

September 17, 2017

Ordinary Time
Twenty-fourth Sunday



"forgive your
brother or sister
from your heart."

How Many Times?

Last Sunday, we reflected on how we must act towards others, who persists in sin by way of taking up the cross and following Jesus. Today it is about forgiving as God forgives, without counting.

Jesus as God never measures mercy or limits forgiveness, and just as Jesus held nothing back but gave himself fully and freely for others so are the forgiven to extend mercy and forgiveness to others.

2017 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2017 Assessment	\$7,670.00
Contributions So Far	\$ 4,375.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 3,295.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- Bea & Rudy Patek*
- Gayle & Steven Hill*
- Ernest Chaloupka, Jr.*
- Rosemary & Arthur Klekar*

Do please consider making a donation.

**St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund
Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha**



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

- In Memory of Henry Joe Henke*
- Geralyn & Charles Klmitchek - \$25*

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

ALTAR FLOWER BOOKINGS AVAILABLE

September 23/24

September 30/October 1

October 7/8, 14/15, 21/22 & 28/29



Do you want to donate flowers for the Altar? You could do this in memory of a loved one, or an anniversary date or for any occasion. To sign up contact Lori Janecka (Altar Society President) or call the Parish Office.

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 Family*
- To All My Family*
- For Helen Goleskie*
- For Ruben Velasquez*
- For Justine Velasquez*
- For Caroline Jenysen*
- Special Intention for Family*
- For PoPo & His Navy Buddies*
- Prayers For Recovery of Michael M.*
- For Love & Respect From My Daughter*
- For Return of Love, Charity & Patience*
- For My Siblings to Stay In Good Health & Prosper*
- For Good Health For Husband & Myself In Our Golden Years*
- So That Our Son & Brother My Have Everlasting Life*
- For Maria R.'s Leg To Get Better & Spirits Brighter*
- After Loss of Mother & Husband*
- For George Rincon, Patrick Bruha, Herminia Rodriguez,*
- Stephanie Rodriguez*
- Please Keep Our Family Happy & Bring Our*
- Husband/Father Home*

- Votive Candle Intentions to be continued

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, September 23
4:30 p.m. Ceceila "Sissy" Hajek
Sunday, September 24
8:00 a.m. The Deceased of the Charlie J. Lev Family

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy

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

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Responsorial Psalm: 145

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a

REFLECTION

Today's parable and Jesus' words that we should forgive "seventy-seven times" have frequently been misinterpreted to mean that when one has been wronged, forgiveness is the most noble and the most Christian response. But this story about forgiveness is also one about power, and to separate the issue from the practice of forgiveness is to misunderstand the point of this parable.

The Kingdom of Heaven is likened here to a king who wishes to collect his due from his servants. To be a king, in biblical times, was to hold the most powerful position possible, while to be a debtor was to be in the most precarious and vulnerable position possible. A debtor, along with his family, could lawfully be sold into slavery and tortured if he could not pay his debt. Concisely, then, this is a parable about two powerful people being wronged by two vulnerable people. And its message is that forgiveness is hierarchial.

Forgiveness is a grace that is extended from God to God's petitioners, and it is supposed to be given from God's petitioners to their debtors and passed along in a similar fashion. In other words, people who have power should forgive those with less power, and not the other way around. The king who chose to absolve his servant was faithful, while the servant who punished his debtor was not.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



September 17 – Michael Moeller
September 19 – Judie Lev
September 23 – Larry Prause

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



September 23 – Doris & Jerome Kalina

AT HOME WITH THE WORD 2018

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. 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, drop slot or mail it in by September 24, you get a copy for free.

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2018 At Home With The Word

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

Name _____

MOULTON CHURCH PICNIC

Today, September 17
The Hall At Moulton Oaks
(Former K.C. Hall)

Open Air Mass 10:00 a.m. at the City Park



FRIED CHICKEN & STEW DINNER
\$9.00 Per Plate
Begins at 10:30 a.m.
Drive-thru plates-to-go and meat-to-go available.

Train Ride, Ball Throw
Fish Pond, Ring Toss

Hamburgers, Sno-cones
Popcorn, and more...

Cake Walk, Plant Walk
Country Store

AUCTION

1:00 p.m.
Livestock, quilts, hand-made items

DRAWING

Grand Prize
\$5,000.00 Gift Certificate

St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Moulton, Texas Picnic Always Third Sunday of September

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK



Being Forgiven

Today we have yet another example of how disciples must give what they have been given. The gospel suggests that nothing another owes us can compare with what we owe God. If God has been so generous in forgiving us, surely we can be generous in forgiving others. How many times must we be willing to forgive? As many times as God is willing to forgive us. If we cannot forgive others, perhaps we have not been transformed by God's forgiveness of us. It may be we have not yet been transformed enough. The process of becoming a forgiving person takes time. For some it may take a lifetime. Only little by little are our pettiness and indignation reduced and our desire to strike back diminished. Perhaps we need to be forgiven seventy-seven times before we can forgive once, but as disciples we are expected to give the forgiveness we have been given.

Cistern Picnic

Rescheduled for October 8th.