



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

— At a parish where I served many years ago, I remember a parishioner there named Joe. Joe was not like the other parishioners.

When he came to Mass, Joe was unshaven and unkempt in his appearance. Sometimes he cast an odor that did not exactly remind you of a bouquet of fresh flowers. But Sunday after Sunday, there was Joe. Whereas other pews had plenty of people in them, Joe always had plenty of room. Sometimes he even had the entire pew to himself.

I wonder if he ever realized why people avoided him. I also wonder if he ever felt hurt that so many people would not have anything to do with him. But this much I am certain about. God must have looked more favorably on this man than on anyone else in that church. Even when no one seemed to welcome him, Joe still showed up to Mass. And whereas so many people around him looked as though they just wanted Mass to be over, Joe was there to participate. You could not miss his off-key singing, his voice bellowing out the prayers, or his exaggerated nods and smiles whenever you'd say hello to him.

The Letter of James asks us: "Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom that he promised to those who love him?" Perhaps this is why St. James advises us to show no impartiality in our associations with others. When we block out the "Joe's" of life, we may be ducking away from Christ.

**LABOR DAY** will be observed on Monday, September 7. Eucharist will be celebrated at Holy Redeemer at 9:00 a.m.

**DISTRIBUTION OF RED CROSSES FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY CROSS** – In honor of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross on September 14, the parish will distribute red crosses before each of the Masses next weekend. Each household in the parish is to receive one cross as they enter church next weekend. At the end of each Mass, the crosses will be blessed. Parishioners are then asked to take these crosses home with them and to place them in a noticeable outdoor location. Some of you will remember a similar distribution of red crosses about ten years ago. We thank members of our scouting groups, youth ministry, and adult faith formation group for assembling and distributing the crosses.

**DEAR FR. MANNEBACH:** *We have received your check for \$2025.26 which represents the gifts of your parishioners, through the Archdiocesan Missionary Cooperation Plan to the Apostles of Jesus. Please extend our thanks for their generosity to your parishioners and continue to encourage them to pray for all missionaries and the people they serve. To be able to help the many other missionaries that were not selected into the Missionary Cooperation Plan, there will be 10% taken from all funds above \$20.00. I want to thank you and your staff also for the kind hospitality to the missionary. Sincerely yours in Christ, Dr. Mike Gable, Director*

## EVANGELIZATION AND SERVICE COMMISSION



members would like to thank everyone who donated desserts last week for Loaves and Fishes. A special thanks to Green Thumb Market who donated all the fresh vegetables and fruit. One hundred thirty meals were served.

**VOCATION VIEWS** – Ask God to open your ears to hear his call. May he also free your tongue to proclaim the good news. Consider serving God as a priest, brother, or sister. (Mark 7:31-37)

**ADULT CHOIR** will begin rehearsing in September. Rehearsals will be held every other Monday night at 7:30 p.m. beginning September 14. Anyone interested in singing in the choir should contact Nick Wilker at the parish office or see him after Mass.

**HANDBELL CHOIR** is in need of substitute players. Rehearsals will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m., beginning in September. For more information or questions, contact Nick Wilker at the parish office or see him after Mass.

**AUGUST, 2009** marked the first anniversary of the initiation of the Agape Sunday Project which aims to assist individuals and families in western Auglaize County in times of economic hardship or disasters. The first year can only be deemed a tremendous success. In a year which has seen some truly difficult economic times, not only for our nation but for our local area also, the Holy Redeemer Parish family has responded in typical generous fashion. Some of the highlights of the first year include November, when the parish donated over \$250 to help local families have a Thanksgiving dinner and August, when well over 200 school supply items were collected to help local children with their back-to-school needs. Each month saw people recognizing and responding to the need as in the past year over 2,000 items and over \$480 in donations were delivered to Agape on behalf of the parish. Agape Ministries recognizes and commends the Holy Redeemer Parish family for their generosity in the past year and looks forward to the continued support from them in the future as they persevere to serve the western Auglaize County area. The need is present. The need is local. The need is real.

**CATHOLIC ADULT SINGLES CLUB** enables its members to share, trust and enjoy the ideas and company of fellow single adults through weekly activities. For more information, call 419-305-6118. On Sunday, September 6 they will gather for a house party at New Bremen. On Sunday, September 13 they will enjoy bowling at Minster and supper. They will travel to Youngs Dairy Farm on Saturday, September 19.

**CROSSING THE THRESHOLD** Bible Study participants will learn a new appreciation and meaning of the Eucharist as they study and reflect on the sacred Scriptures. Sign-ups for *Crossing the Threshold* will be available the weekend of September 19-20 at Holy Redeemer.

**"BREAKING IT OPEN"** – *Crossing the Threshold* facilitators are invited to attend a workshop on Thursday, September 17 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Holy Redeemer Parish Center. Carolyn Stucke and Jane Pierron will instruct how to divide the chapters of "Eucharist" into the one and a half hour sessions; prayer space (prayer, music, environment); timing of lessons; tips and tools for group situations; permission to deviate. Please pre-register by calling 419-925-5022 or email [office@stmarysdeanery.com](mailto:office@stmarysdeanery.com).

**OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFT-**  
August 30 - \$5,696.02                      Attendance – 859  
Adults - \$5,252.00                      High School - \$9.00  
Grade School - \$35.50                      Anonymous - \$399.52

**SPIRITUAL CENTER OF MARIA STEIN**, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein, will celebrate the ten year anniversary of the re-opening of the Spiritual Center on Sunday, September 13 from noon to 4:00 p.m. An Italian luncheon will be held from noon until 2:00 p.m. with Italian food cooked by their experienced dining staff. Enjoy spaghetti, fettuccini and more (including dessert!) for an \$8 donation per person.

**CATHOLIC FAITH RALLY** will be held on Sunday, September 27 at 7:30 p.m. at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein. Music will begin at 7:00 p.m. Healing Mass will be held on Tuesday, September 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein.

**PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY** is available to anyone in the parish or in the community who is going through a difficult time; dealing with a chronic or terminal illness; mentally or physically challenged; elderly; those who've lost a loved one or those who are just in need of prayers. The blessed prayer quilt, a 12" square of quilted fabric, and prayer card can be picked up at the parish office. Other arrangements can be made by calling the parish office at 419-629-2543. Military prayer quilts and prayer cards are also available to those who are serving in the military.

**EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:**

**September 7, 12 & 13**

*Labor Day*

**Mon. 9:00 a.m.**

T. Homan – B. & C. Killian – H. & P. Overman

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.**

Deacon G. Bornhorst – J. & S. Elking – C. Heitkamp

N. Homan – E. Niekamp – S. Niekamp – D. Pape – M. Subler

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**

A. Elking – R. & R. Kremer – L. Meyer

J. & S. Thieman – C. Turner

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**

L. Ahrns – B. Bertke – D. & S. Bertke – A. Flaute

D. Kruse – C. Kuck – S. McCollum – N. Riethman

S. Thieman – B. Webster

**LECTORS:**

**September 7, 12 & 13**

*Labor Day*

**Mon. 9:00 a.m.**

J. Homan

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.**

K. Bornhorst – D. Freeman

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**

F. Goettemoeller – G. Heitkamp

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**

B. Feltz – D. Knapke



**USHERS:**

**September 12 & 13**

M. Gaerke – G. Grevenkamp – T. Howell

K. McGlinch – M. Varno

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**

D. Champagne – L. Dicke – C. Griesdorn

G. Nosek – W. Steineman

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**

D. Anderson – S. Dwenger – J. Kremer

R. Niekamp – T. Went

**COLLECTION COUNTERS – September 13**

D. Bergman – C. Anderson – B. Kruse

**CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**September 13**

Annette Bertke

**MASSES:**

**ACTIVITIES:**

Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist

- Children’s Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass

- Baptism of Ashtyn Elizabeth, daughter of Andrew and Jennifer (Steinke) Eilerman and Ava Marie, daughter of Charles and Kendra (Gerlach) Went, 11:00 a.m.

Tues. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- Exercise program, 9:15 a.m. in parish hall

Wed. - CCD classes: Grades 1 through 6: 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.; 5:15 – 6:15 p.m.

Grades 7 & 8: 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Grades 9 through 12: 7:45 – 8:45 p.m.

Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist

- Children’s Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass

**September 5 to 13**

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.** Clarence & Gertie Topp

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** Holy Redeemer Parish

**10:00 a.m.** Jan Brockert

*Labor Day*

**Mon. 9:00 a.m.** Ralph Fortkamp

**Tues. 8:30 a.m.** Raphael & Nick Rose

**Wed. 12:05 p.m.** Living & dec’d. Ontrop – Voskuhl family

**Thurs. 7:00 p.m.** Ken Jutte

**Fri. 8:30 a.m.** Gene Bergman

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.** Freda Moeller

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** John Garman

**10:00 a.m.** Holy Redeemer Parish

**SERVERS:**

**September 7 to 13**

*Labor Day*

**Mon. 9:00 a.m.**

A. Buschur – A. Feltz

**Thurs. 7:00 p.m.**

M. Kramer – N. Schneider

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.**

S. Homan – M. Thieman

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.**

D. Kremer – R. Selby

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.**

C. Albers – V. Went



**PARISH**

**REPRESENTATIVES:**

**September 12 & 13**

**Sat. 5:00 p.m.** Larry & Dianne Dicke

**Sun. 8:00 a.m.** Lee & Linda Dicke family

**Sun. 10:00 a.m.** Nick & Ginny Dicke

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13**

Isaiah 50:5-9a

James 2:14-18

Mark 8:27-35

Then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him, "Ephphatha!" – that is, "Be opened!" And immediately the man's ears were opened, his speech impediment was removed, and he spoke plainly. Mk 7:34-35