

22nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 1, 2024



*Nothing that
enters one from
outside can defile.*

THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8

Moses lays before the community the statutes and decrees that will set them apart.

Psalms 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5

The one who lives without blame and for justice will stand in God's presence.

James 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27

Pure religion is marked by defense of the poor and avoidance of worldly ways.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Jesus leapfrogs a discussion on ritual observances to propose a greater standard.

FOCUS: *Jesus teaches us to keep our focus on obeying God's commandments.*

Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, we can get caught up in our traditions, questioning and arguing with those who do things differently or want to change our ways. Jesus offers a reminder to not lose sight of what is truly important: Obeying God's commandments and keeping our hearts and actions pure.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

Moses exhorts the Israelites to listen to and observe the commandments of the Lord. The Apostle James calls upon his fellow Christians to humbly receive and practice God's word. In the Gospel, Jesus accuses the Pharisees of observing human religious traditions yet failing to obey God's commands. He then teaches the people that it is the thoughts and actions born in the human heart that defile.

MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: Viviane Lanove, Gonzalo Ramirez and Ken Carson

10 a.m.: Julia Perez, Mary Alice Roberts, Laurence O'Brien and Bernie Laurenzi

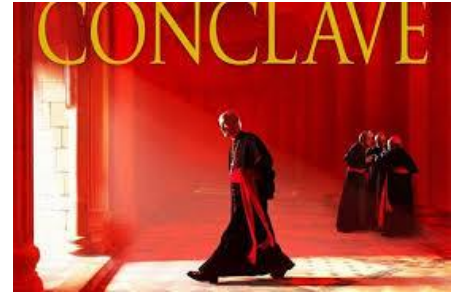
BOOK CLUB'S NEXT CHAPTER

The **Book Club** will begin its new season via Zoom at 10 a.m. on Thursday, **September 19**, with a discussion of the opening pages (1-70) of "Conclave" by Robert Harris (Amazon \$16.20). This page-turning thriller is a work of fiction set in the Vatican's secretive halls of power.

"The pope is dead. Behind the locked doors of the Sistine Chapel, one hundred and

eighteen cardinals from all over the globe will gather to cast their votes in the world's most secretive election. They are holy men. But they are not immune to the human temptations of power and glory. And they are not above the tribalism and factionalism that consumes humanity. When all is said and done, one of them will become the most powerful spiritual figure on Earth."

New members are always welcome. Contact the office or Deacon Carl (carlloc@yahoo.com) for details and the Zoom link.



ALSO IN SEPTEMBER ...

- ❖ To commemorate the 95th anniversary of the **Carmelite Sisters for the Aged and Infirm**, the Mother Angeline Society is holding a Rosary event at 3 p.m. next Saturday, **September 7**, in Germantown. Its Heritage Center will be open for a brief tour beforehand and Mass follows. For more info, call Mary Ann Iaccino at (518) 537-5000.
- ❖ The next **Parish Council** meeting is 7 p.m. Tuesday, **September 10**, via Zoom. All parishioners are welcome. Contact the office for the link. FYI, minutes from the meetings are posted on our website, www.stpaulsbullyville.org. Click "Parish Council" in the menu bar.
- ❖ The Parish Picnic kicks off at 1 p.m. Sunday, **September 15**, at the Town of Crawford Park on Lybolt Road. Tickets are \$15, and \$35 for an immediate family, available after the Masses and through the office.
- ❖ The fall **Scripture Discussion** will focus on the letters of St. Paul to the Philippians and Colossians, which he wrote from prison, and will use the Ignatius Catholic Study Bible. The group will meet from 10-11:15 a.m. Mondays via Zoom beginning on Monday, **September 16**. Former and new members are welcome. Contact Gail Van Tassel at 845-457-3432 or gailvantassel@yahoo.com to join the group and to get the book for \$14.

BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSINGS

“We want you to get off to a great start this school year, and as you go to school, we want you to know that your church loves you and will be praying for you. ...”

- Fr. Sean



The end-of-August blessing of backpacks has become a St. Paul's tradition.

Although Fr. Sean prayed that straps not break and zippers not jam, it was the 16 or so students of all ages carrying the backpacks who received the choicest blessings. Fr. Sean prayed that they find peace, focus, friends and the ever-present comfort of God.

Teachers were remembered as they, too, embark on a new school year; that they be granted energy, passion, discipline and endurance in a classroom infused with care and mutual respect.

And even those not returning to school found inspiring nuggets of wisdom in those words



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

The third in the ChristLife series, **Sharing Christ**, begins **Sunday, October 13**. Participation in the first two sessions is not required. Details coming soon.

TWO TAKES ON THE COMMANDMENTS

- A little boy in Sunday School once asked his teacher why the Ten Commandments had been written in stone and not on parchment. The answer his teacher gave him may not have been entirely accurate but was certainly filled with insight: “They were written on stone so that men could only keep them or break them; they cannot bend them.”

- On his final exam, a student had to list the Ten Commandments in any order. In a desperate attempt to not flunk, he answered, “3, 6, 1, 8, 4, 5, 9, 2, 10, 7.”

TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

August 19-25: \$ 6,300.07

Envelopes: \$ 2,553.00 – Online: \$ 3,747.07

THANK YOU!

LAST WEEKEND'S MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m. – 77

10 a.m. – 102

SPOTLIGHT ON: SUNDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY

Have you ever listened to the readings at Mass and struggled with the message? You're not alone. In fact, that was the inspiration for **Sunday Scripture Study**. The group meets via ZOOM at **10 a.m. Wednesdays** to read the upcoming weekend's Scriptures and discuss them beforehand.

Meetings are informal. New participants are always welcome, and everyone attends as schedules allow.

For more information, call Ernie Martin at 845-800-4342.

SPONSOR OF THE WEEK

A logo for Fontana's Auto Body & Recovery. The logo features the name "Fontana's" in a large, stylized font, with "AUTO BODY" and "RECOVERY" in smaller fonts below it. The text "COMPLETE COLLISION & BODY REPAIR" is written in a smaller font between "AUTO BODY" and "RECOVERY". To the right of the logo, it says "24 HR TOWING & RECOVERY". At the bottom, it says "BULLVILLE, NY 845-361-2322".

Please patronize those who support us!

