

## ST. MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

---

**Today's Readings:** Amos 6:1a, 4-7/1 Timothy 6:11-16/Luke 16:19-31

**GOSPEL GLIMPSES: An eyewitness report:** In today's media saturated culture we thrive on first hand reports of world news. Reporters on the scene of war, strife and famine bring us eye-witness reports and real time videos. We don't have to believe their reports, we can see for ourselves. It's a show-me, prove-it, where's your documentation, sort of world these days.

It wasn't so different for the rich man in today's gospel. The ancient reports of Moses and the prophets hadn't been enough to convince him of the error of his ways. Left in torment after death, getting first hand experience with the truth, the rich man begs Abraham for an eye-witness to convince his brothers. But that's not the way faith works for the rich man, or us. We don't get "film at 11:00" to prove God's word is true. We must trust Jesus' gospel, sight unseen. He's given us His word, His resurrection and the Holy Spirit as a firm foundation, so that our hearts, not our eyes, will see the truth of His message. May today's gospel remind us that seeing isn't believing – believing is seeing.

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

---



The Wednesday Challenge... Morality... Do the Next Right Thing... These are just a few of the things Generations of Faith has to offer you and your family this season. **"NOW is the time to SIGN-UP"** for the October GOF sessions... Sunday, October 7th after the 11:30 Mass or Wednesday, October 10th at 6:30 pm... Fill out the bright orange form in your pew and drop it off in the GOF box as you leave Mass, stop at the Ministry Center or go online at our Church Website, [www.stmarydefiance.org](http://www.stmarydefiance.org).

You can still take advantage of our discount prices by registering NOW, envelopes are at all exits of the church.

**Join the challenge** as we **ALL** strive to be – "The Best Versions of Ourselves" and become the people God created us to be.

### **Thank you! Thank you!**

We would like to share our sincere appreciation to all those who helped to make Matthew Kelly such a great success. Once again, together, St Mary's and St John's shared their celebration of faith with many others from outside the area. Special thanks to: Steve Hageman, Cheryl Hinojosa, Lori Frederick, Carol Moore, Mary Walz, Diane Mayer and the Youth Group.

**Habitat for Humanity** is building a house in Defiance and is looking for volunteers. St. Mary Parish is providing lunch on October 13th for the workers. Anyone willing to donate food or work on the house can contact Sarah McCord at 899-3989.

**The Noodle Club** will be "rolling" again on Thursday, October 4th and Thursday, October 11th in the school hall at 1:00 pm. We would love to have more help, so come down and give it a try!

### **A Rectory:**

Since the house fire in March of '05, the parish has been renting a home for the pastor's residence. This was always seen as a temporary response to the need for the parish to provide housing for the pastor. We had begun a collaborative effort with St. John Parish to look at constructing a home where both pastors would reside. While both parishes remain interested in that pursuit, it was agreed that more information is needed regarding long range planning for the Catholic Community of Defiance. The St Mary Finance Council and Pastoral Council then recommended that instead of paying monthly rent, we should invest in property that would serve us well now as a rectory, and should the opportunity to pursue a joint rectory present itself in the future, the present property could be sold with the profits directed toward the new living arrangements.

Many, many homes are available in Defiance, and many, many of these homes were considered. On September 19, 2007, Bishop Blair approved the parish's request to purchase a home at 281 Blanchard Avenue, which is about a 4 minute drive from the parish. The ranch style home has 3 bedrooms, 2 ½ baths, formal dining room, formal living room, eat in kitchen, den with private patio, full partially finished basement and attached 2 car garage. In the near future the roof will need to be replaced, but the 29 year old home and property have been very well cared for, especially by it's most recent owners, Saint Mary parishioners, Dave and Mary Hoeffel. We are scheduled to gain possession of the property in mid-October. Some updates and modifications will begin to take place then, so that we can move into the house before the end of November.

Thanks to the Rectory Committee, Finance Council and Pastoral Council for all their wisdom and leadership. We are confident this is a good investment for the parish, and will provide a very good home for our pastor.

**Are you looking for something more?  
Something to help you grow in your faith and  
help you to discern where God is calling you?**

We at The Servant Leadership Center firmly believe that each of us is called to play a part in working for justice. Using group and personal prayer, common readings, dialogue, and shared meals, the process, "**Servant Leadership: Threshold to a Life Transformed**" provides an opportunity to:

- Form community with others traveling a similar journey
- Be more intentional about one's spiritual journey
- Surface and explore deeply held beliefs and values
- Discover how God is calling me at this time and place; (*The place God calls you to is the place where your heart's deep gladness and the world's hunger meet.*)
- Connect with others who share my passion in working for justice

Classes are now forming. Come and see the opportunity that awaits you. ***Servant Leadership: Threshold to a Life Transformed* spiritual growth groups information session will be held:** Tuesday, October 2, from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the Yellow House.

If you have any questions contact Fr. Tim or Mary Steyer at 782-2776.

**New 9 week series begins on TV 5**

Don't miss this new series: St. Joseph  
Topics include: The key virtues of St. Joseph, Joseph of Egypt, St. Joseph the worker, exercise of St. Joseph's Fatherhood, St. Joseph way of silence and much more.

Join us beginning Sunday, September 30th at 2:00 pm. These "Be Not Afraid Family Hours" were inspired by the late Mother Teresa to unite families and foster family prayer and values. Each hour includes a meditative rosary, a brief catechism session, and footage of John Paul II and Mother Teresa; and inspiring music by contemporary Catholic artist.

*Wedding Banns*

Banns II            Emily Lawson & Louis Maresca  
Banns I            Amanda Brown & John Adkins

**Please remember to return your festival sign to the parish office so it can be used next year. Thanks!**

**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 419-784-7950. 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.

**First Saturday of Reparation:** October is the month we celebrate the rosary and our Blessed Mother Mary's first Fatima appearance to the three children of Fatima. Most people think by obeying the teachings of the Gospel they will gain eternal life. In the past, moral theology did not emphasize Christ and personal adherence to Him in the Holy Spirit, but focused on the "do" and don'ts of permissible Catholic behavior. God's grace is needed. Christ's Mother Mary will bring us Christ's mercy.

Come join us Saturday, October 6 for Mass beginning at 8:00 am followed by video teaching, rosary and confession.

**Beginning October 1, 2007,** the Ohio Consumers' Council (OCC) can assist consumers with complaints about electric, natural gas, telephone and water services provided by investor-owned utilities. The passage of this year's state budget allows for this. There are brochures with more information on the tables at the church entrances if you are interested.

**Defiance Catholic School News:** Happy October! I hope you take some time each day to notice the beauty around you as fall unfolds.

Believe it or not, this week marks the mid point of our first quarter. Teachers and students continue to work together in prayer, learning and service. Some school happenings:

- Students in grades 3 through 6 will be very busy this month participating in a new testing process in Reading and Math. We are excited about the new program from Scantion because it is the Performance Series Diagnostic Assessment. The test is used as a diagnostic tool, will be taken online and will asses the student’s skills and weaknesses. Teachers can access results quickly and then use them as they teach.
- Our Pre K will visit the Fire Station. Thursday morning three year olds will walk over at 9:30, then the afternoon class will head over at 1:30. Our four year olds will go over for their tour on Friday morning.
- The kindergarten students will be spending Thursday at Camp Libby. They will be going on a Earth Walk to learn more about the five senses using nature as a tool.
- Students will be participating in a Mini Crop Walk on Friday to raise money for the hungry in our community. This activity helps to raise their awareness not only for those less fortunate, but also for community efforts to sponsor a larger ecumenical Crop Walk on October 7.

We are grateful for the good relationship we have with Defiance College and continue to find new and enriching ways to partner with them. Matt Lydum, P.E. Professor at the College organized two Athletic Play Days for our students. His class of D.C. students worked with our third and fourth graders on September 18. On September 25, they worked with our fifth graders. From the comments I heard, both teachers and students thought it was a great work out! Thank you Professor Lydum and students!

**Help needed:** Basketball season is approaching. We have two volunteer coaches for our boys. Thank you Brad Stover and Chris Gentit! However, we are in need of a coach for our girls. If anyone is interested, please call Dan Schaffer 393-4181 or Ken Daeger 782-9158.

Enjoy this first week of October!  
Miss Sandy

**Parish Ministry Campaign Update**

To Date-Cost of Project.....	\$1,743,182.35
Collected Pledges/Other Income..	\$1,724,727.99
Pledges yet to be collected .....	\$8,540.50
Shortfall.....	\$9,913.86

**Don't renew your magazine subscriptions! Order your magazines from Defiance Catholic School! Magazine Drive starting October 9th!**

**Knights of Columbus: A Catholic, Family, Fraternal, Service Organization**

**CALLING ALL CATHOLIC MEN IN GOOD STANDING**

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!

**St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church  
Fest for All**

Saturday, October 13 6:00 pm– 10:00 pm

Sunday, October 14 11:00 am– 4:00 pm

Please join the fun: Lots of food, cash bar, lots of games for kids, Texas Hold ‘Em Tournament, Pull Tabs, 50/50 Raffle, Bake Sale, Craft Raffle, Silent Auction, Len Collier’s Band, and lots more!

**Parish Finances - Stewardship of Treasure**

Last Week You Gave.....	\$9,844.00
Need Weekly .....	\$10,885.00
Below Budget.....	(\$1,041.00)
Contributions to Date .....	\$131,044.50
\$10,885 x 13 Weeks .....	\$141,505.00
Year to Date <i>Below Budget</i> .....	(\$10,460.50)

**Human Trafficking**

Human Trafficking has been defined as “a modern-day form of slavery”. Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of sexual exploitation or forced labor. Victims of this horrible crime include young children, teenagers, adult men and women. Trafficking of humans occurs within the international community as well as in our local communities. This crime, reportedly, is estimated to be the second largest criminal industry in the world, after drug dealing, and it is the fastest growing.

In 2006, the Salvation Army called an international weekend of prayer and fasting. This call reportedly, was answered around the world by Salvation Army and other Christians. This year September 28-30 has been set aside for similar prayer and fasting. Please remember victims of human trafficking during this special prayer and fasting period. More information can be found at [www.salvationarmyusa.org](http://www.salvationarmyusa.org) and [www.fastinternational.org](http://www.fastinternational.org). You may also contact your legislators about the 2000 Trafficking Victim’s Act, which is up for reauthorization this year.

**The Calista Olds/Jerry Lightle Memorial CROP Walk will be held on Sunday, October 7 at 1:15 pm** starting at St. Paul Methodist Church. CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. If you would like to walk please call Shelly Shafer at the Parish Ministry Center 782-2776 or 784-9153 (home). Thank you!

**Daily Readings for This Week**

Readings for the Week of September 30, 2007

Monday:	Zec 8:1-8/Lk 9:46-50
Tuesday:	Zec 8:20-23/Mt 18:1-5, 10
Wednesday:	Neh 2:1-8/Lk 9:57-62
Thursday:	Neh 8:1-4a, 5-6, 7b-12/Lk 10:1-12
Friday:	Bar 1:15-22/Lk 10:13-16
Saturday:	Bar 4:5-12, 27-29/Lk 10:17-24



- Monday, October 1**  
8:00 AM Communion Service
- Tuesday, October 2**  
8:00 AM Richard Kohout Anniversary
- Wednesday, October 3**  
9:15 AM John Kummerer, Sr.
- Thursday, October 4**  
8:00 AM Dr. H.C. Brown
- Friday, October 5**  
8:00 AM David Wickley
- Saturday, October 6**  
4:30 PM Respect for all life
- Sunday, October 7**  
8:00 AM Bill Small  
9:30 AM Gerald Hoshock  
11:30 AM Norma Ordway Anniversary

**Events For This Week**

- Monday, October 1**
  - Altar Attendant Training 9:00 am Church
  - Charismatic Prayer Group 7:00 pm PMC
  - SVDP 7:00 pm PMC
- Tuesday, October 2**
  - Servant Leadership Mtg 6:30 pm Yellow House
  - Bereavement Group 7:00 pm PMC
- Wednesday, October 3**
  - Shep of Christ Prayer Group 6:00 pm Church
  - Youth Choir 6:00 pm Chapel
  - School Boosters Mtg 6:30 pm PMC
  - Jr. Hi Youth/Parent Orientation 7:00 pm School
  - Youth Group Bible Study 7:00 pm Yellow House
  - Choir Practice 7:30 pm Church
- Thursday, October 4**
  - Noodle Club 1:00 pm School
  - Cantor Rehearsal 5:00 pm Church
  - School Council 7:00 pm PMC
- Friday, October 5**
  - Spanish Prayer Group 7:00 pm Chapel
- Saturday, October 6**
  - Boy Scout Popcorn Sales After Mass
- Sunday, October 7**
  - Respect Life Sunday
  - Boy Scout Popcorn Sales After all Masses
  - Celebrate the Word 9:30 am School
  - RCIA 10:30 am PMC
  - Youth Mass 11:30 am Church
  - GOF 12:30 pm PMC
  - CROP Walk 1:00 pm St. Paul’s
  - Baptism Instruction 1:30 pm PMC