



## Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time September 1, 2013

You have approached Mount Zion  
and the city of the living God.  
— *Hebrews 12:22a*

### MASSES FOR THE WEEK

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

7:30 AM Nancy Petty  
9:30 AM Frank Decker

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

9:00 AM Isabella Marsico

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

9:00 AM Barbara Javick

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

9:00 AM Douglas Steele

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

9:00 AM Mitzi Ursi

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

9:00 AM Joseph Kondrcek

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

9:00 AM Joseph Manganaro  
4:30 PM Special Intention

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7:30 AM Elizabeth Felix  
9:30 AM William "Bill" Weaver  
12:30 PM People of the Parish

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**SANCTUARY CANDLE THIS WEEK:** Special Intention requested by Ann Kondrcek.

**PEACE CANDLE:** In memory of John Gentile.

**RESURRECTION CANDLE:** In honor of St. Mary's Sacristans.

**BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE:** In memory of Carl Kutza Jr. requested by Marge & Joe Kutza.

**THE ALTAR BREADS AND ALTAR WINE** that will be consecrated at our Masses this week are in thanksgiving for graces received during Forty Hours Eucharistic Devotions.

### **SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

Sunday: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Monday: Labor Day  
Tuesday: St. Gregory the Great; Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year 5774) begins at sunset  
Friday: First Friday  
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

### **PARISH SUPPORT**

August 25, 2013 Offering

|        |               |
|--------|---------------|
| Adults | \$4459.00     |
| Youth  | 3.00          |
| Loose  | <u>465.00</u> |
| Total  | \$4927.00     |

Next week our diocese will take up the Peter's Pence Collection, which provides the Holy Father with the funds he needs to carry out his most important charitable works. The proceeds benefit the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and disasters. Your gift makes you a pilgrim of charity around the globe.

Thank you for your generosity.

### PARISH DATEBOOK

#### MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

**LABOR DAY!**

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

**CCW MEETING:** 6:00 PM in the meeting room.

All women of the parish are invited.

**MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA**

7:00 PM in the church.

**ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL:** 7:30 to 8:15 PM

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

**FIRST FRIDAY MASS** will be celebrated at 9:00 AM.

#### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

**BLUE ARMY HOLY HOUR** will be prayed at 8:00 AM for vocations.

**FIRST SATURDAY MASS** will be celebrated at 9:00 AM

**WOMENS RETREAT:** 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM.

#### SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

**CCD ORIENTATION** in parish center gym at 10:40 PM. Registration will follow orientation.

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD**

**Next Sunday, September 8**

**Saturday, 4:30 PM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Eroh, Dante, Pierce  
Lector: Belford  
Altar Servers: 4  
Greeters: Kubitsky

**Sunday, 7:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Canouse, Wolfe, Edwards  
Lector: Stashko  
Altar Servers: 5  
Greeters: M & B Samsel

**Sunday, 9:30 AM**

Eucharistic Ministers: Wharton, Samsel, Monatesti  
Lector: Ferentz  
Altar Servers: 1  
Greeters: Reimiller & Thomas

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Please remember **Miraculous Medal Novena** will begin on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup> and continue for 9 weeks ending on Wednesday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to attend this devotion to Mary and ask her intercession for world peace.

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**PLEASE HELP US!**

Many of us are doing away with our land line telephones and just using our cell phones. Please contact the parish office at 570-759-8113 and provide us with your cell phone number if this is the only way you can be reached.

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**Annual Diocesan Charismatic Day of Renewal**

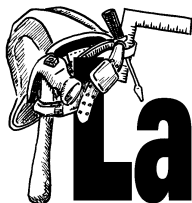
with Father Bill McCarthy, MSA "A Personal Relationship with Jesus; September 21, 2013 – 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM, Cardinal Keeler Center...Please see bulletin board for more information.

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**VOCATION AWARENESS**

"An attentive ear is the desire of the wise." Is your prayer attentive to the wisdom of Christ? Is He inviting you to follow Him as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? Call Father Raymond LaVoie at (717) 657-4804 ext.282 or email [vocations@hbgdiocese.org](mailto:vocations@hbgdiocese.org).

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# Labor Day

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**Before the reward there must be labor-  
You plant before you harvest-  
You sow in tears before you reap joy!**



Today's reading from Sirach celebrates what will become the theme of today's Gospel: humility. Pride causes us to demand from others an exalted estimate of our status, but humility allows us to see things more clearly. It allows us a broader perspective. Humility promises us the favor of God and the love of those who know us.

The second reading is a study in contrasts: the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai and the giving of salvation on Mount Zion. The Law's appearance is greeted with solemnity, mystery, even fear. But Christians are not to be afraid. Coming to God's mountain with Jesus, "the mediator of a new covenant," is a happy, exuberant experience.

The parable in today's Gospel concerns the danger of pride and the necessity of humility. The banquet setting, often used by Jesus, is a symbol of heaven's abundance and of the fulfillment of God's promise. The parable is not simply good advice on how to avoid embarrassment; it is about salvation.



**TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION**

The readings today center on mindfulness, awareness of where we stand in God's plan. The mountain of Sinai carries a message of the majesty and distance of God, while Jesus' presence as host of the banquet speaks of intimacy and mystery. September's shadow calls us all to mindfulness as we prepare to return to life outside of summer. The Christian life holds these two places of knowledge of God in careful balance. Even in the accounts of the Passion we see the table of the upper room in balance with the Mount of Olives.

*Altar* means "high place," yet it is also a table. The former liturgy of the Latin Rite began with the priest bowing at the foot of the altar's three steps, chanting *Introibo ad altare Dei*, or "I will go to the altar of God," followed by the altar servers' response, "The God who gives joy to my youth." Many parishioners can recall and recite this scene by heart. As with so many things in liturgy, there are layers of meaning in our worship. The altar table evokes memories of the high places once reserved for encounter with the holy, and the intimacy of the table where hospitality draws us to share food and drink.