



Secular pursuits only bring a temporary amount of satisfaction and fulfillment. As much as we may think that achieving worldly success, economic security, personal well-being, and self-fulfillment are worthy goals to obtain, they all are dependent on external variables and can lead to emptiness. We are trained to be very pragmatic and productive. Unless we are able to check off all of the boxes or comply with specific measurable requirements, our value and worth becomes questionable. Corporations, educational institutions, systems, structures, and secular ideology rarely consider deeper, more spiritual, and human contributions a person can and needs to make.

To the secular mind, the wisdom and ideals of the Gospel are making less and less sense. Consider for a moment this question: "What profit would there be for one to gain the whole world and forfeit his life?" While Jesus is asking this very challenging question to people who are considering his message, many in our world are in a quite different place. Whether we realize it, many folks are asking a much different question. Why would you not want to gain the whole world and secure your life? If you look at where a lot of folks are investing their time, energy, and resources, it becomes obvious where current priorities rest.

Modern day comforts and possibilities are backing us out of our relationship with God. The fire burning in every human heart is trying to find its satisfaction in the things that humans have created and not God. Being altruistic and offering compassion for those most in need becomes a political responsibility or responsible gesture. We realize that our hearts need to be centered on something and someone who calls us out of ourselves, but we struggle and battle with naming the source of that call. God places the desire to seek, find, and love Him in the core of every soul. We are not abandoned and left to fend for ourselves. But we can easily get confused. We know that when we extend ourselves to another self-sacrificially, we are doing what is just and right. We know that we can work through suffering and loss and come out better and more whole on the other side.

Our minds need to be renewed so that they can begin to understand that there is much more to who we are, and that faith plays a pivotal role in achieving our true and everlasting goals. It is when we see that it is only faith that can bring us to this heightened awareness of ourselves and God that it will begin to make sense. Then, we can put things in proper perspective and consider being a disciple. ©LPi

**MASS INTENTIONS & REMEMBRANCES**

- Sat., 8/29 4:00 pm **Simone Gemma**, by daughters – Cheryl & Patty and family
- (Remembrance)
- Sun., 8/30 8:00 am **David Jones**, Birthday, by Nora Ruchala
- 10:30 am **Parishioners' Intentions**
- 6:00 pm **Richard & Margaret McGrail**, by family
- Mon., 8/31 9:00 am **Adolfo Ortiz, Jr.**, by family
- Craig Prachniak**, by Shirley & Jerry Prachniak
- Tue., 9/1 9:00 am **Peggy (Desautels) Dame**, Birthday, by her mother
- Jackie Myers**, by the Butcher family
- Wed., 9/2 9:00 am **Timmy Scavone**, by the Butcher family
- Thu., 9/3 9:00 am **Timmy Scavone**, by the Butcher family
- Fri., 9/4 9:00 am **Jack Gilmartin**, by Celeste Butcher
- (Remembrance) **Mary Ann Riley**, by Celeste Butcher
- (Remembrance) **Bill Gibbons**, by Celeste Butcher
- (Remembrance) **Robert Russell**, 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv., by Celeste Butcher
- Sat., 9/5 4:00 pm **Mary Blanchard**, 27<sup>th</sup> Anniv., by family
- Sun., 9/6 8:00 am **H. Kurt Krull**, by family
- 10:30 am **Mary Lucey**, by Ida Paz
- (Remembrance) **Marie Donahue**, Birthday, by family
- 6:00 pm **Parishioners' Intentions**

**CONTRIBUTION REPORT**

- Last weekend, we deposited the following donations:
- **Weekly Adult Offerings:** **\$3,080.00**
  - (\$269.00 in loose offerings and \$2,811.00 in 84 envelopes)
  - **Liturgical Memorials:** **\$ 200.00**
  - **Holy Day:** **\$ 70.00**
  - **Maintenance Fund:** **\$ 130.00**
  - **Central/Eastern Europe:** **\$ 10.00**
- We also received the following online donations:
- **Weekly Adult Offerings:** **\$1,925.34**
  - **Holy Day:** **\$ 20.32**
  - **Charitable Ministries:** **\$ 15.00**
  - **Maintenance Fund:** **\$ 153.62**
  - **Debt Reduction Donations:** **\$ 87.74**
  - **Unrestricted Gift:** **\$ 50.00**
  - **Central/Eastern Europe:** **\$ 10.59**

**LITURGICAL MEMORIALS**

The bread and wine being used at all Masses this week has been donated in memory of **Mary Ann Riley** by Celeste Butcher.

**REST IN PEACE**

Pray for the repose of the souls of **Joan Cormier, John Perrone, Jr.** and all our deceased relatives, friends and benefactors.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

- Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9/Rom 12:1-2  
Mt 16:21-27
- Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5/Ps 119:97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102/Lk 4:16-30
- Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16/Ps 145:8-9, 10-11, 12-13ab, 13cd-14  
Lk 4:31-37
- Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9/Ps 33:12-13, 14-15, 20-21/Lk 4:38-44
- Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23/Ps 24:1bc-2, 3-4ab, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
- Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5/Ps 37:3-4, 5-6, 27-28, 39-40/Lk 5:33-39
- Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15/Ps 145:17-18, 19-20, 21/Lk 6:1-5
- Next Sunday: Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9/Rom 13:8-10  
Mt 18:15-20

***PARTNERS IN CHARITY 2020***

Monday, August 31, 2020 is the end of the current fiscal year and the last official day for the annual appeal. However, the books will remain open for any late gifts.

If you have not contributed this year, could you PLEASE offer a gift – no matter how small the amount!

As of 8/28, we have raised 78% of our parish goal of \$57,500 to help fund the diocesan pastoral services and ministries of education and charity. Fr. Monroe and 183 households have contributed \$44,825.

Major cuts in all departments will be necessary since the diocesan wide effort is \$765,009 short of what is needed.

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NOTES**

Due to restrictions because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, we will not be able to hold weekly classes for Grades k-1 and 3-9.

Karen Barrows has posted online resources on our website for families who would like to work with their children at home.

If you would like a hard copy text for your child’s grade level, email Karen at [kbarrowsola@aol.com](mailto:kbarrowsola@aol.com) or call the rectory and leave a message at extension 12 and we will set aside a book for you to pick up at the rectory.

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION**

We hope to be able to have preparation for First Penance and Confirmation (Grade 10) this Fall.

Once the schools open and we have a sense of realities, we will contact all families who have children who are candidates for those Sacraments this year.

First Communion preparation will take place during the second semester of the school year.

**END OF FISCAL YEAR**

The 2019-2020 fiscal year will end on August 31<sup>st</sup>. The Finance Committee will be working with Fr. Monroe to review the year and produce the annual summary report that will be mailed to all households. We thank all those who continued to provide financial support during the pandemic months.

The number of households using our VANCO online giving platform has nearly doubled since March. It is a convenient way to support your parish. You can set up your personal profile by going to our website: [www.ourladyofangels.org](http://www.ourladyofangels.org) and clicking on the **Online Giving** link at the top right of the homepage. You will then be connected to the secure VANCO site and directed to set up your profile and create a password. Then you can sign in and set up weekly or monthly payment methods or sign in manually whenever you wish to donate. The site has a list of all parish funds, diocesan and national collections for the year as well.

**HOME VISITS**

We miss being able to come to homebound parishioners’ homes due to COVID-19 protocols. However, Fr. Monroe is willing to meet people at their door or on a porch and offer Communion if that would be helpful. If you would like a visit, call the rectory to make an appointment for him to come to your home. Some nursing homes are allowing brief outdoor visits by appointment so he will try to reconnect with our parishioners.

**OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS SCHOOL**

The first day of in person classes for students is Monday, August 31<sup>st</sup>. The plan is posted on the school website and we have waiting lists for all grades except Grade One.

If you have a First Grade student you would like to enroll, you can access the application form at [www.ourladyoftheangels.us](http://www.ourladyoftheangels.us).

**BAPTISM**

Last Sunday we embraced **Daniela Bradshaw** into the Church with her Baptism. We congratulate her parents and pray that they and her godparents will help Daniela grow in practice of faith.

**MONTHLY RESPECT LIFE PROJECT**

Next weekend, we invite you to bring with you to Mass items that would be useful in assisting Visitation House to help expectant and young mothers in need. Items can be placed at the Holy Family Shrine. Recommended items include diapers of all sizes, wet wipes, baby photo albums and toiletries of all kinds, powder, baby blankets or anything else you think would help expectant or new mothers care for themselves and their child.

**THE WEEK AT A GLANCE**

Sun., August 30 – 22<sup>nd</sup> Ordinal Sunday

**8:00 am Lord’s Day Mass**  
**10:30 am Lord’s Day Mass**  
**12:00 noon Baptism**  
**6:00 pm Lord’s Day Mass**

Mon., August 31 – Monday of 22<sup>nd</sup> Ordinal Sunday

**8:00 am First Day of Classes for OLA School**  
**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Tue., September 1 – Tuesday of 22<sup>nd</sup> Ordinal Sunday

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Wed., September 2 – Wednesday of 22<sup>nd</sup> Ordinal Week

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Thu., September 3 – St. Gregory the Great

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Fri., September 4 – Anniversary of dedication of our church  
 Memorial of Our Lady of the Angels

**9:00 am Daily Mass**

Sat., September 5 – St. Teresa of Calcutta

**4:00 pm Vigil Mass**

**120 CLUB**

The winner of last week’s drawing is **Diane Balinski - #12**.

**PRESIDERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND**

Saturday, September 5	4:00 pm	Fr. Monroe
Sunday, September 6	8:00 am	Fr. Dougherty
	10:30 am	Fr. Monroe
	6:00 pm	Fr. Monroe

**DIGITAL VOCATION DISCERNMENT GROUPS**

Because the Office for Vocations is unsure when we can resume our monthly vocation dinners, we are contemplating creating digital discernment groups for those from the Diocese, whether currently here or away at College, to read through and discuss "To Save a Thousand Souls." After gauging interest, we would form groups based on age. If you would be interested in participating in such a group, please contact the vocation office at [director@worcestervocations.com](mailto:director@worcestervocations.com).

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