

# St. Mary's Catholic Church

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 8, 2019

Dear Parishioners:

There is a story about a frog who found itself trapped on a large lily pad surrounded by hungry alligators. The frog's only hope for escape was to hop over the hungry reptiles to the next lily pad. An owl perched on a tree branch above the pond suggested to the frog: "Why don't you just take off and fly? Fly to the other lily pad." The desperate frog got a running start, flapped his legs as fast as he could, lifted off and came down crashing into the massive jaws of a hungry alligator. The frog screamed: "Stupid owl. Frogs can't fly!" The owl replied disdainfully: "That's an **implementation** issue. I only deal in **concepts**."



For the most part, we grasp and understand the **concepts** of God's Word: to seek reconciliation rather than dominance, to love and forgive without limit or condition, to serve selflessly and completely, regardless of the cost of our sacrifice. However, implementing God's Word on a daily basis in our lives is something we just can't deal with or want to do. In today's liturgy, God's Word challenges us to ponder upon the **concepts** of **wisdom** and **discipleship** and to consider how we can **implement** these spiritual **concepts** into our daily living. Our first reading in today's liturgy (the Book of Wisdom) is associated with King Solomon by tradition. In this reading we hear the final verses of Solomon's prayer for **wisdom**. Solomon realized that the **wisdom** that he required lies beyond the reach of mere human achievement. Therefore he prays that God will provide him with **wisdom** that will enable him to rise above worldly concerns and enable him to govern his people in ways that will greatly benefit them.

Today's Gospel passage strongly emphasizes the fact that being a **true disciple** of Jesus comes with certain expectations and conditions. **Discipleship** is demanding, personally costly, and tolerates no rival loyalties. Authentic **discipleship** is a journey that requires giving our total commitment to Jesus above everything else (including family ties), maintaining self-control, suffering, and being detached from material possessions. My dear friends, Jesus' collection of sayings (as difficult and harsh as they are) emphasize the **total dedication** necessary for one to be Jesus' **disciple**. Life is a series of choices. May we **implement** choices that will enable us to be true **disciples**, doing God's will. In doing so, our lives will always be blessed.

Love & prayers,  
Fr. John

## Weekend Masses

Sat Sept 7	4:00 p.m	Murphy and Immele Families
Sun Sept 8	10:00 a.m.	Dennis Warren, Special Intention
Sat Sept 14	4:00 p.m	Jerry Musser
Sun Sept 15	10:00 a.m.	Chuck Vogel

## Communion Service

Fri Sept 13 8:00 a.m. St. Mary's

## SUNDAY COLLECTION

Adults	\$3,725.00	Loose \$571.62
Children	\$29.00	Total \$4,325.62

76 envelopes returned = 36%



*Thank you for your generosity!  
Thank you also to those who give  
electronically!!*

## Assignments for September 14 & September 15, 2019

**Money Counters:** Nick Recker, Angie Wenger  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Greeters:** Jan Emmert and Diana Sabater

**Cantor:** Dave and Jenny Roby

**Ushers:** Dave and Shirley Siefker

**Lector:** Jason Swartzlander

**E.M.:** Jerry Wehri, Jeanne Parinello, Jennifer Swartzlander

**Servers:** Eli Jones and Shylee Kaufman

## 10:00 a.m.

**Greeters:** Steve and Kelly Yarnell family

**Cantor:** Kevin Vance

**Ushers:** Greg and Gabe Denecker

**Lectors:** Chris Denecker and Mel Heitmeyer

**E.M.:** Luke Denecker, Hank Schroeder, Rachel Welch, Noralu Kahle, Kim Garmatter

**Servers:** Josh Meyer, Nathan Meyer, Julia Mehaffie, and Isabella Stechsulte

## **Readings for September 15, 2019**

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

1<sup>st</sup> Reading: Exodus 32:7-11, 13-14

2<sup>nd</sup> Reading: 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel Reading: Luke 15:1-32

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Please remember George Donaldson and family in prayer as he passed away earlier this week.

**Please note: Parish Office hours are Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
Father John will be here Tuesday – Friday from 9:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. and for evening meetings**

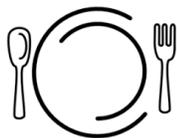
**RCIA:** RCIA is the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults into the Catholic Faith. RCIA is for anyone who:



- is a non-baptized adult
- was baptized in another Christian Church and is interested in knowing more about the Catholic Church, with or without the intention of becoming a member
- is a baptized Catholic who never received Reconciliation, Eucharist, or Confirmation

RCIA will be starting soon. If you have any questions, would like to go through our RCIA program, **or would be willing to join the teaching team**, please contact Father John at (419) 358 – 8631.

**Share & Care With Our Youth** St. Mary's Parish is blessed with an outstanding group of junior high and high school youth! From September-May we meet for class twice each month from 11:00-1:00, beginning with a meal and time of fellowship. If you are interested in donating a side dish or dessert for the youth, or if you would like to serve in the kitchen, please see the dates and sign-up information in the Narthex. We truly appreciate your support and prayers for our parish youth!



**We are in need** of Catechists for the following positions:

- Children's Liturgy of the Word for One Sunday each month
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Aide on Wednesday evenings
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month after Mass

Our catechists do not have to be parents. This is open for any Catholic (grandparent, college student, or parishioner) with an open and loving heart willing to serve our youth! Please contact Kelly Honse if you are interested in helping.

**The Development Council** will be meeting on *Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>* at St. Charles in Lima from 8a.m. – noon.

**"Our German-American Celebration"** ~ Join us for a night of good German music and food on **Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>** at St. John's Parish Hall in Glandorf. Music will be provided by Talbach Musikanten from the Black Forest Region of Germany. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; meal served from 5:45 until 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$20 per person pre-sale, \$25 at the door, which includes the meal, one drink, entertainment, and late evening snacks. Tickets can be purchased at the St. Anthony parish office, 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., in Columbus Grove. If you have any questions, call 419-659-2263. Proceeds go to St. Anthony School.

**The Basilica and National Shrine** of Our Lady of Consolation, Carey, OH invites you to come for the annual Family Day on Sunday, September 29<sup>th</sup>. Mass at 11:00 am in the Basilica, followed with a free lunch served in the Shrine Cafeteria. At 1:30 pm there will be Devotions along with an outdoor Rosary procession. All are welcome! For more information call the Shrine office, 419-396-7107 or [www.olcshrine.com](http://www.olcshrine.com).

## P.R.E.P

*If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Kelly Honse at (419) 358 – 8631 or [khski7@aol.com](mailto:khski7@aol.com)*

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** During the 10a.m. Mass starting on September 15<sup>th</sup>

**K-6:** Classes begin this Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Jr High:** Classes begin Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., starting with a cookout



### God Squad--High School Youth Group



**God Squad High School Youth** will meet Sunday, September 15, from 11:00-1:00. Join us for a cookout and fellowship!