

## Pastor's Note

October 11, Twenty-Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Come to the Feast!

Last weekend I traveled to St. Benedict Church in Johnstown, PA to celebrate a wedding. With Covid-19 putting a damper on weddings this year, parishioners Dereck Malzi and Lindsay Berkebile were supposed to get married in May but had to cancel because of the restrictions and shut-downs due to the pandemic. Scrambling to find a church and reception hall that could accommodate their guests, they decided to return to their hometown in Johnstown and have a smaller celebration. It turned out to be a beautiful weekend and they had an outdoor wedding reception.

This weekend, we celebrate the Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time. The readings focus on judgement day and responding to the Lord's invite.

In the first reading from Isaiah, we read how a prophet describes the joy and abundance that always overflows from a right relationship with God. God's plan is to nourish the people to new life and there is no limit to God's resources to sustain life. In the second reading to the Philippians, Paul knows that in the Lord he can find the strength to face any circumstance whether it brings hardship or abundance. In the Gospel of Matthew, we read the "judgment parable." Many are invited but few are chosen. Jesus teaches that salvation is never automatic. Everyone is invited to enter the Kingdom of heaven, but the gate is narrow and the road is difficult. The guest in the parable represents those who have failed to understand his teaching. Jesus addressed this parable to important officials and elders. He invites us weekly to participate in the richness of the Eucharistic banquet. Everyday we are offered an invitation. To have a place at the banquet (God's kingdom) we must live a life of faithfulness, justice and mercy.

How are we responding? We are called to share God's life with others. Because he loves us, God invited us to live a relationship with him.

### Come to the Feast!

## Corpus Christi Church

I am pleased to announce that Corpus Christi Church on Lincoln Avenue has been sold. Yinka Williams has purchased the church and the vacant property next door. All of the utilities, insurance have been transferred. We no longer own or will maintain the property. Special thanks for the Office of Property Planning and Diocesan Legal Office for their help with this transition. All religious items that the parish owned or needed have been removed.

## Parish Census

All Registered Parishioners should have received a "Census Letter" in the mail a few weeks ago. Please look over the card with your information, make any necessary changes, and mail back in the enclosed envelope. We appreciate your full participation as we update our files.

Every Catholic needs a place to call home. If you are not officially registered, we have registration forms in the back of all three of our churches, on the Welcome page of our website, [saintmarymagdaleneiph.org](http://saintmarymagdaleneiph.org) or you can call Terri Price at the parish office at 412.661.7222.

officially registered,

## RCIA

The Rite of Christian Initiation Program (RCIA) has started. Classes are Tuesdays from 7 to 8:30pm via Zoom. Those who are interested in learning more about the Catholic Faith or need the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion, and/or Confirmation are welcomed. Please call Teresa Maynor, our Director of Religious Education at 412-661-7222 or e-mail [tmaynor@stmarymagphg.org](mailto:tmaynor@stmarymagphg.org) for more information.

## Parish Improvements

New landscaping upgrades were added recently in front of the St. James Rectory. Trees and shrubs were pruned and river rock was installed for better drainage.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to **Bailey Marie Dieckmann** and **Claire Rose Robinson** who are being baptized this weekend.

## Happy Birthday

Happy Birthday to **Melissa Viator** our Safe Environment Coordinator and **Liz Brown** our St. Bede School Office Manager who celebrated their birthday's this past week!

## Wedding Bells

Congratulations to parishioners **Lindsay Berkebile** and **Dereck Malzi** who celebrated their wedding last weekend in Johnstown.

## Welcome

A special welcome to **Ryan, Preston** and **Thomas Gassaway** and **Elyse Reed** who recently registered at St. Mary Magdalene Parish.

**The Second Collection** next weekend is for World Mission Sunday and Missionary Cooperation Plan. Please be as generous as possible.

## Something to Think About...

*God does not ask about our ability or our inability,  
but about our availability.*

With God, All Things Are Possible!

Fr. Tom Burke, Pastor  
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