

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 19, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

Lord Jesus, you call us to the banquet table to eat the food that will nourish us for eternal life, bringing us into communion with you, the Father, and the Holy Spirit. Give us an appetite for this food you so generously offer. May we not turn away from it for other food that neither nourishes nor satisfies.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AUGUST 20, 2018

Monday, August 20, St. Bernard
NO MASS
Tuesday, August 21, St. Pius X
8:15AM Cleo Gross by Bill & Linda Smith
Wednesday, August 22, Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary
10:30AM Gerald Lake by Mary Long & Shelby Wetzel
Thursday, August 23, St. Rose of Lima
NO MASS
Friday, August 24, St. Bartholomew, Apostle
8:15AM Ethel Bievenue by Lloyd & Linda Stern
Saturday, August 25, St. Louis
5PM For the Parish
Sunday, August 26
9AM Mike Jungewaelter

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AUG. 19 THRU AUG. 26

Sunday	9AM Mass
Monday	NO MASS 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Hamburger Casserole/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass in Rectory Dining Room
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass-7 & 8 Grade Liturgy

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: Biblical scholars point out that the crowds would have been appalled at Jesus' words: "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you" (John 6:53). The word used for "eat" is a very physical word, the equivalent of munching or chewing. To hear "eat my flesh" would have been repulsive. An invitation to cannibalism! The same with "drink my blood." Jewish law was very clear that no blood should remain in any animal slaughtered for eating. Blood was the "seat of life" and life belonged only to God. But this is precisely the point. Behind this "sign" is God's wondrous life-giving plan: to bring us into intimate communion when we partake of the very life of the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ. We are not to get drunk on the wine of this world but on the divinized drink of everlasting life. Not mundane manna but the bread that mediates an encounter with the Lord of our salvation. This is truly Wisdom's house, where we eat both the bread of God's word and the bread that is the Lamb of God.

TITHE WEEK OF AUGUST 12, 2018:

Mary Help of Christians: \$7,341.00
\$798.00 Improvement; \$20.00 Cemetery; \$10.00 Sr. Anne;
\$16.00 Votives; \$7.00 Child Env.

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,198.86

Fiscal Year Week: 7

YTD Actual Giving: \$43,392.00

YTD Budget Need: \$49,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$5,608.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$801.15)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for August 25 & 26: 5PM, Carson Dunn, Isaac Jany; 9AM, Gage Hopkins, Nolin Crain, Gene Bicket

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: Jesus tells us to watch carefully how we live. Even in conflict, there are wonderful opportunities.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY will host the mobile market on Wednesday, August 22, at 10AM in the Cohen Complex. Volunteers are needed to help with the distribution. Please call Bob Koenegstein (826-5264) to volunteer for this project.

TEENS ENCOUNTER CHRIST is a three day Catholic retreat for juniors and seniors in high school. St. Mary's, Mt. Carmel, IL will host the retreat on Saturday, Sept. 1 through Monday, Sept. 3. Future locations and dates are Althoff High School, Belleville, on Jan. 19-21, 2019 and Sacred Heart School, Du Quoin, Feb. 16-18 2019. To learn more and/or to apply visit www.bellevilletec.org.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FRIENDS OF THE POOR

Walk will be held on Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows. Register and Walk anytime between 8AM-Noon. For more information, please call 618-394-0126.

DON'T MISS OUT on your chance to visit the beautiful Ozark Mountains. Buena Vista National Bank is sponsoring a six day bus trip, Oct. 15-20, to Branson and Springfield, MO and Eureka Springs, AR. Final sign-up date is Monday, Sept. 10. Contact Amber Cushman for a detailed itinerary (826-2331 ext. 108).

FAMILY PRAYER: As older children continue their schooling this fall, it's tempting to want to pour all your protective wisdom into them, especially around issues of faith. As they age, however, share your faith struggles, not just your certainty. Praying together as a family and talking openly is a wonderful way to increase your family's relationship with the Lord and with one another. The Pope has said that "the family is the 'yes' of God's love." God's love is the starting point for the family and the strength that allows that family bond to remain strong. Keeping the lines of communication open, especially during this busy time of the back to school hustle, will help set the tone for the entire school year. While there may not be time for a large family dinner every night, set aside time to talk and pray as a family.

UNLESS YOU EAT, UNLESS YOU DRINK: St. John gets to the heart of this five-week Bread of Life discourse. He gives us the intimate words of Jesus Christ that we proclaim in the heart of every Eucharistic Prayer. Eat. Drink. Do this in memory. Until I come again. Why do I come to Sunday Mass? Why do I join the Communion procession each Sunday? How does this action keep me centered on Jesus Christ until he comes?

YOU'RE INVITED: Saturday, August 25, St. Teresa, Belleville, 4PM-Midnight, Parish Picnic; Saturday, Sept. 8, Tamaroa, 11:30AM-?, BBQ Pork Steak Dinner, Proceeds to benefit Immaculate Conception Boiler Fund; Sunday, Sept. 9, St. Patrick, Ruma, Bicentennial Celebration, 10AM Mass, 11:30AM Parade, Food Stand, Tours, Various Displays; Sunday, Sept. 9, St. James, Millstadt, 1PM, Bingo; Saturday, Sept. 29, Cathedral Parish, Belleville, 4-9PM, 3rd Annual Food Truck Fest, 14 Food Trucks, Free admission