



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

— The hot August days always brings me back to junior high and high school football practice. Through the heat and humidity, we'd run laps, do our push-ups and sit-ups, and then go through some pretty grueling tackling and blocking drills. By the end of practice, my mouth felt bone-dry, my legs felt wobbly, and there were usually some pretty good scrapes and bruises to show for my efforts. I found myself jealous of my friends who did not try out for football. Over and over, one question kept popping into my mind: "Is this all really worth it?"

It's a question of discipline. It's easy to want to play football (or for that matter, any activity that requires skill). Much more difficult, however, is the preparation and conditioning that's needed to compete in the games. It's no secret how our enthusiasm and sense of commitment can waver when they are exposed to difficulty or adversity.

This weekend's second reading (Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13) speaks of the discipline that's needed in the life of faith. It's probably no coincidence that the words "disciple" and "discipline" are closely related. It's not that Christian life is meant to be some kind of grinding endurance contest – like a pre-season football practice. But to live as a man or woman of faith does require some inner qualities that need to be developed. These qualities are often referred to as virtues. They are skills or capabilities in living our lives the way God intends them to be lived. Virtues require both a sense of inner discipline and the help of God's grace. Although they are hard to acquire, virtues are also hard to lose. They become part of us, even to the point that ways of acting that we once dreaded now become ways that we actually find satisfying.

How are we finding the practice of our faith?

Fr. Mannebach

THE LOVE OF GOD has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Each member of the church is given unique and diverse gifts for the service of others and for the good of the church. Learn more about the 'Holy Spirit and Spiritual Gifts' through participation in Threshold Bible Study. The next series will begin in October. Please join us as we learn how the Holy Spirit works within us to help us see God in a new way – not as a taskmaster who interferes in our freedom, but as the personal source of our deepest joy.

VOCATION VIEWS – Will you help gather people to be a part of the reign of God? Pray to be open if God calls you to serve as priest, deacon, brother or sisters. (Isaiah 66:18-21)

ADULT CHOIR will have their first rehearsal on Monday, August 30. Rehearsals are held every other Monday from 7:30 – 9:00 p.m. in the music room. Binders with music are available outside the music rehearsal room in the connector. For additional information please see Nick Wilker following a weekend Mass or in the parish office.

ATTENTION BELL CHOIR MEMBERS: Folders containing music for the fall are ready for pick up in the music room after any of the weekend Masses or during the week during regular parish office hours. Anyone with questions should contact Nick Wilker at the parish office.

BOOK CLUB NEWS: All are invited to join the Book Club as they tour the Maria Stein Relic Chapel, 2291 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein on Tuesday, August 31. The group will meet at Holy Redeemer at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please call Becky Koverman at 419-629-3470.

OUR GIFT IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S GIFT-
August 15 - \$5,800.25 Attendance – 900
Adults - \$5,206.00 High School - \$7.00
Grade School - \$38.00 Anonymous - \$549.25
Birthday Fund Collection - \$10,839.00

Back to School Mass

**Wednesday, September 1
7:00 p.m.**

Everyone is invited

Cookies and juice will be served after Mass

This serves as the first Religious Education class for the year. All students in grades 1-12 are expected to attend

ATTENTION Lectors, Eucharistic Ministers, Bible Study and RCIA Leaders, Pastoral Council, Education Commission and Worship Commission Members: The 35th annual Northern Area Congress, *Family: The Missing Piece in Catechesis*, will be held at the Upper Valley Joint Vocational School, Piqua on Saturday, September 18. This day-long event opens with prayer and a keynote address and is followed by three sets of one hour workshops. The cost is \$25 which includes lunch if registration is received before September 10. For workshop descriptions and information on registration go online at www.catholiccincinnati.org/oec/pdf/2010CongressBrochure.pdf or call 937-498-1192.

CHANGES IN THE MASS from Ministry Resources: Q: Has the Mass always been the way it is now? A: The way we worship now has a long and complicated history. The most recent changes that came from the Second Vatican Council are what most adults talk about when they refer to “the changes”. While retaining the basic purpose of the ritual, Mass has its deepest origins in the Jewish “Sabbath Suppers”. Down through the years it has included many cultural and ritual variations. We tend to think that the Mass is an action that never changes. This is far from the truth. Just as one example, the language of the Mass has changed from Hebrew to Greek to Latin to the vernacular. The way we worship is not a museum piece but the living, breathing, changing work of a people seeking to touch God through word and gesture, song and prayer, sign and symbol. You may have heard that there are more changes coming. This should reassure us that the church is still living and growing.

“TODAY OUR WORLD STILL HUNGERS FOR PEACE...for healing...for love...for God,” states the website for the Sisters of the Precious Blood. In honor of 175 years of proclaiming God’s love, the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein, 2365 St. Johns Road, Maria Stein OH, proudly announces a year of Precious Blood

Spirituality on four separate Saturdays, August 28, November 20, March 5 and April 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This will be an opportunity to explore Precious Blood history and understand as single or married adults how we may live out the call of the Missionary Spirit of the Blood of Jesus Christ. Attend one or all four sessions; \$15 per session includes lunch. RSVP by the Tuesday prior to each session by calling the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein at 419-925-7625, or email at spiritualcenter@watchtv.net or visit the web site www.spiritualcenter.net.

August 28: Rev. Angelo P. Anthony, C.P.P.S. presents *St. Gaspar del Bufalo – Apostle of the Blood of Christ*

November 20: Sr. Martha Bertke, C.P.P.S., and Sr. Maryann Bremke, C.P.P.S. will present *The Story of Maria Anna Brunner*, married mother of six and founder of the Sisters of the Precious Blood

March 5: Brother Tom Bohman will discuss the *Precious Blood Spirituality of St. Gaspar del Bufalo and Fr. Francis de Sales Brunner*

April 2: Sr. Donna Liette and a member of the Ministry of Reconciliation will explain *The Call of the Blood of Christ to Building Peacemaking*

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 419-678-8691. On Sunday, August 29 the group will go canoeing in West Milton, OH. They will gather for Mass and a house party in Coldwater, OH on Sunday, September 5.

RED CROSS BLOODMOBILE will be at the Minster K of C Hall, 40 North Main Street, Minster, OH on Monday, August 30 from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED CROSS to make an appointment. For more information call Karen Jantzi at 419-227-5121. Walk-ins are welcome.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

August 28 & 29

Sat. 5:00 p.m.

Deacon G. Bornhorst – E. Ahrns – L. Meyer
C. Opperman – H. & P. Overman – D. Stachler
B. Suchland – C. Turner

Sun. 8:00 a.m.
Deacon G. Bornhorst – D. & S. Bertke
G. Dicke – D. & J. Gehle – P. Harrod
Sun. 10:00 a.m.
Deacon G. Bornhorst – A. Borger
J. & S. Elking – D. Knapke – C. Kuck
E. Rump, Jr. – J. Suchland – A. Wellman

LECTORS:

August 28 & 29

Sat. 5:00 p.m.
K. Bornhorst – D. Freeman
Sun. 8:00 a.m.
F. Goettemoeller – R. Bertke
Sun. 10:00 a.m.
J. Eshelman – D. Knapke

USHERS:

August 28 & 29

Sat. 5:00 p.m.
R. Brandt – B. Kramer – J. Lehman
T. Wenning – R. Ziegenbusch
Sun. 8:00 a.m.
D. Alig – P. Heitkamp – L. Lane
M. McClurg – D. Steineman
Sun. 10:00 a.m.
R. Homan – M. Mueller – J. Niekamp
B. Parker – G. Wendeln

COLLECTION COUNTERS – August 29

B. McDermitt – J. Homan – R. Evers

PARISH REPRESENTATIVES:

August 28 & 29

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Donald & Rita Kramer
Sun. 8:00 a.m. Doug & Diana Kramer family
Sun. 10:00 a.m. Bob & Sue Kramer

MASSES:

August 21 to 29

Sat. 5:00 p.m. Mary Schwartz

ACTIVITIES:

- Sun. - Communion to the Sick/Shut-ins by Ministers of Eucharist
- Children's Liturgy of the Word during 10:00 a.m. Mass
- Tues. - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Sat. - Men's Prayer Group, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m. in conference room
- Wedding of Corey Axe, of Holy Rosary Parish, St. Marys, and Lyndi Nagel,
of Holy Redeemer Parish, 2:00 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
- Baptism of Gabe Michael, son of Andrew and Kelly (Speelman)
Bernhold, during 5:00 p.m. Mass

Sun. 8:00 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish
10:00 a.m. David Bruggeman
Mon. 7:00 p.m. Ralph Holdheide
Tues. 8:30 a.m. Christine Showalter
Wed. 12:05 p.m. Mike Heitkamp
Thurs. 7:00 p.m. Rose-Sommer family
Fri. 8:30 a.m. Jeannette & Betty Phlipot
Sat. 5:00 p.m. Gerlach family
Sun. 8:00 a.m. Elmer Poepelman
10:00 a.m. Holy Redeemer Parish

SERVERS:

August 23 to 29

Mon. 7:00 p.m.
Kelli Maurer
Thurs. 7:00 p.m.
Unfilled
Sat. 5:00 p.m.
J. Swiger – V. Wente
Sun. 8:00 a.m.
D. Bruggeman – A. Speelman
Sun. 10:00 a.m.
A. Balster – T. Homan

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

August 29

Jean Homan

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY,
AUGUST 29**

Sirach 3:17-18, 20, 28-29
Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24a
Luke 14:1, 7-14



Jesus passed through towns and villages, teaching as he went and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, will only a few people be saved?" He answered them, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate." Lk 13:22-24a