

BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.



\$264,990.00 Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall

WALK FOR LIFE IN HONOR OF SHIRLEY AMSHOFF & HARVEY RELIEF COLLECTIONS

Thanks for your donation of **\$1,087.00** for the Walk For Life. This is very generous considering this collection coincided with the two Harvey Collections, which amounted to a grand total of **\$2,607.00**.



Happy Birthday!

September 18..... Paige Howland, James & Joe Otworth

September 19..... Julie Brioli, Tim Leibreich

September 20..... Kelly Ernst, Heather Ewing, Blaine Gard, Kristine Harless, Cathleen Smart

NEWS AROUND THE PARISH

- Requesting dog and cat food donations to be distributed at Catholic Charities Pantry at Rocky Fork Lake Area, October 26th. Drop off at Community Action office or call Sally Hinton, Coordinator, at 937-365-1331.
- **Parish School of Religion is underway.** Classes are for graders K to 8 to meet on Sundays at 8:45-9:50 a.m. in the Parish Hall. Use school entrance. High School grades 9 to 12 will meet once a month after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall. Schedule is on a table in the Narthex. Youth Group is a separate organization. They will meet once a month and is open to children in grades 7 to 12. Contact Mrs. Humphries for more information. Karen's email and phone number is on the front of the bulletin.
- Parents with children who will be making their First Communion and Reconciliation will have a meeting on Sunday, September 24, during PSR time. One parent must accompany their child to the meeting. Meet in the parish Hall at 9:00 a.m.
- Students and parents in the Confirmation class will meet September 17, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass in the Parish Hall for a short meeting.

**When you bought an elephant and are reading
the instructions**



I SAID BE QUIET!

DON'T MAKE ME COME IN THERE!

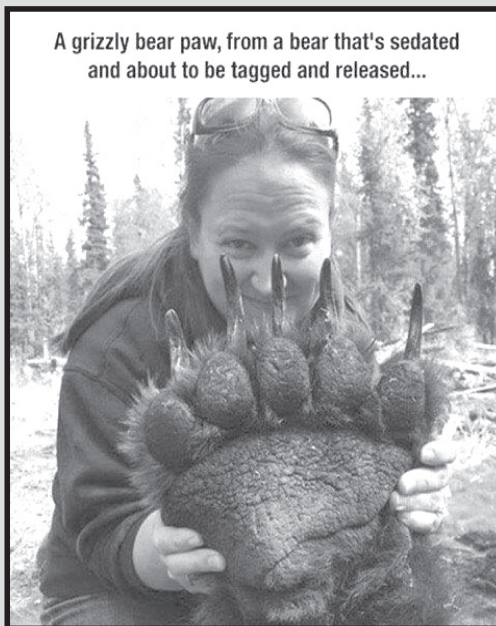


Hey, Guess What...

Your iPhone 5 arrived!



**A grizzly bear paw, from a bear that's sedated
and about to be tagged and released...**



When girls are hugging



When guys are hugging

**The owners unleashed this dog when their
house caught fire. They ran out, but the dog
went back in to save the kitten...**



**Because true friends hang out with you
when you're not feeling well.**



SERMON FOR TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

During WWII, there was a fierce battle fought against the Germans in France. A beloved American soldier died in this battle. His comrades desired to give their friend a proper burial in a cemetery. The only cemetery in the village was a Catholic cemetery. They brought the body wrapped in a shroud to the priest. "Father, may we bury our friend here in your cemetery?" The priest asked, "Is he a Catholic?" His friends replied, "No, Father, he was a Baptist." With deep regret the priest recited Church law. "A Catholic cemetery is only reserved for baptized Catholics. Under obedience I must obey that law." With great sorrow the soldier friends proceeded to bury their comrade outside the wooden fence that marked the borders of the Catholics-only cemetery.

Several months later, the friends returned with a stone marker to lay upon his grave. They were shocked and crestfallen upon their return because they could not find the grave. They approached the priest, "Father, do you know who took him away? Why would someone do that?" The priest calmly replied, "Do not worry. He is there where you laid him. Church law said I could not bury your friend in consecrated ground reserved for Catholics, but the law says nothing about expanding the cemetery with new ground where no Catholic has yet been buried. So I simply moved the fence."

When God saw that we were on the wrong side of the fence and separated from Him, He sent Jesus to "move the fence" by His death, so we could once again be part of God's Family. We call this "restored to righteousness by forgiveness of sin through the Blood of Jesus on the Cross." God commands you to "move the fence" by forgiving those who sin against you. This is so important to God that if you refuse to forgive you will find yourself on the wrong side of the fence.

What does it mean to "forgive from the heart" and how do I do it?

- When you forgive from the heart you seek God's help to remove all bitterness and desire for revenge.
- This forgiveness restores the one who is hurt from evil thoughts and actions that could hurt your very relationship with God.
- Forgiveness from the heart can be done alone in prayer with God and does not require that you tell the one who hurt you, "I forgive you."
- Not only must the Christian forgive from the heart all offenders, but there are penalties if forgiveness is withheld. "If you do not forgive, neither will your Father who is in heaven forgive your transgressions." (Mark 11:26)

I've heard many times someone ask "I can forgive but I can't forget. Have I really forgiven if I still feel some hurt?" I answer them by saying that forgiveness is a choice we make not a feeling. The Hebrew word for "to forgive" can be translated "to release." When you forgive from the heart, you chose to release the one who hurt you from any punishment and you chose to release your mind from *dwelling* on the thing they did to hurt you even though you still remember the pain. Dwelling on past hurts is like pulling on the rope of a bell. If you keep pulling on the rope (dwelling on the hurt), the bell (which is the hurt) keeps ringing out. But if you let go of the rope, the bell will no longer have the power to move and the ding-dongs (the pain) will fade away.

Jesus has forgiven you much. He commands that you do the same. Whether you get to heaven or not depends on if you forgive from the heart. So let go of the rope and start moving fences. Blessings...

Fr. Mike