

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

LIVING GOD'S WORD

We ask for the discernment to recognize when God is working in unexpected ways through unexpected people who do unexpected things . . . and for the wisdom to distinguish the wise from the wacky, much less the wicked. And we pray both that we never let ourselves fall from grace or lead another away from God.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OCTOBER 1, 2018

Monday, Oct. 1, St. Therese of the Child Jesus
8:15AM Shirley Cushman by Loren, Peggy & Family
Tuesday, Oct. 2, The Holy Guardian Angels
8:15AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Wednesday, Oct. 3
10:30AM Intention of Catholic Extension Donor
Thursday, Oct. 4, St. Francis of Assisi
NO MASS
Friday, Oct. 5, Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos
NO MASS – NO SCHOOL
Saturday, Oct. 6, St. Bruno
5PM For the Parish
Sunday, Oct. 7
9AM Deceased Members of Knights of Columbus

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK SEPT. 30 THRU OCT. 7

Sunday	9AM Mass PSR Class after 9AM Mass till 11:15AM
Monday	8:15AM Mass 11AM-1PM K of C Luncheon Pork Sausage & Kraut/Fried Chicken 6PM PTO Meeting 6PM Initial Child Protection Training
Tuesday	8:15AM Mass (Grades 1-4)
Wednesday	10:30AM Mass at Three Springs
Thursday	Fr. Gene's Day Off
Friday	NO MASS No School–Diocesan Teachers Convention
Saturday	5PM Mass
Sunday	9AM Mass

NOTE FROM THE PASTOR: Focus on God's agenda, not your own. When Joshua gets upset at the two men who are suddenly prophesying and wants Moses to stop them, Moses asks, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people . . . were prophets!" (Numbers 11:29). And Jesus responds to his disciple John, also upset that someone outside their group was casting out demons in Jesus' name, that "whoever is not against us is for us" (Mark 9:40). Both Jesus and Moses recognized that God's spirit blows where it will. It sometimes ends up in the strangest places, working through very unexpected people. Still, no one can presume that the Spirit will always be working through a particular group or the proper channels. We must be careful of trying to box in or corral the spirit of God. Being on the inside is no guarantee. Thus we get Jesus' hard words that tell his disciples to look honestly at their lives and face whatever it is that leads them away from God. We must always watch the path we choose to walk and the vision that guides us. Those on the inside can lose sight of and go off the path that takes us to the kingdom. And they can take others with them. What matters is that God's work be done. God will see to it; don't get in the way.

TITHE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2018

Mary Help of Christians: \$7,474.00
\$450.00 Retired Diocesan Priests; \$37.53 Child Env.;
\$6.00 Votives

WEEKLY Budget Need: \$7,000.00

YTD Average Weekly Tithe: \$6,330.08

Fiscal Year Week: 13

YTD Actual Giving: \$82,291.00

YTD Budget Need: \$91,000.00

YTD Budget Difference: (\$8,709.00)

YTD Weekly: (\$669.93)

SERVERS SCHEDULE for Oct. 6 & 7: 5PM, Jack Heffernan, Grace Welborn; 9AM, Elseah Congiardo, Shane Bicket, Gene Bicket

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: In the kingdom of God, our small deeds of kindness make a big difference.

CHESTER AREA CHRISTIAN FOOD PANTRY is in need of pancake syrup, canned fruit, canned meat, and peanut butter. Any monetary donations can be placed into an envelope marked "Food Pantry" and dropped into the collection basket. Thank you for your continued support.

FLU CLINIC will be held at the Chester Senior Center, on Thursday, Oct. 4, from 10-11:30AM. Regular and Pediatric flu vaccine are \$40 per dose. High dose flu vaccine is \$70. The flu mist is not available this year from our health department. Medicare and current or retired state of Illinois employees are able to be billed. Individuals not covered by the above can pay by cash or check. A receipt and, if needed, information to submit an insurance claim, will be provided.

REMINDER: All Sundays during the month of October, in honor of Our Blessed Mother, the Rosary will be prayed with the congregation before 9AM Mass.

THREE SPRINGS LODGE will celebrate their Fall Picnic on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 11AM-2PM. Lunch, Dessert, and Drinks will be available. Attendance Prizes, Silent Auction, and Bake Sale are some of the attractions.

ST. ANN'S CHURCH, Raddle, will host their Duck Booyah and Fried Chicken Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 6, from 4-7PM. Games, Raffles, Silent Auction, and Music.

2018 ROSARY CRUSADE: Please come and join in praying the Rosary on Saturday, Oct. 13, at 4:30PM outside on the rectory's front lawn. We must ask God, through the Rosary of His Most Holy Mother, to save America and for much needed peace in the world. (Bring lawn chair if needed.)

KILLING THE PAIN, NOT THE PATIENT: Palliative Care vs. Assisted Suicide (Read the full version at uscceb.org/killing-the-pain.) Assisted suicide is in the news and on lawmakers' agendas. Supporters of assisted suicide call it "aid in dying" & claim it's just another option for end-of-life care. But it's radically different from the practice of palliative care, the healing art of relieving pain and other distressing symptoms for patients who are seriously ill. Palliative care intends to comfort a patient, addressing physical, psychological, emotional, and spiritual needs. Assisted suicide directly intends the patient's death. It ignores any underlying problems, and instead abandons and eliminates the patient who has the problems. As a society and as individuals, we must dedicate ourselves to providing genuinely compassionate care that protects God's gift of life.

NOT AGAINST US: We may be surprised at who speaks and acts in God's name. We should never be jealous of righteous acts and good words, regardless of who does them. It really makes no difference who does good things. It matters that good things are done. Because of God's grace and mercy, we are all in this together. Good acts bring joy to us all. What gives joy to my heart (Psalm 19)? What gets in my way of good behavior, of rights acts? Who can I support, affirm, and trust?