



SEPTEMBER 10, 2023
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sun	9/10	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	Larry & Dorothy Vanden Langenberg by the Family Mass at St John's Sylvester & Dolores Van Boxel
Tues	9/12	8:15 AM	Mass at St John's Alice & Harry Bluma and Deceased Family Members
Wed	9/13	8:15 AM 9:00 AM 9:30 AM	St John's No Services Communion Service Faith Formation
Thurs	9/14	8:15 AM	St John's Communion Service
Fri	9/15	8:15 AM	Members of St Sebastian Parish
Sat	9/16	4:00 PM	Mass at St John's Living & Deceased Members of the Cismoski & Schuster Families
Sun	9/17	8:00 AM 10:00 AM	In Memory of Joyce Cleven by Shirley Roskom Mass at St John's 50th Wedding Anniversary of Dan & Mary VandenHeuvel

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC - RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS
Love and Truth By Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

I think even the most devout, the most pious Catholic reading this could summon to mind, if asked, one or even two examples of Catholic teaching for which they have desperately looked for a loophole.

Don't worry, I won't make you share with the group. But bring it to your mind now: the doctrine you once resented, or perhaps still do. The commandment you don't fully understand, the one you bristle against. The rule you find the hardest to follow. The belief you hate explaining to your friends.

If it disappeared from scripture or dropped out of the catechism, would your life really be easier? Would you be happier?

I am thinking of mine. For a long time, I searched high and low for a way around this particular teaching. I read books and Scripture and tradition, I prayed and reflected and tried to argue with myself. For a time, I gave up complying with it entirely. I threw it to the wind, with a shoulder shrug and a self-satisfied assurance to myself that God, being a loving father, does not want his child to be unhappy.

But reader: I was miserable. I was so, so miserable, and I stayed that way until I finally accepted that God is, indeed, a loving father, and desires nothing less than the unhappiness of his children. And so, to ward it off, he has given us the truth, and asked us to share it amongst ourselves like a cherished heirloom, a priceless inheritance.

To share truth, you must show love. To show love, you must share truth. One demands the other. Because this is what Christ does for us, and this is the mission of the Church in this world. Loosening and binding. Bearing witness. Giving testimony. Speaking truth, and in speaking truth, showing love.

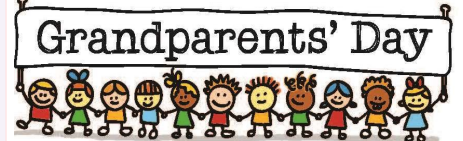
***"If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts."* — Psalm 95**

GOSPEL MEDITATION-ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

What are you supposed to do about the bad behavior of the people around you? You know who I'm talking about. That family member, friend, coworker, or acquaintance who is quite immoral. On this front there are two lively options in our culture: bash the person to others (probably online) or pretend everything's fine. The former damages the person. The latter ignores reality. What to do?

Jesus' strategy in the Gospel of Matthew is as wise as it is difficult: go directly to the person, and then gradually expand the circle of intervention. Simple, often effective, and hard. But what we often miss is the context of the Lord's strategy, "If your *brother* sins against *you*..." Notice the italicized words. Is the person in a Christian familial bond with you? And was the action in question against *you*? If so, proceed with the plan. Fine. But how often we fret over the sins of those who either aren't our spiritual siblings or have done nothing directly to us. This is not an invitation to ignore injustice in the world. Rather, we should build bonds of fraternal love, and carefully discern when and how others' sins are indeed our concern. Sometimes they are. Other times — frequently, perhaps — they simply are not.

— Father John Muir



PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS

Lord Jesus,
you were born of the Virgin Mary,
the daughter of Saints Joachim and Anne.
Look with love on grandparents the world over.
Protect them! They are a source of enrichment
for families, for the Church and for all of society.
Support them! As they grow older,
may they continue to be for their families
strong pillars of Gospel faith,
guardians of noble domestic ideals,
living treasures of sound religious traditions.
Make them teachers of wisdom and courage,
that they may pass on to future generations the fruits
of their mature human and spiritual experience.

Lord Jesus,
help families and society
to value the presence and role of grandparents.
May they never be ignored or excluded,
but always encounter respect and love.
Help them to live serenely and to feel welcomed
in all the years of life which you give them.
Mary, Mother of all the living,
keep grandparents constantly in your care,
accompany them on their earthly pilgrimage,
and by your prayers, grant that all families
may one day be reunited in our heavenly homeland,
where you await all humanity
for the great embrace of life without end. Amen!

DAY/TIME	LECTOR	DISTRIBTORS	GREETERS	SERVERS	USHERS
SUNDAY	Frank Van Ess	Dcn Rich Matuszak		Paden Melchert	Kevin Matuszak
September 17				Graham Kisling	Perry Matuszak

INCOME FOR WEEK:

Church Support	\$ 670.00
Loose Collection	\$ 79.00
Votive Candles	\$ 16.50
Christian Women	\$ 2.00
Missionary Coop Appeal	\$ 356.00
NEW Homeless Shelter	\$ 20.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

WE Energies	\$ 535.30
AON Risk Insurance	\$ 726.41
St John's Cost Share	\$ 5,406.03
St Therese of the Little Flower	\$ 694.60
The Catholic Foundation	\$ 356.00
NEW Homeless Shelter	\$ 20.00
OCP -Liturgical Books	\$ 28.04
Flameless Candles	\$ 64.42

We Are Sponsoring the NEW Community Homeless Shelter Meal this Saturday, September 16th

Please bring your donated food to St John's School on Friday, September 15th (6am to 5pm) OR Saturday, the 16th (6am to 8am). The north door of the school will be open.



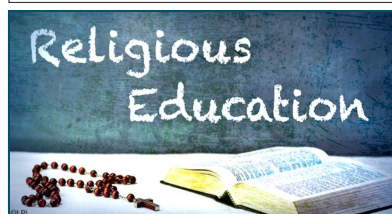
If you are cooking 8:30am in the school.
If you are serving 10:15am at the school to help load and service in Green Bay.

Why Do We Do That? - Catholic Life Explained - Should a Catholic Pursue an Annulment?

Question: After a civil divorce, is a Catholic obligated to pursue an annulment?

Answer: Many Catholics are not exactly sure what an annulment does. An annulment does not deny that a marriage took place, nor does it deny that there once was love. It does not mean that people say anything untrue, such as they never loved each other or that everything in their marriage was wrong. An annulment does not negate children, nor make them illegitimate. An annulment addresses the spiritual aspect of marriage. In effect, an annulment says that at the time of the wedding, there was either something present or something absent that prevented the sacrament from taking place. It is a spiritual determination that, if granted in the affirmative, allows a person to marry in the Church.

Annulments have no legal standing and are unable to be used in a civil court. Therefore, a Catholic has no moral obligation to pursue an annulment. However, when the tragedy of divorce occurs, and there is no hope for reconciliation, annulments may help bring some spiritual closure to a person's life. Some people have found the process to be healing and others have found it to be difficult. Speak to your priest or a member of the Diocesan Tribunal staff to decide what is best for you.



Deadline Is Here!
Be sure to return your
RE Registration packet ASAP
If you have not received one,
please contact Laurie
at the Parish Office.

We are excited to continue
learning and growing in our
faith, starting October 1, 2023!

~ We Hope You Are Too ~

Thank you to
Bonnie Laskowski
for sponsoring
the September Bulletin
in memory of
Ron's Anniversary of Death
(9/17/1991) and their
60th Wedding Anniversary
(9/28/1963)
With Love, Bonnie



PATRIOT DAY



Everyday Stewardship

by Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

I have to smile when I read in St. Paul's Letter to the Romans, "Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another." I smile because I know that in today's world few people owe nothing to anyone. We have credit card debt, mortgages, student loans, car loans, and new loans to consolidate old loans. It would seem that we actually owe everything to everyone.

These debts are of this world. I am pretty sure no one residing in heaven is still making mortgage payments. We have created contracts in this world to make possible certain transactions of goods, services, and shelter. But there is one thing that we naturally owe one another and that lasts longer than our time on earth: love.

You do not need to take out a loan to have more love to give. There also is no limit to the love you have been given to share. However, it is the one gift that we sometimes treat with the least respect. We hold back love due to sins of pride, prejudice, and apathy. We distort and manipulate love for our own gain and selfish desires. We can find ourselves placing more importance on the things for which we have taken out loans than the love that is eternal.

I am trying the best I can to get to a point where I no longer owe anything to banks and mortgage lenders. I don't want to leave this world owing anyone for the earthly things I had in this life. But even more importantly, I realize the shame it would be to leave people behind that didn't get enough love from me. There is nothing greater than love.

Ministry of the Sick: Please notify the parish office if a member of your family is confined to their home or is hospitalized. Also, please inform the hospital of your affiliation with your parish.

Baptisms: Please call the parish office two months in advance.

Marriage: Please call St. John's parish office eight months in advance.

Funeral Arrangements: Please call St. John's parish office.

Anointing of the Sick and Dying: Please call St. John's parish office.

Fr. Sengole Dass
St. John Parish Office - 833-6140

DC. Richard Matuszak
833-2294 or 609-5292

St Sebastian Parish Office - 833-2558
Current Hours: Mon & Thurs 8:00 – 4:00
Wed: 8:30 - Noon, Closed: Tues & Fri