

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 30, 2017

LIVING GOD'S WORD

There is little in life that we can control, and certainly not faith or a sense of God's presence or wisdom or any such things. They all require patience, and they are all discovered with a sense of pure gift. It's almost as if God plans it that way.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK JULY 31, 2017

Monday, July 31, St. Ignatius of Loyola
8:15AM Pat O'Toole by Family
Tuesday, August 1, St. Alphonsus Liguori
8:15AM Jim Shields by Mike & Anita Bievenue
Wednesday, August 2, St. Eusebius of Vercelli
10:30AM Special Intention
Thursday, August 3
NO MASS
Friday, August 4, St. John Vianney
8:15AM Ron Pechacek by Bernice Prather
Saturday, August 5
5PM Pat Kickham by Willie
Sunday, August 6
9AM For the Parish

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK JULY 30 THRU AUGUST 6

Sunday	9AM Mass
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Sloppy Joes / Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: The reign of God seems to find us rather than the other way around. At least that's what the Gospel this Sunday seems to suggest when it compares the reign of God to a treasure found buried in a field. Treasures tend to find us, sometimes even when we're actually searching for them, as in the Gospel's tale of the fine pearl. That's why Solomon needed to lean on God for some wisdom, because he couldn't come to it on his own. It's also why parents can't make their children believers, because faith finds us. In fact, some folks would suggest that most of the really valuable things we wait for are all part and parcel of God's reign, things like love or wisdom or the joy that comes with the perfect job or the child you've been waiting for. In one way or another, God's reign finds us.

TITHE WEEK OF JULY 23, 2017

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,704.00
\$125.00 Improvement Fund; \$35.00 Cemetery; \$95.00 Bingo; \$10.00 Votives

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,414.25

Fiscal Year Week: 4

YTD Actual Giving: \$25,657.00

YTD Budget Need: \$28,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$2,343.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$585.75)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for August 5 & 6: 5PM, Elizabeth Eubanks, Kayla Bert; 9AM, Madison Kribs, Paige Vasquez, Elseah Congiaro

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: When answering our prayers, God does not open every door. He doesn't give us all we ask. He only opens the doors and gives the gifts we truly need.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We are in great need of more lectors and ministers of the Eucharist to help out at our

weekend Masses. In particular we are very short handed at the 9AM Sunday Mass. A training session for new lectors and Eucharistic ministers will be held on Wednesday, August 23, at 6:30PM in church. Please prayerfully consider accepting one or both of these ministries. If you have any questions, please contact Fr. Gene (826-2444) or Brian Niermann (618-708-1381).

PEDAL THE CAUSE-A WORLD WITHOUT CANCER TRIVIA NIGHT, Saturday, August 12, at 6:30PM. Doors open at 6PM at the Pastoral Center, 2620 Lebanon Ave., Belleville. \$160 per table of 8 players. BYOB and snacks. RSVP: Jessica Kowalis (618-791-1153) or Sue Huett (618-977-3727). 100% of all proceeds goes to advance cancer research!

JANY, BERT, & MARCINKOWSKI family reunion will be held at the Chester K of C Hall on Sunday, August 13. Please note the change of date. Eat at NOON. Please spread the word to family members.

VITAE FOUNDATION is hosting a Pro-Life Dinner to be held Thursday, August 17, at Fourpoints By Sheraton, 319 Fountains Pkwy., Fairview Heights. Tickets are \$25. Seating is limited, so reserve your seat by calling 573-634-4316 or visit www.VitaeFoundation.org. Our speaker, Jason Scott Jones, is the executive producer of the award winning pro-life movie, "Bella," and the pro-life short film, "Crescendo". He is founder of the Human Rights Education Organization and works directly to aid the homeless, people facing genocide, and women with unintended pregnancies. Affected by abortion as a teen, Jones experienced a whole new moral world. He is a veteran speaker at the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

IMPROVE YOUR LISTENING SKILLS by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend with your spouse. The next weekend is September 22-24. To register or for more information call 314-649-7317 or go online to www.stl-wwme.org.

ALL THINGS WORK FOR GOOD: This is a fundamental belief of disciples-all things working for good because it is a fundamental attribute of God. Creation is good and human beings are very good-made in God's very image. The kingdom of heaven-of which we already are a part-likened to found-treasure, searched-for-pearl, and a thrown-net-is also good. What do I seek, what do I treasure? What, who do I love? How am I conforming myself to Jesus?

CARING FOR LOVED ONES AT LIFE'S END: An old Irish proverb says, "It is in the shelter of each other that the people live." Indeed, we are created to depend upon one another and walk together in suffering. When family members or friends approach life's end, we may not know how best to "shelter" them. Accompanying a loved one in his or her last days is enormously important work, but we do not need to fear our own limitations. Your own quiet, patient presence can provide important support. As you enter into this season with your friend or family member, ask God to accompany both of you.

YOU'RE INVITED: Friday-Sunday, August 4-6, Seminary Picnic, Perryville, MO, Quilt Bingo all three days, Rides, Music, Amusement Attractions; Saturday, August 5, St. Joseph, Willisville, 4-7PM Spaghetti Supper, Beer, Poker, Other Concessions; Sunday, August 6, St. Patrick, Tipton, 11AM Chicken Dinner & Auction (begins at NOON), Country Store, Quilt Raffle, Silent Auction