

*Sunday, September 8, 2019*  
*The 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time*

**Masses for September 8-15**

**Saint Mary of the Hills & Holy Cross**

Sunday, September 8

8:30 AM (SMH) Margaret Kochis (Michele Ellis)  
10:00 AM (HC) Roger Dillon (Neil & Jeannine Butts)

Tuesday, September 10

6:30 PM (SMH) Peter Stetson, Adopted Seminarian  
(SMH CWC)

Thursday, September 12

6:30 PM (HC) People of the Parishes

Sunday, September 15

8:30 AM (SMH) David Frederick (Nickie Blackburn)  
10:00 AM (HC) William Van Hall (Yerian Family)

**Liturgical Ministers– St. Mary of the Hills**

September 15

Lector Pat  
EMHC Dr. Norma & Dave

**Liturgical Ministers—Holy Cross**

September 15

Server Adam  
Lector Vicki  
EMHC Pamela & Brenda

**Holy Cross Refreshment Schedule**

September 15  
After Mass Marilyn, Kerry, Jill  
Bingo Marilyn, JoAnn

September 22  
After Mass Barb Richards, Barb Roback, Lisa  
Bingo Barb Richards, Anna, Ann

**Prayer Requests**

*Please pray for our sick and homebound.*

Jim & Jean Bickley	Marsha Jewell
Gary Braglin Sr.	John Koons
Larry Bycofski	Teddie Love
Joe Bokovitz	Jack Maurer
David (Dabo) Brunton	Casey Moore
David & Norma Carter	Pete Moore
Randy Cavella	Marion Mucha
William Devine	Ethan Peacock
Mike Falzone	Kim & Lisa Roback
Victor Fox	Norma Roseberry
Daniel Frank	Carol Sciance
Shirley Kamento Harper	Linda Shafer
Caroline Herd	Harry Smith
Betty Higgins	Gary Stufflebean
Mary Carter Hillyer	Bob & Bev Stoncel
Don Holbert	Helen Walker
Paul & Doris Jameson	Kim Wolfe

**September Birthdays**

1- Linda Erdy	8-Ron Sikorski
2-Kelly Sikorski	11-Linda McCatherine
3-Larry Bycofski	12-Douglas Hale
6-Jaycie Williams	12-Mick McClelland
6-Pat Watson	13-Don Holbert

**September Anniversaries**

14- Pat & Kelly Casto

**THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR**

**ADULTS** - Are you interested in becoming Catholic? Do you know anyone who is? Were you baptized Catholic but were never confirmed? You are invited to an information session on **Monday, September 9, at 7:30 PM** in the Holy Family Center Library. Contact Nancy Sand at [nsand@athenscatholic.org](mailto:nsand@athenscatholic.org) for more information.

When developing a homily, I usually get more than one idea. Sometimes, I give one homily at one Mass, and a totally different homily at another Mass, depending on the congregation (or my feeling about how the previous homily went). I think the most changes I've made in one weekend were four different homilies at different Masses!

Last weekend, I talked about the need for humility in terms of our relationship with God and others. At the door to the churches this weekend, you can find a copy of the prayer I mentioned, the "Litany of Humility" by Cardinal Merry del Val. As I said, it is a hard prayer to pray, but it is good for the soul and our growth in humility.

I wanted to share another thought on last weekend's readings as well. In the Gospel, Jesus says, "...When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; blessed indeed will you be because of their inability to repay you." Jesus, in his earthly life, lifts up those who are rejected or feel alone. Jesus reaches out to those who were called "sinners" so that they could experience healing and be raised up in dignity. When you look at your life, what relationships need to be healed? Who do you know in your life that needs to be welcomed (or welcomed back) to the table? Who needs to be invited by you to experience God's love more fully? Maybe after some prayer and tough reflection, you can find healing in a relationship, and allow God's love to work in your heart -- and in the heart of another person. Additionally, who needs to be invited (or invited back) to the table of the Lord in our parishes? Who needs to know and feel healing from Lord? By growing in humility, we can be the people Jesus calls us to be -- reaching out to those who feel that they are abandoned, alone, rejected, or unloved. It takes a great deal of humility for each one of us to confess that we struggle with sin and need to find healing in Jesus. Sometimes it takes greater humility to invite others to the table so that they too can find healing and love in Jesus. Maybe the Lord is calling you to be that example of His love.

Father Mark

**ST MARY OF THE HILLS CWC**– The CWC will meet after the 6:30PM Mass on Tuesday, September 10.

**Schedule for the Week  
of September 8-14**

September 8  
Sunday Bingo doors open at 5:00PM (HC)  
Bingo starts at 6:30PM (HC)

September 9  
Monday RCIA Meeting- 7:30PM (HFC-Athens)

September 10  
Tuesday Adoration- 5:30PM (SMH)  
SMH-CWC meeting after the 6:30PM Mass

September 14  
Saturday *That Man is You* Prayer Group  
Knights of Columbus- 7:00AM (HFC-Athens)



**PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION**– Sign up sheet can be found at the entrance of the churches for youth religious education classes. Parish School of Religion is not just for preparation for the reception of the sacraments, it is preparation for a faith-filled life and to strengthen and grow in faith. Everyone benefits immensely from a good, solid religious education. Details about classes will be available soon.

**FAITH SHARING PROGRAM**– The Peace & Justice Committee is sponsoring the 8-week "Journey to Compassion" program developed by Just Faith, a national organization committed to exploring social justice within the context of Catholic faith. Sessions will be on Tuesday evenings from 6:30-9:00PM beginning September 24. Please contact Joe McLaughlin, [mclaughj@ohio.edu](mailto:mclaughj@ohio.edu), for more information.

**Our Weekly Stewardship**  
Sunday Collection for September 1

St Mary of the Hills	\$689.00
Community Service	\$100.00
Holy Cross	\$783.00
Community Service	\$ 61.00

*Thank you for supporting your parish!*