

## ST. NICHOLAS PARISH

From the Pastor's Desk

This week we will be starting our RCIA classes for those interested in joining the Church. These classes may also be a great opportunity for those who are Catholic and desire to renew and deepen their knowledge and faith. You are welcome to join us as well. Classes will begin Wednesday Evening September 11 in the meeting room at the *Parish Office* building at 7:00 p.m. Parking is available on Main Street and the lot between the Rectory and Parish Office Building. Enter the Parish Office Building from the courtyard on Main Street. There will be a welcome sign on the door. To all, please know that you are most welcome to join us.

Highlighting another program, we are sponsoring in the parish and I am giving a big push is the *Catholic Guide for Surviving Divorce*. A few years back I attended a presentation about this program, and I thought this would be a great benefit for our parish. Subsequently, we ran the program twice since then and it was well received. The groups attending could have been larger, but then again there was something powerful about the small groups. It has been my experience that whether a group is large or small each has its positives. Recall the words of Jesus..." *Where two or three gathers together in my name, there am I in their midst.*" The Holy Spirit can inspire and heal those who gather in the name of Jesus. Just the same, I find this program, *Surviving Divorce*, to be of a great benefit for healing and growth in the spiritual, emotional and intellectual life. I strongly encourage anyone who has lived through a divorce to attend. I know it can feel awkward, but please know you are most welcome.

As noted elsewhere in the bulletin, this *Surviving Divorce* program will begin on Monday, September 16 at 7:00 p.m. in the parish office meeting room (Main Street Entrance). The program is designed to run for twelve weeks. It seems like a long time from the start, but it is amazing that the experience of the program seems like it came and went all too fast. Again, if you have experienced the devastating event of a divorce, I say let the Holy Spirit inspire you and guide you. Please be open to this dynamic program. It may very well be the healing you need and may not even know that you need.

Speaking of Divorce Survival, what about *couples who are struggling in their marriage*. The Diocese of Columbus has a program to help couples in this crisis. The program is called *Retrouaille*. This excellent program takes place over a weekend. It is a retreat for couples to assist them in healing their marriage. Over the years, the couples I have encouraged to attend found the weekend a real life saver. For Catholic couples many do not realize the powerful grace found in the sacrament of their marriage. Most do not consider that marriage is a vocation and that they are called by God who provides the necessary grace to bring this calling to its completion. Trust the grace of God! The greatest struggle has the greatest claim on grace.

God calls and God provides. It is so easy to forget this truth and to trust this truth. Being a vocation does not make marriage easy. This is precisely why grace is so important. It is so easy to become complacent and take marriage for granted. When we become complacent, we fall backwards. When couples take their marriage for granted, they are not growing in their relationship. It is the same for the faith life of all Christians. If we become complacent, we are not growing in the faith. We cannot take all of this for granted.

Back to the point, a *Retrouaille* weekend is scheduled for the weekend of October 25 – 27, in Columbus. For more information you can go to the Diocese of Columbus webpage,

look under "Offices" for "Marriage and Family Life" then click on "Help and Healing". Or you can call the Marriage and Family Life Office at the Diocese or more information at 614-241-2560.

There is another thing that has come up a couple of times since I have been here which has caused some of our Senior members a great deal of stress. Much of this has to do with end of life issues or unexpected life threatening or long-term medical problems. Issues like checking and savings accounts only in one name, or the title of the home only in one name, or vehicles only in one name and that one name is the person who has suddenly been incapacitated. Some individuals found themselves caught in a difficult position because they did not prepare themselves legally and financially. What do you do when your spouse who, is incapacitated, was the one who paid all the bills, knows where all the documents are stored, has their name on all the accounts, titles, lock box at the bank and the like? Unfortunately, the one remaining finds themselves in a difficult legal and financial mess. At times these messes become to be costly.

There may be several things that we have never thought about because we didn't know enough beforehand that certain things needed to be decided. We usually put off such things because it seems too depressing and just unpleasant. Well I thought it would be a good idea to do a series of presentations with people who are in the know about such matters and who could address such issues. We have an attorney who would like to do a presentation about the topic of a "Power of Attorney". Under this umbrella there is a Durable Power of Attorney and a Healthcare Power of Attorney of which there are differences.

A few years ago, I was the caretaker of an elderly priest. I had power of attorney which ended upon his death. There was so much more that needed to be decided of which I could not do. He had a will that was not updated. Unfortunately, I discovered that his Executors, One and Two; both priests, had preceded him in death. So, I ask you the question: do you have a will? Do you have a Trust? Is it updated and current? Which is better a Will or a Trust and who is named in it? It all sounds pretty complicated and many just put this off. Let's not do that.

On Tuesday, October 8, there will be a gathering in the Meeting Room at the Parish Office at 6:00 p.m. It is an information meeting dealing with just the basics of end of life issues and sudden unexpected medical issues. Hopefully this will surface a great deal of interest in this particular topic and open the door to other issues and more meetings. Long-term medical issues, possibility of assisted living and nursing care facilities, what is Hospice all about (hint; it is more about living well today with a terminal illness), pre-planning funeral arrangements and so much more. These can be difficult issues to face, however, in a community with a shared faith these issues can be faced with Faith, Hope and Love. This can be done in a calm atmosphere as opposed to taking place amid a crisis.

Please give this your thoughtful attention and decide to attend on October 8th.

Please note that there was a fraudulent email supposedly coming from me. Somehow my email account was hacked, and the fraudulent email did not come from my email address. Just the same the scam claimed that I needed google play gift cards totaling \$2,000. From what I am told this has become a common thing and takes advantage of the innocent and vulnerable. Just to let you know, I would never, nor have I ever, make such requests. In fact, I am not on social media. I don't have the time or patience for much of the foolishness that takes place on social media. I'm too busy and don't have the time for this business. If such things surface in the future, please call the parish office. But be assured I don't work in this manner.

Have a great week. Father Ralko

## This week we pray Week II of the Liturgy of the hours.

All are invited to join the students for breakfast, today in the St. Nicholas Church basement following the morning Masses.

**Mark Your Calendar for The Saturday Night Parish Dinner – Saturday, September 21<sup>st</sup> immediately following the 5:15 p.m. Mass in the Parish Social Hall (church basement).**



### RCIA – Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

RCIA is a process by which adults become Catholic. Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? Are you unbaptized but recognize a need for spirituality in your life/ Are you a baptized Catholic or baptized into another religion but never received any formal religious education? Are you married to a Catholic and attend Mass but just don't know what the next step is to become one of the Catholic faithful? Were you baptized as a Catholic but not raised in the faith? RCIA is the place for you! RCIA begins on **Wed. September 11 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Parish Office Building, upper level, 955 East Main St. Call Patty Boggs at 453-0597 for more information.

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES

Classes for the 2019-2020 Saint Nicholas Religious Education year begin **Sunday, September 15, 2018**. Classes are from 9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. and are held in the Bishop Fenwick building at 955 E. Main St. For more information call Suzanne or Kevin Dooley at 740-319-2170.

### SURVIVING DIVORCE

Divorced? The twelve-week Surviving Divorce program begins on **Monday, September 16<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. Surviving Divorce features twelve video presentations that cover topics such as shock and grief, anger and forgiveness, money issues, dealing with children and a former spouse, and annulment and remarriage. Find comfort and counsel consistent with Catholic Church teachings. Call Patty at (740) 453-0597 to register.

**CANTORS** - there are many good voices in our St. Nicholas congregation! If you are interested and able to be a cantor, please call Sr. Bernadette (740-455-8511) in the evenings or weekends. You'll be glad you did! This is a marvelous ministry.

**Mt. Olive Cemetery** has a part time position available. Duties would include mowing, weed eating, helping to open and close graves, help pouring footers for headstones and snow removal. If interested, please call the Parish Office at 740-453-0597.

**Tuesday Morning Bible Study** – The Holy Spirit a 12-week bible study by Fr. Mitch Pacwa, will begin **Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>** at 9:30 a.m. in the Parish Office, upper level. Participants will need the book *The Holy Spirit*, a Bible and a notebook. Please call the parish office to register and so that we may order your book. The cost of the book is \$10.95. Scholarships available.



### DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA

The Daughters of Isabella seek to promote the welfare of the community in accordance with the teachings and rules of the Catholic Church through unity, friendship and charity. All women age 16 and up are welcome to join us. The next meeting is **Tuesday, September 10** at 6:00 p.m. at the St. Nicholas Parish Office.

**TRAINING FOR ALL EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION** will be held on **Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup>** at 12:00 noon and again on **Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. Training both days will be held in the Church. All Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion are asked to attend one of the training sessions.

**BISHOP ROSECRANS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS MUM SALE** forms are available at the Knights of Columbus Hall or at Bishop Rosecrans High School. Pick up will be **Wednesday, September 11** at the Knights of Columbus at 6:30 p.m. Contact Marvin Paul at 819-3429 with questions.

**BISHOP ROSECRANS ATHLETIC BOOSTERS** will be having their booster mania on **September 11** at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 6:30 p.m. You may purchase your numbers for the next year and enjoy food and drink compliments of the boosters. Contact Marvin Paul at 819-3429 with questions.

In the spirit of friendship, the **Daughters of Isabella, Circle #586 Fidelis Regina**, is sponsoring a reception for the Franciscan sisters of Christian Charity in honor of their 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Please join us in the St. Nicholas Church Social Hall on **Sunday, September 29** from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. to celebrate the many years of dedicated service which the sisters have provided to our community. Light refreshment will be served.

**The Women's Spirituality Group** will resume meeting **Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup>**, at the parish office from 3:30 p.m. until around 5:00 p.m. We meet on the last Monday of the month from September through April except for December. We will be using the book, *Becoming More Than A Good Bible Girl*. We invite the women of the parish to join us for an exercise in deepening our faith. If you can join us or have any questions, please call Judi Peterson at 740-453-5288.

## 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### LITURGICAL MINISTERS SCHEDULE

It is your responsibility to find a substitute if needed. Please email Patty with your Mass preferences by September 15 for the next schedule.

## September 15, 2019 24th Sunday In Ordinary Time

### Saturday, September 14 @ 5:15 p.m.

Cantor: Jim Gable  
Lectors: Mike LaPlante, Sylvia Norris  
Servers: Scott Peterson, Charles Peterson  
Eucharistic Minister – Coord: Vicki Burns  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Karen Robinson, Larry Taylor  
Eucharistic Ministers: Al Burns, Diana Dunn, Paula Peterson, Dan Snider

### Sunday, September 15 @ 8:15 a.m.

Cantor: Janet Moses  
Lector: Bernard Budde, Bill Sullivan  
Servers: David Eppley, Mason Harmon  
Eucharistic Minister- Coord: Dan Sylvester  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Laurie Harmon, Cheryl Sylvester  
Eucharistic Ministers: Susie Altier, Jennifer Bernett, Jim Hillis, Sue Hillis

### Sunday, September 15 @ 10:45 a.m.

Cantor: Ryan Teti  
Lectors: Stephanie Bridwell, Keena Hansel  
Servers: Nicholas Bernath, Thomas Bernath  
Eucharistic Minister - Coord: Carolyn Arnold  
Eucharistic Ministers - Wash Vessel: Claire Tiberio, Gerald Tiberio  
Eucharistic Ministers: Jim McKee, Mike Musselman, Jim Pottmeyer, Dodi Sealock

*Our thoughts and prayers remain with those serving our country currently and with their loved ones at home. We pray for a safe homecoming and that the world may one day be at peace.*

**PLEASE REMEMBER ST. NICHOLAS PARISH IN YOUR WILL. CALL THE PARISH OFFICE AT 453-0597 FOR MORE DETAILS.**

*Please join us each Monday at St. Nicholas Church at 2:00 p.m. as we gather to pray the Rosary asking Our Lady's Intercession for the many needs of our nation, community, and parish.*

## Church Support

Due to holiday publishing deadlines, the Church Support figures are not available this week.

## What's Happening in Our Parish

### MONDAY, September 9, St. Peter Claver

8:00 a.m., Mass: Clarence & Mary Hupp, anniversary, Church

### TUESDAY, September 10

8:00 a.m., Mass: Mike Andrews, Church  
6:00 p.m., Daughter's of Isabella, Parish Office, upper level

### WEDNESDAY, September 11

8:10 a.m., School Mass: Robert Fargus, Church  
7:00 p.m., R.C.I.A., Parish Office, upper level

### THURSDAY, September 12, The Most Holy Name of Mary

NO MASS

### FRIDAY, September 13, St. John Chrysostom

8:00 a.m., Mass: Kay DeWitt, Church

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

### SATURDAY, September 14, The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

4:15 p.m.-4:45 p.m., Confessions, Church  
5:15 p.m., Mass: Cletus Schoeppner, Church

### SUNDAY, September 15

8:15 a.m., Mass: St. Nicholas Parishioners, Church  
9:15 a.m., Religious Education, Bishop Fenwick School  
10:45 a.m., Mass: John A. Rock, anniversary, Church  
10:45 a.m., Mass: Clara Shumate, Church

## Readings for Week of September 9

Mon. . . . .	Col 1:24-2:3	Lk 6:6-11
Tues. . . . .	Col 2:6-15	Lk 6:12-19
Wed . . . . .	Col 3:1-11	Lk 6:20-26
Thurs. . . . .	Col 3:12-17	Lk 6:27-38
Fri. . . . .	1Tm 1:1-2, 12-14	Lk 6:39-42
Sat. . . . .	1 Thes 4:9-11	Mt 25:14-30
Sun . . . . .	Sir 3:17-18, 20, 28-29	Lk 14:1, 7-14

