



Dear Parishioners,

It was inspiring to see our children and youth to be the first to take the shovels to turn the dirt at the building site during the blessing and groundbreaking ceremony for our new religious education center last Sunday. What a wonderful moment in the history of St. Joseph's Parish! I want to thank all who made this event a success: the members of the parish council, especially Ted Boro, council president, for his updating parishioners at Masses on the project, and the members of our finance council, especially Tim Ihry who developed the presentation board with thermometer for us to see the progress of collecting the funds for the project. Further, I thank Ken Patry for providing the update on the finances of the project at Masses this weekend. Finally, thank you to all of you who have so generously contributed to our building fund thus far and who will do so in the future. What a priceless legacy we are creating for our children and youth to have the facility that will provide the optimum environment for their religious education!

On another note, as the national chaplain for the Catholic Medical Association, this coming week and weekend I will be out of town at their national meeting and conference. Fr. Swanson and priests from Mount Michael Abby will be here as celebrants for the Masses.

Have a grace-filled and blessed week.

God bless you, Fr. Gutowski

**OCT. 21 THRU OCT. 27**

Monday	Priest's Intention
Tuesday	Priest's Intention
Wednesday	Priest's Intention
Thursday	Patricia Stimmel
Friday	Helen Stepanek
Saturday	Doreen Amerine
Sunday	People of St. Joseph

**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

Please save your Box Tops for Education labels from your food items at home as well as your HyVee receipts dated September 1 through December 31. The school will get \$1 for every \$200 of receipts collected. The money will be used to support the after school Destination Imagination program. There is a small canister on the table in the vestibule.

**HEARTLAND CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONFERENCE**

Join us Saturday, Nov. 2 for the 3rd Annual Heartland Catholic Women's Conference: Women at the Well, at the Harper Center on the Creighton University Campus. This year's conference will feature Sherry Weddell, Crystalina Evert, and others. Mass will be celebrated by Dr. Francis Valerio. This conference will focus on conversion and discipleship through encounter with Jesus Christ in prayer, Sacred Scripture, and the Eucharist. For more information call 402-557-- 5610.

**TURKEY & HAM DINNER**

**Sunday, October 27**

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**

**Manley, NE**

**11:00 -1:00**

**Adults: \$7.50, Children under 12: \$3.50**

**Under 5: Free, Takeouts: \$8.00**

**Raffle-Prize Wheel-Country Store**

**Good News Reflection**

October 20, 2013

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exodus 17:8-13

Psalm 121:1-8

2 Tim 3:14 – 4:2

Luke 18:1-8

In this Sunday's Gospel reading, God promises to secure the rights of his faithful ones who seek his justice. When we're abused, neglected, rejected, abandoned, or falsely accused, God comes to our rescue. And speedily, he says! What? He's not helping you fast enough? Is he breaking his promise with you?

Although God often seems way too slow, whether it takes months or years (and it often does) before your problem gets resolved, Jesus is in fact at your side immediately delivering you from evil, in the very moment you begin to cry out to him.

The real question is not "Where is Jesus?" nor "Why doesn't he care enough to help me sooner?" The question that matters – for the healing of our souls – is stated in the last sentence of this Gospel passage: As he's arriving to help us, do we greet him with faith? Or is fear spinning our minds in such turmoil that we don't see him as he stands right next to us offering a helping hand?

If we're not living by faith, we inadvertently expand our problems. Are you feeling miserable after calling upon God for help? Look! Jesus is at your side begging for your trust. Are you feeling frustrated because God is not removing the obstacles you're facing? Look! Jesus wants you to follow him in a direction that's different than where you think you should go.

We all have adversaries. Jesus is wielding his sword of truth against the spirits of darkness who are working against you; he is driving them away. But if we reject the truth he wields, his sword is of no help to us.

What about the troublemakers who continually annoy you? When our eyes are on them instead of on Jesus, we miss the healing embrace that he's offering to us as vindication.

When we live by faith, we experience God's vindication every day, even while injustices continue. We experience it in our hearts as we receive his peace and his patience and his endurance.

**Questions for Personal Reflection:**

What injustices are frustrating you today? What evil is being done against you? What will you do right now to be a faith-filled follower of Christ? What action will you take to conquer your fears and choose to give God your trust?

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

Describe an injustice that you recently witnessed or experienced. What shocked and dismayed you the most about it? What is fearsome about it? And what does trust for the Lord encourage you to believe about it?

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