



Dear Parishioners,

The holy day of obligation of All Saints is on this coming Friday. Masses to fulfill the obligation of attending Mass will be at 6:00 PM on Thursday, October 31st, and at 8:00 AM and 7:00 PM on Friday, November 1st. We remember on this feast day not only the known canonized saints but also all who are in heaven. The saints are our great intercessors before the Lord and are the models of holiness that we are challenged to imitate. The saints are truly our "friends in high places" who lovingly look after us and who encourage us to know the salvation of our Lord by being his faithful disciples.

Further, Saturday, October 2nd, is All Souls Day on which we remember and pray for the faithful departed who are undergoing final purification before they can enter into heaven. It is our responsibility to pray for the souls in Purgatory, especially for our relatives who have died. On October 2nd, there will be a 10:00 AM Mass offered for all of the deceased of our parish and all of our deceased loved ones. At this Mass a commemorative votive candle will be lit for each deceased parishioner of St. Joseph Parish. If there are any deceased loved ones whom you want to be remembered at this Mass and enrolled in our Book of the Deceased that is displayed in church during the month of November, please put these names on the sheets in the entry area of church or give the to Sharon Van Tassel or me.

Have a wonderful and grace-filled week.

God bless you, Fr. Gutowski

OCT. 28 THRU NOV. 3

Monday		Ron Kleinschmidt
Tuesday		JoAnn Hrabek
Wednesday		Priest's Intention
Thursday	8 a.m.	Matthew Hilleman
	6 p.m.	Priest's Intention
Friday	8 a.m.	People of St. Joseph
	7 p.m.	Eugene Emanuel
Saturday		Lloyd Royal
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.

STEPHENS' CENTER

Thanks to Bob & Susanne Carmichael and Tim & Diane Ihry for preparing and serving the dinner at the Stephens' Center this past week.

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?

© 2013 Terry Modica, Catholic Digital Resources, www.catholicdr.com. Printed by permission.

To view or subscribe to daily Good News Reflections, visit www.gnm.org.