



26th Sunday IN ORDINARY TIME

“There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name
who can at the same time speak ill of me.” - Mk 9:39b

OUR LADY OF PEACE CHURCH *Sunday, September 26, 2021*

FROM THE DESK OF FR. STAN

May dear friends,

Embracing the kingdom of God with humility

In last week's gospel reading, we heard the story of the twelve Apostles arguing among themselves as to which of them was the greatest. Jesus immediately corrected them, pointing out that his was the way of humility, and that those who wanted to be great must learn to serve the needs of others.

Similarly, the passage from the Letter of St. James condemned selfish ambition.

Our first reading this week, Numbers 11:25-29, once again takes us back to the time of Moses. The great leader of the Hebrew people was getting older, and he found that he simply did not have the energy to handle all the issues and problems that presented themselves. Thus, God has agreed that Moses should have some help and that seventy wise and responsible elders should be selected for this purpose, which is where our reading begins. "The Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to Moses. Taking some of the spirit that was on Moses, the Lord bestowed it on the seventy elders; and as the spirit came to rest on them, they prophesied."

Now, we find that some of these elders are overcome by jealousy and ambition. We also learn of Moses' humility as a leader. "Now two men, one named Eldad and the other Medad, were not in the gathering but had been left in the camp [the tent of meeting, where Moses encountered God had been set up outside the camp]. They too had been on the list, but had not gone out to the tent; yet the spirit came to rest on them also, and they prophesied in the camp. So, when a young man quickly told Moses, 'Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp,' Joshua, son of Nun, who from his youth had been Moses' aide, said, 'Moses, my lord, stop them.' And Moses answered him, 'Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets! Would that the Lord might bestow his spirit on them all!'"

Notice that there tends to be a kind of tribalism at work here. Some are considered part of the "in group", whereas there is a tendency to ostracize those who are outside the group. Notice also that, in the case of Moses, who is now elderly, there is a wisdom that has grown with time. Whereas, he might have tended to be more brash and outspoken in his youth, he now was steeped in heavenly wisdom. He recognized that God's spirit could not be domesticated according to human jealousies and ambitions. God's love, God's desire to include, is simply greater—breaking down the barriers we often wish to raise.

The gospel passage, Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48, sounds a lot like the reading from Numbers. Jesus, like Moses, is open to discipleship no matter where it should spring up. "At that time, John said to Jesus, 'Teacher, we saw someone driving out demons in your name, and we tried to prevent him because he does not follow us.' Jesus replied, 'Do not prevent him. There is no one who performs a mighty deed in my name who can at the same time speak ill of me. For whoever is not against us is for us.'" And thus, the kingdom of God will grow in surprising ways quite apart from our need to control it.



CONGRATULATIONS

William Tyler
Gabriel Nolet
Malcolm Tyler

who made their First Communion last weekend (postponed from May due to Covid-19 restrictions). May the Lord bless them and their families now and for years to come!



Saturday, September 25-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *Genevieve Guy*
by the parish staff

Sunday, September 26

8:00A *Dean Letourneau*
by John Caloon

10:00A *Sandy Weller*
by Bruce & Mary

Saturday, October 2-Rosary at 3:15P

4:00P *Health & blessings for Bill & Mary Forbes*
by Joyce Phillips

Sunday, October 3

8:00A *Deceased members of the Richotte family*
by their family

10:00A *Barbara Sevene*
by her family

DAILY MASS

Monday, September 27

8:00A *Podlenski family*
by Mike & Sue Hastings

Tuesday, September 28

8:00A *Linus & Irene Riehle*
by Ed & Dottie Pelis

Wednesday, September 29

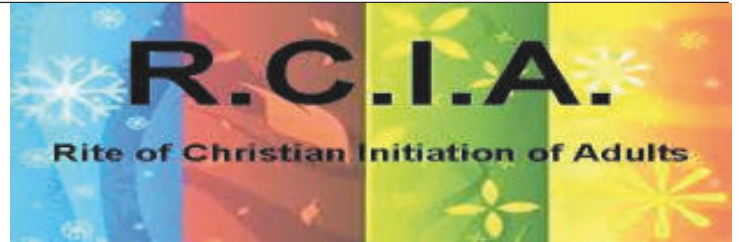
8:00P *Michael & Helen Milewski*
by Cindy

Thursday, September 30

8:00A *Sean Connelly*
by the Mainville family

Friday, October 1

8:00A *Holy Communion Service*



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

The RCIA process is for anyone interested in learning about Catholicism, becoming a Catholic or receiving the sacraments of baptism, First Communion and Confirmation. We will meet Sunday, **September 26 & October 3** at 9:00A in the rectory. There is no pressure or commitment. For more information, call Marguerite 863.2585 ext. 103.



DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, October 1

In cooperation with Walgreens, we will be sponsoring a **FREE FLU CLINIC** on Wednesday, **October 6** from 9:00-11:30A in our parking lot. Call Marguerite 863.2585 ext. 103 to register in advance and to get additional information.

FORTY DAYS FOR LIFE, September 22-October 31:

you're invited to join Christians in forty days of prayer and fasting to end abortion. You are also invited to stand and peacefully pray outside Planned Parenthood, 3550 Main Street, Springfield, MA. For more information or to volunteer call Tim Biggins 413.342.0403, or our parish liaison to the diocesan Pro Life Committee, Dennis Grader 413.863.8567

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION All classes for 2021-2022 will begin on Sunday, **October 3** at 9:00A in the church hall. If parents or new families have any questions, call Carol at 863.4015.

Our Lady's Window

September 26

Bernard & Blanche McCarthy
by their daughter

September 27

Herman Podlenski
by Mike & Sue Hastings

DONATIONS in memory of *Sean Connelly* by Margaret Rewa, Tom & Janet Graves, Mark & Elizabeth Smith, Beverly Demars, Michael & Susan Hastings, William & Mary Hildreth, Helen Woznakewicz, Louis Socquet, Edward & Dorothy Pelis, R & W Mauran, Robert (Chip) Wood, the McCord & Cogswell families, Stephen & Valerie Picuch, Bernadette Wyman, Virginia Kostanski & family, Amy & Doug Clarke, Mary Ellen & John Preston, Charlotte Choleva, Ernest Momaney, Linda & Robert Emond, Paul & Maggie Doran, Paula Girard, Judy & James Hartnett, Eileen & Paul Mariani, Georgia Conway, Jean Conway, Carol & Joe Holubecki, Mark & Kitty Mathers, Bercia Zaniewski, Thomas Pleasant, Kathleen & William Brocks, Susan Mailloux /Verizon, Charlie & Jan Crowley, Ken & Diane Larose, Laurie Devino, Gladys Devino, Ron & Connie Sicard, and Ruth Viens,



ANNUAL BLESSING OF ANIMALS in honor of St. Francis, patron saint of all creation and creatures, will take place Saturday, **October 2** at 10:00A in the parking lot. There will be treats for everyone!

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Weekend of September 19

Regular \$2,095.00

On-line \$914.00

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