

St. Mary's Catholic Church

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 22, 2019

Dear Parishioners:

Throughout life one of the absolute truths that we learn is that all our actions have consequences. They can be positive or negative, depending on the particular situation. When we were children this was so evident. If we failed to do what our parents or teachers told us, we were usually punished. However, when we did what we were asked, we were usually rewarded in some special way. As adults, we have become very aware of the significance of the consequences of our actions. If we break the law, prison is a definite possibility. If we fail to be faithful to those we love then that relationship can sour or even terminate. If we manipulate or take advantage of people or situations at our workplace then we can be fired. However, if we perform well at work we can earn a raise or promotion. If we honor, respect and treat well those we profess our love to, then our relationship will grow into a deeper intimate level. If we use our time, talent, gifts and resources for the betterment of our community, we will then receive the respect and praise of members of our community. More importantly, we will create a better world for those we live with.

Today's readings remind us that we must **seriously consider** the consequences and ramifications of our actions. This is true for the Israelites during the time of Amos, for those who lived during the time of Jesus Christ and for us today as Jesus' followers.

In today's first reading, Amos states how pursuing wealth can diminish our ability to honor God on the Sabbath and lead to "trampling upon the needy and destroying the poor of the land." Amos proclaims loudly God's love and care for the poor; excessive wealth can exclude such love and care from our daily lives.

The Gospel parable tells the story of a clever and devious employee who gets out of a jam – he is given credit for his "prudence" and "shrewdness" in his enterprising actions. But this is **not** the moral of the story. Jesus states the moral of the story: "that the person who can be trusted with a little will be trusted with more, but the one who is **not** trustworthy will lose what he has." The point of the parable is that there are always consequences for our actions. If we do well (use our gifts wisely and make the most of the opportunities given to us) then God will be pleased and we will be given more. On the other hand if we use poorly or abuse what has been given to us or if we fail to utilize the opportunities presented to us, then we will pay a costly price as we will lose everything.

Consequences exist for us based on our actions. Right and proper use of our God-given gifts and talents and effective management of our responsibilities and duties will enable us to receive our just reward. Therefore, let us use our gifts, talents, resources and opportunities well and wisely for the betterment of others. In doing so, we will please God and someday be with Him in the kingdom of heaven.

Love & prayers,
Fr. John

Weekend Masses

Sat Sept 21 4:00 p.m. In Thanksgiving, Angela and Richard Knott, Thomas Santomieri

Sun Sept 22 10:00 a.m. Mary Zaleski

Sat Sept 28 4:00 p.m. Leonard and Sally Rieman

Sun Sept 29 10:00 a.m. Fr. Martin Donnelly, Sue Schlumbohm, and Kent Bullman

Communion Service

Fri Sept 27 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,340.00	Loose	\$532.00
Children	\$38.45	Total	\$3,910.45

74 envelopes returned = 35%



*Thank you for your generosity!
Thank you also to those who give
electronically!!*

Assignments for September 28 & September 29, 2019

Money Counters: Deb Buck and Chad Wolford
4:00 p.m.

Greeters: Basil Meyer

Cantor: Steve McCullough

Ushers: John Parinello and Chuck Niese

Lector: Jenny Roby

E.M.: Bob Minto, Edna Conkling, Amanda Woolley

Servers: Jacob Granger and Addison Businger

10:00 a.m.

Greeters: Lisa and Logan Welch

Cantor: Steve McCullough

Ushers: Cindy Bandish and Roger Brodman

Lectors: Joe Herrmann and Chris Denecker

E.M.: John Schulte, Kim Garmatter, Mike Klima, Jerry Wehri, Kelly Yarnell

Servers: Grace Yarnell, Ayla Grandey, and Isabella Stechschulte

Readings for September 29, 2019

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

2nd Reading: 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel Reading: Luke 16:19-31

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25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

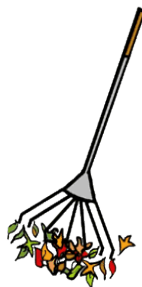
September 22, 2019


Congratulations to Matthew and Megan (Yarger) Alexander on the baptism of their son, Miles Parker Alexander! Welcome to the family, Miles.

RCIA: RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults into the Catholic Faith. It is open to non-baptized adults, adults who were baptized in another Christian church and would like to more about the Catholic Church, and those who were baptized Catholic but never received Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation. Classes will be starting soon. If you have any questions, would like to go through our RCIA program, **or would be willing to join the teaching team**, please contact Fr. John at (419) 358 – 8631.



Do you know of community members that need some extra help with outdoor household chores? Our Junior High classes are looking to serve members of the Bluffton Community during their next session on **October 6th from 11:45 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** They will be available to help with things such as putting away summer furniture, yard work, washing cars, cleaning garages, etc. Please see the signup sheet on the shelf in the Narthex or contact Kelly with your ideas of how our students can help serve.



 **Family Promise has a giving board** in the main entrance. The items listed will help with the day to day breakfasts, lunches, and personal hygiene products. Donated items can be left in the kitchen.

We will be hosting the families October 6th - 12th. Thank you in advance for *all* of your help!

Altar Server Training will take place *today*, September 22, after Mass and October 5th at 1p.m. This training is led by Father John and is open to children **grade 4 and up**. It will take about an hour. Following the training, the new members will be given dates to shadow experienced servers.



Please note: experienced servers should also attend one training to be updated. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those attending.



The 16th annual Bluffton Fall Festival is happening soon! On Friday evening, Sept. 27th there will be food and activities for kids at BFR. The locations for Saturday, Sept. 28th are Mennonite Memorial Home, Maple Crest, Bluffton hospital parking lot, and the Schumacher Homestead, with meals being available at MMH and Maple Crest. Downtown Bluffton will be open with events at Mercy Health and the Farmer's Market. Transportation between locations is free and the bus stop will be at the Town Hall.

Mennonite Memorial Home is still looking for bake sale and silent auction items. Please donate items by 9a.m. on Friday or Saturday. If you have questions about donating, please call Jessica Strahm at (419) 358 – 1015 ext. 248

We are in need of Catechists for the following position:

- 8th Grade Teacher for the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month after Mass

This is open for any Catholic (grandparent, college student, or parishioner) with an open and loving heart willing to serve our youth! Please contact Kelly Honse if you are interested in helping.

Walkers are needed for Weekly Christian Education. See the signup sheet in the Narthex if you are interested in taking Bluffton Elementary Students to class each week.

P.R.E.P

If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Kelly Honse at (419) 358 – 8631 or khski7@aol.com

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10a.m. Mass

K-6: Class is this Wednesday, September 25th from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Jr High: Class will meet again on October 6th from 11:00 to 1:00



God Squad--High School Youth Group



God Squad High School Youth will meet October 6th from 11:00-1:00.