


Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 21, 2008

Seek God... 
call God's name.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY September 20

5:00 PM PETER FALVO SR.
r/o Susie Falvo

SUNDAY, September 21

8:00 AM ALTAR ROSARY SOCIETY

10:30 AM ROCCO MARONE
r/o Rosemann Marone

MONDAY, September 22

8:30 AM ANNE MAURER
r/o Diane Thomas

TUESDAY, September 23

8:30 AM JOSEPH WALSH
r/o Mr. & Mrs. William Supple Jr.

WEDNESDAY, September 24

8:30 AM PETER MARTINEZ
r/o Karl & Rose Strohmaier

THURSDAY, September 25

8:30 AM JACOB CARBONE
r/o THERESA CARBONE

FRIDAY, September 26

8:30 AM No Mass

SATURDAY September 27

5:00 PM MASE & GAMBUCCI FAMILY
r/o Stephanie & Corky Pasquini

SUNDAY, September 28

8:00 AM MARY DOWHANIK
r/o Joe & Emily Cirone

10:30 AM ANTHONY S. SIRIANNI
r/o Charlene Cote

Dear Parishioners!

Matthew 20:1-16

Growing up in a large, traditional, farming family has its advantages. When the crop is ready for harvest, the whole family is out in the field working together. They do not work at the same pace. Dad and big brother would be in the field very early while little sister is still asleep. Mom and little sister would join them in the farm later. You see, dad and big brother go to work without breakfast but little sister would not go anywhere without breakfast. When she finally arrives in the farm she is more interested in asking silly questions and distracting the workers than in the work itself. At the end of the day all go home happy together. Supper is prepared and served. Does anyone suggest that you eat as much as you have worked? Not at all! Often the same little sister who did the least work is pampered with the best food. Yet no one complains, no one is jealous, and everyone is happy.

In today's gospel we hear of a harvest in which some workers put in more work than others. When pay time comes, they are all treated equally and the early birds among them begin to complain and grumble. Why do the workers in the vineyard complain and grumble whereas the workers in the family farm do not? The answer is simple. One group of workers is made up of family members and the other of unrelated individuals drawn from the wider society. The norms of behavior, of contribution and reward, in a family are different from those in the wider society. The big question that the parable poses to us in the church today is, "Do we see ourselves as family with a common purpose or do we see ourselves as a bunch of individuals, each with their own agenda? We call ourselves brothers and sisters. Why then do we often see and treat one another as rivals and competitors?"

Today we are called upon to review our all too legalistic notion of the kingdom of God and see it more as a family where we are happy to expect from everyone according to their means and give to each according to their need -- as God our Father does.

In Christ,

Fr. Zenek, S.D.S.



Sanctuary Candle

In Memory of Jim Karpinski

By Lisa, James & Linda

Disabilities Ministry

You are invited to join us in building up our diocesan Ministry with People with Disabilities and Special Needs. On Thursday, September 25th, the Office of Respect for Life will be hosting an evening of reflection and roundtable discussion on ways to find new pathways, develop new partnerships and bring new vitality to the disabilities ministry. The evening will be held at the St. John Neumann Pastoral Center and will begin at 7:30 pm with a special screening of the short film, *The Collector of Bedford Street*. Please register to attend by calling Angela at 732-562-1990 ext. 1543

ATTENTION ALL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

A meeting of the St. Theodore's Youth Group will be held on September 28 following the 10:30 a.m. Mass. Proposed activities and meetings for the new school year will be discussed. We hope to see you there!

Sandra and Andrew.

Bishop's Annual Appeal

The past weekend marked the kick-off of the 2008 Bishop's Annual Appeal. This year's theme, *Continuing the Mission of Christ*, is a reminder that each of us plays a role in advancing the mission of the Church.

This year, many of us are being challenged by the state of the economy. Yet, there are others less fortunate and vital ministries that need our support. We remain committed to *Continuing the Mission of Christ*: in the work of evangelization, in the work of transmitting and strengthening the faith, and in works of justice and mercy on behalf of people in need.

In all that we do, we strive to unite our Diocesan family into one community of faith, service and worship. You will be receiving an information packet in the mail. I ask that you take the time to learn more about the diocesan ministries serving Middlesex, Somerset, Hunterdon and Warren counties, which are supported by the Bishop's Annual Appeal. Please prayerfully consider a sacrificial gift knowing that your participation is critical to sustaining these pastoral, educational and charitable ministries. Keep in mind that you may pledge your gift over four months - in this way you can budget your gift if this works best for your circumstances. In any case, please know that every gift is important; every gift is appreciated.

I am confident that, through the combined efforts of the faithful of the Diocese of Metuchen, we will achieve our goal of *Continuing the Mission of Christ*. Thank you for your continued generosity to both the parish and the Diocese.

Fr. Zenek, S.D.S.

CHOIR REHEARSALS

Senior Choir: Sundays 9 a.m. (Sept. 21; Oct. 5, & 19)

Junior Choir: Sundays 9 a.m. (Sept. 28; Oct. 12 & 26)

ATTENTION THOSE GOING TO THE HUNTERDON HILLS PLAYHOUSE

dinner theater on October 18, please stop by the Parish Center to select your entrée ASAP. The Alter Rosary Society must call the Playhouse with the selections

Life Chair of Warren County: On October 5 our church will join with churches throughout Warren County to stand along the sidewalks in Phillipsburg holding signs stating, "Abortion Kills Children" and "Adoption: The Loving Option" in silent, peaceful, and prayerful witness against the unmerciful killing of God's innocent pre-born babies. For information call 908-213-6974

God's Plan for Giving

September 13 & 14, 2008: \$ 4,146.75

Last Year: \$ 5,484.79

May God bless you for your continued support of St. Theodore Parish.

Flame of Charity Dinner

The 25th Annual Flame of Charity Dinner will take place on Thursday, October 23, 2008 at 6:00 pm at the Hyatt Regency in New Brunswick. Proceeds from this event help support the social service programs of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Metuchen. Catholic Charities in the Diocese of Metuchen has continued to be one of the most efficient charities with over 93 percent of funds spent on direct programs and services. Through its broad program of services throughout Hunterdon, Middlesex, Somerset and Warren Counties, it helps thousands of clients each year with shelter and housing, prevention and intervention services, foster care, adoption, prenatal and child care services, counseling and essential health care. For more information call: 732-562-2436

MINISTRIES

ALTAR SERVERS

- Sept. 20 Nick Moorehead, Sean Flaherty
Sept. 21 Robert & Juliette Capaldo (8am)
Melissa Ciaro, Melody Haag, Miranda Vargo (10:30am)
Sept. 27 Carlee Moran & Sean Flaherty
Sept. 28 Mackenize & Robert Mason (8am)
Mackenzie & Samantha Sbashnig & Gianna Orrechio (10:30am)

LECTORS

- Sept. 20 Nancy Guerriere
Sept. 21 Joan Capaldo (8am)
Helene Picht (10:30am)
Sept. 27 John Haines
Sept. 28 Theresa Lucas (8am)
Mary Rupell (10:30am)

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS

- Sept. 20 Denise Flaherty (C) Ray Vonderheide (C)
Tim Flaherty (E)
Sept. 21 Karl Strohmaier (C) Emily Cirone (C)
Rose Strohmaier (E) (8am)
Joy Haag (C) Mary Koskoff (C) Phil Koskoff (E)
(10:30am)
Sept. 27 Paul Buckley (C) Lorraine Buckley (C)
(E)
Sept. 28 Diane Keggan (C) Nadie Hill (C)
(E) (8:00am)
Tina Jackson (C) Helene Picht (C)
(E) (10:30am)

