

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

With the beginning of the school year, the activity level at a parish tends to pick up. There are more meetings to attend, more activities to be a part of, just more of everything. Unfortunately, there is still one of me.

At the liturgy committee meeting last evening I mentioned that the Pastoral Planning Process of the Diocese isn't over. We are in a stage of enacting the first steps of the process. There are many more to come.

One of the thoughts that led to the onset of the Pastoral Planning Process was because of the declining number of priests, what is the best way to use our priestly assets? Behind that question was a desire to relieve some of the pressure on priests. That desire really hasn't been addressed because most priests will tell you they have more work now than they did before the Planning Process began.

If we are to be realistic and look around the Diocese, we will notice that cities of comparable size to Warren are seeing their parishes partnered and the number of priests further reduced. For example, Bradford which had three parishes and two pastors, now has partnered parishes with one pastor and a senior associate. Meadville had three parishes with two pastors and now has three partnered parishes with one pastor and one associate. DuBois which had two parishes, one of which was already partnered, has shrunk to two partnered parishes and one pastor. The obvious question then is, can the partnering of St. Joes and Holy Redeemer be very far away?

As the number of priests in the diocese continues to decline, the Planning Process will continue. We cannot be naïve that the next round won't have a very significant impact upon us. That means we need to begin thinking about how we can accomplish a further joining of the Catholic community in Warren county liturgically, catechetically, and sacramentally.

Fr. Rick

THE SAINT JOSEPH PARISH PICNIC is Sept. 10th at Betts Park. There will be a 10:30am Mass followed by a picnic. **Please bring lawn chairs for Mass and a dish to pass for the picnic.** Hamburgers, hot dogs, lemonade, water and table service will be provided. Alcohol is permitted, if you would like to BYOB. There will be entertainment and fun for all. **Signup sheets are at the entrances of St. Joseph and St. Luke Churches.**

****SECOND COLLECTION****

THE US CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS has asked each diocese to take up an emergency **SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE VICTIMS OF HURRICANE HARVEY.** Our brothers and sisters in the affected areas desperately need our prayerful and financial support. Catholic Charities USA will be the agency providing this assistance to those affected, and we ask you to please give as generously as you can to today's second collection.

"THE GIFT: A "LIFE IN THE SPIRIT" COURSE" Beginning Friday night, Sept. 8th, and ending Saturday afternoon, Sept. 9th, this course in the Holy Spirit will be offered at St. Paul Center, St. Anthony Church, Sheffield. The course includes six sessions: 1. The Father's Loving Plan, 2. The Joy of the Gospel, 3. The Gift of the Spirit, 4. Unwrapping God's Gift, 5. Encountering God's Spirit, and 6. Living in the Spirit. If you have questions or would like to register, please call Lil Herbstritt of St. Anthony's at 968-3208 or call the Holy Redeemer office at 723-4222. Fliers are at all entrances to the Church.

CCY PIE BOOTH at the Wildwind Art Festival on September 10th. If you can donate fruit or volunteer to help make pies or work a shift at the booth please call Jenn @ 688-3842 or Kathy @ 723-2090 ext. 14. **Thank you for your continued support of our Saint Joseph Parish youth.**

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION The Fall Schedule will begin on Thursday, September 14th., with Eucharist Adoration beginning after the 12:05 Mass and continue to 7:15pm. Night Prayer and Benediction will follow. All are Welcome! Call Becky Harper at 726-2849 with questions or if you would like to become a regular or substitute adorer. Here are the words of Saint Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa): **"Nowhere on earth are you more welcomed, nowhere on earth are you more loved, than by Jesus, living and truly present in the Most Blessed Sacrament. The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is the best time that you will spend on earth."**

THE 2017 CATHOLIC EDUCATION COLLECTION will take place on September 16th & 17th. One half of this collection stays here at Saint Joseph Parish to help support our own religious education programs. Thank you for your prayers and continued generosity.

GOLF SCRAMBLE: ST. JOSEPH GOLF SCRAMBLE IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER! Get your foursome together for a day of fun and fellowship. This year's tournament will be held on **September 17th at Jackson Valley Country Club with a 1:00pm shotgun start.** Not a golfer but want to donate? **Monetary and in-kind donations gladly accepted.** All proceeds benefit St. Joseph Catholic School. For further information please contact Scott Nelson at bergenryleigh@yahoo.com or 706-8062. To register your team complete the form below and return it with your check to the St. Joseph Parish Office.

Tournament fee is \$75 per person or \$300 per team (this includes green fees, cart, lunch, beverages and dinner)

Make Checks Payable to St. Joseph Catholic School

Team Members:

1. _____

2. _____

Captain—Phone # _____

3. _____

4. _____

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, 9/3 **Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**
 8:45am Mass at St. Luke Church for the People
 10:30am Fran Baczkowski by Blair & Pam Smoulder

Monday, 9/4 **Labor Day ***St. Joseph Church*****
 9:00am Paul Pollack by Donna & Doug Hoffman

Tuesday, 9/5 **Weekday**
 12:05pm Mickey Colgrove by Ann & Jerry Wortman

Wednesday, 9/6 **Weekday**
 9:05am Katie Rooney by Family ***School Mass***
 2:00pm **Mass @ The Rouse Home** Walter & Treva Dale
 By Doris Dale

Thursday, 9/7 **Weekday**
 12:05pm Tom Cappello by F. Palmer Lindblom

Friday, 9/8 **Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary**
 8:00am James Graziano by The Molinaro Family

Saturday, 9/9 **St. Peter Claver, Priest**
 5:30pm Joan DeStefano by The Carl DeStefano Family

Sunday, 9/10 *****Parish Mass & Picnic at Betts Park*****
 8:45am Mass @ St. Luke Church M/M Joseph Kwiatkowski by
 M A Morgan
 10:30am Living & Deceased Parishioners of St. Joseph Church

LITURGICAL MINISTRY SCHEDULES

	<u>Lector</u>	<u>Extraordinary Ministers</u>	<u>Altar Servers</u>
9/9 5:30pm	L Suppa	J & P Rickert, *J Sabat, R Sharp, *K Weigel, G & P Peck	S Walker M Walker L Walker
9/10 10:30am	K Jones	*R & P Osche, T Grana, 4 Volunteers	S Johnson L Johnson

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLES in Memory of
 John & Jean Baker by
 Debi & Fred Martin

Weekly Donations - August 27th - \$6611.50
 Thank you for your continued generosity!

VOCATIONS ICON

We would like to thank **The Ressler Family** for taking the Vocations Icon this week and praying for an increase in vocations here at St. Joseph Catholic Church.

HELPING HANDS

ITEMS NEEDED IN SEPTEMBER

LAUNDRY SOAP, DISH DETERGENT, CLOROX WIPES, TOILET PAPER, AND PAPER TOWELS WILL BE COLLECTED during the month of **September for the Salvation Army**. Please continue to check the Helping Hands bulletin board for new items needed. Contact the Parish Office for information or questions @ 723-2090.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday 1 Thes 4:13-18 ; Gospel Luke 4:16-30
Tuesday 1 Thes 5:1-6,9-11 Gospel Luke 4:31-37
Wednesday Colossians 1:1-8; Gospel Luke 4:38-44
Thursday Colossians 1:9-14; Gospel Luke 5:1-11
Friday Micah 5:1-4a; Gospel Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23
Saturday Colossians 1:21-23; Gospel Luke 6:1-5
Sunday Ezekiel 33:7-9, Romans 13:8-10, Gospel Matthew 18:15-20

THIS WEEK'S SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, September 3 *****Second Collection for Victims of Hurricane Harvey*****
 8:45am Mass @ St. Luke Church
 10:30am Mass

Monday, September 4 *****Labor Day*****
 9:00am Mass @ St. Joseph Church
 Parish Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5
 12:05pm Mass
 4:30pm Soup Kitchen
 6:00pm Pastoral Council Meeting (Boardroom)

Wednesday, September 6
 9:05am School Mass

Thursday, September 7
 12:05pm Mass
 12:30pm Adoration
 5:30pm Reposition of The Blessed Sacrament
 7:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting (Meyer Hall)

Friday, September 8
 8:00am Mass

Saturday, September 9
 4:30pm to 5:15pm Reconciliation
 5:30pm Mass

Sunday, September 10 *****Parish Mass & Picnic*****
 8:45am Mass @ St. Luke Church
 10:30am Mass @ Betts Park (Bring a Lawn Chair)
 Parish Picnic @ Betts Park

SAINT JOSEPH CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Did you know that the Catholic School climate, mission, and purpose positively impact student achievement, and attendance? (Bryk, LeeVe & Holland, 1993). If you or your children want to send your/their child/ren to St. Joseph Catholic School, please call the school at 814-723-2030. We have open enrollment.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

Mark E Donick, D.D.S.

General Dentistry

723-3454

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Please thank them.