Catechetical Sunday

September 18, 2016

We All Have Stories

If you would have told me a few years ago that I would be writing a reflection in the bulletin each week, I would have been surprised. I have always found journaling an important outlet for me in processing the movements of my heart and the experiences of my life, but I have never seen myself as a writer who had anything to share with the outside world.

My eyes and heart have been opened up as a result of sharing through the bulletin. Many conversations with people I may not have known have opened up as well. I want others to have the opportunity to do the same. For the next months, I hope for others to share their God moments and stories in this space. I will be working with students in the school and parish to give them confidence to share their stories through writing. I have been blessed to hear hundreds of God moments from kids and adults. Our community, country and world need these stories. They are all miracles because they express Gods love and presence among us. God is making something new and beautiful. God is writing the newest testament through us. Please journal or make a note of when these moments happen to you. Lets organize our stories so that we may never forget that God is here among us. I will start compiling the stories that I hear. Please do the same. I think we will be in awe.

May He Rest In Peace

Don Gunderson

calendar

Please visit www.smchp.com for the most current info.

Tuesday, September 20:
Mass, Church, 6:45 p.m.
Finance Commission, **Seton Ctr. 2-L,** 7 p.m.
Knights of Columbus, Seton Ctr., 7:15 p.m.
Wednesday, September 21:
Choir Rehearsal, Church, 5:30-9 p.m.
Friday, September 23:
St. Mary Annual Golf Outing, California Golf Course, 1 p.m.
Saturday, September 24:
Wedding Mass of Bailey Parkhouse & Nick Ambrose, Church, 6 p.m. Fr. Ken Schartz, Officiant
Sunday, September 25:
Rosary, Seton Center, 8 p.m.

masses

Tuesday, September 20
7:30 a.m. Patricia Bonn-Greg & Katie Dorr
6:45 p.m. For the People of the Parish
Wednesday, September 21
9:00 a.m. Sp. Int. Abigail Lowe-Cheryl Fast
Thursday, September 22
7:30 a.m. Bob Kelly-Juliani Family
Friday, September 23
9:00 a.m. Phyllis McEnroe-St. Mary School PTO
Saturday, September 24
9:00 a.m. For the People of the Parish
4:00 p.m. Tyler Merz-Family
Sunday, September 25
8:00a.m. For the People of the Parish
9:30a.m. Dorothy Lantz-Family
11:30a.m. Pat Brown-Gabby, Kim & Matthew Pruent, Nick & Gina Geiser

servers

Saturday, September 24
9:00 a.m. Gretchen Busemeyer, Jude Kiley
4:00 p.m. Mallory & Elliot Como, Anna Mussman
Sunday, September 25
8:00 a.m. Jack Mannix, Maria Orzali, Annelise Salomon
9:30 a.m. Peter Franz, Gus Gibbons, Jude Weis
11:30 a.m. Skylar Herr, Gannon & James McMahon

readings

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Sept. 25
Amos 6:1a, 4-7
1 Timothy 6:11-16
Luke 16:19-31

Collection Sunday, September 11 ... 15,415.15

Projected weekly Collection 19,388.00

Want to write fewer checks? Sign up for *Electronic Fund Transfer*. To enroll go to our website www.smchp.com and click on "Giving" found at the top of the main page. Any questions? **Call Jeff Rinear 321-1207 ext. 5502.**

***to increase your electronic giving:** Log in to smchp.weshareonline.org and click Payments & Schedules/Click Edit next to Sunday Offerings/Enter in your new account/Click Apply **Questions contact Jeff Rinear at 321-1207 ext. 5502.**

From the desk of Fr. Ken

This Sunday at the 9:30 Mass we will celebrate Catechetical Sunday. This is a time where we bless those teachers in our school and in the PREP Program. It is also a time where we pray for you parents who are the first teachers of your children in the ways of the faith. I pray that all of us do it well.

For those who are interested RCIA Classes will start on Thursday, October 20th. The classes will start at 7 p.m. For more information call 321-1207.

Fr. Ken Schaft

Jubilee Year of Mercy

Pope Francis on the Field of Mercy

Recently, July 25-31, Pope Francis and hundreds of thousands of young people made a pilgrimage to World Youth Day (WYD) in Krakow, Poland. Two gatherings were held at Campus Misericordiae (Field of Mercy) at Brezgi: a prayer vigil and a closing Mass. The Field of Mercy was more than a venue for WYD. The Bread of Mercy, one of the largest warehouses in the world, was built there to gather and store food for the poor. In addition, Campus Misericodiae was dedicated to the care of the elderly. These buildings and their missions of mercy were blessed by Pope Francis.

Scripture

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy " (Mt 5:7).

Meditation

"...Mercy is the only way to overcome evil. Justice is necessary, very much so, but by itself it is not enough. Justice and mercy must go together" *(Pope Francis)*. **Let us pray that our hearts might be fertile fields of mercy with lasting and lifelong missions of mercy.**

Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I will never be suspicious or judge by appearances that my ears may be merciful, so that I will be attentive to my neighbors needs that my tongue may be merciful, so that I will never speak badly of others that my hands may be merciful and full of good deeds that my feet may be merciful, so that I will hasten to help my neighbors that my heart may be merciful, so that I myself will share in all the sufferings of my neighbor."

-- St. Faustina, Diary, 163

Reflection

- Is the "field" of mercy growing in your heart, your family, your parish community? How can you demonstrate mercy during this month?

"Remember that the Christian life is one of action, not of speech and daydreams. Let there be few words and many deeds and let them be done well.."--*St. Vincent Palotti*

SMS school news

FROM OUR SCHOOL OFFICE

We have 24 **Saint Families** at St. Mary School that are comprised of students from Kindergarten-Grade 8. During religion classes, the 8th grade students prepare to lead their Saint Family in our Saint Family monthly meetings. This past week, we met in Saint Families for the first time this school year to learn about Saint Teresa of Calcutta and how best we can help and serve others.

We are accepting applications for our Kindergarten Class for next Fall 2017. If you would like a personal tour, please call the school office at 321-0703. Visit us at www.smshp.com to learn more and to view photos of SMS Life!

Parish Membership and Tuition

Children of a St. Mary Parishioner, enrolled at St. Mary School, receive a significant amount of tuition aid from the parish. A St. Mary parishioner is, at the very least, registered, normally attends Sunday Mass at St. Mary Church, and supports the work of the parish through regular use of parish envelopes.

PREP 2016-17

2016-17 PREP Registration is open. Classes will begin with a family gathering in Robisch Hall after 9:30 Mass on Sunday, 9/18. **Classes begin on 9/25.** All children in grades Pre-K through grade 7 are invited and welcome. See "WeShare" for registration information or link to PREP 2016-17 from the opening page of St. Mary website. A great year of learning is about to begin!

Fr. Ken's Milestone Anniversary Brunch Sunday, October 23rd

Come Celebrate your 50th, 40th or 25th *Wedding Anniversary* with Mass and Special Blessings—Enjoy brunch immediately after 11:30 a.m. mass in Fr. Ken's Rectory Dining Room. RSVP to the Parish Office (513-321-1207).

Welcome

Are you new to our parish? Have you been attending Mass here but aren't registered? We invite all individuals to join our parish family, by registering on our parish website: **www.smchp.com** or call the Parish Office (321-1207) for a form to be sent in the mail.

40 Days for Life

This fall from September 28 through November 6, St. Mary Parish is uniting with other parishes in Greater Cincinnati and over 300 cities around the world for the 40 Days for Life campaign. Since 40 Days for Life began we have seen: 11,796 lives saved from abortion; 133 abortion worker conversions and 74 abortion facilities closed.

St Mary Parish is covering the prayer hours, in front of Planned Parenthood on Auburn Ave, from 3PM-6PM on Fridays during October. If you or your family are able to cover 30 minutes or an hour, please let Dianne or Bob Donlan know by calling 871-8851 or emailing dia2ne@webtv.net or bdonlan14@msn.com If you have any questions, please contact us. If you would like to meet with us to pray or would like a sign ("Pray to End Abortion") to bring with you, let us know.

Parishioners are also invited to the Kickoff Rally in front of Planned Parenthood on Tuesday, September 27th at 7pm. The hour consists of prayer, scripture, song and practical information about standing in public prayer witness for Life. The featured speaker is the Rev. Anthony Stephens, CPM, from Mt. St. Mary Seminary.

In addition, at 7pm on Thursday, October 6, the Cincinnati vigil site is privileged to be one of the "United for Life" statewide rally sites as part of a national bus tour by members of the 40 Days for Life headquarters team.

Interested in the Catholic Faith?

Classes begin soon. Please contact Connie in the Parish Office for more information (321-1207).

A Vocation View

You cannot serve two masters. Whom do you choose to follow? You have to make a choice. (Luke 16:1-13)

Prayer Request Hotline

The Prayer Request Hotline is in service. The number is **533-5500 ext. 5770.** For anyone who is in need of prayer, or if you know someone who is in need of prayer, call and leave your prayer request on the message system. If you'd like to be a prayer partner, please call Marlene Berning (321-7911).

Worship 101

"What is Catechetical Sunday?"

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18, 2016 and will focus on the theme "Prayer: The Faith Prayed." Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

USCCB.org

Do you have questions you want answered? Send your questions to connieerdmann555@hotmail.com or call the parish office (321-1207). You may even drop them in the collection basket. We look forward to hearing them.

A Prayer for an End to Hunger

Heavenly Father, I pray for the
one in five children in our country
who lives in a family that struggles to
get enough to eat. Grant patience and
wisdom to parents who work so hard
to see that their children have the food
they need to grow and learn. Amen
--www.bread.

Young Adults

The young adult group is for anyone in their 20s/30s who are looking to grow in faith and friendship. We meet after the 6:45p.m. Mass on the first Tuesday of the month at Holy Grounds coffee house located in the red house just behind St. Mary church adjacent to the parking lot. Anyone who has questions and/or is interested may contact **Daron Monnin at 937-361-6640** or email (daron.j.monnin@gmail.com) **Like us on our facebook page St. Mary Young Adult Ministry.**

Parishioners called to Military Service

If you know of a parishioner who is called into, or presently serving in, our country's military forces **please notify the parish secretary at (321-1207).** We want to keep these men and women in our prayers. In serving honorably, they contribute to the good of the nation and the preservation of peace (Catechism of the Catholic Church #2310). Please keep the following in your prayers: **Craig Blessing, Josue Vazquez, Tony DeFilippo, Louis Hamilton, Jr., Karl Kadon, III, Kurt Kadon, Jake Keefe, Dom Lanzillotta, Ewan MacDougall, Michael O'Connor, Andrew Quatkemeyer, Amy Rohs, Todd Seurkamp, Todd Smyth.**

military service

Bringing Home the Word

Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time September 18, 2016

It All Belongs to God

By Janel Esker

I love spending Saturday mornings at garage sales. Recently I held my own sale; I had even more fun selling than buying. I love seeing what "treasures" others find amidst my leftovers. Often they get so excited it's as though I've just been borrowing the item and the original owner has finally come to claim it.

We have a tendency to focus on what *we* own, what *we've* earned, and what is ours alone. We forget that all our stuff, and the ability to acquire stuff, originally comes from God. But how much do *we* have a right to if others don't have enough?

One of Jesus' lines from today's Gospel struck me: "If you are not trustworthy with what belongs to another, who will give you what is yours?" Certainly our world's resources belong to all humanity. Are we trustworthy stewards of these resources? Are we aware of how our use of these resources affects others, especially the poor? The first reading from Amos reminds us that God observes and remembers how we treat others, particularly those in need.

Do you question where your shoes are made or what the companies in which you hold stock are doing to the environment? Are resources or people being maltreated so you can have easy access to groceries, clothes, and toys?

We may not have millions to build a school or rescue an orphaned child in a developing nation, but we can adjust our use of God's gifts so others are treated more justly and resources are more widely shared.

Truly, what's ours *does* "belong to another"—to God and God's children. †

"Find out what the firms you hold stock in are doing to God's environment."

Sunday Readings

Amos 8:4–7

"The Lord has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Never will I forget a thing they have done!"

1 Timothy 2:1–8

"There is one God. There is also one mediator between God and the human race, Christ Jesus, himself human."

Luke 16:1–13

"The person who is trustworthy in very small matters is also trustworthy in great ones."

A Word From Pope Francis

Human beings...are creatures of this world, enjoying a right to life and happiness, and endowed with unique dignity. So we cannot fail to consider the effects on people's lives of environmental deterioration, current models of development and the throwaway culture....We have to realize that a true ecological approach *always* becomes a social approach; it must integrate questions of justice in debates on the environment, so as to hear *both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.*

—*Laudato Si'*, 43, 49

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How well do I manage my life?
- How can I be a better steward of the gifts and resources available to me?

Family Stewardship

By Emily Strand, MA

Stewardship begins in the home. As your children grow, their talents and treasures will reach extended family, friends, and the greater community and Church. Look for ways to serve that both play to their strengths and interests and stretch their abilities and understanding.

✚ ***Prayer*** **(Time):** Pray with your children frequently, using natural moments: morning, evening, mealtimes, upon returning from school or work. Provide opportunities for both communal and individual prayer. Make sure every member has access to traditional Catholic prayers, and teach basics:

- The Sign of the Cross
- Rosary prayers (Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be)
- Marian prayers (Hail, Holy Queen; *Memorare*; *Angelus*)
- The Jesus Prayer
- Mealtime prayers (Bless us, O Lord…)

Remember: Prayer is not only spoken and heard but also seen and felt through books, images, objects, and gestures.

✚ ***Works*** **(Talent):** A life of faith is more than prayers, promises, and personal beliefs. Our Catholic tradition is full of guidance on how to put faith into action through daily deeds such as the:

- precepts of the Church (*Catechism* 2041–43)
- corporal and spiritual works of mercy
- Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1–17)
- Beatitudes (Matt. 5:3–10; Luke 6:20–26)

✚ ***Money and Giving*** **(Treasure):** Model charity and tithing to your ability. Set aside a small amount for each child to place in the offering envelope or basket, and encourage older kids to allocate a portion of their gifts or earnings toward charitable giving. Teach your children that contributing to the common good is a duty, requires no money, and builds virtue rather than guarantees return. Rather than tying your children's allowance to the completion of chores, introduce it as a money-management tool and a sign of increased independence. †

Six Ways to Become More Generous

By Fr. Maurice J. Nutt, CSsR

1. Pray for the spirit of generosity. Ask God to help you put aside selfish tendencies and become empathetic to the others' concerns. Pray for an openness to share your gifts and talents so that God can be glorified through your life.

2. Be hospitable. Being hospitable demonstrates that giving is better than receiving. *Hospitable* means "receiving guests," so welcome strangers warmly, and be favorably receptive and open to others. Let people into your home and invite them into your life.

3. Offer loving service. When you give to another person, you are living beyond selfishness, greed, and personal needs. Service is about giving of yourself.

4. Act justly. When we act justly, we manifest the gospel call to love as we are loved. Seek out those in need of love, comfort, and healing. Show concern for the poor, prisoners, and oppressed. Offer forgiveness, and give life and hope to the people, places, and situations you encounter. We cannot remain silent in the face of hatred.

5. Give from your resources. Generous people are openhearted and alert to find others who are struggling or in pain. They empathize with those whose world is difficult and enjoy trying to make it better. Think of creative ways to bless and encourage others. Consciously engage the world, ready to give freely.

6. Be present to those in need. When you listen deeply, you are truly present with the other person. Hear the essence of what people are saying and notice the feelings behind their words. †

Adapted from *Generosity at Your Fingertips,* © 2014 Liguori Publications

PRAYER

Lord, I'm grateful for life. Help me to be wise and responsible.

—From *Grateful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time,* Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeny

WEEKDAY READINGS

September 19–24

Mon. Weekday: Proverbs 3:27–34 / Luke 8:16–18

Tue. Sts. Andrew Kim Tae–gŏn, Paul Chŏng Ha–sang, and Companions: Proverbs 21:1–6, 10–13 / Luke 8:19–21

Wed. St. Matthew: Ephesians 4:1–7, 11–13 / Matthew 9:9–13

Thu. Weekday: Ecclesiastes 1:2–11 / Luke 9:7–9

Fri. St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio): Ecclesiastes 3:1–11 / Luke 9:18–22

Sat. Weekday: Ecclesiastes 11:9—12:8 / Luke 9:43b–45

Bringing Home the Word
September 18, 2016

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BHW001

The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

Faithful Citizenship

Part I of II: Our Call as Catholic Citizens

This brief document is Part I of a summary of the US bishops' reflection, *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, which complements the teaching of bishops in dioceses and states.

★

"If indeed 'the just ordering of society and of the state is a central responsibility of politics,' the Church 'cannot and must not remain on the sidelines in the fight for justice.'"[1] So writes Pope Francis, quoting Pope Benedict XVI.

Our nation faces many political challenges that demand well-informed moral choices:

- The ongoing destruction of a million innocent human lives each year by abortion
- Physician-assisted suicide
- The redefinition of marriage
- The excessive consumption of material goods and the destruction of natural resources, harming the environment as well as the poor
- Deadly attacks on Christians and other religious minorities throughout the world
- Efforts to narrow the definition and exercise of religious freedom
- Economic policies that fail to prioritize the needs of poor people, at home and abroad
- A broken immigration system and a worldwide refugee crisis
- Wars, terror, and violence that threaten every aspect of human life and dignity.[2]

As Catholics, we are part of a community with profound teachings that help us consider challenges in public life, contribute to greater justice and peace for all people, and evaluate policy positions, party platforms, and candidates' promises and actions in light of the Gospel in order to help build a better world.

Why Does the Church Teach About Issues Affecting Public Policy?

The Church's obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith, a part of the mission given to us by Jesus Christ. As people of both faith and reason, Catholics are called to bring truth to political life and to practice Christ's commandment to "love one another" (Jn 13:34).

The US Constitution protects the right of individual believers and religious bodies to proclaim and live out their faith without government interference, favoritism, or discrimination. Civil law should recognize and protect the Church's right and responsibility to participate in society without abandoning its moral convictions. Our nation's tradition of pluralism is enhanced, not threatened, when religious groups and people of faith bring their convictions into public life. The Catholic community brings to political dialogue a consistent moral framework and broad experience serving those in need.

Who in the Church Should Participate in Political Life?

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to any political party or interest group. In today's environment, Catholics may feel politically disenfranchised, sensing that no party and few candidates fully share our comprehensive commitment to human life and dignity. This should not discourage us. On the contrary, it makes our obligation to act all the more urgent. Catholic lay women and men need to act on the Church's moral principles and become more involved: running for office, working within political parties, and communicating concerns to elected officials. Even those who cannot vote should raise their voices on matters that affect their lives and the common good. Faithful citizenship is an ongoing responsibility, not just an election year duty.

How Can Catholic Social Teaching Help Guide Our Participation?

In the words of Pope Francis, "progress in building a people in peace, justice and fraternity depends on four principles related to constant tensions present in every social reality. These derive from the pillars of the Church's social doctrine, which serve as 'primary and fundamental parameters of reference for interpreting and evaluating social phenomena.'"[3] The four principles include the dignity of the human person, the common good, subsidiarity, and solidarity. Taken together, these principles provide a moral framework for Catholic engagement in advancing what we have called a "consistent ethic of life" (*Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 22).

Rightly understood, this ethic does not treat all issues as morally equivalent; nor does it reduce Catholic teaching to one or two issues. It anchors the Catholic commitment to defend human life and other human rights, from conception until natural death, in the fundamental obligation to respect the dignity of every human being as a child of God.

Catholic voters should use Catholic teaching to examine candidates' positions on issues and should consider candidates' integrity, philosophy, and performance. It is important for all citizens "to see beyond party politics, to analyze campaign rhetoric critically, and to choose their political leaders according to principle, not party affiliation or mere self-interest" (*Living the Gospel of Life*, no. 33). The following summary of the four principles highlights several themes of Catholic social teaching for special consideration: these include **human rights and responsibilities, respect for work and the rights of workers, care for God's creation,** and **the preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.**[4]

The Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred because every person is created in the image and likeness of God. There is a rich and multifaceted Catholic teaching on human dignity summarized in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. Every human being "*must always be understood in his unrepeatable and inviolable uniqueness* . . . This entails above all the requirement not only of simple respect on the part of others, especially political and social institutions and their leaders with regard to every man and woman on the earth, but even more, this means that the primary commitment of each person towards others, and particularly of these same institutions, must be for the promotion and integral development of the person" (no. 131). The *Compendium* continues, "It is necessary to 'consider every neighbor without exception

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as another self, taking into account first of all his life and the means necessary for living it with dignity' (*Gaudium et Spes*, no. 27). Every political, economic, social, scientific and cultural program must be inspired by the awareness of the primacy of each human being over society."[5]

Subsidiarity

It is impossible to promote the dignity of the person without showing concern for the family, groups, associations, and local realities—in short, for those economic, social, cultural, recreational, professional, and political communities to which people spontaneously give life and which make it possible for them to achieve effective social growth.[6] The family, based on marriage between a man and a woman, is the fundamental unit of society. This sanctuary for the creation and nurturing of children must not be redefined, undermined, or neglected. Supporting families should be a priority for economic and social policies. How our society is organized—in economics and politics, in law and public policy—affects the well-being of individuals and of society. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate in shaping society to promote the well-being of individuals and the common good.

The principle of subsidiarity reminds us that larger institutions in society should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local institutions; yet larger institutions have essential responsibilities when the more local institutions cannot adequately protect human dignity, meet human needs, and advance the common good.[7]

The Common Good

The common good is comprised of "the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfilment more fully and more easily."[8]

Human dignity is respected and the common good is fostered only if **human rights are protected and basic responsibilities are met.** Every human being has a right to life, a right to religious freedom, and a right to have access to those things required for human decency—food and shelter, education and employment, health care and housing. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to ourselves, to our families, and to the larger society.

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. An economic system must serve the dignity of the human person and the common good by **respecting the dignity of work and protecting the rights of workers.** Economic justice calls for decent work at fair, living wages, a broad and fair legalization program with a path to citizenship for immigrant workers, and the opportunity for all people to work together for the common good through their work, ownership, enterprise, investment, participation in unions, and other forms of economic activity. Workers also have responsibilities—to provide a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, to treat employers and coworkers with respect, and to carry out their work in ways that contribute to the common good. Workers, employers, and unions should not only advance their own interests but also work together to advance economic justice and the well-being of all.

We have a duty to **care for God's creation,** which Pope Francis refers to in *Laudato Si'* as "our common home."[9] We all are called to be careful stewards of God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future. Pope Francis, consistent with St. John Paul II and Pope Benedict XVI (World Day of Peace Message, 1990 and 2010), has lifted up pollution, climate change, lack of access to clean water, and the loss of biodiversity as particular challenges. Pope Francis speaks of an "ecological debt" (no. 51) owed by wealthier nations to developing nations. And he calls all of us to an "ecological conversion" (no. 219), by which "the effects of [our] encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in [our] relationship with the world around [us]".[10] Indeed, this concern with "natural ecology" is an indispensable part of the broader "human ecology," which encompasses not only material but moral and social dimensions as well.

Solidarity

Solidarity is "a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to . . . the good of all and of each individual, because we are *all* really responsible *for all*." It is found in "a commitment to the good of one's neighbor with the readiness, in the Gospel sense, to 'lose oneself' for the sake of the other instead of exploiting him, and to 'serve him' instead of oppressing him for one's own advantage."[11]

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Our Catholic commitment to solidarity requires that we pursue justice, eliminate racism, end human trafficking, protect human rights, seek peace, and avoid the use of force except as a necessary last resort.

In a special way, our solidarity must find expression in the **preferential option for the poor and vulnerable.** A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us—the unborn, those dealing with disabilities or terminal illness, the poor, and the marginalized.

Conclusion

In light of Catholic teaching, the bishops vigorously repeat their call for a renewed politics that focuses on moral principles, the promotion of human life and dignity, and the pursuit of the common good. Political participation in this spirit reflects not only the social teaching of our Church but the best traditions of our nation.

Notes

1 *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 183.
2 This specific list of issues is taken from the Introductory Note to *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 2015. For a fuller consideration, see the second document in this series, "The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship; Part II: Making Moral Choices and Applying Our Principles" (2016), and the full statement of the bishops' *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 2015.
3 *Evangelii Gaudium*, no. 221.
4 These principles are drawn from a rich tradition more fully described in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* from the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace (Washington, DC: United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2005), no. 160. For more information on these principles, see *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, 2016, nos. 40ff.
5 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 132. This summary represents only a few highlights from the fuller treatment of the human person in the *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*. For the fuller treatment, see especially nos. 124-159 where many other important aspects of human dignity are treated.
6 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 185.
7 *Centesimus Annus*, no. 48; *Dignitatis Humanae*, nos. 4-6.
8 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 164
9 *Laudato Si'*, no. 77.
10 *Laudato Si'*, no. 217.
11 *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church*, no. 193. (See Mt 10:40-42, 20:25; Mk 10:42-45; Lk 22:25-27)

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St. Mary Parish Fall Golf Classic

Presented by: Cincinnati Bell BUSINESS

Registration Form

Sign-up today. All are welcome. Register by August 18th and save!

When: **Friday, September 23rd at 1:00 pm, shotgun start.**
Please arrive no later than 12:30.

Where: **California Golf Course**

Format: SCRAMBLE! Rules provided prior to start.
Longest drive/closest to pin and other pre/post event contests!

Cost: ~~**$125**~~ *$100* per person if registered **prior to August 18th**. Includes cart, golf, prizes, beverages, and *both* lunch at the start and dinner at the golf course following the event.

Detach & mail check with completed form to:
St. Mary Parish, c/o Matt Berlage 1339 Michigan Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

~~$125~~ 100 x _____ golfer(s) + sponsorship _____ = Total $ _____ Enclosed

Not a golfer? Join us as a dinner only registration for $30 per person

Name	Email address	Phone number (cell preferred)
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

St. Mary Golf Outing Sponsorship Information:

$2,000 Presenting Sponsorship: ~~One (1) available. Includes one (1) free foursome registration.~~ ***SOLD!***
$750 Food Sponsorship: Two (2) available. Includes two (2) single golf registrations. ***One sold! One still available!***
$750 Beverage Sponsorship: ~~One (1) available. Includes two (2) single golf registrations~~. ***SOLD!***
$250 Hole Sponsorship (Company sign on tee): Thirsty Six (36) available. Includes one (1) single golf registration. ***12 sold! 24 still available!***

Company Name (email logo to SMhpGolf@gmail.com):_____

Contact:_____ Phone:_____ E-mail:_____

Donation of Merchandise for Prizes/Raffle (item / quantity):_____

Registration questions? Email SMhpGolf@gmail.com or contact Jack Ankenbauer, Matt Berlage, Tim Gillenkirk, Phillip Kiley or Mike Taylor

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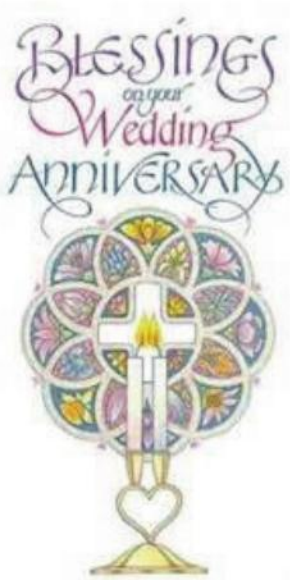
OCTOBER

23



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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23RD

RSV.P TO BECKY LAUDEMAN 321-0703 OR EMAIL blaudeman@smshp.com

Weekly Marriage Tip

After an argument, it can be easy to jump to conclusions, instead, be cautious and seek to understand where your spouse is coming from. --*USCCB*

Weekly Parenting Pointer

"It's not only a matter of what screen-based media promote, but what they prevent." *(Raising Kids Who Will Make a Difference)* All of us like to veg out occasionally, but too much passive entertainment robs children of the motivation to play outside, to be artistic, to create their own games and fun. -- *www.susanvogt.net*"

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