

**Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 6, 2009**

Did not God choose those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs to the kingdom?
— James 2:5

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday: Labor Day
Tuesday: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Wednesday: St. Peter Claver
Friday: Patriot Day
Saturday: Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary;
Blessed Virgin Mary



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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Col 1:24 — 2:3; Lk 6:6-11
Tuesday: Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30;
Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 [1:18-23]
Wednesday: Col 3:1-11; Lk 6:20-26
Thursday: Col 3:12-17; Lk 6:27-38
Friday: 1 Tm 1:1-2, 12-14; Lk 6:39-42
Saturday: 1 Tm 1:15-17; Lk 6:43-49
Sunday: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

SEE BEYOND OUTWARD APPEARANCES

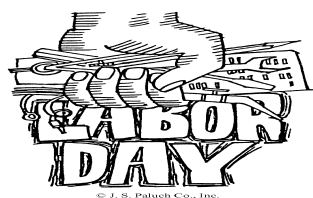
The phrase “Sunday best” has lost much of its meaning in our society today. Some lament the loss of people dressing up for church on Sunday; others think it’s a healthy sign that we’re as casual in attire gathered before the Lord as we are elsewhere. No matter which school of thought on this topic we belong to, James would probably chastise us. In either case, we are still focused on external appearance, mistaking it for some sort of favored position before God. True, James criticizes the community that favors the rich and well-dressed while ostracizing the poorly clothed, but even more he criticizes the making of distinctions, making choices based on criteria that having nothing to do with the reign of God. James might turn our attention to the reign of God described by Isaiah, in which people are healed and the earth becomes ripe to bear fruit. Jesus today is focused on this reign of God, healing a Gentile man in a region hostile to his Jewish faith, not mindful of the man’s origins or clothing or status or ability to repay. Isaiah, James, and Jesus in Mark’s Gospel all call us to look more deeply to find where the will of God needs to be done, and has been done, on earth as in heaven. © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR SEPTEMBER 6TH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 12TH

SUNDAY.....8:00AM	+Mealie Faust	Req. by Fred and Linda Faust
SUNDAY.....10:00AM	FOR THE PARISH	
MONDAY..... 6:45AM	+Harvey Bizzell	Req. by Thomas Bizzell
TUESDAY..... 6:45AM	Jane Pearson	Req. by The Family
WEDNESDAY..... 6:45AM	+Loretta Gerow	Req. by the Gerow Family
THURSDAY..... 6:45AM	Mary Fortney	Req. by STM Office
FRIDAY..... 6:45AM	+Michael Johns	Req. by Ruth Carpinella
SATURDAY..... 4:30PM	+Lallah Williams Harris	Req. by Randy and Mary Williams

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

SANCTUARY DUTY – September 11th - Sue Suchy



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The Parish Office will be closed Monday, September 7, 2009 in honor of the Labor Day Holiday!!!

Crafters, Crocheters, Knitters, Artists: Interested in getting together with others to make items for charity? There will be a get-together in the Parish Hall on Thursday, September 9th at 9:00 a.m. Hope to see you there. Any questions, call Grace Amell at 458-3557. Hope to see you there!!!!



Please keep in your prayers Mary Fortney and her husband Jim, Dr. William Nass and his wife Helen, Ashley Pace and his wife Judy, Regina Kaufman and her family, Margaret Miller's brother, 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.

RCIA: The next session will be on September 9, 2009. This session will be on "The Creed: God Sent His Son " and will be presented by Msgr. James Flaherty. 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. UPDATE: Catholic Charities will be selling tickets to the Gala on September 26th and September 27th in the Narthex at St. Thomas More Church.

PLEASE check out our website at www.saintthomasmore.net. The website is being updated. You have access to the weekly bulletin on Fridays and past bulletins are slowly being added. A standard calendar is accessible there, too. In the NEWS section, you will be able to see any upcoming events that will be happening in the parish.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Back to work we go! Summer break is over and there is much to accomplish in school and in the workplace. It's a venerable Catholic custom to assign patron saints to the trades and occupations of life. This is largely in the realm of popular devotion, and although from time to time the Vatican declares a saint to be patron of this or that, the process is free-wheeling and just about uncontrollable. Still, there is a saint for almost any purpose whether you are on death row (Dismas), having eye trouble (Lucy), or pursued by poisonous toads (Hubert). Medieval guilds would often associate themselves with heavenly patrons, so Saint Joseph has the carpenters, Thomas More the lawyers, and physicians get Saint Luke. If you're stuck in the airport, St. Joseph of Cupertino is on call since he was said to rise off the floor when he prayed, and if you're in a long line at the ATM, Saint Anthony Claret is for you.

In recent years, the Vatican has from time to time assigned a new patronage, as when Saint Aloysius Gonzaga was named the patron of HIV-AIDS patients, since as a young Jesuit novice he had cared for his fellow novices during a terrible plague. Anything that matters to us—nation, parish church, occupation, illness—can have a patron, and it is an aspect of Catholicism that has enormous appeal. To believe in the "communion of saints" is to know that the ties that bind us as a communion do not unravel with death, and that when we stand before life's struggles, we do not stand alone. Who is your patron saint?—Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

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. If you have any questions, please call Henry Pataky at 932-9514 or Ken McClure at 456-9888.

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 18, 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.

In Memory of Our Deacon, Paul E. Honer, 5/5/1933-5/17/2008, Mass will be celebrated Saturday, September 14, 2009 by Monsignor John Cassidy, Pastor, followed by a reception in the parish hall. A Crepe Myrtle tree will be planted on the parish property with a ceremony conducted by Deacon Ken McClure. Everyone is invited to share in this memorial celebration.

A big Thank-you to all the parishioners who gave during the Burse Club Membership Drive. Regina Booth

JUDGMENT

To pass judgment on another is to usurp shamelessly a prerogative of God.
—St. John Climacus

The Catholic Charities Food Pantry is in constant need of food items. If you have extra canned foods, dry foods, etc. please bring them to the parish hall and we will deliver them.

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

LABOR

Without labor nothing prospers.

Bulletin Announcement :

The annual *Seton Fund Collection*, which benefits our Catholic schools and religious education programs, is scheduled for September 19-20, 2009. Your sacrificial contribution will help to pass on the light of faith to future generations. Please see Seton Response Form in bulletin and give generously. Thank You.

ST. ELIZABETH ANN SETON FUND FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

*Supporting Catholic Education
In the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee*

Catholic students in the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee are supported by quality academics and extensive religious education programs in a faith based environment that is preparing them to be the leaders of tomorrow. The dedicated administrators, faculty, and staff personnel strive to provide students with creative opportunities to express their talents, nurture their potential, and challenge their abilities to see God in all creation.

A gift to the Elizabeth Ann Seton Fund for Catholic Education will help ensure the continuation of quality Catholic education in our diocese and give students the chance for a better tomorrow.

Yes, I want to contribute to the education of students in the Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee.

\$ _____ towards tuition for a needy student.

\$ _____ for a specific school program or department.
Name of program or department _____

\$ _____ A memorial gift to be used in honor of _____
_____ any Catholic school
_____ towards _____ School

Please Print

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Nr. () _____ Parish _____

Please make checks payable to:
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Fund
Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee
11 North B Street
Pensacola, FL 32502

For additional information contact (850) 435-3500
Your gift is tax- deductible.
Thank you!