

The Seventeenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 30, 2023

Mass Intentions

| | | | |
|--------|----|---------|---|
| July | 31 | 8:00 AM | Helen Kilcullen |
| August | 1 | 8:00 AM | Special Intention |
| August | 2 | 8:00 AM | Gerald Ford requested by The Galgon Family |
| August | 3 | 8:00 AM | Ed Smeal requested by The Luckie Family |
| August | 4 | 8:00 AM | Catherine Spangler |
| August | 5 | 8:00 AM | Carl DePaulis requested by Sue Cover |
| | | 5:00 PM | Dorothy Fleming requested by Michael Pasquaret & Pat McEvoy |
| August | 6 | 9:00 AM | People Of The Parish |

Liturgical Ministries August 5-6

| | Lectors | Extraordinary Ministers | Servers |
|---------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| 5:00 PM | Sue Guarducci | Mary Zimmerman | The Hoffman Family |
| 9:00 AM | Nancy Stanton | Mark Ticehurst | The Morrison Family |

Schmidt Center Cleaning

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------|
| August 6 | Gabby Brandt & Jen Meek |
| August 13 | The Raugh Family |

Next Sunday's Readings

Please prepare for Mass and the Homily by reflecting on these texts from the Sacred Scriptures

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

Romans 9:1-5

Matthew 14:22-33

Christian Stewardship

Last Sunday's Collection amounted to: \$4,091.56

The Collection on this date one year ago amounted to: \$3,873.18

May God Bless you for your generous and responsible stewardship!!!

Church Calendar

Sunday, July 30th (17th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Mass, 9:00AM

Monday, July 31st

Mass, 8:00AM

Tuesday, August 1st

Mass, 8:00AM

Wednesday, August 2nd

Mass, 8:00AM

Prayer Group, 8:30AM

Thursday, August 3rd

Mass, 8:00AM

No confessions

Sacred Heart Devotions, 7:00PM

Friday, August 4th

Mass, 8:00AM

Saturday, August 5th

Mass in Honor of IHM, 8:00AM

Mass, 5:00 PM

Sunday, August 6th (18th Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Mass, 9:00AM

Parish Picnic, 1:00-4:00PM

“Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; for you have revealed to the little ones the mysteries of the Kingdom.”

From the Pastor's Desk

It is no secret that Jesus often taught using parables; last Sunday we heard three, and today there are more. Today's parables seemed obscure until I focused on the repeating phrase “kingdom of heaven,” which is likened to treasure, a pearl of great value, and then a fish net. What a contrast! But when I thought about it longer, it made perfect sense: The kingdom of heaven is the greatest treasure, one that should compel us to give up everything like the person who finds treasure buried in a field or the merchant who buys the pearl, just to make sure we have it in our possession. The kingdom is also something that requires hard work, hence the analogy with



fishermen throwing nets into the sea to capture fish and then sort the good from the bad. Think of that net as the predestination St. Paul mentions in today's epistle. God predestined mankind to be called to him, to be justified and glorified in his name, yet we all maintain free will to choose otherwise. So, at the end of the age, when the angels “separate the wicked from the righteous,” each of us will learn how precious the treasure of heaven is according to the way we chose to pursue it during our lifetime.

In the midst of the daily grind, heaven can seem so far removed from our lives until it's Sunday and we're standing in pews during Mass. But the kingdom of heaven isn't contained within the single act of attending Mass on Sundays. Jesus didn't say “attend church for one hour each week and you're all set” – the parables he speaks today show people who put in work, searching for treasure until they found it and did everything they could to ensure they kept it. Jesus taught in parables in order to extend his invitation to the kingdom of heaven to everyone who would listen. With these parables, the kingdom is more of an encounter than an end goal. When we are in a loving, prayerful relationship with God, we are able to recognize and know the joy and the infinite value of the kingdom. We are able to experience God's kingdom in the day-to-day experiences of our lives. We know that the kingdom can be found in Jesus, who is the way. And we know that Jesus is here with us now.

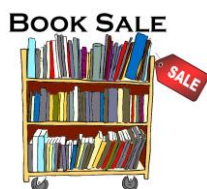
In the first reading Solomon said to God: “Give your servant, therefore, an understanding heart.” Take a few minutes and read Solomon's Prayer of Dedication for the temple that occurs a few verses later in 1 Kings (8:22-61). In it, he asks God to be with his people always – a prayer for us today as well.

Remember the Sick of our Parish in your charity and prayers: John Kapp, Rosemary Anderson, Cathy Steiner, Marietta McQuaid, Marie Dishman, Suzanne Matunis, Jeanette Fasick, Pat Widdowson, Kay Dorundo, Mike and Kathleen Brennan, and all the long-suffering in our community and at Perry Village.

Deacon Robinson's Contact Information: You may contact Deacon Robinson at his cell phone (602-6298) or through his email: dcnrobin@ptd.net.

Online Information: You can access the weekly bulletin and information at our parish website at www.stbernardsnbpa.org.

Prayer Group meets each Wednesday morning at 8:30AM in church. If you have prayer intentions for your loved ones or family members, for sick co-workers or people in the community, please give them to the Parish Office for prayer and spiritual support!



Knights of Columbus Book

Sale: The Knights are planning their annual book sale in September. If you would like to donate your used books to the sale, you

can leave them in the book box at the garage. You can also call Ken Risner (717-275-2223) if you want him to pick them up at your home. Please do not leave your books in the Narthex! You can drop all books in the marked plastic trunk by the parish garages. Please no moldy or musty books! Thank you!

Parish Picnic: Mark your calendars now for our Parish Picnic. It is scheduled for Sunday, August 6th from 1:00 to 4:00PM at the parish pavilion.



Families are asked to bring a vegetable dish, salad, or dessert. Our gracious Knights of Columbus will provide the meat course and drinks. It is a fun time for everyone and early

enough in August for our college bound youth to enjoy before heading off to school. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend!

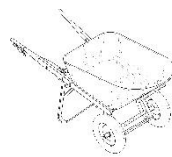
Triduum of Prayer in honor of Saint Bernard, Abbot:



To celebrate our parish's 75th Anniversary, we will have a three-day triduum of prayer in honor of our patron saint, Bernard of Clairvaux. The Triduum will begin on Saint Bernard's Feast Day, August 20th and conclude on Tuesday, August 22nd. The holy hour each evening will

begin at 7:00PM and include Vespers, a sermon on Saint Bernard and the history of our parish and conclude with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament. Deacon Michael Pray, who did his master's thesis on the history of our parish and Catholicism in Perry County, will preach the sermon each evening. As God has blessed our Parish through the intercession of Saint Bernard of Clairvaux, let us give thanks for those blessings in prayer and praise. Save those dates now and plan to be with us.

Knights of Columbus "Wheelbarrow of Groceries"



The Knights are offering chances to win a Wheelbarrow full of Groceries worth over \$200. Chances are \$1 or 6 for \$5. The winning ticket will be pulled at the parish picnic on August 6th. See the Knights after Mass to purchase your winning ticket!!

Birthday Card Party for John Kapp and Marie Dishman:

John Kapp will turn 96 years old on August 3rd and Marie Dishman will also celebrate her birthday on August 11th. You can send them birthday greetings at: **Mr. John Kapp** (11 S. 4th Street, Newport, PA 17040) and **Mrs. Marie Dishman** (301 N. Carlisle Street, New Bloomfield, PA 17068)

K of C Perry County Ice Cream Stand:

The Knights of Columbus are asking for your assistance in manning the Ice Cream Stand at this year's Perry County fair from August 15th through the 19th. The Ice Cream Stand is the K of C major source of support to continue the programs they sponsor for our parish. A signup sheet is on the bulletin board with scheduled time slots you can choose from. Your assistance is appreciated.



CCD Registrations: Parents are reminded to re-register your children in our CCD program by July 10th so adequate materials can be ordered. Registration forms are available on the bulletin board in the narthex. There are also new registration forms available if your child is just beginning our program.