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Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 21, 2014

Turn to the LORD for mercy;
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.
— *Isaiah 55:7b*

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

7:30 AM Leona Doyle
9:30 AM People of the Parish

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

9:00 AM Beverly Toth

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

9:00 AM Holy Souls

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9:00 AM Angelo Buffone

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9:00 AM Frankie Lewoc

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

9:00 AM Ronald Powlus

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

4:30 PM Katie Kerbacher

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

7:30 AM People of the Parish
9:30 AM Joshua Pecorelli

SANCTUARY CANDLE THIS WEEK: In memory of Paul Levitski Jr. requested by Rose Chiki.

PEACE CANDLE: In memory of Shirley E. Miknich requested by their Rose Mattive.

RESURRECTION CANDLE: memory of Father Lawrence Coakley.

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLE: In memory of Joseph Gardner requested by Richard & Barbara Marston.

THE ALTAR BREAD & ALTAR WINE: that will be consecrated at our Masses this week are in memory of "Bud" Lalli given by his family.

Sunday: Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time;
Catechetical Sunday
Tuesday: St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio);
Autumn begins
Wednesday Rosh Hashanah (Jewish New Year) 5775
begins at sunset
Friday: Ss. Cosmas and Damian
Saturday: St. Vincent de Paul

PARISH SUPPORT

September 14 Offering

Adult	\$4672.00
Youth	11.00
Loose	388.00
Total	\$5071.00

Peter's Pence Collection: \$989.00

Thank you for your generous support of our Holy Father's work in the Peter's Pence Collection. Our contributions will be combined with those from around the world to help the Holy Father provide essential relief to people in need.

The additional offering next week will be a parish collection for **Debt Reduction**.

Thank you for your generosity!

PARISH DATEBOOK

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

BIBLE STUDY/SHARING: 1:30 PM in the meeting room.

NO YOUTH CHOIR REHEARSAL

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

MIRACULOUS MEDAL NOVENA in the church at 7:00 PM.

NO ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

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

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

CCD: Classes in session 10:40 AM to 11:55 PM.
Parent Christmas Team meets at 12:00 PM.



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SERVICE FOR THE LORD

Next Sunday, September 28

Saturday, 4:30 PM

Eucharistic Ministers: Panzak, Czajkowski
Lector: Belford
Altar Servers: 2
Greeters: Panzak & Rinehimer

Sunday, 7:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Wolfe, Monatesti, Eroh
Lector: Stashko, Bob
Altar Servers: 3
Greeters: Becker & Evans

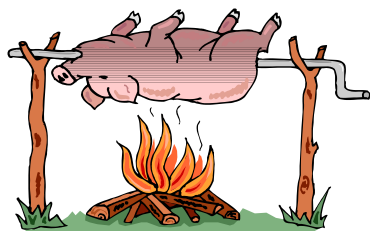
Sunday, 9:30 AM

Eucharistic Ministers: Marston, Yalch, Dante
Lector: Woodeshick, K
Altar Servers: 1
Greeters P & J Kachurka

CCW NEWS

The 25/50 Anniversary Mass will be held at St. Mary's on Sunday, October 12th at the 9:30 Mass. A celebration brunch will follow hosted by St. Mary's CCW. If you are celebrating your 25th or 50th wedding anniversary and did not receive an invitation, please call Josanne Fries at 750-854-5214 or the parish office at 570-759-8113. RSVP due by October 3, 2014.

Marian Day Retreat at St. Mary's, Berwick; October 11, 2014; 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Please RSVP by 10/3/14 to Diane DeLuca at 570-759-3643 or to the parish office.



Please remember to participate in our Pulled Pork and Chicken Bar B Q fundraiser to be held in the parish Grove October 12, 2014 from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

This is a takeout platter of either chicken or pork with salt potatoes, baked beans & coleslaw. Tickets are available in the parish office at \$9.00 each. **We kindly ask that you purchase your tickets before the event.** Please spread the word so our fundraiser will be a success!! Thank you!

HUMILITY

No human being is too big to be humble, but some human beings are too small.

—Anonymous

AUTUMN

Listen! The wind is rising,
and the air is wild with leaves,
We have had our summer evenings,
now for October eves!

—Humbert Wolfe

SEEK THE LORD

In today's opening reading, Isaiah urges us to "seek the LORD" who is "near" and can be "found" (Isaiah 55:6). Then Isaiah says God's ways are as high above our ways "as the heavens are above the earth" (Isaiah 55:9). So we search, not because God is hiding, but because our tendencies are so different from God's ways that we get lost.

How are God's ways so high above our ways? The example Isaiah gives is that God's way is to be "generous in forgiving" (Isaiah 55:7). And our way? We try to be "fair." You hurt me, so then I hurt you back, just as hard. Then, of course, you . . . And on it goes.

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches that God is not "fair" like that. Instead, God is so generous we can hardly understand it. The same wage for one hour as for a whole day of work? Not fair! "Seek the Lord," and we might find a God who calls us to be, not fair, but generous beyond expectations.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

In the early years of the church, most people never availed themselves of once-in-a-lifetime penance. Yet penitents were highly visible. They wore distinctive garments or chains, and they were relegated to special zones in the church. They might be dismissed from the Sunday assembly after the Word, forbidden to join in the Prayer of the Faithful or the Eucharist. This dismissal was done with great affection and tenderness as the bishop laid his hands on the heads of the sinners. During Lent almost everyone would identify with penitents by clothing, insignia, or by following the penitents' regular diet. Rather than sit in judgment over them, the church desired to intercede for them before the Lord. "Let Mother Church weep for you and wash away your sins with her tears," said St. Ambrose to his penitents in Milan. Ambrose liked to think of them as Jonah in the whale, meditating on his errors. In a letter to his sister he said that Jonah is also a sign of Christ in the tomb, and so he had great faith in the penitents' future proclamation of the Resurrection with their reclaimed status in the assembly.



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**Autumn
begins**