

Dear Friends,

Bartimaeus encounters Jesus in today's gospel, and his life is changed. He regains his sight, but also gains so much more. Bartimaeus chooses to become a disciple of Christ. The story of Bartimaeus' healing is also a story of his conversion.

It begins with Jesus approaching. God is always present in our world. When he hears that Jesus is coming by he calls out asking for Jesus to pity him. We need God. The recognition of that reality is beginning of conversion. This world is not enough. I need something that only God can provide.

The crowd tells him to be quiet. They think he is not worthy to address Jesus. They are wrong. God is concerned for all of creation, especially those made in God's image and likeness. To obtain something more than the world will mean going against what the world says at some point.

When Jesus calls him over, Bartimaeus responds immediately casting aside his cloak. For a beggar, the cloak would have been his most important possession. Bartimaeus casts it aside to reach Jesus more quickly. If our possessions are holding us back from approaching Jesus, we need to cast them aside.

Having met Jesus, Bartimaeus is healed. He can now see. Not everyone suffers from physical blindness like Bartimaeus, but all of us are sinners. Any who approach Jesus for the healing of sin will receive it. Now Jesus tells him to go on his way. Jesus lets him pick his own way. Bartimaeus chooses to follow Jesus and to go where Jesus goes.

What will we do in response to Jesus? At every Mass Jesus comes near to us and presents us with the greatest gift of all, His Body and Blood. Then we are sent on our way. When we leave this building there are many ways we can go. Will the way we go be the way of Christ?

Fr. Peter Giovanoni

The Weekend of World Mission Sunday--Today is World Mission Sunday. We celebrate this day by remembering our baptismal call--to bring the Gospel to all! The collection today for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith supports the work and witness of the mission Church, as it provides for priests, religious and lay leaders who offer the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. Thank you for your generosity.

Weekend Ministries

October 30th & 31st



Saturday--5:00pm

Lector: N. Abell

Altar Servers: P. Moore & R. Moore

Sunday--8:15am

Lector: C. Tennyson

Altar Servers: L. Salazar

Sunday--10:30am

Lector: M. Padukiewicz

Altar Servers: A. Gonzalez-Rivera

Sunday--6:00pm

Lector: M. Yeatman

Prayer for the Sick



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| Bobby Abell | Mary Catherine Abell |
| Gerald Birch | Marilyn Brewer |
| Dolly Carroll | Terry Carroll |
| Betty Ann Clarke | Sue Colon |
| Jack Cullison | Frances Ann Cullison |
| Chris Dawson | Keith Demarre |
| Erica Dingle | Esther Durkin |
| Tom Fairfax, Sr. | Fritz Feltman |
| Marcos Flores | Mary Agnes Hill |
| Jason Hoyer | Cameron Kalen |
| Jane Kenyon | Kevin Lorence |
| Paul Mackie | Sid Marcus |
| Liz Marcus | Ann McDonough |
| Diane Miller | Kelly Prescott |
| Michael Raley | Peggy Raley |
| Joe Parran Ridgell | Joel Rivera |
| Janet Sanders | Gabriel Santos |
| Anita Tate | Tim Urban |

Mass Intentions

October 25th - 31st

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| Monday | 9:00am | Special Intentions |
| Tuesday | 9:00am | Dick Carroll |
| Wednesday | 9:00am | Timothy Ridgell |
| Thursday | 9:00am | Special Intentions |
| Friday | 9:00am | St. Michael's School |
| Saturday | 5:00pm | Mike Owens |
| Sunday | 8:15am | St. Michael's Parishioners |
| Sunday | 10:30am | Bob Woodburn |
| Sunday | 6:00pm | Dick Carroll |

Ladies of Charity--Next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 26th at 7:00pm in the sacristy. If you would like to join the Ladies of Charity please plan to attend this meeting.

Stewardship Report	
October 17 th Offertory	\$1,877.00

Readings for the Week of October 25th-31st



Monday, October 25th:

First Reading--Romans 8:12-17

Psalm 68:2 & 4, 6-7ab, 20-21--Our God is the God of salvation.

Gospel: Luke 13:10-17

Tuesday, October 26th:

First Reading--Romans 8:18-25

Psalm 126:1b-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6--The Lord has done marvels for us.

Gospel: Luke 13:18-21

Wednesday, October 27th:

First Reading--Romans 8:26-30

Psalm 13:4-5, 6--My hope, O Lord, is in your mercy.

Gospel: Luke 13:22-30

Thursday, October 28th:

First Reading--Ephesians 2:19-22

Psalm 119:2-3, 4-5--Their message goes out through all the earth.

Gospel: Luke 6:12-16

Friday, October 29th:

First Reading--Romans 9:1-5

Psalm 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20--Praise the Lord, Jerusalem.

Gospel: Luke 14:1-6

Saturday, October 30th:

First Reading--Romans 11:1-2a, 11-12, 25-29

Psalm 94:12-13a, 14-15, 17-18--The Lord will not abandon His people.

Gospel: Luke 14:1, 7-11

Sunday, October 31st:

First Reading--Deuteronomy 6:2-6

Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51--I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading--Hebrews 7:23-28

Gospel: Mark 12:28b-34



Thank You--Jack and Franny Cullison would like to thank everyone for the beautiful cards that they have received. Please continue to pray for both of them and remember Jack's birthday is October 30th!

Knights of Columbus--October is the Knights of Columbus membership drive month open to all Catholic men 18 years and older. Please consider joining Council #2065 in Ridge, MD. Joining is easy online at KofC.org under "Get Involved". Membership is free through 31 Dec 2021. Our meetings are every 3rd Monday of the month, 7:30-8:30pm at our council hall. For additional information contact Rich Muir at 240-538-1888 or richard.muir302@gmail.com. We hope to see you soon.

Catechetical Corner

Sin creates a proclivity to sin; it engenders vice by repetition of the same acts. (CCC 1865) Vices then become habitual, and we fell into sin more and more easily. As a habit we will also start to commit these without even thinking about it.

We can also grow in virtue by repeatedly choosing the good. We can especially grow in the cardinal virtues of prudence, love, fortitude and temperance. (CCC 1805)

We are conceived in a state of original sin and even after baptism still carry the temporal consequences of sin, concupiscence. (CCC1264) We also always have our ability to choose the good. We choose to grow in virtue or vice. If we choose not to make conscious choices, we will be dragged deeper into sin by the proclivities left by our past sins. If we actively look for opportunities to choose and act for good we grow in virtue and start to heal those temporal consequences with God's grace.

Jesus challenges the disciples with many teachings that set standards that the world says are too hard to meet. If we stay where we are spiritually and had no help from God that might be true, but God has made us all capable of living a life of virtue with the help of his grace.

We can choose to grow in virtue or in vice. Which will we choose today?



St. John's School--is having a Holiday Sip N Shop! Friday, November 12th from 5:00pm-8:00pm and Saturday, November 13th from 10:00am-1:00pm. Featuring local vendors and crafters! Refreshments, baked goods, pictures w/Santa, gift raffle, wine by the glass and hot dog sales. Questions/concerns contact stjohnschristmasbazaar@gmail.com.



St. Michael's School News



Angels Wings and Things--Items may be dropped off by appointment only by calling 301-904-7876. Visit our Facebook page for more information. The store is open on Saturdays from 9:00am-4:00pm and Sundays 10:00am-1:00pm.

Weekly Calendar

October 28--Early Dismissal, 12:30pm

October 29--No School

October 29--Halloween Festival, 6:00pm-8:00pm

November 27--Turkey Trot Run Walk 5K, St. Mary's City Visitor Center, 8:00am