

# Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 1, 2017

## Upcoming Lector Workshops

The upcoming lector workshops will take place on October 17, 18, and 19 at 7:00 P.M.

- Tuesday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, St. John the Baptist, Walton
- Wednesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, St. Peter, Delhi
- Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, Holy Family, Downsville

All current and aspiring lectors are encouraged to attend.

## Lector Training Sign-Up

There is a need for additional lectors at all three Churches. If you are interested in lector training to be held October 16, 17, and 18 at all three Churches, please sign up in the vestibule.

## Annual Luncheon at Rainbow Lodge

Come for fellowship, delicious fare, and beautiful October scenery on Thursday, October 12, at 12:30 pm at the Rainbow Lodge in Walton. Ordering is off their extensive menu. Call Kathy to reserve your seat by October 6 at 865.4734.

## Penny Social

With this year's event fast approaching on Friday, November 3, gently used items would be appreciated (no clothing). Also, please consider putting together a basket with a friend or family member. Donations of gift cards for our specials table or non-perishable food items for our food basket raffle would also be greatly appreciated.

Dropping off items: If you have any items you would like to donate, they may be dropped off Monday thru Friday between 10 am and 4 pm. Please call Jim O'Dell at the office (extension 3) to let him know when you would like to stop in and if you need help unloading.

Book Group: Wednesday 2 pm at Hilda's.

## St. Peter Coffee Hour Today

Please stop in the Rectory after 9:30 Mass for coffee and refreshments.

## 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Fatima

Noon, Saturday, October 14

Please join us to say the Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary on the public sidewalk near the Veteran's Plaza in Walton. Everyone is invited to attend to honor Our Lady and her miracle of the sun, and most especially to ask her to stop the moral decay, not only of our own country, but also the whole world. Please arrive ten minutes before noon. (This is the closest to October 13 when the sun danced at Fatima, Portugal.)

## Walton Blood Drive

A blood drive is scheduled for October 12, from 11:30 am to 5:30 pm, at United Presbyterian, East & North Streets. To make your appointment (required), please call 800. REDCROSS.

## Family Perspective Bud Ozar

Jesus asks "*What is your opinion?*" What is your opinion? Why do we think our opinion is dogma or fact? An opinion is only how we perceive a situation or how we feel comfortable doing something. Don't argue over or become divided by "your opinion."

## Colchester Food Bank

Please drop one or more of these items at Holy Family: cans of pasta, tuna, stew, chili, pasta sauce; fruit, jelly, graham crackers, spaghetti, peanut, boxed mashed potatoes, stuffing; soap, toilet paper, personal care items. You may also drop items directly to the Colchester Community Food Bank, which is open Wednesdays 1 to 2:30 pm.

Reconciliation Saturday  
at St. John from 3 to 3:30 pm.

## Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

Ways to Turn your Beloved Off #1: Be too busy. Romance cannot always fit neatly into a schedule. Do you have enough open, flexible time in your married life to flirt, follow a whim, or postpone a less urgent priority? Does #1 ring true for you? If not, good.

## *Dominican Retreat Center* 518.393.4169

**October 13-15:** Weekend Retreat for Women Concerned with Alcoholism ~ "Growing Toward Wholeness: Healing and Self-Care." We are all on a life-long journey toward freedom -- freedom from whatever holds us captive and freedom for whatever gives us life. We will experience meditations and other modalities that will help us on our road to ongoing recovery, One Day At a Time!

Director: Susan M. Leslie, OP, MPT Cost: \$205.

## Upcoming Marriage Encounters

*"The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone."* Listen with your spouse for God's message of love by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. Next Weekends: November 3 - 5 in Albany and October 21 - 22 in Contoocook, New Hampshire.

Call Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518.279.3243 or visit them at [wwmenyalb.org](http://wwmenyalb.org).

## DVH "Living with Alzheimer's Series

Are you a middle-stage Alzheimer caregiver? Then this three part series will be helpful with professionals and caregivers discussing strategies to provide safe, comfortable, and effective care. Dates: October 5, 12, and 19 from 1-3 pm at Delaware Valley Hospital Finance Building, 20 West Street, Walton. To register, please call Ann at 547.1650.

## Lectio Divina

Matthew 21:28-32

*What is your opinion?* (v28) Jesus asks His listeners (the high priests and elders) to give their opinion. These are the ones who, from fear of the people, would not give an answer as to the origin of John the Baptist, whether he was from heaven or from earth and who will seek a way to arrest Him.

*Which of the two did the father's will?* (v31) Jesus ends by making explicit His initial question. The priests and elders answer promptly, "The second!" The answer came quickly because the matter concerned one that they experienced in their own families and probably practiced by them when they were young. Thus, the answer was a judgement not on the two sons but also on themselves.

*I tell you solemnly, tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the kingdom of God before you!* (v31) Thus, by means of the parable, Jesus turns everything upside down: those who were considered transgressors of the Law and therefore condemned, were in truth those who had obeyed God and tried to walk the way of justice, while those who considered themselves obedient to the Law of God, were in fact those who disobeyed God.

The reason for this harsh judgement from Jesus on them is because they previously would not believe that John the Baptist came from God. The publicans and the prostitutes, however, believed. This means that for Jesus the ability to recognize the active presence of God in persons and things of life was not in the priests or their leaders, but it was in those who were despised as sinners and unclean.

Anyone who wishes to apply this parable today would probably provoke the same anger that Jesus did through His conclusion as the same thing happens now. Prostitutes, sinners, the ignorant, black persons, some women, children, prisoners, homosexuals, persons with AIDS, drunkards, drug addicts, divorced persons, atheists, unmarried mothers, the unemployed, the illiterate, the sick, and all those marginalized as not part of the religious circle, frequently have a sharper outlook in perceiving the way of justice rather than those of us who attend church. It is not because a person belongs to a Church, therefore, that he or she has a pure outlook that allows them to perceive the things of God in life.