

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 17, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

God of all life, we thank you for the many ways life continues to flourish in our world and in our land. Bless the life you have entrusted to our care. Guide us in raising it to harvest. Remove any obstacles we place in its way. We ask this in Jesus' name.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK JUNE 18, 2018

Monday, June 18
12:10PM Special Intention
Tuesday, June 19, St. Romuald
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Wednesday, June 20
10:30AM Residents of Three Springs Lodge
Thursday, June 21, St. Aloysius Gonzaga
NO MASS
Friday, June 22, St. Paulinus of Nola
8:15AM George Jany by Friends
Saturday, June 23
5PM Dorothy Niermann by Bernice Prather
Sunday, June 24
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JUNE 17 THRU JUNE 24

Sunday	HAPPY FATHER'S DAY 9AM Mass
Monday	12:10PM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Taco Bake/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass in Rectory Dining Room 7PM Muni Band Concert
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs 12:45PM Blood Drive at Legion
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: It must be very difficult at times for parents, only being able to watch, hope, and pray as their children start to move away from home and begin to make their own way into the world. Will they be safe, make the right choices, be happy? Making use of images from nature, scripture reminds us that God gives the growth, whether it is to mighty cedars springing from small shoots, ripened grain sprouting from the blade, or a fully grown mustard plant emerging from the tiniest of seeds to offer its large branches as housing for the birds. Such poetic language calls us to reflect on the mystery of the kingdom of God, whose seeds were found in the various covenants extended to Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David, and then fully enfleshed in Jesus so many millennia ago. This kingdom continues to sprout in our day, often where least expected. Sometimes it breaks through like a mighty cedar, but more often it is a quieter blossoming, suddenly emerging like stalks of grain, or the first signs of life carried in a mother's body. I am sure God has worried for all the children of every age who have filled the earth. The kingdom of life won by Christ continues to have the power to carry all God's sons and daughters into the loving arms of the God Jesus taught us to call Father.

TITHE WEEK OF JUNE 10, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,208.00
\$683.00 Improvement Fund; \$20.00 Sr. Anne;
\$10.00 Cemetery; \$2.00 Child Env.; \$21.00 Votives
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,576.06
Fiscal Year Week: 50
YTD Actual Giving: \$328,803.00
YTD Budget Need: \$350,000.00
YTD Budget Difference: (\$21,197.00)
YTD Weekly: (\$423.94)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for June 23 & 24: 5PM, Koby Jany, Gage Hopkins; 9AM, Isaac Jany, Connor Wolff, Luke Miller

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: God is pleased by largeness of heart, not greatness of deed. Please God by sharing small kindnesses.

BEGINNING TUESDAY, JUNE 19, Tuesday Masses will be celebrated in the Rectory Dining Room for the summer.

BLOOD DRIVE on Wednesday, June 20, from 12:45-5:45PM at the American Legion Hall in Chester. Please bring your ID with you. Call 1-800-733-2767 or visit www.redcrossblood.org to make an appointment to decrease your wait time.

MARY & MARTHA QUILT-A-RAMA: On Tuesday, June 26, from 8AM-3:30PM a Quilt-A-Rama will be held at Sts. Peter & Paul School Cafeteria in Waterloo.

THE NEW K OF C INSURANCE AGENT is Michael W. Kuehne. He may be reached at home (618-774-2819) or on his cell (618-799-9202).

DEAR FR. GENE & FRIENDS OF ST. MARY'S, Thank you so much for your most recent donation of \$524 for the Church of St. James in Camata, Bolivia. The preparations for the Mission are going well. Your donation will help with the expenses. On a separate page (see bulletin board) I tried to explain a bit more about the Mission and the various Communities where it will be given. Each Mission Team will have four or five Communities where they will share the Word of God and celebrate the Eucharist. Many of these more remote Communities have never had the celebration of the Eucharist in their midst. What a wonderful opportunity! The priests who are participating in the Mission are coming from their own parishes which also are quite large. That is why the Mission is given from Monday to Friday and not on week-ends. May you feel the abundant blessings of God during these fruitful summer days. Very gratefully, Sr. Anne Irose, ASC

INTERPARISH VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL will be held at St. Mary of the Divine Maternity, Ellis Grove, on Monday, July 9 through Thursday, July 12, from 6-8PM. This program is for Kindergarten-5th Grade students. Contact Gina Bleem (853-4196), Deb Hoelscher (763-5766 or 618-559-4384) or Cheryl Gross (826-2526 or 853-2678). Registration forms are due by Saturday, June 30.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: No place is exempt from human trafficking today. It is nothing short of modern slavery, exploiting people for profit through sex and labor. Small towns, rural areas and large cities alike are targeted by traffickers. Human trafficking ranks with gun and drug trafficking as the top crimes globally. It is so insidious because it is kept hidden through intimidation and control. Pray that human trafficking will be brought out into the open and the victims get the help they need to gain control of their lives.

ABOUT GOD'S KINGDOM: It is hard to see the kingdom of God all at once. Perhaps it is impossible. It is as if, the parable goes, a single seed does its nurturing and growth, but not alone, with all the others. We can't see the forest for the trees. Each one of us is a small part of a very large kingdom. How can I, trusting in God, flourish this week? What fruit will I bear? How will mercy shape my behavior?