

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



Summertime and Spiritual Reading

Summer is many things for many people. It certainly is a time for recreation and refreshment, keeping in mind that the root meaning of recreation is re-create - a time when we have the opportunity and the time to engage in activity that can restore and recreate us in mind, body, and spirit. Re-creating our body is pretty straight forward in terms of getting outside and being more physically active. Recreating the spirit-mind is more elusive.

One of the great spiritual disciplines of Catholic people throughout the entire history of the Church has always been the practice and habit of *spiritual reading*. Unfortunately for many of us, this is a lost art. The truth is, for people who want to grow in their faith, there are few spiritual activities that can help us to be more prayerful, and more nourished in our faith, and put us more in touch with God's purpose and action in our lives than spiritual reading. There are, of course, books that are obviously spiritual and religious by virtue of their theme and intent. Other books, novels even, can be very spiritually enlightening and enriching, even though their expressed point of view is not religious.

Perhaps you have desired to do more spiritual reading but don't know where to begin. There are resources available. Even "Google" can transport you to a reservoir of information by just typing in "Spiritual Reading" or "Spiritual Classics." Religious bookstores have a number of books that utilize the writings of saints and spiritual teachers to help a person pray. Titles like "Praying with Thomas Merton" or "A Retreat with Theresa of Avila" can be very fruitful. If you really want personal guidance and expertise, the Daughters of St. Paul, a congregation of religious sisters who operate the bookstore called "Pauline Books and Media" in the strip mall at Roosevelt Blvd and Cottman Avenue, is probably the best. It is their mission to make available Catholic literature and to utilize the media to evangelize the culture. [www.pauline.org]. Even your parish priest can recommend an appropriate resource. Ask him what he is currently reading.

More Words of Wisdoms to Reflect Upon

"Things turn out best for those people who make the best of how things turn out."
John Wooden

"It is good to have an end to journey towards; but it is the journey that matters, in the end."
Ursula K. Le Guin

Catholic Service Services –
Becoming a Foster Parent

At present, there are over 4000 children in foster care in Philadelphia in need of safe, temporary, homes. Catholic Social Services is looking for single or married adults to become foster care parents of children of all ages and races. To learn more about becoming a foster parent, please contact Melissa or Pat at 215-587-3960. Remember, you can make a difference, a difference that will last a lifetime.

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, July 17

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 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, July 18

10:00AM Mass *The Candeloro & Zagroski Families*
Catholic Forum meets today after 10:00 Mass in Newman Center.
11:30AM Mass *Mrs. Daniel W. Dietrich II*
5:00PM Mass *Rita Martorana*

No 10:00PM Mass for Summer – Resumes Sunday, September 5

Monday, July 19

No 7:30 AM Mass for Summer – Resumes Tuesday, September 7
12:05PM Mass *Juan Chico*
1:00PM Mass Celebrated at Drexel Chapel Monday - Thursday

Tuesday, July 20

12:05PM Mass *Memory of William and Mary*

Wednesday, July 21

12:05PM Mass *Mrs. Daniel W. Dietrich II*
12:30PM to 2:00PM Church is open today. Please ring Rectory bell

Thursday, July 22

1:00PM Mass *Memory of Jane and Erica*
6:00PM Wedding Rehearsal Duffy / Washkalavitch GLS

Friday, July 23

No 1:00PM Mass at Drexel on Fridays during Summer term
6:00PM Wedding Rehearsal Parente / Robinson GLS

Saturday, July 24

9:00AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*
3:00PM Wedding Duffy / Washkalavitch GLS
5:00PM Wedding Parente / Robinson GLS

Charitable Gift Annuities:

Help your Parish, Help Yourself

Charitable Gift Annuities offer a wonderful gift option that can allow parishioners, especially those 60 and older, to realize tax and financial benefits while making a generous gift for the benefit of the parish. With this option, parishioners can extend their support of the parish after they have passed, leaving a legacy of stewardship for many years. The Archdiocese maintains a Planned Giving Office for those who want more information about this opportunity. For information on a planned gift annuity, please contact the Archdiocesan office directly at 215-587-5650.

**Everything we need to know,
we can learn from Noah's Ark**

- ONE:** Don't miss the boat.
- TWO:** Remember that we are all in the same boat.
- THREE:** Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.
- FOUR:** Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something big.
- FIVE:** Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.
- SIX:** Build your future on high ground.
- SEVEN:** For safety's sake, travel in pairs.
- EIGHT:** Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.
- NINE:** When you're stressed, float awhile.
- TEN :** Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs, the Titanic by professionals.
- ELEVEN:** No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.