

St. Mary's Catholic Church

28th Ordinary Sunday

October 11, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

Today's Scripture readings give us a wonderful and beautiful picture of what we are praying for when we say the phrase "thy will be done" in the Our Father Prayer. What is God's will for us? God's will is our salvation; our complete and eternal happiness with Him. God's will is that someday we would be home with Him in His kingdom for all eternity. What will God's kingdom look like? I am not exactly sure how to describe God's kingdom but I do know it is an existence/place that will surpass all our hopes and expectations. It is an existence/place that is more wonderful than we can ever imagine. Today's Scripture readings provide us with images that help describe what God's kingdom is like. The prophet Isaiah describes God's kingdom as a great scrumptious feast given to His people on a mountain. Jesus compares God's kingdom to a lavish wedding banquet that a king provides for his son. Both images give us a taste of what our God wants for us if we accept His gracious invitation to come and be with Him for all eternity.

Chapters 24-27 in the book of Isaiah are referred to as the "Apocalypse of Isaiah." Written in the postexilic period these chapters reflect a world of confusion where the Israelites are embroiled in political upheaval. Today's passage proclaims God's final victory over the evil and suffering of that time and a promise of a grand banquet for all who remain loyal to God. Isaiah states that on His Holy Mountain God will provide for all "a feast of rich food and choice wines." God's plan is to nourish all with abundant life. There is no limit to God's resources for sustaining people's lives. Isaiah assures all that God will remove the veil that separates the living from the dead. God will also remove sorrow and sadness as He gives all the security that they need by gently laying His hands upon them, wiping away their tears. All should rejoice because God is the source of their salvation.

Today's Gospel passage is similar to last week's passage as both contain parables that are addressed to the chief priests, scribes and elders of the people dealing with the dynamic of **rejection**. In today's passage Matthew joins together two stories about God's kingdom: the wedding feast parable and the wedding garment parable. Both parables are allegories (symbolic stories) dealing with salvation history. In the first parable a king sends his servants to invite guests to his son's wedding. However the guests refuse to come to the wedding feast so the king sends his servants to invite others to come to the feast. This time the response is worse as the servants are physically mistreated and even killed.

Continued...

Weekend Masses

Sat Oct 10	4:00 p.m.	Jim Alt
Sun Oct 11	8:00 a.m.	Mary Zaleskie
Sun Oct 11	10:00 a.m.	Larry Mathewson
Sat Oct 17	4:00 p.m.	Rosemary Meyer
Sun Oct 18	8:00 a.m.	Wanda Kiene
Sun Oct 18	10:00 a.m.	Teresa Rieman

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,195.00	Loose \$640.00
Total	\$3,835.00	
51 envelopes returned = 24%		



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

Assignments for October 17 & 18, 2020

**Money Counters: Barb Galvan, Deb Buck
4:00 p.m.**

Cantor:
Ushers: John Parinello and Bob Minto
Lector: Jim Kinn
E.M.: Jennifer Tschuor
Servers: Elizabeth Honse

8:00 a.m.

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

10:00 a.m.

Cantor:
Ushers: Greg and Gabe Denecker
Lectors: Chris Denecker
E.M.: Cathy Hermiller
Servers: Conner Garten

Readings for October 18, 2020

29th Ordinary Sunday

1st Reading: Isaiah 45:1, 4 – 6
2nd Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1 – 5
Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15 – 21

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...The king then sends his servants to invite all sorts of folks to the wedding feast filling the hall with marginalized guests ready to enjoy the feast. The king is the symbolic figure for God who is hoping all will come to the feast. The wedding feast is symbolic of the joy of God's kingdom: eternal life in heaven. The servants represent the prophets and the invited guests are God's Chosen People-the Israelites. The marginalized guests are the sinners and Gentiles indicating that God desires salvation for everyone.

In the second parable the king makes a big commotion over a guest who is not wearing a proper wedding garment. The king reprimands the man throwing him out of the wedding banquet. To us his actions seem to be very disturbing and harsh. What should be noted is that the wedding garment in this parable is being used symbolically representing a person's personal conduct or readiness. The guest without the wedding garment simply represents anyone who does not put on the conduct of Christ, repent of their sins and take on the love of God. This parable is a reminder that: "many are invited but few are chosen."

All of us have received a gracious invitation to enter God's kingdom. We can accept, ignore or even refuse God's invitation. To ignore or refuse God's invitation is to cut oneself off from one's spiritual life source. God doesn't force salvation upon us. Rather God invites us to share in His salvation. It is up to us to do so or not. The choice is ours. Many are invited but few are chosen. To gain entrance into God's kingdom we must accept the invitation, change our lives and live truly as God's children. Have a blessed week.

Love & prayers,
Fr. John



CHURCH SEATING: On the **first** and **third** Sundays during the months of **October** until **May**, our Confirmation candidates and their sponsors will be attending the **10 AM** Mass. To accommodate the "overflow" of people, it will be necessary to place some extra chairs in the Church, to help with the seating situation so that we can continue following our diocesan and local government mandates of "social distancing" for the **safety of all** at worship services. I am asking for **volunteers** to help our ushers with the bringing in and the removing of those chairs. I am also asking other parishioners to consider the possibility of attending/worshipping at the **4PM** Mass on Saturday evening or the **8AM** on Sunday morning those particular Sundays until the "social distancing" restrictions are lifted and we get back to some sort of normalcy. Thanks, Fr. John

Congratulations to Cody Bryer and Tori Halcomb who were married here this weekend! May God bless you all the days of your life & may our Blessed Mother Mary and St. Joseph watch over and protect you always.

Next weekend, October 17/18 we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites all of us to support Catholic missionary ministry in the mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands and parts of Europe and the Americas where priests, religious sisters and brothers and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the world missions in your prayers and please help provide support by returning the missionary envelopes (found in the pews) with your monetary donation next weekend. Thank you for your prayers and generosity. Fr. John



Boo your loved one's yard for Halloween!! The St Mary's youth will come to the yard and hide eggs filled with candy and toys for your youngsters. The cost is:

\$30 for a basket filled with treats

\$25 for 25 scattered eggs

\$40 for 50 scattered eggs

Please contact Danielle Althaus to sign up and for payment arrangements. 419.306. 

P.R.E.P

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

K-5: Class will meet this Wednesday, October 14, from 6:30 – 7:30

6th Grade: Class will meet October 18 from 11 – 12:45

Jr High: Class will meet October 18 from 11 – 12:45



God Squad--High School Youth Group



God Squad High School Youth will meet October 18 from 11 - 12:45

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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!

If you are interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist or a Proclaimer of the Word (Lector), please contact the office. We will be setting up a workshop soon for training on all the ministries. Please let Fr. John know if you are interested!



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.