



Mass Intentions

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 23, 2015

Saturday – August 22nd –

The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

4:00PM – John Sidor, Jr
by Son, Donald
7:00PM – John Milkovits
by Family

Sunday – August 23rd – 21st Sunday/Ordinary Time

8:30AM – David J Cunningham
by McCloskey Family
10:30AM – Alex Solga
by Robert and Mary Doyle

Monday – August 24th – St Bartholomew

8:00AM – Deceased Dopsovic and Chabak Families
by Agnes Chabak

Tuesday – August 25th – St Joseph Calasanz

8:00AM – Patricia A Greitzer
by John Shambo

Miraculous Medal Novena after Mass

Wednesday – August 26th – St Zephyrinus

6:00PM – Dr Jim Gruber
by Family

Thursday – August 27th – St Monica

8:00AM – Edward Marth
by Mr and Mrs Greg Kokolus and Daughter

Friday – August 28th – St Augustine

8:00AM – Mamie and Art Dougherty (A)
by Daughter, Kathy Knecht

Saturday – August 29th –

The Passion of St John the Baptist

8:00AM – All St John Fisher Parishioners
4:00PM – Koncz and Moravek Families and
James Koncz and Catherine Moravek
by Gene and Jeanette Koncz
7:00PM – All Memorial Fund Members
by Memorial Fund

Sunday – August 30th – 22nd Sunday/Ordinary Time

8:30AM – William J Albert
by Carl and Yvonne Rieker
10:30AM – Anna Maderic
by Robert and Mary Doyle



Sunday
8:15AM and 10:15AM

PASTOR'S CORNER

Slave of Whom?

M. Scott Peck, psychologist and author, in People of the Lie, recalls:

Malachi Martin, depicting the struggle of a man to free himself from [demonic] possession, gives the best description I know of the free human will in action:

All at once he knew what that strength was. It was his will. His autonomous will. He himself as a freely-choosing being. With a sidelong glance of his mind, he dismissed once and for all that fabric of mental illusions about psychological motivations, behavioral stimulations, rationales, mentalistic hedges, situational ethics, social loyalties and communal shibboleths. All was dross and already eaten up and disintegrated in the flames of this experience which still might consume him. Only his will remained. Only his freedom of spirit to choose held firm. Only the agony of free choice remained . . . afterwards he wondered for a long time how many real choices he had made freely in his life before that night. For it was that agony of choosing freely – totally freely – that was now his. Just for the sake of choosing. Without any outside stimuli. Without any background in memory. Without any push from acquired tastes and persuasions. Without any reason or cause or motive deciding his choice. Without any gravamen from a desire to live or die – for at this moment he was indifferent to both. He was, in a sense, like the donkey medieval philosophers had fantasized as helpless, immobilized, and destined to starve because it stood equidistant from two equivalent bales of hay and could not decide which one to approach and eat. Totally free choice . . . He had to choose. The freedom to accept or reject. A proposed step into a darkness . . . All seemed waiting on his next step. His own. Only his. (from *Hostage to the Devil*)

In my own view, (continues Peck), the issue of free will, like so many great truths, is a paradox. On the one hand, free will is a reality. We *can* be free to choose without “shibboleths” or conditioning or many other factors. On the other hand, we cannot choose freedom. There are only two states of being: submission to God and goodness or the refusal to submit to anything beyond one’s own will – refusal automatically enslaves one to the forces of evil. We must ultimately belong either to God or the devil. ...As C.S. Lewis put it, “There is no neutral ground in the universe: every square inch, every split second is claimed by God and counterclaimed by Satan.” (*Christianity and Culture*)

We cannot be under God’s rule and our own rule. “But Father,” you might say, “why reflect on such a topic with all the troubles in the world?” To which I might respond, “Exactly.” All the evil in the world begins with the individual’s choice – do I serve God or myself (and, therefore, the devil)? Choose wisely.
Fr. Eric.

HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS



If you have a loved one who is homebound or in a care facility and unable to attend Mass, please call the rectory at 610-264-1972 to schedule a pastoral visit for

Communion and a blessing.

ANNIVERSARY MASS

The Annual Diocesan Anniversary Mass Celebration will be held on **Sunday, September 20, 2015, at the Cathedral of St. Catharine of Siena, 1875 West Turner Street in Allentown.** Bishop John Barres will begin the celebration at 3:00 PM. We cordially invite couples celebrating five, twenty-five, forty, fifty, sixty or sixty plus years of marriage to this special event. Please refer to the A.D. Times for a registration form, or request a form through email at MFLF@allentowndiocese.org. **The deadline for registration is September 8, 2015.**

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



Clipping Box Tops is an easy way for you to help **Good Shepherd Catholic School.** Box Tops are each worth 10¢ and they quickly add up to real cash for the school.

To help our school, just look for pink Box Tops on products, clip them, and place them in the Box Top box located at both entrances to the church, or you can place them in the collection basket. If you have any questions, please contact Diana Rutt at 610-348-5716. Thanks for your help!

INTERNATIONAL POT LUCK

Join us on **Sunday, September 13th, at 5:00pm** in the church basement for an International Buffet. Our parish family will provide the entire meal. You can make a food of your nationality or be creative and try a dish from another country such as France, Italy, China or Japan. Instead of assigning according to the alphabet, you can make your own choice of an entrée, salad, vegetable, or dessert. If you have any questions, call Mary Beth McGinley, 610-264-4494 or Peggy McCarty, 610-264-0307. Please complete and place the reservation slip below in the collection basket by **September 6th.**

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADULTS: _____ # CHILDREN: _____

SPECIFIC FOOD ITEM YOU'RE BRINGING:

OFFERTORY COLLECTION



Plate Collection	\$ 4,083.00
Assumption Collection	\$ 1,031.00



NEXT WEEK'S SCHEDULE

	Servers	Lectors	E.Ministers
4:00PM	A.Gorr D.Gorr	J.McAllister	M.Druckenmiller
7:00PM	J.Drummer D.Sullivan	J.Englert	J.Yanek
8:30AM	D.Popovic M.Popovic	E.Snyder	C.Reily
10:30AM	C.Ritter M.Ritter	J.DeLong	L.Bolmer



Honor a loved one by placing flowers on the altar. Simply sign up on the chart at the side entrance and call your florist for delivery. If you have any questions, call Peggy McCarty at 610-264-0307.



CCD Registration

Registrations have been sent out for the 2015 – 2016 C.C.D. year. If your child attends public school, or is home-schooled, and you have not received a registration form, please call the Rectory, 610-264-1972, and one will be sent to you.

FAITH and SPIRITS

Put on the Armor of God:

Spiritual Warfare in the Modern World

Does the devil/Satan really exist? Are we being deceived? What's the harm in New Age Spirituality? On **Monday, August 31, 2015, from 6:30pm to 8:30pm at P.J. Whelihan's at Platz's in Lehighton**, these questions and more will be discussed. Our presenter for the evening will be **Fr. Steve DeLacy** of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. There is no charge for attending **Faith and Spirits**. P.J. Whelihan's will have menus available for ordering food and drink at your expense. For more information call 610-289-8900, ext. 221 or email adultformation@allentowndiocese.org.

LOW IMPACT AEROBIC CLASS

Looking for a night out with friends? Karen Hoff is offering 8 weeks of aerobics on **Thursday nights, September 10th to October 29th, starting at 6:00pm, in St Elizabeth's parish hall**. The cost is only \$20.00 per person **for the entire 8 weeks**, which includes 50 minutes of aerobic exercises followed by 30 minutes of toning and floor exercises for all who wish to stay. Just bring a towel or mat for the floor exercises. Feel free to bring light weights as well. **Registration deadline is September 7th**. Please contact Mary Spieker at 610-266-0695 or dirreled@sercc.org. **Bring a friend!**

Save the Date!

Reserve **Friday, October 2nd**, for our **Family Night!** We will provide dinner, and a ventriloquist will entertain you!

MURDER BY SHOO FLY PIE!

A shoo fly pie baking contest has been arranged for the Morning Glories of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church and three of our lovely ladies have entered. Unfortunately, one or more of them used the evening to commit **MURDER!** Our servers will dish up the clues and information on this fun "whodunit?" on **Saturday, September 19th, at 5:30pm** at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, 4th and Pine Streets in Catty. For dinner, murder and reservations, call Nancy at 610-443-3036 or BJ at 570-401-6647.

The Mercy Special Learning Center will be holding its 26th annual gala and auction on **Saturday, October 10th, at DeSales University in Center Valley**.

The highlight of the evening will be a musical performance by a group of students known as the Mercy Magical Movement Dancers. For more information, please contact Connie Straccia at custraccia@aol.com. Mercy Special Learning Center is a diocesan school and the only private, non-residential school for children and young adults with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities in the Lehigh Valley. For more information, go to their website www.mercyspeciallearning.org.



IN THE WORDS OF ...

"Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words".
~St Francis of Assisi