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

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July 23, 2023

## THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

**First:** Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

**Second:** Romans 8:26-27

**Gospel:** Matthew 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

**FOCUS:** *Jesus encourages us to persevere in faith, even in challenging circumstances.*

In our daily lives, it can be challenging to persevere in faith, in charity and in kindness when dealing with people who appear to be the opposite – mean, vengeful, thoughtless. But Jesus reminds us that it is still possible to bear fruit under these conditions, and that even a small seed of faith can yield abundant fruit.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The author of the Book of Wisdom ponders the mystery of God's power, which he exercises with justice and leniency. In the second reading, St. Paul describes how the Holy Spirit helps us pray. In the Gospel, Jesus teaches his disciples about the kingdom of heaven through a series of parables.



## MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Kathy MacDonald, Walter Welch  
and the Ryan, Borst & Costello Families

10 a.m.: Marie Carotenuto, Paul Glielmi,  
Sharon Bassett and Denis Farrell

## LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m.: 65

10 a.m.: 128

## PRAYER FOR THOSE WHO LIVE ALONE

*I live alone, dear Lord, stay by my side.  
In all my daily needs, be thou my guide.  
Grant me good health,  
for that indeed I pray,  
to carry on my work from day to day.  
Keep pure my mind, my thoughts,  
my every deed.  
Let me be unselfish and kind  
in all my neighbors' needs.  
Spare me from fire, from fear,  
from bleak and empty days;  
from thieves, from sin,  
and guard my ways.  
If sickness or some accident befall,  
then humbly, Lord, I pray,  
hear thou my call.  
And if I'm feeling low or meet despair,  
lift up my heart;  
sustain me in my prayer.  
I live alone, dear Lord, but I have no fear  
because I know your love is ever near.  
Amen.*

## CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to Linda Eger upon the death of her son, Michael Alan Eger, earlier this week. Please keep them in your prayers.

## CARMELITE MISSIONS APPEAL

The weekend of **August 5-6**, Fr. Tim Ennis will be with us to talk about Carmelite missionary work.

The Carmelites respond to the call to love one another through prayer and action by establishing ministries where there is the greatest need. They create humanitarian programs to relieve the suffering of the poor, minister to those in hospitals and prisons, provide education, and conduct spiritual and religious formation in almost 40 countries on five continents.

We realize we've been asking a lot of you lately – but if you are able to support this worthwhile cause, we would be most appreciative.

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## TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

**July 9-16: Totaled \$ 8,225.09**

Envelopes: \$ 4,035.00 – Online: \$ 4,190.09

THANK YOU!

## PINE BUSH COMMUNITY BAND

At 7 p.m. **Monday, July 31**, the 45-plus member **Pine Bush Community Band** will once again engage and entertain with an eclectic and energetic concert. **It will also be livestreamed.**



Plan to spend a little more than an hour and be transported from Bullville to “Zacatecas,” perhaps, or “Chicago (with a Medley.” Experience the “Fate of the Gods” and a “Great Locomotive Chase.” There will even be

time for “Prairie Dances.”

The tried-and-true “Semper Fidelis” and the “National Anthem” will honor to the red, white and blue. Then there’s “Dr. Who” and maybe a surprise or two.

Come one, come all – and bring your friends, too. Enjoy the sound of music with no money due.

“I Can Hear the Bells” already; can you?

## BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM SCHEDULED

There is no time limit in grief. There is no fast track to feeling better. And the life-changing loss of a loved one is not something to “get over.”

Rather, while grief is universal, it is at the same time a journey with a timeline as unique as the individual experiencing it.

At 9 a.m. **Saturday, September 23, a six-week Bereavement Program** will begin at St. Paul’s. Julie Laurenzi, Liz Locatelli and Kate Gallaher Carson, who have completed the Archdiocese’s training, will lead the sessions designed to support the bereaved as they continue on their own healing path. It is open to anyone struggling with the loss of a loved one – regardless of when that passing occurred.

Thereafter, the group will continue to meet from 9-10:30 Saturday mornings on September 30 and October 7. There will be no meeting on October 14, but the group will reconvene on October 21 and again on October 28.

The annual **Memorial Mass** to honor deceased relatives and friends will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on November 4. The bereavement program will then wrap up the following Saturday, November 11.

For more information or to sign up, call Julie Laurenzi at 518-225-1170 or email [Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com](mailto:Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com).

## FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Food serves no one sitting on a shelf, which is why our busy pantry could use a little extra help right now:

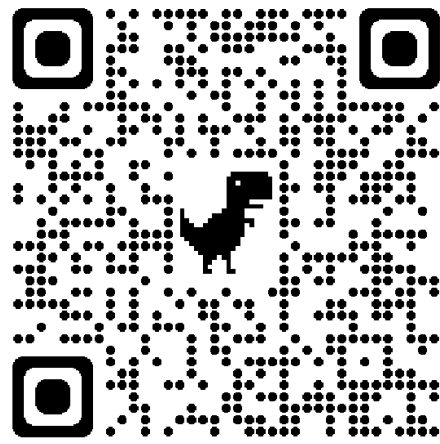
**Pasta, Sauce, Juice**

**Mayonnaise, Crackers, Jelly**

**Granola bars, Fruit Cups, Coffee**

**Tomato Soup, Mac & Cheese, Tuna**

Monetary donations are also welcome, and can be made on WeShare, too. Thank you!



## DISCOVERING CHRIST

For ease in participating in Discovering Christ, the first in the Archdiocese-approved ChristLife series, use the above QR code.

To recap, Discovering Christ is a seven-week experience that begins **September 10** at St. Paul’s where anyone and everyone, from the baptized in the pews to the unbaptized, are invited to hear the Good News and encounter Jesus Christ.

The program is free to all who wish to attend, but advance **registration is required by August 1.**

Questions? Reach out to the organizers, Mark Carson at 845-551-2530 or Kate Gallaher Carson at 914-850-5107.

## RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE

We are down to the last couple of weeks in this year’s raffle fundraiser. As of July 18, 495 tickets have been sold, generating a total of \$12,375 – **or \$6,187.50 for St. Paul’s.** Thank you to all who have participated. And there is still some time: Tickets and payment are due to the office by August 1. **Better yet, drop them in the collection boxes by July 30.**

Some of you might be wondering: Where does the other half of the money go?

There are administrative costs: Printing the raffles, postage and, of course, the \$68,000 in prizes.

What remains is then used by Catholic Parish Initiatives, which orchestrates the raffle, for outreach. This year, a proverbial fishing pole is being provided to a diocese in a very poor region in Argentina.

That diocese, however, has a win-win governmental contract. It manufactures and distributes, for profit, all the cleaning supplies used in all the surrounding municipal buildings. The profits from those sales are then used to support training programs for electricians, plumbers, carpenters and other trades.

The manufacturing and training has been taking place in a rented building for years, but that location will no longer be available. The diocese was able to secure land, but needed construction funds, which this year’s raffle is providing.

“We felt it was a unique opportunity to support a cause that would continue to support itself,” says Paul Cappialli with Catholic Parish Initiatives of this year’s “fishing-pole” investment.

