

St. Mary's Catholic Church

26th Ordinary Sunday

September 27, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Many of us may never be aware (until we stand before God) of the far-reaching results of the little things we **do** or **fail to do** during our life time. Among those persons who are actually aware of taking personal responsibility, there are two types: those who are superb with rhetoric and promise but seem to disappear when it comes to performance and action and those whose actions speak louder than their words. The latter frequently claim that they don't want to get involved with others but somehow they end up taking action by doing kind deeds for others in secret. Today's Scripture readings talk about accepting personal responsibility. Our readings emphasize the need for people to take personal responsibility for their lives and their choices. They remind us that in the end we will be judged by the choices **we make** and not by the choices other people made for us.

In today's first reading Ezekiel (the prophet of the Jews' Babylonian Captivity and the prophet of individual responsibility) reminds the Jews that every individual must decide what to do with God's word and take the consequences of their choices. The Jewish people and their royal leaders complained to Ezekiel that God was unfair and that He was punishing them for the sins of their ancestors: "Our fathers have eaten sour grapes and our children's teeth are now set on edge." The Jews believed that all their troubles (the fall of their nation and their exile into Babylonian Captivity) were punishment for the sins of the previous generations of Jews. Ezekiel answers their complaints by stating that God's ways are **not** unfair. God does not judge people for the sins of their ancestors; He judges people on their own merits or lack thereof. To support his position, Ezekiel cites two cases. The first case justifies the punishment of a wicked person. The second case points out the rewards of a person who has turned from wickedness to being good. In Ezekiel's words, "to die" and "to live" refer not to physical realities but rather to the quality of life that stems from decisions made. His implication is that all of us have the responsibility to act with awareness of the consequences of our actions.

St. Paul too believes in personal responsibility in making life choices. In today's second reading Paul motivates the Philippian community to exercise their responsibilities as Christians by eliminating the differences that harm their community. They are to become one and reflect the self-effacement of Jesus, the model of humility and Christian service. Paul reminds all that Christian love is that benevolence which never knows bitterness and never seeks anything but the good of others. We are to imitate Jesus characteristic quality of self-renunciation.

Continued...

Weekend Masses

Sat Sep 26	4:00 p.m.	In thanksgiving
Sun Sep 27	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Sep 27	10:00 a.m.	Urban Selhorst
Sat Oct 3	4:00 p.m.	In thanksgiving
Sun Oct 4	8:00 a.m.	For our parish
Sun Oct 4	10:00 a.m.	Diane Dietering

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,020.00	Loose \$161.00
Total	\$3,181.00	
51 envelopes returned = 24%		



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

Assignments for October 3 & 4, 2020

Money Counters: Nick Recker, Angie Wenger
4:00 p.m.

Cantor:
Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer
Lector: Laura Jones
E.M.: Basil Meyer
Servers: Greta Myers

8:00 a.m.

Cantors:
Ushers: *Volunteer*
Lector: *Volunteer*
E.M.: *Volunteer*
Server: *Volunteer*

10:00 a.m.

Cantor:
Ushers: John Schlumbohm and Debbie Bullman
Lectors: **Volunteer**
E.M.: Wes Lovett
Servers: Lovett Boys

Readings for October 4, 2020

27th Ordinary Sunday

1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1 – 7

2nd Reading: Philippians 4:6 – 9

Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:33 – 43

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Prayer for Vocations:

Send forth your spirit, Lord, into the hearts of your faithful people, that we may be conscious of our vocation to holiness and service to others. Grant that many of us may dedicate ourselves to you through the priesthood, religious life, and lay ministries.

We pray for the needs of our parish and diocese. Grant that we may always have sufficient good and holy priests and deacons, dedicated sisters and brothers, and committed lay ministers to serve our community.

We pray too for the Redemptorists, that generous men may join them to become zealous missionaries, preaching the gospel in word and action to the most abandoned, especially the poor.

We make this prayer through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults into the Catholic faith. RCIA is for anyone who:

- Is a non-baptized adult
- Baptized in another Christian church and is interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church, with or without the intention of becoming a member
- A baptized Catholic who never received Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation

RCIA will be starting in September. If you have any questions, please call Fr. John in the parish office at (419) 358 – 8631

A very generous donor has donated the Formed.org subscriptions to all the parishes in the Toledo Diocese. This is a great opportunity to watch video programs that explain the Catholic faith, explore the deepest meaning of marriage, receive Bible studies on a variety of topics and includes inspiring audio talks. To register, go to: <https://signup.formed.org/> and type in St. Mary or use our zip code, 45817, and click on our parish. Enter your name and email, and then check your email for a link to begin using FORMED. It's that easy!



Dinner tickets are now on sale for the Delphos St. John's 108th Fall Festival on October 17 and 18. Home-cooked chicken and beef dinners with all the trimmings are \$10.00 for adults and \$7.50 for children (5th grade and younger). All tickets will be pre-sold. Carry-out only dinners will be available from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday and from 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sunday. Enter the high school east parking lot by the St Vincent de Paul building. You will not need to get out of your car; the meals will be delivered to you. We will have volunteers there to direct traffic. We will have money raffle tickets and instant bingo tickets available for purchase while you are waiting in line. Get your chance to win part of the \$6,000.00 drawing to be held Sunday, October 25 live at 7:00 p.m. on the Parish website. The event is open to the public! You will be helping to support the mission at St. John's School. Dinner tickets, and raffle tickets may be purchased at the Ministry Center, high school and elementary school offices. Or mail your check to: St John's Festival, 201 N Pierce St, Delphos, OH 45833. Specify if you want adult or student tickets and if you want Saturday or Sunday tickets. We will mail you your dinner tickets. We look forward to serving you on October 17 and 18.

Missals will be available for families to take home. This offer is for families who want the option to refer to the book during Mass. We ask that you do not leave the book at church, but rather you bring it from home and return it to home each week. Copies will be available in each entrance.

The next time you find yourself having difficulty in forgiving someone, or when forgiveness seems to be impossible, perhaps you can ask God for the grace of forgiveness by offering up the following prayer:

O Lord, remember not only those of goodwill, but also those of ill will. But do not remember all the suffering they have inflicted upon us; instead, remember all the fruits we have born because of this suffering – our fellowship, our loyalty to one another, our humility, our courage, our generosity, the greatness of heart that has grown from this trouble. When our persecutors come to be judged by You, let all of these fruits that we have borne be their forgiveness. Amen!

Prayer found in the pocket of a deceased child in Ravensbruck Concentration Camp

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September – Pray for Holy Disciples

We invite you to join in the diocesan-wide initiative to reconnect with our faith and one another during the months of September, October, and November.

How to participate:

Set aside 10 minutes a day

Pray for the intention of holy disciples, particularly that the faithful of the Diocese of Toledo will become holier disciples.

Make a Holy Hour

Every Wednesday from 5 – 6 p.m. we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Learn the Diocesan Prayer

Heavenly Father, with the redeeming cross of Christ Jesus your son, and the gifts of your Holy Spirit, renew and strengthen us, so that by our prayer, fasting, and almsgiving we may foster Holy Disciples, Holy Families, and Holy Vocations, so as to become a more Holy Diocese of Toledo. We turn to Our Lady, Queen of the Most Holy Rosary, for her intercession and never failing prayers. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Read a Catholic Book

“Forming Intentional Disciples” by Sherry Weddell or
“Ordinary Lives, Extraordinary Mission” by John Wood.

Go to ReconnectToledo.org/September

You'll find a collection of videos about discipleship

Sign up for [FORMED.org](https://Formed.org)

We have a subscription to Formed.org thanks to a very generous donor in the Diocese! You can find resources to strengthen your faith through movies, children's programs, bible studies, sacramental preparation, and more.

What does it mean to be a holy disciple?

Being a holy disciple simply means loving God with all of our heart and striving to grow closer to Him every day. This love for God overflows into everything that we do in life and illuminates our desires and priorities. Being a holy disciple ultimately brings peace and joy even in the midst of great suffering, because we continually learn how to offer the difficulties that we face to God in union with Christ. May God continually make Himself known to us in the midst of all of the circumstances of our lives, and may we always respond with ever more love for Him.