



Dear Parishioners,

This week the architectural plans for our new Religious Education building will go out for bid to seven general contractors. Their bids will be due to the architect towards the end of July. Also, the lots that we own have to be replatted since the new building would straddle two of our current lots. Hence the lot upon which the church and rectory currently sit will be reconfigured to include all of the new building and the portion brought into this will have to receive the same zoning as that of the current church/rectory lot. The Springfield Planning Commission will have a hearing July 9 and this will go before the Springfield City Council on August 6. Ken Patry, our chair for our parish finance council, is working on procuring for us the best financing for the construction loan and the permanent financing of the amount that we need to borrow beyond the funds we have on hand. If the bids come in favorably, if all goes well with procuring all the necessary permissions and permits from the city, and if we procure the financing, then the current estimate is that we probably will be able to break ground by the end of August. Of course once all of these things come together, before construction begins, you will be provided at weekend Masses and in the bulletin all the pertinent information concerning the final architectural plans, which contractor has been chosen, and the financing plan. So, please continue to pray that all goes smoothly to bring all these things together in order that we can get this project started that will benefit our children and youth.

Also, concerning the religious education of our children and our youth, I ask that you pray for a couple of events that occur during July. From July 15-19, our eighth and ninth graders who will receive the sacrament of Confirmation on August 11 will be gathering each afternoon for their final formation classes. Then, the following week, July 21-26, we will again this year provide the Totus Tuus program, a special

week of intensive, yet fun, catechesis for our children and youth that has been developed by the Archdiocese and that is presented by seminarians and college students. Youth and children can still register for Totus Tuus and please note other announcements concerning it that are in the bulletin. So, please pray for our children and youth that they be touched powerfully by the Holy Spirit with special graces during these opportunities for them to grow in faith.

Have a grace-filled and wonderful week.

God bless, Fr. Gutowski

*Mass Intentions for the Week*

**JULY 8 THRU JULY 14**

Monday	Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Priest's Intention
Wednesday	Anne Boro
Thursday	Priest's Intention
Friday	Loretta Patry
Saturday	Angie Sokol
Sunday	People of St. Joseph



**July 7**

**14th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**"Peace to this household." Luke 10:5**

**Good News Reflection**

July 7, 2013

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 66:10-14c

Ps 66:1-7, 16, 20

Gal 6:14-18

Luke 10:1-12, 17-20

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus tells his disciples to ask the "Master" (God the Father) of the "harvest" (conversion to Christ) to send out more "laborers" (evangelizers). And in the next breath, he tells them that they are the laborers and that they must get busy: "Go on your way," he says.

When you think of evangelizers in the Catholic Church, who comes to mind first? Most people think of priests, and we all know that we need more priests. New vocations in Western societies are still way too few to compensate for the elderly ones who are retiring and dying.

Do you pray for an increase of vocations? Good, but that's only part of what Jesus is asking us to do. "Go on your way," he says to all of us, "and use your gifts, your talents, and your skills to assist in the harvest.

Jesus has always been collaborative. The number of laborers for the mission of the Church will only be sufficient when we all join the effort – clergy, religious, and laity – working together with our separate and unique talents and skills, humbly assisting each other as members of the same team.

To reach this sufficiency, many of us have to overcome the "someone else will take care of it" attitude. Others have to overcome the desire for perfection, the "I can take care of it better myself" attitude, which robs others of the opportunity to serve.

Many of us need to overcome the fear of losing control, the "I must tell others how to do their job" attitude, which chases away some very talented laborers. Jesus said we should carry no supplies into ministry; in other words: We should accept whatever is offered to us.

Our prayers for an increase of consecrated vocations are answered from within collaborative ministry. Clergy and religious are called to be good role models, which will attract new vocations, but the laity are called to serve God with the same zeal and holiness that we expect from priests, because out of families who serve come the holy priests and religious who serve.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

Which ministries in your parish and diocese are lacking sufficient laborers? If you're not already busy in the work of God's kingdom, how can you use your talents to help there? If you're already serving enthusiastically, how can you encourage others to get involved?

**Questions for Family & Community Faith Sharing:**

Name some of the attitudes and obstacles that block the spirit of collaboration. How can these be overcome? What will you do to improve the conditions of the mission field so that more people will get involved?

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