

## TODAY'S READINGS

### **Reading I: 2 Kings 4: 42-44**

This text is the inspiration for the multiplication miracle. The gift of the man from Baal-Shalishah indicates the esteem Elisha enjoyed among the people.

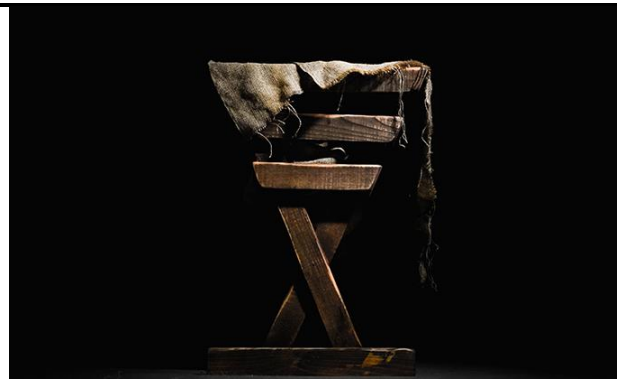
### **Reading II: Ephesians 4: 1-6**

Paul points out that the new humanity created in Christ is exemplified by the Church's unity. This unity is fostered by humility, gentleness and patience.

### **The Gospel: John 6: 1-15**

As in other of John's miracle stories, Jesus takes the initiative. He tests Philip, but the apostle misses the point that Jesus was appealing to his faith. Then Jesus distributes the bread and fishes, later avoiding any move on the people's part to make Him king.

## THE DIVINE CHOICE OF WEAKNESS



God chose to enter into human history in complete weakness. That divine choice forms the center of the Christian faith.

In Jesus of Nazareth, the powerless God appeared among us to unmask the illusion of power, to disarm the prince of darkness who rules the world and to bring the divided human race to a new unity. It is through total and unmitigated powerlessness that God shows us divine mercy.

It is very hard - if not impossible - for us to grasp this divine mercy. We keep praying to the "almighty and powerful God." But all might and power is absent from the One who reveals God to us saying: "When you see me, you see the Father." If we truly want to love God, we have to look at the man of Nazareth, whose life was wrapped in weakness. And His weakness opens for us the way to the heart of God.

*Henri de Nouwen*

**THE ENTIRE CHURCH BUILDING**  
**IS CLOSED THIS WEEK,**  
**MONDAY-FRIDAY, JULY 26-30.**  
**ONLY THE CLEANING CREW**  
**IS PERMITTED ACCESS.**

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

JULY 25, 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](mailto:Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com)



5 p.m.: Beth Zahn, Joe Britto, Ralph Perretta and Catherine Cronin

10 a.m.: Janet Stinson, Jack Shapiro, Peter Capria and Joseph Giovinazzo

**GRATITUDE**

Your Parish Community is

**GRATEFUL**

for your consistent contributions.

July 12-July 18: Totalled \$ 5,697.84

Envelopes: \$1,641.00 – Online: \$ 4,056.84

THANK YOU!



## WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Serve ice cream. They will come.

And they did.

About 40 people turned out on July 14 – a warm, midweek evening – including folks from the community who heard about the ice cream truck and took their place in line. Some even donated to the Youth Ministry program!

What was also apparent was the family-friendly feeling that defined this event. There was music. There was that relaxed, summer vibe riding the gentle breezes. While some of the regular Youth Ministry participants enjoyed chalk drawing and basketball in the parking lot, their younger relatives and friends had a blast attempting badminton or playing catch nearby – evoking smiles from parents and other adults.

And, of course, everybody loved the ice cream!

## NEW RE-REGISTRATION DATES

Because of a scheduling conflict, 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 help when needed.

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

## CALL TO SOCIAL JUSTICE


We are continuing to share resources for insight into social justice issues from a Biblical perspective.

This week's selection looks at the unequal treatment of Hispanic Catholics. Research indicates that while those of Latin American origin or descent account for half of all U.S. Catholics, only about a quarter of U.S. parishes intentionally serve them.

To read the full article, visit:

<https://www.commonwealmagazine.org/still-unaccommodated>

## SPONSOR OF THE WEEK



**Orange Pediatric Associates, LLP**  
 Top quality care for infants, children, and adolescents  
 400 Midway Park Dr, Middletown, NY (845) 343-0728  
 Hartley S. Bancroft II, MD, FAAP  
 Joanna B. Bochenek, MD, FAAP