

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SERVICE WORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE

Website—www.stedwardbowie.com

Newsletter—September 1, 2019

Father Scott Holmer, Pastor

Maureen Curtis, Director of Religious Education

(301) 249-9199 Monday through Friday 9:00am to 4:00pm

(301) 249-9599 during Religious Education hours (September through May)

Tuesday 6:00pm to 8:00pm, Wednesday 5:30pm to 8:00pm and Sunday from 9:00am to 11:00am

religioused@stedwardbowie.com

LIKE SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR ON FACEBOOK

Upcoming Dates to remember

- **Registration for the 2019-20 school year is on-going; late fees apply after June 9**
- **Sunday, September 1** – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time; Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am
- **Saturday, September 7** – Sandwich Sunday Service Project for Confirmation Levels 1-3 following 5:30pm Mass; Young Adult Group following 5:30pm Mass; Fun Day ticket sales after all Masses
- **Sunday, September 8** – Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time; Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am; Donut Sunday after all Sunday Masses, Refreshments after 5:30pm Vigil on Saturday; Music Ministry Presentation after all Masses
- **Tuesday, September 10** – First Day of Classes Confirmation Levels 1-3 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm
- **Wednesday, September 11** – First Day of Classes RCIC 5:30pm-6:30pm, Kindergarten-Level 5 from 6:30pm to 7:45pm
- **Friday, September 13** – Confirmation Level 3 Meeting; Students at 6:30pm, Parents at 8:30pm
- **Saturday, September 14** – Confirmation Level 3 Parent/Student Retreat from 2:00pm through 5:30pm Mass; Men's Group at 8:30am
- **Sunday, September 15** – Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am; Fun Day ticket sales after all Masses
- **Tuesday, September 17** – Religious Education (CCD) Classes: Confirmation Levels 1-3 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm
- **Wednesday, September 18** – Religious Education (CCD) Classes: RCIC 5:30pm-6:30pm; Kindergarten-Level 5 from 6:30pm to 7:45pm
- **Sunday, September 22** – Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time; Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday Masses at 7:30am, 9:30am, and 11:30am; Commissioning of Catechists at 5:30pm Vigil Mass on September 21; Fun Day ticket sales after all Masses

Saint Days September 1 – September 7

September 1 – Saint Giles

September 2 – Blessed John Francis Burté and Companions

September 3 – Saints Gregory the Great

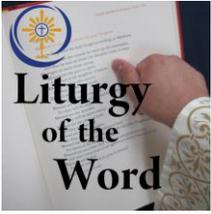
September 4 – Saint Rose of Viterbo

September 5 – Saint Teresa of Calcutta

September 6 – Blessed Claudio Granzotto

September 7 – Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Please go to www.franciscanmedia.org to learn about the saints. At this website you can sign up for an email delivery for the "Saint of the Day."



September 1 – Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, September 1, is the Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time. The First Reading is from Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29 (*Humble yourself and you will find favor with God*). The Responsorial Psalm is from Psalm 68:4-7,10-11 (*The just rejoice and exult before God*). The Second Reading is from Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24 (*You have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem*). The Gospel is from Luke 14:1,7-14 (*When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind*). You can find these all the readings for everyday of the year on the United States Bishop's Conference web site – www.usccb.org; there is a tab at the top of the page for "Readings". The following reflection on Gospels come from the website for our textbooks – www.loyolapress.com. I encourage you to look at this website.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Meals played an important role in the society in which Jesus lived. More than a time for sharing nourishment, they were a time to share ideas and to model different aspects of social relationships. In Luke's Gospel, the places that a person ate (at the home of a tax collector, 5:29), the people with whom a person ate (sinners, 5:30), whether a person washed before eating (11:38), and, as is the case here, the place that a person sits while eating are all important. The narrator says Jesus tells a parable, but it is really wise advice to both guests and hosts about finding true happiness at the heavenly banquet.

Jesus warns guests to wait before taking their places at the table lest they be asked to move if someone more important arrives. This is more than just a lesson about dinner etiquette. It is advice on how to find your true place in the Kingdom of God. Jesus advises hosts not to invite people who would be expected to repay them to dinner but to invite those who could not repay: the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. This is where real blessings can be found.

In these sayings, Luke gives us not only advice on how to approach the end times but also on how to live according to Jesus' vision of a good society. Luke's Gospel also advises us how the Church must be part of bringing about this society. It is yet another example in Luke's Gospel of the reversal the kingdom brings about.

Family Connection

Parents and children often enter into "negotiations" over how much allowance is to be earned at certain ages. Typically, when a child seeks an increase in allowance, parents will attach an increase in chores and responsibilities for them to better earn the increase. Talk about what kind of allowance you received as a child and what kind of responsibilities your parents expected of you to earn your allowance.

Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel, Jesus talks about doing good deeds for others and expecting nothing in return. Read aloud Luke 14:1,7-14. Ask your children how they would feel if you told them to take on more chores without ever expecting another raise in allowance. Emphasize that Jesus teaches us that it is our duty as his followers to take care of the needs of others and to do so without expecting repayment.

Discuss what other types of rewards we can find when doing good things for others.

Point out that we sometimes fall into the trap of wanting too many things and that, in the Our Father, we pray for "our daily bread," meaning that we pray for only that which we really need in life. Conclude this time together by praying aloud the Our Father.

Gospel Activities

Go to the Catholic Mom website – www.catholicmom.com for coloring pages and puzzles for this Sunday's Gospel – look under "Sunday Gospel Activities. Another resource for Gospel activities is the Franciscan

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SERVICE WORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE

website – www.franciscanmedia.org. You can subscribe to a weekly newsletter that has Gospel reflections and activities.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR THE 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR

Classes will begin on Tuesday, September 10, Wednesday, September 11 and Sunday, September 15. The schedule of classes is:

Sunday during 9:30am Mass

Pre-school and Kindergarten

Tuesday evening 6:30 to 8:00pm

Confirmation Levels 1, 2 and e

Wednesday evening 6:30 to 7:45pm

Kindergarten through Level 5

If you haven't registered yet, Registration forms are in the CCD hall. You can also register on-line on the parish website: www.stedwardbowie.com. Look under the Faith Formation tab.



RCIA Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

RCIA is for adults who are discerning joining the Catholic Church and for baptized Catholics who have not completed their Rite of Initiation (they have not received First Holy Communion and/or Confirmation). Catholics who have received all of these Sacraments and wish to learn more about their Catholic faith are also invited to attend classes. The classes will begin in the fall. Please contact the office at 301 249-9199, office@stedwardbowie.com or visit the website (www.stedwardbowie.com) to register.

Saint of the Week

Each week I will highlight a saint whose feast is that week. This week I chose Blessed Frédéric Ozanam; his feast day is September 7. He started the Saint Vincent de Paul Society because he was challenged to not only talk about his Catholic faith but live it! Please pray for his sainthood. The below reflection comes from the Franciscan website: www.franciscanmedia.org. A coloring page is attached.



Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Saint of the Day for September 7

(April 23, 1813 – September 8, 1853)

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam's Story

A man convinced of the inestimable worth of each human being, Frédéric served the poor of Paris well, and drew others into serving the poor of the world. Through the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, which he founded, his work continues to the present day.

Frédéric was the fifth of Jean and Marie Ozanam's 14 children, one of only three to reach adulthood. As a teenager he began having doubts about his religion. Reading and prayer did not seem to help, but long walking discussions with Father Noirot of the Lyons College clarified matters a great deal.

Frédéric wanted to study literature, although his father, a doctor, wanted him to become a lawyer. Frédéric yielded to his father's wishes and in 1831, arrived in Paris to study law at the University of the Sorbonne.

When certain professors there mocked Catholic teachings in their lectures, Frédéric defended the Church.

A discussion club which Frédéric organized sparked the turning point in his life. In this club, Catholics, atheists, and agnostics debated the issues of the day. Once, after Frédéric spoke about Christianity's role in civilization, a club member said: "Let us be frank, Mr. Ozanam; let us also be very particular. What do you do besides talk to prove the faith you claim is in you?"

SAINT EDWARD THE CONFESSOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

SERVICE WORSHIP AND KNOWLEDGE

Frédéric was stung by the question. He soon decided that his words needed a grounding in action. He and a friend began visiting Paris tenements and offering assistance as best they could. Soon a group dedicated to helping individuals in need under the patronage of Saint Vincent de Paul formed around Frédéric. Feeling that the Catholic faith needed an excellent speaker to explain its teachings, Frédéric convinced the Archbishop of Paris to appoint Dominican Father Jean-Baptiste Lacordaire, the greatest preacher then in France, to preach a Lenten series in Notre Dame Cathedral. It was well-attended and became an annual tradition in Paris.

After Frédéric earned his law degree at the Sorbonne, he taught law at the University of Lyons. He also earned a doctorate in literature. Soon after marrying Amelie Soulacroix on June 23, 1841, he returned to the Sorbonne to teach literature. A well-respected lecturer, Frédéric worked to bring out the best in each student. Meanwhile, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society was growing throughout Europe. Paris alone counted 25 conferences.

In 1846, Frédéric, Amelie, and their daughter Marie went to Italy; there he hoped to restore his poor health. They returned the next year. The revolution of 1848 left many Parisians in need of the services of the Saint Vincent de Paul conferences. The unemployed numbered 275,000. The government asked Frédéric and his coworkers to supervise the government aid to the poor. Vincentians throughout Europe came to the aid of Paris.

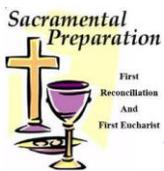
*Frédéric then started a newspaper, *The New Era*, dedicated to securing justice for the poor and the working classes. Fellow Catholics were often unhappy with what Frédéric wrote. Referring to the poor man as “the nation’s priest,” Frédéric said that the hunger and sweat of the poor formed a sacrifice that could redeem the people’s humanity.*

In 1852, poor health again forced Frédéric to return to Italy with his wife and daughter. He died on September 8, 1853. In his sermon at Frédéric’s funeral, Fr. Lacordaire described his friend as “one of those privileged creatures who came direct from the hand of God in whom God joins tenderness to genius in order to enkindle the world.”

*Frédéric was beatified in 1997. Since Frédéric wrote an excellent book entitled *Franciscan Poets of the Thirteenth Century*, and since his sense of the dignity of each poor person was so close to the thinking of Saint Francis, it seemed appropriate to include him among Franciscan “greats.” His Liturgical Feast Day is September 9.*

Reflection

Frédéric Ozanam always respected the poor while offering whatever service he could. Each man, woman, and child was too precious to live in poverty. Serving the poor taught Frédéric something about God that he could not have learned elsewhere.



Reconciliation and Eucharist at St. Edward’s

Preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist is a two-year program. Students typically start in 1st grade in Level 1. Children must complete Level 1 before entering Level 2. They will receive Reconciliation at the end of January during Level 2 and First Holy Communion in May at the end of Level 2.

Children who are in the fourth grade and older and have not received the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist prepare for these Sacraments in our RCIC program. Children in the third grade and older who have not been baptized should also participate in this program.



Confirmation at St. Edward's

Confirmation

Confirmation at Saint Edward's is a three-year preparation; it includes those who attend both Religious Education classes at Saint Edward's and those who are in the 6th through 8th grades in a Catholic school. Students typically start Confirmation Level 1 Religious Education classes in the 6th grade. Candidates for Confirmation must complete Confirmation Level 1 and Confirmation Level 2 before entering Confirmation Level 3. In Religious Education classes: Confirmation Level 1 students focus on the Old Testament; Confirmation Level 2 students focus on the New Testament; Confirmation Level 3 students focus on the Sacrament of Confirmation and living a Catholic life in light of the Old and New Testaments.

Confirmation will be celebrated on Sunday, April 26 at 2:00pm with Bishop Campbell.

Confirmation Level 3 students, please note the following important dates:

1. Friday September 13,
 - a. 6:30pm – Confirmation Meeting for all Confirmation Level 3 students, including those who attend Religious Education (CCD) classes and 8th grade Catholic school. Students should know who their Confirmation saint and sponsor will be by this meeting
 - b. 8:30pm – Parents join the meeting
2. Saturday September 14 – Parent/Candidate retreat from 2:00pm through 5:30pm Mass; required for all Confirmation Level 3 students (8th grade in Catholic school) and their parent.

Sandwich Sunday Service Project

1. Students in Confirmation Level 3 (8th grade in Catholic school) participate the Sandwich Sunday Service Project each month from September through April
2. Students in Confirmation Levels 1 and 2 (6th and 7th grade in Catholic School) participate in at least 3 Sandwich Sunday Service Projects during each of these years
3. The next Sandwich Sunday Service Project is September 7.



FUN DAY 2019 – OCTOBER 6

The annual parish Fun Day will be on Sunday, October 6 from 12:30pm to 4:00pm. I hope you are planning to attend; it is a day for fellowship with parishioners over games, food and music!

This year parents of elementary school age children are being asked to help in the following ways:

1. Volunteer for a shift to help supervise teens who will be running some games and activities. We need 3 parents for each shift (12:00-2:15, 2:00-4:00). You will be receiving an invitation to volunteer through Signup Genius. A flyer is attached. Here is the link to the database:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E084FACAE2FA31-funday2>
2. Contribute to our Religious Education Raffle Basket. The theme for this basket is “Family Fun Night.” A flyer with all of the details is attached

Advance ticket sales will begin on the weekend of September 7/8 after all Masses. Tickets bought in advance cost \$5.00 for 12 tickets; at Fun Day the cost will be \$5.00 for 10 tickets.

We will also be asking for donations of cakes for the Cake Walk (we need lots of them!), Brownies and Cookies (individually wrapped) for the Dessert Table, 2-liter bottles of soda for the Ring Toss game and Stuffed Animals (new or gently used) for the Prize Table.