

July 23, 2017

Ordinary Time

Sixteenth Sunday



God's Patience: Willingness to Wait

The Parable of the Wheat and the Weeds we hear today teaches us about who God is. For God, there will be a time for separation and judgment, but the time is not now. This means the righteous will have to live with the sinners and show them the same kind of concern God shows to them. The presence of sinners provides us, Jesus' disciples the opportunity to rise to the occasion of generosity and forgiveness.



Flowers for the altar this weekend are donated by Georgia Cerny in honor of St. Anne.

MASS INTENTIONS



Saturday, July 29

4:30 p.m. Louis, Albina & Mary Smolik

Sunday, July 30

8:00 a.m. The Deceased of the Maria & Frank Lev Family

PREPARING FOR SUNDAY LITURGY



Next weekend is *The Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your Bible.

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 119

Second Reading: Romans 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

St. Anne's K.J.Z.T. Society #4 Meeting Today

in the School Chapel after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Members and their families are invited to attend and participate. A continental breakfast will be served.

2017 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2017 Assessment	\$7,670.00
Contributions So Far	\$ 3,640.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$ 4,030.00

We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Pat Masek

Georgia Cerny

Dede & Mike Moeller

Jeanette & Carl Henke

Donna & Robert Bizzell

Earlene & Bernard Okruhlik

Esther & Edward Brautigam

Do please consider making a donation.

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Pat & Ted Jongblood, Houston, TX - \$20

To make a tax deductible donation towards *St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha* contact Fr. Gabriel at 361-596-4674.

ST. MARY'S CEMETERY FUND

Brunner Family Reunion Fund - \$75

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In today's first reading we are reminded of the benefit we enjoy because of the patience of a loving God. Jesus calls



forth this same nonjudgmental quality of patience from us, his disciples. Comprised of a triplet of parables, the Gospel invites us to deal with others the way God deals with us. While the servants were ready to pull up the weeds as soon as they appeared in a

sort of nip-it-in-the-bud mentality, the householder was patient enough to let wheat and weeds grow together until the harvest. As it has always been, the good and the not so good live side by side. It is God's prerogative to judge between them. God mercifully withholds divine judgment until the harvest. There is hope for all of us.

Church Tours



According to the Schulerburg Chamber of Commerce 3,185 people toured the Church on registered tours between April to June 2017.

K.J.T. State Family Day Today at the K.J.T. Activity & Fraternal Center, La Grange. Registration 10:30 a.m., Mass 11:00 a.m., meal 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

CHURCH PICNIC BULLETIN BOARD

CHURCH PICNIC – AUGUST 15

Dear Friends,

It is count down time to the Picnic – 23 days more. A lot is going on behind the scenes to get ready.

- We continue to make improvements to make it easy for our guests to pick up plates. We have created a new gravel driveway for **Business Plates-to-go** and **drive through Plates-to-go line for individuals.**

FOR BUSINESS PLATES

- **Take F.M. 1295 to Praha.**
- **Turn on South Knezek Road** to the Hall.
- Make a Left turn onto the new gravel road behind the hall.
- Follow the signs to the Business Plates pick up station.

FOR INDIVIDUAL PLATES TO GO

- **Take Highway 95**
- **Turn on South Knezek Road** to Praha Hall.
- Make a Right turn onto the new gravel road behind the hall.
- Follow the signs to the Drive Thru Individual Plates To Go pick up station.

The walk up Plates To Go line will still be available at the usual place as in the past.

- **Auction items** may be brought in for tagging on **August 4, 5 & 6 and August 11, 12, 13 & 14.** Look out for details. We plan to try to tag as many items as possible to avoid the big rush on Picnic Day. If you have large auction items that need to be picked up prior to the picnic contact Lori or David Janecka or the Parish Office.
- **Fr. Gabriel's Cake:** I am already dreaming of the cake. Last year it brought in **\$3,030.** Consider making a donation this year too.
- **Pre-Picnic Work Days** are scheduled for August 1st, 2rd, 3rd, and 4th, 6:00 p.m. till ? Come, help prepare for our visitors.
- **Meat Donation Fund:** Do make a special effort to donate to the Meat Donation Fund so we can meet our target of \$10,000 and keep the plate price low. Last year we took in \$10,010 and the food cost was \$20,469.45. We can do better than this.
- **Raffle and Other Donations:** We still have a long way to go with the Raffle. Turn in your tickets and other Picnic donations.

Over the last six years our Picnics have done well.

2011 - \$82,361.23 profit	2012 - \$103,474.83 profit
2013 - \$122,582.21 profit	2014 - \$149,301.47 profit
2015 - \$193,569.38 profit	2016 - \$134,712.15 profit

What is it going to be this year? That depends on you. You can make a difference with your donation.

I thank you for your prayers and support as we plan another successful Picnic.

God bless, *Fr. Gabriel*

REFLECTION

Good Grain and Weeds in the Same Field

Today's parable of the weeds and wheat follows immediately after last week's reading of the parable of the sower. Jesus is still very much aware of the antagonism that is building against him in the hearts of some of his listeners.

All three parables in today's Gospel, the wheat and weeds, the mustard seed, and the yeast, teach that the coming of the Kingdom is a growth process that occurs over time.

To interpret the story of the weeds and wheat as a parable we must ask, "To what person or thing in the story is the audience being compared?" and "What is Jesus teaching the people about themselves by making this comparison?" As was true in the parable of the sower, those listening to Jesus are compared to the soil, or the field. Jesus is teaching the crowd that the Kingdom, which is being established within them, is not immediately experienced as the complete victory of good over evil. Rather, both within each individual and within the community as a whole, "wheat" and "weeds" grow simultaneously. We therefore, need not be overly discouraged by the presence of the weeds. In time the weeds will be destroyed. The wheat, however, will be gathered into barns. In the meantime, the weeds will not kill the wheat. The presence of sin and suffering will not destroy the presence of good. Good will win out in the end. Over time the Kingdom will grow so that the whole world is changed. Jesus teaches in parables in order to reveal the truth, not to hide it.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



July 25 – Allen Cerny
July 26 – Thomas Petru
July 28 - Dennis Stryk
July 29 – Ollie Pospisil

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!



July 23 – Congratulations Cynthia & Allan Stryk on your 40th Wedding Anniversary
July 26 – Congratulations Marilyn & Allen Cerny on your 20th Wedding Anniversary

Area Picnics

August 5-6 – St. Anthony's Shrimporee, Palacios
August 6 – St. Joseph, Yoakum