

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## JULY 16, 2017

### LIVING GOD'S WORD

How are Christians to respond to this "foolish" God? We must ask ourselves if we are allowing God's Word to take root deep in our hearts and produce an abundant yield. We must ask if we are too stingy with the good news, fearful of being rejected.

#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK JULY 17, 2017

Monday, July 17  
NO MASS  
Tuesday, July 18, St. Camillus de Lellis  
8:15AM Alberta Cowell by Bruce & Mary Brown  
Wednesday, July 19  
10:30AM Alan Stumpe by Karen, Mike & Joe Stumpe  
Thursday, July 20, St. Apollinaris  
NO MASS  
Friday, July 21, St. Lawrence of Brindisi  
8:15AM Jim Shields by Dr. Robert & Mrs. Paula Platt  
Saturday, July 22, St. Mary Magdalene  
5PM Rev. Boniface Wittenbrink by Frances Pautler  
Sunday, July 23  
9AM For the Parish

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JULY 16 THRU JULY 23

Sunday	9AM Mass
Monday	NO MASS 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Stuffed Peppers/Fried Chicken 7PM K of C Meeting (Eat at 6:30)
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass 6PM Wedding Rehearsal
Saturday	2PM Wedding Josh Chambers/Cassie Bauer 5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:** The farmer in today's parable seems to take a big risk. Throwing seed around indiscriminately, some of it falls on the rocks, some on the road, some in the brambles, and, inevitable, some falls on good cultivated soil. Yet, even though many of the seeds die, this foolish farmer's crop yields a hundred times what was to be expected. This is how God sows the Word. Like the seed, the Word of God is to be scattered indiscriminately over the whole earth, without regard to where the good soil is that can receive and nurture it. Even though the Word does not take root everywhere, Isaiah tells us "it shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it." And Paul reminds us that the whole world will "share in the glorious freedom of the children of God."

#### TITHE WEEK OF JULY 9, 2017

Mary Help of Christians: \$7,941.50  
\$718.00 Improvement Fund; \$65.00 Cemetery; \$57.00  
Sr. Anne Irose; \$182.00 Peter's Pence; \$18.00 Votives  
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00  
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,996.50  
Fiscal Year Week: 2  
YTD Actual Giving: \$13,993.00  
YTD Budget Need: \$14,000.00  
YTD Budget Difference: (\$7.00)  
YTD Weekly (\$3.50)

**SERVERS SCHEDULE** for July 22 & 23: 5PM, Kayla Bert, Lauryn Vasquez; 9AM, Brock Vasquez, Luke Miller, David Grau

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** The door to the human heart can be opened only from the inside.

**BUFFET BREAKFAST** to be held at the Evansville K of C Hall on Saturday, July 22, from 6AM-11AM. Featuring All You Can Eat scrambled eggs, biscuits & gravy, bacon link sausage, pancakes, mixed fruit and drink. \$8.00 Adult \$4.00 Children ages 4-11. Sponsored by Columbian Squires.

**HEART SPEAKS TO HEART:** Stories to Connect Us will be presented by Neem Serra at the Ruma Center of the Adorers of the Blood of Christ on Saturday, July 29, from 9:30-3:30PM. Registration is at 9AM. \$10.00 fee includes lunch. RSVP by Monday, July 17, to Sherri at 618-282-3848 or nunns@adorers.org.

**CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** is making food bags for children while they are out of school for the summer. Items needed are fruit cups, pudding cups, drink boxes, beanie wieners, potted ham, tuna, PB crackers, cheese crackers, canned meat, canned fruit, canned soups, and canned pasta items. Monetary donations are also appreciated. The next mobile market will be on Wednesday, July 26, at 10AM in the Cohen Complex. Volunteers are needed to speed the distribution. Please call Bob Koenegstein at 826-5264 to help.

**THE PARISH COUNCIL** has two 3-year terms to be filled. If you are interested in serving a term, please contact Brian Niermann (618-708-1381) or Fr. Gene (826-2444). The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday, July 26, at 7PM in the rectory.

**FINAL REGISTRATION** for the 2017-2018 school year will be held on Thursday, July 27, in the library from Noon-6PM. It is necessary to attend this registration even if you pre-registered last April.

**WHAT EVERY FARMER KNOWS:** Within every planted seed is the potential for bounty. The harvest depends on good soil, sun and rain, weeding. And trust. Now, make the connection that Jesus makes today: "seed" is me, the hearer of God's word. The implication for discipleship depends on good and suitable attention. What is Jesus' word? What is he saying to me today? How am I responding?

**FORGIVENESS:** Healing the Hurts in Marriage-One of the graces present in the sacrament of marriage is the grace of healing and forgiveness. When we come to marriage we each bring our histories-healed or broken, reflected upon or repressed-to our life together. Our vocation is to help each other become fully human. This means finding a way to share hurts, to risk allowing the other person to know us so intimately that we are willing to open up old wounds and allow God to heal them through each other. One of the best parts of being forgiven is the freedom it brings. Jesus taught us to ask for forgiveness when he taught us to pray. "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us" invites God to forgive us as we forgive.

**YOU'RE INVITED:** Saturday, July 29, St. Joseph, Prairie du Rocher, Parish Picnic, 3-8PM Chicken Dinner, 6PM-Midnight Cash & Quilt Bingo, Kid & Toddler Games, Country Store, Food Stands, Raffles; Saturday, August 5, St. Joseph, Willisville, 4-7PM Spaghetti Supper, Poker Stand, Refreshments; Saturday, August 5, St. James, Millstadt, Parish Picnic, 3PM-? Chicken Dinner, Quilt & Cash Bingo, Music, Country Store, Kids Corner; August 4, 5, and 6, Seminary Picnic, Perryville, MO