

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



**Independence Day Reflection**

**The Gift and Responsibility of Freedom**

On this Independence Day, we reverently acknowledge the anniversary of the signing of the *Declaration of Independence*, a document which is the cornerstone of American Freedom, our most cherished value and legacy. Perhaps nowhere else do our faith and our patriotic identity as Americans intertwine more closely than here, in this philosophical and spiritual understanding of Freedom. Our forefathers spoke and acted and fought and sacrificed for the God-given right to be free, and pursue human and spiritual independence. The value of Freedom is inexorably linked to our God. Our Heavenly Father has consistently revealed Himself as a liberator of the human heart from all forms of slavery. The Jewish Exodus and the Catholic Baptism and the dying and rising of Jesus are most essential moments of God's saving action on behalf of human freedom.

In an attempt to make our Independence Day observance more than just a holiday, we might celebrate our independence from all forms of "modern" slavery that may have a hold on us, such as discrimination, bigotry, greed, indifference and lust. May we realize that freedom requires a declaration of inter-dependence too, for true freedom cannot happen for individuals or nations without interdependence with other people, with all living creatures, and with the earth.

**Independence Day Prayer**

**We lift up our hearts to God, on this day of celebration,  
in gratitude for the gift of being an American.**

**We rejoice with all those who share  
in the great dream of freedom and dignity for all.**

**With flags and feasting, with family and friends,  
we salute heroes past and present,  
those who have sacrificed all for the good of all.**

**We declare our intention to work for the time  
when all people are granted equal dignity and  
worth,  
regardless of race, religion, heritage, or sex.**

**Come gracious God, who led your children out of slavery  
Keep us free from all that might hold us in  
bondage,  
That we may praise You our source of freedom,  
The One in Whom we trust.**

**Independence Day Holiday Mass**

On Monday, July 5, the civic holiday for 4<sup>th</sup> of July, there will be one Mass in the Penn Newman Center at 9:00 am.



**This Week at St. AJ**

**Saturday, July 3**

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*  
NO 4:00PM Confessions for Summer – By Request or Appointment  
NO 5:30PM Vigil Mass for Summer – Resumes Saturday, Sept. 4

**The Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 4**

10:00AM Mass *The Candeloro & Zagrosky Families*  
Catholic Forum resumes today after 10:00 Mass in Newman Center.

11:30AM Mass *Elizabeth Kamara*

5:00PM Mass *Intentions of Parishioners and Benefactors*  
NO 10:00PM Mass for Summer – Resumes Sunday, September 5

**Monday, July 5**

9:00 AM Mass For the United States and its Citizens

**Tuesday, July 6**

NO 7:30 AM Mass for Summer – Resumes Tuesday, September 7

12:05PM Mass *Memory of Jane and Jeanne*

1:00PM Mass Resumes at Drexel Chapel Monday - Thursday

**Wednesday, July 7**

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church is open today. Please ring Rectory bell

**Thursday, July 8**

1:00PM Mass *Memory of Marie and Timothy*

**Friday, July 9**

No 1:00PM Mass at Drexel during Summer term

**Saturday, July 10**

9:00AM Mass *Pro-Life Liturgy and Vigil*



**Campaign for Human Development**

**Collection Next Sunday**

In Pope Benedict XVI's encyclical *Deus Caritas Est*, our Holy Father wrote that "within the community of believers there can never be room for a poverty that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life." The lives and futures of 37 million Americans who are living in poverty are at stake. For nearly forty years, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development has stood with poor and low-income peoples, helping to create permanent solutions to poverty. One by one people are joining local community groups to break the cycle of poverty – and Catholics across our country are part of that change.

In the Archdiocese of Philadelphia the annual collection to support this domestic anti-poverty program of the Church will take place next Sunday, July 11, 2010. Through this collection, contributions of the faithful become tools of self-reliance, self-sufficiency and self-determination as anti-poverty projects are implemented across the country and in the communities and neighborhoods of our own Archdiocese. The annual collection also raises consciousness about poverty and the Church's social mission. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is committed to helping people find permanent solutions to the problem of domestic poverty. On behalf of literally thousands of citizens and neighbors whose lives will be offered hope through this program, we thank you for your response to this appeal.

**CATHOLIC FORUM** resumes this Sunday, July 4, at the Penn Newman Center. We are a small but enthusiastic group of parishioners who gather each week after the 10 AM Sunday Mass to reflect on the day's Liturgy of the Word and how to make it real in our lives. We are not Bible scholars but just earnest Catholics engaging the Word of God. All are welcome to join our motley group of Biblical explorers. We meet in the Council Room right after the 10:00 AM Mass. Please join us for some fun learning, refreshments, and new friends!