

LITURGICAL APPOINTMENTS FOR NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME,
AUGUST 8/9, 2009



(Follow this schedule only)

	Ministers of the Word	Ministers of Holy Communion
3:30 p.m.	Eric Givens	Cathy Givens
		Daren Givens
12:00 p.m.	Lisa Dean	Jim Merkowitz
		Rose Merkowitz
		Gene Kropfelder
2:00 p.m.	Hispanic Mass	

FR. MIKE'S SERMON FOR AUGUST 2
(do not read before Mass)

Luther had been home from the war nearly four months, now, and worked at the Carnation Milk plant in Mt. Vernon where his wife, Jenny, worked. This morning, he was in the little Miller Cafe next door to the Post Office waiting for the mail to be "put up." Sitting across from him in the booth was his old friend, Fred Hill. Fred had not been in the service, because when the war started in 1941, his parents had been in very poor health; his father with a bad heart, and his mother with cancer. He was needed at home to care for them and operate the farm. His parents had since died, and the farm was now his – his and Maggie's. Luther seemed depressed this day. Fred asked him what was bothering him. "You seem down in the dumps today, Luther," he said. "I can't see what could be botherin' you. You came through the war without a scratch, you got a beautiful wife and a baby on the way, you got a good job; what's the problem?" "My mother is in bad shape," said Luther. "We're going to have to take her in, and with the baby coming we don't have the room." "Can't build a room on?" asked Fred. "No lumber available," said Luther. "I've tried here, Mt. Vernon, Springfield, Joplin, and there won't be any more shipments for the duration. Who knows how long that will be?" That evening, Fred finished the milking and sat on the front porch with Maggie. "Better put your Pa's car up," said Maggie. "Radio says rain tonight." Fred's father had bought a new 1941 Ford just before his first heart attack, and the car was now Fred's. He had built a new garage for it just before Christmas, and tonight he congratulated himself on getting it built before the lumber ran out. He didn't even know it had, until Luther told him this morning. Fred drove the car into the new garage and latched the door. He walked back around the house to the front porch. He sat on the porch with Maggie until darkness fell. They could see heat lightning in the West, and the wind started to rise. They went in the house to listen to the news of the war on the radio, and shortly went to bed. The next morning, Fred again drove his pickup into Miller for the mail. When he reached the cafe, Luther was there ahead of him. "Still haven't found any lumber, I guess?" "No, I asked everybody at work, and nobody knows of any. I don't know what we'll do." "I found the lumber for you," Fred said. "You did? Where?" Luther was delighted. "Fella I know. He'll let you have it free, you bein' a veteran and all. He doesn't seem to want you to know who he is, so I'll have to haul it in for you. Tell you what, you get your foundation poured, and I'll bring you a pickup load every day and help you build it. We'll have it done before the baby gets here." "That's a friend for you," Luther said to himself, as he drove to Mt. Vernon. That evening he came home with sacks of cement in his pickup. Luther dug and poured the foundation, and when it was ready for the footings, he told Fred. "Fine," said Fred, "I'll bring the first load over and be there when you get home from work." Fred appeared every evening with a load of lumber, and the two men worked until it was too dark to see. Over the next few weeks, the new room took shape and was finished and roofed. "Where did you get the shingles?" asked Luther. "Same fella," answered Fred. "He's got all kinds of stuff." Luther didn't push. Lots of older folks liked to help out the young veterans anonymously. It was common. It was done! The women fixed the room up inside, and moved Jenny's mother in. The men went back about their business. At supper one evening, Luther told Jenny he would like to do something nice for Fred and Maggie, since they had been so helpful with the new room. "I know," said Jenny, brightly. "Maggie likes those big wooden lawn chairs like Aunt Birdie has on her lawn. Why not get them a couple of those?" "Good idea," agreed Luther, and the next Saturday he bought a couple at the hardware store and loaded them into his pickup. When he got out to Fred's farm, there was no one home, Fred and Maggie having gone in to shop. "That's OK," Luther thought, "I'll just put them in his new garage in case it rains." He drove around the house and into the driveway that led to Fred's new garage. The garage was gone. Only the foundation remained to show where it had been. Luther put the chairs on the front porch and drove home, knowing now Fred was the "fella" whose gift of wood from his dismantled garage became the home for Luther's mother to die in peace, surrounded by her family. The two men are now in their mid-seventies, and are still the best of friends. They never spoke of the incident. How could they? There was nothing to say. The gift said it all. Jesus today offers Himself to you as the Bread of Life. In order to do so, He gave up everything on the Wood of the Cross. With that "Wood" Jesus has built us a home with God where we will never want from hunger or suffer from thirst. There is nothing more to say. God's gift speaks for itself.



MASS SCHEDULE

- Sunday, August 2**
12:00 noon Rosie Pitcher
(Ann Marie Gunderman)
2:00 p.m. Hispanic Mass
- Monday, August 3**
8:00 a.m. Socorro Camotes (Mary Lou Schluep)
- Tuesday, August 4**
7:00 p.m. Communion Service
- Wednesday, August 5**
12:00 noon Sherri Wilson (Bill and Jackie Soards)
- Thursday, August 6**
7:00 p.m. Communion Service
- Friday, August 7**
8:00 a.m. Bud Uhl (Bill and Jackie Soards)
- Saturday, August 8**
3:30 p.m. Harold Carson (Patsy Carson)
- Sunday, August 9**
12:00 noon Ben Anfone, Sr. & Ann Flynn Corwin
(Mary Lou Schluep)
2:00 p.m. Hispanic Mass



BENEDICTION every Wednesday morning
at 11:30 a.m.



STEWARDSHIP NEWS

Weekly Need \$2,100.00

Collection Week of July 26th
 Envelopes and Loose \$1,682.05
 Donations for Lights \$ 750.00
 (Thanks to Eric Givens and Don Salzano.)
 Total \$2,432.05

Variance +\$ 332.05
 (3☺☺☺)

YTD NEED \$8,400.00
 YTD OFFERINGS (starting July 5, 2009)..... \$8,793.96
 VARIANCE..... +\$ 393.96
 (4☺☺☺☺) God will bless you for giving in these hard
 economic times. I read that unemployment in Highland
 County is now at 16%.



Happy
Birthday

- August 3 Elaine Hays (aka Ellen or Eileen by the
Pastor who finally got her name correct)
- August 6 Ruth Ward

Blessings...Fr. Mike



IN OUR PARISH

August 4

6:00 p.m.CHOIR PRACTICE
6:45 p.m.ROSARY

August 5

6:00 p.m.SPANISH CLASS

August 6

6:45 p.m.ROSARY

August 8

9:00 a.m.ROSARY

Continuing Education Classes are cancelled till further notice.



St. Vincent de Paul Society is open for business at these times:

1st Thursday, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

3rd Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

If an emergency, call Fr. Mike at 937-403-2510.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

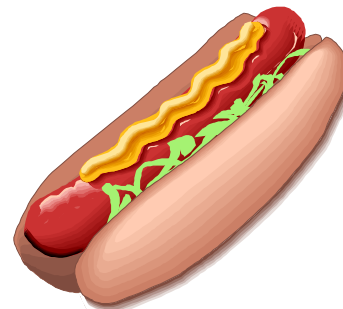


1. **On Wednesday, August 5, St. Benignus Council, Knights of Columbus, will celebrate the Installation of Officers.** The ceremony will begin at 7:30 p.m., in the Church Basement. It is important that all officers attend the installation. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.



2. **St. Benignus is looking for someone to coordinate activities of the Bereavement Group.** This group helps families who have lost a loved one. They assist with planning the funeral, as well as setting up the dinner afterwards. The Coordinator has a lot of back-up support, so this position is not too demanding. It basically entails calling other Bereavement members and coordinating dates and times. Call Fr. Mike or Kristy Bockrath if interested. Many thanks to Mary Lou Zoldac who chaired this committee for many years. She is "the last one in town to let you down."

TODAY IN HISTORY



50 YEARS AGO, AUGUST 2nd...The Ladies Auxiliary would meet on August 3rd, at 8:00 p.m., at the home of Mrs. Charles Chapman at 315 1/2 South Washington Street. Assisting hostesses would be Mrs. Elmer Meyers and Mrs. Oscar Meyers, who would be serving hot dog wieners.



25 YEARS AGO, JULY 29th...Fr. Gavin asked prayers for the repose of the soul of Theresa Uhl and Charles (Cotton) Chapman, who both were buried this past week in 1984. On July 22, 1984, Les Wilson was baptized by Fr. Gavin. Les is the son of James Wilson and Sherri Howland-Wilson.

10 YEARS AGO, AUGUST 1 ...Damon and Daren Givens were servers for the Mass.



A Jewish Rabbi and a Catholic Priest met at the town's annual 4th of July Picnic. Old friends, they began their usual banter. "This baked ham is really delicious," the priest teased the rabbi. "You really ought to try it. I know it's against your religion, but I can't understand why such a wonderful food should be forbidden! You don't know what you're missing. You just haven't lived until you've tried Mrs. Hall's prized Virginia Baked Ham. Tell me, Rabbi, when are you going to break down and try it?" The rabbi looked at the priest with a big grin, and said, "At your wedding."

The Usher

An elderly woman walked into the local country church. The friendly Usher greeted her at the door and helped her up the flight of steps. "Where would you like to sit?" he asked politely. "The front row please," she answered. "You really don't want to do that," the Usher said. "The pastor is really boring." "Do you happen to know who I am?" the woman inquired. "No," he said. "I'm the pastor's mother," she replied indignantly. "Do you know who I am?" he asked. "No," she said. "Good," he answered.

Show and Tell

A Kindergarten teacher gave her class a "show and tell" assignment. Each student was instructed to bring in an object to share with the class that represented their religion. The first student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is a Star of David." The second student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Mary. I'm a Catholic and this is a rosary." The third student got up in front of the class and said, "My name is Tommy. I am Methodist, and this is a casserole."

The Best Way to Pray

A priest, a minister and a guru sat discussing the best positions for prayer, while a telephone repairman worked nearby. "Kneeling is definitely the best way to pray," the priest said. "No," said the minister. "I get the best results standing with my hands outstretched to Heaven." "You're both wrong," the guru said. "The most effective prayer position is lying down on the floor." The repairman could contain himself no longer. "Hey, fellas," he interrupted. "The best prayin' I ever did was when I was hangin' upside down from a telephone pole."

The Twenty and the One

A well-worn one-dollar bill and a similarly distressed twenty-dollar bill arrived at a Federal Reserve Bank to be retired. As they moved along the conveyor belt to be burned, they struck up a conversation. The twenty-dollar bill reminisced about its travels all over the country. "I've had a pretty good life," the twenty proclaimed. "Why, I've been to Las Vegas and Atlantic City, the finest restaurants in New York, performances on Broadway, and even a cruise to the Caribbean." "Wow!" said the one-dollar bill. "You've really had an exciting life!" "So tell me," says the twenty, "where have you been throughout your lifetime?" The one-dollar bill replies, "Oh, I've been to St. Mary Church in Hillsboro, Ohio, and St. Benignus Church in Greenfield, Ohio." The twenty-dollar bill interrupts, "What's a church?"

Goat for Dinner

The young couple invited their elderly pastor for Sunday dinner. While they were in the kitchen preparing the meal, the minister asked their son what they were having. "Goat," the little boy replied. "Goat?" replied the startled man of the cloth. "Are you sure about that?" "Yep," said the youngster. "I heard Dad say to Mom, 'Today is just as good as any to have the old goat for dinner.'"