



The Parish Connection



Volume 2 Issue 2

St. Mary's Parish

June 2017

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Words from Fr. Dana



Greetings!

We are a little behind in getting this "quarterly" newsletter out. It should have been out about four weeks ago. I'm planning on forming a small committee and with the help of our secretary we will, hopefully, be more on schedule.

We have been working on water leaks in the church and rectory (see the page 6 of this newsletter). We are moving forward with the remodeling of the rectory basement to add three multipurpose rooms for purposes such as, RCIA, marriage preparation, YDisciple small groups, a place for wedding party to gather and hang out, etc. The rooms won't be handicap accessible,

but we do have the conference room that is and the school also. The cost of the remodeling will be covered by my social security money that I now receive and by donations from parishioners who wish to contribute to the project. For those who are "architecturally" interested, I have included in this newsletter (page 2) the floor layout and a "doll house" view of the remodeling.

We will also move forward with the "YDisciple" youth formation program for our high school students. Check out our website for information about YDisciple. With the three rooms in the rectory basement, YDisciple groups will have a place to meet and hang out.

Father Dana

How Genuine is Your Faith?



How genuine is your faith? Is your faith in Jesus Christ strong, weak, fair, non-existent? How do we prove the genuineness and depth of our faith? A good question. The first letter of Saint Peter gives us one way that we prove that our faith is genuine. It is a way we may not like, because it involves suffering, and we don't really like that word. One way, St. Peter says, that we may prove that our faith in Jesus Christ is real is in our suffering through various trials.

Can we still give praise, glory

and honor to Jesus Christ in the midst of our losses, in the midst of our trials and tribulations, in the midst of our suffering? If the answer is "yes" then, perhaps, our faith is genuine. Our faith, St. Peter says, is more precious than gold. It needs to be tested. And a real test of our faith (this precious gift) is found through our trials (through our sufferings, our losses).

If our life is always good and perfect, is faith even necessary? Do we need to believe and trust in Jesus Christ, if we have no struggles? Probably not. When our life is going well, it is easy for us to say, "I have faith in God." But how do we know that faith is real? What happens when trials and tribulations come along? Do we tend to blame God? Does God become the bad guy? Do we turn away from God in effect saying, "I'll

teach God a lesson by not believing or trusting in him (by not praying or going to church). I'll show this God by becoming a bitter, angry, hateful person." A person may not think in those words, but their actions in effect may say that. Well, we don't teach God lessons, he teaches us. We can't really hurt God; we can only hurt ourselves. Suffering isn't fun.

There are many ways to suffer – some minor and some really major. We don't like it. And we shouldn't like it. We need to accept it with faith, but we should not like it. Jesus even asked his father to take away his cup of suffering, but he says "but not my will, but your will be done." Jesus didn't like it, but he accepted it. He was obedient, not bitter or resentful. He proved his love for his Father and us

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

through acceptance of his suffering. His love and mercy continued to be given, not taken away.

If our faith is genuine, then we accept the trials that come our way. Now, we do need to be careful in seeking to suffer for Jesus, because we may fall into the danger of developing an illusionary suffering – finding suffering that is not real, an imagined persecution that doesn't exist. It is better to say that I really don't want to suffer, but I'll accept it for the sake of Jesus and that my faith in Jesus will continue in the midst of my suffering. Although we were made for love and happiness, it is often through our suffering that we *grow* in love and happiness. Through Jesus' suffering came our salvation.

But if we don't have faith or our faith isn't genuine, then we won't deal with suffering (with our trials and tribulations) very well. Anger, resentment, hurt, hatred, unhappiness, bitterness, unrest are the results. Life becomes hell for us and those around us. But if our faith is genuine, then we

have hope, and love continues. If our faith is genuine, it doesn't mean we won't feel sadness or pain. It does mean that we don't become bitter or hateful; it means that we continue to believe and trust in Jesus, that we continue to have hope. It is in the suffering through various trials that the genuineness of our faith is tested.

Now if a person discovers (or realizes) that he doesn't have genuine faith, how does he get it?

First by desiring it. It is in our true desire that we open ourselves to God's graces that will lead to a genuine faith.

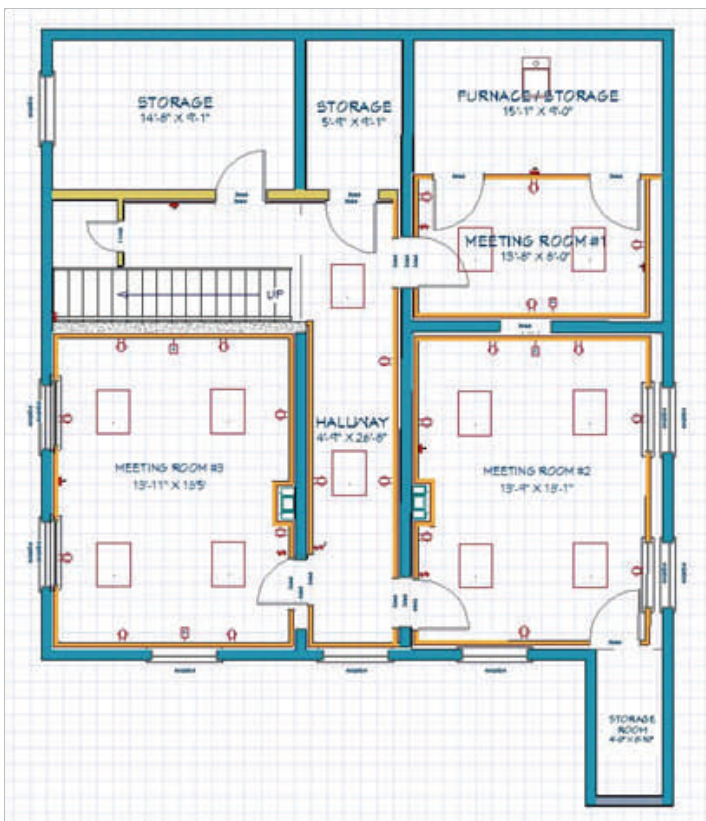
Second, we approach Jesus in prayer; we confide in him; talking to him about our fears and hurts; placing ourselves into his hands, saying "I need you Jesus, I can't do it alone." If angry, tell Jesus that you feel angry; then ask him for the grace of wisdom. If you feel life is unfair, tell him that you think life is unfair. He would probably agree with you (he was crucified), then ask him for the grace of understanding. If you feel afraid, tell that him you are afraid; then ask him for the grace of courage. If you feel

sad, tell Jesus you are sad; then ask him to come closer to you. In the process of opening our hearts through our desire and prayer, we will see God working – our faith becoming more genuine as we see love working, perhaps not directly, but through the actions and words of others. If our hearts are not open, graces cannot flow.

Finally, we turn to Jesus with trust. By placing our trust in Jesus we receive his love. The message of Jesus' mercy is that he wants us to trust him, to have confidence in him, and to confide in him. He calls us to the fountain of his mercy. Jesus speaks these words to St. Faustina: (the chosen secretary of God's mercy) "I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls.

Let us pray for genuine faith – a faith that believes and trusts in a merciful and loving God.

From a homily given by Fr. Dana
on Divine Mercy Sunday, 2011.



Rectory basement remodeling project. Floor layout and a "doll house" view.

CCD News



CCD is over for another year! I hope our students found benefit and spiritual sustenance in their Wednesday night classes. Please continue to nurture and support your children's Catholic faith over the summer months. **Mark your calendars - CCD will resume for the 2017-2018 school year on Wednesday, September 6, 2017.**

Next year we will begin a two-year process of moving confirmation to 8th grade:

2017-2018 - 9th and 10th grades will be confirmed together.

2018-2019 - 8th and 9th grades will

be confirmed together.

2019-2020 and beyond - 8th grade confirmation.

If you have questions about this decision or would like further explanation, please contact Father Dana by calling the parish office. I would like to emphasize that confirmation is not a "graduation" from one's Catholic education. Next year, the parish will begin offering a new program for post-confirmation students called "YDisciple." For now, Father Dana will be heading up this program with a team of parent volunteers.

Our annual summer program, **Totus Tuus**, will return to St. Mary's the week of **June 18-23**. Totus Tuus is

run by a team of four Catholic college students from the diocese. From Monday to Friday there is a daytime program for students in grades 1-6. In the evening, there is a teenage program for students in grades 7-12. The Totus Tuus registration forms are available on the parish website and at the back of the church. You may return this form to the parish office any time prior to June 18 or bring it with you when you drop your children off on their first day. This program offers a wonderful opportunity to keep your children engaged and growing in their Catholic faith during the summer.

Finally, we are still seeking one or two CCD teachers for next year. If you are interested in taking on a class, please contact me at luciad-bain@gmail.com.

Friday, June 23 is the feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. You can begin a novena to the Sacred Heart by visiting praymorenovenas.com and searching for "Sacred Heart of Jesus." By subscribing to this website, you will receive email reminders to begin different novenas. Let's all take advantage of these powerful prayers!

In Christ,

Lucia Bain



7th Grade CCD Class



8th Grade CCD Class



"...And since money is the root of evil, we'll be passing the collection baskets to help you get purified..."

Bat Invades Church



Father noticed a bat flying in the Church one evening. A few days later when he attempted to go up into the attic during a rain storm to check for leaks, he was greeted by the bat. Father decided to leave well enough alone. It was learned later that bats are attracted to light, because insects are attracted to light. A light indicates a potential source of food for bats!

It was deduced that the bat (or bats) were entering from deteriorating louvers on the north and south attic doors. After doing some research on bats, it was learned that they roost during the day and leave at night in search for food and water. So, the best time to block their entrance into a building is after dark.

To temporarily fix the problem, it



Condition of two ventilating louvers

was decided to cover the doors with screens to keep out bats (and wasps). So, Father one evening after dark, went up to measure the doors for the screens. No bats greeted him in the attic this time. He was safe. However, on his return through the church and back to the sacristy, a dark figure swoop down above his head — a bat! Probably attracted to the light Father was carrying.

Father hurriedly made his way to the safety of the sacristy. He turned on the light over the altar and watched as the bat flew around. The bat landed on the steps on the high

altar and began crawling around (Praying perhaps?). Father realized the bat was probably hungry and thirsty and was trying to find a way out. He opened the side doors (from the outside), turn off the light and hoped that bat realized his prayer was answered.

A couple of days later, after making the screens, Father entered the attic and installed them. The bat, true to its nature, was gone searching for food.



Screens temporarily installed to keep bats out.



Confirmation Class of 2017. On the left is Lacy Windholz, Macy Nowlin, Trey Hudson and Shaylee Fischer. On the right are Cassie Jo Waldschmidt, Kennedy Burgess, Hayden Aschenbrenner, and Aaron Windholz.

St. Mary's School—From the Principal



Greetings from St. Mary's School!

It's hard to believe, but another successful school year is in the books. The last few months have been very busy for us with state assessments and many school activities. Some of the things going on the past few months included parent/teacher conferences, book lunches, dental screenings, 1st Communion, Famous Figures, Race for Education, and end-of-the year field trips.

Mrs. Deutscher's second grade class celebrated the sacrament of First Communion on Sunday, April 23rd. They were so proud and excited to receive Jesus, and their enthusiasm helps to renew our own commitment to the importance of each Sacrament.

Our fifth graders worked very hard preparing for their school-wide Famous Figures presentation in April. All of the students did an excellent job! Those chosen to represent our school at the county-wide competition on May 5th were Kaydawn Haag as Laura Ingalls Wilder, Ava Reed as Elizabeth Polly and alternate Taylor Seibel as Mother Angelica.

Our Race for Education was Friday, April 21st. The preschool through 6th grade students were competitive as always, running a total of 1,790 laps! All of the preschoolers received med-

als, and first and second places in Kindergarten through 6th grade received medals. 1st place in Kindergarten was Carter Jimenez, and 2nd place was a tie between Jack Reed and Hunter Honas. In first grade 1st place went to Asher Haag, and 2nd place went to Coltan Mader. The second grade winner was Aiden Aschenbrenner, and 2nd place was Colton Metzler. 1st place in third grade was William Eck, and 2nd place was Jaren Frickey. In fourth grade 1st place was a tie among Isabella Eck, Chance Jimenez, and Tyler Bongartz, and 2nd place was a tie between Alyssa Rome and Lucas Dinkel. The fifth grade winners were Kyle Pfeifer, Kaydawn Haag, and Macy Eberle, and 2nd place went to Ava Reed. 1st place in sixth grade was split among Jarret Mader, Dakota Metzler, and William Crawford, and 2nd place went to Myah McCoy, Maverick Gnad, and Emily Eck. Proceeds will go toward purchasing mobile folding bench cafeteria tables and playground fencing. Before we sent out the Race flyers, I promised the students I would be a human sundae if we met our goal of \$18,000. We ended up slightly over our goal, so the students received their reward as promised!

We have a few staff changes for next year. Amber Deutscher will be joining her husband in Colorado and has accepted a wonderful teaching opportunity there. Amber gave us five great years at St. Mary's, and while we

are sad to see her go, we wish her all the best! Her position will be filled by Karen Martin, who you will learn more about in a future newsletter. Jackie Baxter is moving from 6th grade to 5th grade, and Megan Pantle is moving from preschool to 6th grade. Janetta Heroneme has accepted the preschool position, and we are very excited about having her join our staff. Mindi Mader is leaving as assistant cook to pursue other opportunities, and Deb Kinderknecht will be replacing her in the kitchen.

There are several ways to connect and keep up with St. Mary's School. Our website is stmarysofellis.org, our Facebook page is St. Mary's Catholic School K-6, and my email address is principal@stmarysellis.net.

I hope you all have a wonderful summer!

Many blessings,

April Pfeifer

Race for Education



This year our projects are new fold up tables with seats for the cafeteria and a fence for the east side of the playground. The tables will make clean up so much easier and can be utilized by groups using the cafeteria. The fence for the playground will help us keep our students safer. We reached our goal of \$18,000, so Mrs. Pfeifer was a human sundae for the students.

Our Race day was Friday, April 21 at 9:00 AM. Thank you for your support of Race for Education.



Maintenace Issues Being Worked On

There was a leak in the southwest sacristy. The leak was caused by a downspout backing up under the roof and into the sacristy. Rain is entering through the louvers. The louvers are not designed to keep out wind driven rain. Figure 1 shows the downspout extension that was crushed and completely blocked, the main cause of the backup. Figure 2 shows the new downspout extension. Figure 3 shows the gap between the downspout and the roof, where water was entering. The gap was filled with expandable spray foam (Figure 4) and covered with a liquid rubber sealant (Figure 5).

Bell Tower. If you had the opportunity to look at the video on the home page of our St. Mary's Church website, you noticed that we have a major problem of wind driven rain

entering the bell tower and making its way down two levels of the bell tower and into the sacristy. Rain is entering through the louvers. The louvers are not designed to keep out wind driven rain.

The first level below the bells is a tin floor. Its purpose, as I understand it, is to capture water and drain it out of the bell tower. There are no drains. Apparently, water would pool and eventually evaporate. Over the years the tin has rusted causing water to enter the lower levels. The tin floor has been cleaned up (over 120 lbs of dirt removed!), caulked around the edges, and painted with three coats of roofing coating. See Figures 6 and 7. The next lower level (a tongue-and-

groove wood floor) has been cleaned up, caulked about the edges, and painted with Deck Over paint. See Figures 8 and 9.

Although the work done on the bell tower floors will keep water from making its way down into the sacristy, it doesn't solve the problem of water entering. We are looking into one possible solution: There is a special type of screen made of tightly woven PVC coated polyester yarn that is very durable and water resistant. It can be placed on the inside of louvers and will keep both water and insects out and still will allow air flow. It is used in various applications, such as patio enclosures. We are looking into this further.



Figure 1. Old downspout extension.



Figure 2. New downspout extension



Figure 3. Gap between downspout & roof.



Figure 4. Gap filled with foam.



Figure 5. Liquid rubber covering the gap.

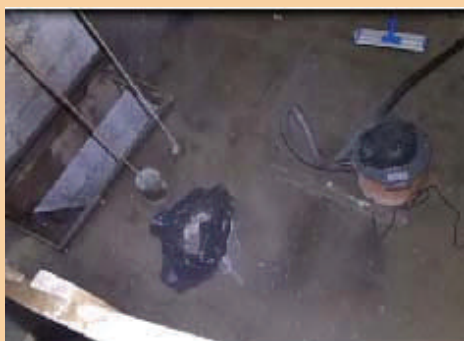


Figure 6. Tin floor during rain storm.



Figure 7. Tin floor cleaned, caulked, & painted.

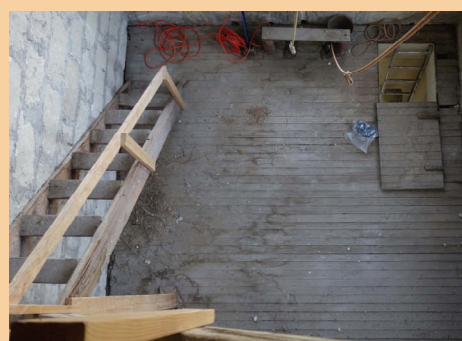


Figure 8. Wood floor above sacristy.

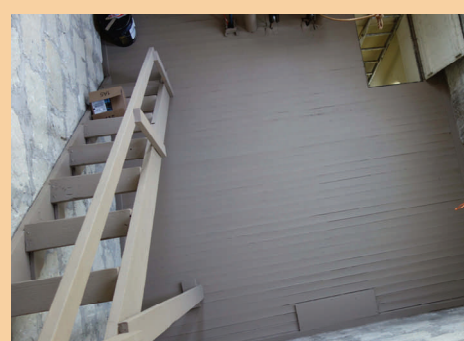


Figure 9. Wood floor cleaned, caulked, & painted.

The Story of Trevor Rasette (by Fr. Dana Clark)



Trevor came into the world on May 11 of the year 2002. It was the one year birthday of his cousin Emma, and the one year anniversary of my graduation from the seminary. He died from complications of a heart problem six weeks later on June 24, my parent's 52nd wedding anniversary.

During his short life Trevor touched the hearts of many – family, friends, nurses, and doctors. He showed us *the importance and sanctity of life* as we watched him struggle for life. He taught us the meaning of *compassion and love* as we hugged each other to wipe away the tears. We prayed for a miracle and Trevor showed us the *miracle of love and the miracle of fam-*

ily. We prayed for a sign of God's presence and Trevor opened his eyes and touched our hearts.

The last few hours of Trevor's life was very touching for me and those who were there in his room. There was nothing more that could be done for Trevor. The decision was made by his dad and mom to say our last goodbyes and then set Trevor free. It was a hard decision, but the only decision.

As I watched Trevor lying on his back with all the tubes coming out of him, I noticed his little hand moving, as if he was reaching out. I put my finger into his hand, and, so very lightly, he closed it. Maybe it was just a reflex or maybe it was his spirit trying to express itself, wanting something to hold on to.

On that day for the first time in his short life, Trevor was held by another person. His mother was the first to hold him. As Trevor was placed in his mother's arms, he opened his eyes and looked up at his mother; his spirit acknowledging, in a way, her love for him; his

spirit sensing / experiencing the love, the compassion, and the gentleness of those around him. He was then held by his dad, some of his aunts (Sheri, Mickey, Rhonda, Tammy), his cousin Emily, and finally his grandma Rasette. After that he was placed back on his little bed and we all walked out and waited as all the tubes were removed. He died a few minutes later.

My nephew Trevor (like Jesus and many others) was a grain of wheat that died, but in his dying he produced much fruit: There was the fruit of a deeper understanding of the sanctity of life. There was the fruit of compassion for those who suffer. There was the fruit of love – a love that can overcome all bitterness, hostilities, and jealousies in a person's life, a love that is to be shared with others. Finally, there is a picture of Trevor taken when he opened his eyes for the first time, 10 days after his birth – a fruit that will be remembered by many – a picture of a set of eyes that touches your heart.

Shear Generosity

When my eight-year-old daughter, Emily announced that she wanted to cut her long red hair, I hesitated. "Are you sure?" I asked, adjusting her French braid. Her hair was her trademark and she'd never had a real cut, only a trim. But Emily was determined. She'd read a magazine story about Locks of Love, a nonprofit company that makes hairpieces for children who have lost their hair, and wanted to help.

"You'll look totally different, Emily," I warned again at the

hairdresser's. Emily undid her braid and shook her hair loose until it fell down her back. "Cut right here," she told the hairdresser, her hands at chin level. "Eleven inches," the hairdresser measured.

Emily was transformed. I looked down at the beautiful red locks on the floor, wondering if my daughter had any regrets.



Holy Humor

A man and his ever-nagging wife went on vacation to Jerusalem. While they were there, the wife passed away. The undertaker told the husband, "You can have her shipped home for \$5,000, or you can bury her here, in the Holy Land, for \$150." The man thought about it and told him he would just have her shipped home. The undertaker asked, "Why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your wife home, when it would be wonderful to be buried here and you would spend only \$150?" The man replied, "Long ago a man died here, was buried here, and three days later he rose from the dead. I just can't take that chance."

A Reflection on Matthew 20: 1-16 By Gini Augustine



At first glance, this personal story may seem out of place, confusing. What, you might ask, does this reflection on yard-care, of all things, have to do with the St. Mary's newsletter? Well, stay with me for a little while, and maybe it will make more sense!

It never fails. 'Long about this time every year, I stand on the porch of our country home with a mixture of hope and dread as I survey the tangle of weeds and grasses and old flowerpots that have blown around in the latest storm. In my mind's eye, I can see the clean-cut yard, the crisp, trimmed-up edges of the walkway, the graceful, exuberant beauty of the flowers yet to come. That's the hopeful part. The dread comes, however, as I think how hard this beauty will be to achieve.

For the past few years, the physical limitations that resulted from my heart surgery have made it impossible to get down on the ground to weed and plant and do the things I always used to do. Because of that, the yard work was pretty much my husband's responsibility, with some of the detail work being done by our grandchildren when they came to visit.

It's been frustrating and somewhat disheartening to find myself unable to do these chores, so it was with great excitement this year when I realized that I felt strong and capable again. I could actually think to myself, "I can DO this, now!"

Setting out with a will and a pair of gardening gloves, I revved up the weed-whacker and began my task of clearing out around the porch. Sometimes I whacked and sometimes I pulled, and about half an hour after I started out so enthusiastically, I rejoiced to see a little progress. That enthusiasm dimmed considerably, however, as the morning wore on and the heat and the humidity pressed in.

It wasn't long before resentment reared its ugly head, and a low rumble of whining and complaining could be heard. Why is this so hard? Why should I have to do this? Why can't we afford a lawn-care service to come and do all this hard work instead? Even the porch cats began giving me a few strange looks and generally left me alone.

That's when Matthew, chapter 20, popped into my mind. Now, of course, this is probably a well-known story for most of us. If we go to church as we're called to do, we hear this story read at least every few years, so it gets planted somewhere there in a back corner of our minds. It's the one about the guys hanging around in town, waiting for someone to hire them for pay. The first ones chosen are called out to work in the vineyard, and they agree to the going wage. A couple of hours later, more workers are hired, and again later, two more groups are hired on. Finally, late in the day, one last group of men is called out. Like that first group, all the others agree to work for the acceptable wage. Eventually, evening comes, and the weary laborers line up to receive their pay.

When the last group is called out first, the others are shocked to hear that this group has received a full-day's wages, even though they only worked a couple of hours. Recovering quickly, however, the other groups laugh and nudge one another, anticipating that they will be paid proportionately more. This good-natured joshing quickly turns sour, however, as each group is paid exactly the same. They're confused, they're angry, they're resentful. They whine and complain and accuse the employer of being unfair. Just look how hard they worked, out there toiling in the hot sun for lo, those many hours!

Now, I probably know what you're thinking -- "That's right -- tell him! Is wasn't fair, it wasn't right! Those slackers didn't deserve to get a full day's wage. Those ones who worked hard were the ones who deserved the better pay!" I KNOW that's what I generally think, when I come across that story. The point seems to be that God (represented by the landowner) can choose when and how and to whom He will bestow His generosity, and who are we to question Him?

Here's the funny thing, though -- there just MIGHT be a different way of interpreting this story!

This past school year I was a member of a ladies-only Bible study, held at the home of Peggy Waldschmidt. A small group, yet sincere in our quest for knowledge and understanding, we immersed ourselves in the study of Matthew's gospel. We didn't just hear the stories "in passing," as so often happens with the Bible readings at Mass. No; instead, we read the passages, considered them, read the commentaries to learn the history and deeper meanings, discussed them, and tried to see how those messages apply to our lives today.

We didn't get around to discussing Chapter 20; if we had, I might have gained insight into its meaning a little sooner. Although the commentary for this chapter refers to salvation history, I'm guessing that a lively discussion might have gone something like this: "That's right -- I agree! Is wasn't fair, it wasn't right! Those slackers didn't deserve to get a full day's wage. Those ones who worked hard were the ones who deserved the better pay!" For those of you who were in the group, I referred to this as "the Maria effect." "But WAIT!....." Here comes the different idea, the flash of inspiration, the new way of looking at things.

As I stopped to catch my breath and get motivated to continue with my weed-clearing task, the Matthew story flashed across my mind. At first, I was feeling like one of those "first" laborers, throwing my own little "pity-party" and doing the "poor-me" routine. In the next moment, however, I knew God was trying to tell me something, and it didn't take long for His wisdom to sink in. What benefits did the first group get that the last group missed, He prompted. Well, it certainly wasn't money, as they both got just the same, so what WAS different? The ones who were chosen first may have seemed more lively, more willing to work, more prepared to get the job done. They may have exuded self-confidence or seemed more worthy of respect. So, they were hired. As the day wore on, they developed their muscles and their motivation to see a task through to completion. They probably conversed with the others as they toiled, building camaraderie and an ever-stronger network of people who knew their talents and abilities. They heard news from neighboring towns, so they may have gone home with humor-

(Continued on page 11)

MEN ON A MISSION

Saturday August 12

2017 Diocese of Salina Catholic Men's Conference

**Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
Hays, Kansas
8am to 4pm**

Join Men from across the Diocese of Salina as we come together to be renewed in our Faith and strengthened for our Mission as Catholic Men. The day will feature inspiring talks from nationally known speakers, Mass with Bishop Edward J. Weisenburger, Eucharistic Adoration, and an opportunity to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation.

Cost for the Conference

Adult - \$35

Student - (HS & College) \$15

Father w/1 son under 21 - \$40

Father w/2 sons under 21 - \$50

Father w/3 sons under 21 - \$60

(more than 3 sons, contact
familylife@salinadiocese.org)

To register online or
for more information
go to salinadiocese.org
or call 785-827-8746,
Ext. 17.

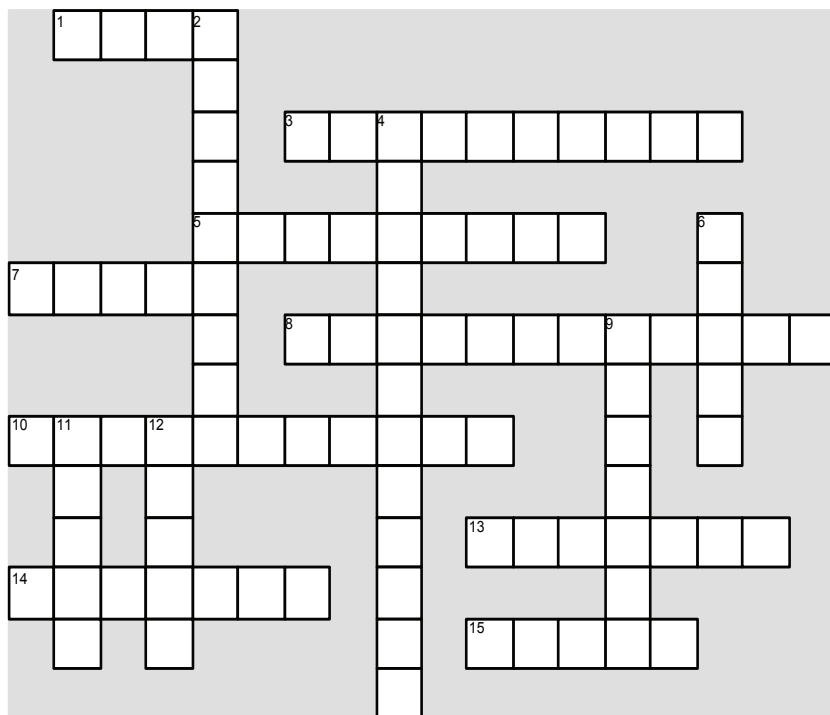


Fr. John Lager, is a well-known Capuchin Friar and native of Angelus, Kansas. He has served as the national chaplain of FOCUS since 2013. He has functioned in a wide variety of ministries in the Capuchin Order; was executive director of Samaritan House of Denver; and cofounder of Marked Men for Christ.



Dr. Ray Guarendi is a father of ten, clinical psychologist, author, professional speaker, and national radio and television host. His radio show, "The Dr. Is In" can be heard on over 440 stations and Sirius XM channel 130. His TV show, "Living Right With Dr. Ray" is aired in 140 countries.

Fun Page



www.CrosswordWeaver.com

ACROSS

- 1 The theological virtue by which we desire and expect from God both eternal life and the grace we need to attain it (CCC 1817).
- 3 The teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount on the meaning and way to true happiness (cf. Mt 5:1-12).
- 5 The feast celebrating the entry of Jesus into heaven forty days after his Resurrection.
- 7 This apostle is the first Pope of the Catholic Church.
- 8 This sacrament completes the grace of Baptism by a special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- 10 The grace in which we are given a share in the divine life of the Trinity. It makes us holy.
- 13 The first of the seven sacraments and the "door" which gives access to the other sacraments.
- 14 The first book in the Bible.
- 15 The leader chosen by God to lead the Israelites out Egypt.

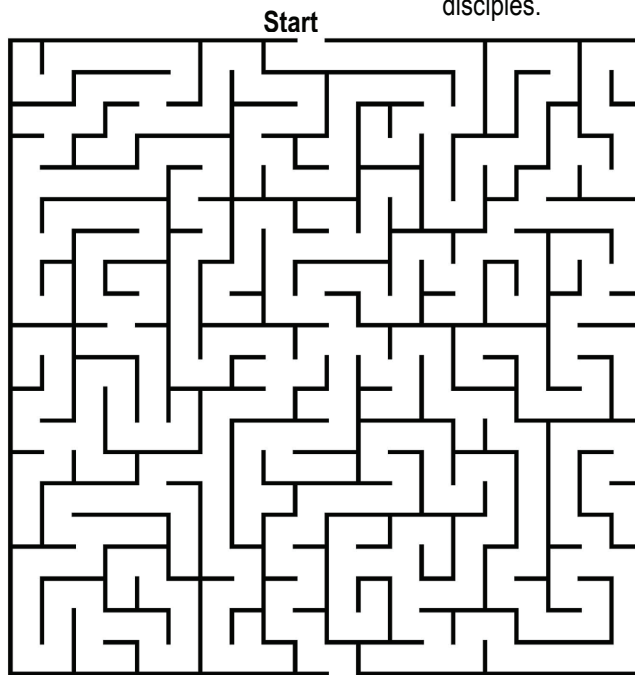
The 12 Apostles Word List

ANDREW	JOHN	PETER
BARTHOLOMEW	JUDAS	PHILIP
JAMES THE ELDER	JUDE	SIMON
JAMES THE LESSER	MATTHEW	THOMAS

DOWN

- 2 The sacrament in which "transubstantiation" occurs.
- 4 The feast celebrating the visit of the angel Gabriel to the virgin Mary to inform her that she was to be the mother of the Savior.
- 6 One of the seven capital sins. It is undue self-esteem or self-love.
- 9 Jesus selected 12 of these from among his disciples.

J A M E S T H E L E S S E R
P S Q D Y X C W F J R B N T
H M I Q L B R K Z M L M H F
I J A M E S T H E E L D E R
L Y K N O V T P N R Z R Y K
I W P V E N R C M P W G N C
P T M D L R C W M E E L Y V
P P U T Q R E C H J Y T L N
K J N C B R P T W U T T E D
N Y V H D C T J C D J H N R
M F T N G A K T L A K O Z N
Q M A X M B P R M S N M H H
B A R T H O L O M E W A M N
K R L J B T K J D W L S R X



Finish

(Continued from page 8)

ous tales to tell their own family members. All in all, they probably spent the whole day strengthening their reputations as good workers, as respected members of the community, as ones who should naturally be hired for even better jobs, later on.

By contrast, those who were hired last were seen hanging around the town all day; they were probably viewed as idlers, as loafers, as less-worthy of respect. They missed out on building their physical strength, on forming bonds of respect with their peers, on being called out for other and better tasks in the future. Compared with these, the amount of money they received would have been small compensation in that time and that place.

My attitude of resentment quickly turned to an "attitude of gratitude:" Thank you Lord, for allowing me this

little insight, this tiny understanding of your will for me! The hard work that I had groaned about was actually a benefit in disguise.

How many people would give almost anything for the ability to work and for the beauty of nature in which to work, such as I have been freely given? How many people now long for loving family and friends such as ours, who will soon be welcomed to our neatened-up place on the prairie? I have been given a huge treasure, a gift, an opportunity to use what God has given me right now. Will I use it willingly and well, or will I idle about on the street corners, so to speak, just waiting for something good to happen to me?

So much of my life is spent just sort of "floating along," never really asking God to show me what He would have me do. Being privileged to take part in the Bible study these past months has given life this new richness, this new awareness

that God is always waiting for me to tune in to His presence, to follow His Way.

Here in the Ellis community, we have many opportunities to deepen our faith and our understanding of God's purpose in our lives. Joining a Bible study or something like the Symbolon program that Fr. Dana is currently running can really help tune our antennas in to God's voice. Housing or helping out in some way with the upcoming Totus Tuus group might be another way to experience God's mighty presence in our daily lives. Truly, the more we open ourselves to these kinds of faith experiences, the more likely we are to hear from the God who loves us and wants to strengthen us for our journeys.

This week, the stories of the past gave me a new understanding of the present. I can hardly wait to see what God will use next week, to shed new light on my future path!

Life Happenings – February 22, 2017 – June 11, 2017

BAPTISMS

1. Adeline Grace Seibel

Born February 28, 2017

Baptized March 11, 2017

Daughter of Craig Seibel and Rebecca (Wicks) Seibel.

2. Brandt Steven Seibel

Born February 28, 2017

Baptized March 11, 2017

Son of Craig Seibel and Rebecca (Wicks) Seibel.

3. Emersyn Marie Gaschler

Born April 8, 2017

Baptized April 22, 2017

Daughter of Eric Gaschler and Kristen (Weber) Gaschler.

4. Reagan Marie Deutscher

Born October 31, 2016

Baptized April 23, 2017

Daughter of John "Riley" Deutscher and Amber (Honas) Deutscher.

5. Emma Susanne Amrein

Born March 9, 2017

Baptized April 23, 2017

Daughter of Scott Amrein and Jolene (Lechman) Amrein.

6. Rudolph Bruno Bain

Born April 5, 2017

Baptized April 15, 2017

Son of Clint Bain and Lucia (Flaim) Bain

7. Stefen Joseph Qin

Born February 17, 2015

Baptized April 30, 2017

Son of Shawn Befort and Jae Befort Qin

8. Vivien Marie Qin

Born November 28, 2010

Baptized April 30, 2017

Daughter of Shawn Befort and Jae Befort Qin.

9. Beau Rodney Eaton

Born March 12, 2010

Baptized June 4, 2017

Son of Joshua Eaton & Emilie (Milke) Eaton

10. Presley Jayne Eaton

Born September 9, 2011

Baptized June 4, 2017

Daughter of Joshua Eaton and Emilie (Milke) Eaton

MARRIAGES

1) **Logan Bittel married Courtney Waldschmidt** on April 22, 2017.

2) **Brandon Kingsley married Kaylee King** on April 29, 2017.

3) **Tyler James Windholz married Melanie Flax** on May 20, 2017.

4) **Joshua Eaton married Emilie Milka** on June 4, 2017

DEATHS

1) **Arlene Rupp** passed away on March 1, 2017. He was born April 19, 1932. Funeral service was held March 4, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at St. Ann's cemetery in Zurich.

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2) **Catherine Celeste (Bliss) Johnson** passed away on March 7, 2017. She was born August 16, 1969. Funeral service was held March 18, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Gnanasekar, Sacred Heart in Atwood. A memorial service was held at Mary's Church Ellis by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was Mount Calvary cemetery in Atwood.

3) **Agnes Wannemaker** passed away on March 23, 2017. She was born April

19, 1932. Funeral service was held March 28, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at Mount Hope cemetery in Ellis.

4) **Melba Engel** passed away on April 23, 2017. She was born March 27, 1937. Funeral service was held April 23, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at St. Mary's cemetery in Ellis.

5) **Earl Lambrecht** passed away on April 27, 2017. He was born March 26, 1934. Funeral service was held May 2, 2017. Services were conducted by

Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at St. Mary's cemetery in Ellis.

6) **Elmer Brungardt** passed away on May 18, 2017. He was born January 13, 1938. Funeral service was held May 22, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at St. Mary's cemetery in Ellis.

7) **Joe Locker** passed away on May 26, 2017. He was born July 2, 1924. Funeral service was held June 1, 2017. Services were conducted by Fr. Dana Clark. Interment was at St. Mary's cemetery in Ellis.

Liturgical Events & Dates to Remember

June 18	Father's Day—Blessing of Fathers
August 15	Feast of the Assumption (Holy Day). Masses 8:10 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.
September 2-3	Blessing of Grain for Planting. Leave grains at the Blessed Mother's side altar.
September 4	Labor Day. Mass @ 5:30 p.m.
September 10	Grandparents Day—Blessing for Grandparents.



Note from Sister Doris

Volunteers are truly appreciated. Approximately, 6,200+ hours have been donated to the parish for various projects and ministries from June 1, 2016 to May 31, 2107. At \$10 per hour that is over \$62,000!

Dates to Remember

July 1-2	Peter Pence Collection
July 4 (Wed)	Parish Office is Closed.
July 23 (Sun)	Catholic Charities Fundraiser, 5:00-7:30 p.m., Salina Country Club
July 28 (Fri)	Office of Family Life: Prayer and Praise for Children and Families, July 28, 7-8:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart in Colby.
August 4-6	Midwest Catholic Family Conference, Wichita
August 12	4th Annual Men's Conference – St. Mary's, Hays

St. Mary's Parish

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Ellis, KS 67637
Phone: 785.726-4522
Email: stmary@gbta.net

St. Mary's School
605 Monroe St.
Ellis, KS 67637
Phone: 785.726-3185
Email: stmarys@gbta.net

Solutions to Fun Page puzzles.

