

September 25, 2016

Ordinary Time

Twenty-sixth Sunday



This Is Your Chance!

Today, we are not only reminded of the complacency and the disregard for others that wealth sometimes generates, but also of an illusion that many like the rich man suffer today. The rich man begs that Lazarus be sent to warn his brothers – a clear, irrefutable sign from heaven will make all the difference. This is an illusion! Just as the rich man’s insight came too late, so also will it be too late for us. Repentance, conversion to the Gospel, and translating our faith into service must happen on this side of the grave. **Raise your eyes and see the Lazarus at your gate today.**

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, October 1
4:30 p.m. Marie & Tony Masek
Sunday, October 2
8:00 a.m. Mary Ann Smolik

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4
Responsorial Psalm: 95
Second Reading: 2Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

Mark Your Calendars

St. Anne’s K.J.Z.T. Society #4 Quarterly Meeting October 9 in the School Chapel after the 8 a.m. Mass. All members are invited to attend and participate.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week especially Julia Stryk.

2016 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| 2016 Assessment | \$7,618.00 |
| Contributions So Far | \$4,225.00 |
| Amount Yet to be Contributed | \$3,393.00 |

Consider at making a contribution.

St. Mary’s Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Matıcka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

In Memory of Dorothy Vyvjala Migl - \$150

Julia Stryk

Gail & Dennis Stryk

Liz & Anthony Stryk

Lisa & David Berckenhoff

Elyse & Eugene Chaloupka - \$200

(Pledged Payment)

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary’s Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Matıcka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.



Remember to pray for the following intentions:

For Vocations

For Lost Dog

For the Migl Family

For Arthur Talley Jr.

For Son-In-Law’s Health

For Veronica & Lonnie Robbins

For Good Health & Happy Marriage

For Wellness & Grace in Healing Sickness

For Good Health & Healing Within Family

For Healing of My Brother-In-Law, Ronnie to Be Cancer Free

Prayer List to be continued.

MASS COUNT

Bishop Cahill has asked that a Mass count be taken up at every weekend Mass during the months of May and October in all parishes of the diocese. Records indicate that on average 174 people attended Mass at St. Mary’s on the weekends of October 2015.

REFLECTION



Believing In Jesus

Last week our Gospel reading ended with Jesus telling the disciples, "You cannot serve God and mammon." As Jesus was teaching the disciples to be prudent stewards of property and not to allow love of riches to interfere with discipleship, the Pharisees were also listening. The Pharisees, who loved money, heard all these things and sneered at him (Luke 16:14). Today's parable of the rich man and Lazarus is part of this conversation. The parable is not simply about the proper use of riches; it is also about whether or not the Pharisees accept the teaching authority of those whom God has sent them: Moses, the prophets, and Jesus himself. As so often with the Gospel parables, the surprise is at the end – the dialogue between the rich man and Abraham. The rich man asks that Lazarus be allowed to convey a special warning to his five brothers who are still alive, the answer is that they have word of Scripture, and that is sufficient. The parable is about whether or not people will believe even if someone rises from the dead. Those who are unmoved by the message of Scripture will not be convinced by a miracle either, even by a Resurrection. If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets (the religious traditions), they would not heed a resurrected Lazarus.

By telling the parable Jesus is comparing the Pharisees to the rich man and warning them that by acting like the rich man they are abusing their wealth by ignoring the needs of the poor. In addition, like the rich man they are refusing to listen to Jesus himself. Such was Jesus' point in telling the parable.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



September 26 – Ronnie Masek
September 28 – Spence Lesikar
September 29 – Robert Lev

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



September 26 – Sarah & Harvey Berckenhoff
October 1 – Theresa & Dennis Tousek

APPRECIATION DINNER

Picnic Appreciation Dinner Today

Lunch served at Noon – Desserts Welcome.

We thank all those who in various ways helped to make our picnic successful. May God continue to bless you for all you do to help carry on the mission of the Church.

Support For Moulton Picnic

Judging by the size of the crowd that came out in spite of the heat last Sunday, the Moulton Picnic should be a success. I thank all those who supported our sister parish by donating or buying at the picnic; made monetary donations or volunteered to work. Your help made a difference and it is greatly appreciated.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Covenant Responsibility

There is a theme in today's readings that we do not like to face. Although the fundamental image of God is one of mercy and compassion, we cannot disregard the fact of judgment. The prophet Amos pronounces a woe against his own people. Abraham declares between us and you a great chasm is established. As we move closer to the end of the Liturgical Year, we are reminded of this judgment at the end of time. Judgment will be determined not primarily in terms of our obedience to law but in view of our fidelity to covenant commitment.

The readings are held up before us so we can compare our sense of covenant with that of the people portrayed within them. Unlike the people depicted in last Sunday's readings, those in the readings today are not accused of dishonest behavior. They are not guilty of sins of commission. They are guilty of sins of omission, sins that flow from a covenant relationship with others. How do we measure up in this regard?

LAST CALL - 2017 AT HOME WITH THE WORD

To foster full, conscious, and active participation in the Sunday Liturgy all parishioners are encouraged to prepare for the celebration. One way of getting ready for the Mass is to reflect on the liturgical readings at home. You realize that the *Breaking Bread Books* do not have the readings so copies of *At Home With The Word* are ordered for all those who sign up for them. A copy is \$8 but if you fill in the form below and return it in the collection basket or mail you get a copy for free.



2017 At Home With The Word

Yes, I use the booklet. Order me a copy.

Name _____