July 24, 2016
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time *(C)*

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

We celebrated the feast of St. Mary Magdalene on Friday, July 22. The key word is "Feast". Before the recent change, her Mass was designated a "Memorial". Weekday Masses in honor of the saints are designated either a "Memorial" or a "memorial". If it is a "Memorial" then elements proper to the saint must be inserted in the Mass e.g. introductory prayer, preface, color of vestments (usually white) etc. if it is a "memorial" the priest has the option not to include them. The vestments are usually green. Moving from a "Memorial" to a "Feast" is very significant liturgically. Only the Apostles, Evangelists (Mark and Luke) two deacons (Stephen and Lawrence) and Archangels (Michael, Gabriel and Raphael) rate a "Feast". The many celebrations of Mary, the mother of God, are "Feasts".

Mary Magdalene received this honor because she was a disciple of Jesus, was present at His crucifixion, and according to Mark was the first to witness his Resurrection (an "apostle to the apostles"). It is now generally agreed that she was not the sinful woman of Lk.7-36. Besides Mary, the mother of Jesus, she is the first woman to receive this honor. Her new status will certainly influence the discussion about the possibility of ordaining deaconesses in the Catholic Church.

Many thanks again to the members of our Hispanic community who worked for six hours last Sunday to make our church interior sparkling clean, e.g. removing the dust from the Stations of the Cross, polishing all the beautiful wood pews and choir lofts in the church and chapel, etc.

COLLECTION: **the collection for last Sunday July 17, 2016 was $3,276.00**
The second collection this Sunday July 24, 2016 will our collection to help with the cost of the electricity and air conditioning of the Church
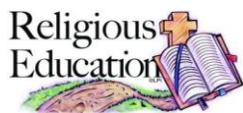
Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: **Today's readings underscore the power of a good relationship with the Lord our God. Would it have been possible for Abraham to bargain with God for the Lives of the people in Sodom and Gomorrah had he not already known God well? And how can we call God Father unless we are personally familiar with the Lord? Today's readings invite us to examine our relationship with God.**

First Reading: *Genesis 18:20-32 (page65) –* Abraham pleads for the life of the innocent; he will discover how boundless the merciful ways of God are.

Responsorial Psalm: *Psalm 138 (page 66) -* *"Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me"*

Second Reading *Colossians 2:12-14(page 66-67) –* Paul reminds us of faith and Baptism; this sacrament joins us to Christ in his death and resurrection.

Gospel: *Luke 11:1-13 (page 67) –***Jesus** teaches his disciples how to pray boldly and to pray with perseverance.

Religious Education News:
Registration for Religious Education 2016-2017 school years has begun and will continue until August 20, 2016 from Mondays to Thursdays from 9am to 1pm and Saturdays from 9:30am to 12:30pm; New Parents to the Program please bring:

❖ **Birth Certificates**
❖ **Baptismal Certificates**
❖ **Copy of First Holy Communion Certificates**
        (For 1st year confirmation students)
❖ **Two Small Photos of your Child**
Returning Parents will need to reregister their children again for the coming year.

Program Fees:
- **Cost for one Child: $95.00**
- **Cost for two Children (***Brother/Sister only***): $160.00**
- **Cost for three Children (***Brother/Sister only***): $195.00**
- **Cost for Four Children (***Brother/ Sister only***): $185.00**
- **Sacrament Fee for Fist Holy Communion (***in addition for each child***):$75.00**
- **Sacrament Fee for Confirmation (***Children in 8th Grade; in addition for each child***) $95.00**

Msgr. Corrigan's Book on the History of our Parish: Is on sale in the rectory Monday to Friday and Saturday and Sunday after the Masses. The cost of the book is $30.00 as a Donation to the Church. If you would like it mailed to you there is an additional $5.00 fee for the postage.