

## ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

**Today's Readings:** Hebrew 1:2-3; 2:2-4/2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14/Luke 17:5-10

### GOSPEL GLIMPSES "All Done!"

How we love to "get things done." Whether we're wearing a suit and carrying a planner, or dressed in jeans with a tattered piece of scrap paper, it's great to check the last task off our list. We're pre-programmed to expect a good dose of self indulgence to follow any demanding work schedule. And that expectation is supported by hundreds of self-help books and success seminars. Get all your work done and then settle back to enjoy yourself. You've earned it!

But the work of God doesn't come with a to-do list. Today's gospel tells us that even if we do all that God commands us, we can't expect to sit back and rest on our laurels. As His children we should be constantly seeking another opportunity to serve Him. Every morning newspaper carries the proof that there is still so much to be done for the world in His name. Our rest and reward will come, but not here on earth. And although we cannot say relax and say "all done" here, if we consistently strive to serve Him, He will say "well done" when we arrive in heaven.

**Next Sunday's Readings:** 2 Kings 5:14-17/2 Timothy 2:8-13/Luke 17:11-19

**Stewardship of Time, Talent & Treasure:** Today we begin our annual appeal for new and renewal commitments to ministries within our parish. We invite each of you to review the brochure being mailed to homes this week and decide where the gifts that God has blessed you with can best be used. Again we are using the colored envelopes to bring forth our *Stewardship of Treasure* as we help to develop God's plan for his church.

Lord,  
We thank you for our bountiful gifts.  
As a nation of people,  
You have blessed us beyond our hopes  
and dreams, even beyond the majority  
of people in our world.  
Food, heat, lights, clothes  
and means of transportation,  
are all gifts that bring comfort to life.  
Education and work can allow us  
to develop our talents and provide a lifestyle.  
Family, friends and a faith community  
provide us with love and support.  
For these and all gifts, we are thankful,  
but most of all,  
we are thankful for Your son Jesus.  
He found us to be worthy,  
not only of Your love,  
but invites us into Your family  
and to share in His mission.  
It is our privilege to be asked  
to bring a portion  
of our time, talent and resources  
and unite them with His efforts.  
Together, we can transform all life  
into Your vision.  
We ask, as Your parish  
that we be a thankful people  
and be good stewards  
of all that has been given us. Amen.

The first three commandments are all about our relationship with God. Are you living these three commandments to the full? Not sure, join us at Generations of Faith as Fr. Tim and Fr. Todd talk about the "POWER OF WORDS" and "THE LORD'S DAY, KEEPING IT HOLY". Sign up forms are at all entrances or just go online and let us know which date works best for you. Sunday, October 7th or Wednesday, October 10th. Challenge yourself and be part of GOF and the Wednesday Challenge.



**Popcorn Sales** It's that time of year again. St. Mary's Troop 76 will be selling popcorn after all Masses on the weekend of October 6th and 7th. Get some great tasting popcorn and support the parish's troop at the same time.

**Pancake Breakfast** Troop 76 High Adventure Group will be cooking breakfast on Sunday morning, October 14th. Come to the school cafeteria and enjoy pancakes and sausage. They will be serving from 8:30 am until 11:30 am. A free will offering will be accepted.

**The fall season is nipping at our heels and our worship space needs to reflect the seasonal change.** After the 11:30 Mass on Sunday, October 14, the spring/summer plants will be replaced by fall foliage. The fifteen peace lilies will need temporary homes over the fall and winter months. If you are interested in caring for one or more plants please call Marge Weber at 419-784-9750. Instructions for feeding and care will be included with the plant. You may choose to pick up the plant or have it delivered. You will be asked to return the plant(s) during Holy Week of 2008.

## DEFIANCE, OHIO

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### **Exciting Invitation from the School Council Facilities Committee:**

As some of you may already be aware of, during the next few weeks, the School Council and one of its sub-committees, the Facilities Committee, will be conducting listening sessions for the parishioners of St. Mary and St. John.

**Why:** To listen to our collective wisdom regarding the purchase of the Anthony Wayne School property. (This property as you know will become available in December of 2008-with the opening of Defiance City Schools new grade school on Carter Road.)

#### **When and Where:**

- **Wednesday, October 17 after the 9:15 school liturgy (around 10:15) at St. Mary Parish Ministry Center**
- **Thursday, October 18 after the 6:30 liturgy (around 7:15) at St. John Parish Life Center**
- **Saturday, October 20 after the 5:00 pm liturgy (around 6:15) at St. John Parish Life Center**
- **Sunday, October 21 after the 11:30 am liturgy (around 12:45) at St. Mary Parish Ministry Center**

You will note that each one of these presentations takes place after a liturgy. The small sub-committee working on the listening sessions felt it was important to plan them then. We believe that praying together first will enlighten us to share and openly listen to one another.

Please know much prayer, discernment, research and discussion have gone into this issue of purchasing the Anthony Wayne School property.

Please know, too, no decision has been made! Now the Facilities Committee wants to present all our findings to you.

We need your input, insights and/or questions on whether it is wise or unwise to make this purchase. Once we have had the listening sessions, we will also seek comments on a questionnaire distributed at all Masses in both parishes the weekend of October 27-28.

Then, all our collective wisdom will be collated and reviewed by the School Council's Facilities Committee. The Facilities Committee will then make a recommendation to School Council who will, in turn, make a recommendation to the administration: Fr. Tim, Superintendent, Fr. Todd, pastor at St. John and Miss Sandy, principal of Defiance Catholic School.

You will be kept informed during this entire process and know what decision the administration will present to Bishop Blair.

The history, the data, the planning process will be explained in more detail at the Listening Sessions. **Please make every effort to attend one of the sessions.**

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to direct them to Connie Zimmerman, Facilities Chair, Fr. Tim, Fr. Todd or Miss Sandy

Have a good week!

The Facilities Committee:

Connie Zimmerman, chair, Don Fee, Mark Hench, Larry Birkemeier, Joe Niese, John Jacob, Jeff Niese, Bonnie Nally, Fr. Todd, Fr. Tim and Miss Sandy



**Defiance Catholic School News:** Greetings! This week starts the second half of our first quarter! We are proud to announce that Defiance Catholic School won the Buckeye Best Healthy School Silver Award for 2006-07. This award is presented to us by the Ohio Department of Health in recognition of our efforts in developing school programs. We plan to continue working on these areas of health, nutrition and physical activity during this academic year.

Friendly reminder: Our magazine drive "kicks off" on Tuesday, October 9. Great time to renew your subscriptions or order new ones. And—magazines make great gifts!

Coats for Christmas: Once again both campuses will be drop off places for coats. The barrels will be here on Friday, October 12. The drive runs through November.

**No school on Monday, October 15...** the City Schools are having an in-service. They have invited us to participate.

And if you were unable to attend Sunday's GOF session, you can attend this Wednesday, October 10 at 6:30 at St. Mary. Topic: Love of God and Neighbor.

Want to enjoy some family fun next weekend? Check out St. John's Fest For All, Saturday, October 13 and Sunday, October 14.

Have an enjoyable week!

Miss Sandy

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## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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**Needed: Babysitters for RCIA.** RCIA meets every Sunday after 9:30 Mass until 12:00 noon from October to May. If you could spare an hour and a half once or twice a month, please call Mary Howard at 419-395-1919. Thank you!

**The Noodle Club will be “rolling” again** on Thursday, October 11th in the school hall at 1:00 pm. We would love to see you there!

**Reach Up Banquet:** Reach Up is an ecumenical organization which furnishes all bibles, other religious materials, and coordinates all religious services and activities at the Correction Center of Northwest Ohio. All their funding is derived through donations from different churches and organizations. The Reach Up Board is made up of people from different denominations. One of their funding sources is the annual Reach Up Banquet which will be held this coming Tues, October 9 at NW State College in Archbold. If you would be interested in attending call John Weber, 784-9750.

**St. Mary’s Altar & Rosary Society** will meet Tuesday, October 9 at 7:00 pm at the Parish Ministry Center. The program will begin at 7:15 pm with Mary K. Smith from Waterville speaking about “Helpers of Gods Precious Infants” Committee Chairs are Harriet Steel and Lori Frederick with their Committee of Shelly Shafer, Dawn Buchholz, Kristi Pry, Mary Schriener, Julie Monnin, Lettie Hale, and Becki Clemens.

**Thank you–** St. Mary’s Altar and Rosary would like to thank everyone who donated items for our bazaar booth at the parish festival. Thank you to the Noodle Club for the donation of noodles. Your support is greatly appreciated. The following are the winners of our raffle items:

Afghan- Sharon Armstrong, porcelain doll- Joann Jones, pillow– Mary McGuire, basket– Jane Galliers, angel– Mary Steyer, doll– Joanne Santo, Coin set– Lisa Steinberger, wrought iron hose holder– Jennifer Davis, and jewelry box- Jake Adkins.

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**Mozambique....** As I reflect on what I have shared it appears like a camera flashing in the darkness. For one quick moment there is light, but not enough time to see everything. I shared my entry into a 3<sup>rd</sup> world country, the people who dance and sing, loving everyone as family, God’s glorious gift of the children and a look out my window in the village. There is so much more and not enough words in my vocabulary to adequately share what I saw through these eyes or the broad spectrum of emotions I experience even as I write.

I never told you.... about the houses we built, four to be exact. They were the cutest little things: made of reed, thatch and block with a cement floor. It was a gift from heaven for the families fortunate to be the recipient, but for most of us our utility shed is bigger.

I never told you.... about our town that really wasn’t a town at all. You didn’t just decide to go to the grocery store.....there was no grocery store. There were no stores.

I never told you.... about the gift the Lord gave me in the form of fellow travelers. First he gave me three young seminarians: John, Jason and Tony. Each searching to see the world as God has made it in order to teach and share his word as they continue down the path to become priests in our diocese. Brian, our leader, was everything a leader should be. Fr Tom, a Toledo diocese priest who has been in Zimbabwe for the past 7 years sharing his faith, passion and sense of humor along with his wonderful assistant Kundzai. Kundzai: a young Zimbabwean whose smile and laughter could light up a room. As they shared life in Africa and specifically Zimbabwe, I tried to grasp 7600%

inflation, no food on the shelves, drought which eliminates any ideas of growing crops and the thousands of people that are dying as a result. I tried to image a government so hostile that thousands more are risking their lives fleeing the country in order for a chance of survival. All of this only a short distance from where we worked, ate and slept.

I never told you.... about the beauty of the Indian ocean; it’s miles and miles of pristine sand with no evidence that anyone had ever been there before us, as if we were the only ones alive..... or the monumental sand dunes we climbed in order to find this piece of heaven. Talk about a great place to experience the wonder of God’s work..... and maybe stop for a chat with him. I didn’t tell you about the beauty of the sunsets that look like they should have been paintings.

I never told you.... about the beauty of God’s four legged creatures as they roam free.... the majestic beauty of the giraffes, the flapping ears of the elephants or the lions as they bask in the sun. No fences, no guns..... we were in their home.

I never told you often enough about my immense gratitude for what you have given me. I never told you how the Spirit of St Mary’s parish went to Mozambique but I did tell you about how the Spirit of Mozambique came home with me to share with anyone willing to listen. I never told you how YOU made a difference. I was but a willing traveler on a journey certain God would show us the way. What I got in return was a birds eye view of the Spirit of the World vs. the Spirit of God.....**God wins!**

Yours in Christ, Sue Hoeffel

**Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure**

Last Week You Gave.....	\$11,669.00
Need Weekly .....	\$10,885.00
Above Budget.....	\$784.00
Contributions to Date .....	\$142,713.50
\$10,885 x 14 Weeks .....	\$152,390.00
Year to Date <i>Below</i> Budget .....	(\$9,676.50)

**Celebrate 90th Anniversary of our Lady of Fatima's appearance.** Our 1st Saturday Community of St. John's invites you and your families to join us Oct. 13th from 9-11 am to learn the historical and devotional dimensions of this message of Peace so you can apply it to your life. For more info call Frank Commisso 782-9110 or Mike Westrick 784-9125.

**Knights of Columbus: A Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization** October is the annual membership drive for the Defiance's Knight of Columbus Monsignor Lang Council 1039. The weekend of October 6 & 7, a short message during announcements will be given at the end of Mass, and Knights will be passing out information and membership applications. If you are a practicing Catholic male at least 18 years of age, if you have concerns about financially protecting your loved ones, if you want to support the Church and grow in your faith, if you want to help improve your community, you are invited to join and put into action the virtues of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. Contact your local Knights and any of the following officers: Grand Knight Mike Berry (419)782-0468, Deputy Grand Knight William Ware (419)205-6188, Chancellor Bruce Gamiere (419)576-7385, Financial Secretary Terry Murname (419)782-4256, Treasurer Robert Olashuk (419)782-5950 and Past District Deputy Kenny Kregg (419)782-0054. The experience of a lifetime!

**55+ Club Meeting:** Tuesday, October 23 at St. Michael's Ridge. Rosary will be at 10:45 am followed by Mass at 11:00 am. There will be a catered dinner at 12:00 noon. The guest speaker, a representative from Hospice, will speak on care of terminally ill patients. Committee includes: Irene Steffel, Marjorie Siler, Eula Horne and Kathleen Bittinger. For reservations please call by Friday, October 19 to Delores Ryan at 782-9441 or Georgianna Wagner at 497-3762.

**Daily Readings for This Week**

Readings for the Week of October 7, 2007

Monday:	Jon 1:1-2:2, 11/Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Jon 3:1-10/Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Jon 4:1-11/Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Mal 3:13-20b/Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2/Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Jl 4:12-21/Lk 11:27-28

**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, October 8**  
8:00 AM Communion Service
- Tuesday, October 9**  
8:00 AM Communion Service
- Wednesday, October 10**  
9:15 AM School Liturgy at St. John
- Thursday, October 11**  
8:00 AM Skip Yarrington
- Friday, October 12**  
8:00 AM Gerald Nussbaum
- Saturday, October 13**  
4:30 PM Louis Janicek
- Sunday, October 14**  
8:00 AM Lois Mekus  
9:30 AM Catherine Bond  
11:30 AM John Pavka

**Events For This Week**

- Monday, October 8**  
Office Closed  
Altar Attendant Training 9:00 am Church  
Furniture Bank Mtg 6:00 pm PMC  
SVDP 7:00 pm PMC
- Tuesday, October 9**  
Pastoral Council & Evang Tm 7:00 pm PMC  
Altar Rosary Society 7:00 pm PMC
- Wednesday, October 10**  
Shep of Christ Prayer Group 6:00 pm Church  
GOF 6:30 pm PMC  
Youth Group GOF 6:30 pm PMC  
Folk Group 7:30 pm Church
- Thursday, October 11**  
Noodle Club 1:00 pm School  
Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church  
LMC 7:00 pm PMC
- Friday, October 12**  
Spanish Prayer Group 7:00 pm PMC
- Saturday, October 13**  
Lawson/Maresca Nuptials 2:00 pm Church
- Sunday, October 14**  
Boy Scout Pancake Breakfast 8:30 am School  
Celebrate the Word 9:30 am School  
Confirmation Session 10:30 am Chapel  
RCIA 10:30 pm PMC

*Wedding Banns*

- Banns III Emily Lawson & Louis Maresca
- Banns II Amanda Brown & John Adkins