

Dear Friends in Jesus Christ,

The last couple of weekends, the Gospel has been reminding us about the abundance of blessings we have received from the Lord, despite our unworthiness. Thus we were all encouraged to become worthy children of God by producing hundred or sixty or thirty fold through our lives in this world. Today, the Gospel talks to us about the final judgment which will involve a great separation the good fish from scrap fish, weeds from wheat. The wheat will be thrown into the fire. Today, when we stand before the Eucharistic Lord, we need to find out the category we belong to; wheat or weeds?

Through the Gospel of wheat and weeds, or good and evil, Jesus teaches us that, evil does not have an independent existence. So, we should accept the fact that good and evil co-exist, and as human beings we need to make the right choice with the help of God, to enjoy a peaceful life. So, once we understand this greatest truth, the question-why there is evil in this world is outdated.

Once a little boy, not familiar with an echo went to the woods and shouted and he really thought that someone from the other side is shouting back to him. The boy tried again, "Hello there!" the echo came back "hello there." The boy shouted again "who are you?" and the voice came back asking "who are you?" The little boy got offended and shouted, "you are a mean boy" and the echo came back to him with the same "you are a mean boy." The boy went back to home and told his mother that there is a bad boy living in the woods. The mother who understood the problem, told the little boy, "go back to the woods and speak kind words to him and see if he does not speak kindly to you." The little boy went back and shouted: "you are a good boy" and the echo came back to him saying "you are a good boy." The little boy shouted: "I love you" and the faithful echo came back saying "I love you." Thus the little boy continued to shout kind words and enjoyed hearing the kind echo.

When we complain about so many people and things around the world, we need to ask ourselves-am I like the little boy in the story? Yes, we can reap only what we have sowed. The book of Genesis enlightens us that; God created this world and found it was good. If God could find this world good, how come we find it as bad? The Gospel of today very clearly teaches us that the enemy of evil makes its presence in a situation where everyone is asleep. The word "asleep" indicates the dangerous situation of our spiritual life. As a Christian, we should never fall into this stage; rather Jesus invites all of us to be alert. Remember the story of the ten virgins, if we are alert, we can meet the bridegroom.

Another important point the Gospel highlights about is our own common character. Most of us have the tendency to highlight the negative side of the other person or an event or a thing either publically or secretly. Thus we increase the quantity of evil in this world than the good. In the Gospel we see, the salves are complaining about the weeds and ready to uproot them, but Jesus reminds them about the danger in it by saying; "No, if you pull up the weeds you might uproot the wheat along with them." The same way, in every person there is the presence of good and evil, and when we try to point out the negative in others we actually become blind to their good side of life. As a Christian our duty is to enhance the good in others, because judging is not our business, it is His business. Remember, It is when we try to take God's job into our hands we make the world and the situation more miserable. So, let us be conscious of our duty as a Christian and seek the help of God to be more responsible and compassionate like Him. **God Bless.**

New Invocations
Pope Francis has added three new invocations to the Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary: "Mother of Mercy" after Mother of the Church, "Mother of Hope" after Mother of Divine Grace. "Solace of Migrants" after Refuge of Sinners.

Family Retreats at Gasper River
Bring your family out just for the day or stay a night or two! There are many options available. You can book a lodge, bring your own meals or have Gasper provide meals, hike and explore, do activities, or just enjoy God's creation together. Call or email to get your seat reserve at **270-781-2466** OR **gasperriver@hotmail.com**

Thanks to everyone for your generous contributions to Our Churches during this unfortunate time. God Bless & Be Safe.

Financial Report - July 12, 2020
St. Sebastian- Amount Needed: \$3,079.37 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 2,000.00 - 1,079.37
Emergency Fund	\$ 170.00
Peter's Pence	\$ 25.00

Financial Report - July 12, 2020
St. Charles - Amount Needed: \$1,102.97 weekly

Regular Collection	\$ 692.00 - 410.97
Emergency Fund	\$ 0.00
Cemetery Fund	\$ 2,174.15

Money Counting
Due to safety reasons we are suspending the duty of counting money. At this point in time Sarah Brown will be counting the collection. Thanks.

Mass Schedule
July 19 - 26

Sunday - Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
George Ballard Sr.
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
Jim Rhodes

Tuesday - Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Justin Durbin

Thursday - Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time
-6:00pm - Mass at St. Charles
Era of Peace

Saturday - St. James, Apostle
-5:30pm - Mass at St. Sebastian
Luke Searcy

Sunday - Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
-8:30am - Mass at St. Sebastian
Healthcare Professionals
-10:30am - Mass at St. Charles
John W. Miller Jr.

Please Visit Our Church Website:
www.stsebastianandstcharles.com

"Remember...that nothing is small in the eyes of God. Do all that you do with love."
-St. Therese of Lisieux

Prayer List for members of our community:
Melanie Mayes, Jason Evans, Stella Ibrahims, Elaine West, Lisa Jackson, Howard Hillard, Brett McPherson, Stephanie Payne, Kathy Hudson, Evelyn Drury, Teresa Jones, Brittney Neal, Ethan Settle, Tom Schutte, Kim Staples, Katherine Roberts, Patricia Hardison, Tommy England, Dennis Millay, Todd Tichenor, Patricia Hayden, Jim Lebold, Jimmy Clayton, Candace Miller, Mary Jewell, Charlie May, David Abrams, Jackie Lee, Debbie Neal, James & Paula Tichenor, Tony Calvert, Mike Dant, Alice Durbin, Jim Logsdon Betty Bickett, John Muster, Pat Calhoun, Kyle Hicks, Kathy Owen, James Lewis Dant, Gloria Farmer and Allie & Josh Kirk. *Please call the office to have a name added to the prayer list. This list will be purged at the end of each month. Thanks*

Please pray for our Military
MMN1 Andrew Logsdon, SSgt. James (J.P.) Dye, John Randall Zarembo, Major Jack Kaina, Major Bradley Summers, Lance Corporal Marine Joseph Ryan Hunter, Lt. Col. Michael Rezebek. A.B. Phillip Wilson, Specialist 4 Chaz McKay, Sgt. Adam Dickey & Corpsman Aly Franklin

Guidelines for Resuming Parish Gatherings
Outside the Liturgy
Effective immediately (July 1, 2020), parish gatherings outside the liturgy (parish picnics, faith formation gatherings, RCIA meetings, etc.) as well as non-parish sponsored events held by groups renting or using parish facilities or property.

- Limit the persons in attendance to no more than 50% of the maximum permitted occupancy capacity of the space.
- Maintain physical distance of six feet minimum from those not living within the same household.
- Wear face covering over mouth and nose. Based on CDC recommendations, everyone over the age of two must wear a mask for the duration of any event held on parish property if closer than six feet to anyone not living within the same household. Those unable to wear a face mask at the event, whether it be due to age, health condition, or preference, are asked to stay healthy at home.
- Conduct temperature and health checks for each participant.
- Ensure proper, frequent cleaning and sanitation of the gathering space, including restrooms.
- Encourage those at high risk to stay Healthy at Home.

St. Charles - Happy Birthday
Cameron Edwards - July 23
Joseph Staples - July 23

St. Sebastian - Happy Birthday
Sam Burden - July 22
Knox McCarty - July 22
Mason Abney - July 26

Women Shaped by Faith
Saturday, August 22nd
9am - 3pm at Mount Saint Joseph Gym
Local fitness expert Theresa Rowe will lead "Women Shaped by Faith" on Saturday, Aug. 22. Rowe will teach on the health benefits of combining our faith, mindset and fitness, using biblical principles for daily application. Also included is a Pilates for the Soul Mat Workout, specifically designed for every level of fitness. Please bring your own exercise mat. Rowe is a TV and radio host of "Shaped by Faith." The \$30 fee includes lunch (the cost is \$40 at the door). To register, call 270-229-0206 or email retreatcenter@maplemount.org or register online at <https://ursulinesmsj.org/registration-form-for-sponsored-programs/> *Note: We will be following the physical distancing and safety guidelines recommended for group gatherings.*

Whenever you are unable to fill your ministry, please find someone to replace you and/or contact the office so your name will not be printed in the bulletin. Thank you for your understanding.