

SEEDS FOR SOWING

Huckleberry Finn might have said it best when it comes to today's Gospel: "It ain't the parts of the Bible I don't understand that bother me; it's the parts I do understand."

I think we all understand Jesus' words about divorce, but it is a very hard teaching to hear--because we live in times when divorce is not only tolerated, but celebrated as a desirable option for troubled couples. Many leading opinion-makers of our culture--mostly wealthy film and sports stars--have replaced the commitment to permanent marriage with an exciting alternative: cut your losses and get out. Then marry a better person the next time. After all, second marriages only have a 60% failure rate.

Our great-grandparents looked to wiser, older married couples or religious counselors for guidance on how to live out their marriages. Most of them started their marriages believing that God created the sacrament of man and woman becoming one flesh in marriage as a sign of God's commitment of love to the whole creation. "No fault" divorce? I think our great-grandparents would have said, "Don't you mean 'both fault'?"

Tragically, there are some marriages which must end because they were never truly Christian unions, or the parties have suffered abuse and violence. But over 360,000 couples in the U.S. divorced in a 4-month period. The shallow opinions of famous people are one bad influence on all of us--repeated *ad nauseam* on the Internet and talk shows.

Jokes and foolish opinions about divorce contribute to a kind of "cultural stupidity" that is negatively influencing children and undermining the honest efforts of many married people. Marriage is a lifelong commitment of self-giving love--or it is nothing at all. Yet so many people replace the deeper divine truth about marriage with a bunch of trivial "sound bites" that belong on T-shirts.

How might Jesus respond to some of these ungrounded, or stupid ideas, if He were appearing on Oprah? Let's say Madonna joins Him to give advice to those thinking of divorce--how do you think it might go?

Madonna: "When things start falling apart in a marriage, you just have to go with your feelings." Jesus: "Yes, anger and disillusionment can be painful feelings. But you have to take your disillusioned, unhappy feelings into prayer and wise counseling, and go deeper into the relationship. Well, your yoga and meditation might help a little, but parties, alcohol, and adopting orphans... not so much."

"Didn't you ever think of Marriage Encounter, or better yet, that great program for troubled marriages, Retrouvaille (ret'-tro-veye)?"

M: "Never heard of those. But I got lots of counseling, from all my divorced friends. They all said 'get rid of him.' They could see we both really needed closure."

Jesus: "'Closure'? That's interesting. I would have said you both needed opening up, not closing down. You know, the way surgery opens the diseased parts so you can get in there and start the healing."

M: "I didn't really want healing, once I found out he was cheating. The love just died. And when the love dies, the marriage is over."

Jesus: "Love never dies. I know something firsthand about that. But when it feels like love is dying, you don't just act on those feelings. You recommit and reconnect to God. God can make you both into something larger than the two of you separately. The Divine Union is the whole pattern for marriage. I could have helped you with that."

M: "You've never been married--how can you know what it's like? Once you start fighting, everyone knows it's better for the children to end the marriage, and move on."

Jesus: "Hear this: There is no such thing as 'moving on'. You can't run away from the person you are. And what 'everyone knows' now is that children see divorce as a bad way to resolve conflict: by quitting. It sets them up for a lifetime of problems. Even I read the studies, you know."

"Pardon me for preaching here, Oprah, but most troubled marriages are the result of spiritual immaturity. A lot of you invite me to your wedding, but then you forget to invite me into your marriage. You usually start out with a sense of wonder and gratitude--you're humbled at being part of this glorious sacrament of unity God has created. But life and suffering starts to narrow your vision, and many of you let a deep selfishness grow up. When you quit feeling grateful, you quit giving thanks."

"You both have to keep on facing your whole selves: What values are you standing upon? What faults and gifts do you bring to your marriage? And when there's pain, trouble, even sin--will you give your whole life for your commitment of love? (pause)

"I did."



Saturday, October 3

5:00 p.m. Francis & Margaret Palecek [Family]

Sunday, October 4, Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. Carmella Puglisi [Family]

9:30 a.m. Poor Souls

11:30 a.m. For Our Parish

Monday, October 5

8:00 a.m. Living & Deceased of the Rosary Society of
..... Ss. Cyril & Methodius Church

Tuesday, October 6, St. Bruno

8:00 a.m. . Steve & Denise Topp, 25th Wedding Anniversary
..... [Bob & Mary Higgins]

Wednesday, October 7, Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

5:30 p.m. Thomas Seifert [Family]

Thursday, October 8

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

9:30 a.m. Milly Norvell [Rona Veney & Teri Jochenning]

Friday, October 9, St. Denis & companions; St. John Leonardi

8:00 a.m. Bud Witschey [Tom & Josie Witschey]

Saturday, October 10

8:00 a.m. Communion Service

5:00 p.m. David Witschey [Maureen Witschey]

Sunday, October 11, Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 a.m. For Our Parish

9:30 a.m. Gert Tiffany [Tiffany Family]

11:30 a.m. Nora & John Boyle [Gaffney Family]



PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS the family and friends of *Virginia Pavez*, mother of Diane Ranftl, who died recently. May our Lord grant eternal rest in His heavenly kingdom.

Readings for the Week of October 4, 2009

Monday	Jon 1:1—2:2, 11; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday	Jon 3:1-10; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday	Jon 4:1-11; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday	Mal 3:13-20b; Lk 11:5-13
Friday	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday	Jl 4:12-21; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday	Wis 7:7-11; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 or 10:17-27

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jesus told them: "At the beginning of creation God made them male and female; for this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and the two shall become as one. They are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore let no man separate what God has joined. Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and the woman who divorces her husband and marries another commits adultery."

Mark 10:5-9, 11-12

WEEKLY STEWARDSHIP REPORT -- SEPTEMBER 27
[5% of our collection was given to the St. Vincent de Paul Society].

Offertory.....	\$12, 441.00
Support Our School.....	\$88.00
Capital Reserve Fund.....	\$220.00
Number of envelopes used:.....	350

MANY THANKS for your generous offerings.

Your Sacrificial Offering

SCRIPTURE READING REFLECTIONS OF THE WEEK
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
[WEEK OF OCTOBER 4, 2009]

Question for Adults: What could keep you from embracing the kingdom of God like a little child?

Question for Children: How do you feel when you hear the wonderful stories of God's love for you?

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP-A three-part series on grief-related issues is being offered at Sacred Heart Parish for anyone who has experienced the death of a loved one. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the Andes Room, beginning October 13. If you have any questions, please call Deacon Roger, 336-4826.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS



The 2009 membership campaign, the "**Year of the Volunteer**," extends the invitation to every eligible man and family to "**join the Knights of Columbus in its mission to assist people in need and support our Church.**" To help strengthen our communities and church.

When Knights sponsor programs for people with intellectual disabilities, or hold family picnics, youth sports programs, or other programs, they are part of the "**Year of the Volunteer**" and set a positive example for others to follow. Building on this foundation of services to Church and Community is our challenge. To meet this challenge, we constantly need energy and fresh ideas.

The Knights of Columbus will have a membership drive on **October 10 and 11 after all the Masses.** Someone will be at all the entrances to answer any questions. You can pick up any of the free literature about the Knights, families, scholarships, or an application. **Will you join us and 1.8 million Knights?**

LITURGICAL + ROLES

MASS SERVERS SCHEDULE

Week of October 5

- 8:00 a.m. - **Monday - Wednesday**
- Alexandra Matejczyk, Bryan Uhl, Jr.
5:30 p.m. - **Wednesday ONLY**
- Dominic Chiavaroli, Larry Chiavaroli
8:00 a.m. - **Thursday - Saturday**
- Lauren Johenning, Ashley Johenning

Saturday, October 10

- 5:00 p.m. - Grace Boland, Sebastian Boland
- Nick Santora, Stephanie Uhl

Sunday, October 11

- 8:00 a.m. - Molly Fahey, Ann Fahey
- Kim Stafford, Megan Stafford
9:30 a.m. - Jacob Frank, Timothy Reed
- Mackenzie Ryan, Rachel Ryan
11:30 a.m. - Tom Calhoun, Jim Calhoun
- Ben Hanna, A.J. Hanna

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 10

- 5:00 p.m. - Bob & Chris Cotey, Sue Komjati
- David & Lucy Meager

Sunday, October 11

- 8:00 a.m. - Bill & Jan Elliott, Rosa Owens
- Bill Schapel, Jim Whalen

Cup Ministers

- *Jim & Helen Conroy, JoAnn Riddell*
- *Bob & Helen Smith, Mark Smith*
9:30 a.m. - Diane Batyko, Kylene Ferguson
- Brian Madigan, Rita Strickler, Lois Foster
11:30 a.m. - Madonna DiPietro, Ann Kellish, Bryan Uhl
- Shawn Lupson, Todd Zeiger

Wadsworth Hospital - Hunt

Altercare - Sorrent/Wenneman

Liberty Residence II - Weber

Magnolia - Clarks/Dunn

Wadsworth Pointe - Porchowsky

The Rosary is prayed at:

- Wadsworth Pointe on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, at 2:00 p.m.
- Magnolia on the 3rd Wednesday, at 10:00 a.m.
- Altercare on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, at 10:00 a.m.

LECTOR SCHEDULE

Saturday, October 10

- 5:00 p.m. - Angela Boland, Miranda Boland

Sunday, October 11

- 8:00 a.m. - Mary Katzenmeyer, Richard Day
9:30 a.m. - Tim Reed, Pat McNeill
11:30 a.m. - Jake Pelini, Dan Bellinger

"I HAVE CALLED YOU BY NAME," a private, healing retreat for women after abortion will be held at the Jesuit Retreat House in Parma, October 23-25, 2009. Come experience the mercies of the Lord through the sacraments, prayers, and scripture. For more information, contact The Community of Jesus, the Living Mercy at 440-801-1072 or e-mail at BethesdaHouse@aol.com.



The next **High School Youth Group** meeting will be Sunday, October 11, from 7:00-8:30 p.m., in McMahon Hall.

Attention, all Middle School Students: our first Middle School Youth Group meeting will be Sunday, October 11, from 7:00-8:15 p.m. in the school gym. We will have an open gym night. Come, and bring a friend.

For questions, or more information on youth activities, call Keith at the Parish Office.

THE LIVING ROSARY Please join the Altar & Rosary Society to pray the Living Rosary on Monday, October 5, at 7:00 p.m. in the church as we demonstrate our love and honor to Our Lady, the Blessed Mother of Jesus.



THE LIFE CHAIN OF MEDINA will take place on Sunday, Oct. 4, in Medina on North Court St. (Rt 42) at Reagan Pkwy, from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Shawn Vallery is the contact person and can be reached at 330-925-2601. The web link: <http://www.lifechain.net/>.

*"O come, bless the Lord,
Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the Lord through the night.
May the Lord bless you,
He who made both heaven and earth." (Ps 134)*



HOLY ADORERS NEEDED FOR THE FOLLOWING HOURS OF GREAT BLESSING!

- + **Wednesday, 3:00 a.m.**
- + **Thursday, 3:00 a.m.**
- + **Friday, 1:00 a.m.**

DO YOU FEEL CALLED TO WORK ACTIVELY IN THE PRO-LIFE MOVEMENT? Do you have a desire to help women and families with their needs so that they do not feel abortion is their only option? Then you are invited to consider volunteering at Community Pregnancy Center in Barberton! CPC has opportunities for you to work as a client advocate, a receptionist, or a material goods helper. Women and families in need are waiting for your gifts and talents to share with them. You can make a difference in their lives. If you are interested, please contact Jennifer, 330-825-1900, ext. 200, for more information. Thank you for your time, talent, and generosity.



RELIGIOUS
EDUCATION

EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS:

- Every year Fr. Joe extends a warm invitation, and an expectation, that all 2nd graders preparing for First Communion and all 9th graders preparing for Confirmation to be present, and actively participate in the closing ceremony for EUCCHARISTIC DEVOTIONS to be held on Sunday, October 25, at 3:50 p.m. in the church. **CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES** will sit with their parents in the main nave, on the baptismal side in benches 7 through 15. **All 2nd & 3rd GRADERS** (who will be processing) will sit in benches 1 through 6 in the main nave also, on the baptismal side. Remember to bring your rosary, which we will pray at 4:00 p.m., followed by Evening Prayer and Benediction at 4:30 p.m.

PSR PARENTS AND ANY INTERESTED PARISHIONER WHO WOULD LIKE TO BREAK OPEN THE MESSAGE OF THE SUNDAY GOSPEL EACH WEEK ARE INVITED TO JOIN KEITH JOHNSON AND SCOTT VANCE IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA at 10:55 a.m. to 11:50 a.m. each week.

PARENTS OF ALL SECOND GRADERS preparing for the Sacrament of Reconciliation are expected to attend the Parent Meeting on Monday, October 12, at 7:00 p.m., in McMahon Hall. This evening is not intended for children. Please contact Diane Bruce in the Religious Education Office with questions.

CONFIRMATION SESSIONS BEGIN Wednesday, October 14. Keep in mind that this is the long fall weekend. If you plan to be away, then Wednesday is the only day for the Confirmation Session this month.

WE WILL BE WORKING ON PRAYER IN THE CARPENTER SHOP FOR GENERATIONS OF FAITH THIS YEAR. THE FIRST SESSION WILL BE ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, AND SATURDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 17. THE OCTOBER SESSION WILL PROVIDE MANY PRAYER EXPERIENCES FROM WHICH TO CHOOSE. PRAYER IS THE STAPLE OF OUR SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL LIVES. WE STARVE WHEN WE DON'T UTILIZE PRAYER IN ALL ITS POSSIBILITIES. JOIN US TO HELP OTHERS LEARN, GROW, EXPERIENCE, AND GO

LISTEN TO THIS! Mairead Maloney has been selected to sing with Michael W. Smith in his choir on November 20, 2009. You can find out more details at www.genexconcerts.com.

BLANKET SUNDAY IS COMING SOON! The weekend of October 10-11 marks the Twenty-third Annual Blanket Sunday Collection to aid the needy. The collection is sponsored by the Diocesan St. Vincent de Paul Society. This year, due to lack of storage space, we will sponsor a cash/check only collection. Please use the envelope found in your envelope packet. We'll gratefully accept your donation and do the shopping for you, making your money go even further with bulk purchases of blankets and other items needed by low income families.

This Week...

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4

- 10:30 a.m. - TOB, McMahon Hall
- 10:45 a.m. - PSR, school
- 5:00 p.m. - Adoration for Vocations, chapel
- 7:00 p.m. - Sr. Girl Scouts, Conry Room

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

- 3:15 p.m. - Jr. Presidium, Andes Room
- 7:30 p.m. - Lay Apostle, Andes Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6

- 7:30 p.m. - Boy Scouts, McMahon Hall

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

- 7:00 p.m. - RCIA, McMahon Hall
- 7:00 p.m. - RCIC, Andes Room

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8

- 7:00 p.m. - Legion of Mary, Andes Room
- 7:30 p.m. - Adult Choir, church
- 11:00 p.m. - Gethsemane Hour, chapel

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

- 6:30 p.m. - Families of Faith, Andes Room/McMahon Hall

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

- 9:30 a.m. - 2nd Grade PSR, Andes Room
- 11:00 a.m. - Confessions until Noon, church
- 3:30 p.m. - Confessions until 4:30 p.m., church

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11

- 10:30 a.m. - TOB, Conry Room
- 10:45 a.m. - PSR, school
- 5:00 p.m. - Adoration for Vocations, chapel



ATTENTION: WADSWORTH HIGH SCHOOL CLASS OF 1999!

Our ten-year class reunion will be held October 17, 2009 at Rawiga Country Club. Please send contact information to wadsclassof1999@yahoo.com or to vujas20@hotmail.com and further details will be provided.

CYO CAMP CHRISTOPHER'S SEVENTH ANNUAL FAMILY FALL FESTIVAL

will be held Sunday, October 18, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. Come enjoy games, hay rides, pumpkin decorating, zip line rides, costume contest, refreshments, and more! Admission is FREE! Activity tickets can be purchased. For more information, or directions regarding Camp Christopher, please call CYO Camp Christopher, [800] CYO-CAMP, ext. 229, or go to www.akroncyo.org.

