



BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.



October 29

Mike Bick, Dominic Kelner

October 30

Bryn Karnes, Addison Mootz,
Sean Thomsen, Jim Winner

November 1

James Rooney

November 2

Sterling Hardy

November 3

Camryn Remsing, Nancy Shultheis

November 4

Cadence Myers, Queen Fia Thomsen

LAUGHTER IS GOOD



A police officer found a lost toddler hysterically calling her mother. The police tried to console the toddler.

Police: "Don't worry child, I will help you go home. Where do you live?"

Toddler: "With my parents."

Police: "Where do your parents live?"

Toddler: "With me."

Police: "Where do you all live?"

Toddler: "In our house."

Police: "Where is your house?"

Toddler: "Next to our neighbor's house."

Police: "Where is your neighbor's house?"

Toddler: "Will you get me home if I tell you?"

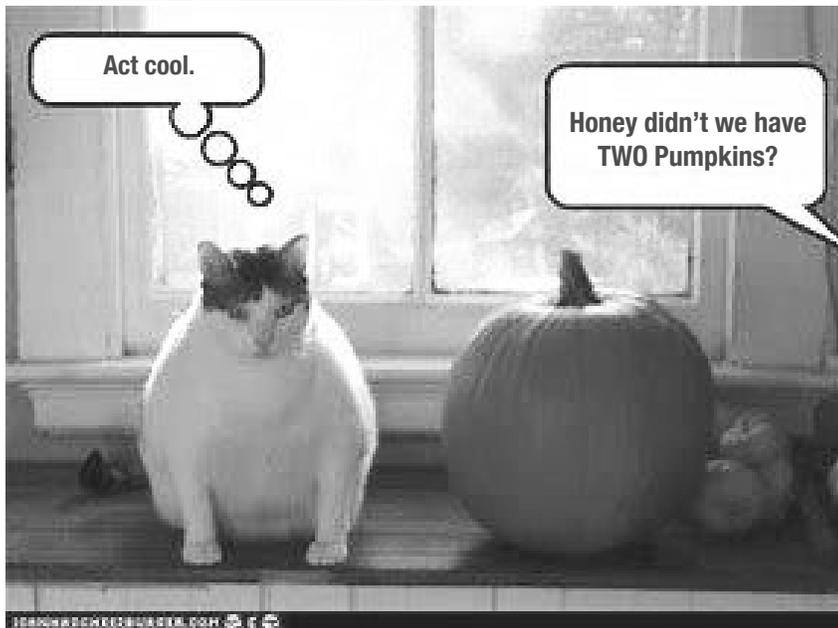
Police: "Tell me."

Toddler: "Next to our house."



THE PARISH

Veterans of St. Mary and Community will be honored on November 11, 2018, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Please join us to recognize those brave men and women who have served in the military. A carry-in meal will follow Mass in Father Luehrmann Hall. St. Mary Youth Group is the host and will provide the meat, drink, dessert and table service. The parish is invited and is asked to bring a covered dish to share.



SERMON FOR THIRTIETH SUNDAY

This story is about a skinny young boy who loved football with all his heart. Practice after practice, he eagerly gave everything he had. But being half the size of the other boys, he got absolutely nowhere. At all the games, this hopeful athlete sat on the bench and hardly ever played. This teenager lived alone with his father. The two of them had a very special relationship. Even though the son was always on the bench, his father was always in the stands cheering. He never missed a game.

When the young man went to college, he decided to try out for the football team as a walk-on. Everyone was sure he could never make the cut, but he did. The coach admitted that he kept him on the roster because he always puts his heart and soul to every practice.

He never got to play in a game.

It was the end of his senior football season, and as he trotted onto the practice field, shortly before the big playoff game, the coach met him with a telegram. The young man read the telegram. He became deathly silent. Swallowing hard, he mumbled to the coach, "My father died this morning. Is it all right if I miss practice today?" The coach put his arm around the kid's shoulder and said, "Take the rest of the week off, son. And don't even plan to come back for the game on Saturday."

Saturday arrived, and the game was not going well. In the third quarter, when the team was 10 points behind, a silent young man quietly slipped into the empty locker room and put on his football gear. As he ran onto the sidelines, the coach and his players were astounded to see their faithful teammate back so soon. "Coach, please let me play. I've just got to play today," said the young man. The coach pretended not to hear him. There was no way he wanted his worst player in this close playoff game. But the young man persisted, and finally, feeling sorry for the kid, the coach gave in. "All right," he said. "22, you can go in." Then it happened. The coach, players and everyone in the stands could not believe what they saw. This little unknown, who never played a game before, was doing everything right. The opposing team could not stop him. He ran, he passed, blocked, and tackled like a star. The score was soon tied. In the closing seconds of the game, this kid intercepted a pass and ran all the way for the winning touchdown. The fans went wild. His teammates triumphantly hoisted the kid on their shoulders. Deafening cheers echoed in the stadium.

After the stands had emptied and the team had left, the coach noticed that this young man sitting quietly in the corner of the locker room all alone. The coach came to him and said, "Kid, I can't believe it. You were fantastic! Tell me, what got into you? How did you do it?" The young man tearfully looked at the coach and said, "Well, you knew my dad died, but did you know that he was blind? Dad came to all my games, but today was the first time he could see me play. I showed him I could do it."

The blind man Bartimaeus showed Jesus he had faith. How did he show it? He threw away his cloak. That cloak was a beggar's cloak. He would lay it on the ground and people would throw coins on it. The cloak had painted markings to show the beggar was blind. By throwing away the cloak, he proclaimed his faith. "I don't need this beggar's cloak anymore. I believe Jesus will heal me." The healing was very simple. Jesus asks what he wants. The beggar replies "I want to see." Jesus says "you have faith." The beggar's sight immediately returns. He follows Jesus.

When you pray to Jesus for healing or for any need, be sure to throw off your cloak. Throw away the cloak of fear and doubt. Fear and doubt are like the people in the crowd who told Bartimaeus to be quiet. Don't let your problems shut you up. Don't let worry paralyze you. Be like Bartimaeus who eagerly ran to Jesus using his spiritual eyes of faith. Jesus knows your every situation. Follow Him with "blind trust." Take courage. Jesus is calling you. Hebrews 4:16 says "So let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God. There we will receive his mercy, and we will find grace to help us when we need it most." Like the young football player, show your Heavenly Father you can do it.

Blessings...

Fr. Mike