

## **THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH**

### **Sunday, September 17th**

“GIFT” Program Begins — 5:45 PM (3)  
(Parent Session—7:15 PM)

### **Monday, September 18th**

Eucharistic Adoration—5 to 8 PM

### **Sunday, September 24th**

Parish Picnic—12:30 to 3:30 PM

### **Monday, September 25th**

Plaza Mexico Night—Ladies of Charity  
(Flyers in Church Foyer)

#### **Legend**

Church (1) Padua Hall (2)  
Religious Education (3) Ewald Center (4)

## **MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK**

### **SEPTEMBER 18TH—24TH**

<b><u>Monday</u></b>	<b>Victoria &amp; Scott Curtin (L)</b>
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	<b>Communion Service</b>
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	<b>Communion Service</b>
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	<b>Communion Service</b>
<b><u>Friday</u></b>	<b>Marie Victoria Iadarola</b> r/b Mr. & Mrs Scott Curtin
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	<b>Daniel Orourke</b> r/b Deacon Ed <b>Charlie Rohan (birthday)</b> r/b Family
<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b>Parishioners</b> <b>Suzanne Murray</b> r/b Beverly & Peter Maccari

### **“AND I WILL GIVE THEM REST”**

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Don Exner and all deceased members and their families.

### **PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY**

Please pray for all members of our parish serving our country both here and overseas.

## **THE CATHOLIC FAITH, THE SACRAMENTS AND CONVERSION**

It is not too late and please join us.

**RCIA is held on Sundays, after the 8:15 Mass.** We are meeting in the basement of the Ewald building. Anyone who is interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, converting to the Catholic faith or any Catholic wishing to complete the sacraments should come to the sessions or call **Deacon Ed or Nora Baker at 410-257-0347.**

## **FROM THE PASTORS DESK**

### **“Easy Does It”**

Dear Brothers and Sisters of St. Anthony’s,

Fall is in the air. The nights are getting cooler and the days are growing shorter and the “football fanatics” are happy again with NFL prime time on Sunday mornings now beginning at 9 or 10 am. The games don’t usually begin until after 1 pm but the televised version of it begins well before that. For many people, this is their Sunday worship. Unfortunate as this is, it’s good to know that many of the icons that kids, big kids and even bigger kids watch, have some deep religious underpinnings. Sometimes this is due to the college they went to. In many instances those institutions that they attended were run by religious orders. For example, the University of Notre Dame is operated by the Holy Cross Fathers and Brothers, and Boston College which is run by the Jesuit order of priests and brothers. While being exemplar in the arena of sports they also excel in the academic world as well as passing on the higher tenets of our Catholic faith. I witnessed this for myself when I did chaplain work for the Washington Redskins, who at the time were coached by Joe Gibbs, who himself was a very Christian man, and Richie Petitbon, a good Catholic from the Louisiana area (hence the Petitbon alarm signs in front of the church.) During our religious services I came to know many of the professional athletes and their families.

All of this reminds me of our days growing up and playing fall sports. One of the things we would do is play street football. This was back in the day before video games existed. It was a time when your mother wanted you out of the house to play with your friends so she could do domestic house work and watch her shows (soap operas) underneath the roar of the vacuum cleaner. It was much safer to go outside and play. I pray that we can one day get back to this. I rarely see children playing pick-up games like we used to do.

While engaged in the street football games I remember seeing a bumper sticker on a neighbors car. The sticker said: “EASY DOES IT”. At the time, I was too young to put it into context. Now, having lived life, and four decades later after dealing with my own issues, I have come to understand the profound significance of that bumper sticker.

I share these insights due to the changes that have occurred here in the parish. Last Sunday I read a statement that hopefully will be taken in the light of “Easy Does It.” Just in case you were not at St. Anthony’s last Sunday here is that statement sent from the Archdiocese:  
“I understand your concerns.

As you know, I have also been concerned about the financial health of the parish and its ability to meet pastoral needs of the parish. In the past week, I met with Bishop Knestout and discussed these matters and we are in a longer discussion about next steps. But know that I have the best interests of both the financial stability and the pastoral growth of St. Anthony’s in mind.  
I should have more to announce in the next few weeks.”

As always, I am available to you in case you would like to discuss these matters.

Peace, In Christ Jesus, Fr. Stack

My dear faithful of St. Anthony’s, for your information, I have asked Sr. Ann Parker to assume the ministry of Director of Religious Education. I would like to thank Mrs. Debbie Wheeler for all the years of service that she gave to this very important program. The Liturgical celebrations and the work of catechesis are at the very heart of the Lord Jesus’ Church and its mission. Jesus said: “Go out to all the world and proclaim the Good News.” As always, we take the Lord at his word and do what he has asked. Thanks again Sr. Ann and Debbie. As a side note, Deacon Eric Mueller will be working with the “GIFT” team and coordinating the Youth Ministry program.

## **FAITH FORMATION AND "GIFT"**

### **"GIFT"**

Our high school program "GIFT" will begin this Sunday, September 17th, 5:45-8 PM in the Religious Education Center. All high school teens of the parish are invited to attend. Snacks to share and/or 12 pack sodas are always welcome.

### **Rite of Christian Initiation of Children**

Classes will be forming in the fall for children, grades 3-12, who have not yet received the Sacraments of Baptism, Penance or Eucharist.

## **LADIES OF CHARITY UPDATE**

The Ladies distributed over 150 backpacks with school supplies to children in the households of Pantry clients. This was a 15% increase from 2016. Thanks to all who donated backpacks and supplies, stuffed the backpacks, and distributed the backpacks to clients.

### **The 2017 Crab Basket Raffle was a success:**

approximately 2400 tickets were sold. The winning ticket was held by Lynn Turner, a long time volunteer for Faith Formation and the Food Pantry. Thanks to all who bought and sold tickets. We raised \$2000 for the Food Pantry. This represents about a month of food for the Pantry shelves.

**The next fundraising dinner at Plaza Mexico** is on **Monday, September 25th**. A portion of take out or eat in dinner receipts will be donated to the Ladies of Charity for the Food Pantry. Flyers will be available in the foyer of the church on the weekend of 9/23-9/24. Thank you for your participation in this event.

## **PARISH PICNIC—SIGN-UPS & VOLUNTEERS**

Sign-Up sheets to attend and assist with the annual parish picnic scheduled for September 24th can be found in the foyer of the church.

Please sign up today!

## **BAG & BANGLE BINGO TO SUPPORT CARDINAL HICKEY ACADEMY**

**Friday, September 22nd**, doors open at 6 pm and bingo starts at 7 pm at the Deale Elks Lodge, 6022 Drum Point Rd. Deale, MD. Tickets are \$25 a person, everyone entering must have a ticket. Admission includes 20 regular bingo games. Additional cards will be sold and there is also a 50/50, Raffle Boards and Specials. Drinks and baked goods will be for sale. For more information or to purchase tickets contact Shelly Thompson at [shellyt0423@gmail.com](mailto:shellyt0423@gmail.com) or 301-536-0727.

## **ST. BERNARDINE'S**

On the fourth Sunday of each month, we invite you to bring non-perishable foods to any Mass for St. Bernardine Parish (in Suitland) for their parish food pantry. You may leave your donations in the large white baskets in the foyer of the Church. **Designated dates this month: September 23rd and 24th.**

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK**

Mercedes Basiliako, Vicki Baxter, John Bell, Sam "Bo" Bradley, Marlene Bradshaw, Bill Carroll, Helga Cuevas, Luis Cuevas, Lou Decolator, Sig Degitz, Al Engel, Bill Exner, Jo Finch, Anthony Fowler, Taylan Fowler, Louise Floren, John P. Flynn, Noah Christopher Haas, Marie Heaton, Maslynn Holmes, Cory Honoker, Kayla, Johnston, Shirley Kallal, William Kallal, Rick Kollinger, Brian Lloyd, Donna Lynch, Mark Mann, Walter Matziet, Kelly McCarley, Jennifer Melanab, Margie Edwards Morgan, Joanne Nielsen, Mary Ogle, William Owens, Doris Pettko, Payton Phillips, Ray Pyles, Carolyn Ritch, Joel Rivera, Grayson David Rodriguez, Wayne Romanek, Kristy Salek, Janet Stanley, Bunny Tate, Betty Theurer, Claudia Toone, Susan Vilcheck, John Waak, Pat Waak, Richard Walton.

## **TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME—SEPTEMBER 24TH**

### **First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9**

Isaiah expresses an urgent plea that all should seek the Lord and turn to him for mercy.

### **Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a**

In a strongly personal message from Paul while in prison, he says that he wishes "to be freed from this life and to be with Christ," but he realizes that he still has much important work to do.

### **Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a**

Jesus tells the parable of the owner of an estate who hires workmen for his vineyard. When, at the end of the day, he pays a full day's wage to those who worked only one hour, those who worked all day and complained bitterly. But the owner says, "I am free to do as I please, and I not?" Jesus reminds us through this parable that "the last shall be first and the first shall be last."

## **GOSPEL QUESTION**

When have you forgiven someone who treated you unfairly?

## **CONTRIBUTIONS**

As always, we are most grateful for your generous contributions to our parish.

***September 10th—\$9,110.00***  
***Catholic University—\$1,299.50***

  
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**Our parish code is MD768.**