

September 11, 2016
Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

Our Gospel reading today speaks of a merciful God who reaches out to all who have been lost or gone astray. This is specifically the mission of Pope Francis, especially in this Year of Mercy. We all know of friends or members of our own family who have left the Catholic Church of their childhood. Asking them why left is often a painful experience. Some maintain that they are still Catholic but that they slipped into the habit of not going to Mass on Sunday. All they need is for someone to ask them to return. Some will return when they want their children baptized or receive their First Holy Communion. Others have left the church altogether-they often call themselves "lapsed Catholics". If they do not join any other religion, we call them the "nones." Another group call themselves "Catholics in Exile". They might come back if the church changes some of its rules. The point of today's Gospel for us is not to give up on any of these former Catholics. At the least keep them in your prayers. The challenge for Pope Francis is to decide what to change in the rules of the church that will encourage these lost sheep to return. One has only to read the papers or the internet or watch television to see how our society has changed so rapidly. For some Catholics to change some of the rules means the end of Catholicism. For others not to change means the end of Catholicism. Can Pope Francis rise above this impasse and produce a miracle of mercy?



COLLECTION: the collection for last Sunday September 4, 2016 was \$4,591. The second collection this Sunday, September 11 will be Organ Renovation Collection.

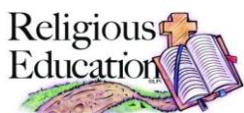
Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: the theme for this Jubilee Year of Mercy is "Merciful like the Father". It is inspired by stories like today's readings from Exodus and the gospel parable of the prodigal son. This is the God whom Jesus wants us to know better, whom Pope Francis wants revealed to the whole world, as we gather today; let us make a prayer of thanksgiving for our merciful God and Father.

First Reading: Exodus 32:7-11(page35&36) – the people worship a golden calf, and God loses all patience with them.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 51(page 36) - *"I will rise and go to my father"*.

Second Reading 1 Timothy 1:12-17(page 36) Paul once the worst of sinners is an example of Jesus' forbearance.

Gospel: Luke 15:1-32 (page 37) – When the lost or found, even the angels rejoice.



Religious Education News:

Classes have started on Saturdays at 9:00am (children to line up in the Parish Hall) to 11:00am



Parish Council Meeting: The next Parish Council Meeting will be September 14, 2016 at 7:00pm.



Msgr. Corrigan's Book on the History of our Parish: Is on sale in the rectory Monday to Friday and Saturday and Sunday after the Masses. The cost of the book is \$30.00 as a Donation to the Church. If you would like it mailed to you there is an additional \$5.00 fee for the postage.

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