

St. Mary's Catholic Church

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 25, 2016

Dear parishioners,



Sometimes people tell me the Catholic Church has too many rules. I've had reason this week to reflect on that. So you are lucky to be my captive audience!

We all know that God intends the best for us. That God has high hopes for us to become all that we can be and that we might use who we are to build up the kingdom of God.

When God began to be present with us humans (long after God had created the universe and us), God began with one man Abram. He removed Abram from his well-known surroundings so that God could create something new—a God whom we would know as loving us and being intimately connected to our lives. Abram needed to be trained in God's ways. So did God's people. Lots of time passed before God gave the people the Ten Commandments. And a lot more time passed before Jesus finally came to show us the way to live.

We are in training. As your children mature, you work with them in the same way. They are in training. As a good parent, you have rules. And you will hear your teens tell you that you are "mean" and you never let them do anything! You also want to keep them safe and help them grow into the best possible adults they can be. So you hold out.

"In the fullness of time" (when God's people were ready) God sent Jesus. In the fullness of time you allow your children more responsibility. In the fullness of time each of us will have grown enough to see the reason for all the Church's rules. The rules are for our benefit, not to lessen our freedom. To give in and let go of the rules is the easy way. To "enter by the narrow gate" will bring us true fulfillment.

Sister Carol

Weekend Masses

Sat Sept 24	4:00 p.m.	Jim Badertscher Kevin Benedict
Sun Sept 25	10:00 a.m.	Leonard & Sally Rieman
Sat Oct 1	4:00 p.m.	Jerry Musser
Sun Oct 2	10:00 a.m.	For the parish

Communion Services

Tue Sept 27	10:30 a.m.	Richland
Fri Sept 30	8:00 a.m.	St. Mary's

SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,115.00	Loose	\$825.05
Children	\$33.88	Total	\$3,973.93

82 envelopes returned = 39%

Thank you for your generosity!

Thank you also to those who give electronically!!

Assignments for October 1 & 2, 2016

Money Counters: Jason Granger and Janet Begg

4:00 p.m.

Greeter: Peg Murphy

Cantor: Katie Hohenbrink

Ushers: Dave and Mary Hoffer

Lector: Caitlyn Couch

E.M.: Jessica Wischmeyer, Brianna Atkins,
Basil Meyer

Servers: Zane and Grace Myers

10:00 a.m.

Greeter-East door: Lisa Welch

Greeter-West Door: Logan Welch

Cantor: Karen Phillips

Ushers: Trent/Todd and Colin Phillips

Lectors: Mel Heitmeyer and Shannon Wannemacher

E.M.: Wes Lovett, Lisa Welch, Logan Welch,
Megan Dulle and Mackenzie Butler

Servers: Drew and Ken Lovett, Jonathan Hoorman

Readings for October 2, 2016

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

2nd Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10

Don't forget to save your Community Markets receipts and turn them in so we can get Reward dollars for the Religious Education programs here at St. Mary's.

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Pastoral Council Please pray for the members of our Pastoral Council who will be spending today, Sunday, in retreat at Maria Stein.

Don't forget! Saturday, October 1, the 4:00 o'clock Mass will be a polka Mass. The music will be in the style of polka music. **AND** immediately after Mass we will share some pizza to celebrate Father John's 40th anniversary of ordination. Please come and join in the celebration!



Year of Mercy Our bishop is asking us this weekend to pray for the men and women suffering post-abortion grief. Our prayer is that they will know the mercy and forgiveness of God.

2016 Diocesan Celebration of Wedding Jubilees:

"Marriage is the icon of God's love for us" –Pope Francis

Join Bishop Daniel Thomas and the Office of Marriage and Family at Our Lady Queen of the Most Holy Rosary Cathedral on Sunday, October 23, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. to commemorate 25, 40, 50, 60, and 60-plus years of marriage for couples in the Diocese of Toledo. Mass includes the renewal of matrimonial vows, and registered couples will receive a commemorative certificate. To register go to: www.1023mass.eventbrite.com, contact Marsha Rivas, 419-214-4938, or call your parish office at 419-358-8631. Registration deadline is October 13, 2016.

Support Our Retired Priests: Please consider a donation to Perpetuate The Gift Appeal being held the weekend of October 8-9. Your gift benefits our retired diocesan priests and your Parish. Once a priest retires he is responsible for his own personal expenses: medical, housing, car, clothing and food. All funds contributed between October 1, 2016 and December 31, 2016 help reduce the amount the parish contributes to the fund. A gift of cash or check can be sent to Perpetuate The Gift, PO Box 954, Toledo, OH 43697 or placed in the parish collection. A gift may also be made online at www.toledodiocese.org. If you would like to give a gift of stock or designate a bequest to help our retired priests, please contact Karen Szymanski at 419-244-6711 or email at kszymanski@toledodiocese.org

Make plans to attend Catholic Charities Fall Fundraiser, "A Journey into the World of Mother Teresa," Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016, beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn, Perrysburg. Help Catholic Charities raise funds to meet the increasing need for food, shelter, medical care and more. Our transformative ministries provide help and hope to over 45,000 individuals of all faiths, annually, in the 19-county Diocese of Toledo.

Guest speaker Linda Schaefer, the last photojournalist given permission by Mother Teresa herself to photograph the work of the Missionaries of Charity, will share a pictorial and video journey, as witness to Mother Teresa's legacy. Bishop Daniel E. Thomas will share insights and reflections on St. Teresa of Calcutta's life's work and the importance of Catholic Charities providing help and hope to the poor in this Jubilee Year of Mercy and beyond. More information is on the bulletin board in the narthex.

Matrimony: In marriage, communication is more than just talking. At some point, did you stop sharing about the things that were important to you? Did your spouse? Improving a marriage takes time and a conscious effort to learn about your spouse. Growing closer in a marriage does not happen automatically. Retrouvaille is a marriage program dedicated to helping couples grow closer and develop a stronger bond. You give your heart and soul to everything you do, between your work and your family. Are you giving your heart and soul to your marriage? Sometimes the distance between a husband and a wife can seem so wide that it cannot be repaired. Retrouvaille is a marriage program designed to bring couples closer together. For more information about our October 7-9 Retrouvaille Weekend program for couples, contact registration team: Joe and Arlene @ 419-841-1116 or visit www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

P.R.E.P

Children's Liturgy of the Word is during the 10 o'clock Mass.

K-6: Next class is Wednesday, September 28 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Also, there is a Parents' Reconciliation meeting.

Jr. High Next class is Sunday, October 2nd from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.