

The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

Taking Stock

The business world operates on the fiscal year which runs from July 1 to June 30 rather than the traditional calendar year which begins January 1. With this fiscal year just ended, businesses have taken stock of their financial performances and made plans for a new year based on the previous year's outcomes. I suppose it wouldn't be stretching it too much if we took advantage of this new fiscal year to take stock of our performance in one particular and important area of our personal spiritual lives and our communal involvement in our parish family. That one area is stewardship. We can do that by asking the question:

How alive was your faith last year?

A critical and vital part of your lived faith is stewardship. Would you care to prayerfully examine your Catholic Stewardship by reflecting on these questions:

- * Have you been faithful in your attendance of worship services?
- * If you are involved in a parish group or ministry, how committed were you to fulfilling your responsibilities and duties? Can you look back without any misgivings?
- * Have you volunteered your time and talent in areas where you know help is needed?
- * Have you fulfilled your financial responsibilities to your parish family?

**Next Sunday: Feast of St. James the Apostle
Parish Patron Saint**

The Feast of St. James the Apostle is July 25 in the Church's liturgical calendar which this year falls on Saturday. It is the custom here at St. Agatha-St. James to celebrate this feast of one of our parish patrons on the Sunday nearest the actual feast day, which this year is next Sunday, July 26. The Scripture readings for next Sunday are those of the Ordinary Sunday, but the prayers and preface are taken from the Feast of Saint James the Apostle. We pray to St. James to continue to watch over our beloved parish and all its parishioners and worshipers and to strengthen us in our sacred mission of *Word, Worship and Witness in University City*.

CATHOLIC SCRIPTURE FORUM TODAY

After 10:00 AM Mass

Catholic Scripture Forum will meet today and through the summer in the Penn Newman Center Conference Room immediately after the 10:00 AM Mass. This is an informal time of parish fellowship to reflect on the Sacred Scripture lectionary readings and homily, and to discuss how to implement them in our lives. With coffee and simple treats – feed your body and soul. All are welcome.

The New Look of our St. AJ Statues

Have you noticed our cleaner look? The Church is open on Wednesdays from 12:30 until 2:00 pm throughout the year. Stop in and see our cleaned statues: the smaller statues of Mary and Joseph on the side sanctuary altars and the larger, life-size statue of the Sacred Heart. These statues are made of pure marble and represent a former time of artistry and craftsmanship. We sincerely thank those individuals who made this beautification possible!

This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, July 18

9:00AM Mass *Rosemary Mazzatenta*

Sunday, July 19

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10:00AM Mass *Marianito Gepty*

11:30AM Mass *Ronald Fraser*

5:00PM Mass *Rita Martorana*

Monday, July 20

No 7:30AM Mass until Tuesday, September 8

12:05PM Mass *Mary Oberle*

Wednesday, July 22

12:05PM Mass *Anna Nguyen*

1:30AM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*

12:30PM to 2:00PM Church will be open today.

Thursday, July 23

12:05PM Mass *Intentions for the Nguyen Family*

1:00PM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*

Friday, July 24

No 1:00PM Mass on Friday for the Summer

Saturday, July 25

9:00AM Mass *Intentions of Mary Nguyen*

Centering Prayer

There is an active Centering Prayer group in the parish. For information and to learn about this kind of prayer, call Tom Connolly at 484-995-4046.

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

If you or anyone you know is interested in learning about becoming a Catholic, please call the Rectory (215-386-9732). More information will be forthcoming about Catholic instruction in future Bulletins.

Announced Masses at St. AJ - Openings

Here at St. AJ, most Masses during the week are open – i.e. do not have specific intentions. In many parishes, it is just the opposite. All the available Masses have intentions and people who want them must wait for an opening. So we have a situation here that is an opportunity for you. If you desire an intentioned Mass for a particular need or intention, you can easily find an opening. Most likely, even a particular date will be available, such as an anniversary, birthday, or any other special date that you want to mark by special gratitude or remembrance. Perhaps your intention is a special need for you or a loved one.

Any Catholic has the privilege of doing what the universal Church does, by requesting Mass to be offered for his or her own special intentions. This allows that person to participate in the intercessory power of the Mass in a particular and personal way, which doesn't restrict or limit the graces of that Mass for others who participate. If you wish to arrange an intentioned Mass, please call the rectory. The requested donation is ten dollars.

Collections for Sunday 6/14/09

1st Collection: \$1322.00

2nd Collection: \$ 267.00 (Drexel & Penn Newman Centers)

Collections for Sunday 6/21/09

1st Collection: \$1406.00

2nd Collection: \$1486.00 (Mission Co-op – Piarist Fathers)

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

All Summer Sunday Masses will be held in the St. Bede Chapel of the Penn Newman Center.