

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 27, 2017

LIVING GOD'S WORD

We pray that our loving Father will bring us to a deeper knowledge and understanding of his Son Jesus. We ask that this understanding will lead to a deeper commitment on our part to the work of Jesus to bring about in our own day the reign of God in our world.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK AUGUST 28, 2017

Monday, August 28, St. Augustine
8:15AM Alan Stumpe by Karen, Mike and Joe
Tuesday, August 29, Passion of St. John the Baptist
8:15AM Special Intention
Wednesday, August 30
10:30AM Rev. Michael P. Podrasky
Thursday, August 31
NO MASS
Friday, September 1
8:15AM Jim Shields by Friends
Saturday, September 2
5PM For the Parish
Sunday, September 3
9AM Clyde, Kay and Donny Jungewaelter

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK AUGUST 27 THRU SEPT. 3

Sunday	9AM Mass
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Pork Loin & Gravy/Fried Chicken 6PM School Board Meeting
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 1-4)
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 3-4 Liturgy) 2:50PM Dismissal/NO BUS
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: Certain questions change lives, depending on our answer: "Do you take this person to be your husband/wife?" "Do you want this job?" "Can you forgive me?" The question Jesus asks today is one that certainly changes lives. Our response is not simply an academic exercise, a matter of knowing the right answer we learned from a book. Our answer must lead to a commitment that is to be lived out each day of our lives. Peter's answer certainly changed the course of his life. Jesus recognized that it was not Peter's innate knowledge, or that of any other person, that had given Peter his response: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." It was the Father. And so Jesus declares that Peter will be the one to lead the other disciples and all who would come after, Simon, son of John, fisherman, husband, brother-and one who would deny he ever knew Christ!-he was to be the rock on which Jesus would build the church. His response was life-changing. Peter's answer was not a perfect one, as we shall see next week. Even so, Jesus accepts it as an indication that his Father is at work in those called to be with him who would continue his work. The Father chose to work in fallible human beings. We may not think of ourselves as rocks, but the future of the church depends on how well each one of us lives out the answer to this question, "Who do you say that I am?"

TITHE WEEK OF AUGUST 20, 2017

Mary Help of Christians: \$5,829.00
\$379.00 Cemetery; \$410.00 Assumption;
\$125.00 Improvement; \$20.00 Donation;
\$29.00 Votives; \$35.00 Child Envelopes
WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00
YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,247.13
Fiscal Year Week: 8
YTD Actual Giving: \$49,977.00
YTD Budget Need: \$56,000.00
YTD Budget Difference: (\$6,023.00)
YTD Weekly: (\$752.88)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Sept. 2 & 3: 5PM, Lauren Soellner, Amelia Shemonic; 9AM, Madison Kribs, Grace Welborn, Trace Fricke

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "But who do *you* say that I am?" Anyone who has ever heard this question returns to it again and again throughout his life, even if only in the silence of his own thoughts.

GIBAULT CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL celebrates our Seniors and Freshmen at a special Mass on Friday, Sept. 1, at 9:15AM. Please join us as our Seniors receive blessed class rings and the Freshmen are officially welcomed into the Gibault family. Refreshments and tours of the campus available afterwards. For more information, contact Pat Herzing (pherzing@gibaulthawks.com).

EVANSVILLE K OF C FISH FRY will be held on Friday, Sept. 1, from 4:30-8PM. They serve 4 kinds of fish, chicken strips and 7 sides for \$12 and \$5 for children 5-12. Buffet is dine-in only. Carry outs available by the plate, sandwich, or the pound.

SPARTA COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE will be held on Tuesday, Sept. 5, in the Sparta Auxiliary Building located in the Broadway Plaza, Sparta, IL from 10AM-2PM.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 will be the first PSR Class of this school year. Classes are held in the Parish House, 915 Swanwick Street, from after 9AM Mass until 11:15AM. Tuition is \$75 per family. Families with a child entering PSR Kindergarten are new to the program, so please contact Cheryl Gross, D.R.E. at 826-2526 or 853-2678.

HELP DISCOVER THE KEYS to your marriage by participating in a Worldwide Marriage Encounter (WWME) weekend. The next weekend on September 22-24. To register or for more information call 314-649-7317 or go to www.stl-wwme.org.

RCIA will begin in mid-October if there are persons interested in finding out more about the Catholic Church or who wish to update their knowledge of the Church, its teachings or practices. Please contact Cheryl Gross at 826-2526 or Father Gene at 826-2444 if you are interested.

OUR PRAYERS AND ACTIONS MATTER: The brutal statistic of around 57 million children being denied the right to life in the over 40 years since abortion was legalized in the U.S. is not only overwhelming, but there is the temptation to despair and wonder whether the struggle is winnable. The answer is a resounding "yes" providing we are prepared to make some sacrifice, commit ourselves, and persevere. Young adults and high school students are increasingly more pro-life than ever before. Pray for all who do not embrace the rights of the unborn that they come to know and treasure the value of every person.

WHO IS JESUS? There is Gospel discussion today on who the Messiah is. Peter finally says: Jesus, it is you; "you are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Jesus responds: You are right. Now, don't tell! Really? Keep it quiet? It was true then because Jesus was still on route to his destiny in Jerusalem. But today we are post-death-and-resurrection people. We not only know who Jesus is. We can now tell others about him. Who do I say Jesus is? How is Jesus important for my life? Who will I tell? How will I do it?

YOU'RE INVITED: Sunday, Sept. 3, Immaculate Conception, Kaskaskia, Church Picnic, 1PM Bingo