***11TH SUNDAY***

***IN ORDINARY TIME***

**JUNE 16, 2024**



**THIS WEEKEND’S READINGS**

**First:** Ezekiel 17:22-24

**Second:** 2 Corinthians 5:6-10  
**Gospel:** Mark 4:26-34

**FOCUS: *The seeds of God’s kingdom are planted but not yet full-grown.***

Jesus uses the images of the sower and the mustard seed to explain the kingdom of God. Although seemingly small or insignificant, these examples demonstrate that great things can happen through the work of God. The kingdom must grow to become like Ezekiel’s lofty cedar tree, which is full of the fruits of the kingdom. All our efforts in building the kingdom, even if they seem small, will be blessed by God.

**LITURGY OF THE WORD:**

An open book with light shining on it

Description automatically generated Ezekiel speaks for the Lord God, saying he will plant a majestic cedar on the mountain of Israel. Paul writes that we walk by faith, not by sight, and we must appear before the judgment seat of Christ. In the Gospel, Jesus likens the kingdom of God to a man who scatters seed and harvests it when it is ripe, and also compares the kingdom to a mustard seed that grows into a large plant.

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**5 p.m.: All of Our Fathers, Living and Deceased**

**10 a.m.:**  **All of Our Fathers, Living and Deceased**

**ROSARY TEAM’S IMPACT**

In just a month, a ritual is already in place for the Rosary Team of Joan and Kathy Miller.

A black background with red text

Description automatically generated First, the sisters go to Mass at the Shrine, then out to lunch, and then enjoy a leisurely, laughter-filled ride to The Carlucci Home in Port Jervis, an intimate assisted-living residence for women. Eight of the residents now regularly take part, to one degree or another, in praying the rosary – and some are already making their way to the dining room table just before Joan and Kathy arrive.

“Kathy and I are building relationships, and while the experience is different each time, it’s *so* good,” says Joan. “And for the first time (two weeks ago), everyone was awake!”

About half of the women truly participate, but the other four are clearly gaining something from the visits, too, even if they don’t completely understand what’s going on.

The afternoon begins with the distribution of rosaries.

“One lady put it on as a necklace and was thrilled. It even matched her shirt,” says Joan.

Then prayer intentions are requested. They typically pray for their families, including one woman’s brand-new great granddaughter.

“Kathy and I realized we needed to slow down,” says Joan of the cadence of their prayers. “Working as a team we are able to cue each other – and laugh at each other later on, too.”

And they are hoping to start a new team to visit a different nursing home. Joan has been in touch with the original Rosary Team in Colorado, and yes, while weekly visits are optimum, monthly visits are valuable too.

If you’re interested in learning more, contact Joan at [joan.millercasey@](mailto:joan.millercasey@)gmail.com or (845) 457-9171.

**MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT**

They bring a smile. They bring compassionate words. They bring a prayer. And most importantly, they bring the Eucharist.

There are nine Eucharist Ministers to the Sick and Homebound who are collectively making about 110 visits quarterly. Sometimes they see parishioners for a short time as they recover from an illness or injury. For others, the need is more long term.

If you know someone who might benefit from this ministry, contact Peggy Lucido at 845-304-2728 or pegala721@aol.com.

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**WHERE ARE THEY?**

Because of the church closure last week,

there is no Treasurer’s Report

or Mass attendance numbers.

They will return in the June 23 bulletin.

**COME UNO, COME ALL**

Roll the dice. Move ahead enough calendar spaces to land on next Friday, **June 21.** Circle the date.

Here’s the deal: That’s the date of our next **Game Night** for anyone drawn to some friendly competition. Bring yourself, a favorite game and a snack – and be prepared for the domino effect in the form of a chain reaction of laughter and levity from 7-9 p.m.

Are you game?

**RAFFLE TICKET UPDATE**

We are in the throes of this year’s raffle-fundraiser. As of June 6, 315 tickets have been sold, generating a total of $7,875.00 – **or $3,937.50 for St. Paul’s.** Thank you to all who have participated. Tickets and payment are due to the office by **Tuesday, July 9**.

A picture containing graphics, font, graphic design, logo

Description automatically generated Last year, St. Paul’s and St. Stephen’s in Warwick each had $1,000 winners – and St. Paul’s was awarded $9,162.50 from those ticket sales. We are told the odds of winning are even better this year because there are fewer parishes in our group.

So maybe this year you will be a big winner too!

Along with the top $30,000 prize, there’s a $10,000 gift card, an $8,000 gift card and 20 additional $1,000 gift cards.

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.

And if there is any surplus, then it used by Catholic Parish Initiatives, which orchestrates the raffle, for community outreach that will make a lasting impact.

The livestreamed drawing takes place on July 20 and can be viewed at

[www.catholic](http://www.catholic) initiatives.org.

**SPONSOR OF THE WEEK**

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***Please patronize those who support us!***

**HAPPY FATHER’S DAY!**

A polar bear and cub in the snow

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**A FATHER’S DAY PRAYER**

**God took the strength of a mountain,**

**the majesty of a tree,**

**the warmth of a summer sun,**

**the calm of a quiet sea,**

**the generous soul of nature,**

**the comforting arm of night,**

**the wisdom of the ages,**

**the power of the eagle’s flight,**

**the joy of a morning in spring,**

**the faith of a mustard seed,**

**the patience of eternity,**

**the depth of a family need.**

**Then God combined these qualities,**

**when there was nothing more to add,**

**he knew his masterpiece**

**was complete,**

**and so, he called it … Dad***.*

* *Author Unknown*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

The winner of this year’s $500 Scholarship Essay Contest sponsored by the Monsignor James S. Conlan Knights of Columbus Council 5329 is Dominick Gesztesi, a senior at Burke Catholic who will be attending Fairfield University in the fall. Dominick lives in the Pine Bush School District and saw the notice about the contest in our bulletin. His compelling essay about St. Vincent de Paul caught the attention of their Scholarship Committee.

Congratulations!