

THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
AUGUST 30, 2020

SUNDAY COLLECTION – Aug. 23

Aug. 23: \$907

Please do not forget to mail or drop off your weekly offerings for our collection.
 Any and all help is greatly appreciated.

MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

<i>THE 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>		
Sat. Aug. 29	5:00 PM	For the Special Intentions of Ken Steffen
Sun. Aug. 30	9:00 AM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Mon Aug 31		No Mass
Tue Sept. 1	8:30 AM	For Henrietta Zellerer
Wed Sept. 2	6:30 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Thur. Sept. 3	8:30 AM	For Nancy Tepe
Fri Sept. 4		No Mass
<i>THE 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</i>		
Sat. Sept. 5	5:00 PM	Special Int. for the Living & Dead Members of our Parish
Sun. Sept. 6	9:00 AM	For Anna Mary Huffman

PRAYER LIST

Jerry Ehlman, Eileen Ehlman, Sherri Moffett, Kenny Neuspickel, Kathy Barth, Yandell Schneider, Charles Taylor, Ed Gripshover, Joy Sowder, Kathy Proctor, David Roland, Steve Elmlinger, Sarah Hoffman, Mary Louise Cross, Ken Steffen, Cotton Teegarden, and everyone touched by the Corona virus.

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays – August 22-Cheyenne Kiser, September 19-Bill Schneider, September 24-Madeline Thorwarth, September 25-Tony Bach.

Anniversaries – September 2-Tom and Darlene Schutte, September 6-Dina and Michael Ryan, September 10-Tony and Wanda Bach, September 26-Jerry and Eileen Ehlman.



ST. MATTHEW CHURCH

Pastor: Rev. Jacob Straub – Cell (859) 445-2436
 Address: 13782 Decoursey Pike Morning View, KY 41063
 Phone: (859) 356-6530 Fax: (859) 356-1695
 Parish Email: stmatthew13782@gmail.com – Bulletin submissions by Fri. afternoon
 Parish Website: stmatthewskenton.org

Worship Schedule:

Saturdays – 5:00 PM Sundays – 9:00 AM
 Weekdays – please check each week's schedule

Confession Times:

Saturdays – 4:00-4:50 PM Sundays – 8:00-8:50 AM

Parish Staff and Volunteers

Religious Education – Roseanne Rawe (859) 635-1572
 Bulletin/Prayer List – Linda Fryman (859) 240-2377
 Parish History/Cemetery Info – Patty Neuspickel (859) 472-2508

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

DPAA –If you missed giving, there are envelopes in the back of church for your convenience. Please be generous in helping us reach our goal.

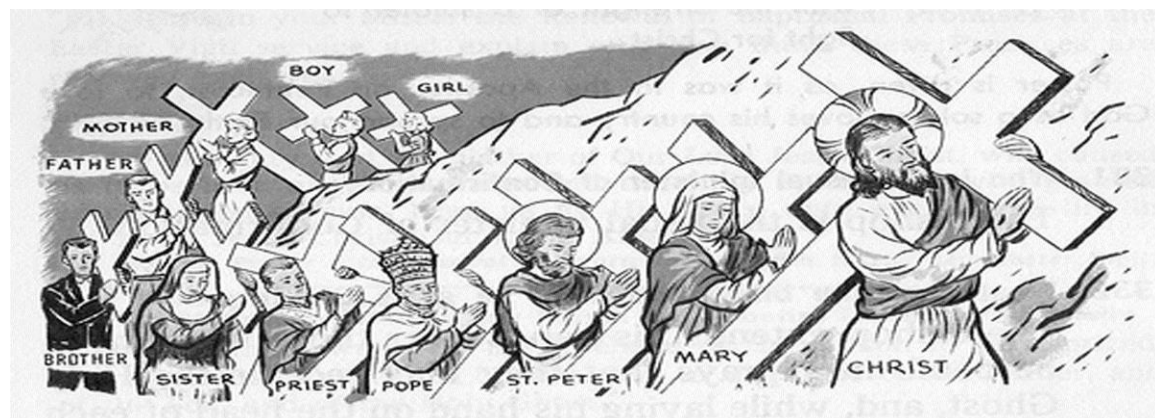
Parish Goal: \$10,700 Total Commitments (as of Aug. 18): \$9,800

MASS INTENTIONS – We are currently accepting Mass intentions. What a wonderful way to honor our beloved dead who have gone before us or to request added prayers for the living who need them. The suggested stipend is \$10 per Mass. Envelopes are available in the back of church.

GRAND RAFFLE TICKETS ARE HERE – Tickets are in. We will be distributing them after Masses and keeping track of who has what numbers for the Gaming Commission's requirements. We will also be mailing an order sheet out to those who have not been attending Mass. If you received tickets at church, please just ignore the order sheet you receive in the mail. Ticket stubs will be mailed back to those who return their order sheets and payment. The drawing will be held at noon on October 18.

CCD PARENTS – Please contact Rosanne Rawe if you have a child that you wish to be in our CCD program this year. This is especially important if your child wishes to be Confirmed during this CCD year. This year's classes will use new books and will be done at home until we are able to resume in-person meetings/classes. Roseanne's number is 859-635-1572. There are also forms for you to fill out that we must return to the Diocese.

BOOK STAND IN GATHERING SPACE – The Knights of Columbus have placed a stand filled with free books in the gathering space. Please take some to read. There are a variety of subjects from which to pick.



FROM THE PASTOR – SCANDAL & THE CHURCH

The sudden shift in the tone of Our Lord between last week's Gospel reading and today's sounds very unnerving: Jesus goes from bestowing a glorious title and office on St. Peter to calling him Satan. Yet this is unsurprising when we realize that Peter's words, though unintentional, go against the divine plan of salvation. What Peter does can be given a name, and we call it scandal.

The word scandal comes from the Greek *skandalon* which originally designated a stone that caused one to stumble and fall. In fact, when Jesus says in today's Gospel that Peter is an "obstacle" to Him, St. Matthew uses the word *skandalon*. So a scandal is something that causes us to stumble in our trust and understanding of someone. It is a disgraceful action which brings about an offense in us because the one who has committed it should have a higher standard of conduct than the actions demonstrate. Though this word gets thrown about today whenever some famous person does something wrong (and should it really be surprising when that happens?), yet its fullest impact comes whenever something wrong is done by those who work in the name of Christ and His Church.

We have known scandals in our time with the revelation of the sex abuse crisis, but this is far from the only or greatest of the scandals to strike the Church. Many Protestants will point out the scandalous behavior of the popes throughout the Middle Ages (usually pointing to Alexander VI, though he is far from being the worst pope). Perhaps the greatest scandal of the Church happened in the fourth century, when many clergy agreed in silence or vocally with the heresy of Arianism that denied the divinity of Jesus Christ.

Why do these scandals occur? Don't we call the Church "holy" in the Creed? Indeed, the Church is and remains holy, for She pours out through the Holy Spirit the holy sacraments and the holy teachings necessary for salvation. Yet this does not negate the sinful nature of the human beings who compose the Church. The grace of God builds on nature, it does not suppress it. Only insofar as we follow the words of Our Lord in today's Gospel can we begin to be holier witnesses of the Church: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Let us pray for the grace to avoid sin and bear well the cross that we must carry. Suffering and sin and evil will always happen in this broken world, but we must bear it as Jesus bore the Cross because of our sins. Let us pray for the avoidance of scandals in the Church, so that all the faithful (clergy and laity) may lead others to Christ and bring Christ to others. Let us follow Jesus on the sorrowful way of the Cross, because it is the only path that leads to eternal salvation.

Fr. Jacob Straub