

The Deed's Deed. "Only, conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ." This is the challenge posed by St. Paul in today's second reading from Philippians. Essentially everyone is to conduct themselves in a Christ like fashion according to the Gospel.

Throughout the years Christian comportment has been taught by countless men and women who not only use words but also example. On this Catechetical Sunday we thank Almighty God for the men and women in our parish who teach the Christian way in our parish school, CCD program, and children's Liturgy of the Word. The Gospel for today indicates that Christ's way is often different than the way of the world. Let us pray during this observance of Catechetical Sunday that all our catechists will continue to faithfully show the Christian way in word and deed. A list of all of our catechists is found below.

The Christian way is first taught in the home. And so we also pray this week for all parents and guardians who lay the foundation and partner with our catechists. Religious education either in our school or CCD program is incomplete without Sunday Mass and Eucharist. While the way of the world today is often to downplay and even dismiss the obligation of Sunday Mass, the Church views Sunday liturgy as part and parcel of our Christian life. Parents need to do everything in their power to see that their children attend Mass. In fact, on the day of their child's baptism, every parent makes a promise, as part of the baptismal ritual, to do all in their power to bring their children up in the ways of the faith. As a result, as sharers in the celebration of God's Word, today is a good day to renew the promise made at baptism. Please note that there will be an Open House for all parents and students of our CCD program following today's 10:30 AM Mass.

Next Sunday, Bishop Paul Bradley will preach and preside at the 10:30 AM Mass and bless the new sculpture. Out of respect for the Church and the Office of Bishop, I kindly ask that we all dress in our Sunday bests and thereby refrain from shorts,

t-shirts, jeans and tennis shoes.

Good luck to the Women's Group as they will have their first card party on Saturday, September 24 in Helzlsouer Hall.

Thanks to your generosity our parish raised over \$10,000.00 for Hurricane Relief. Once again our parish family rose to the occasion.

The Anointing of the Sick Mass will take place on Sunday, October 2 at 12:30 PM. The Ladies of Charity will be in the vestibule to register those who are in need of this Sacrament. Later that same day, we will conduct the Annual Blessing of Pets at 3:00 PM in observance of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi which actually occurs on October 4. I will stand up on the landing of the sidewalk near the new steps (side entrance) for this blessing. All pets are welcome. This is a brief service that has been done with the school children previously. However, this year we are having it on a Sunday. In the event of bad weather, the blessing will take place in the gym.

Have an awesome week!

Catechetical Teachers

Terri Bistarkey	Rob Lester
Betsy Bissonette	Karla and Kevin Owens
Dennis Donahoe	Cindy Pina
Ann Dugan	Albert and Lesa Pugliese
Susan Duncan	Gary Rick
Wendy Fishinger	Connie Skindzier
Colleen Ford	Sr. Mary Joseph Trimbur
Barbara Frantangelo	Lynne Trzyna
Donna Gobble	Joanne Turka
Bebe Habina	Lindsey Valenti
Lynn Huber	Barbara and Joseph Vento
Sarah and Nate LaMontagne	Denise Verosky



School News with Mrs. Fleet

All Innisbrook fundraising orders are due back to school on Monday, September 19.

St. Bart's School will conduct a Health and Beauty Aid drive the week of September 19 to 23. All donations will benefit the needy in our area.

There is an SBAA meeting on Monday evening, September 19, at 6:30 PM in the school library.

Market Day pick-up is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, from 5:15 to 6:00 PM in the school gym.

There is an 11:15 AM dismissal on Friday, September 23 due to a faculty meeting. Extended Care will be available from 11:15 AM to 6:00 PM this day.

Please join us for Mass on Friday, September 23, at 10:00 AM. Ms. Valenti and our sixth graders will help to prepare our liturgy.

Our Student Council will meet on Wednesday, September 21, 2005. All members are excited about our new school year!

We continue to save all Campbell product labels, Box Tops for Education, Shop n' Save receipts and elementary school friendly paper. The paper may even be used on one side. Also, we can use colored paper, all shades, for making special copies. Thank you for your generosity!

Registrations are still open for all students from three-year-old Preschool through our eighth grade. Please call the school office at 412-242-2511 for further information.

Card Party

This weekend tickets for the Fall Fantasy Luncheon and Card Party will be on sale in the vestibule. Tickets are \$8.00 for September 24 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 PM, in Helzlsouer Hall. A silent auction and 50-50 raffle will be available. Any unused door prizes gratefully accepted. Call Joan at 412-731-2655. For reservations call Katherine at 412-798-9819.

MEN'S CLUB

Gentlemen of the parish, take note: Keep Saturday, October 8, 2005 clear on your calendar! We have very special guest former Pittsburgh Steeler Rocky Blier scheduled to speak at a meeting that night. Watch the bulletin for further information!

Religious Education News

Additional forms are available in the rectory if needed.

We are still in need of those who are feeling the call to teach our young ones, experience not necessary! Please call the CCD office or rectory.

Blessings to all!

BINGO

See you at Bingo, Monday nights at 7:00 PM in Helzlsouer Hall!

A Respect Life Meditation

(Dr. Paul Byrne, St. Vincent's Medical Center, Bridgeport, Ct.) "I have never read a medical text or heard of any medical doctor stating that what exists at conception is not a human life. Simply stated, before abortion there is life, after abortion there is death."

We pray that all doctors, nurses, and medical personnel will view their vocation as an extension of Jesus' healing mission and protect life from conception until natural death.

Sacrament of Anointing

The Sacrament of Anointing will be held at a special 12:30 PM Mass on Sunday, October 2, 2005. If you or anyone you know is in need of this sacrament, please join us. There will be light refreshments in the vestibule after Mass. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Sr. Dorothy at 412-242-7357.

Lancaster Bus Trip

We will be going on an over-night trip to see a performance of *The Miracle of Christmas* at the Millennium Theatre. The bus will leave St. Bartholomew's parking lot at 7:45 AM on Friday, November 18, 2005 and return on Saturday, November 19, at 8:00 PM. Reservations are now being accepted and must be accompanied by a \$50.00 deposit. Oh yeah, the cost of this momentous excursion is a price of \$195.00 per person, double occupancy, and includes dinner Friday and breakfast Saturday. Gentlemen are welcome on this trip as well. We still need to fill about 20 seats on the bus, so if you are interested, please call. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Dorothy at 412-242-7357 or Jessica at 412-242-3374.

Seek the Lord

In today's opening reading, Isaiah urges us to "seek the LORD" who is "near" and can be "found" (Isaiah 55:6). Then Isaiah says God's ways are as high above our ways "as the heavens are above the earth" (Isaiah 55:9). So we search, not because God is hiding, but because our tendencies are so different from God's ways that we get lost.

How are God's ways so high above our ways? The example Isaiah gives is that God's way is to be "generous in forgiving" (Isaiah 55:7). And our way? We try to be "fair." You hurt me, so then I hurt you back, just as hard. Then, of course, you . . . And on it goes.

In today's Gospel Jesus teaches that God is not "fair" like that. Instead, God is so generous we can hardly understand it. The same wage for one hour as for a whole day of work? Not fair! "Seek the Lord," and we might find a God who calls us to be, not fair, but generous beyond expectations.

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Treasures from our Tradition

Over time, the severe form of one-chance penance collapsed under lack of enthusiasm for its burdens and its public nature. As ordinary Christians prayed for the great sinners, it must have occurred to them that they were sinners no less, and they required a form of penance also. The Irish came to the rescue, never having had a public form of penance, but inventing a system called "tariff penance," which was completely private, available to everyone, and wildly popular. After a detailed confession, priest and penitent would lie on the floor before the altar and recite a number of psalms. The priest then pronounced a judgment, a tariff, giving a task or a prayer to complete before reconciliation.

The surviving guidebooks for confessors make for hair-raising reading as the sins of which the Irish people were supposedly capable were catalogued and keyed to penances. Cattle or sheep rustling might require stripping down to sing psalms in an icy brook, for example, or adultery could be the occasion for rolling in a thicket of thorns. All of this might have stayed in Ireland had not the monks had a desire to travel, blazing across Europe with their theology and their rituals, and their sense that Christians needed strong medicine for sin and the assurance of God's forgiveness. —James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Mass Intentions



MON., September 19 - St. Januarius

10:00 A.M. Audrey Ruefle (The Hertweck Family)

TUES., September 20 - Sts. Andrew Kim Taegon, Paul Chong Hasang, & Companions

10:00 A.M. Yolanda Rinchiuso (Women's Group)

WED., September 21 - St. Matthew

7:00 P.M. Holy Hour

THURS., September 22 - Weekday

10:00 A.M. Deceased Ferla & Henninger Families
(Lois Ferla)

FRI., September 23 - Weekday

10:00 A.M. Theresa Molchen (Husband Matt Molchen)
6:00 P.M. Rehearsal: Milos-Cerminara

SAT., September 24 - Weekday

10:00 A.M. Mike & Helen Andrejco (Family)
1:00 P.M. Renewal of Vows: Mike & Colleen Ford
3:00 P.M. Wedding: Jonathon Milos-Stacey
Cerminara

5:00 P.M. Samuel F. Bagnato (Wife Rose Bagnato)

SUN., September 25 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 A.M. Henry & Elivera Summerville (Fran & Earl Schomburger)
10:30 A.M. People of the Parish

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

Prayers are also requested for the faithful departed.

Theresa Gismondi, Carolyn Pucci, and Rose Antonucci

Sisters of St. Francis of Millvale

Have you been educated by a Sister of St. Francis of Millvale? If so, we invite you to reconnect and rekindle with your former teachers and classmates during a special reunion event on Sunday, October 16, 2005. For more information, please contact Michlon Kerlin, development director, by phone at 412-821-2200, ext. 217, or by email at kerlin@millvalefranciscans.org.

From Tense to Tranquil

"From Tense to Tranquil" is a new six-week series offered by Catholic Charities, designed to help participants let go of anxiety and find peace in the present moment. It will be held on Monday evenings beginning October 10, 2005. This group meets in downtown Pittsburgh and there is a nominal fee. For more information or to schedule the required pre-admission interview, please call 412-456-6999 by October 4, 2005.