

Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 12, 2017

Ministry Schedule Updates Due Wednesday

New lectors: If you would like to join this ministry and have attended one of the training sessions, please call the pertinent contact below with your preferred Mass day, days away, and contact information.

Current Ministers: If you will be away during the first half of 2018, contact Nancy, 865.6879, Doreen, 865.6724 (St. John/Holy Family) and Debbie, 746.2503 (St. Peter).

Annual Delhi Thanksgiving Dinner

The Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner is November 23, from 12-3 pm at the Delhi Fire Hall. Delivery to shut-ins available with advance notice, please call 746.3858. Check sign-up sheet to see what items need to be donated. Volunteers still needed.

Pastoral Care Ministry Meeting Today

Pastoral care ministry is modeled on the Gospels and Jesus' example of love and concern for the sick and those separated from their family, friends and community. Outreach of the pastoral care minister/volunteer usually includes offering visitation, prayer, and Holy Communion to those who are elderly, sick, homebound, or in a nursing home.

Please contact Sally Scrimshaw at Mass, call 746.8580, or e-mail: sallyscrim@gmail.com if you are interested in this ministry of immense love. There will be a meeting today the 12th at 3 pm at Sally's house in Delhi where we will share fellowship, short videos from caregivers and recipients, prayer, & light refreshments.

"Conversation, Questions, & Answers"

On Tuesday, December 12, at 7 pm in Father Willis Hall the Knights of Columbus will sponsor "Conversation, Questions, & Answers" with Father Golding. Some topics to be discussed: the 500th anniversary of the Reformation, the impact of the Crusades, and an overview of Catholicism. Light refreshments will be provided.

Next Knights Meeting: 12/4, 6 pm at St. Peter.

St. John Coffee Hour next Sunday.

Human Development Campaign

Next weekend there will be a collection for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development. Four ways to actively participate in helping to eradicate poverty in the United States are:

1. LEARN about those living in poverty (usccb.org/cchd/collection);
2. ACT and spread the word about poverty;
3. CONNECT with the work of this collection by supporting it;
4. PRAY for those who benefit from our support.

Since its inception in 1970 as a domestic anti-poverty program, the Campaign has and will continue to empower our poor and marginalized sisters and brothers to join together and make decisions to improve their lives and neighborhoods. Thank you for your prayers and donations.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

"Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

Let us appreciate our spouses by attending a Marriage Encounter Weekend. The upcoming weekends are: January 19-21 in South Kingstown, Rhode Island and February 2-4 in Manchester, Connecticut. For information, Ed & Rhonda Staats at 518.279.3243 or visit them at wwmenyalb.org.

Marriage Moments Susan Vogt

Whoever seeks Wisdom shall quickly be free from care. *Wisdom 6:15*

Besides marrying you, what is a wise thing your beloved recently did or said?

Thanksgiving Worship Services on the 19th

Join the local church communities to give thanks to our benevolent Lord for all His blessings:

St. John Episcopal Church, Delhi at 4 pm

Christ Episcopal Church, Walton at 6:45 pm

Life-Giving Gift Ideas for Christmas

CRS: Want a creative gift idea which will have a long-lasting impact? Catholic Relief Services has gift ideas that have the power to change the lives of people facing hunger and poverty, and will show your loved ones just how much you care!

Just a few gifts available: \$25 provides health exams for 12 children; \$60 buys two pigs to help increase farmers' earnings; \$80 buys one lamb or kid which aids farm families' diets and income; \$165 buys a survivor's kit for girls rescued from trafficking providing a month's supply of food, medicine, bedding, clothing, etc.

Pick your gifts online at gifts.crs.org and dedicate a special card for your gift recipients notifying them with the news of your life-giving gift! There are gifts for our military personnel and gifts your kids can give: samaritanspurse.org/atalog.

Samaritan's Purse: For life-transforming gifts which spread the hope of the Gospel, Samaritan's Purse has 42 gifts of hope. Some ways to touch people's lives around the world: \$25 (to share the \$2,500 cost) to repair an entire home of a persecuted Christian; \$75 to save the lives and improve the health of mothers and their babies (\$9 to feed a hungry baby for a week); \$25 (share the \$250 cost) to provide treatment for children with crippling birth defects or injuries; \$100 provides emergency medical care after a catastrophic event.

Family Perspective Bud Ozar

The bridesmaids in the Gospel today were considered 'foolish' because they let their lamps go out. Don't be foolish -- pay attention to the small acts necessary to keep the flame alive in ALL your relationships!

Colchester Food Bank

Items may be dropped off at Holy Family: jelly, peanut butter, graham crackers, spaghetti; boxes of mashed potatoes, stuffing. The Colchester Food Bank is open Wednesdays 1 to 2:30 pm if you would like to donate there. Thank you.

Parenting Pointers Susan Vogt

Thirty percent of the nation's homeless adults have a history of foster care. Consider whether your family is in a position to provide a permanent home for a foster child. A loving family can break this sad cycle, and November is National Adoption Month.

Gospel Reflection

Jesus told the story about ten maidens waiting for a bridegroom to return home with his new bride. Five of the maidens came with enough oil to keep their lamps burning through the night--the other five foolishly brought none. The maidens needed oil to keep their lamps burning in order to be ready for the bridegroom. Clearly this is about the end times and our being ready for it.

Reflection for Families

Sometimes we grow impatient when we read the scriptures that anticipate Christ's return. It's been two thousand years and not a word! It's easy for all of us to be lulled into complacency by such silence, but we not only have a responsibility to ourselves to be prepared, we must impress upon our children the importance of being ready for Jesus when He returns. One way to do this is show our children how the Kingdom of God has already begun. Even though the Kingdom is not complete yet, we can point out signs where life today is in some ways already like the Kingdom. For example people loving one another, caring for one another, and reaching out to one another in kindness are all ways that point toward the coming Kingdom.

Dominican Retreat Center 518.393.4169

December 1-3: Advent Silent Men and Women's Retreat: "Too Blessed or Too Stressed." We'll focus on the passage from Matthew in which Jesus invites all who labor and are heavy burdened to come to Him so that He can give us rest and replace our burdens with the yoke of Christ. Come reflect on the forces that push and drive our choices and priorities and examine what we may be able to lay down, and not only lose nothing, but gain freedom and peace. And finally, to discern what burdens, crosses, or yokes we are being asked to carry by Christ. Director: Fr. Raymond Dlugos, OSA \$205