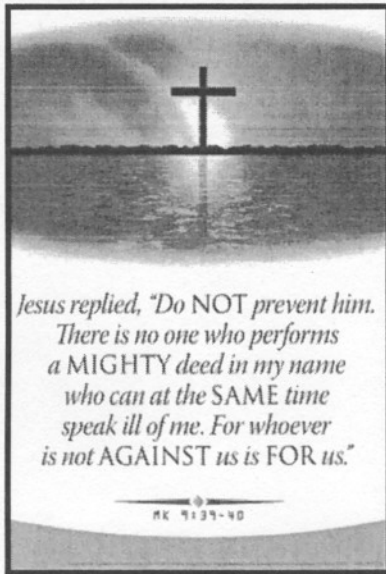


26th SUNDAY—ORDINARY TIME  
September 27, 2009



*Jesus replied, "Do NOT prevent him. There is no one who performs a MIGHTY deed in my name who can at the SAME time speak ill of me. For whoever is not AGAINST us is FOR us."*

**REFLECTION**

In the first reading and the gospel, we see God's power working through "outsiders." But Moses' deputy, Joshua, complains when two men start prophesying, men who were not among the seventy who were with Moses when the Lord bestowed the spirit. Similarly

John tells Jesus how we tried to prevent someone from driving out demons in Jesus' name. Both Jesus and Moses have similar reactions: Good for God!

Both Jesus and Moses recognized that God's spirit blows where it will: it sometimes ends up in the strangest places, working through very unexpected people. At the same time, no one can presume that the Spirit will always be working through a particular group or the proper channels. We must be careful of trying to box in or corral the spirit of God.

Have you ever been surprised at God's choice of working partners?

Who are the "little one's" that Jesus speaks of?

What is your first reaction to Jesus' words about cutting off a hand or leg or plucking out an eye rather than letting anything lead you to sin? Was Jesus just exaggerating for effect?

We ask for the discernment to recognize when God is working in unexpected ways through unexpected people who do unexpected things...and for the wisdom to distinguish the wise from the wacky, much less the wicked. And we pray both that we never let ourselves fall from grace or lead another away from God.

*This past Saturday evening at mass we had an incident in our scrip room. Thank God that no one was hurt, but that incident has caused me great concern over the safety of our volunteers, especially in the scrip room.*

*In speaking with the Diocese, I was advised that we could no longer sell scrip out of the Usher Room in the rear of the church. It has become too much of a risk for our parish. I was also informed that we are not the only parish that is having to address issues such as these.*

*At a meeting of the Finance Council on Monday, September 21st, I presented this incident, the mandate from the Diocese and my own concerns regarding the scrip program. Ever since Giant Eagle has been offering gift cards for purchase, which gives consumers money off gas purchases, and places like Sam's Club being able to sell these same certificates at a discount cost, our program has suffered considerably.*

*The Finance Council has advised me that it was time that we discontinue our involvement in the scrip program once we sell out of our current inventory. We do have a great deal of scrip on hand and it will be available in the rectory office before and after all masses and during regular office hours. I thank you for your support through the years, and it is very sad that we have to stop a program that has benefited our school throughout our years of involvement.*

**WEEKLY OFFERTORY COLLECTION**

**Weekend of September 20, 2009**

**Offertory Collection — \$7,583.03**

**Budgeted Collection Amount \$8,100.00**

*Thank you for your sacrificial offering to your parish.*

*Have a Blessed Week.*



## SCHOOL NEWS

### Progress Reports

Progress Reports will be distributed to students on Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. Parents are to review and return the signed report.

### Early Dismissal

Students will have an early dismissal on Wednesday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am. Please remember that Penn Hills students will not have bus transportation home. Extended care will be available. Students staying for extended care are reminded to bring a bag lunch with drink.

### Mass



Please join Mrs. Conn and the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders at mass on Thursday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 am. The students have worked very hard to prepare for this mass.

### Oakland Catholic

Please keep our 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls in your prayers as they visit Oakland Catholic on Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The girls will have the opportunity to tour this fabulous school.

### Entertainment Books

Entertainment Books are still on sale in the school office. You can purchase an Entertainment book for \$20.00. Please contact the school office. They will also be available after all masses the weekend

## **Religious Education News**

**RCIA** classes will begin on Monday September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. The location is St Joseph Parish, Verona, in the school building. If you are interested in attending any of these sessions to learn more about the call to become Catholic, please call the rectory at your earliest convenience.



The Ladies of Charity of St. Bartholomew's Parish wishes to extend our sincere thanks to all the members of the parish who made donations last weekend to our plea for help. Your generosity will indeed help us in our ministries for the aged homebound, poor and the grieving. You will be rewarded a hundredfold by Our Dear Lord. Thank you and may God Bless You.

The Ladies of Charity,  
St. Bartholomew Parish

## **FESTIVAL NEWS**



⇒ **Additional raffle tickets are available at the rectory.**

⇒ **We are still accepting items from the Wish List.**

**We are in need of 12 ounce cans of Pepsi and Coke products.**

⇒ **Volunteers are needed to help in the booths, sign up sheets are in the back of the church.**

⇒ **Pray for good weather!!**



**WHEELING ISLAND**

The St. Bart's Men's Club is sponsoring a bus trip to Wheeling Island. The one day trip will be on Monday, October 12, 2009. Tickets are \$20.00 and you will receive \$10.00 back for gambling and a free buffet, or \$10.00 towards gambling and a \$10.00 food voucher. Please call Andy Merola at 412-247-5435 or Pat McCafferty at 412-795-2593 for more information and reservations.



**Want a healthy marriage? Take regular walks together. It might start as a way to get exercise but the real benefit is the couple time. You don't need to be constantly talking, but some conversation will probably slip out between your steps.**

26th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



**During these hard economic times you might not find much to smile about. Smile anyway. Smile at your child's silly behavior, your neighbor's peculiarities, the stranger you pass on the street or in the car. It won't right all the wrongs of the world, but it can change your attitude which then ripples through the people near you and far.**



**MONDAY, September 28, Weekday**

10:00 AM Margaret & Ben Cohn (Pastor Family, Son)

**TUESDAY, September 29, Michael.**

**Gabriel, Raphael, Archangels**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus  
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Joseph

**WEDNESDAY, September 30, Jerome**

8:00 AM St. Irenaeus  
9:00 AM St. Gerard Majella, St. Susanna  
7:00 PM **Holy Hour**

**THURSDAY, October 1, Therese of Child Jesus**

10:00 AM Ernest Restori (The Lesko Family)

**FRIDAY, October 2, Guardian Angels**

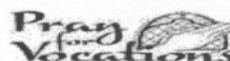
10:00 AM Frank Porco (St. Bart's Bulletin Stuffers)

**SATURDAY October 3, Vigil 27th Sunday Ordinary Time**

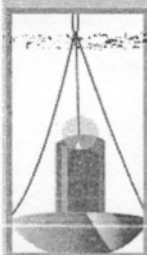
4:00 PM **CONFESSIONS**  
5:00 PM Arthur Mulach (Marie & Family)

**SUNDAY, October 4, 27th Sunday Ordinary Time**

8:00 AM People of the Parish  
10:30 AM William DeSantis, Sr. (Family)



Please remember in your prayers the sick, shut-ins, and hospitalized members of our Parish.



The Sanctuary Candle is lit this week in memory of Richard Navari from his family