



Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach

Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time

June 15, 2008

Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
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Our Parish Staff

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St. Mary's Choir



Story for Today

"I Know Who I Am!"

By Dr. Constance M. Popp

In the delightful, quirky film *Moonstruck*, starring Cher, one subplot revolves around Cher's mother, Olympia Dukakis, who realizes that her husband is having an affair. One night, eating alone at a neighborhood Italian restaurant, she encounters an opportunity to do the same.

A university professor sitting nearby has just had a glass of water thrown in his face by a female student, a young woman he is having an affair with. As he is dripping wet and alone, Olympia asks if he'd like to join her for dinner and tells him quite bluntly that the student was simply too young for him. A conversation ensues as the two enjoy dinner together and then he walks her home. As they approach her house, he asks if he can come in. She replies negatively and he responds, "Oh, I guess there are people at home."

"No," she answers, "I think everyone is gone. The reason I can't invite you in is because I know who I am." Not understanding, he quickly invites her to his apartment. Again, she declines the invitation. Confused and unaware of the lesson her words conveyed, he could not respond because he did not understand their meaning.

Many who heard Jesus did not understand his meaning either. "Jesus' heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd," like people not knowing where to go or who to follow; not knowing, or perhaps even caring, where they would sleep or with whom. Are we like that, wandering aimlessly, attempting to belong somewhere, anywhere, all the while unaware that God has already claimed us as a special possession?

"Therefore if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine." God speaks, but do we listen to God's direction for our lives or ever entertain the grandeur of our inheritance?

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"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out

laborers into his harvest."

Matthew 9:37-38



Scripture REFLECTIONS

Here is an amazing statement: We are God's people, the sheep of his flock. To our ancestors in the desert God said, "You shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people." God speaks those words to us now. Really. We can hug those words to ourselves and know we are loved.

In an earlier Gospel passage, we heard Jesus call his apostles, choosing them to be his special friends, to follow him, to come and see where he lived. Perhaps they had some time to hug his call to themselves and feel special.

However, in today's Gospel they found out what their call involved—they were given authority; they were given orders. Finally, they were given the bottom line: You got everything from God as a free gift. Now you are to give everything you can without expecting anything in return.

Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ✦ Sunday - 9:30 a.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

Scripture/Communion Services

Monday and Wednesday - 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday and Thursday - 5:00 p.m.



A member of the
Central Steuben
Catholic Parishes



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY June 15, Eleventh Sunday of Ordinary Time
 9:30 a.m. In Memory of Joe Kashmere
 By Gen & family

MONDAY June 16 Monday
 9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

TUESDAY June 17, Tuesday
 5:00 p.m. Scripture/Communion Service

WEDNESDAY June 18, Wednesday
 9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

THURSDAY June 19, Thursday
 5:00 p.m. Scripture/Communion Service

FRIDAY June 20, Friday
 9:00a.m. NO Scripture/Communion Service

SATURDAY June 21, Saturday
 4:00 p.m. In Mem. of Bernard Kennett
 By his daughter Nancy

SUNDAY June 22 Twelfth Sunday of Ordinary Time
 9:30a.m. Intentions of Rosa Fiordo
 By Freida Fiordo

There will be NO weekday Masses during June - but July Mass Intentions are available. Please Call the Office. Mass Stipend \$10.



PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY June 15
 8:30 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
 10:30 Graduation Pancake Breakfast
 11:00 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church
 3:00 p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY June 16
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do - Hall

TUESDAY June 17
 7:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Rectory

WEDNESDAY June 18
 6:00 p.m. Tae Kwon Do - Room 204

THURSDAY June 19
 5:00pm Rotary Dinner—Hall
 5:30p.m. Weight Watchers - Room 101

FRIDAY June 20
 SATURDAY June 21
 SUNDAY June 22
 8:30 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
 10:30 a.m. Coffee Hour in honor of
Rosa Fiordo's 99th Birthday
 11:00 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church
 3:00p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall
 7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

Circa 1961 Aquinas Institute

“Someday, I hope to settle down in a nice Recliner I’ve won from St. Mary’s UNFAIR.”

The UNFAIR “Early Bird”
 Drawing is Today at the pancake breakfast.
 Did you enter yet?

Raymond Defendorf
Guard

Building Faithful Citizenship

A Reflection for June 15, 2008

Jesus, seeing suffering and disease in Israel, instructs his disciples to **proclaim God’s kingdom, by giving health, healing and life.** His heart is **“moved with pity”** for the suffering he sees. **Our Catholic faith reflects Jesus’ compassion and upholds the dignity of all human life.**

In *Faithful Citizenship*, the U.S. Catholic Bishops say, **“We revere the lives of children in the womb, the lives of persons dying in war and from starvation, and indeed the lives of all human beings as children of God.”** (no.43). They also remind us that our faith is to be lived out in the world. **“The Church’s obligation to participate in shaping the moral character of society is a requirement of our faith.”** (no.9)

Questions for Reflection:

Do the candidates that we are considering espouse policies that are life giving?

Do we insist that our leaders protect the vulnerable lives of the newly conceived and medically fragile?

Are the candidates’ policies such that justice and mercy meet and individuals whose lives are troubled and troublesome have the opportunity for healing and growth?



SAINT MARY’S PARISH “A Parish of Good Stewards”

Thank you for Making Parish a Priority!
 June 7/8, 2008

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$3181
 Catholic Communications: \$287

Today’s 2nd Collection: *Can and Quarter*
Next Week’s 2nd Collection: *Youth Ministry*



Happy Birthday To You!

06/17 Allan Johnson 06/19 Shane Glass
 06/17 Don Young 06/20 Crystal Gardner
 06/18 David Parulski 06/20 Mat t Desroriers



Prayer List

Bruce Ayers, Fran Cummings, Andrew deMay, Bob Denno, Peggy Evans, Mary Fisher, Mary and Jack Giblin, Esther Gerhart, Betty Hand, John Hurley, Joseph Kish, Logan Manciocchi, **Art Moran, Jim Murray, Fr. Gerald O’Connor**, Helen Opila, Deacon John Prave, Theresa Rodbourn, Adam Weaver, and Stan Wraight.



Assembly Schedule

June 21- Sat. 4:00 p.m.
 Lake Country Disciples
 June 15 - Sun. 9:30 a.m.
 Precious Blood 2

To join an assembly call 776-3327



**Pancake breakfast
 To honor our
 graduating seniors
 today**

June 15, 2008

10:30 a.m.

o’Malley Hall

Free will offering



Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School for Pre-K to grade 6 will be Monday July 14 through the 4 p.m. Mass on Saturday July 19 Mass.

If you are interested in helping with this, you can pick up a packet from Mary Carol.



Welcome to our Parish Family



SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

Sunday Supper Stars

A few days after our going away party for Fr. Peter, I received an email "Thank You" from Deb and Bill Brinkhus. Deb wrote:

"Just wanted to say THANK YOU to you and everyone at St. Mary's for making our Sunday Supper for the poor of our community so successful this

past Sunday (May 25). I know it was tight schedule to make both Father Peter's event and the Sunday Supper happen; but, hey, it worked!! We could not have done it without help of the many generous people from the parish who set up room 101 with tables and chairs and set up snacks and refreshments so that our guests had a comfortable place to gather before the meal. Of course, the crew who cleaned the hall and helped set up the table settings were instrumental in helping keep the suppers on track.

And I can't give enough of a thank you to Warren and Loretta Tetor for donating the food, and to them and the crew (at Country Valley Home) for preparing the meal for us so that we could serve our guests quickly. It was most generous to provide the meal and a God-send for (that Sunday's Supper Crew Chief) Ruth Walters of First Presbyterian Church and her crew who would have had to cook the meal had it not been for Warren and Loretta.

We served 51 people on Sunday and, as you saw, many were children. With rising food prices we have seen the number of people attending the suppers increase. Where once it was not unusual to have 17 to 25 guests, it is rare that we have less than 30 to 35 these days and not unusual to serve between 50 to 60 people.

I can't tell you how much it means to our guests that Sunday Suppers is there for them. Our guests have expressed to us that the suppers have become a place of refuge for them. It's a place where they can gather, feel safe, form friendships and be part of a community. The suppers are an enjoyable event to them and I have come to realize how much the Sunday Supper program is needed.

You know, we spend too much time in this country worrying about the fate of Christianity or if God will be forgotten. But Christ is clearly present in the poor and in those who volunteer



to help the poor. It is interesting to watch our guests and volunteers at the suppers interact and to realize that God is at work... as He is, always creating a 'good' out the stress and turmoil of life."

What Deb didn't mention in the email touting the generosity of other parish volunteers

was the ministries that they are personally engaged in on behalf of our parish. In addition to the Sunday Suppers which they coordinate Bill and Deb also coordinate our Sunday Scripture/ Communion Services at the Fred and Harriet Taylor Healthcare Facility. Each week they also bring Communion to the aged veterans who reside at the Cohocton Valley Home in Avoca and to Merva Leckinger who is home-bound since a recent surgery.

As noted in a recent bulletin, Deb recently was awarded a Masters degree in Pastoral Studies from St. Bernard's School of Theology and Ministry. A remarkable achievement for someone who concurrently was working full time and commuting to Rochester daily.

Thank you Deb. Thank you Bill. Well done good and faithful servants.

Honoring our Graduating Seniors and Fathers

Today we bless Cory Badeau, Kevin Desrosiers, Jessica Harris, Fran Kohler and Jessica Sokolowski our parish's graduating high school seniors at the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass and at a Pancake Brunch that will follow in their honor. We also honor the men of our parish whose role as Father or father-figure has provided a stable and faith-nourishing environment for their children to grow. A Blessing of Fathers will take place before Mass concludes.

Summer Office Hours

Beginning last week, the Parish Office is closed on Fridays. I will also be taking a few days off this week to help Pat settle in at Catholic House at the Chautauqua Institution near Jamestown. Again this summer, she will serve as house manager providing hospitality to the twelve guests and two Catholic priest chaplains who reside at Catholic House each of the nine week Summer season.

Have a good week. Serve one another well.

Deacon Ray



Event chair Paula Gardner prices a "treasure" for volunteer Bob Colomaio.



Warren Tetor and Barb Bailey yuk it up. Inset Jack Lyle



Mary Carol Wall peruses a book at Book Sale

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