



**NEWS AROUND THE PARISH**

1. **St. Mary School will be having their annual Fall Festival on Wednesday, October 23, from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** There will be food, games, bouncy house, pumpkin decorating contest, costume contest, raffle items, pony rides (weather permitting) and cake walk. Everyone is invited! Hope to see you.
2. RIP Ernie Blankenship (September 7, 1936 to October 8, 2013). Ernie was a devoted member of St. Mary for 62 years. God will reward his many loving deeds.

3. RIP my cat Bela (2003-October 9, 2013). This is not goodbye, but so long till we meet again. Thanks for 10 years of loving.
4. Anita Foley of Compassion thanks the St. Mary parishioners for adopting 10 new children. These children will now have a better life.



**FR. MIKE'S SERMON FOR THE 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

On a hot humid day, July 2, 1863, a man named Joshua Chamberlain saved the United States. He was a professor of literature from Maine who would become a Union Colonel in the Battle of Gettysburg. He was given orders: "Whatever you do, you can't let them (the Confederates) come through here." If the Confederates came through Chamberlain, they would gain the high ground and the entire Union Army would be defeated. The Confederates from Alabama attacked 5 times, running as fast as they could, yelling at the top of their lungs, trying to punch a hole in the rock wall built by the Union soldiers from Maine.

On the fourth charge, Colonel Chamberlain was hit with a bullet in the stomach, but not injured as the bullet lodged in his belt buckle. That made him mad, real mad. Chamberlain wrote, "Their leader had no real knowledge of warfare ... (but) I was only a stubborn man and that was my greatest advantage in this fight."

Finally, the fifth attack came. With no time to reload, the soldiers fought with their bare hands and knives. They took many casualties. Chamberlain started with 1,000 men from Maine. Now he was down to just 80 men, without any ammunition left. A 12-year-old lookout from a tree yelled to Chamberlain, "They're forming up again, Colonel." The Confederates were reinforced with 500 more soldiers from Texas. Colonel Chamberlain was advised to retreat. He resolutely gave the order to stay. There would be no retreat. Chamberlain's brother Tom, who joined him for battle, cried out, "Here they come! Joshua do something! Give an order!"

Colonel Joshua Chamberlain stepped to the top of the wall, crossed his arms, and stared down the advancing enemy. He gave the order, "Fix Bayonets!" The soldiers stared at him in disbelief. Joshua barked out an order, "Execute a Great Right Wheel of the Entire Regiment." They asked, "What's that?"

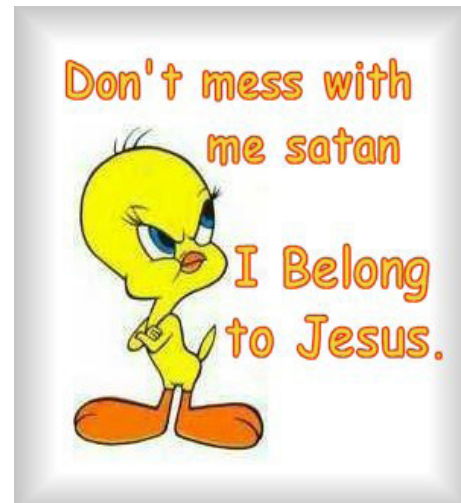
The Sergeant answered the question, "He is going to execute an all-out charge down the Hill!" Colonel Chamberlain yelled, "Charge! Charge!"

When the Confederates saw Chamberlain charge down the hill with his 80 men they completely froze. They believed Chamberlain must have reinforcements behind him. Only a crazy guy would charge with only 80 men. The Confederates

threw down their guns and ran back down the hill in total confusion. In less than five minutes Colonel Chamberlain had his sword on the Confederate Captain's chest who then surrendered. In another five minutes they captured 400 Confederate soldiers as prisoners using guns that had no bullets.

Consider this. If Colonel Chamberlain had retreated, the Confederates would have won at Gettysburg. In 6 months, they would have won the entire war. There would be no United States of America strong enough to defeat the Nazis just 82 years later. One could make the case a school teacher from Maine saved our country and the world.

We are all in an epic battle against Satan. The devil wants you to quit, give up, surrender as you fight your temptations to sin. Satan wants you to think you are too small against the alluring power of sin. Don't fall for this lie. Joshua Chamberlain would not take retreat as an answer so he charged forward in faith. Don't let the devil get away with attacking you. Fight him back with the weapons of Prayer, Faith and, most importantly, Perseverance. It was unwavering persistence that brought justice to the widow. Once you give up, you already lost. So like Moses, persevere in keeping your arms raised to God in Prayer and Faith. Jesus has already defeated Satan. Bring Jesus into your battle and watch Satan run like... uh...let's just say run down the hill!



## “WHO ARE OUR VETERANS?”

This coming “Veterans Day,” the Knights of Columbus are planning a Dedication of the New Flagpole to our School, and as part of the “Veterans Day Ceremony,” we would like to honor our Veterans by name. If you would like to include your “Veteran” (living or deceased) in the “Roll Call,” please provide the Veteran’s **NAME, BRANCH** of service (Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard), **RANK** (Sargent, Captain, etc.), i.e., Captain John Smith, Army. Those Veterans not being specifically identified will be included in “...and all of our Veterans, living and deceased.”

**TO DO THIS, YOU WILL FIND “WHO ARE OUR VETERANS?” SHEETS IN THE PEWS. Please provide the information and drop the sheets in the collection basket.**

## Some fascinating things on old tombstones!

Harry Edsel Smith of Albany, New York:  
Born 1903-Died 1942

*Looked up the elevator shaft to see if the  
Car was on the way down. It was.*

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In a Thurmont, Maryland, cemetery:

*Here lies an Atheist, all dressed up and no place to go.*

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The grave of Ezekial Aikle in Nova Scotia:

*Here lies Ezekial Aikle, Age 102.*

*Only the good die young.*

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In a London, England, cemetery December 8, 1767

*Here lies Ann Mann, who lived as an old Maid  
but died an old Mann.*

=====

In a Ribbesford, England, cemetery:

*Anna Wallace*

*The children of Israel wanted bread,  
And the Lord sent them manna.*

*Clark Wallace wanted a wife, and the Devil sent him Anna.*

=====

In a Ruidoso, New Mexico, cemetery:

*Here lies Johnny Yeast.*

*Pardon him for not rising.*

=====

In a Uniontown, Pennsylvania, cemetery:

*Here lies the body of Jonathan Blake,  
Stepped on the Gas instead of the Brake.*

=====

In a Silver City, Nevada, cemetery:

*Here lays The Kid,*

*We planted him raw*

*He was quick on the trigger,*

*But slow on the draw.*

A Lawyer’s epitaph in England :

*Sir John Strange*

*Here lies an honest Lawyer,*

*and that is Strange.*

=====

John Penny’s epitaph in the Wimborne, England, cemetery:

*Reader, if cash thou art in want of any,*

*Dig 6-feet deep and thou wilt find a Penny.*

=====

In a cemetery in Hartscombe, England:

*On the 22nd of June, Jonathan Fiddle went out of tune.*

=====

Anna Hopewell’s grave in Enosburg Falls, Vermont:

*Here lies the body of our Anna,*

*Done to death by a Banana.*

*It wasn’t the fruit that laid her low,*

*But the skin of the thing that made her go.*

=====

On a grave from the 1880’s in Nantucket, Massachusetts:

*Under the sod and under the trees,*

*Lies the body of Jonathan Pease*

*He is not here, there’s only the pod,*

*Pease shelled out and went to God.*

=====

In a cemetery in England:

*Remember Man, as you walk by,*

*As you are now, so once was I*

*As I am now, so shall you be,*

*Remember this and follow me.*

To which someone replied by writing on the tombstone:

*To follow you, I’ll not consent,*

*Until I know which way you went.*





My lack of dusting skills will finally pay off at Halloween.



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by Mark Parisi

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