SS. Cosmas and Damían Church 616 W. Mahoníng Street, Punxsutawney, PA 15767 814-938-6540 - sscdofc@comcast.net Websíte - sscdchurch.com School - 814-938-4224 - sscdschool.com

Pastor – Msgr. Joseph J. Riccardo

School Principal – Heather Kunselman, ex. 2224

Secretaries – Jean Gigliotti, ex. 2210 Jude Griffith, ex. 2213

Business Manager – Tony Bofinger, ex. 2214

Religious Ed Coordinator – Sue Dahrouge, ex. 2226

# Fifteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

July 10, 2022

Let us forever sing your praise!



### Sunday Masses:

Vigil on Saturday evening at 4:30pm Sunday Morning : Summer Schedule - (May 1 – Aug. 31) 8:00 and 10:00am Winter Schedule - (Sept 1 – April 30) 8:00 and 11:00am

Weekday Masses: Monday – Friday 8:00am (Fri. during School – 9:00am)

### **Baptism:**

By appointment only. Please contact the parish office.

## **Celebration of Penance:**

3:45pm – Saturday afternoon

5:30pm – after the Saturday evening Mass

8:30am – after Mass on the Thursday

before the first Friday of the month.

### **Marriage:**

Please contact the parish office at least six months beforehand.

### Anointing of the Sick:

Please call the office if anyone in your family is hospitalized or in need of a priest.

## Mass Intentions for This Week





## Monday, July 11

7:00pm -- K of C Council -Reschini Hall 7:45pm -- K of C. Assembly -Reschini Hall

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### Tuesday, July 12

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6:00pm -- Recitation of the Rosary- Church 6:00pm -- Adult Basketball - Gym





Dear Parishioners:

The lawyer in today's gospel is not to be confused with the lawyers of our day. He was a student of the Torah – a word which is more properly translated as "instruction" or "revelation." Today, he would be called a theologian. And he asks the question that is primary in the mind of every theologian, namely, how do we human beings achieve the fulfillment intended by our creator? Jesus gives the classic answer from Deut. 6:5 (love of God) and Lev. 19:18 (love of neighbor). Everything else is secondary.



Jesus moves quickly then to illustrate the practical implications of these commands in the story of the Good Samaritan. The contrast drawn is dramatic: the priest and Levite belong to the class of professional men of religion whereas the Samaritan is a member of that generally despised and uneducated group of Jews who were left in Palestine during the Exile and whose religious "purity" was highly suspect.

According to Jesus' story, however, it is this religious outcast who has understood the real meaning of the Torah while the professional practitioners of religion seem concerned only about the external, ritual elements of Judaism. As in the case of the Publican and the Pharisee, Jesus is not suggesting that one should become a Publican or a Samaritan. Rather, he insists that we should be authentic persons who know how to observe the spirit of our religion and not just its externals.

### Life Implications

We should note, first of all, that this is only a story. The fact that it never really happened should cause us to focus on its powerful symbolic message. As such, it offers us a sharp lesson about the danger of hypocritical behavior. It is relatively easy to claim an office or a title or hold a membership card, but the only proof of one's religious sincerity and authenticity is the way in which one's religious profession actually changes one's behavior.

In this story, the new behavior is to respond to need regardless of whether we think the one in need deserves our help. Observing religious rituals or even receiving the Eucharist can unfortunately co-exist with self-centeredness and rash judgment. Real conversion demands that our following of Christ include our determination to offer help to others to the best of our ability, which usually means doing all that we think we can...and then a little bit more!

Such Christian behavior does not mean that we should become doormats or must cater to obsessivedependants. But it does mean that we should be sensitive to the often-hidden needs of others and ready to help in any way we can. Real love will know how to do this wisely and effectively.

We should also note that when obviously Christian persons do not act in accordance with the ideals taught by Jesus, they scandalize others who may well reject Christianity because they are so repelled by those who proclaim themselves Christians. We all recall the challenging words of Jesus: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another" (John 13:35).

God Bless! Msgr. J. Riccardo

## ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED

We are in need of Altar Servers at weekend Masses.

I would like to invite students going into fourth grade or older, as well as adults, to consider becoming an altar server.



There would be a brief training session and then you would serve with an experienced server a few times as an additional part of your training. Call or email the office to let us know of your or your child's interest.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION TEACHERS NEEDED**

We are in need of additional volunteers for our 2022/23 Religious Education Program.



We are currently

#### seeking instructors for Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5.

If you have a few hours a week to give and would like to become involved in our program, you can contact the rectory office, 814-938-6540, or Sue Dahrouge at 814-771-8288.

Please consider sharing your time with this very fulfilling ministry. Training is provided as necessary and support throughout the vear is readily available.

Thank you!

### SUMMER SCRIP HOURS

During the month of July, Scrip will be available in the



Church Office Monday through Friday, 9am - 4pm. Thank you for supporting Support our School

SSCD School through your participation in the Scrip Program.



### PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

Vickie Slater of our parish who passed away this past week. Please keep her and her family

in your prayers. May her soul rest in peace.



## SEWING MINISTRY Your gift of Time and

Talent

Attention all gifted sewers, crocheters, knitters, and quilters - Our Prayer Shawl and Lap Quilt Ministry is in need of ladies who knit,



crochet, and/or sew simple projects.

If you are interested in offering your God -gifted talents you are welcome to join us in Walston at the Church Office on Wednesdays from 12:30 till 2:30pm. If you would prefer, you can always offer your sewing or knitting skills in the quiet of your own home.

This ministry also gratefully accepts donations of fabric, yarn, and other supplies, as well as monetary donations and your prayers. Volunteers are always needed to distribute items to area nursing homes for those in need of a little comfort.



We welcome vour involvement – Please join us! Contact Michele Aikens at 814-952-0702 for further information.

### **RECITATION OF THE ROSARY**

A Rosary in honor of our Lady of Fatima is prayed every Tuesday evening at 6pm in church. Everyone is welcomed and encouraged to attend. Please join us.

### <u>DIOCESAN WEDDING</u> <u>ANNIVERSARY</u> <u>CELEBRATIONS</u>

Couples celebrating 25, 40, 50, 60 or more years of marriage in 2022 are invited to attend one of the annual Diocesan Anniversary Celebration Liturgies this summer.



The dates are Sunday, July 31, at 2:00pm at St. Mary Church in Saint Marys, and Sunday, August 7th, 2:00pm at Holy Cross Church in Fairview.

To register for one of the Liturgies, please go online to https://www.eriercd.org/ familylifeoffice/anniv.html or contact the parish office at 814-938-6540 or the Family Life Office at (814) 824-1210.



For the benefit of those who may be ill or unable to return to Mass at this time, we will continue to live stream the last Mass each Sunday. Look for

the graphic on our parish website, <u>ssedchurch.com</u>, and click the link on Sundays at 10am to join.



## SSCD LAWN FESTIVAL

Plans are already well under way for our Annual Lawn Festival which will be held August 5, 6, & 7.

If you would like to volunteer to help in any way at the Festival, just call the office at 814-938-6540. Or simply snap the QR code with your smart



phone camera to be taken to the volunteer sign-up form.

Get involved and have some fun! All help will be greatly appreciated.



**I** o add a name to the Prayer Chain, please call Pat Rougeux, 814-938-4464.

If you are unable to reach her you may call the office weekdays 9am - 4pm.

### FAMILY PERSPECTIVE

Children learn by watching us. Do they see you helping others like the Good Samaritan, or do they see you avoiding others like the Levite in today's gospel. You should worry more about what your children see in your life than what they see on TV. Think about it.

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July 10, 2022

#### THE AUGUSTINE INSTITUTE SHOW WITH DR. TIM GRAY GUEST DR. MICHAEL BARBER

How do we respond when we are asked, "Are you saved?" In this episode of the Augustine Institute Show, Drs. Tim Gray and Michael Barber discuss what salvation means, and how faith and works aid us in our journey. To learn more, check out Dr. Barber's book, Salvation: What Every Catholic Should Know!



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### SAINT VINCENT DePAUL WEEKLY FOOD DONATION

Food donation next **Sunday**, **July 17** - **Peanut Butter**. Thank you for your generosity!

If you or someone you know is in need of food assistance, please visit our food pantry on Saturdays between 10am and Noon.

If you have any questions, please contact Monika Bizousky at 814-938-0636.

#### **SANCTUARY CLEANERS THIS WEEK**

Debbie Rougeux, Pat Rougeux, Kim Kopas, Karen Burkett.

#### SAINT VINCENT DePAUL VOLUNTEERS

Saturday, July 16 -Joe & Kathy Renne

#### **RELIGIOUS ARTICLES**

All items that we have in stock are being sold at a reduced price.

Stop in the back of the church and see if there is anything in the cabinet that you might be interested in. Not everything we have is on display, so if you don't see what you are looking for, just ask us.

Just stop in or call the office during office hours and one of us can meet you in church to show you what is available and help you with your purchase.



### 2022 FESTIVAL CASH RAFFLE

If you have already purchased tickets, thank you!! If you haven't had an opportunity to purchase your ticket yet, they are available in the rectory office. We hope to sell every one of the 2,000 tickets that were printed for this exciting drawing. The price of each ticket is \$20.00.

As always, 100% of the proceeds will go directly to the support of our school.

Ist prize - \$10,000 2nd prize - \$5,000 3rd prize - \$1,000	To purchase a ticket or tickets, you can stop in the office during office hours or simply fill out the form printed below, and return it along with \$20.00 per ticket. You can submit your ticket order by mail, put it in the mail slot in the breezeway of the rectory, or place it in the Sunday collection. Your ticket will be filled out and the stub mailed back to you. If there are still tickets available when Festival time arrives, you will be able to purchase tickets there as well.
Name:	2022 Cash Drawing Ticket Request
Address:	Number of tickets requested:
City:	Amount enclosed: (\$20 per ticket)
Phone Number:	
(If you are requesting more than one tic	cket, be sure to let us know the names that should be on each ticket)

#### DIAPER DRIVE

Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services is conducting their 27th Annual Diaper Drive during the month of July.

Pregnancy and Parenting Support Program, staffed by Catholic Charities Counseling and Adoption Services, helps expecting families with newborn infants and parents of children under 1 year of age. They are a United Way member agency that provides assistance to all faiths in the form of free diapers, infant clothing, and hygiene products. Their ability to provide these items is largely determined by donations, either material or monetary.

of July the agency is collecting: disposable



diapers (any size, any brand), gently used and new infant clothing up to size 24 months, baby shampoo, baby wash, diaper ointment, and wipes.

Donations may be dropped off in the church in the box near the front entrance. Please help to touch and nurture the new lives that God has so richly blessed us with. Monetary donations should be made payable to Catholic Charities and sealed in an envelope marked "Catholic Charities Diaper Drive" and placed in the Sunday collection.

Thank you!

#### NATIONAL NEEDS COLLECTION

The annual National Needs Collection will take place next weekend, July 16/17. This is a good opportunity for Catholics to show their solidarity with the poor in our own nation.

This collection is a combination of two The Catholic Home Missions collections: Appeal and The Black and Indian Mission Collection.

Your support will truly make a difference in strengthening the Church at home and will be greatly appreciated. An envelope for this special collection is attached to your bulletin.

#### **OFFERTORY FIGURES**

Due to an early deadline for submitting this week's bulletin, the offertory figures do not appear on this page as they normally would.

All figures will be up-to-date in next week's bulletin.

### K OF C FOOTBALL TICKETS



The Knights have the 2022 Football Tickets for sale!

New for this year - prizes have been increased to \$30,000 total or \$3,000 per week. The number of

prizes are the same, but the amounts are higher! See any Knight for a ticket.

Cost is \$10 and are based on NFL football team scores from November 6 thru January 8.

#### **E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

If we don't have your email address, or if your address has recently changed, please contact us at sscdofc@comcast.net so we can add you to our address book.



We will never share your e-mail address. Help us to stay in touch with you!

#### **OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 10, 2022**

Sunday:	15th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	St. Benedict, Abbot
Wednesday:	St. Henry
Thursday:	St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Virgin
Friday:	St. Bonaventure, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	Our Lady of Mount Carmel
Next Sunday:	16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Readings for the Week of July 10, 2022

Sunday:	Dt 30:10-14/Ps 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37 or Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 [9])/Col 1:15-20/
M	Lk 10:25-37
Monday:	Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/ Mt 10:34—11:1
Tuesday:	Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8/
-	Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday:	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15/
	Mt 11:25-27
Thursday:	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15,
	16-18, 19-21/Mt 11:28-30
Friday:	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16/
	Mt 12:1-8
Saturday:	Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14/Mt 12:14-21
Next Sunday:	Gn 18:1-10a/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 5 [1a]/Col 1:24-
	28/Lk 10:38-42
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