June 30, 2019

***Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time***

Dear friends in Christ,

I am impressed with the number of folks who joyfully sing at our Masses. It seems to me that our level of participation in singing is a sign of the sincerity of our prayer.

It is an area with great potential in the liturgy to help us to worship God with mind and heart and voice. There is a relatively recent Church document that provides guidance and encouragement for how we are to make use of music during Mass, called Instruction on Music in the Liturgy (1967). In this column, we will consider some of the points of interest.

Starting off, the document indicates the importance of music and singing in the Mass. “Liturgical worship is given a more noble form when it is celebrated in song, with the ministers of each degree fulfilling their ministry and the people participating in it.” (#5)

The document emphasizes that the music we use at Mass is “sacred music”. While there are many forms of music in our culture, little of it is suitable for the liturgy. In fact, the document indicates, “By sacred music is understood that which, being created for the celebration of divine worship, is endowed with a certain holy sincerity of form.” (#4) So, the music we sing in Church is that which has been created intentionally for divine worship. Other music may be beautiful and moving, but unless it has those qualities that sacred music requires, then does not correspond with divine worship.

At St. Michael we have a Mass without a designated singer which falls short of the ideal as the document states, “Provision should be made for at least one or two properly trained singers, especially where there is no possibility of setting up even a small choir. The singer will present some simpler musical settings, with the people taking part, and can lead and support the faithful as far as is needed. The presence of such a singer is desirable even in churches which have a choir, for those celebrations in which the choir cannot take part but which may fittingly be performed with some solemnity and therefore with singing.” (# 21)

The profound connection between what is taking place in heaven as worship and our celebration here is beautifully expressed as well. “Indeed, through this form, prayer is expressed in a more attractive way, the mystery of the liturgy, with its hierarchical and community nature, is more openly shown, the unity of hearts is more profoundly achieved by the union of voices, minds are more easily raised to heavenly things by the beauty of the sacred rites, and the whole celebration more clearly prefigures that heavenly liturgy which is enacted in the holy city of Jerusalem.” (#5)

And then the Church gives me a little encouragement, “Pastors of souls will therefore do all they can to achieve this form of celebration.” (#5) With help of a few voices to lead, I think we can heighten our experience of prayer when we come together to offer our praises to God.

Our Lady of the Angels, pray for us,

**Fr. Martin FlumReadings for the week of July 7, 2019**

***Active Participation - Musicam Sacram***

The faithful fulfil their liturgical role by making that full, conscious and active participation which is demanded by the nature of the liturgy itself and which is, by reason of baptism, the right and duty of the Christian people. This participation

(a) Should be above all internal, in the sense that by it the faithful join their mind to what they pronounce or hear, and cooperate with heavenly grace,

(b) Must be, on the other hand, external also, that is, such as to show the internal participation by gestures and bodily attitudes, by the acclamations, responses and singing.

The faithful should also be taught to unite themselves interiorly to what the ministers or choir sing, so that by listening to them they may raise their minds to God.

One cannot find anything more religious and more joyful in sacred celebrations than a whole congregation expressing its faith and devotion in song. Therefore the active participation of the whole people, which is shown in singing, is to be carefully promoted as follows:

(a) It should first of all include acclamations, responses to the greetings of the priest and ministers and to the prayers of litany form, and also antiphons and psalms, refrains or repeated responses, hymns and canticles.

(b) Through suitable instruction and practices, the people should be gradually led to a fuller—indeed, to a complete—participation in those parts of the singing which pertain to them.

(c) Some of the people's song, however, especially if the faithful have not yet been sufficiently instructed, or if musical settings for several voices are used, can be handed over to the choir alone, provided that the people are not excluded from those parts that concern them. […]

At the proper times, all should observe a reverent silence. Through it the faithful are not only not considered as extraneous or dumb spectators at the liturgical service, but are associated more intimately in the mystery that is being celebrated, thanks to that interior disposition which derives from the word of God that they have heard, from the songs and prayers that have been uttered, and from spiritual union with the priest in the parts that he says or sings himself.

(INSTRUCTION ON MUSIC IN THE LITURGY, *#15-17)*

Sunday:           Is 66:10-14c/Ps 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20 [1]/

 Gal 6:14-18/Lk 10:1-12, 17-20 or 10:1-9

Monday:        Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15ab [cf. 2b]/

 Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday:         Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 [15a]/

 Mt9:32-38
Wednesday:   Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18- 19[22]/Mt 10:1-7

Thursday:       Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday:         Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 [cf. Ps 69:33]/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday:  Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 [cf.

 33] or PS 19:8, 9, 10,11[9a]/Col 1:15-20/Lk10:25- 37

**Vacation Bible School** will be held Mon – Fri, July 15th – July 19th from 9am to noon. Our theme is “Life is Wild \* God is Good”. For more information, contact Vicky Hayden by leaving a message at the parish office 240-681-3551. You can also register your child or donate online through the parish website at h***ttps://stmichaelsbaden.weconnect.com***

**ST. MICHAEL’S MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR NEXT WEEK**

**Saturday, 07/13/19 5pm**

**Rosary Leader:** Joseph Sobnosky **Lector**: Arlene Bloom

**Server:** James Aviles EMHC: Irene Goldsmith

Sunday 07/14/19 **8am**

**Rosary Leader:** Betty Lindsay **Lector**: James Holly

**Server:** Julissa & Jesseca Holly **EMHC:** Betty Lindsay

**Sunday, 07/14/19** 11:30am

**Rosary Leader**: Kevin Mondorff **Lector:** Maureen Ingle

**Server:** Taylor Nickens  **EMHC:** Deacon or Maureen

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday,      07/06/19     5pm  Madonna Parent ****

Sunday,         07/07/19         8am     Parishioners & their families

Sunday,         07/07/19       10am   Deacon John Shewmaker ****

Sunday,         07/07/19   11:30am  Special Intention

Monday, 07/08/19 8am Lorraine Evans ****

Tuesday, 07/09/19 8am David John Connick ****

Wed., 07/10/19 8am Rev. Paul-Stephen Holt ****

Thursday,     07/11/19        8am      Special Intention

Friday, 07/12/19 8am Special Intention

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

For those who suffer from chronic illness especially, Madison Brady, Ann Canter, Charlene Cardwell, Tom Cardwell, Carol Carter, Joyce Chambers, Thomas Chambers, Jackie Chapman, Brianna Daniels, Kathy Fisher, Marie Knobel, Wanda Langley, Adam Lumpkins, Rachel Makle, Regina Nasatka, Joyce Pickeral, Rev. Robert Pittman, Dawn Russo, Lucille Shanks, Dee Smith, Geraldine Stewart, Willie Stewart, George Thomas, and Belinda Windsor, may they not grow weary under their burden but be strengthened by the love God has for them.

**FOOD PANTRY**

The Food Pantry will be open every month on the 2nd Saturday. This month: Next Saturday, **July 13th** from **9am - 11am**. The pantry is in need of pancake mixes, pancake syrups, applesauce’s, fruit cocktails. Jello’s and muffin mixes, as well as the usual staples.

**PARISH DINNER!**

Next weekend we will be hosting many guests from the local community in our parish hall for our annual dinner. The dinner committee has been hard at work behind the scenes to provide a fun experience and a delicious meal. It is an exciting opportunity to show our hospitality and Catholic charity. Of course, it is our major fundraiser as well. We hope to see all of you there!

The sign-up for volunteers for our Parish dinner is going slowly. The volunteers really made the event a spectacular success last year. If you are interested in being a part of the team this year, please contact, CC Meinhardt at 301-440-4295 or Yvette Parker at 301-274-0910.

You may also purchase dinner tickets on-line: ***https://stmichaelsbaden.weconnect.com***

**YOUR SACRIFICIAL OFFERINGS**

**St. Michael’s**

Offertory Collection for June 29th & 30th $ 4,04700

**St. Dominic’s**

Offertory Collection for 30th $ 960.00

**CLOTHES CLOSET**

There is an urgent need for volunteers for the parish Clothes Closet. The work is indoors and at-your-own pace - hours are Wednesdays and Fridays from 10am to 1pm and on the 2nd Saturday of every month (*next Saturday, July 13th*) from 9am to 1pm. If you are able to help keep the doors open & staff the clothes closet, please contact Kathy Fisher at 301-466-5253. As always, donations are welcomed!

**Singers Needed!**

Are you a confident singer with a desire to serve God and His people? St. Michael's is in need of volunteers to lead the singing as an “a cappella” cantor (without accompaniment) Saturday evenings at the 5 PM Mass. We hope to have a few cantors who will rotate throughout the month. Basic training will be provided, and music selections will be made for you; all you have to do is come and sing! The ability to sing on key and familiarity with traditional hymns is necessary; previous cantoring experience is helpful, but not required.

Volunteer cantors (who will be accompanied on the organ) are also needed for the 11:30 AM Mass on Sunday. If you think you could be a good fit for this ministry, please inquire! Contact Joanna at evangelization.stmichaelbaden@gmail.com.

**LITTLE BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN**

Little Bethlehem Christian is a group that represents 200 Christian families who live in Bethlehem the holy land and make their living as wood carvers.  At the Church dinner next Saturday and after all Saturday and Sunday masses, the group represented by the Alsahouri family will display a collection of hand carving olivewood religious items, as they are also for sale. The profit goes to support Christianity in the land of Christ. Please take a minute after mass and look at this beautiful collection of items.