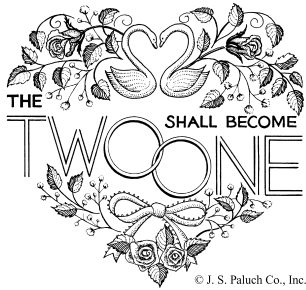


Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
October 4, 2009
Respect Life Sunday
Let the children come to me;
do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God
belongs to such as these. — Mark 10:14

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time; Respect Life Sunday
Tuesday: St. Bruno; Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher
Wednesday: Our Lady of the Rosary
Friday: St. Denis and his companions; St. John Leonardi
Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; Simhat Torah begins at sunset



READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Jon 1:1 — 2:2, 11; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday: Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday: Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday: Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13
Friday: Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday: Jl 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday: Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90; Heb 4:12-13;
Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]



HE EMBRACED THEM AND BLESSED THEM

Today Jesus stresses how children embody the reign of God. They are trusting and loving and have hearts that are open to love. They are joyful when they are made aware of God's love for them, and are eager to return that love. This is the model Jesus holds out to us if we want to welcome the reign of God. We need to have open, loving hearts. We must drop our defenses, however we came by them, and welcome Christ's love for us with joy. This is impossible for us on our own. Only the grace of God will enable us to do this, but that grace is freely and generously given. We have only to accept it. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Today is Respect Life Sunday

The Christian family mirrors the Holy Trinity, and as such, unites all its members in witnessing God's great love of total loyalty and commitment.

All of us -- babes in the womb, little kids, big kids, old kids, sick kids, frail kids, forgotten kids -- can follow St. Paul's advice when he said,

"Always seek to do good to one another and to all. REJOICE ALWAYS, PRAY WITHOUT CEASING, GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES; FOR THIS IS THE WILL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS FOR YOU."

PRAYER: That I Might Respect Life

Lord, help me to respect all life today. Help me to see the beauty of your creation in everyone I meet. Especially let me be concerned for all those who are helpless, sick, weak, or ignored by others. Help me to remember that they are especially dear to You. Let your Love reach through me to them in their time of need. Amen.

You are Invited to a World Priest Day celebration to express our appreciation for all priests. Parish men will fry fresh mullet and serve with beans, coleslaw, and hush puppies. Parish ladies will provide desserts. Please join us in the parish hall after 4:30 Mass, Saturday, October 17, 2009.



Please keep in your prayers Mary Fortney and her husband Jim, Harriet Flinn Fabre and her son Frank Fabre, Ashley Pace and his wife Judy, Regina Kaufman and her family, Betty White, Betty Jo Kyte, and all of our parishioners, family and friends who are waiting for operations, in the hospital, sick at home, recovering at home, and in nursing homes and their caregivers.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR OCTOBER 4TH THROUGH OCTOBER 10TH

SUNDAY.....8:00AM	Otto Appelberg	Req. by Betty Appelberg
SUNDAY.....10:00AM	FOR THE PARISH	
MONDAY..... 6:45AM	+Edith B. Sellers	Req. by Gerry Pence
TUESDAY..... 6:45AM	+Dr. William Nass	Req. by Mary and Jim Fortney
WEDNESDAY..... 6:45AM	+Dr. William Nass	Req. by Mary and Jim Fortney
THURSDAY..... 6:45AM	+Dr. William Nass	Req. by Susan Soule
FRIDAY..... 6:45AM	+Josephine Voisinet	Req. by Don and Catherine Voisinet
SATURDAY..... 4:30PM	+Ida Ferreira	Req. by Gerry Pence

Attention: The 2010 MASS INTENTION book has just arrived. Call or come by if you want to book any intentions for the coming year.

***REMEMBER YOUR LOVED ONES WITH MASS INTENTIONS. THEY ARE AVAILABLE FOR OCTOBER 2009 - DECEMBER 2010**

SANCTUARY DUTY – October 9th - Walter and Nelly Marsh

RCIA: The next session will be on October 7, 2009. This session will be on "Intro to the Sacraments" and will be presented by Msgr. John Cassidy. All of the sessions will be on Wednesdays and will start at 7:00 p.m. in the STM Parish Hall.

27th Annual Charity Gala benefitting Catholic Charities Pensacola Regional Office, Saturday, October 10th at 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital's Greenhut Auditorium. The Gala promises a night of entertainment and live auction with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and a chance to win \$10,000. Call 436-6410 to purchase a \$100 ticket for the grand prize drawing. The ticket includes admission into the Gala for one person. Admission tickets without the drawing are \$50 per person. Please save the date. Call 850-436-6410 for more information.

ST. THOMAS MORE PARISH ORGANIZATIONS

St. Thomas More Men's Club: The Men's Club meets at 8:00 a.m. in the parish hall on the first Sunday of every month.

The Ladies Altar Society: All women in the Parish are invited to join in the good works of this group. Call Lynn Van Natter @ 456-1070 or Mary Williams @ 457-0173 for more information. The ladies meet the second Sunday of every month in the parish hall after the 8 AM Mass.

Prayer Chain: If you have a prayer request, please call Susan Soule at 455-1690, and she will activate the prayer chain.

PARISH COUNCIL: The next meeting will be on October 11, 2009 at the Parish Hall at 9:00 a.m.

The Rosary is being recited on the first Saturday of each month at 4:10 p.m. Come and join the group at St. Thomas More.

CCD Class : Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

Craft Group: Thursdays at 9:00 a.m.

Parishoners - If you have someone in the military, serving here in the states or overseas, and want an Advent booklet "Five Minutes with the Word" sent to them from St. Thomas More, please submit their Name and Address. You can put in in the Offertory Basket, bring to the office or email to Jo at bayshore@stm.gccoxmail.com.

ATTENTION: Mary Stevens from Shear Convenience will come out to homebound or to health care facilities to cut and style hair. Call her at 457-4841 or on her cell phone at 291-0298.

The envelopes for All Souls Day Remembrances are in the back of the Church. You can bring the envelope by the Office or put it in the collection. Please print the names of the deceased – Thank You!

Let's all pray that this Hurricane Season (June 1-November 31) is a quiet one.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

One of our great treasures is the way the Church has frequently flourished under unfavorable conditions, like the grape ivy on the mantel that refuses to die no matter how infrequently you water it or open the drapes. Like the apartheid laws in South Africa in the last century, the penal laws of Ireland were aimed at depriving the majority population of basic human rights. The Protestant parliament of Ireland enacted laws limiting the practice of Catholicism. The goal was to force conversion from "popery" to the Church of Ireland, and additional laws took aim at Jews, non-Anglicans, and Quakers.

There were laws against intermarriage, laws against Catholics being lawyers (there was a one-hundred-pound fine), a law granting lifelong income to priests who became Protestant, and a ban on weapons. In fact, until 1793, a Catholic man had to recruit and pay a Protestant man to serve in the local militia in his place! As if family life is not complicated enough in any age, the sons of a deceased father could divide his land equally, unless one became Protestant. In that case all would go to him! When allowed, new Catholic churches had to be built of wood, not stone, be off a main road or city square, have no steeple or bell, and be called a "chapel." Catholic "Emancipation" was largely secured by 1829, but even up to the founding of the Irish State in the 1920s, some effects of the laws endured. No wonder that poor Irish immigrants to the United States frequently built gloriously beautiful churches as their first act on free soil!

—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

SPEAKING OF GOD

Almost everything said of God is unworthy, for the very reason that it is capable of being said.—St. Gregory the Great

ENCOURAGEMENT

As vital as oxygen is to the body, so is encouragement to the soul.—Anonymous

Financial Status for the Month of September 2009

Income:

Offertory – \$18,215.44

Expenses:

Diocesan Loan (Monthly)	2,544.61
**Other Monthly Expenses	<u>17,637.95</u>
Total Expenses -	\$20,721.05

Loss for September 2009: **\$-2,505.61**

**Expenses include: Electric, water, gas, and trash pickup for four buildings, salaries, repair and maintenance on four buildings, etc.

REMINDER

PET BLESSING: In honor of the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi, we will conduct a "Blessing of the Pets" this Sunday, October 4th at 2:00 PM at the St. Frances Garden behind the Church. If the weather is bad we will conduct the blessing in the Hall so bring your pet, rain or shine.

