



BLESSED JOHN XXIII PARISH

P. O. BOX 48
PERRYSBURG, OHIO 43552

Twenty-third Sunday
September 4, 2005

PARISH STAFF

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THIS WEEK'S READINGS

M Sept 5 Col 1:24-2:3/Lk 6:6-11
T Sept 6 Col 2:6-15/Lk 6:12-19
W Sept 7 Col 3:1-11/Lk 6:20-26
Th Sept 8 Mi 5:1-4a/Mt 1:1-16
F Sept 9 1 Tm 1:1-16/Lk 6:39-42
S Sept 10 1 Tm 1:15-17/Lk 6:43-49
S Sept 11 Sir 27:30-28:9/Rm 14:7-9/Mt
18:21-35

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Starting next week, Sunday, September 11, Fr. Herb will set up a "Reconciliation space" on the northwest side of our worship space for anyone who wishes to go to confession, from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. (If this time works, we'll try to make it a regular time.)

PRIZE PATROL

The "Prize Patrol" is here today looking for kids who know their "Sign of the Cross"!

SACRIFICIAL GIVING

Our Sunday offering last week was \$1,923. Thank you very much. Giving is always a way of saying thanks to God for all the ways we've been blessed.

COFFEE, JUICE, AND THE WORD



Starting this week, each Tuesday you are invited to meet at Maggie's Family Restaurant, 10:30-11:30 a.m., for a prayerful reading and discussion of the following Sunday's readings. Buy your own coffee or juice and spend an hour with us.

MASS TIME PREFERENCE

We don't know when we may start an additional Mass, but it is important to get your input. Please take the time to complete the very brief survey form this morning. Thanks.

PARISH SECRETARY NEEDED

Blessed John XXIII is now ready to hire a part-time secretary. This person will need to be competent with the computer and have basic bookkeeping skills. Hours of work may be flexible. If you are interested, please contact Fr. Herb.



INFANT BAPTISM PREPARATION

Contact Marla Overholt for information.

PASTOR'S NOTE: MEETING PEOPLE



One of the hardest aspects of coming to a new parish is meeting people. At the same time, one of the most enjoyable experiences of coming to a new parish is meeting people. Hard in the sense of needing to tune in and really listen, hoping to remember names and backgrounds. Enjoyable because each person is unique and has a special background and history. Each time I get to know someone new, I feel enriched.

All of the above is increased in our situation as we start an entirely new parish. Not only do the priest and staff members go through the challenges and excitement, but so does everyone else.

We are on this journey of faith **together**. As we travel, we are joined by many traveling companions. Making the effort to know one another is absolutely essential to experiencing what church is. Church always means forming a community; community building requires that we not be strangers to each other.

Getting to know each other takes several steps. First of all, we have to be aware of one another. How often people tell me that for years they've seen someone in church without knowing who that person is. Seeing someone else, acknowledging that person, and maybe introducing yourself is a great way to start.

But there has to be more. We have to be better listeners than speakers. And the listening is not merely to words. As we spend time with each other, we discover dreams and hopes, concerns and pre-occupations, in each other. Whatever those are, we need to respect them. (Remember the word "reverence" that I used at the first Mass?) It is very likely that we will find some dreams or sense of church that we hold in common. That's always exciting.

Finally, forming community happens when we willingly work together to help those dreams come true. Ours will then become a community of service and outreach.

A big thank you to those who have so willingly stepped forward already to help form Blessed John XXIII Parish. Please don't be shy. Introduce yourselves to each other and find ways to get to know others who are attending Mass with you.

Fr. Herb

"INVITE A NEIGHBOR" SUNDAY

On Sunday, September 18, we will have an "Invite a Neighbor" liturgy. Actually, the person or persons you invite don't have to be neighbors. They can be work associates, family members, or other friends. Who should be invited? Anyone you think will benefit from worshipping with us. Consider those without a church, those who do not attend regularly, those who are hurting in some way, or those who are interested but would not come alone. The invitation must come from you. You also will need to come with them and sit with them, helping them feel at home. Start planning today for two weeks from now.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTER TRAINING

All Eucharistic Ministers must go through a training and a re-commissioning because in our Diocese you are always commissioned for a particular parish. Training is really about spiritual enrichment and understanding of ministry. We will meet at 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 12 at the home of Pat and Mike Paparone, 2297 Mission Hill Drive (in the "Sanctuary" off River Rd). If you cannot attend, please contact Fr. Herb. New Eucharistic Ministers are welcome to come, but please contact Fr. Herb first.



IS THIS THE YEAR FOR YOU?

RCIA (the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is forming soon. We hope to start meeting in October. If this is right for you -- or if you know someone who may be interested, let's talk. Please call Fr. Herb for an interview.



QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Someone asked: *“When we get around to building a church, will it look like a Catholic Church?”*

I suspect that many others are wondering the same thing or at least have questions about the type of church building we will build. At this time I can say the following. First of all, the form and the shape of the church will depend on our parish. Building a church building is never done by the pastor alone. There will be ongoing consultation and involvement of the whole parish at all levels. Church architecture has to be carefully planned and then approved by many groups including the Diocesan architecture committee and the liturgical committee.

Perhaps behind this question is a more pressing issue of how our Catholic heritage will be preserved in the church architecture. Catholic church buildings are unique and different from other churches in what is included and the prominence of the altar and the ambo, the positioning of the tabernacle, the provision of Reconciliation Rooms, the sense of gathering of the faith community (assembly), and other aspects of our heritage including the cross, windows, and statues. All of us will have to spend time learning guidelines and recommendations for good church architecture. (In other words, we have to go beyond simply “what we like” to “how it helps us worship.”)

The actual building of the church is several years away. Once land is purchased, we may start with a pre-fabricated building that can be put up quickly to provide us with our own home. Then we can take the time to carefully plan the building, raise the money, and start the process. – Fr. Herb

PARISH REGISTRATION FORMS

Parish Registration Forms are available on tables outside the worship area. Please complete one and return it to us. You may complete it today or mail it to: Blessed John XXIII, P. O. Box 48, Perrysburg, Ohio 43552.

MUSIC REHEARSAL

Singers and instrumentalists are invited to attend music rehearsal for our Sunday liturgy on Tuesdays at 7:30 PM, at St. Aloysius Parish, S. Summit and Clough Streets, Bowling Green, Ohio. Michael Puppos is looking for vocalists and instrumentalists, so if you can help, attend the rehearsal. If you have any questions, call or email Michael.

S.O.S. FORMS

The S.O.S. forms found near the doors are for Stewardship Of Skills. Virtually everyone can contribute to the well being of this parish and this local community by discovering, developing, and then sharing their skills. Please complete one of these forms.

DIOCESAN EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS

The date for this event is Saturday, Oct 1, 2005! We have about 25 brochures available in the gathering space, so please only take one if you are planning to attend. You can contact the Office of Worship at 419-244-6711 ext. 515 for more information.

CO-OP NURSERY



Want to form a Co-op Nursery during the Sunday Liturgy? If you have small children and would like to take a turn in the Nursery so several Sundays a month you could go to church “child free” please contact Marla Overholt.

ENVELOPES

Each Sunday you will find loose envelopes for your Sunday collection. Feel free to fill them out and deposit them in the collection basket. A record will be kept for your contributions for tax purposes. As always your contributions are greatly appreciated!

GENERATIONS OF FAITH AT BLESSED JOHN XXIII

GOF (Generations of Faith) is open to all members of the parish who wish to continue growing in their understanding of the beliefs, traditions and rituals of our faith. We have a rich faith tradition that many of us have only begun to explore and experience. This process will not only enrich us but will also enrich our children and grandchildren for generations to come. Many people will be needed to bring GOF to Blessed John so if you are interested in learning more about the process, stay after mass on September 11th for a 30-minute meeting.

WORKING WITH THE YOUTH OF THE PARISH?

The Diocese requires all adults working with children to attend a "Protecting Youth and Those Who Serve Them" Workshop. If you are considering volunteering in our co-op nursery, when it forms, or being a catechist for Generations of Faith or Sacramental Preparation please plan to attend one of these workshops:

Tuesday, September 20, 2005

St. Patrick of Heatherdowns' Holy Family Center, 4201 Heatherdowns Blvd, Toledo, Ohio 43614. Inquiries or registration, contact Chris Block at 419-381-1775

Thursday, September 22, 2005

Aloysius School, 148 S. Enterprise, Bowling Green, Ohio from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Inquiries or registration, contact Shelly Leestma at 419.352.8614

ART SHOW

You are invited to attend an Art Show at the Ursuline Center in Toledo, Ohio on September 11th, 2005 from 6:00PM to 8:00PM. All proceeds will go to the Ursuline Sisters. If you have any questions regarding this you can contact Julie at the Ursuline Center at (419) 536-3535.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

Next week we hope to have registration forms and brochures available to explain the process by which families and children will prepare for First Eucharist and Reconciliation or Confirmation. Children in second grade or older will be eligible for the First Eucharist and First Reconciliation Preparation. Seventh and Eight Grade students will be eligible to prepare for Confirmation and will need to arrange for their sponsor to attend with them as they prepare. The Confirmation process will include attending FIRE '05 and six preparation sessions. All these sessions will need to take place in homes so if you have a child in the process please consider opening your home. All students and their families who will prepare for these sacraments will also be asked to participate in Generations of Faith.



GOING DEEPER: ADULT SESSIONS

This fall Fr. Herb will offer two different types of adult sessions. In mid-September (date and place to be announced very soon), there will be a seminar on "Catholics, Divorce, Annulments, and Re-Marriage" open to anyone. For four consecutive Monday evenings in November (November 7, 14, 21, and 28), Fr. Herb will present: "Just what does it mean to be Catholic?" This session will be especially helpful for those who want to re-tool themselves or re-direct their relationship with the Catholic Church. The place for these sessions will be announced later.

YOUTH INVITED

St. Joseph Parish, Maumee, will be starting LIFE TEEN on Sunday, September 18, 2005. The Mass will begin at 6:00 p.m. LIFE TEEN is a Eucharistic-based youth ministry program. All teens are welcome!