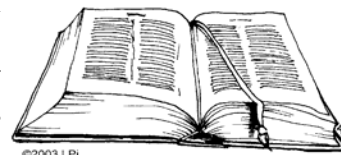


ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

Today's Readings: Genesis 18:20-32/Colossians 2:12-14/Luke 11:1-13

GOSPEL GLIMPSES: Satisfaction guaranteed

How easily promises are made in the world today. Everything we buy or sell seems to come with a guarantee, from the bread we eat to the cars we drive. Newspaper and TV advertisements shout "Complete satisfaction or your money back!" "Guaranteed to make your life easier, better, happier...." The problem is that so many of these are "pie crust promises" – easily made and easily broken. After a few disappointments we learn to take lightly the promises we hear, even from trusted sources.



This mistrust seeps over into our relationship with God, too. It's easy to treat God's words as lightly as those we read in the daily paper. But today's gospel gently reminds us that God keeps His promises. Like the neighbor who needed bread for his visitor, when we faithfully and consistently pray, God will hear us and provide what we need. Not always what we want, but something better: the "good gift" He knows we need. It's a lifetime guarantee. Certified, testable, 100% provable.

Next Sunday's Readings: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23/Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11/Luke 2:13-21

Have you been invited to any summer weddings? We have the perfect gift for the happy couple– Kevin Anderson's book "The 7 Spiritual Practices of Marriage". The book is available in the Parish Ministry Center for \$16.95. Come pick up a copy today.

Lost and Found: Have you lost something and have not found it? We have sunglasses, rosaries, jewelry, baby items, etc... The lost and found cabinet will be cleaned out, so please check for your missing items. Thank you!

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!

Please continue to donate during the summer the basic items that we give:

noodles	macaroni & cheese
spaghetti & sauce	tuna fish
cereal	canned vegetables
crackers	canned fruits
canned meat	toilet paper
pork & beans	hygiene items
soup	peanut butter

Please turn in your raffle tickets this week to be eligible for the \$25 Early Bird drawing. We will draw each Monday starting August 6. You can turn in raffle tickets in the collection basket, in the mail or bring them to the parish office. Additional tickets are available at the parish office. Thanks to everyone who has turned in tickets already and for the many who have volunteered to help at the festival.

Annual Diocesan 25th/50th Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Leonard P. Blair invites couples across the Diocese who have celebrated or are celebrating their 25th, 50th, 60th or more year wedding anniversary in 2007 to a special Mass and reception in their honor. This event will take place on Sunday, September 30 at 3:00 pm at Rosary Cathedral in Toledo. Each celebrating couple will have reserved seats. They will receive a certificate signed by Bishop Leonard P. Blair recognizing their commitment to each other in their marriage. A reception will follow in the Cathedral Hall. If this is your special anniversary year, please come and celebrate your marriage. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, August 22, so please respond today. To make your reservation, call the parish office at 782-2776.

Retiro in Spanish August 11th and 12th at Defiance Catholic School Hall- St. Mary Campus, 702 Washington Ave., Defiance. With Chicago team and their music ministry. Theme: "Mis ovejas reconocen mi voz, y yo las conozco y ellas me siguen." Sn John 10:27. For more information call Fela Trevino at 784-4508.

Parish Ministry Campaign Update

To Date– Cost of Project	\$1,743,182.35
Collected Pledges/Other Income ..	\$1,704,382.99
Pledges yet to be collected.....	\$30,460.50
Shortfall	\$8,338.86

**Be Not Afraid Family Hour
New Series on DC-TV5**

“The Holy Spirit, Mary and the Virtue of Hope”
Learn about the gifts of the Holy Spirit and Our Blessed Mother’s role in helping us live the virtue of hope. The series also teaches about the spirit of purification, prayer, holiness, the way of Christian joy and much more. This new series begins **July 29th at 2:00 pm**. These Be Not Afraid family hours were inspired by Mother Teresa to unite families and foster family prayer and values. Each hour also includes: a meditative rosary, a brief catechism session and footage of Pope John Paul II and Mother Teresa.

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.

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. Registration deadline is August 6.

*Two unforgettable evenings with Matthew Kelly:
BECOMING-THE-BEST-VERSION-OF-YOURSELF*

You are invited to join us as we welcome **Matthew Kelly** to Defiance on September 18 & 19, 2007 at 7:00 pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall.

Matthew Kelly is a *New York Times* bestselling author and is widely recognized today as one of the best speakers in the world. With his keen sense of humor and heart-warming charm, Kelly has been effortlessly elevating and energizing audiences in more than 50 countries for more than a decade. Throughout these two evenings in September, Matthew Kelly will discuss God’s dream for us to become *the-best-version-of-ourselves* and the role that our relationships and our faith play in the quest to discover lasting happiness.

“Only then do we come to the stunning realization that: Anything or anyone that does not bring you alive is too small for you.”

Each night, Matthew Kelly will present a different talk.

Do not miss this opportunity to hear one of the most captivating and sought-after voices of our time!
Questions? Call 419.782.2776.

**ALL AGES ARE WELCOME AND
ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND!**

First Saturday of Reparation

Our Lady again reminds us of her deep desire for all her children to observe the Five First Saturdays. “I have come to my Son for the evil that is abundant in this time. I have called you to this day of great grace to fulfill my request of Fatima. In the completion of these Five First Saturdays, grace shall be given to your soul as a gift from my Immaculate Heart. He is greatly pleased by this, for you are also paying homage to Him in this way.” Come this Saturday, August 4th and join us in making reparation to Her Immaculate Heart. Mass begins at 8:00 am followed by video teaching and rosary with confession.

**UPCOMING FESTIVALS AND
EVENTS:**

Saturday, August 4th- K of C Mixed Golf Outing at Hickory Hills Golf Course, Hicksville. Shot-gun start at 8:30 am. Includes steak lunch, 18 holes of golf, cart and beverage on the course. Contact Devon Werder at 419-542-8847 by July 29th.

**Saturday, August 4th, (5:00 pm to 11:00 pm)
Sunday, August 5th, (11:30 am to 10:00 pm)**
Norwalk St. Paul Festival. Raffle Grand Prize \$10,000. Chicken dinners all day Saturday. Carryout available. Food, fun and games for all!

Sunday, August 5th- St. Louis Parish Festival. SR 281 Custar, Ohio. 11:00 am-10:00 pm. Delicious BBQ chicken and baked ham dinners, Mexican food, burgers and more. Activities: kid's games, bingo, card games, giant waterslide, corn hole tournament and entertainment.

Sunday, August 12th- St. Joseph Homecoming Festival, Fort Jennings. 11:00 am to 7:00 pm on the grounds of the newly built Church. Family style chicken and roast beef dinners, raffle, bingo, kid's games and more.

Sunday, August 26th- St. Patrick's Festival, 610 S Portland St, Bryan. 11:00 am to 3:30 pm. This year's events include chicken and ham dinners, grand raffle, silent auction, bake sale, children's games, clowns, quilt raffle and live Christian music.

Sunday, September 9th- St. Francis Spirituality Center Fall BBQ, 12:00 to 3:00 pm at Elizabeth Schaefer Hall, 200 St. Francis Ave, Tiffin, Ohio. Grandma's Backyard BBQ \$8, raffle drawing, campus tour, kids games, and homemade ice cream.

**Saturday, September 15, (5:30 to 11:30 pm)
Sunday, September 16, (11:30 am to 4:00 pm)**
St. Mary Parish Festival, 715 Jefferson Ave, Defiance. Altar Society Booth, raffle drawing, food and beverages, kid's games, duck & horse races, Boy Scout cobbler, adult games, adult dance, bingo and much more! Come hear our own Rick Small MC the duck races on Saturday night. It will "quack you up"

EN THEOS - Enthusiasm for the Faith

Is it true that at one time there were married popes who were succeeded in the papacy by their own children?

For the first thousand years of the Church's history, there was no celibacy requirement for priests, bishop or even popes. Celibacy was required of those entering religious life, but not of those clerics who were not members of monastic or religious communities. As time went on, celibacy was seen as the more spiritual and more exalted way to follow Christ. Soon pressure was exerted for a more universal practice of celibacy. However, it was not mandated for the ordained until the year 1139.

We know that priests and bishops were married, but few know that popes were also married. We know for certain that Peter, to whom popes trace their lineage, was married, for the Gospels tell that Jesus cured his mother-in-law of sickness. Most of the bishops of Rome from the first century onwards, later referred to as popes, were married as well.

Adrian II, pope from 867-872, seems to have been the last married pope. Not only were there a number of married popes, but children of popes actually succeeded their fathers to the papacy. Anastasius I, pope from 395-401, was immediately succeeded to the papacy by his son, Innocent I, pope from 401-417. Pope Hormisdas, pope from 514-523, had a son, Silverius, who succeeded him as pope from 536-537.

Not only are these married Church leaders and their sons legitimate popes, but they are also saints.

What are your thoughts and feelings concerning such realities?



Parish Finances– Stewardship of Treasure

Week of July 22 You Gave	\$9,595.00
2007-2008 Year to Date	\$41,128.00
2006-2007 Year to Date	\$38,270.75
Fiscal Year to Date <i>GAIN</i>	\$6,570.50

**Defiance Catholic School Benefit Calendar
Winners July 2007**

Marlene Eberle \$100, Sharon Noffsinger, Don Knueve, Tammy Good, Tyler Shafer, Barb Schlosser, Dan Light, Marisol Franco, Mary Grosenbacher, Dan Light, Kelly & Jeremy Thiel, Larry Noffsinger, Mike Wurst, James & Joanne Murphy, Steingass Children, James Johnson, Norice Bechtol, Todd Meyer, Brent Monnin, Dave & Holly Schultz, Trudy Meyer, John Archambeault, Kenny & Amy Daeger, Dale Hess, Deemia Bickford, Matt Meyer, Juanita Sharbough, Roberta Fintel, James & Shelly Botoha, and Jo Froelich.

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.

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that God is our “Father” and just as a parent’s love for their children is unlimited, so is God’s love and care for us unlimited. Your gifts to **the Society of St. Vincent de Paul** helps the poor to know that God is indeed their “Father”. **This week, please say a special prayer each day for the poor and forgotten in our parish.**

Are you...?
Informed about credit bureaus and collection laws? Check out **Financial Peace University**. Classes starting this fall.



A Family Perspective: Today’s gospel began with Jesus “praying in a certain place.” He prayed where he was, among his friends. Pausing to pray in our homes, a parent “gives a good gift” to their children teaching them to turn to the Lord as a partner and friend.

WELCOME to our parish community! We are happy to have you here with us. A *special welcome* to any guests who may be visiting. May your visit be blessed.

Mass Intentions

Monday, July 30

8:00 AM Communion Service

Tuesday, July 31

8:00 AM Lambert Burkhardt

Wednesday, August 1

8:00 AM Communion Service

Thursday, August 2

8:00 AM Communion Service

Friday, August 3

8:00 AM Communion Service

Saturday, August 4

4:30 PM Charles & Rosetta Fronk Family

Sunday, August 5

8:00 AM Paul Cape Family
Bill Small

9:30 AM Living & Deceased Members of the
Jacob Westrick Family

11:30 AM Douglas Sholl

Events For This Week

Monday, July 30

SVDP 7:00 pm PMC
Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm PMC

Wednesday, August 1

Shep of Christ Prayer Group 6:00 pm Church

Thursday, August 2

Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church

Friday, August 3

Spanish Prayer Group 7:00 pm Chapel

Sunday, August 5

Baptism Instruction 1:30 pm PMC
Financial Peace 6:30 pm PMC

Daily Readings for This Week

Readings for the Week of July 29, 2007

Monday:	Ex 32:15-24, 30-34/Mt 13:31-35
Tuesday:	Ex 33:7-11; 34:5b-9, 28/Mt 13:36-43
Wednesday:	Ex 34:29-35/Mt 13:44-46
Thursday:	Ex 40:16-21, 34-38/Mt 13:47-53
Friday:	Lv 23:1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/ Mt 13:54-58
Saturday:	Lv 25:1, 8-17/Mt 14:1-12

To be sincere is to let people get to know the real person you are.
Matthew Kelly