



Saint Mary's Parish

A Welcoming Oasis of Love, Peace, and Outreach

The Twenty-fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 21, 2008

Our Parish Office

32 East Morris Street
Bath, NY 14810
Monday-Thursday 8 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Other times by appointment
Office: 607-776-3327
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Email: bstmaryc@dor.org

Our Parish Staff

Deacon Ray Defendorf
Pastoral Administrator
E-mail: RDefendorf@DOR.org
Rev. Jim Jaeger
Sacramental Minister
E-mail: JJaeger@DOR.org
Deacon Ed Wight
Parish Deacon - 776-3258
Barbara Bailey
Parish Bookkeeper/Secretary
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Dan Barefoot
Custodian
Mary Faucett
Parish Life Volunteer
Paula Gardner
Office Volunteer
E-Mail: PGardner1@DOR.org
Mary Carol Wall
Youth Ministry/Faith Formation
Coordinator - 776-6944
E-Mail: Avocawalls@peoplepc.com

St. Mary's Choir

Aubri Ordway, Director
Assisted by Brad Ordway
Brent Franklin - Keyboard
Ellie Boutwell/Carl Johengen
Saturday Mass Organists

Our Parish Council

William MacNamara
Chairperson - 556-3690
Barbara Perry
Vice-Chairperson - 776-6920
Mary McConnell
Secretary - 776-3265
Jim Gallagher
Stewardship Chairperson - 776-6810
Denise Crossett - 776-5089
Sean McKinley - 329-4436
Kathy Warren - 776-4074



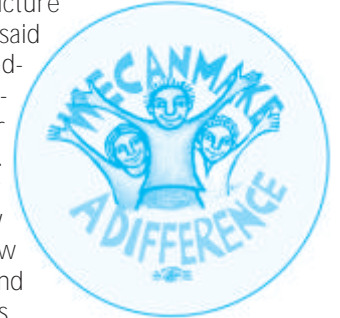
Scripture REFLECTIONS

The readings for the 25th Sunday of Ordinary Time raise a problem: our inability to understand God fully in this world.

In the case of the parable of the workers in the vineyard, it is likely that this parable is included by Matthew because it takes up the issue of Gentile inclusion. It would be natural that many Jews would have viewed the Gentiles seeking membership into their community as those hired in the last hours in the parable of the workers in the vineyard. The resentment expressed by the workers hired at dawn probably mirrored the resentment that some of the Jewish Christian members felt toward God and the Gentiles who wanted to join the community. Matthew includes this parable because Jesus' words were applicable to his situation: "What if I wish to give this last one the same as you? Am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?" The Jewish Christians were left to struggle to understand God's invitation to the Gentiles.

We Christians today often struggle to understand how God operates in our world. Many of us may even feel resentment and anger, as the workers in the vineyard hired at dawn felt. Regardless of our struggles and questions, we should not lose sight of Paul's advice offered to the Christians "Conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ."

"It was what I picture heaven to be like," said Judy Quinn after attending the Make A Difference Day fundraiser held on her behalf. Judy's breast cancer was discovered shortly after accepting a new teaching position, and now she faced months of treatment with few sick days accumulated. Saving help came in the form of a candlelight dinner that collected more than \$12,000, allowing Judy to work half-days during radiation treatments and spend time with her family.



By Dr. Constance M. Popp

Make A Difference Day grants, funded by Paul Newman's Own Foundation, provide \$10,000 to volunteer organizations to help those in need. In Tucson, the city's working poor were offered everything from free

*"As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways
and my thoughts above your thoughts."*

medical screenings, dental care, clothing and groceries at an all-day event called HopeFest.

In Port Arthur, TX, sixty-five-year-old Fabiola Small, an ex-welder and the daughter of a share cropper, coordinated the efforts of forty volunteers to deliver meals, give free flu shots, distribute clothing and clean up neighborhoods, as she's done for the past seven years. Fabiola's volunteering efforts began thirty years ago after an illness that sent the single mother of four into a bout of depression. "I was feeling bad and staying home, but a friend told me I needed to go out and do something for someone else," Fabiola said, adding that the friend "saved me."

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts." At times, humans are capable of having such thoughts and expressing them by "making a difference" and offering a picture of what heaven must be like!

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Mass/Communion/Reconciliation Schedule

Parish Celebrations of the Lord's Day

Saturday - 4:00 p.m. ² Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation
1st and 3rd Saturdays at 3:30 p.m.

Weekday Communion Services

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday - 9:00 a.m.
Tuesday - 5:00 p.m.

Friday - 8:30 a.m. (St. Gabriel's, Hammondspport)



A member of the
Central Steuben
Catholic Parishes
Diocese of Rochester



LITURGICAL CALENDAR

SUNDAY Sept. 21, Twenty-fifth
Sunday of Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m. In Mem. Of Guy Castrilli
By James F. Murray & family

MONDAY Sept. 22, Monday
9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

TUESDAY Sept. 23, Tuesday
5:00 p.m. Scripture/Communion Service

WEDNESDAY Sept. 24, Wednesday
9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

THURSDAY Sept. 25, Thursday
9:00 a.m. Scripture/Communion Service

FRIDAY Sept. 26, Friday

SATURDAY Sept. 27, Saturday
4:00 p.m. In Mem. Of Gerard Saur
By Margaret Saur

SUNDAY Sept. 28, Twenty-sixth
Sunday of Ordinary Time
9:00 a.m. In Mem. Of Guy Castrilli
By Terry Hochreiter

Note: Fr. Jim has military duty on weekdays during the last three weeks of September. On these days we will gather for Scripture/Communion Services as noted above.

Beginning in January 2009, a weekend Mass each month will be offered for the **"Members of the St. Mary's Memorial Fund."** Donations to this fund will be used to support parish ministries and capital projects.



SAINT MARY'S PARISH "A Parish of Good Stewards"

Thank you for Making
Parish a Priority!

Sacrificial Gifts totaled: \$3221.63
Cemetery Upkeep \$200.17

**Today's 2nd Collection: Catholic Campaign for
Human Development/Can & Quarter**

Next Week's 2nd Collection: Faith Formation

In addition to helping us meet our payroll expenses, your stewardship gifts will help us pay our quarterly Health Insurance bill of \$7,145.



The Sanctuary Light is burning in memory of Waneta & Raphael Sacramento by Carmen Rola



Welcome to our
Parish Family



PARISH LIFE CALENDAR

SUNDAY Sept 21
8:15 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
10:00 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
10:15 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church
3:00 p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101

MONDAY Sept 22

TUESDAY Sept 23
7:30 p.m. Prayer Group - Rectory

WEDNESDAY Sept 24
5:00 p.m. Girl Scout Meetings - 204B
6:00 p.m. Troop 59 Meeting - Hall

THURSDAY Sept 25
5:30p.m. Weight Watchers - Hall

FRIDAY Sept 26

SATURDAY Sept 27
1:00 p.m. NA - Hall

SUNDAY Sept 28
8:15 a.m. Pre Mass Choir Practice, Chapel
10:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
10:15 a.m. Post Choir Practice, Church
1:00 p.m. Confirmation Practice - Church
3:00p.m. Sunday Supper, Hall
7:00 p.m. AA, Room 101



Happy Birthday To You!

09/21 Joann Palmer	09/25 Joanne Sheehan
09/21 Mary Latour	09/26 Danielle Armentano
09/22 Alexander Lakota	09/26 Greg DiPasquale
09/22 Suzanne Kennedy	09/27 Arthur Bell
09/23 Jordan Snell	09/27 Elizabeth Hutcheson
09/24 Robert Jones	09/27 Mary Watches
09/24 Antoinette Stever	09/28 Elizabeth Smalt
09/24 Louise Martin	09/28 Joseph Baroody
09/25 Patricia Muller	09/28 Eileen Sewell



Assembly Schedule

September 20 - Sat. 4:00 p.m.
Willing Hearts
September 21 - Sun. 9:00 a.m.
Precious Blood 2

To join an assembly call 776-3327



Prayer List

Bruce Ayers, Bonnie Baron,
Fran Cummings, Bob Denno,
John Dunbar, Margaret Emmick,
Peggy Evans, Mary Fisher, Glenn French,
Mary and Jack Giblin, Ester Gerhart, John
Hurley, Jim Lamprecht, Jim Murray, Father
Gerald O'Conner Deacon John Prave,
Theresa Rodbourn, Jerry Rumsey,
Bill Wayne and Stan Wwright.



Pictorial Directory

Olan Mills will be taking pictures from October 7-11 for **St. Mary's**. If you have your picture taken, you will receive a FREE 8x10 and **St. Mary's will receive \$4.00** for each setting, so invite your families and friends to come and have their portraits taken. Signups will take place the next three weekends. If you cannot sign up on the weekend, Please call the office and make an appointment.



Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, Oct. 4, 2008
3:00p.m.

St Mary's Church
Front Steps

Joseph's Hammer

"Neighbor Helping Neighbor"



Joseph's Hammer is a ministry of St Gabriel's in Hammondspport and volunteers from other area churches that completes construction projects for needy neighbors throughout the area.

Joseph's Hammer is seeking funds and new volunteers. Place donations in the little house that is located in the back of the church.

Crop Hunger Walk

Sunday, October 19, 2008

Mary Ellen Haff is the contact person this year at St Mary's. She or her representative will be in the back of the church every Sunday to sign up walkers or take your donations for this important fundraiser.

25% of proceeds goes to our local food pantries



SENT TO SERVE

Notes from Deacon Ray Defendorf

"If You're Going Through Hell..."

Building Faithful Citizenship



A Reflection for September 21,
2008

As centered as we might be on the love of God and the teachings of Scripture, our view of justice is inevitably colored by our own life experiences.

In today's Gospel, Jesus shook up the disciples' understanding of fairness by telling the parable of the workers and the landowner, in which the landowner chose to give the same pay to those who had worked an hour as to those who had labored in the hot sun all day. In his book, *Parables as Subversive Speech*, Scripture scholar William Herzog argues that Jesus is giving voice to the exploited dayworkers, small farmers who have lost their land or those who received no inheritance who are forced to **labor for wages that won't even feed their families**. The landowner mocks the value of their labor and insults them by calling them "friends".

Reflection: Does your view of justice include an economy that works for the benefit of all?

Last evening, (Tuesday) I estimate that well over 300 people gathered at St. Mary's to bid farewell and celebrate seemingly the too short life of Logan Manciocchi.

Like most of you, I never actually met eleven year old Logan. But, all of us have heard his name listed week after week in the Prayers of the Faithful as he battled a two year long war with brain cancer.

Logan's short life proved that one never knows the impact that the way we live our lives and face our personal challenges can have on others. In meeting with his mother Stephanie and Grandmother Gretchen, and later with his dad Steve, I learned that, in spite of his illness, Logan never lost his zest for life and sense of humor. In doing so, he rallied the admiration and support of hundreds of classmates and friends including country singer Rodney Atkins, who on two occasions met Logan and dedicated songs to him.

Logan, latched onto one of Atkin's songs, "If You're Going Through Hell" and made it his credo during long stretches radiation and chemotherapy. The song's refrain reads:

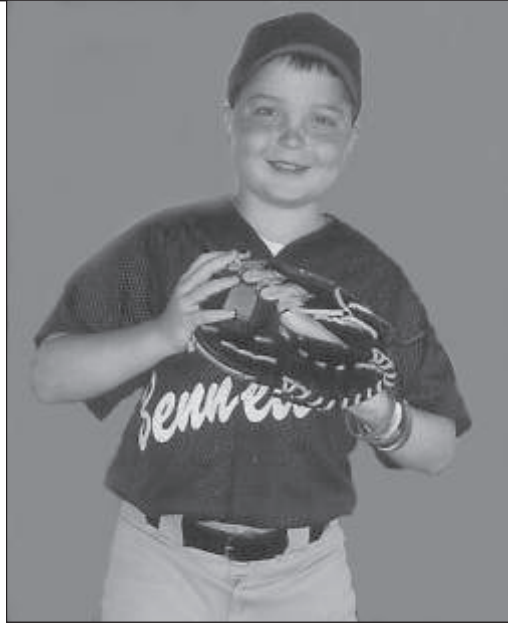
*If you're going through hell,
Keep on going, don't slow down.
If you're scared, don't show it,
You might get out before the devil
even knows you're there.*

The song's verse reminded Logan, and all of us who struggle with the challenges and crosses of life that . . .

*The good news is there's angels
everywhere out on the street,
Holding out a hand to pull you back
up on your feet.*

So, why does God allow young people like Logan to suffer so? That is a question that only Logan and those who have met God face to face know the answer to. **The scriptures of today's Mass tell us . . .**

"My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways," says the Lord. "As high as the heavens are above the earth, so high are my ways above your ways and my thoughts above your thoughts."



Logan Manciocchi

Yesterday, over 300 people, when confronted with that puzzle of life, joined their prayers and voices with confidence, that Logan now rests in that mysterious God's loving embrace. For during times of struggle, God surrounds us with multitudes of earthly angels and heavenly angels to love and support us. Through our struggle, they perhaps come to know the power of faith and the love God has for them as well.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development

This weekend's second collection will support one of the Church's major efforts to help those most in need.

Of the 37 million people considered to be living below the poverty line, 45% work full time but still do not make enough money to feed their families, keep roofs over their heads, and pay for health care.

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) supports community-based projects—founded and managed by the poor themselves—that work toward building a better and more just community where poverty does not exist. You can make a difference. Please donate prayerfully and generously in today's CCHD Collection.

How Do I Become a Roman Catholic?

Later in September, we will begin a series of inquiry meetings for adults interested in knowing more about becoming a member of the Roman Catholic Church. These meetings are especially for adults who have not been baptized and baptized Christians of other faith denominations who might be interested in pursuing full sacramental membership in the Church.

If you, or someone you know might be interested in the Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), please contact Deacon Ray, Fr. Jim or call the parish office.



Is Your Voice Being Heard?

As we begin another school year, we'd like to encourage anyone interested in joining the St. Mary's Choir to feel welcome. The choir is directed by myself. I work closely with my father, Brad Ordway. We are always open to new voices. Our group shares a love of music and we always make worship a fun experience! If you feel called, join us, just see me after Mass. Aubri Ordway

