



BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.



August 27	Keith Addington, Dave Gunderman,
August 29	Warren Lucas, Mary Tamborski
August 30	Emily Loudin, Jim Powell
September 1.....	Isabella Tesmer, Rudy Tomsen
September 2.....	Becky Gillespie

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

Curious About the Catholic Faith? Preparation Classes for the R.C.I.A. start Tuesday, August 28, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. All adults are welcome. The single Walnut Street door will be open and we will have “R.C.I.A.” signs with arrows directing you to our meeting place. Come join us! If you have any questions, please call Jim Hehl (937)-364-6556 (Home), or (937)-661-4835 (Cell); Joyce Combs: 937-403-6708 (Cell), or 937-764-2030 (Home).

PSR (Parish School of Religion) starts September 9, Preschool through 12 grades. Gather time is 8:45 a.m. in Hall. Dismissal is 9:50. Packets are in the narthex to register. Email stmarycre@cinci.rr.com for more information. We are excited to add preschool this year; Mrs. Wendel will lead our little ones, as they journey to learn more about Jesus and the Catholic Faith.

Confirmation is October 4, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Archbishop Dennis Schnurr will be the Celebrant. St. Mary and St. Benignus students have been preparing for a year and a half for this special occasion. Please keep them in your prayers.

Knights of Columbus are severing up their delicious fish fry and pork loin dinners. You won't have to wait till March if you have been craving that great fish. Mark your calendar for September 28 and Saturday October 6th. Time 4:30 to 8:00pm in the Parish Hall. Open to the public..... More details to follow.

LAUGHTER IS GOOD

Early one evening a gentleman went to his garage and pulled the lawn furniture out onto the driveway. Shortly after followed the lawnmower, a few gardening tools and a bicycle.

A curious neighbor wandered over and asked if he was going to have a garage sale.

“No,” replied the gentleman, “my son just bought his first car and right now he’s getting ready for a big date. He’ll be taking the car out soon to pick up the girl.”

“So what’s with all the stuff?” asked the neighbor.

“Well, after years of moving tricycles, toys and sports equipment out of the way every time I came home from work, I wanted to make sure the driveway was ready for him.”



Life is fraught with opportunities to
keep your mouth shut.

— *Winston Churchill* —

You will never reach your
destination if you stop and throw
stones at every dog that barks.

— *Winston Churchill* —

The best argument against
democracy is a five-minute
conversation with the average voter.

— *Winston Churchill* —

A pessimist sees the difficulty in
every opportunity; an optimist sees
the opportunity in every difficulty.

— *Winston Churchill* —

An appeaser is one who feeds a
crocodile, hoping it will eat him last.

— *Winston Churchill* —

Success consists of going from
failure to failure without loss of
enthusiasm.

— *Winston Churchill* —

Life can either be accepted or
changed. If it is not accepted, it
must be changed. If it cannot be
changed, then it must be accepted.

— *Winston Churchill* —

SERMON FOR TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY

Jesus came to Earth to answer two questions: The first is “Who is God”? The second is “What does God want”? Jesus answers the first question by revealing God as Loving, Kind and Merciful. To prove this Jesus did a lot of healing miracles and forgave a lot of sins. People took notice. Many became His followers. I would want to be good friends with someone who could make my life better. I could be very attracted to Jesus who said God is not out to punish me.

But His answer to the second question, “What does God want?” got Jesus in trouble. Jesus said God wants you to eat my flesh and drink my blood to have eternal life. The followers responded by saying “This saying is hard; who can accept it?” They showed their disdain by leaving Jesus and going home.

One of the saddest and most frustrating experiences I have as a priest is to see good people leave their faith in the face of hardships. When they most need God, they walk away from God. I experienced this too many times as a Chaplain at Children’s Hospital. Faced with the unfairness of a child seriously ill, some parents walked away from God, thinking He doesn’t care or worse, blaming Him for the illness. The devil has only one purpose – to separate God’s children from God. Nothing makes the devil happier than this. I think one of the greatest rewards in Heaven will be given to those who remain faithful to God when everything in their life told them to just leave God with disdain.

What does it mean to be faithful to God? A faithful person believes that God is in control of my life because He cares for me at all times, good and bad. The goal of faithfulness is to allow God to walk on my stormy waters and invite Him into my sinking boat. I believe God will never allow my boat to sink.

My friend Ruth was so faithful to God. She had many reasons not to be. Her whole life was one hardship after another. She was an orphan abandoned by her parents. Her husband abandoned her after giving birth to their son. She was a single mother working hard to raise him and feed him. Sadly, he passed away at a young age. I met Ruth living alone, her body filled with arthritis from her years of hard work cleaning rich people’s homes. She was homebound, unable to attend Church. I would very gently hold her gnarled hand out of fear a bone would break. Into that hand I would place the Body of Christ.

On my last visit before my ordination she gave me a gift. She told me, “God has been so good to me.” I was shocked to hear her say that. She continued, “With every cross God gave me a blessing. You have to look for them but they’re there. I’ve carried many crosses so God has given many blessings. When you are a priest, tell the people to keep faith and never lose hope.” She handed me a box. Inside was a banner she made for my ordination. What a precious gift made even more so when I thought of the pain her hands endured while making it. This gift I have hid so well I can’t find it to show you. It depicts a road that leads to the Cross. She placed flowers along the path. She told me, “On the road of life the flowers are the blessings. They make the Cross more bearable.” Shortly after my ordination Ruth went to Heaven. Her Cross is no more. Only the flowers of blessings surround her. Well done good and faithful servant.