



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

SERVICE TO HIS PEOPLE

Member of 5 Saints West Pastoral Planning Group

October 4, 2009

GLORY BE TO GOD!

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Here is a wonderful story that I think captures today's readings.

Long ago in a faraway land, a young man was traveling through the countryside. Along the way, he met a young woman gathering flowers. She gave him a drink from her water pouch; he shared with her some of the bread he had purchased in the last town. He was captivated by her kindness and grace. He walked with her to her house, a cottage made of brilliant stone that sparkled in the sunlight and surrounded by a magnificent garden. When they came to her gate, he wanted to stay with her forever.

"My lord," she said, "there is only room for one of us here."

Not wanting to lose her, the dejected suitor immediately went to the house of a wise sorceress for counsel. "The lady may be put off by your wealth," the sorceress suggested. So the young man returned to the young lady's gate.

"Who is there?"

"It is I, my lady. I have given my money to the poor. I come alone, in a plain cloak, possessing nothing but my love for you."

"There is only room for one of us here," the lady said.

Rejected a second time, he traveled to the hut of the old hermit, renowned for his holiness and wisdom. "The weapons you bear may be obstacles for her," the hermit offered. So the young man laid aside his sword and bow and returned to her house.

"Who is there?"

"It is I, your humble servant. I have neither sword nor bow. Just a simple man of peace and good will for all."

"There is only room for one of us here," the lady said again.

The young man was devastated, wondering what he must do to win the heart of his beloved. Then, one day, in the quiet of the small village church, he heard the voice of God speaking to his heart. And he understood. He returned to the lady's cottage.

"Who is there?"

The young man took a deep breath, and said quietly, "It is thou."

And the lady welcomed him.

[Based on poem "The Beloved's Door" by Rumi and an adaptation by Elisa Davy Pearmain in **From Doorways to the Soul**, published by Resource Publications, Eugene OR, www.wisdomtakes.com.]

"Two become one" - one in heart, one in hope, one in love, one in God. In marriage that is of Christ, husband and wife

are bound as one in such love: love that lets go rather than clings, love that happily gives rather than takes, love that liberates rather than imprisons. A couple's life together - a life centered in trust, forgiveness and humility - and their generous response to the vocation of parenthood model the unfathomable and profound love of God. The sacrament of marriage, as Jesus taught, is a total giving and sharing by each spouse so that the line between "his" and "hers" disappears into only "us." In the life a couple creates together, life that sometimes means both taking on and letting go for the sake of the beloved, Christ is the ever-present Wedding Guest, who makes their simple, everyday life together a miraculous sacrament, in which the love of God is revealed to all of us in their love for each another.



Spirit Alive

Read: Acts 4: 5 - 31

Reflect: The Sanhedrin challenge Peter and John in this section of Acts, thinking that Peter and John are uneducated, ordinary men. Yet, even though the local leaders think they are unqualified, the

two apostles cannot help but speak the truth about what they have seen and heard. Do I feel "qualified" to be a disciple? What in my world scares me about speaking the truth of what I have seen and heard? How can I learn to better express my "ordinary" faith and stand in courage before that which scares me?

Did anything else stand out for me in this section of Acts?

Act it Out! How do my reflections today inform how I will live out my discipleship in the world this week?

Could I...

...go outside my comfort zone and visit a new community in another part of my city or town?

...look for God in an "ordinary" part of my day and tell someone that I see God there?

...talk with people at work or school about how a new movie helped me learn something new about my understanding of God? How else could I act it out?

Golden Agers Baked Food Sale

The Baked Food Sale will be on October 24th & 25th after each Mass.

If you would like to donate items to be sold it would be greatly appreciated

MASS INTENTIONS - Oct 3rd to Oct 11th

Saturday
4:30 PM Merle Turner by Mr. & Mrs. David Turner

Sunday
9:00 AM Bob Nelson by Verna
11:00 AM Angela Bullo by Don & Dora Gabel

Monday
9:00 AM For the people of St. Christopher

Tuesday
9:00AM Mothers living and deceased

Wednesday
9:00AM Fred Stohr by Allan & Marion Brown

Thursday
9:00 AM Communion and Prayer Service

Friday
9:00 AM Joseph (Bert) Ouelette by the Ritzel family

Saturday
4:30 PM Bob Booher by wife, Doll

Sunday
9:00 AM Florence Becker by Ginny Lockridge
11:00 AM Joseph Anthony Salati by Colleen & Emily

NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES

Sunday - Oct 4th
9:00 AM Pre-School and Kindergarten Classes (all Clsrms)
9:00 AM Reconciliation Enrollment Rite
12:30 PM Blessing of Animals (outside)
1:00 PM Youth Group (hall)

Monday & Tuesday
4:15PM & 6:00 PM Faith Formation Classes grades 1-5
6:30 PM Human Services Ministry (20 Spring Flower Dr)
7:15 PM Liturgy Committee

Wednesday
6:30—8:00 PM Junior High Classes (All Clsrms)
7:00 PM Folk Group Rehearsal (Church)

Thursday
7:00 PM Choir (Church)

Saturday
4:00 PM Fall Clothing Drive Begins
4:30 PM Liturgy of the Word for Children

Sunday
12:00 PM Youth/Young Adult Choir

Mark Your Calendars Five Saints West Fall Retreat "JOURNEYING WITH LUKE"

Monday, Oct. 19—7pm at St. Christopher's
Monday, Oct 28—7pm at St. Mary's
Monday, Nov. 2—7pm at St. Columba-St. Patrick
Monday, Nov 9—7pm at St. Vincent
Dr. Joseph Kelly, Professor Emeritus of Scripture at Nazareth College, will bring the Gospel of Luke alive to help us journey towards a deeper relationship with God.

Blessing of Our 4-Legged (and other) Family Members

October 4 is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. St. Francis was a lover of animals and we know that many of you in our church family love your pets and consider them a part of your family. On Sunday, October 4 we welcome pet owners to come to the church parking lot (downstairs in the hall, if the weather is bad.) to have their pets blessed by Deacon John. We invite all the dogs of the parish and their owners to come at 12:30 and all other to come at 12:45.

R & R for All Liturgical Ministers

Oct. 24, 2009; 9:30 to Noon
This gathering is a time of REFLECTION and RENEWAL for our Music Groups, Lectors, Sacristans, Eucharistic Ministers, Hospitality Ministers, Servers, and Liturgy of the Word Leaders - ALL LITURGICAL MINISTERS. The program includes a keynote speaker, Deacon Larry Feasel from our diocese, prayer service and reflection time, as well as sessions to review the ministry (or ministries) in which you currently serve. The Liturgy Committee requests all liturgical ministers to attend.

Parish Bike Ride!

Please consider joining us on our parish bike ride! It will be hosted by St. C's youth group, but it is open to ALL ages. If anyone under 12 would like to join, there will need to be a parent/guardian coming along on the bike ride. The bike ride is on Sunday October 18th at 2pm! If you go north on Union Street from church to Spencerport, we'll be meeting in the parking lot on the LEFT directly BEFORE the canal bridge. PLEASE bring your bike, helmet, and a bottle of water! The bike ride will be about 14 miles total. We are planning on biking from Spencerport to Brockport, and then back to Spencerport. If there are at least 3 people (and 1 is 21 or older) that would like to do a longer ride OR a shorter ride, we can have different groups riding different routes/distances! We hope you will join us to celebrate the nice fall weather! Any questions? Email Kim and Dave at stchristopheryouthgroup@hotmail.com

Youth Group...

~ There WILL be youth group on Sunday 10/4 from 1-3pm.
~ Don't forget that there is always a newsletter the 1st week-end of every month with the youth, young adult, and music updates and monthly calendars! Check that for events and details! If you miss getting it any month, request a copy or check the bulletin board outside the youth room upstairs!

Parish Financial Stewardship Summary

| | LAST WEEK | YEAR TO DATE |
|------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Last Week | \$ 5,996.50 | \$ 79,233.60 |
| Attendance | 686 | #of Envelopes 220 |

"Keep Our Campus Cool" Campaign

\$ 52,891.30 received \$ 54,451.30 pledged 325 families

The Third Gift: : The Gift of Treasure cont'd...
But what of our spiritual efforts?
We must prayerfully consider: moving forward in faith: in an unconventional way—without guarantees of a return or gratification from our financial gifts. We are not "buying" anything with our gifts but rather making a return to the Lord for the many gifts he has bestowed on us.



**Tuesday Nights @ Jitters
Bible Study
For YoUnG aDuLts**
College Students & Adults 18-35

A special 7 week Fall Bible Study, entitled **“The Bible & Catholicism”** will be starting up SOON! Join us each Tuesday night at 7:30pm for a cup o’ coffee, brief presentation & lively discussion! Come each week or stop by when you can! All Gatherings take place at Jitters Café on Buffalo Road in N. Chili. Our Fall series runs from **Oct. 6 - Nov. 17.** Please bring a Bible. RSVP appreciated! Please contact Maranda for more info! 719-5851 or marandaskolen@hotmail.com

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HOPE & HEALING

—a peer-support group for the Separated, Divorced, and Widowed will meet on Thursday, October 15th at St. Christopher's from 6:15-8pm

Topic: FINANCES - LIVING TODAY & PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

Deacon Dennis E. Lohouse, CFA-Principal, holds an MBA in Finance and Accounting from the William E. Simon School at the University of Rochester. Topics to be covered could include: income planning, retirement spending, the economy, the health care reform issues, long term care, or any other finance or investment issue you care to raise. This presentation is for the everyday layperson. Your agenda is my agenda.

Please call Deacon John or Peggy at 585-293-3337 or e-mail peggycunningham@yahoo.com

Mercy Prayer Center

Christian Meditation Group, Thursdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22, 29; 7:30 – 8:30 am at Mercy Prayer Center, 65 Highland Ave., Rochester, NY 14620. Come and share the silence and peace with those who meditate – beginners or practitioners welcomed. Presenter: Karen McNamara. Free will offering.

Spirituality of the 12 Steps, Tuesdays: October 13 (meets once a month on the second Tuesday) at Mercy Prayer Center. All women and men involved in any of the 12 Step programs of recovery are invited. Facilitator: Sr. Catherine Kanick, RSM. Fee: \$15. Call 585-473-6893 to register.

Annual Fall Clothing Drive

The Fall Clothing Drive will be Saturday Oct 10th - Friday Oct 16th. Clothing can be dropped off at the Church Hall After Oct 10th and Oct. 11th Masses. and on Tues. Oct 13th - Friday Oct 16th 10 to 3 when Religious Education Offices are open. We are Especially in need of Women's clothing all sizes and Children's Clothing Baby to Five Years old for Bethany House. We also need Men's Size Small for the Migrants of Brockport. We ask that the clothing be clean, packed and labeled in Bags or Boxes. Thanks so much

**St. Christopher Church
3350 Union St., P.O. Box 399
North Chili, N.Y. 14514**

585-594-1400 *Emergency Pastoral Care* 350-8603
e-mail: nstchris@dor.org

<http://www.stchristophersnchili.org>

PARISH STAFF

Pastor*Rev. Robert Gaudio 594-1400*
Sec/Business Mgr *Marilyn Weinert 594-1400*
Deacon.....*John Cunningham 594-1400/301-8540*
Faith Formation
Coordinator.....*Judy Leone 594-1441*
Faith Formation
Secretary..... *Karen Curtis 594-1441*
Music Director.....*Celeste Dynski-Trumble 293-2358*
Pastoral Minister.....*Chris McCabe 594-1400/293-9248*
Young Adult Minister....*Maranda Skolen 719-5851/594-1091*
Youth Minister.....*Kim Potter 329-4642 / 594-1091*

SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATIONS:

Sunday Eucharist Saturday 4:30 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM
Weekday Eucharist Monday through Friday 9:00 AM

Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Friday—9-12:00

Rel. Ed. Office Hours: Monday - Wednesday
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

New families are welcome in our parish and we invite you to become more actively involved in our parish activities and ministries. Registration forms and information booklets are found at each of the church entrances.