

## ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Today's Readings:** Deuteronomy 30:10-14/Colossians 1:15-20/Luke 10:25-37

### GOSPEL GLIMPSES Tough love

We learn to barter as small children. Told to eat their vegetables a child replies, "Do I have to eat them *all*?" Many a parent has bargained through dinner, "Come on, three more bites." "Ok, you don't have to eat the crusts, but eat half the carrots." Wheedling our way out of unpleasant tasks, seems to be inherent in the human character. Loving, but firm parents need "tough love" to hold children to a higher standard, doing what's best for them no matter how hard it is for everyone concerned.

In today's gospel Jesus gives the scholar a large, difficult task: "Love your neighbor as yourself." Instinctively, the scholar barter: "And *who* is my neighbor?" Faced with a plateful of spinach, peas and lima beans, the scholar hopes he only has to eat the peas to be excused. Jesus, like any good parent, shows the scholar the best kind of "tough love." He firmly holds up the higher standard. We are to love everyone, even the most "un-lovable" people we encounter. Those are the rules of God's table – no wheedling allowed. Just love, tough love, and God's Holy Spirit to enable us to live it.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** Genesis 18:1-10a/Colossians 1:24-28/Luke 10:38-42



### World Mission Sunday

Next weekend is our annual mission appeal for the work of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Father Robert Haas, representing the Office of Global Concerns, will share with us how we can help others to witness to the Gospel through our prayer and financial support of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. Please be generous in helping others to have the Gospel preached and Eucharist celebrated.

#### St. Vincent de Paul Report for the 4th quarter, April 1 to June 30.



Utilities	\$4,271.65
Rent	\$1,800.00
Medicine	\$209.11
Gasoline	\$200.00
Misc.	\$184.99
Total	\$6,665.75

Families helped: 145, individuals: 293. Thank you for the continued support!

**Eucharistic Adoration– Devotions:** During the heat of the day come to refresh your spirit and body at 4:00 pm on July 17, at St. Mary Church. Come and experience the presence and peace of the Lord. If we are to be instruments of peace, we ourselves must be at peace. There will be devotions to Our Lady of Perpetual Help and recitation of the Rosary, bringing us into vivid images of the high points in the Lord's life and ministry, as well as that of His Blessed Mother. God is begging your presence. We welcome the members of St. Mary Junction to experience this service.

**Ceiling fans in church:** We have been asked why the fans cannot be used. Recently there was an article in the newspaper describing the use of ceiling fans to keep a room cool. The advice was to keep them running to cool a room. If your home has a ceiling fan you know the comfort it brings just to keep air flowing. *However*, cooling a residential room and cooling our church are two totally different issues. With the tall ceiling that St. Mary's has all the heat raises to the top and it hovers there. The church ceiling fans do not have alternating switches designed for winter and summer, they only blow the air down. In the summer, as our air conditioner runs, it is best to leave that hot air up in the peaks so we cannot feel it. There is also an operational cost savings when you only air condition the bottom portion of the space and not the top. To those who question this decision, if you prefer, consult with any HVAC company and they will agree with this decision. Just to give you a small example – recently Joe Niese, our Maintenance Mgr., was cleaning the church carpet with the AC on. He turned on the fans to hopefully circulate more air and dry the carpet quicker. Joe said he was amazed at how quickly the church got 10 to 20 degrees hotter with the fans running and pushing down the hot air. So – please trust our judgment, we are only trying to utilize the cooling system the best way possible.

**Thank you– In memory of Louis Janicek**, the family has given a donation to St. Mary Church. Please accept our sincere gratitude. We ask that you remember Louis and his family in your prayers.

### Thank you.....

Those words do not begin to describe my gratitude for the awesome financial support (\$1,144) and words of encouragement I have received from my St Mary's church family. Many of you don't know me yet; it is your great faith in God and his mission that is so evident. While it was difficult to ask for assistance, it is equally hard to express my gratitude. The mere thought brings countless tears of joy. It is one week until I leave on our pilgrimage and shortly there after begin to build homes for the less fortunate. God's gift of this opportunity along with your generous support makes it possible for me to take the love and spirit of our parish to our African brothers and sisters in Mozambique. Upon my return I look forward to sharing my experience and the stories of our new friends in Africa. Thank you again for all you have done and your continued prayers as together we journey in Christ.

### Holidays and Everyday Training

The Bereavement Action Committee of Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo is offering a training session for any bereavement minister or bereavement support group facilitator interested in hosting Holidays and Everyday program at their respective parish, church or organization. This program is designed for those who are going through the holiday season after experiencing the loss of a loved one. This year the training will take place on Saturday, August 11 at the Catholic Center, downtown Toledo, from 10:00 am to noon. There is no fee, but registration is mandatory for planning purposes. Call Germaine Kirk, Catholic Charities at 419-244-6711, ext. 431 or email at [gkirk@toledodiocese.org](mailto:gkirk@toledodiocese.org). Registration deadline is August 6.

In today's Gospel, when Jesus asks "which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers' victim?" the scholar of the law answered, "the one who treated him with mercy." Jesus then said, "Go and do likewise." This week you can also "treat the poor with mercy" by giving a gift to the **St. Vincent de Paul Society**.

**Dishes from funeral dinners can be picked up at the Parish Ministry Center.**

### St. Mary's Altar & Rosary Society

St. Mary's Altar and Rosary Society will have a booth at our Parish Festival. Items needed will be: new craft items, baked goods, plants and fresh produce. Please be working on craft items to donate. More information will be available closer to the festival. For questions, contact Rose Pessefall at 419-782-7094.

### Vegetables Needed for Food Pantry

Are you one of those "green thumb" gardeners who always grows more than you can use? Or perhaps you're one of those grocery shoppers who can't resist buying "bunches" of the fresh produce now available in the stores? If you have more than you need, please think of the Catholic Food Pantry at St. Mary Church in Defiance. People are really delighted to get fresh vegetables. A good time to drop off your surplus veggies is just before 3 pm on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. We can start using them immediately. Thanks for helping those in need!

**Marriage Help:** Retrouvaille has helped tens of thousands of couples at all stages of disillusionment or misery in their marriage. This program can help you too. For confidential information about or to register for the next program beginning with a weekend on August 17-19, call 800-470-2230. Visit the website at [www.HelpOurMarriage.com](http://www.HelpOurMarriage.com).

*"Our nation celebrated its independence earlier this month. I celebrated my independence and freedom from the burden of my abortion on the day I called the Project Rachel helpline. God healed my pain and brought new joy to my heart." Mary*

If you are seeking confidential support to find your freedom, call 419-260-5811, or email [projectrachel@toledodiocese.org](mailto:projectrachel@toledodiocese.org). New groups are forming.

**Financial Peace University Quote:** I have two college degrees. This is the best class I have taken. Dawn Rath, FPU graduate

**Catholics in Alliance Statement on the Defeat of Immigration Reform Legislation**

The inability of Congress to pass a just and humane immigration bill is a political and moral failure, and we are profoundly disappointed that leaders from both parties could not put the common good and human dignity above partisan politics.

The defeat of this legislation will only mean more immigrants dying in the desert, families being torn apart, and workers left without basic protections on the job. Our nation's broken immigration policies continue to abandon millions of hard working immigrants who make vital contributions to our society stranded in the shadows. We call on Congress to renew efforts to pass comprehensive immigration reform and not to drop this critical issue until after the presidential elections.

As Catholics, our faith calls us to treat all people with dignity. We continue to stand in solidarity with those strangers among us who are often demeaned by hateful speech and inhumane policies. We remain committed to working with Catholic social justice organizations to push our elected leaders to pass comprehensive immigration reform that balances the legitimate need to protect our borders with policies that keep families together, provide undocumented immigrants with an earned path to citizenship, and address the root causes of global migration. We would encourage you to contact your Congressman and Senators in regards to this issue:

**Senator George Voinovich**

524 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington D.C. 20510  
202-224-3353

Email: [Voinovich.senate.gov/public/index.cfuFuseAction=Contact](mailto:Voinovich.senate.gov/public/index.cfuFuseAction=Contact)

**Rep. Paul Gilmore**

Longworth House Office Bldg  
Washington D.C. 20515  
202-225-6405

**Senator Sherrod Brown**

455 Russell Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington D.C.  
202-224-2315

**EN THEOS-Enthusiasm for the Faith**

**Can you explain more about Islam? What are the "Five Pillars" of belief and practice?**

Islam involves the practice of handing oneself over to God. This is accomplished primarily through the Five Pillars of Islam. The five pillars are the creed, prayers, fasting, almsgiving and pilgrimage.

The first pillar, the Muslim creed, emphasizes the absolute oneness of God by stating that there is no God but God and that Muhammad is God's prophet. By affirming this creed and living accordingly, one professes to be a Muslim.

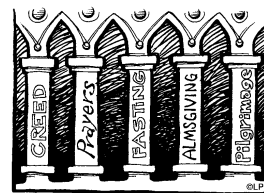
The second pillar stresses the need for prayer by obliging every Muslim to pray five times a day. This ensures that one does not forget God, nor God's will during the hectic activity of the day.

The third pillar highlights the need to fast during the month of Ramadan to purify one's desires and passions, along with developing sensitivity to the poor who go hungry and thirsty daily.

The fourth pillar advises almsgiving to the poor and needy. Such almsgiving is not optional for Muslims. This Muslim practice expresses the belief that all possessions are given by God. God desires that we share what we have been given with those who do not have as much.

The fifth pillar is the devotional practice of pilgrimage to the holy sites in Mecca. Pilgrimage is not an obligation, but a privilege. Visiting the sacred sites strengthens the universal bond among all Muslims and heightens the experience of being in touch with the holy.

How do you express similar faith values in your daily life?



God rewards every good work.  
Matthew Kelly

**Parish Finances– Stewardship of Treasure**

Week of July 8 You Gave .....	\$11,013.50
2007-2008 Year to Date .....	\$21,733.00
2006-2007 Year to Date .....	\$20,500.50
Fiscal Year to Date <i>GAIN</i> .....	\$1,884.00

**Upcoming Events**

- **The 60th Annual Ney Homecoming** will be held Thursday, July 19. A full menu will be served from 5 to 8 pm featuring Port-A-Pit BBQ chicken dinners, homemade noodles and pies, ice cream and other menu selections. Entertainment includes a frog jumping contest, water balloon contest, 50/50 drawings every hour, a Chinese auction, various games and a raffle with cash prizes.
- Golfers wanted for **Wauseon St. Caspar's Golf Outing** to benefit their Life Teen youth program. Thursday, July 19 at 12:30 pm. \$55 per person includes 18 holes and a steak dinner. Call 419-337-2322.
- On July 29 the **Sonrise Community Church** (14089 SR 249, Ney Ohio) will be hosting a lunch in support of the School of Urban Studies, Inc. (SOUS) next mission trip to Tijuana, Mexico. Lunch will be served from 11:30 am until 1:00 pm.
- **K of C Mixed Scramble Golf Outing**– Saturday, August 4, shot-gun start at 8:30 am, includes steak lunch, 18 holes of golf, cart, beverage on the course, need a 18 home handicap. Contact Devon Werder at 419-542-8847 by July 29th.
- **St. Anthony's Summer Festival**, Columbus Grove– Sunday, August 5, 11:00 am to 10:00 pm.
- **Norwalk St. Paul's Parish Festival**– August 4, 5:00 pm to 11:00 pm and August 5, 11:30 am to 10:00 pm.

**A Family Perspective:** Jesus set the scene: “a man was robbed, beaten and left for dead.” How would people react? Two found an EXCUSE to avoid helping; another saw an OPPORTUNITY to be merciful. When we encounter situations calling for mercy, do we create excuses or seize the opportunity to extend the compassion of Christ?

**Mass Intentions**

- Monday, July 16**  
8:00 AM Communion Service
- Tuesday, July 17**  
8:00 AM Richard Kohout
- Wednesday, July 18**  
8:00 AM Margaret Leis
- Thursday, July 19**  
8:00 AM Josh Steele
- Friday, July 20**  
8:00 AM Lucille Mekus
- Saturday, July 21**  
4:30 PM Robert Buchholz
- Sunday, July 22**  
8:00 AM John Drasiewski  
9:30 AM Catherine Bond  
11:30 AM Michael Beerbower

**Events For This Week**

- Monday, July 16**  
SVDP 7:00 pm PMC  
Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm PMC
- Tuesday, July 17**  
CL of C 1:30 pm PMC  
OLPH Devotions 4:00 pm Church
- Wednesday, July 18**  
Social Justice Mtg 5:00 pm PMC  
Shep of Christ Prayer Grp 6:00 pm Church
- Thursday, July 19**  
Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church
- Friday, July 20**  
Spanish Prayer Group 7:00 pm Chapel
- Sunday, July 22**  
Financial Peace Session 6:30 pm PMC

**Daily Readings for This Week**

Readings for the Week of July 15, 2007

Monday:	Ex 1:8-14, 22/Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday:	Ex 2:1-15a/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Ex 3:1-6, 9-12/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Ex 3:13-20/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Ex 11:10-12:14/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Ex 12:37-42/Mt 12:14-21

Do you know...?

The methods that advertising uses to get you to spend your money? Be informed at **Financial Peace University**. Classes starting this fall.

*Wedding Banns*

Banns II Lindsay Boland & Michael Rolf