

FROM FR. MARK SEIKER ... Sept. 12, 2021

NEW Parish Picture Directory ... at the Parish Council meeting on August 12, 2021, it was decided that we would begin working with **Unique Church Solutions** (a Picture Directory Company from Mansfield Ohio) to produce a Parish Picture Directory for our Parishes. We have tentatively scheduled them to come to take pictures in November (tentative dates are: **Nov. 15-17** and **Nov. 22-23**). **(Please note the changed Tentative dates ... Fr. Seiker was looking at the wrong month's calendar!)** Pictures will be taken at both St. Mary Parish Hall and St. Joseph Parish Hall. Specific locations, days and times, will be available later. Please plan to be a part of our Parish Picture Directory.

Sound System at St. Mary Church ... a number of parishioners and Parish Council members are concerned with the sporadic and very annoying loud static that comes from our Sound System. Andrew Ostdiek (one of the Parish Council members) and Father Seiker are in the process of contacting various contractors to ask their input and assistance in improving the Sound System at St. Mary Church. The main sound system rack was installed between 7 – 10 years ago (*or maybe even before that*), and then various components have been added to the system over the years. As we learn more about options and/or ways to repair and/or improve the sound system at St. Mary Church, we will keep you informed.

New Wireless Microphone ... has been purchased personally by Father Mark Seiker, so that it can be used at St. Mary Church, at St. Joseph Church, and other locations where Father Mark Seiker might need a wireless microphone. This way the parishes do not have to purchase two microphones. A microphone very similar to this has been used in other Churches and locations by Father Seiker. Because everything is contained in one bag, all that is necessary is to plug the AC wire into an AC outlet and the microphone wire into a microphone jack. Hopefully this will assist people in better hearing the Word of God during Mass.

WORD AMONG US ... Copies of the Word Among Us (*a monthly publication with Daily Meditations and Articles on the Faith*) are available on the table outside Classroom D (Navy's Office) for FREE!

NEW VACUUMS ... Two (*one for St. Mary Church & Hall, and one for St. Joseph Church & Hall*) new commercial Vacuums have been ordered through Catholic Purchasing Services. The Vacuums are Windsor Versamatic HEPA 18 Dual Motor Upright Vacuums, at of total cost of \$1,926.61 [which includes \$163.93 shipping for both].

SAFETY TIPS ... 20% of all fatal accidents involve automobiles. 17% of all accidents happen at home. 15% of all accidents involve pedestrians. 16% of all accidents happen on airplanes, trains, or boats. Only .001% of all fatal accidents happen in Church!

RCIA Classes ... Fr. Mark Seiker will be leading an RCIA process (Inquiry class in the Faith) **beginning Sept. 13, 2021** until a few weeks after Easter (mid May 2022). After visiting with the Parish Council and checking schedules, it has been decided that RCIA Classes will be held on **Mondays (beginning September 13, 2021) in the Parish Hall from 7:00pm – 9:00pm.** These classes are open to Catholics and non-Catholics alike. For Catholics, it is a good opportunity to learn more about your faith. If you are interested call the Rectory or see Father Mark Seiker. Begin praying and thinking about persons that you want to invite to study our faith with you. Our faith is to be treasured, preserved, and lived, but it is also to be shared ... share your faith with a friend by coming with your friend to these RCIA classes. **It would be great to have a Full Hall!**

It is always better to participate in the RCIA classes in person. However, if you have some challenging schedules, it would be possible to participate in the RCIA through the ZOOM software (either on a computer or your phone ... however, it will be easier to see the presentation on a computer screen than on a phone). **The ZOOM information will remain the same for the whole year of RCIA: Meeting ID: 629 734 5912; Passcode: RCIA2021.**

Fr. Mark Seiker Gone from the Parishes ...

Priest Study Day ... On Tue., Sept. 14, there is a Priest Study Day at St. Gregory the Great Seminary (*Noon–6:00pm*).

Cursillo International ZOOM Meeting ... On Friday (Sept. 17) evening, and Saturday (Sept. 18) all day (*9:00am–8:00pm*), I will be participating in a Cursillo International ZOOM meeting. I will be in the Rectory for this ZOOM meeting, however, because of the timing of the talks and the schedule, I will NOT be able to be available for the 4:00pm Confessions and the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, Sept. 18. Fr. John Rooney (a Lincoln Diocesan Priest) will be here for Confessions and Mass on Saturday, Sept. 18. Please welcome him. I will be here for Confessions and Masses on Sunday, September 19.

Cursillo Grand Ultreya ... on Sunday, Sept. 19, from 12:30pm – 4:00pm in St. Mary Parish Hall. The Spanish word “Ultreya” means “Onward”. The Ultreya is a gathering of friends to encourage each other to continue living the Faith, through prayer, study, and telling others about Jesus.

DAILY MASS CAN HELP YOU ... to avoid temptation and sin; to find peace amid the trials of life; to grow in the love of God; to thank God for all His blessings; to obtain protection against all dangers; to gain the favors of which you stand in need; to shorten the purgatory of your dear departed ones. --Richard Cardinal Cushing.

Religious training of our youth is essential ... Parents are the first teachers of their children. Sometimes parents bring their children to CCD but fail to attend Sunday Mass. This gives our children a terribly “mixed signal” and almost undoes all that the children are taught in classes. Please parents! Give your children a chance not only to know about God, but also to experience His love as we pray and worship Him on Sundays.