

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus says in today's gospel: "O woman great is your faith, let it be done to you as you wish." We should not and must not misunderstand Jesus' action and reaction in today's gospel. Jesus wants an exchange, a dialogue with the Canaanite woman in today's gospel. And His goal is to allow this woman to enter into communion with Him. Just like the disciples or the Jewish custom described in today's gospel, we also have our own prejudice, our own sectarian mentality, our own devil. Jesus is helping us through this gospel to fight these devils and be opened to others. There is another fact in this gospel. Today's gospel also reminds us of another episode of the gospel, at the wedding feast of Cana in Galilee, Jesus dealing with another Woman, (this time His own mother), says to her "Woman, how does your concern affect me?" Nevertheless, He does what these two women asked: at Cana in Galilee, He changed water into wine; and in today's gospel, He listened to the prayer of this woman. Please, let's not judge Jesus's way of answering this woman, let's rather see in it The Good News.

WYOMING COUNTY FAIR NEWS

Thank you to everyone who donated a basket or gift card for our stand at the fair. On Saturday August 29th from 11 to 1, we will be in the hall with baskets set up for you to buy tickets if you can't make it to the fair. Also, we will be selling tickets on Sunday August 30 after 9 am Mass.

Then baskets will be transported to the fair and set up in our stand. Volunteers are still needed to help at the Raffle stand at the fair. If you can help, please contact Roanne Kelleher at 570-575- 9337.

WYOMING COUNTY FAIR SET UP NEWS

We need a few volunteers to clean the building before the Fair gets started. The plan is to go up to the building on Saturday, August 29 at 1:00 pm. We can meet at St. Mary of the Lake parking lot and go up together and go in fewer cars if you need a ride or do not know the way. We can meet at 12:30 pm then go to the Fair Grounds from there.

I do not think it will take more than two (2) hours to clean if we have about ten (10) people. We have buckets, cloths, and cleaning solutions, we just need people! You could bring a broom. Please call Lisa Janoski (570) 587-1924 to get on the list or if you have questions! Thank you!

ST. PATRICK FALL FESTIVAL NEWS

The Fall Festival at St. Patrick's will be on Sunday October 4th from noon to 4pm. This year's co-chairs are Joanne Schofield and Karen Gardoski. We will have a planning meeting after Sunday mass on August 23rd in the hall. Please come to see how you can use your talents and also fellowship with your brothers and sisters in Christ! Questions? Contact Joanne at 443-528-8713.

GOOD MORNING PENNSYLVANIA

The filming for the OLA Fall Festival GMPa. spot will be on Saturday August 22nd. Please be at the Church at 9:45. All volunteers are encouraged to attend. That makes a good AD on TV!

OLA FALL FESTIVAL NEWS

The OLA Fall Festival will be held on Saturday Sept 19 and Sunday Sept 20. White Elephant and Silent Auction donations can be dropped off in the OLA Hall after August 16. Items for the Silent Auction should be gently used and placed on the right side of the room (men's bathroom side). White elephant items should be in working condition and placed on the left side (women's bathroom). We are still in need of donations for Bountiful Baskets, Dining Out, Soda and Water and the Basket of Cheer. Volunteers are needed for the serving lines, kitchen, table maintenance/garbage and parking. Please sign up in parish hall. Contact Bruce and Nikki Weisenfluh at (570) 335-8135 if you wish to donate to this important fundraiser. Thanks.

**AN EARNEST REQUEST TO ALL
PARISHIONERS**

As we enter our fundraising season, we earnestly encourage all parishioners to reach out to businesses both near and far and ask for their support of our parishes through gift cards and monetary or other donations. Many local businesses, including gas stations, grocery stores, garages, and restaurants, are often willing to support our fundraising efforts. Please reach out to your acquaintances, friends, neighbors, and business contacts and ask if they would consider donating. We also ask that, when you know a business has supported our fundraiser, you take the time to stop in and personally thank the manager or owner. Whenever possible, please support these businesses with your own patronage, and let them know that you are choosing to do business with them because they support our parishes. Your personal outreach, gratitude, and support can make a tremendous difference. Thank you for helping our parishes and for encouraging our community to support those who support us!

LITURGICAL MINISTERS / LECTORS SCHEDULE

August 22 & 23

Eucharistic Ministers

4 pm (OLA) Nikki Weisenfluh

9:00am (SML) Len Nash

11 am (SP) Cynthia Singer

Musicians

4 pm (OLA) Maria Fay

9:00am (SML) Danny Williams

11 am (SP) Maria Fay

Lectors

4 pm (OLA) Kathy Tumavitch

9:00am (SML) Mary Lou Franko

11 am (SP) Barry Singer

Altar Servers

4 pm (OLA) – Jace Biglin

UPCOMING EVENTS

Aug 19 – Clothes Closet at SP, 4 to 7pm

Aug 20 - Clothes Closet at SP, 4 to 6pm

Aug 20 - Bingo at SP doors open 5pm, bingo 6pm

Aug 20 – Prayer Shawl Ministry, SML, 5:30pm

Aug 23 – SP Fall Festival meeting after 11am Mass

ENTHRONEMENT OF THE SACRED HEART

On Tuesday, August 25th an Enthronement Mass will be held at Divine Mercy Parish in the Minooka section of Scranton at 7 p.m. Reverend Daniel Toomey, Spiritual Moderator of the Enthronement Guild, will be the principal celebrant for the Mass and Reverend Paul McDonnell, OSJ, Pastor of Divine Mercy, will concelebrate. If you are interested in an Enthronement for yourself or your family please contact Maria Pappa, Guild Coordinator, at 570-241-8172 to register for an Enthronement Packet at Mass. You may also renew your Enthronement if you have previously received one. All are welcome to participate at this Mass in honor of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart.

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL NEWS

The PPC and Coordinating Committees met to discuss parish needs and to outline plans for the next year in the areas of Word/Worship and Community/Service. We will be continuing our Hallow prayer challenges and are planning some additional Bible Study opportunities for all ages. We also are looking for additional opportunities for welcoming all to our parishes. Please take an opportunity to greet those around you, especially if they are a new face. Be on the lookout for a monthly Donut Sunday or Cheese and Cracker Saturday as an opportunity for fellowship. The next PPC meeting will be October 27 @ 6pm in the OLA Hall.

CLOTHES CLOSET NEWS

The last day of the Clothes Closet will be September 3rd. The \$2 bag sale will continue until the last day. Come grab some great deals while they are still happening.

MASS INTENTIONS

Tuesday (August 18) Weekday

8:00am (OLA) Rev. Kevin Mulhern

By A Grateful Parishioner

Wednesday (August 19) St. John Eudes, Priest

8:00am (SP) Chuck Steigerwald

By Legion of Mary

Thursday (August 20) St. Bernard, Abbot & Doctor of the Church

8:00 am (SML) Yvonne Snyder

By Betty Czymeryk

Saturday (August 22) The Vigil of The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00 pm (OLA) Nancy Snee

By Richard Kruczek

Sunday (August 23) The Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

9:00 am (SML) Jennifer Murley Trauger

By Parents

11:00 am (SP) Marcella Ramzinski

By Barbara Kelly

WEEKLY OFFERINGS (COLLECTIONS)

SP Weekly \$ 2,053.00 Loose \$ 161.15

OLA Weekly \$ 1,618.00 Loose \$ 61.00

SML Weekly \$ 2,150.00 Loose \$ 103.00

May the Lord reward your generosity.

YOUTH MINISTRY DIRECTOR

The chancery is in search of a new Youth Minister Director: The Director of Youth Ministry is responsible for implementing a comprehensive vision of Youth Ministry in the Diocese of Scranton, integrating youth and their families into the total life and mission of the Church. Within the framework of “Renewing the Vision” and “Listen, Teach, Send” (USCCB), the Director of Youth Ministry will assist parishes in empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ today, drawing young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic community, and fostering the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person. If you are interested, please call the chancery at 570 207 2238.

SAINTS WITH UNUSUAL LIVES

In Chapter VII of his book entitled Confessions, the great Saint Augustine says: “LORD, GIVE ME CHASTITY AND CONTINENCE, ONLY NOT YET”. Augustine was afraid God will answer too quickly and take away the pleasures of sin he still wanted to enjoy. This first quotation is the inauguration of everything we will write in this paragraph in the future. The goal is to show that there is no Saint without a past (an ugly and dark past). If Saints succeeded in turning their lives around and became Saints, so can we.