



LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences – (Our Parish Faith Formation Program)

In today's first reading we hear a familiar sentence spoken firmly by Joshua: "As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Some people frame and hang this quote in their homes, and make this powerful statement their pivotal stance, as Joshua did. Joshua pointedly asked the elders and tribes to decide whom they will serve (among the many gods during that time). In our Gospel today, we see that many people who had been following Jesus were slowly starting to go back to their former way of life and no longer choosing to accompany Him. Jesus was teaching and talking about things beyond human comprehension: the mystery of faith, which scared them because it was different. Jesus asked the Twelve (similarly to that of Joshua), "Do you want to leave me too?" Peter answered, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." These two people show us a firm commitment to faith; Peter shows us a commitment to faith through the person of Jesus. If we, you and I, were part of the Twelve gathered near Jesus and he asked "Do you want to leave me too?" Which one are you? Would you be loyal to Jesus or about to jump ship? Or, would you just remain wishy-washy and float somewhere in-between, always preferring to straddle the line? Surely there are things about our faith that people find difficulties in accepting, but are these difficulties things that weaken our faith in Jesus? Faith in Jesus is a decision, not one that we can minimize or maximize whenever we "feel" like it. Even though we have faith in Jesus, doubt can creep into our lives – sometimes doubt about faith or anger at the church or someone in it. When that doubt begins to show itself, imagine Jesus asking you personally, "Do you want to leave me too?" This question creates for us a picture of how human Jesus was, and the sadness and hurt that he carried when those closest to him would reject and leave him. Faith in Jesus is a decision. May we like Peter believe and decide that "We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God."

(Written by Colette Savaria, LIFE Coordinator)

The mailing for LIFE (Learning In Faith Experiences) "Gifts for Christian Living" theme year have gone out! Be on the look-out for this much-anticipated year of celebrations - open to everyone in the Parish to grow in faith together. Brochures and Registrations Forms will also be available on the table at the main entrance of the Church. Opening dates are September 20 or 21 – please mark your calendars☺



Scripture Study led by Jane Parrillo is held on Tuesdays from 9:45 to 10:30am in the Child Care/Meeting Room in the Church. Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday are discussed.

CHURCH SUPPORT – August 15/16

Weekly Collection \$6,134.00
Debt Collection \$4,020.00

Because of your continuing generosity, we were able to pay a total of \$43,008.09 last Fiscal Year (14/15) from our Debt Collection and \$3,807.00 in July of current Fiscal Year on the Parish loan. Our current debt balance is \$151,413.48.

Do you want to become Catholic or complete your initiation into the Catholic Church as an adult or know of anyone who does? Please contact Jane at jjparillo@yahoo.com for information.

Catholic Updates (a brief teaching series) are available on the "Free Books" rack in the Connector. Please help yourself to any of the other books as well.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Jn 1:45-51
Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8/Mt 23:23-26
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Mt 6:17-29
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22,27/
Mk 7:1-8, 14-15,21-23

SAVE THE DATE: St. Lucy's Pot Luck Supper will be held Saturday, September 26. Items needed for the raffle include gift cards/certificates and bottles of wine. Donations may be left at the Rectory. More details to follow.

Please pray for all the men and women who have served and who currently serve in the armed forces, and the military commanders who lead them. Pray also for our homebound Parishioners and the sick of the Parish (including those in hospitals and nursing homes).

The annual Parish Mission Appeal will be given by the La Salette Missionaries next weekend (8/29-30) at all Masses. The Missionaries of Our Lady of La Salette minister to people of every race, language, culture and way of life – beginning at the La Salette Shrine in France where our Blessed Mother appeared in 1846. Her final words, "Well my children, you will make this known to all my people," echo Jesus' Gospel mandate. It is little wonder that the La Salette Congregation has always been mission orientated. When called upon by the Vatican to preach the Gospel in foreign lands, they eagerly responded. This spirit brought them to mission in 27 countries all over the world. With your cooperation the Missionaries of La Salette can continue to provide spiritual and financial assistance to these mission countries as they bring God's reconciling message to the poor.

Back to School Blessing

God of all knowledge and wisdom, remind us that a new school year has begun. We pray your blessing on all students, young and old, as they begin a new year. Help them discover and develop the gifts you have given them. And as they grow in knowledge, help them also grow in kindness and compassion, learning respect for themselves and for others. We ask your blessing on parents and all those who care for students. Strengthen them to surround our students with encouragement, support, and love. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Help is needed for the Meals on Wheels Program in Middletown. This home delivered meal program began 45 years ago and is the only non-profit meal delivery program serving the entire state of Rhode Island. Currently, this program provides up to 5 noontime meals per week to approximately 1,500 qualified individuals. The meals are delivered primarily by a dedicated team of over 1,000 volunteers, but more volunteers are needed in the Middletown area. If you would like to know more about volunteering in this Program, please contact Parishioner Ruth Corcoran at 847-0411.

A milestone celebration is coming up soon, one that the Parish Staff is very excited about: **the celebration of Sr. Sheila Murphy's Golden Jubilee as a Sister of Saint Joseph!** An invitation is extended to each and every one of you again in the bulletin this weekend (see details below), but please help us in getting the word out about Sr. Sheila's 50th Anniversary celebration. You can do this by notifying former ASA and Newport County Catholic Regional School families as well as families who may no longer be a part of this Faith Community but have known and been a part of Sr. Sheila's life throughout the years! Many people have asked us what they can do or bring. If you are able to come and would like to bring a baked breakfast bread, muffins, finger breakfast pastries, or cut-up fruit/fruit platters to supplement a catered breakfast, that would be greatly appreciated. Please join us as we celebrate the **Golden Jubilee of Sheila Murphy, SSJ.**

ALL ARE WELCOME



You are invited to share in celebration with Sheila Murphy, SSJ on the occasion of her Golden Jubilee in the Sisters of St. Joseph Tuesday, September 15, 2015 9am Mass St. Lucy's Church Reception in Parish Center following the Liturgy



RSVP by leaving a message at 847-6153 x205 by Sept. 9

ALL ARE WELCOME

MASS INTENTIONS AND CHURCH SCHEDULE

- Saturday, August 22
5:00pm Mary King
- Sunday, August 23
8:00am (O) St. Lucy Parishioners
10:30am (B) St. Lucy Parishioners
7:00pm (I) St. Lucy Parishioners
- Monday, August 24
9:00am Arminda Botelho
- Tuesday, August 25
9:00am Julia Jordan Finn
- Wednesday, August 26
9:00am Frank P. "Mickey" Mello
- Thursday, August 27
9:00am Communion Service
- Friday, August 28
9:00am Nicholas Gevalakis (Birthday Remembrance)
5:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00pm Devotions
7:50pm Benediction
- Saturday, August 29
5:00pm Karen Coelho
- Sunday, August 30
8:00am (O) George and Helen Leeber
10:30am (O) Mr. and Mrs. Jaime DeFreitas
Francis Silveira (Birthday Remembrance)
7:00pm (B) St. Lucy Parishioners

In the above celebrations:

- O = Rev. John O'Brien
- B = Rev. George Behan

St. Lucy's welcomes its newly baptized Parishioner:

Conrad Ethan Bowley
Child of
Christopher and Melissa Bowley