

The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time



News You Can Use...from Fr. Steve

R.S.V.P.

Throughout the year, but especially in May and June, we receive a number of invitations to attend various celebrations and enclosed in the invitation is a request for a **R.S.V.P.** [from the French: *Repondez s'il vous plait* – please respond]. This request is more than a formality because it helps the hostess/host prepare adequately and economically for the proper number of guests. Yet, so often, according to social reports, a growing number of persons don't respond to such requests. Usually the reason we tell ourselves for not responding is that we are B.U.S.Y. While it's true that we are busy and that polite and thoughtful behavior does require a little more effort from us than rude and boorish behavior, I don't think it is only busyness that keeps us from responding. We are witnessing a new phenomenon in social communication – cell phones and texting allows us to update people on our intentions and whereabouts in an up-to-the-minute fashion. What I have noticed is that rather than set an actual time and place to meet, people wait until the last moment and then call or text about their plans for the next hour in their lives. The idea of making a plan or a commitment now for where you intend to be weeks and months from now seems unnecessary and silly to many people. Why commit to something when something better or more interesting may present itself in the next half hour. I believe it's called: "Keeping your options open."

However, keeping your options open may cause you to ignore or miss important people and events and to allow fate to determine our lives instead of choosing to be present to the priorities we establish for ourselves. I know people who supposedly intend to attend Mass but are still open to other invitations at the last minute. Jesus' R.S.V.P. to the banquet of the Eucharist could remain unanswered because people want to keep their options open.

For Mission Co-Op St. AJ Welcomes Fr. Richard Wyzykiewicz, Sch. P.

As part of the Archdiocesan Mission Cooperative Plan, Fr. Richard Wyzykiewicz, representing the Piarist Fathers, will be speaking at all the Masses today on behalf of the mission outreach of the Piarist Fathers in Appalachia. The Piarist Fathers will be deeply grateful for any prayerful and financial assistance we can offer in support of their educational missionary efforts in Appalachia. The Second Collection is dedicated for this purpose.

Each year, many religious orders and congregations make requests to the Archdiocese of Philadelphia for permission to speak on behalf of their missionary outreach. The Mission Co-Op Plan takes these requests and equitably distributes them throughout the 365 parishes in the Archdiocese so that no one parish is burdened by an inordinate number of appeals and all parishes are invited to support the work of the missions as part of their own parish mission. On behalf of Fr. Richard and his congregation, I invite your generosity.



This Week at St. AJ

Saturday, June 20

9:00AM Mass *Intentions of the Stone Family*

Sunday, June 21 The Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

10:00AM Mass *Parishioners and Benefactors of St. AJ*

11:30AM Mass *Dolph J. Tokarczyk*

5:00PM Mass *Anthony Evangelista*

Monday, June 22

No 7:30AM Mass until Tuesday, September 8

Wednesday, June 24

12:05PM Mass *Holy Souls in Purgatory*

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

Friday, June 26

No 1:00PM Mass on Friday for the Summer

Saturday, June 27

9:00AM Mass *Special Intention for Peace of Mind and Heart*

Year of Saint Paul Concludes on June 29, 2009.

The Archdiocese will mark the special occasion with the celebration of a special Mass of Thanksgiving on June 27, 2009 at Saint Paul's Parish at 2007 New Hope Street, Norristown, PA 19401 at 5:30 P.M.

Most Reverend Joseph P. McFadden will be the main celebrant and homilist. All are welcome to attend this festive occasion. Following Mass, a reception with light refreshments will be held. During the reception, art work and projects about Saint Paul will be displayed. Awards will be presented to elementary students who are winners of a contest on Saint Paul.

The diocese considers your attendance at this Mass a pilgrimage event so that any who come will be granted the indulgences associated with the Year of Saint Paul commemorations.

"May the God of peace make you perfectly holy...spirit, soul, and body...for the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ."

(1 Thessalonians 5:23)

Peter's Pence Collection – Next Sunday

The annual Peter's Pence Collection, in support of the Holy Father's spiritual and charitable works, will be taken up next Sunday, June 28, 2009. Through your generous participation in this special appeal, you share in the concern of the Successor of Peter to respond with emergency financial assistance to our brothers and sisters who suffer as a result of war, oppression, disease and natural disaster.

In September of 2006, Pope Benedict XVI gave a homily in which he explained that those who are baptized create one family of believers who are never alone. The Peter's Pence Collection unites us in solidarity to the Holy See and its works of charity to those in need. Your generosity allows the Pope to respond to our suffering brothers and sisters with promptness, love, and compassion, so God's people will not feel alone in their time of misfortune.

With gratitude for your past contributions and relying on your compassion for the needy, I ask you to respond generously again to this collection according to your means.

Collections for Easter Sunday 4/12/09

1st Collection: \$4515.00

2nd Collection: \$ 771.00 (Heritage of Faith – Vision of Hope)

Easter Flowers Collection: \$368.50

Collections for Divine Mercy Sunday 4/19/09

1st Collection: \$2184.00

2nd Collection: \$ 569.00 (Drexel & Penn Newman Centers)