

# TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## AUGUST 20, 2017

### LIVING GOD'S WORD

The Canaanite woman seems to convert Jesus by expressing faith in him and faith in herself. How might you express your faith in God, in others, and in yourself? How might God use your faith to convert others?

#### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AUGUST 21, 2017

Monday, August 21, St. Pius X  
NO MASS  
Tuesday, August 22, Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary  
8:15AM Ron Pechacek by Alene Becker  
Wednesday, August 23, St. Rose of Lima  
10:30AM Rev. Gerald C. Mariani  
Thursday, August 24, St. Bartholomew  
NO MASS  
Friday, August 25, St. Louis  
8:15AM Bob & Mary Friess by John  
Saturday, August 26  
5PM Linda Hoffman by Gina Cushman  
Sunday, August 27  
9AM For the Parish

#### CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AUGUST 20 THRU AUGUST 27

Sunday	9AM Mass
Monday	NO MASS / NO SCHOOL 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Sloppy Joes/Fried Chicken
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Integrity Healthcare 6:30PM Training of New Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers in Church
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass 2:50PM Dismissal - NO BUS
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

**NOTE FROM THE PASTOR:** "Beggars can't be choosers!" Those four little words may seem logical and harmless. Yet, how many children, unemployed, elderly, sick, or otherwise vulnerable people have lost their self-respect and stopped voicing their needs because they believe those four little words! Today's scriptures challenge us to stop using, or even thinking, those four words. They invite us to see that, yes, beggars *can and should* be choosers. The first and second readings seem directed to those who feel they deserve better than others. They show God's mercy extending to all who call on and love the name of the Lord, and remind us that all of us have disobeyed, thus all of us are beggars. The Gospel speaks to those who feel they deserve worse than others. The Canaanite woman is held up as a model to imitate, not someone to be scorned and rejected. We are encouraged never again to let feelings of unworthiness convince us that our needs don't deserve a hearing, respect, and a response.

#### TITHE WEEK OF AUGUST 13, 2017

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,616.00  
\$732.00 Improvement Fund; \$878.00 Assumption;  
\$10.00 Sister Anne; \$20.00 Cemetery; \$14.00 Votives  
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00  
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,306.86  
Fiscal Year Week: 7  
YTD Actual Giving: \$44,148.00  
YTD Budget Need: \$49,000.00  
YTD Budget Difference: (\$4,852.00)  
YTD Weekly: (\$693.00)

**SERVERS SCHEDULE** for August 26 & 27: 5PM, Claire Deterding, Elseah Congiardo; 9AM, Brock Vasquez, Reed Welborn, David Grau

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:** Much prayer, much power! Little prayer, little power! No prayer, no power!  
Anonymous

**CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY** will have the mobile market at the Cohen Complex on Wednesday, August 23, at 10AM. Volunteers are needed to speed the distribution, so please call Bob Koenegstein at 826-5264 and lend a hand.

**TRAINING FOR NEW LECTORS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS** will be Wednesday, August 23, at 6:30PM in church. We are in great need of parishioners to help fill these ministries. Won't you please join us?

**PSR 2017-2018:** PSR will begin on Sunday, September 17, in the Parish House, 915 Swanwick Street, after 9AM Mass until 11:15AM. Tuition is \$75 per family. Parents of students in PSR Kindergarten need to contact Cheryl Gross, D.R.E. at 826-2526 or 853-2678 to register since they will be new to the program.

**HELP INCREASE YOUR FAITH** in your marriage by embarking on a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next weekend will be September 22-24. To register or for more information call 314-649-7317 or go online to [www.stl-wwme.org](http://www.stl-wwme.org).

**RCIA** will begin in mid-October for persons interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church or who wish to update their knowledge of the Church, its teachings, and practices. If interested, please contact Cheryl Gross at 826-2526 or 853-2678.

**COME AND MEET US:** Catholic Charities of Southern Illinois (CCSIL) is hosting a breakfast on Saturday, October 14, at 8:30AM. The breakfast is free but they will ask for a free will donation. They will be presenting some exciting news about Catholic Charities during the breakfast and will have a silent auction. All are invited. Contact Deacon Don Sparling, [deacondon56@aol.com](mailto:deacondon56@aol.com), for more information and to let them know if you are coming.

**FORGIVE:** Can we? Do we? Everyone experiences conflicts and hurts; that's a constant. It's what we do with those hurts that varies. Christ desires that we forgive those hurts and allow the Holy Spirit to heal and bring new life into our world. Forgiving somebody does not, in any way, excuse the hurt that was done. It is a decision to let go of retribution and to allow God to begin to heal. When we let go of the hurt, God can start to redeem it and bring good from it. Pray the "Our Father" slowly. Ask yourself, do I have mercy in my heart to forgive those who have 'trespassed against me'? Catholics have the Sacrament of Reconciliation, if they're willing to use it. The grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is a powerful way to open up our souls to the Holy Spirit's refreshing life.

**IT IS TRULY RIGHT AND JUST:** We can get used to private clubs, to closed groups, to in-crowds, to members-only. But both Isaiah and Jesus make room for the foreigner this day. When there is similar belief and great faith, we are all alike. Outsiders can become insiders. Everyone can belong. And in God's house, God's kingdom, that is absolutely true. It is right. It is just. Of whom do I say, they do not belong? How can I widen my circle to include more people? How can I do what is truly right and just?