



Saint Mary

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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:30 am and 10:30 am



26TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME • SEPTEMBER 25, 2016

Work for the Salvation of Souls

BY FR. BOSCO PADAMATTUMMAL

In the parable of Lazarus and the rich man Jesus paints a dramatic scene of contrasts -- riches and poverty, heaven and hell, compassion and indifference, inclusion and exclusion. We also see an abrupt and dramatic reversal of fortune. The story centers on the reversals of fortune that takes place after Lazarus and the rich man die. It links agony or comfort after death with how we treat the less fortunate around us, much like the Gospel of Matthew links eternal life and punishment with how we treat the hungry and thirsty, strangers, the naked, the sick, and those in prison. This reversal after death is ultimate. An unbridgeable chasm exists between Lazarus at Abraham's side and the rich man in Hades. Luke, in particular, stresses the way the status of the rich and the poor is reversed in the kingdom of God. When Jesus is conceived in Mary's womb, she exults that the hungry have been filled and the rich sent away empty. In the Sermon on the Plain, Jesus tells the poor that God favors them and that the kingdom of God belongs to them, but he warns the rich of what is to come since they have already received their consolation in this life. Luke makes clear that the poor are a focus of Jesus' ministry. In his inaugural sermon, Jesus

declares that he has been anointed by the Spirit of the Lord "to bring good news to the poor." Two weeks ago in the Sunday reading, we heard that Jesus admonishes His followers not just to invite to their parties the friends and neighbors who can repay them, but to extend their invitations to "the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind."

We live in a world today where a lot of Christians' emphasis is on personal salvation ("saving my soul") and that is achieved by being a morally good person. "Morally good" means avoiding actions which are ethically wrong, such as, failing to worship God in the "official" way, committing violent actions against others, behaving in a sexually immoral way, stealing things from people, gossiping maliciously about others, being jealous, envious, angry, resentful... and so on. As long as I am not aware of doing any of these things, or at least, not doing them in a serious way ("mortal sin"), then I am a "good" person. However, this is not really the picture that the Gospel today describes. If we were to base our judgments on the above image of the "good Catholic," then there was really nothing much wrong with the rich man in the gospel story. All he did was to enjoy his wealth and his good

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On Saturday, Sept. 17th, eighteen men from St. Mary's joined the retreat at the Shrine of St. Joseph in Grass Lake. The presenter, Paco Gavrilides, spoke on the themes of male spirituality and the New Evangelization. The day ended with a Holy Hour.

Mass Intentions, [Requested by], and Parish Activities

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| SAT., SEPT. 24 | Ordinary Weekday/BVM |
| Ecc1 11: 9 – 12:8/ Ps 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 and 17/ Lk 9:43b-45 | 3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: †Nicholas Hnizdor (20th Anniversary) [Donna Hnizdor] |
| SUN., SEPT. 25 | TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME |
| Am 6:1a, 4-7/ Ps 146:7, 8-9, 9-10 (1b)/ 1 Tm 6:11-16/ Lk 16:19-31 | 8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: For the People 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: INT: Mary McKenzie [Noreen Burnett] 11:30 am Youth Group Canoe Trip 12:00 pm Confirmation Orientation—PC |
| MON., SEPT. 26 | Ordinary Weekday/Sts. Cosmas & Damian (opt. mem.) |
| Jb 1: 6-22/ Ps 17: 1bcd, 2-3, 6-7/ Lk 9: 46-50 | 12:10 pm Mass: †Florence Tomko [Frank Tomko] 3:30-5:00 pm Religious Ed Grades 1-8 meet at PC 7:00 pm Evangelization Team Meeting—FFH |
| TUES., SEPT. 27 | St. Vincent dePaul (mem.) |
| Jb 3: 1-3, 11-17, 20-23/ Ps 88: 2-3, 4-5, 6, 7-8/ Lk 9: 51-56 | 8:30 am Mass: INT: Oscar Henry Kwolek—First Birthday [Bill and Sandy Kwolek] |
| WED., SEPT. 28 | ORDINARY WEEKDAY/St. Wencelaus, St. Lawrence Ruiz & Companions (opt. mem.) |
| Jb 9: 1-12, 14-16/ Ps 88: 10bc-11, 12-13, 14-15/ Lk 9: 57-62 | 8:30 am Mass: †Josephine Budlong and †Wilma Musolf, sisters of Bernita Aiuto [Russ and Bernita Aiuto] |
| THUR., SEPT. 29 | Sts. Michael, Gabriel & Raphael (feast) |
| Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 or Rv 12:7-12a/ Ps 138: 1-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5/ Jn 1:47-5 | 8:30 am Mass: INT: Mary McKenzie [Noreen Burnett] 7:00 pm RCIA –FFH |
| FRI., SEPT. 30 | St. Jerome (mem.) |
| Jb 38:1, 12-21; 40:3-5/ Ps 139: 1-3, 7-8, 9-10, 13-14ab/ Lk 10: 13-16 | 8:30 am Mass: † Susan Bonkowski [The Bonkowski Family] |
| SAT., OCT. 1 | FIRST SATURDAY/St. Therese of Lisieux (mem.) |
| Jb 42: 1-3, 5-6, 12-17/ Ps 119:66, 71, 75, 91, 125, 130/ Lk 10:17-24 | 8:30 am Mass: INT: Special Intention of Noreen Burnett [Noreen Burnett] 3:30-4:30 pm Confession 5:00 pm Vigil Mass: †Harriet Van Ripper, Mother of Alice Kidd [Alice Kidd] |
| SUN., OCT. 2 | TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME |
| Hb 1: 2-3; 2: 2-4/ Ps 95: 1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/ 2 Tm 1: 6-8, 13-14/ Lk 17: 5-10 | 8:00-8:15 am Confession 8:30 am Mass: For the People 10:00-10:15 am Confession 10:30 am Mass: †Clarence and †Margaret Fielder in Memory of their Wedding Anniversary [The Lynn Niehaus Family] 1:00 pm First Holy Communion Class—PC |

PROMISE TO PROTECT - PLEDGE TO HEAL

If you have been abused or victimized by someone representing the Catholic Church ...

Please believe in the possibility for hope and help and healing. We encourage you to come forward and speak out. Every diocese in the United States now has a Victim Assistance Coordinator who is available to obtain support for your needs, to help make a formal complaint of abuse to the diocese, and to arrange a personal meeting with the bishop or his representative if you desire. The Victim Assistance Coordinator for the Diocese of Lansing is:

Adrienne Rowland, LMSW, ACSW
1-888-308-6252
arowlandvac@dioceseoflansing.org



FR. BOSCO'S ARTICLE FROM PAGE 1, continued:

food, his big house, his fashionable and expensive clothes. He did not seem to do any harm to the poor man. He did not drive him away or use abusive language towards him. We have no idea how the rich man became rich. Perhaps he was born into a rich family and inherited his wealth; perhaps it was the result of working long hours over many years. Why should such a man be punished? And, even more strangely, why should the beggar be rewarded? Dear friends, that rich man in the parable may have worked very hard to get his money, perhaps he was a good family man who loved his wife and was a good father to his children. Perhaps he went faithfully to the synagogue every Sabbath and observed all the regulations of the Sabbath day. He may have been seen as a very pillar of his community. Yet Our Lord tells us as long as that poor man lay uncared for at his feet, the rich man was totally condemned.

As an individual in our society, you and I may not (yet) be regarded as rich. We are living in a society where wealth is very unevenly divided. There are many social problems in our midst affecting both rich and poor. The poor become poorer because of their laziness or bad life too. Every social problem is a form of deprivation, a denial of full human living. How aware am I of these problems? How aware am I that I am somehow responsible for their elimination? What, in practice, am I contributing to the removal of these problems? What am I doing practically to support the uplifting of the poor. In the Gospel we see the rich man made the excuse (when it was too late) that he did not realize what was going on. His brothers (also rich?) did not realize it either. Let them be warned, he pleaded. Even in hell, the rich man could still only think of his own family, he was too self-centered: he does not think he is responsible for the salvation of other people.

Dear brothers and sisters, God's eternal judgment has everything to do with how we use wealth in this world, the message has been clearly stated. Like the rich man's five brothers, we have all been given the warning we need, there is nothing wrong with enjoying the fruit of our hard work but do not neglect the poor who are in need of our support. ☞

SEPTEMBER 28-NOVEMBER 6

SAVE LIVES and MAKE HISTORY!

Protect mothers and children by joining the largest nationwide pro-life mobilization in history

Ann Arbor

- Vigil location: Outside of the Planned Parenthood abortion center at 3400 Professional Dr., Ann Arbor, MI
- Vigil hours: 7 AM – 7 PM daily
- Local contact: Sandie Weathers, 734-657-1936, 40daysforlifeannarbor@gmail.com
- Learn more and get involved at: 40daysforlife.com/annarbor

NEED HELP? ALTERNATIVES TO ABORTION:
Right-to-Life MI Hotline
1-800-57WOMAN
Or visit www.optionline.org

NEED HELP? "AA" group meets Friday & Sunday nights at 7:00 pm in the Emanuel church kitchen.

NEED HELP? "COURAGE" is a Catholic (endorsed by Diocese) spiritual support group for those struggling with same sex attraction. "ENCOURAGE" is a separate support group for families and friends. Call 517-342-2596

NEED HELP? PROJECT RACHEL (post-abortion reconciliation and healing) Call the confidential phone line: 517-993-0231 or email nlc@resurrectionlansing.org

PARISH NEWS

Confirmation Orientation

There will be a mandatory Confirmation Orientation meeting on Sunday, September 25th from 12-1 at the Parish Center. Please bring your registration, sacrament certificates, and the name of your sponsor. If you have not already done so, please contact Melissa Yekulis at: myekulis.dre@gmail.com to notify her that you will be attending.

Rowing Down the River

The Parish Youth Group will be going on a canoe trip on Sunday, September 25th. It is necessary to have all registration materials on file to participate in this event. The forms are available at the Religious Ed office at the Parish Center or on the parish website. Please contact Monica Kominars with questions or to RSVP 734-428-8785.

Cathedral Holy Hour

A Holy Hour is scheduled at St. Mary Cathedral, Lansing on Sunday, October 2, 2016 to provide opportunities for the faithful to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Door during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. The Holy Hour will include Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction. The Cathedral will be open at 2:30pm, with the Holy Hour at 3:00pm.

Pet Blessing

To honor St. Francis of Assisi on his feast day, Fr. Bosco will be blessing our pets. They have been given to us as gifts from God and need His blessings too. The blessing will take place on the steps of the church Sunday, October 9th at 12pm.

House Blessing

The "Year of Mercy" is an opportune time for a House Blessing. Fr. Bosco has visited many families already and would like to bring this beautiful blessing to your home too. Please contact Fr. Bosco on his cell phone (734-707-3657) to make an appointment.

Sanctuary Lamps

Sanctuary Lamps are the special candles which burn in every Roman Catholic Church to remind us of the Real Presence of Jesus present in the Tabernacle. Your prayer intentions can be added to burn for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. The prayer intentions for the Sanctuary Lamps are for one week, from Saturday to Saturday. Cards to send are also available. Contact the parish office if you are interested. The customary donation is \$12.

AREA NEWS

The Fr. Riccardo Challenge: Please take few moments to listen to Fr. Riccardo's homily on prayer and fasting for our nation. http://bit.ly/2aWHare

Ave Maria University Scholarships and Free Visit High School seniors are invited to apply for a 4 year \$28,000 scholarship to AMU in Naples FL. There is also the opportunity for a campus visit November 10-13th. Please visit avemarifoundation.org for more information.

An Evening with Eric Genius—A Road Less Traveled Tour at St. Mary Chelsea 14200 E. Old US Hwy 12, Chelsea MI Sunday, September 25, 2016 at 7:00pm. Join us for a benefit concert supporting his ministry that brings inspiration to those 'least in society' in an effort to elevate their human condition, recognize their innate dignity and give hope.

Ann Arbor 40 Days for Life Kick-Off Rally is on Sunday, September 25th beginning at 2 pm. The keynote speaker will be Pro-Life attorney Erin Elizabeth Mersino. Come out to 3100 Professional Drive in Ann Arbor. The Rally will be in front of Planned Parenthood. Show your support for the unborn.

The 2016 Walk for Life is almost here! Family Life Services Clinic and Pregnancy

Center is raising money for the moms and babies in our community Saturday, October 8, 2016 at Concordia University. There is something for everyone – a Walk, a 5k Race (age 10+), a Kids Sprint (ages 4-9), and a Diaper Dash (3 and under). To register: www.flswalkforlife.com or call: 734-434-3088

"The Wisdom of St. Therese the Little Flower." Let her "little way of spiritual childhood" draw you more deeply into the merciful heart of Jesus. October 8th or October 17th at St. Francis Retreat Center in DeWitt. Cost is \$65. Directed by Tony Sperendi. Register at 517-669-8321 or www.stfrancis.ws.

St. Louis Center will be hosting the 'Taste of Chelsea' at St. Mary Parish Hall in Chelsea on Saturday, October 8th beginning at 5:30pm. Tickets ar \$40/person in advance and \$45 at the door. Call Joe at 734-475-8430 to reserve your tickets today!

Sisters of Mary Mother of the Eucharist will be hosting a retreat for women ages 16-34 discerning their vocation to religious life. Frs. Gary and Todd Koenigs knecht will be leading the retreat October 29-30th. Please visit sistersofmary.org to register.

The Altar Flowers



for the week of, SUNDAY, SEPT 25TH are sponsored by Marge Scully

In Memory of Michael Scully

Sanctuary Lamps

are burning this week for:

- 1) Nicholas Hnizdor on his 20th Anniversary (Donna Hnizdor, his daughter)
2) Camilla Kidd Mother-in-law of Alice Kidd (Alice Kidd)

Parish Family Birthdays

- Sept 23Diane Schwab
Sept 26Mike Bossory
Sept 27Laurie Sanders
Sept 28David Bonkowski
Oct 2Ronald Fielder

St. Mary Roman Catholic Church Stewardship

WEEKLY COLLECTION

Table with weekly collection amounts: Sunday, September 11, 2016. Sunday Envelopes \$4,782.20, Loose Cash & Checks \$282.00, Welcome Envelopes \$32.00, Assumption \$20.00, Weekly toward budget \$5,116.20, Weekly goal \$5,300.00, Amt. below goal \$183.80

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS: Building and Maintenance \$210.60, Poor Box \$11.25, Votive Candle Receipts \$113.00

This Week We're Praying for:

- Claudia Damien, recovering from surgery
Hugh, brother of Ellen O'Sullivan
Barb Madaj
Veronica Martin
Linda Young and her Family

For more news, including events in parishes throughout the area, please visit our website: stmarymanchester.org