

SUNDAY, JUL 9, 2017
14th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FROM THE PASTOR

"COME ALL WHO LABOR AND ARE BURDENED"

In the Gospel for this Sunday, we hear Jesus speak some of the warmest and most comforting words in the Scriptures. "Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy and my burden light."

Who were the people that flocked around Jesus and who found welcome and solace in his teaching and in his touch? It was those who were hurting and lost, those who were the outcast and the unloved, those who were sick and broken, those who were notorious sinners and the disgraced. Somehow, they knew that here was a man of God whom they could approach and not be shamed or rejected or despised.

Pope Francis has said that the Church must function as a "field hospital," as a place where the broken and wounded children of God can find healing and comfort and love. I like that image a great deal. A field hospital is one that is located in the midst of the battle—not far off in a safe place. It is where those who are wounded can find immediate assistance and support, where they can be cared for and given the treatment and assistance that they need.

Mother of God Church has a history of trying to be a field hospital. It was from this parish that Parish Kitchen and Welcome House were born. There was a recognition that we were surrounded by people who were facing a crisis in the most basic of their needs, and this community made a conscious choice to do something about it. Just across the street from MOG is a small building that once belonged to the parish, and which housed the first Alcoholics Anonymous clubhouse in Northern Kentucky. Known simply as Russell Street, it provided several AA meetings a day for several years, and was instrumental in the recovery of thousands of those suffering from alcoholism and drug addiction.

It is my hope that Mother of God Church will continue to serve as a field hospital. This will happen in many ways. Our support, with time, talent and treasure, of the local ministries and programs that serve the neediest of the brothers and sisters of Jesus, and of our offering a worship place where all can be welcomed and loved as children of God.

My vision, and I hope that you share this with me, is that Mother of God will be a parish where people who feel alienated and hurt by the Church, who feel rejected and judged for their sins, their addictions, and their pasts, will know that here they will not be judged, they

will not be looked down upon, and they will not be shamed.

The Church is the Body of Christ, and that means that we must make Jesus present to the world. In order to do that, we must make the same promise to the people of our time that Jesus made to the people of his. "Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and gentle of heart, and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

SAINT BENEDICT

On Tuesday, July 11, the Church celebrates the feast of one of the most influential saints of all time—Saint Benedict. He is the founder of the Benedictine Order, and his Rule of Saint Benedict is a basis for the rules of almost every monastery and convent and religious order since his time. Benedict is also the patron saint of one of our neighboring parishes and of the Sisters of Saint Benedict, who have served our diocese and our parish so faithfully for many years.

SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA

This Friday the Church honors Saint Kateri Tekakwitha, a Mohawk Indian girl from the Montreal, who lived in the mid seventeenth century, and who is the first North American Native American declared a saint by the Church. She is known as the Lily of the Mohawks.

BEGINNING TO READ THE BIBLE

On September 7, I will begin a series of teachings on *Beginning to Read the Bible*. These sessions will be at 11 am and then repeated at 6:30 pm.

The first sessions will be:

Sept. 7	An Introduction to the Bible
Sept. 14	The Word of God in the Words of Human Beings
Sept. 21	Where Did the Bible Come From?
Sept. 28	A Whirlwind History of Israel

I will have some scheduling conflicts over the next few weeks, but when we resume, we will be looking at the opening chapters of the Book of Genesis. The schedule will be:

Oct. 26	The Creation Stories
Nov. 2	The Fall of Man
Nov. 9	Noah and the Flood
Nov. 16	The Tower of Babel

After Thanksgiving we will begin with a three-week series on the Infancy Narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.

Nov. 30	The Infancy Narratives
Dec. 7	Infancy Narrative
Dec. 14	Infancy Narrative

CONVERT INSTRUCTION CLASSES

Are you, or someone you know, interested in joining the Catholic faith? We will begin our Convert Instruction Classes in September. I would really like to hear from you if you are interested, so that I can begin to get to know you and to find out how I can best help you in your spiritual journey. Call me at 859-816-3198.

SAVE THE DATE: Parish Picnic is Sunday, August 20. Watch the bulletin for more details.

NOTICE: No Children's Liturgy in the month of July. It will resume in August.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION is available at Mother of God Church every Thursday after the 12:05 pm. Mass and concludes with Benediction at 5 pm. Would you be willing to spend time in prayer with Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament? Please call our parish office at 859-291-2288 if we can count on you for a regular time each Thursday afternoon. Or just come in to spend time with our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

MASS ON LINE from Mother of God Church, either streaming live or on demand, is provided through the website: www.mother-of-god.org. It is a wonderful way to stay connected with the parish.

TODAY ST. VINCENT de PAUL COLLECTION: Mother of God parishioners have been instrumental in helping the poor, sick and the challenged with food, clothing, rent, household items and utilities because of the generosity of your support. You have helped people stay in their home and not become homeless or fall through the cracks. You will find St. Vincent de Paul envelopes in the pews of church today, and we will be collecting at the doors. You make good works possible. Thank you.

*Congratulations to our newly married:
Matthew and Andrea (Hawkins) Saunders
We wish you much happiness in your married life.*

PRINCE OF PEACE SUMMER expl-ART-ation: Prince of Peace Montessori is offering Art Exploration and Enrichment, focusing on famous artists and creating own original artwork inspired by Impressionists. One week session for 5-8 yr. olds: July 17-21, from 10 am to 11:30 am. One week session for 9-12 yr. olds: July 24-28 from 10 am to 11:30 am. Each session is \$40 per student (includes all materials). \$20 is to be paid as registration, then \$20 on first day of class. Checks or cash is payable to Diana Daniels or Amy Hamant. Email Diana (ddaniels @popcov.com or Amy

(hamant@fuse.net) for more information and for payment.

SUNDAY COLLECTION FIGURES ARE NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING.

PRESENTATION MINISTRIES BIBLE INSTITUTE: 31st Annual Bible Institute, Friday, July 21, to Friday, July 28, at Xavier University Campus. *God's Love and Light Lead the Way!* is the theme for the 2017 Bible Institute. There are daytime seminars and Mass, plus evening healing services and weekend general sessions. Cost is a free-will donation. Online registration is available at presentationministries.com or call 513-922-0923.

CARE NET PREGNANCY SERVICES ANNUAL GOLF SCRAMBLE – Supporting our Fatherhood Parenting Education Program: Join Care Net Pregnancy Services on Friday, August 11, for our annual Golf Scramble at Aston Oaks in North Bend, Ohio. Registration: \$400/foursome. Includes: lunch by JTM Meats; dinner by Texas Roadhouse; 18 holes with cart; silent auction and raffle opportunities will be available. Check-in/lunch begins at noon; tee time is at 1 pm. Register online at www.choselifenky.org or contact kellyhitter@carenetky.org for more information. Corporate sponsorships available contact beth@carenetky.org

PARENTS OF ADDICTED LOVED ONES (PAL) meets every Wednesday, from 6:30 pm to 8 pm, at Catholic Charities. It provides continuing education and support at no charge to parents with a son, daughter, or spouse suffering from addiction to alcohol or drugs. No cost. Just come. Catholic Charities, 3629 Church Street, Latonia, KY. Contact Laura Jackson at 859-581-8974 or www.covingtoncharities.org for more information.

FULL-CHARGE BOOKKEEPER: The Department of Catholic Schools seeks a full-charge bookkeeper in the Diocesan School Food Services (SFS) office. The SFS office oversees all aspects of the food services operations of our participating Catholic schools. The bookkeeper's responsibilities include: A/P data entry, reconciliation, and check-writing; banking transaction data entry, reconciliation, and cash-flow monitoring; payroll submission, data entry, and review; and monthly close of general ledger, including journal entry creation and posting, trial balance preparation, and balance sheet reconciliations. Interested individuals may submit a cover letter, resume, compensation history, and a list of references with email contacts to Stephen Kopyay at skopyay@covdio.org.

ST. ANN NOVENA: July 18-26, at St. Ann Church, 1274 Parkway Ave., Covington, KY. Join in praying through the powerful intercession of St. Ann with daily Novena Prayers and Mass. Novena begins at 7 pm and Mass at 7:15 pm. For more information, call 859-261-9548.

DISCERNMENT DINNER: On the first Sunday of each month, Bishop Foys and Fr. Andrew Young will be hosting a discernment dinner at the Cathedral Rectory (1140 Madison Avenue, Covington, KY) for any men (high school age and older) who are discerning a vocation to the priesthood, open to the possibility of a vocation, or who simply would like to have questions answered about the priesthood or the seminary. These dinners begin at 6:30 pm and usually last an hour to an hour and a half.

The discernment dinners give men an opportunity to meet others from our area who are discerning, build up fraternity among themselves, and also provide an informal atmosphere to have any questions attendees may have about discernment, the seminary, or the priesthood answered.

For ease of planning and to assist any men who may be wanting to mark their calendars, here are the dates for these dinners over the next few months: Aug. 6; Sept. 3; Oct. 1; Nov. 5; and Dec. 3.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, July 9

St. Vincent de Paul Collection

Monday, July 10

7:30 pm, Knights of St. John Mtg. (Hall)

Thursday, July 13

12:45 – 5 pm, Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday, July 16

10:30 am, Christian Service Mtg. (Hall)

HYMNS FOR 9:30 A.M. MASS

Processional Hymn: #484 “O God, Almighty Father”
 Responsorial Psalm: “I will praise your name forever,
 Psalm 145 my King and my God.”
 Offertory Hymn: #600 “What Wondrous Love
 Is This”
 Communion Hymn: #738 “I Am the Bread of Life”
 Recessional: #628 “Go Make of All
 Disciples”

SCRIPTURE FOR JULY 9, 2017: Zechariah 9: 9-10;
 Psalm 145; Romans 8: 9, 11-13; Matthew 11: 25-30.

OUR SICK LIST: You may have your name or the name of a loved one added to our sick list by calling the parish office, 291-2288. We will normally carry that name for one month unless you call for a renewal. Thank you.

LET US PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Les Miley	Hannah Donoghue
Tom Heidrich	Dan Ries
Jerry Bergfeld, Jr.	Beth Redwine
Mary Estelle Roesel	John Bowling
Rose Sketch	Susan Hodge
Richard Kerns	Trudy Koehling
Darius Sheffield	Ralph Kunkemoeller
Pam Neal	Margie Huesman
Robert Gander	Barry Price
Shirley Hensley	Greg Scanlon
Richard Kerns	Robert Schroeder
Michael Carlson	Audrey Manning
Father Ralph Hartman	Makayla Borg
Mary Jo Schwartz	Liz Enzweiler
Carol Jenkins	Mertle Cann
Antonio Revis	Pat Ruttle
Bill Meyer	Greg Carr

MASS INTENTIONS

July 9	9:30 am Parishioners & Memorials
	11:30 am Joseph Rebel
July 10	12:05 pm Chuck Legner
July 11	12:05 pm The Santel Family
July 12	12:05 pm No Mass
July 13	12:05 pm Ed Rolfes
July 14	12:05 pm Special Intention
July 15	12:05 pm Safety of David Sperry
July 16	9:30 am Bernard & Marjorie Ralenkotter
	11:30 am Parishioners & Memorials