm—Vigil Mass 6:30pm—Spanish Mass



Blood Drive
 Lifeshare Blood Centers
 Sunday
 September 9, 2018
 10:00am—1:00pm

Our Lady of the Pines Family Center
 Signup sheet on bulletin board in foyer of church

Adult Faith Formation Classes
Sundays after Mass

NEW VIDEO SERIES: *The Bible and the Sacraments*
 Journey through Scripture

Led by Madeline Arnett

Attention Married Couples who will be celebrating 25th, 50th or 50+ wedding anniversary in 2018: Bishop Curtis J. Guillory and the Office of Family Life Ministry invite you to attend the annual diocesan ceremony honoring your commitment to the Sacrament of Marriage on **Sunday, October 21, 2018 at 2:30 pm** at St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica. The ceremony will include Mass, Renewal of Marriage Vows and Presentation of Certificates. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Center.

Please **RSVP** to your pastor or parish secretary no later than **Monday, September 17, 2018.**

Religious Articles

Come and see new items for sale.
 Browse on Saturday after Mass or while having coffee on Sunday mornings.

Upcoming Events

August 31: Young Adult Movie Night, Newman Center, Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
 September 4: Senior Social, First Tuesday Mass, Lunch, Altar Society Meeting
 September 9: BLOOD DRIVE, Family Center after Mass
 September 10: Pastoral Council, Conference Room
 September 11: Stewardship, Conference Room
September 11: Retirement Mass & Reception for Bishop Guillory, St. Joseph, Livingston, TX
 October 21: 25th, 50th, 50+ Anniversary Mass, St. Anthony Cathedral Basilica, Beaumont, TX

Young Adult Movie Night
 Friday, August 31, 2018 6:00-9:00pm
 Newman Catholic Student Center
 Lamar University, Beaumont, TX
"Romero"

Food and drinks will be provided, no charge for the event.
 Call 409-924-4325 or 409-924-4390

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for: Nelda Leathem, Maureen Peltier, Rosemary Urban, Ed Sanderson; Thay Dinh, Jay Tannehill, Ricky Venak, Dana Rogers, Earlene & Willard Southwell, Chad & Crystal Stiler, Connie Robertson; Penny Foxworth, Julie Axland, Pam Hall, Nan Rollins, Frances Martin, Ricky Vining

Repose of the soul:

Names will remain on the prayer list for two weeks. You may list names in the Prayer book in the vestibule of the Church and your intention will be offered at daily Mass.

Weekly Stewardship

August 18 & 19 Weekly Offering	\$ 3,400.25
Average Weekly Cost	\$ 3,152.00
Excess/Deficit	\$ 248.25

Thank you for your generosity.