



SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

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September 28, 2008

26th Sunday In Ordinary Time

MASS SCHEDULE

Presiders For Masses October 4-5, 2008 (27th Sunday In Ordinary Time)

Saturday, October 4

5:30 pm Father Ben

Sunday, October 5

7:30 am Father John

8:45 am Father Ben

10:15 am Father Ben (Church)*

10:15 am Father John (Gym)*

11:45 am Father Komonchak

1 :00 pm Father John

5:30 pm Father Ben

**Nursery services available in the kindergarten room under the school gym.*

Second Collection This Weekend For Church In Africa

— Contributions from this collection will help support pastoral outreach, catechetical programs, Catholic schools, programs of evangelization, education of seminarians and the continuing education of the clergy.

Gospel Music Concert This Sunday

— LaVera Day and Friends will give a gospel music concert as part of the Music Series at The Church of the Little Flower, 5607 Massachusetts Avenue, Bethesda, at 1 pm **today, Sunday, September 28**. Members from the contemporary choirs from both Little Flower and Blessed Sacrament will be singing with Miss Day, and there will be opportunities for congregational participation! This will be an hour of spirit-filled traditional and contemporary gospel music. A good will offering will be taken.

News Inside

- Faith In The Marketplace Meets This Friday..... p. 2
- Coffee And Donuts Next Sunday..... p. 3
- Smyth Fund Golf Classic October 23..... p. 3
- What's Going On In The Community? p. 4

from the Pastor's desk

Dear Friends,

Since the homily today is being replaced by a report on the finances of the parish, and since everyone deserves an attempt by your priests to give them something to reflect upon throughout the week, here are my thoughts about today's scripture.

Today's Gospel from Matthew challenges us to think about our everyday response to God. Jesus talks about two sons—one said "no" but in the end responded well to his father's request; the other said "yes" but clearly neglected his duties toward his father.

Haven't all of us seen a little bit of both sons in ourselves? There are times when people ask me to do a favor for them or perform some task that would be helpful to them. It is fair to say that sometimes my response at first is one of reluctance and may even be negative, but so often having rethought the request, I actually do respond. Similarly, I am not happy to admit that sometimes I say "yes" to requests and then either forget to respond or lose my good intentions in the busyness of the day. I often go to bed realizing that I did not fulfill a promise I had made.

Do you have the same experiences? I suspect all of us have had the same experiences in our everyday response to others, but how about to God? Shouldn't God get an immediate "yes" when He looks to us for a response, and shouldn't we be faithful to our promise, particularly when it comes to God's voice in our lives? Throughout the week listen carefully to God's voice. Hopefully we will always respond to His call. Even better, when you hear God's voice this week, say "yes" and mean it. If you do, next Sunday will be an even better celebration of God's love and your love for God than our celebration today.

Father John

The Liturgy

We continue last week's discussion of the unity of Liturgy of the Word; we used the readings from last week as examples to show the centrality of Gospel passage, a connection between the Gospel and the first reading, and a similar link with the first reading and the psalm. We noted that during Ordinary Time, the second reading is a semi-continuous reading from the letters of Paul or James, and does not necessarily connect with the others.

The unity that exists within each Sunday also extends across the entire year. As mentioned at the beginning of Advent, we have a three-year cycle of readings for Sunday Masses. We are now in Year A, when most of the Gospel passages read come from Matthew. Next year is Year B, Mark, followed by Year C, Luke. The new lectionary was adopted in 1969; 1969 was Year A etc. The Introduction to the Lectionary explains "this arrangement provides a presentation of each Gospel's distinctive doctrine as well as a development of the Lord's life and preaching."

Each synoptic Gospel presents Jesus from a different perspective based on the community to whom the author was writing. Although generalizations are difficult, we can say that Matthew, writing to a Jewish Christian community, presents him as the teacher, while Luke, writing to a Gentile Christian community, leans more toward the image of prophet. Mark, who wrote the earliest, presents the servant Messiah giving the message, "do not be afraid." Certainly, all three images can be found in each Gospel.

Looking at the second half of that statement, the Gospels early in the year relate to Jesus' baptism and the beginnings of his preaching. As the year ends, we hear Gospels relating to the end of time and eternal life.

The readings for last week, this week, and next week illustrate the unity that happens throughout the year. For three weeks, Jesus, the teacher portrayed in Matthew, is teaching that God's ways are different from our human ways: last week in the parable of the workers in the vineyard, this week in the story of the man with two sons, and next week with the phrase "the stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."

Poor Box Donations in **September** will benefit the Prison Outreach Ministry's "Welcome Home" program to assist former jail and prison inmates re-enter the community. Trained volunteer mentors help participants to acquire jobs and housing and to reconnect with their families and faith communities.

Outreach Weekend — **Next weekend** is Outreach Weekend for our Soup Kitchen Ministry. When making a donation by check, please make the check payable to "Blessed Sacrament Outreach—Soup Kitchen". If you would like to learn more about this ministry, visit: www.blessedsacramentdc.org/ministries/outreach/outreach-sunday-soup-kitchen.



Andre Nicolas Sonza



Francisco Aguirre (Grandfather of Francisco Aguirre, our former Youth Minister)
Anne Holland

Please include our sick in your prayers
that they may experience
healing and comfort
✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Susan Drake
Suzy Kuczynski
Bridie Rafferty

Sunday Lecture Series — The Sunday Lecture Series continues **this Sunday** at 9 am in the Duffy Parish Center Chapel. William A. Barbieri, Associate Professor of Ethics, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Director of the Peace and Justice Studies Program, The Catholic University of America will speak about "The Immigration 'Problem' for the Catholic Church." Coffee and rolls are available before the lecture in the large room opposite the chapel. If you wish to attend the 10:15 am Mass, the lecture will be finished in time. Next Sunday, **October 5**, Reverend Brian Johnstone, Professor, Warren Blanding Chair of Religion and Culture, School of Theology & Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America will talk about "Contemporary Moral Issues and Medical Ethics". Copies of the lectures, available on CD, may be ordered by calling Anna Maria Delgado at 301.657.9257. These lectures, as well as lectures from past lecture series, are available for loan from the parish library.

Faith In The Marketplace Meets This Friday — Faith in the Marketplace, Blessed Sacrament's men's group, will meet at 7 am this Friday, **October 3**, in the Duffy Parish Center. The group attends the 6:30 am Mass, has coffee, muffins, and some chat time, which is followed by a speaker discussing how his faith and professional life intersect and ways in which one has given additional meaning to the other. This flows into some great, thought provoking questions before concluding at 7:45 am. Parishioner W. Ralph Eubanks will speak this Friday. Usually you see him in the pews with his wife Colleen and their three children, but he is also the author of *Ever Is a Long Time: A Journey Into Mississippi's Dark Past* (Basic Books), which *Washington Post* book critic Jonathan Yardley named as one of the best nonfiction books of 2003. Ralph is at work on a new book, scheduled to be published in 2009. All men are welcome. If you haven't made it yet, why not join the group this Friday?

Youth Corner

Question of the Week

Today's parable reminds us that it isn't what we say that counts as much as what we do. How would someone know you are a Christian through your actions?

Child Protection Training — Do you volunteer or work with children at Blessed Sacrament parish or the school? If so, you are required to fulfill archdiocesan child protection training. Visit www.virtus.org, click on "Preview the Protecting God's Children Program" and identify a convenient class, register online and let the parish know that you have done so by sending an e-mail to mdurelli@blessedsacramentdc.org. Please note that if you do not complete this training requirement that you will not be able to work with children at the parish or school.

Register For CYO Basketball By October 1 — Note to all parents of 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th graders: don't forget to register your child for the 2008-09 CYO basketball season by this Wednesday, **October 1**. Simply go to the CYO website at www.washcyosignup.com and follow the instructions for "Player Registration for 2008-09 Program Year."

Cub Scout News — The new Cub Scout year is about to begin. If you have a son in the 1st – 5th grades who is interested in joining, please attend the first Pack meeting at 7 pm this Friday, **October 3**, in the school auditorium. Registration will occur for new and returning scouts. If you have any questions, please contact the appropriate den leader for your son: 1st grade - Barnaby Crahan, 301.657.2888; 2nd grade - Jack Jaeger, 202.244.6349; 3rd grade - Keith Morrison, 202.244.4019; 4th grade - Ward McCarragher, 301.652.8751; 5th grade - Eleanor Zappone, 202.537.0620 or Melissa McGuire, 202.966.0337.

Coffee And Donuts Next Sunday — Join fellow parishioners for coffee and donuts in the school auditorium next Sunday, **October 5**, following the 8:45 and 10:15 Masses. Enjoy time catching up with friends and the opportunity to meet new parishioners we are welcoming to Blessed Sacrament.



The 2008 Smyth Fund Golf Classic will be held Thursday, **October 23** at Worthington Manor Country Club. Get working on your golf game for our annual fundraising event. Great friends, great times, all for a great cause: providing for the education of our great students. More details at www.smythfund.golfreg.com or contact Chuck Asmar at 202.296.9260 or at CAsmar@msadlaw.com.

From The Social Concerns Office ...

Thank you to all who helped collect, and who donated, school supplies for the students at our sister school, St. Thomas More, in Southeast Washington, DC. Pat Kavanaugh and Wayne Straight delivered the supplies to a very enthusiastic student body last Thursday. And another thank you to all who donated blood last Sunday. Supplies are low so your donation is very much appreciated.

Flu Shots Will Be Available At Blessed Sacrament on Sunday, October 12. Details to follow.

Religious Education News

The School of Religion classes began last week — You can still register your child by visiting www.blessedsacramentdc.org/faith-formation/school-of-religion/ and printing out, then completing and submitting the form. Any student registered the week of classes will attend class the following week.

Adult Classes on Catholicism (RCIA) have begun, but it's not too late to join the classes from 7:30 to 9:30 pm each Monday in the Duffy Parish Center, main level meeting room. Tomorrow night, **September 29**, the talk will focus on the relationship between Sacred Scripture and Catholic Tradition.

Course On St. Paul — This course, taught by Brother Malachy **Tuesday mornings** from 8:45 to 10:45 am (**September 16 to May 12**) in the Duffy Parish Center, main level, continues. The course first focuses on the Acts of the Apostles, then will focus on the seven authentic epistles of St. Paul. This week will consider the beginning of the Acts of the Apostles. It is not too late to attend.

Introduction To The Torah (Pentateuch) — This course, also taught by Brother Malachy **Thursday mornings**, 8:45 to 10:45 am (**September 18 to May 14**) in the Duffy Parish Center, main level, continues. The Torah is foundational to the understanding of Judaism; it is also foundational to our understanding of Jesus and Paul, both of whom were observant Jews in the Second Temple period.

Sanctuary Sodality — The first meeting of the General Sodality will be its annual fall Mass and dinner next Thursday, **October 9**. The Sodality Mass will take place at 5 pm, with cocktails and dinner immediately following in the school auditorium.

Twelve-Day Alaskan Cruise Tour August 2009
Father John is planning to lead an Alaskan cruise next summer and has space for between 30 and 40 people. The group will leave Washington on **August 14 and return on August 26**. It is somewhat pricey, but if you would like more information, contact Tony Abell at 301.656.4060, 800.767.4061 or tonya@esprirainbow.com. Information packets are available at the front desk of the Duffy Parish Center. To determine interest, an initial deposit of \$300 is required by **October 15**. After that date, the deposit is \$800 per person. Come join us; it will be fun!

Visit Your Parish Library

The following selections describe a few articles from recent magazines received by the library. Each month, different articles are highlighted on Blessed Sacrament's website: www.blessedsacramentdc.org (search) Library.

Working Toward Peace in the Holy Land by Patriarch Tawal. *Origins* 38(13), September 4, 2008, pp 197-201. Latin Patriarch Fouad Tawal of Jerusalem visited Washington in August and urged "all sides in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict to lay aside violence saying that "the negotiations we need require real dialogue, mediated by an impartial party to the conflict."

The True Cost of Care: The complicated relationship between the market and government health programs by Uwe E. Reinhardt. *America* 199(6), September 8, 2008, pp 10-13. Princeton Professor of Political Economy Reinhardt offers a thorough discussion of the different ways that health care is financed in the United States, and points out that "modern economics is never between government and private markets, but is among varying mixtures of government-and private-market activities."

Religion and Education. Special issue. *America* 199(7), September 15, 2008. Articles discuss different approaches to educating with a view to religious significance:

Ann Garrido's "*The Faith of a Child*" describes the growth of a popular approach to teaching children the faith known as the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd which she says has grown from just a handful of the interested to over 1400 members. (pp. 10-13)

"*Learning Alone: Solitude and undergraduate education*" by William P. George stresses the importance of "regular solitary exercise of the mind" in development of the person that must be considered just as "physical exercise strengthens the muscles." He says strength is gained from solitude. (pp.16-18)

"*A Space for Inquiry Catholic universities and the search for meaning*" by Rev. Terrance W. Klein, associate professor of theology at Fordham University. Father Klein thinks that questions about God and a student's personal relationship with God do not often arise on a secular campus and that those "who reject religion and those who fervently preach it know little about it." (pp. 26-28)

The 2nd And 4th Monday Club will meet next Monday, **October 6**, immediately following the 11 am Mass. Young parishioner and competitive classical pianist, Carravita Pape-Calabrese will perform a program of classical music that will include works of Haydn, Liszt, Morell, and Debussy. Newcomers are welcome.

Save The Date — On Sunday **October 12** at 11 am, Raymond F. Collins, STD, will sign and discuss his new book, 'The Power of Images in Paul' in the parish library.

The Adult Center invites all parishioners, 39 and holding, to the Chevy Chase Apartments, #1, for fellowship after the 11 am Mass. Bring a sandwich and join the activities. For transportation, call Rita Killian at 202.363.5069.

Monday	Social/Discussion
Tuesday	RENEW and the Word/Low Vision Support
Wednesday	Find the Artist Within You . . . Art Lesson with Dick Swartz
Thursday	Bridge for Bridge Lovers
Friday	Closed

And From The Community ...

Screening Of *Thérèse* At The Avalon Theatre

Little Flower parish is screening the 2004 feature film *Thérèse* in celebration of the feast of St. Thérèse of Lisieux, "the little flower of Jesus," this Monday, **September 29**, from 9 am to 11 am. Admission, coffee and donuts are free. All are welcome.

Tailgate Party This Sunday —

Father John invites all to join a tailgate party celebration with Victory Youth Centers, Inc. and see its brand new recreational and educational center, the Mary Virginia Merrick Center, in Washington, DC. The center, named after the founder of the Christ Child Society, is located at 4275 Fourth Street, Southeast (5 minutes from Nationals Park). Watch the Redskins/Dallas game on the big screen, enjoy game munchies, play the Wii, come see old friends, bring the family and friends! The party will be held **today** from 3 pm 'til the end of the game. Contact jdonatelli2@verizon.net or 301.908.1072 for more information about this event.

40 Days For Life — Christians throughout Washington are uniting for a pro-life campaign from **September 24 through November 2**. This ecumenical, faith-based effort has two key components: 40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, and a 40-day peaceful public witness outside Planned Parenthood at 1108 16th Street, NW. For more information or to sign up for a time slot, contact Theresa Bock at 40DaysforLifeDC@gmail.com or visit www.40daysforlife.com/washington.

Upcoming Lecture At WTU —

Washington Theological Union (WTU) will present a lecture entitled "Presidential Election 2008: The Challenge of Faithful Citizenship" at 7 pm Wednesday, **October 8**. Guest speakers will be Rev. Thomas Reese, SJ, a fellow at the Woodstock Theological Center and former editor of *America* Magazine, and Marie Dennis, Director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. For more information, contact Will Heaton at 202.541.5235 or at Heaton@wtu.edu, or visit www.wtu.edu.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

We would like to thank **Laura McCaffrey, Gerlach Real Estate, Inc.**, for sponsoring an ad in our weekly bulletin.

Parish Staff

Rev. Msgr. John J. Enzler, Pastor
Rev. Benton Garrett, Associate Pastor
Rev. Tesfaye Fesuh, Resident Priest
Deacon Daniel Thompson
Deacon Michael McCarthy, Director of **Pastoral Care**, 202.449.3977
Mr. Chris Kelly, Principal of **School**, 202.966.6682
Mr. Rob Maro, Director of **Religious Education**, 202.449.3989
Mrs. Patricia Kavanaugh, **Social Concerns** Minister, 202.449.3987
(Office Open Monday - Friday, 10 am - 1 pm, and by appointment)
Mr. Jay Rader, Director of **Liturgy and Music**, 202.449.3981
Director of **Athletics**, 202.449.3972
Director of **Youth Ministries**, 202.449.3978

Assistants on Weekends

Rev. Joseph Komonchak, Catholic University

Weekday and Saturday Masses

Monday - Friday: 6:30 am, 8 am, 11 am, 5:30 pm
Saturday: 8 am, 11 am

Filipino Mass in Tagalog every 4th Sunday at 4 pm

Holy Day Masses

Eve of the Feast: 5:30 pm
Day of the Feast: 6:30 am, 8 am, 11 am, 5:30 pm, 7 pm

Holy Hour

First Friday of Each Month 9 pm - 10 pm
Exposition: Monday - Friday, 3 pm - 5:15 pm, in the church

Duffy Parish Center

Main Office 202.966.6575 (Open Mon. - Sat., 8:30 am - 4:30 pm)
In an emergency, 202.966.6575, Ext. 3988, to page priest on duty
Facilities 202.449.4610
St. Pius Library 202.449.3974

Sacrament of Baptism — Baptismal preparation is required of all parents prior to the celebration of baptism. We recommend that this take place before the child is born. Contact the Religious Education Office at 202.449.3989 for more information.

Sacrament of Matrimony — Please contact one of the parish priests 6 months in advance. All couples who are to be married at Blessed Sacrament must complete our parish marriage preparation program.

Sacrament of Reconciliation — Friday and Saturday after the 11 am Mass (if no funeral); Saturday 4 pm - 5 pm and after the 5:30 pm Mass, or anytime by appointment.

Care of the Sick and Homebound — If you or someone you know is hospitalized and would like a priest to visit, or if you know of anyone who is homebound who could benefit from a regular visit, please contact Deacon McCarthy at 202.449.3977.

New Parishioners — Welcome to Blessed Sacrament! Please register for parish membership by stopping in at the Duffy Parish Center and filling out a registration form. Forms also available in the pamphlet rack inside the Quesada Street entrance to the church.

Departing Parishioners — We will miss you. Please notify one of our staff members in the Duffy Parish Center office that you will be moving away.

Bulletin Announcements — Please send all announcements to bulletin@blessedsacramentdc.org. Deadline: Mondays @ 10 am