



IN OUR PARISH

- September 1 6:45 p.m. Rosary
- September 2 6:45 p.m. Rosary
- September 4 9:00 a.m. Rosary



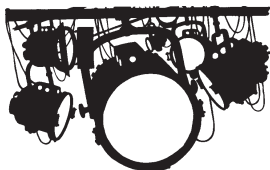
St. Vincent de Paul Society is open for business at these times:

- 1st Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 3rd Thursday, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

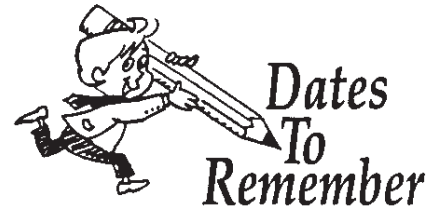
If an emergency, call Fr. Mike at 937-403-2510.

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

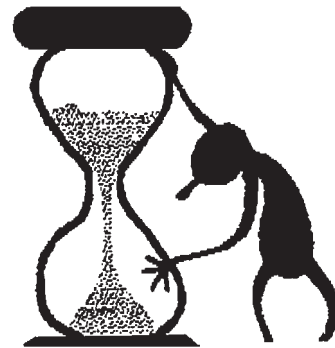
- 1) PSR Open House/Registration will be on September 19th, 11:15-11:45 a.m. Parents and students will both participate in a small project.
- 2) Servers Training will be held during PSR on September 26th. If you are a new server, you will need to attend. You must have already received your First Communion to become a server. All servers are welcome to attend. Parents will need to sign up their child at registration in order for their child to attend.
- 3) I am hoping by the time you read this bulletin, the St. Benignus Hall floor will be restored and look as shiny as a baby's bald head. In two weeks, it will need a good buffing.



- 4) Both the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Greenfield were robbed two Fridays ago. They stole TVs, Communion Cups and Cash. Now you know why I installed lights all around the St. Benignus property. When I worked as Chaplain for the North College Hill Police Department, I learned from the police that one of the greatest deterrents to property theft is... "LIGHT IT UP." (Also, lock the doors.)



- 1. SVdP Meetings:
Second Sundays, 1:00 p.m.
- 2. Parish Council Meetings:
Third Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m.
- 3. St. Benignus K of C Meetings:
First Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.
- 4. Ladies Auxilliary Meetings:
Third Tuesdays, 6:30 p.m.



TODAY IN HISTORY

50 YEARS AGO, AUGUST 28TH... On August 29, 1960, the Ladies Auxiliary would meet at the home of Mrs. Charles Spangler. (I found out from Frances Detwiller that 15-year-old Robert Shipley died from a congenital brain aneurism. He died playing baseball. He would be 65 in 2010 and drawing Social Security.)

25 YEARS AGO, SEPTEMBER 1ST... A Mass intention was requested by Henry and Mary Fisher for Alvin and Pearl Clement on the occasion of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

10 YEARS AGO, SEPTEMBER 3RD... St. Benignus and St. Michael Parishes would host the St. Martin Deanery Farm Mass on September 15, 2000, at the farm of John and Carol Mayer.



THE GREAT POWER OF THE MASS. BE SURE TO READ THIS!

Once, St. Teresa was overwhelmed with God's Goodness and asked Our Lord, "How can I thank You?" Our Lord replied, "ATTEND ONE MASS."

"The Holy Mass would be of greater profit if people had it offered in their lifetime, rather than having it celebrated for the relief of their souls after death."
~ Pope Benedict XV ~

A great doctor of the Church, St. Anselm declares that a single Mass offered for oneself during life may be worth more than a thousand celebrated for the same intention after death. St. Leonard of Port Maurice supports this statement by saying that one Mass before death may be more profitable than many after it.

"The celebration of Holy Mass is as valuable as the death of Jesus on the cross."
~ Saint Thomas Aquinas ~

"If we really understood the Mass, we would die of joy."
~ Saint Jean Vianney ~

"There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us."
~ Saint Jean Vianney ~

"It would be easier for the world to survive without the sun than to do without Holy Mass."
~ St. Pio of Pietrelcina
(Padre Pio),
stigmatic priest ~

"When we have been to Holy Communion, the balm of love envelops the soul as the flower envelops the bee."
~ Saint Jean Vianney ~

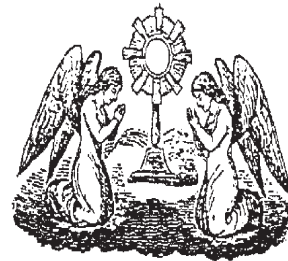
"The heavens open and multitudes of angels come to assist in the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass."
~ Saint Gregory ~

"The angels surround and help the priest when he is celebrating Mass."
~ St. Augustine ~

"When Mass is being celebrated, the sanctuary is filled with countless angels who adore the divine victim immolated on the altar."
~ St. John Chrysostom ~

I feel the presence of angels every time I say Mass.
They surround me.
I am never alone at the altar.

✠Fr. Michael Paraniuk✠



A disappointed salesman of Coca-Cola returned from his assignment to Israel.

A friend asked, "Why weren't you successful with the Israelis?"
The salesman explained, "When I got posted, I was very confident that I would make a good sales pitch.
But I had a problem. I didn't know **how** to speak Hebrew.
So I wanted to convey the same message through three posters."



First poster: A man lying in the hot desert sand totally exhausted and fainting.

Second poster: The man is drinking Coca-Cola.

Third poster: Our man is now totally refreshed.

And then these posters were pasted all over the place.

"Terrific! That should have worked!" said the friend.
"Yeah, right," said the salesman. "But no one told me they read from right to left!"

FR. MIKE'S SERMON FOR AUGUST 29TH



“But the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Humility means to service the well-being of another. The Church celebrated a great Saint on August 14th, whose act of heroic humility will be told for centuries to come.

Maximilian Kolbe was a Catholic priest, who was put in a Nazi concentration camp for his faith.

On May 28, 1941, he was transferred to the concentration camp at Auschwitz.

During his time there, he would share his meager rations of food with those around him who were hungry.

Despite the evil in the camp perpetrated against the inmates, Kolbe pleaded with the prisoners to forgive their persecutors and overcome evil with good.

A Protestant doctor who treated the patients in Kolbe's block said that Kolbe would not let himself be treated before any other prisoners in that block.

“He sacrificed himself for the other prisoners,” the doctor said about Fr. Kolbe:

“From my observations, the virtues in the Servant of God were deeply woven into his soul as if they came directly from the Divine.”

One day, a man in Kolbe's block escaped.

All of the men from that block were brought out into the hot sun and made to stand there all day with no food or drink.

At the end of the day, the man that had escaped was not found and so Fritsch, the Nazi commandant, told the prisoners that ten men would be selected to die in the starvation cell in place of the one who had escaped.

One man, a Polish sergeant (Francis Gajowniczek), was one of those selected. He cried out, “My wife. My poor children! Who will care for them?” He begged to be spared because he was worried that his family would not be able to survive without him.

As he was pleading with the commandant, Maximilian Kolbe silently stepped forward and stood before the commandant.

The commandant turned to him and asked, “What does this Polish pig want?”

Kolbe pointed to the Polish sergeant and said, “I am a Catholic priest from Poland. I would like to take his place, because he has a wife and children.”

The commandant stood silent for a moment in disbelief.

He then allowed the sergeant to go back to his place in the ranks and Kolbe took his place in the starvation bunker.

Each day, the guards removed the bodies of those who had died in other bunkers.

However, instead of the usual sounds of screaming, all they could hear was the sounds of Kolbe and the others in the bunker singing hymns and praying. Fr. Kolbe told his fellow prisoners they would soon see the Blessed Virgin Mary. He prayed the Rosary constantly. They sang hymns to honor Mary. The other prison guards were moved by the music and “peaceful face” of this man whom they first despised because he was a priest but came to honor him for his bravery and kindness. Sympathetic guards, who secretly consoled those prisoners by night, brought Fr. Kolbe unleavened bread and some wine so he could say Mass under the cover of darkness. The consecrated bread and wine were the only food they had. It was at one of these Masses that Fr. Kolbe saw the Blessed Virgin Mary dressed in a white gown with open hands and extended arms to receive him.

When Kolbe couldn't speak any longer, due to hunger and lack of energy, he would whisper his prayers.

After two weeks, the cell had to be cleared out for more prisoners. Only four prisoners were left and Kolbe was one of them.

The guards injected each with a lethal injection. Fr. Kolbe was the last to be injected. With the last bit of strength left, he simply lifted his arm to receive the needle, smiling into the face of his executioner. After giving the injection, the executioner ran out of the cell crying. On August 14th, on the eve of the Assumption 1941, Fr. Kolbe paid the ultimate price.

St. Maximilian Kolbe viewed others as more important than himself. And in that, he was following the humility of Jesus. My Polish Biblical teacher in the seminary, Fr. Eugene Maly, always used to say to the students, “Grace is free but it isn't cheap.” The price God asks us is to humbly serve the well-being of others...and do it with a smile.

Blessings...Fr. Mike