

# 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## August 30th, 2009

“So the Pharisees and Scribes questioned him, “Why do your disciples not follow the tradition of the elders but instead eat a meal with unclean hands?” Mark 7: 5

### What would Jesus Do?

A few years ago that question became a popular slogan appearing on bracelets and bumper stickers. Perhaps it can suggest a useful approach to today's readings about rules and laws. Laws are a good and necessary component of human society. Thus Moses exhorts his people to obey the “statutes and decrees” of God's laws. James, however, points out that obedience to the letter of the law is not enough and he challenges his community to be “doers” and not merely “hearers” of God's word. Mark's gospel shows what happens when the letter of the law is slavishly followed. The Scribes and Pharisees criticize the disciples for their failure to observe the laws about hand washing. Elsewhere in the gospels Jesus himself is often challenged for breaking the rules - healing on the Sabbath, for example, or ignoring barriers of class or gender. Here he reminds us that what is important is not what the rules dictate but what is inside a person's heart. Discipleship is never as straightforward as simply following the rules. For one thing, rules can be unjust, or too rigid, or discriminatory. Sometimes we are called to question such rules in order to serve God and our neighbor in generosity and truth. So, what would Jesus do? Simply put, he would act according to the demands of justice and compassion even if that meant disregarding the rules. Can we, his disciples, do any less?

Krystyna Higgins - *Living with Christ*



### Mass Intentions for the Week

Sunday, August 30 - Twenty-Second Sunday

9:00 AM Warren J. Speer, Sr.

11:00 AM For the People of the Parish

Monday, August 31 - Weekday

5:15 PM Charles & Marge Dawson

Tuesday, September 1 - Weekday

8:00 AM Jennifer Laubenthal

Wednesday, September 2 - Weekday

5:15 PM Martha Cutler

Thursday, September 3 - St. Gregory the Great, pope

8:00 AM John & Angeline Caja

Friday, September 4 - Weekday

5:15 PM Dominic DiMauro

Saturday, September 5 - Bl. Teresa of Calcutta

8:00 AM Thomas J. McGuire

5:15 PM J.J. & Mary Anne Kelley

Unexpected changes in the schedule may cause Masses to be cancelled and Mass intentions to be moved to the first available date open. We apologize for any inconvenience.

### Scripture Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Thes 4: 13-18; Lk 4: 16-30

Tuesday: 1 Thes 5: 1-6, 9-11; Lk 4: 31-37

Wednesday: Col 1: 1-8; Lk 4: 38-44

Thursday: Col 1: 9-14; Lk 5: 1-11

Friday: Col 1: 15-20; Lk 5: 33-39

Saturday: Col 1: 21-23; Lk 6: 1-5

Sunday: Is 35: 4-7; Jas 2: 1-5; Mk 7: 31-37

### Pray for the Deceased

John Thain

## Looking Ahead

**RCIA** If you know of persons who are interested in becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic Faith, please invite them to join us on Wednesday, September 16th. See flier in today's bulletin for more information.

**PARISH PICNIC** Save September 20th for our **Annual Parish Community Get-Together** at Lakewood Park. We promise you a good time. Watch for details.

### Wedding Banns

Michael P. Morrison & Michelle A. Entres I

### Coffee and Donuts

Join the parish family for coffee, donuts, and conversation after all Sunday Masses.

## Help Needed

As I write this, the parking circle near the doors of the Gathering area continues to crumble and deteriorate. The summer weather of heating and the expansion and contraction of the concrete has left, in some places, 4-6 inch gaps of pulverized concrete dust. I am fearful that one of you will fall or trip and cause serious harm to yourselves. I am embarrassed that, as we handle funerals, people unfamiliar with the potential dangers of this area, will hurt themselves. What kind of impression of good stewardship are we reflecting as we leave this hazard go unabated?

Our funds are extremely limited. I have obtained estimates for the work to be done in either concrete or asphalt. To replace the circle with fresh concrete will cost \$18,000. To put a four inch layer of asphalt over the circle (planned to last 3-4 years) will cost \$3,300. Certainly, as we continue the fate of our empty school building, the feasibility of asphalt is more practical. Our infrastructure needs vigilant maintenance. It is part of any good stewardship program. To do this your church needs your help. If you work in construction and can obtain donated materials, and/or labor at a lower cost, please, I am pleading with you to come forward. If you can donate to underwrite the cost, please, I am asking you to do so. As people begin to search for new parishes to join, let us make ourselves attractive in all ways: liturgically, spiritually, invitational, and with good upkeep of our grounds and plants.

Your parish needs you - will you come forward and help? Thank you for your attention.

*Fr. John*

## Catholic Universe Bulletin

Check out the newest edition of the Catholic Universe Bulletin - [www.catholicuniversebulletin.org](http://www.catholicuniversebulletin.org)

Daily updates on local, national, international, entertainment and sports stories. Call editor, Nancy Erikson, to submit photos and stories from the parish at (216) 696-6525, ext. 2710.

## Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration Charity Event

The Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration Foundation will be holding their 2009 Charity Event on Sunday, September 20th, with Mass at 10 AM with Bishop Roger Gries, O.S.B. followed by Visit with the Sisters. There will be a silent auction from noon until 1 PM with lunch to follow. For further information, and to order tickets, please call Tom Kelley, President, at (216) 214-1679.

## Finance Corner:

Collection for weekend of August 23 - \$5,677.50

Envelopes used - 171

Collection for Faith & Values—\$207.00

Weekly budget to meet August 2009 expenses -

\$5,778.00

Thank you for your continued support and generosity for the parish.

**Did you know.....**

The weekly budget for September will jump to \$9,096.

## St. Clement Family PSR

Parish School of Religion is required of all students attending public school grades one through eight. Registration for new and returning students will be held on Tuesday, September 1st, and Wednesday, September 2nd, from 9 AM - 11 AM and 6 PM - 8 PM on the front porch of the rectory.

An original baptismal certificate is necessary for new students who were not baptized at St. Clement. We look forward to another great year beginning Monday, September 14th. Please call Colleen at the rectory, 226-5116, for more information.

## Senior Clementines & Friends

All older adults are invited to join the Senior Clementines and Friends on Thursday, September 10th from 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. The entertainment that day will be R.S.V.P. (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) players. They will perform several original and whimsical skits that address age related issues that will keep you laughing! There will also be a 50/50 raffle and refreshments. All are welcome. If this will be your first gathering, please call Jean Lombardo at (216) 226-5878.

## Pot of Gold Winners

(\$25) Janette Murray, Millie Dutro, Barbara Poling, Jack Curtis, Maire Manning, Vanessa Setta



## Your Journey to Faith, Hope and Healing

Our Lady of Consolation Shrine, Carey, Ohio will be hosting a Family Day on Sunday, September 13th. We welcome families to come and pray together. Mass at noon with lunch and games for the family. The day concludes with Devotions at 2:30 PM and individual family blessings. For further information, please call 419-396-7107.

## Help for Troubled Marriages

A Retrouvaille weekend will be held on September 11th-13th at the Hilton Hotel in Beachwood. A registration fee is required to confirm a reservation. To register, or for more information, call 1-800-470-2230. Learn more about Retrouvaille at [www.helpourmarriage.com](http://www.helpourmarriage.com)