

Church of the Blessed Sacrament

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August 1, 2010

Mass Schedule

Sunday

8:00 am, 10:00 am and 12:15 pm

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

8:00 am

Tuesday, Thursday

5:30 pm

Confessions

Saturday 4:30 – 5:30 pm

Parish Staff:

Fr. Robert J. Kennedy

Pastor

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ALONG THE AVENUES:

The shortest New Testament letter we will consider in this summer series is Saint Paul's **Letter to Philemon**. It's only 25 verses long (equaling in length the Letter of Jude, which I am not going to include in this series). There is no doubt that Paul wrote this letter, and wrote it when he was in prison. But was this from his imprisonment in Ephesus (about the year 55) or in Rome (sometime between years 60-63)?

Philemon was a slave owner who was a friend of Paul's, and Paul writes to persuade Philemon to take back his runaway slave, Onesimus. Onesimus may have ended up in prison with Paul or simply sought out Paul's assistance, but he had become a Christian under Paul's guidance while with him. The law gave Philemon the right to punish his slave for escaping (from cutting off a hand or foot to taking his life), but Paul asks indirectly but clearly for freedom for Onesimus. And Paul uses flattery (verse 4-7), a reference to his own authority (vv. 8-9), his personal relationships with everyone involved (vv. 12-17), and a little guilt (18-19) to persuade Philemon not only to set Onesimus free, but, more startlingly, to receive him as "a beloved brother" in Christ – as an equal!

That leaves Philemon with a moral decision to make, since he knows that their shared Christian faith makes Onesimus and himself brothers together in Christ. Does he resist Paul's persuasive request and punish his runaway slave; or does he receive his slave back as a brother? If the former, he acts within his rights under the law but violates his own Christian belief not to harm anyone or take another's life. If the latter, he runs the real risk of having all his slaves escape and be baptized in order to be free, thus creating financial chaos in his household and social chaos in his community. Philemon has finds himself in the situation of choosing values that are in conflict, a not unusual moral dilemma for any of us.

There are three things to note here. First, Paul does not object to the institution of slavery which is so abhorrent to our sensibilities. Most commentators agree that Paul very likely expected slavery to pass away quickly since he expected the Second Coming of Christ to be fairly immediate. Consequently he didn't challenge the institution of slavery. Second, we don't know what Philemon decided to do about Onesimus! The letter then makes Philemon's moral dilemma our moral dilemma as we face the various issues that come our way in living our Christian faith truly and completely.

Thirdly, Paul's message to Philemon's household still remains clear to us: we must get beyond whatever cultural boundaries prevent us from treating one another as equals in Christ. This is definitely a counter-cultural message when we consider the diverse social issues we are trying to decide about in our own time: refugees and illegal immigrants, human and civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, capital punishment, the care of Earth's resources and the environment. Philemon's dilemma and ours is also a reality on a personal level as well: how will we receive the son, daughter, husband, wife, family member, co-worker, neighbor or stranger who has wronged us? They remain and always will be brothers and sisters in Christ, so how will we decide? Paul is waiting to hear from us!



Christ's peace to you,
Father Bob Kennedy

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, August 4

8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. — Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. — Farmer's Market, Parking Lot
 7:00 p.m. — Contemplative Prayer, Parish Office

Saturday, August 7

NO Sacrament of Penance, Church

Sunday, August 8

10:00 a.m.— Nursery, School Playroom

MASS SCHEDULE:

SUNDAY, August 1, Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - Ida Yawman — Gerry Yawman
 10:00 AM - Mass of Remembrance: Clara L. Gerhard
 12:15 PM - For the Parishioners

MONDAY, August 2, Weekday, St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop; St. Peter Julian Eymard, priest

8:00 AM - Kay Lechleitner — Bill Barry

TUESDAY, August 3, Weekday

No Church Service

WEDNESDAY, August 4, St. John Mary Vianney, priest

8:00 AM—Lucy Sheehan — Sue Howard

THURSDAY, August 5, Weekday, The Dedication of the Basilica of St. Mary Major in Rome

No Church Service

FRIDAY, August 6, The Transfiguration of the Lord

8:00 AM. - Donald Jones — Karen Yastremski

SATURDAY, August 7, Weekday, St. Sixtus II, pope and martyr and his companions, martyrs; St. Cajetan, priest

3:30 PM - Wedding: Kaitlyn Rossi and Corey Monks

SUNDAY, August 8, Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 AM - For the Parishioners
 10:00 AM - Ann Byrne — Ed and Christine Driscoll
 12:15 PM - Mass of Remembrance: Lorraine Golding



During the summer, the Stewardship Committee of the parish wants to make some suggestions for our consideration as we try to make Stewardship our way of life. Here's the tenth installment:

Stewardship of TIME

Don't let panic rise up in your heart as you read this, but God gives us only a certain number of hours in our lives. We don't know how many hours exactly, and we hope for the maximum number. But knowing that there will be a limit to our hours, the question arises: how well am I using the time God gives me? Do I manage my time wisely? Do I manage my time fairly in my workplace, school or retirement?

Many if not all of us have accepted multiple responsibilities in our lives or have multiple demands placed upon us. The pace of our world seems impossibly fast. Am I keeping my overall balance among all my responsibilities and involvements? Am I spending too much time on the internet, or twittering, or watching television, or eating, or...? Am I putting in a good and honest day's work? Am I giving my best effort to my school work? Can I say "no" when too many things have been asked of me? A good mix of prayer, exercise, work and rest will keep us good stewards of the time God has given us.

Stewardship of TALENT

The last few weeks we have been considering what might be called "little talents:" counting the collection grilling hot dogs, helping clean up. But we all recognize that, without the "little talents," nothing gets done or done well. So today we want to continue to highlight the daily talents we all rely on for a neat and tidy house: vacuuming, dusting, ironing, washing, and neatening-up.

We salute and thank our weekly church cleaners, **Linda Czajkowski, Colleen Gordon, and Bob Kingston**, and until recently **Michael Castaldi and Luis Grieff**. At the same time we thank our volunteer sacristans, **Chris Walsh and Kathleen Nichols**. Talk about faithful stewards! They make sure that the church looks its best every time we gather in it. They straighten the hymnals, remove stray Cherrios, dust the pews, iron the linens, trim the candles, vacuum the rugs, wash the tile, and occasionally find a dime or a dollar! While we do not need additional sacristans at the moment, we welcome new church cleaners. Contact our business manager, Margy Handel, at 271-7240 or mhandel@dor.org.

Stewardship of TREASURE

Sunday collection received: July 25, 2010	\$	7,250
Budgeted weekly need	\$	7,850
Difference - (under) weekly need	\$	(600)
Received year to date	\$	27,854
Budgeted need - year to date	\$	31,400
Difference (under) budgeted year to date need	\$	(3,546)

164 envelope users gave \$6,022. Loose plate totaled: \$1,228
 If you are away during the summer months please consider making up your weekly offering.

Thank you for your continued support of our ministries.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Wisdom 18: 6-9
 Hebrews 11: 1-2, 8-19
 Luke 12: 32-48



ANNUAL MISSIONARY VISIT TODAY

As part of the Diocese of Rochester's missionary cooperative plan, we welcome Abbot Joel Macul of Saint Pauls' Abbey in Newton NJ and Sisters Servatrix and Sebastiana of the Congregation of Our Lady of the Usambaras in Tanzania. They will speak about the Tanzanian Sisters Education Program, and we will take up a second collection for this program.

YOUNG ADULT BRUNCH

Sunday, August 8th 1:30 PM

A send off for College Bound Students

Guest Speaker Bevin Watters sharing a story about her mission trip to Nicaragua.

Meet in the Parish Kitchen/Dining Room

FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN PRE SCHOOL-HIGH SCHOOL

Reminder that our Monroe Clinton Parishes offer Religion Classes for children who attend Public Schools, Private Schools or are Home Schooled. And all students Grades 6-12 are invited to take part in our Youth Ministry opportunities.

Information about programs and registration can be found on the parish website. Our contact Barb Legere 465-2665 about Youth Ministry or Sister Kathleen Wayne 271-7240 about Religion Classes.

SAVE THE DATE

Meeting for all parents interested in preparing children for the Sacraments of Confirmation, First Communion and/or Penance during the 2010-2011 school year Wednesday, October 6th 7:00-9:00 PM at St. Mary's Dugan Center.

BANNS OF MARRIAGE:

Please pray for the following couples getting married:

Staci Bianchi and Bryan Brooks
Ashlee Christopher and Brian Cecere
Kerry Conheady and Lanny Hall
Cathleen Compitello and Stephen Messare

Parish Golf Tournament



Sunday, September 12th.

3:00pm at Shadow Lake

Sign up begins August 29th

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

Summer can often be as activity-filled and busy as the rest of the year. If you would like to spend an evening savoring silence

with other like-minded folks, consider coming to our monthly Contemplative Prayer Group which meets on the first Wednesday of each month.

Our next gathering is at 7pm on August 4 in the living room of the Parish Office Building. Not familiar with meditative style contemplative prayer?

Give Beverly LaBelle, facilitator of the group, a call at 271-7240 or email her at blabelle@dor.org and she will be happy to provide you with some simple instructions prior to the session. Our gatherings begin with silent prayer and conclude with relaxed discussion about the spiritual life.

JUST FAITH: JUMP ON BOARD FOR FALL 2010.

Once again we are hoping to launch another full-scale *Just Faith* process starting in late September. The focus is always on the social justice teachings of the Church via group discussions, books, visual presentations, guest speakers and "border-crossing" experiences. Our model is the Small Christian Community in which sharing with others, exploration of ideas and spiritual growth is emphasized. The group will meet from late September to mid-May --generally on a weekly basis except for holidays. Most meetings will be at Blessed Sacrament but the group is open to all in the Monroe/Clinton partner parishes and beyond. All that is required is an open mind, a willingness to share ideas and an interest in social justice. Please contact Beverly LaBelle during the Summer at 271-7240 or blabelle@dor.org to learn more about *Just Faith*.

TRI-PARISH PICNIC: AUGUST 15

Remember to save the date of August 15 for the Tri-Parish picnic at Orchard Grove Shelter in Ellison Park. Tickets for the event [\$3 per person or \$7 per family] will be on sale after each Mass on two Sundays: August 1 and August 8. When you purchase your tickets you will be given a map to the site and information about what to bring such as blankets, folding chairs, snacks and a dish to pass [a dessert if your last name begins with A-H and a salad if are in the I-Z range of last names.] Donations for door prizes are being accepted for the next few weeks. There is a box at the side entrance of the church for unwrapped donations or you may drop them off at the Parish Office during regular office hours [Monday-Friday [9AM -4:30PM]. We are also still very much in need of additional volunteers for the day of the picnic. If you plan to attend and can help in *any* possible way-from grilling to clean-up- please contact Beverly LaBelle at 271-7240 or blabelle@dor.org.



CHILDCARE ON SUMMER SUNDAYS!

Childcare will be offered this summer on Sunday mornings through September 12 during the 10:00 a.m. Mass. The School will open at 9:45 a.m. and the children will be in the playroom of the school. Thank you to all who have volunteered to provide this service for our families.

Please Pray
for our Parishioners

Ruth Zukoski
Mary Bellows
Linda Kellaway
Chris Walsh
Carolyn Griffin
Eleanor Hope

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Cardboard City- August 13-14 Join us for the 2nd Annual Cardboard City Lock-out! Youth and adults from across Monroe County will be sleeping outside in cardboard boxes in order to raise awareness and collect donations for several Rochester homeless shelters. We will also be conducting awareness games and activities, watching movies, and building the "cardboard city" that we will sleep in. Cardboard City is sponsored by the City of Rochester Bureau of Recreation's Youth Voice One Vision (YVOV) youth council, the Rochester-Monroe County Youth Bureau Youth As Resources program, and Nazareth College Center for Service Learning.

Tri-Parish Picnic – August 15 – helpers needed to run games and distribute prizes! Call Barb to sign up.

Youth Ministry Email Lists

Want to be "in the know" on all the youth ministry events that can't fit into our weekly bulletins? Find out about contests & scholarships, get reminders about deadlines and find out more about events by joining our Youth Ministry Email Lists! Email Barb with your name/grade & parent name & email to sign up!

Recommended Reading: *Raising Happy, Healthy, and Holy Teenagers: A Primer for Parents.* A classic book for parents by Bob McCarty covers important topics such as, psychological and developmental tasks of young people, self-esteem, youth culture, dealing with technology, practical suggestions for improving parent-teen relationships, and fostering faith in adolescents. Parents of teenagers and "tweens" will find this short volume full of helpful tips and practical recommendations on how to support and guide their son or daughter through their adolescent years. *Interested in borrowing a copy? Email me asap!*

For information on any of the events above or to register call Barb Legere at 465-2665 or email blegere@dor.org

ADVENTURE CLUB



PARENTS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN (AGES INFANT TO 5 YEARS OLD)

Thursday, August 19 5:00 PM

Garden Vibes at the George Eastman House

Bring a picnic dinner and lawn chairs. See fliers for details and watch your e-mail for Updates.

SAVE THE DATE- NEWLY WEDS AND ENGAGED COUPLES PICNIC

From all three of our partner parishes will gather in St. Mary's Church Gardens
Friday, August 27 at 6:30 PM
Details to follow.....

Weekend Masses at our Partner Parishes

St. Mary's - Sat. 4PM, Sun. 9:00 and 11:00 AM

St. Boniface-Sat. 5PM, Sun. 8:30 and 10:30AM

OLVictory/St.Joseph-Sat. 4:30PM, Sun.10AM & 7:30PM

THEOLOGY ON TAP

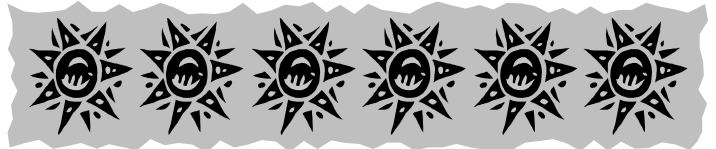
Wednesday, August 4 Women and Witness with Christina Schmidt, Pastoral Associate and Youth Minister-St. Joseph's Church held at Johnny's Irish Pub Culver Rd.

DRIVERS ARE STILL NEEDED FOR THE 10:00 AND 12:15 MASSES

10:00 extra minutes of your Sunday will mean a lot to those who can't worship with our community. Call Sue Howard for details.

ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY

Fr. Thomas Loya, **Theology of the Body** expert, will be giving two, open-admission presentations in the Diocese of Rochester. The first presentation, "Theology of the Body and the Contraceptive Worldview," will take place at Christ the King Church in Irondequoit on Thursday, August 5th at 7PM. The second event is a mini-conference. "Who is Man for Woman, and Who is Woman for Man," will be hosted by the Harold J. Coleman Chapel at St. John Fisher College, Friday, August 6th at 7PM. Prepare to have your life, marriage, and relationship with God transformed by the powerful message of the Theology of the Body! For more information please visit whic.org.



JustNews

...from Blessed Sacrament's Social Justice Community

Did you know you can buy your dinner at our weekly Farmers' Market? Salamone Fresh Pasta sells refreshing pasta salad in serving sizes, made with their scrumptious homemade pasta. (After eating their pasta you'll never want to buy the dried stuff again.) Complement your salad with something from Rochester Original Hots, grilling regular hots and also their famous truly original Carrot Hot. Cookies for dessert are sold by several vendors, including gluten free yummys from Eco Bella Bakery. So do your week's shopping of just-picked veggies and fruits from local farmers, buy your dinner, and sit to eat it while enjoying the musicians (a different group each week). All this and more — plus meeting neighbors and fellow parishioners — at Monroe Village Farmers' Market, every Wednesday, 4-7pm, right here in our parish parking lot.

We welcome new members to journey with us. Contact Holly Rockwell at hrock@rochester.rr.com or 473-1990.

