

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 29, 2019

Dear Parishioners,

I am sure all of us at one time or another heard the US Army recruiting slogan: "Be all that you can be." This expression encourages people to not be content, but rather, to work in order to maximize one's potential. Perhaps we may have heard the expression: "The difficult we do today; the impossible we will do tomorrow." This expression encourages us to realize that nothing is impossible if we are willing to work. Some of us may be familiar with Christian expression: "Live simply, so others may simply live." This statement challenges us to change our attitudes, ideas and demeanor so that all peoples can benefit from God's gifts and not just a few privileged persons.

The above expressions mentioned have a common denominator: we cannot be satisfied or pleased with ourselves or with the conditions of the world we live in. In simple words we cannot be **complacent**. A **complacent** person is not necessarily evil. But a **complacent** person is merely someone who, through fear, or lack of motivation, or present satisfaction with their life or situation, has chosen to stay within the status quo. Although **complacent** people are not evil, they often miss some of the greatest opportunities and challenges from God to do God's work and make a difference in their lives and other people's lives.

In today's readings we encounter some very **complacent** people. In our first reading the prophet Amos condemns those affluent persons of his time who oppressed the poor and those on the fringes. "Woe to the **complacent** in Zion," he proclaims. The **complacent** in Zion were living pampered, comfortable lives: living on couches of ivory, eating and drinking excessively well, listening to music, anointing themselves and being massaged into a state of lethargy while not paying attention and being concerned to the fact that their country was headed towards devastation because of their social and moral depravity.

In the Gospel, Jesus also paints a portrait of an ongoing indolent and **complacent** person. The rich man lies on his couch, dressed in luxuriant linen, eating rich foods and drinking choice wines each day while ignoring his neighbor—the poor, homeless, sickly beggar named Lazarus. The problem is that the rich man has become so anesthetized that he does not help Lazarus at all. Eventually both men die and we see a reversal of fate. Lazarus, who was treated as a castoff, enjoys the bliss of heaven while the rich man, who savored life's pleasures, ends up in great torment in the netherworld. The reversal of the rich man's fortune was not the consequence of his lack of moral rectitude; it resulted from his **complacency** and indifference to the needs of Lazarus.

As we continue our journey in life we are challenged to **not** to be merely content with ourselves and the conditions of the world we live in. Instead we must continue to strive to find improvement in ourselves and answer the challenges and opportunities given to us by our God. If we are too content then we become **complacent**. If we become **complacent** we cannot grow in or deepen our relationship with God and others.

Love & prayers,  
Fr. John

## Weekend Masses

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
Sat Oct 5	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Oct 6	10:00 a.m.	Fr. Neil Lucas

## Communion Service

Fri Oct 4 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$2,605.00	Loose \$841.00
Children	\$24.00	Total \$3,470.00

76 envelopes returned = 36%



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

## Assignments for October 5 & 6, 2019

**Money Counters:** Nick Recker, Courtney Gerten

**4:00 p.m.**

**Greeters:** Peg Murphy

**Cantor:** Steve McCullough

**Ushers:** Dave and Mary Hoffer

**Lector:** Amy Tabler

**E.M.:** Jim Tabler, Biranna Atkins, Basil Meyer

**Servers:** Grace Myers and Greta Myers

**10:00 a.m.**

**Greeters:** John and Sarah Schulte Family

**Cantor:** Steve McCullough

**Ushers:** Roger Brodman and John Schlumbohm

**Lectors:** Caitlyn Couch

**E.M.:** Wes Lovett, Lisa Welch, Logan Welch,

Cathy Hermiller, Becca Schlumbohm

**Servers:** Drew, Ken, Nick and Ben Lovett

## **Readings for October 6, 2019**

**27<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

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**Congratulations** to Derek and Ashley (Wagner) Niese on the baptism of their son, Emmett Eugene Niese! Welcome to the family, Emmett.

## Catholic Youth Summer Camp

registration opens SOON -- Summer 2020 will be here before you know it! Registration for Middle School and High School camp opens on October 1, 2019. Spots fill fast, so be sure to register as quickly as you can and live the adventure. Visit [cysc.com](http://cysc.com) for more information



## Please remember to pay PREP Registration if



you have not yet done so. If you have any questions regarding your payment, please contact Kelly Honse.

**American Red Cross Blood Drive** is coming to Saint Mary's *this* Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. We will need help with registration, hosts in the canteen, and donations of baked goods. Please check the sign-up sheet on the shelf in the main entrance to see where you can volunteer your time and talents and help the drive run smoothly!



## 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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.

## Altar Server Training

will take place Saturday, October 5<sup>th</sup>, at 1p.m. This training is open to children **grade 4 and up**. New members will be given dates to shadow experienced servers afterwards. **Please note: experienced servers** should also attend one training to be updated. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for those attending.



**Family Promise has a giving board** in the main entrance. Donated items can be left in the kitchen. We will be hosting the families next week, October 6<sup>th</sup> -

12<sup>th</sup>. Thank you in advance for *all* of your help!

## Feeling called to get more involved at Mass? We

are in need of more volunteers to serve as Ushers and Greeters.

Ushers & Greeters



Please consider giving your time and serving in this way. If you are interested, please contact Rachel at the Parish Office.

## We are still in need of a Catechist for the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade.

They meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:khski7@aol.com)*

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

**K-6:** Class is this Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Jr High:** Class will meet again on October 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 to 1:00



God Squad--High School Youth Group



**God Squad High School Youth** will meet October 6<sup>th</sup> from 11:00-1:00.