

Focusing the gospel

Keys are central to readings for the Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time. The first reading from Isaiah offers the story of the faithful servant Eliakim, who will be given the keys for his master's palace. Paul's brief reading from the Letter to the Romans is a moving prayer filled with awe at the depth and unknowing ways of our Lord. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus asks his followers what people are saying about him. Then he asks the real question, "Who do *you* say I am?" Peter's direct answer, "You are the Christ" prompts Jesus' reply that Peter would be given the keys to the kingdom of heaven and would be the rock upon which his church would be built.

This week we have the Memorial of St. Augustine and the Memorial of the Passion of John the Baptist.

The first readings this week are from Paul's First Letter to the Thessalonians, the oldest book in the New Testament. The letters are affectionate and frank reminders of the humiliation and challenges that Paul met in preaching to this community he loved so much. These readings are a wonderful reminder that the letters of Paul were just that - letters to teach, encourage and support early communities of Christians.

Matthew's Gospel this week includes stories of Jesus strongly challenging the Pharisees. He saw how they made people's lives so difficult by their insistence on the rules and appearances while neglecting mercy and good faith. He chides them for paying attention to the extraneous and not the message: "Blind guides, who strain out the gnat and swallow the camel!" His criticism grows stronger: "On the outside you appear righteous, but inside you are filled with hypocrisy and evildoing." Jesus teaches about preparation: Stay awake! For you do not know on which day your Lord will come. "In the parable of the ten maidens who go out to meet the bridegroom, many of the women did not prepare for the meeting and do not have enough oil for their lamps and Jesus says again, "Stay awake." Saturday's gospel is the dramatic story of the three servants who are given resources by their master and rewarded or punished for what they did with the resources they had.

Weekly Guide for Daily Prayer" on Creighton University's Online Ministries Website: <http://www.creighton.edu/collaborativeministry/prayer>. Used with permission.

"Oh Come Let Us Adore Him."

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"...In this world I cannot see the Most High Son of God with my own eyes, except for His Most Holy Body and Blood."- St. Francis of Assisi

Volunteers needed for the following hours:

Sunday - 2 a.m.

Monday - 9 a.m., 7 & 8 p.m.

Tuesday - 8 a.m.

Wednesday - 7 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Friday - 6 p.m.

Saturday - 1 a.m., 2 a.m., 6 p.m. & 9 p.m.

For more details, call Jana at 945-5379.

Please Remember In Prayer:

Sr. Lucille Kerschen
Juanita Mans
Jim Ridder
Sue Warren
Regina Gaytan
Jim Monroe
Leroy Nedeau
Ruth Freund
Joan Kandt
Peggy Bowen
Doug Howell
Betty Sherlock
Dorothy Dotterer



Nancy Smith
Nell Ball
Doug Stuhlsatz
Don Williams
Tim Chadd

Rolly Chadd
Vernie Bloch
Dave Rohlman
Sandy Gleeson
Jim Flanigan
Sarah Bigley
Jeff Dyer
Tim Holden
JoAnn Heimerman
Patricia Ardissonne
+Leo Hamersky



United in Prayer

St. Joseph Family

Rosary Crusade

11,440 decades prayed

Please join us in praying for our parish families and the poor souls. Decade cards are available in the vestibule of the church.

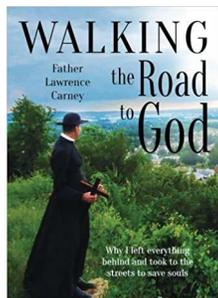
Weekly Readings

- Mon. 08/28: 1Thes 1:1-10, Ps 149:1-9, Mt 23:13-22
- Tues. 08/29: 1Thes 2:1-8, Ps 139:1-6, Mk 6:17-29
- Wed. 08/30: 1Thes 2:9-13, Ps 139:7-12, Mt 23:27-32
- Thur. 08/31: 1Thes 3:7-13, Ps 90:3-17, Mt 24:42-51
- Fri. 09/01: 1Thes 4:1-8, Ps 97:1-12, Mt 25:1-13
- Sat. 09/02: 1Thes 4:9-11, Ps 98:1-9, Mt 25:14-30
- Sun. 09/03: Jer 20:7-9, Ps 63:2-9, Rom 12:1-2, Mt 16:21-27

Thank you for your gift of treasure! July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

Weekly Collection 8/20/2017	\$14,528.50
Weekly tithe amount needed	\$13,483.09
Surplus or (Deficit) YTD	(\$7,241.31)
CMI Fund	\$5975.00
2017-2018 Fiscal Year	
Roof & Climate Control Repairs (cost so far this fiscal year)	(\$4,923.00)
CMI Balance	\$1052.00
<i>(Campus Maintenance & Improvement Fund)</i>	

Who are you following? The question is not unrelated to the one Jesus asks in today's Gospel: Who do people say that the Son of Man is? Surely we would all say that we are following Jesus, but who do you say that Jesus is? If you can't answer that question, then perhaps you do not know Him that well. Stewardship requires that we know, love, and serve our Lord, and those terms are properly ordered. Before we can love or serve Him, we must first know Him. So as followers of Jesus Christ, let us strive to know Him well in the hope that we can one day be with Him for eternity.



Fr. Carney's Book Available

"Walking the Road to God" is available for \$10.43 in the parish office or by calling Jana Schoen at 945-5379. This book follows Father Carney's encounters as he makes his "Rosary Walks" throughout different cities. It is a beautiful book full of thoughtful insight and poignant lessons about the importance of praying for souls.

Holy Mass Schedule & Intentions

- Monday, August 28
Saint Augustine
8:15 a.m. Mass +Harold Benham
- Tuesday, August 29
The Passion of Saint John the Baptist
6:00 p.m. Mass +Richard Stump
- Wednesday, August 30
8:15 a.m. Mass +Alice Mertens
- Thursday, August 31
8:15 a.m. Mass +Bob Binter
- First Friday, September 1
8:15 a.m. Mass +Simon Carazas Leon
6:00 p.m. Mass of Healing +Winnie Love Simon
- First Saturday, September 2
8:15 a.m. Mass - Respect Life
4:00 p.m. Mass - S.I. Juanita Mans
- Sunday, September 3- 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:15 a.m. Mass - S.I. Marcelline Henning
10:00 a.m. Mass - The People of St. Joseph

Ministry Schedule September 2nd & 3rd

- 4:00 PM
 - (S) Mike Irvin
 - (L1) Katie Gruver
 - (L2) David Darland
 - (H) John Bolster
 - (C1) Linda Bolster
 - (C2) Johnnie Bell
 - (Rosary) Christine Hallacy
 - (M. Server) James Janzen
 - (Candle 1) Matthew Probst
 - (Candle 2) Zach Stickney
 - (GB) Deb Lowery
- 8:15 AM
 - (S) Charlie Deitchler
 - (L1) Barbara Wattman
 - (L2) Carl Dittmore
 - (H) Gabrielle Shideler
 - (C1) Barbara Wattman
 - (C2) Judy Shideler
 - (Rosary) Ken Sueper
 - (M. Server) Joe Wagner
 - (Candle 1) Dan Wagner
 - (Candle 2) Lauren Busch
 - (GB) LeFevre Family
- 10:00 AM
 - (S) Alice Johnson
 - (L1) Jacob Schnoor
 - (L2) Judy Johnston
 - (H) Bert Purcell
 - (C1) John Riddell
 - (C2) Bridget Sublett
 - (Rosary) Florence Marx
 - (M. Server) Jeremiah Epps
 - (Candle 1) Joshua Schnoor
 - (Candle 2) Adam Orth
 - (GB) Douglas & Bridget Sublett

Prayers for Our Military

Please pray for all members of the military, especially our parishioners:

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| Jay Schoen | Tony Jeffress | Jonathan Burke |
| Sam Francis | Matt Mork | Timothy Collier |
| Justin Light | Jeff Cranor | Nicholas Gerhold |

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Fundraising Breakfast

The Saint Joseph Conference of the Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Society helped one of our parish families with over \$500 toward their utilities and other bills. We also helped three of our neighbors with over \$600 in bills including utilities and rent. The SVdP Society is a Catholic lay ministry that focuses on helping our parishioners and neighbors who are struggling financially.

We will be holding a fundraising breakfast on Sunday, October 1st after the 10 a.m. Mass. Menu will be a breakfast casserole, fruit, coffee, juice, and sweet rolls. Please mark your calendars and join us in supporting this important ministry.

Our next meeting is Monday, August 21st at 6:30 pm in the Mother Teresa room, where we will be having a guest speaker from the Center of Hope tell us about the programs they offer for the less fortunate in our community. Please consider supporting our SVdP conference by joining us at this meeting, or supporting us financially through donations to the parish office.

Vocation Retreat

Dominican Sisters of Peace invite single, Catholic women, ages 18-45, to attend a free "Come and See" Discernment Retreat designed to explore contemporary Dominican life for women. The retreat begins at 5:30 pm Friday, Sept 8 and concludes at 1pm, Sunday, Sept 10 at the Dominicans Sisters of Peace Rosary Manor, 1 Rosary Drive, Watertown, Massachusetts 02472. For more information, call or text Sister June Fitzgerald at 570.336.3991 or email j Fitzgerald@opeace.org. Participants may register online at community.opeace.org/comeandseeretreat. (We can offer some travel assistance on a need basis.)

Be still and know that I am God.

Psalms 46:10

Spiritual Life Center

Catholic Divorce Survival Guide (12 week series) Begins, August 30; 7-8:30 p.m. The Office of Marriage and Family Life brings participants this 12 Wednesday program guiding you and others who are separated or divorced through a DVD series and discussion in a private, confidential group support environment. The program is built both for those struggling through Divorce and those wishing to minister to others who are struggling. \$35 includes program and all materials

Series: Discerning God's Will in Your Life Aug. 30 and 31 from 7-9 p.m.; Fr. Ken VanHaverbeke uses Ignatian spirituality to help teach attendees about decision making in our lives and how to learn God's will for us. \$30

Fall Theology Institute Saturdays, Sept. 2, Oct. 21, and Dec. 9; 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Fall Semester is a perfect time to try out the Spiritual Life Center Theology Institute! The institute meets for three Saturdays per semester with classes in scripture, morality, prayer and church history. This semester's teachers include Fr. Maximilian Biltz, Sr. Mary Ann Kirkland, Sr. Mary Agnes Wasinger, and Dick Landkamer. Cost for the semester is \$95 and includes four evening bonus classes for those who can attend. More info on our website!

Date Night: A Night Out for Catholic Couples Thursday, September 7; 6:15-9 p.m. All spouses and engaged couples are invited to join us for this evening of dinner, socializing, and enrichment. The Office of Marriage and Family Life brings Keith and Ann Carlin in to speak on "Intimacy in Prayer." Cost is only \$30 per couple. Advance registration appreciated.

Advance registration requested. For more info and to register, visit www.slwchita.org or call 316.744.0167.



The St. Joseph Catholic Women's Circle would like to thank each of you for your participation in our Garage Sale this year – from those that donated, those that made purchases, those that brought the workers food and drinks, all the prayer warriors for the sale and to ALL THE HELPERS THAT MADE THIS A VERY SUCCESSFUL 2017 GARAGE SALE!!

Due to the hard work and team effort, we were able to raise \$12,000.00. All of this will go to the renovation of the Parish Hall. We also had 2 anonymous donors that made monetary donations to this renovation effort in the amount of \$10,000.00 each. God Bless each of you for opening your hearts to our parish.

The Parish Hall renovation will come in phases. In the first phase, the floor in the hall will be stripped of the aging vinyl and be resurfaced, and then an epoxy stain will be applied. This will be started on September 11th, 2017. The funds mentioned above will take care of the flooring renovation.

We also have an individual who has offered to replace the stained ceiling tiles in the hall at their expense. Thank you for your generosity. This phase will be started as soon as the necessary repairs are made to the Parish Hall roof.

We still hope to renovate the kitchen. The flooring needs work, plus we would like to update the kitchen, including an island with shelving and some new appliances. This phase will be started as soon as the funds can be raised. If you would like to assist in this next stage, please make your donations to St. Joseph Catholic Women's Circle Hall Renovation Fund. We will need approximately \$25,000.00 to complete the kitchen renovation.

This is not only our School Lunchroom but also our Parish Hall. This can be used by all of us and also by others. We would like to see it refreshed and inviting for all.

We have a great team here at St. Joseph, and each and every one of you are such a huge asset and part of this Family. Once again, we thank each of you for all you have done in trying to update our beautiful Parish Buildings.

God Bless You!!

St. Joseph Catholic Women's Circle