
31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

NOVEMBER 5, 2023



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Malachi 1:14b–2:2b, 8-10

Second: 1 Thessalonians 2:7b-9, 13

Gospel: Matthew 23:1-12

FOCUS: *Whoever humbles himself will be exalted.*

At the heart of today's Gospel is this truth: The greatest among you must be your servant. Jesus' scorn for the scribes and Pharisees was based on their inability to understand this. Jesus took on the role of servant, giving his very life on behalf of the world.



LITURGY OF THE WORD:

The prophet Malachi in today's first reading explains the consequences of showing partiality – division from one another and from God. In the second reading, Paul speaks of his affectionate love for the Thessalonian Church. In the Gospel, Jesus chastises the hypocrisy of the scribes and Pharisees, calling for humility and service.

MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Francis Stein, Ralph Mancuso
and Delia Vuksanovich

10 a.m.: Richard Rose, Mary Elizabeth Arndt
and the Ryan, Borst & Costello Families

LAST WEEK'S MASS ATTENDANCE

Sunday: 5 p.m.- 86; 10 a.m.- 136
All Saint's Day: 9 a.m. - 52

A PRAYER FOR VETERANS DAY

*Lord God, Almighty Father,
creator of mankind and author of peace,
as we are ever mindful of the cost paid
for the liberty we possess,
we ask you to bless the members
of our armed forces.
Give them courage, hope and strength.
May they ever experience
your firm support, gentle love
and compassionate healing.
Be their power and protector,
leading them from darkness to light.
To you be all glory, honor and praise,
now and forever. Amen.*

-U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

The **Adult Faith Formation Committee** will be meeting at 9:15 a.m. **next Sunday**, November 12, in Deacon John Hall. Plans for future programs will be discussed. New faces and fresh ideas are welcome!



TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

October 22-29: \$ 5,271.97

Envelopes: \$ 2,333.00 – Online: \$ 2,938.97

THANK YOU!



HARVESTING MERRIMENT

All are welcome here at St. Paul's, including dinosaurs, aliens, fairies, pirates – and even monsters – all of which filled the parking lot on the last Friday evening of

October for **SPYM's annual Harvest Festival**.

"It was a hoot to watch Tommy Brittok racing though the parking lot with the dinosaur head bouncing," says Chris Worthington of the impressive costume's construction (see photo above). Chris runs the Youth Ministry with his wife, Deb Harrison.

Also impressive was the weather, which helped entice 44 revelers and eight festively-fashioned and candy-laden cars to participate. No rain as in years past nor bitter temperatures. And no need for coats that interfere with costume designs, as evidenced by members of the Conklin Flock in the photo at left.

SPYM is also grateful for the participation of several local businesses: Heritage Feed & Supply donated by hay bales that set the backdrop for the Harvest Photo Corner. Stonehenge Farm Market donated a fruit basket that Michael Kellner won, and Pizza Plus provided a gift certificate that ended up in Teddy Martin's hands.

The walk-up "movie theater" engaged viewers from their vehicles, too. Adults could see – and even hear – 2002's "Scooby-DOO! The Movie" from their cars if they chose.

Some older friends mingled while sugar-fueled kids did what sugar-fueled kids do – run, laugh, get silly – and play basketball.

"The basketball hoop was used constantly throughout the evening," says Chris of the generation-spanning game. "And I'm sure the parents had a blast getting their kids to wind down that night!"

SYMP is looking for volunteers – high school age and beyond. There's no obligation other than to help out with various events when you are able. Reach out to Chris or Deb at 845-248-3120 or saintpaulsym@gmail.com



ANGELS INSPIRE THE GIVING TREE

The Giving Tree is live this year! OK, so the actual tree is artificial – but it will actually be put up in Deacon John Hall next weekend, **November 11-12**.

And as was done before the pandemic prompted a virtual procedure, the tree will be decorated with angel tags representing a child in need. Wrapped gifts – with the tag attached – are due Sunday, **December 10**.

A SALUTE TO LOCAL VETERANS

Most Precious Blood School, 180 Ulster Avenue, Walden, invites all veterans to its annual **Veterans Day Celebration** to take place at 1:30 p.m. this Thursday, **November 9**. Each class will have a poem, song or reading to share, and light refreshments will be served afterward. Call (845) 778-3028 for more information.

