

Dear Friends,

For four of the next five Sundays we will pause in our reading through Mark's gospel during this liturgical year and read part of John's gospel. At the point where Mark recounts the multiplication of the loaves and fishes, we read John's account today. In the following weekends we will read the rest of the sixth chapter of John, what is commonly called the Bread of Life discourse.

The Bread of Life deals with what truly gives eternal life, the true bread and true drink. Today deals with what leads up to that discourse, the multiplication of the loaves and fishes. Jesus today shows us something about God, gives a lesson to the disciples, and rejects the thinking of the crowd.

Jesus, whom John in the prologue of the gospel has already said is God, knows the need of the crowd and has already decided to see to it. God cares for His creation. Not just in the way of a big picture. God cares for the least individual as He does for the whole of the universe. God gives us all the wonders of creation to see to our needs.

Jesus invites the disciples to be part of caring for others. He is not calling upon them to solve the problem, but to enter into God's concern for the crowd. Jesus wants them to will what God wills, and to put that compassion into action. God is concerned with our compassion not our accomplishments.

At the end of today's gospel Jesus rejects the thought of the crowd. They want to make Jesus king, but Jesus rejects the kingship they wish to give. They want their worldly appetites fulfilled. They are willing to be ruled by whatever fulfills their worldly desires most rapidly. This could be a person, an ideology, a society, a government, even an evil spirit. In religion it produces a belief that receiving earthly goods or approval of my way is the ultimate goal. That is not what Jesus came to bring. There are things we need to survive in this world, and we need to obtain them and help our brothers and sisters obtain them. Obtaining these is not to be what is most important in our lives.

What is most important? That is what Jesus is telling us in the coming weeks.

Fr. Peter Giovanoni



<b>Stewardship Report</b>	
July 18 <sup>th</sup> Offertory	\$ 2,752.00

**Weekend Ministries  
July 31<sup>st</sup> & August 1<sup>st</sup>**



**Saturday--5:00pm**

**Lector:** J. Orr

**Altar Servers:** P. Moor & R. Moore

**Sunday--8:15am**

**Lector:** G. Dameron

**Altar Servers:** M. Wood

**Sunday--10:30am**

**Lector:** M. Padukiewicz

**Altar Servers:** A. Gonzalez-Rivera

**Sunday--6:00pm**

**Lector:** M. Yeatman

**Prayer for the Sick**



- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Bobby Abell        | Marilyn Brewer   |
| Terry Carroll      | Betty Ann Clarke |
| Sue Colon          | Jack Cullison    |
| Chris Dawson       | Keith Demarre    |
| Erica Dingle       | Fritz Feltman    |
| Marcos Flores      | Joan Gisriel     |
| Mary Agnes Hill    | Jason Hoyer      |
| Cameron Kalen      | Jane Kenyon      |
| Kevin Lorence      | Paul Mackie      |
| Sid Marcus         | Liz Marcus       |
| Ann McDonough      | Diane Miller     |
| Leroy Owens, Sr.   | Kelly Prescott   |
| Michael Raley      | Peggy Raley      |
| Joe Parran Ridgell | Joel Rivera      |
| Janet Sanders      | Gabriel Santos   |
| Joe Spelz          | Tim Urban        |
| Catherine Woodburn |                  |

**Mass Intentions  
July 26<sup>th</sup>- August 1<sup>st</sup>**

Monday	9:00am	Sam Koontz
Tuesday	9:00am	Alice Taylor
Wednesday	9:00am	Jance Wood
Thursday	9:00am	Special Intentions
Friday	9:00am	St. Michael's School
Saturday	5:00pm	St. Michael's Parishioners
Sunday	8:15am	Betty Aldridge
Sunday	10:30am	Jay Barickman
Sunday	6:00pm	Timothy Ridgell

**Special Mass**--Fr. William George, S.J. will celebrate Mass at 5:30pm on July 31<sup>st</sup> at St. Ignatius church in St. Inigoes. All are welcome.

## Readings for the Week of July 26<sup>th</sup>- Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>



### **Monday, July 26<sup>th</sup>:**

First Reading--Exodus 32:15-24, 30-34

Psalms 106:19-20, 21-22, 23--Give thanks to the Lord,  
for he is good.

Gospel--Matthew 13:31-35

### **Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>:**

First Reading--Exodus 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28

Psalms 103:6-7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13--The Lord is kind  
and merciful.

Gospel--Matthew 13:36-43

### **Wednesday, July 28<sup>th</sup>:**

First Reading--Exodus 34:29-35

Psalms 99:5, 6, 7, 9--Holy is the Lord our God.

Gospel--Matthew 13:44-46

### **Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup>:**

First Reading--Exodus 40:16-21, 34-38

Psalms 84:3, 4, 5-6a & 8a, 11--How lovely is your  
dwelling place, O Lord, mighty God!

Gospel--John 11:19-27

### **Friday, July 30<sup>th</sup>:**

First Reading--Leviticus 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37

Psalms 81:3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab--Sing with joy to God  
our help.

Gospel--Matthew 13:54-58

### **Saturday, July 31<sup>st</sup>:**

First Reading--Leviticus 25:1, 8-17

Psalms 67:2-3, 5, 7-8--O God, let all the nations  
praise you!

Gospel--Matthew 14:1-12

### **Sunday, August 1<sup>st</sup>:**

First Reading--Exodus 16:2-4, 12-15

Psalms 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54--The Lord gave them  
bread from heaven.

Second Reading--Ephesians 4:17, 20-24

Gospel: John 6:24-35

### **Ladies Auxiliary of the Hollywood Volunteer Fire Department**

--The Vendor Show which was sponsored by the Women's Auxiliary of the Hollywood Fire Department, was scheduled on August 1, 2021 has been cancelled due to scheduling issues.

**Pitch Card Party**--Join us for a night of fun playing pitch, beginners welcome. We will be following CDC recommendations for COVID-19. Fridays, August 6<sup>th</sup> and September 3<sup>rd</sup>. Doors open at 6:30pm and games begin at 7:30pm. The games will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ridge, MD. Entrance fee \$10 per person. Door prizes and 50/50 raffle. [www.facebook.com/RidgeLions/Club](http://www.facebook.com/RidgeLions/Club) or call Bobbie Bell 301-872-5114 or Terri Kaftan 240-538-2818.

## **Catechetical Corner**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) identifies seven themes in Catholic Social Teaching: Life and Dignity of the Human Person, Call to Family, Community and Participation, Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Rights and Responsibilities, Solidarity, Care for God's Creation, and The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers.

The fifth theme is Solidarity. We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers and sisters keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that if you want peace, work for justice. The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

It is not about considering all sides, not just our own side, in a conflict, but it is about seeing there is only one side fighting amongst ourselves.



### **St. Michael's School News**



**St. Michael's School** is looking to fill two teaching positions for the FY 21/22 school year. Teachers **are needed for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and 7<sup>th</sup> grade classes**. If you are interested in applying for either positions please call 301-872-5454 to set up an appointment or send your resume to P.O. Box 259, Ridge, MD 20680.

**Angels Wings and Things**--Items may be dropped off by appointment only by calling 240-298-6285. Visit our Facebook page for more information. The store is open on Saturdays from 9:00am-4:00pm and Sundays 10:00am-1:00pm.

**Golf Ball Drop Information**--The Golf Ball Drop will take place on September 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am-3:00pm at Flat Iron Farms. First Place prize is \$50,000! It is imperative that we sell all 2000 golf balls. Tickets can be purchased at <https://www.smsgolfballdrop.com>.

### **Weekly Calendar**

August 16--Teachers Return

August 22--Catechist Meeting after 8:15am Mass

August 24--First Day of School, dismissal 12:30pm

September 18--Golf Ball Drop, 11:00am-3:00pm