# *16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time*

JULY 18, 2021



#### **MINISTRY OF COMFORT**

A new ministry is being formed to support and console those who have lost a loved one.

Spearheaded by Julie Laurenzi, a retired social worker who was recently widowed, the **Consolation Ministry** will be comprised of a small core team of volunteers who have completed an orientation regarding grief and bereavement with her.

Ministry members will reach out to grieving families immediately following a death, delivering a packet of appropriate information and resources. Whenever possible, they will attend wakes and funerals. Cards and notes will be sent and at a family's request, they will visit – especially during holidays and anniversaries.

If you are interested, please contact Julie directly at 518-225-1170 or Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com



- 5 p.m.: The Faleni Family, Eileen Exiner, Jack Hoag and Clare Costello
- 10 a.m.: Thiego Domingues da Silva, Tina Sanabria, Frances Hernandez and Gaye Collins



## TODAY'S READINGS

#### Reading I: Jeremiah 23: 1-6

The passage tells readers about the future king of Israel and Judah, who will be a "righteous shoot of David." The former kings were bad actors and misleading shepherds of the people.

#### Reading II: Ephesians 2: 13-18

Jesus' blood has made Him the agent of peace between both Jews and Gentiles and the same between God and humanity. He has created one new person out of the two.

#### The Gospel: Mark 6: 30-34

This scene comes right before the feeding of the 5,000. The disciples participate in Christ's work; then we learn His followers are in "great numbers;" and finally of His compassion for the needy crowd.



#### **MOST UNIVERSAL, MOST PERSONAL**

When only our minds and hands work together, we quickly become dependent on the results of our actions and tend to give up when they do not materialize.

In the solitude of the heart, we can truly listen to the pains of the world because there we can recognize them not as strange and unfamiliar pains, but as pains that are indeed our own. There we can see that what is most universal is most personal, and that nothing human is strange to us. There we can feel that the cruel reality of history is the reality of the human heart, our own included, and that to protest asks, first of all, for a confession of our own participation in the human condition.

There we can indeed respond.

Hemi Y ch. Nouwen

"Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak." - St. Anthony of Padua



## I WEAR MY MASK IN PUBLIC FOR THREE REASONS:

- HUMILITY: I don't know if I have COVID as it is clear that people can spread the disease before they have symptons.
- KINDNESS: I don't know if the person I am near has a child battling cancer, or cares for their elderly mom. While I might be fine, they might not.
- COMMUNITY: I want my community to thrive, businesses to stay open, employees to stay healthy. Keeping a lid on COVID helps us all!

#### **DEEP CLEANING SCHEDULED**

THE ENTIRE CHURCH BUILDING WILL BE CLOSED **Monday-Friday July 26-30**, during which time the church, hall, classrooms, bathrooms, etc. will be scrubbed and sanitized. All the floors will be stripped and refinished, and carpets cleaned, too.

Mass schedules will not be interrupted. Voicemail and email will be checked for emergencies.

#### **NEW RE-REGISTRATION DATES**

Because of a scheduling conflict, RELIGIOUS EDUCATION RE-REGISTRATION HAS BEEN PUSHED BACK A WEEK. Currently-enrolled children will now be re-registered from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 3**, and **Wednesday, August 4**.

If these dates are not do-able - or for children who have not yet participated here but are either entering first grade or relocating from another parish - please contact Jessica Carpino, religious education coordinator, at 361-5816.

### ARE YOU ARTSY?

And do you have some free time during Advent and Lent? If so, you might want to consider becoming the **coordinator of the Art & Environment Ministry**, which is primarily responsible for the beautification of the church during Christmas and Easter.

There are photos from previous years to inspire and many hands that typically heed the call for help on decorating and undecorating days.

For more information, call the office at 361-3107.

#### **RELIGIOUS ITEMS' PICKUP DELAYED**

St. Mary Mission was en route via tractor-trailer from Lancaster, PA, to our "neighborhood" last week to collect unwanted religious items. At stop No. 8, the organizers were greeted with hundreds of boxes – enough to overload the truck and force it to turn back.

It will return the week of **August 9**, so you have a little more time to gather those goods.

### YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATE

Last week, participants responded to: "Where or how do you feel most connected to God?"

Outside in nature was the most common answer. But seeing a miraculous event or being with family, considered the greatest gift, also inspired that connection.

For others, the dark of night brings God closer, whether alone in their room and during devotional time, or simply riding in a car, peering into the darkness.

Scriptures were then shared:

**Romans 12:9** - Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good.

**Isaiah 40:8** - The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of our God endures forever.

**Matthew 5:9** - Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

**Isaiah 60:22** - The least of you will become a thousand, the smallest a mighty nation. I am the Lord; in its time I will do this swiftly.

## A CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE

Women religious have long ministered to people experiencing homeless or inadequate housing by



running shelters and programs geared toward helping people stay off the streets. But rather than wait for a tsunami of evictions to occur on the other side of the moratorium prompted by the pandemic, sisters nationwide have

started organizing fundraisers for rent and utility relief.

"This pandemic just highlighted what everybody paying attention already knew," said Matt Janeczko, executive director of the Sisters of Charity of New York's housing program.

To read the full article, visit:

https://urldefense.com/v3/ https://www.globalsistersre port.org/news/coronavirus/millions-renters-owe-billionsdollars-sisters-are-doing-whatthey :!!CKtKgcab!1agr1mB79ulZQOvY-

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#### **SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

