

the bridge

news and views for the Our Lady of Charity community

volume 36, number 8

August 2018

upcoming events

August 6, 2018

Evangelization, 6:30 pm,
St. Ambrose
Mondays with Mark,
6:30 pm, Maguire Hall

August 7, 2018

Maguire Hall
Zoomobile, 11:00 am,

August 8, 2018

St. Ambrose
St. Vincent de Paul Mtg.,
6:30 pm

August 15, 2018

Feast of the Assumption

August 17, 2018

OLCP Seniors, 1:00 pm,
Maguire Hall

August 20 -24, 2018

Vacation Bible School,
St. Ambrose

August 20, 2018

Social Action Committee
Meeting, 6:00 pm
Parish Office

August 22, 2018

Summerfest Wrap-up,
5:00 pm, Maguire Hall

August 31, 2018

Holy Family
Anointing of the Sick
following 8:00 am Mass

The View from a Pew

By Steve Banko

In last week's bulletin there was a headline that said "God's Got This." That sentiment is not far removed from the faraway days of my youth (I'm writing this on my 72nd birthday.) In those days, I went to God for everything: we need to beat Canisius, my girlfriend doesn't understand me, we have an algebra test this week, we are assaulting an enemy held hill. If faith didn't serve me as well as it does I'd think God got sick of hearing from me. I was all requests, all the time. On those occasions when I felt I was overloading the heavens with my petitions, God would come through and I'd be right back at the request line again.

I always believed that asking God and believing He would have "this" was the way to go. It was proper because God delivered. He really was The Man.

But today, there seems to be so many things much more important than my old supplications. People are shooting each other without cause. Our environment is in tatters. Our western states are on fire while our eastern states are flooded. The government is in turmoil and little of consequence is getting done. Compounding matters, religion is being hijacked and selective passages from Scripture are being cherry-picked to justify just about any outrage. And that's just in this country. Think of famine, pestilence, and war around the world and one might think we're approaching a tipping point; the point at which God throws up His hands and says "you fools have brought this on yourselves. Figure it out for yourselves."

Few of us would blame Him if He did but most of us have faith that God does, indeed, have this. We need to keep asking His favor. We need to keep prayer in our lives. We need to focus on the commandment Jesus taught us in the New Testament: to love Him and to love our neighbor. We need to live the words we were taught in early religion classes.

We are in danger of becoming overwhelmed by the bad news that bombards us on a nightly basis. We should know, though, that we are imperiled as much by our lack of faith as by the lack of governmental proficiency. My favorite scripture passage is Matthew's account of the Sermon on the Mount when thousands of people flock to a hillside to hear Christ tell us unequivocally who are blessed. At the same time that Jesus addresses the spirituality of His followers, He also takes care of their temporal needs through the miracle of the loaves and fishes. Jesus is God so the spiritual was paramount. He is also human and understands hunger and

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human need.

Let us pray that we find leaders who are as balanced and inclusive: civic leaders who are both grounded in real faith and overriding humanity and religious leaders aren't merely concentrated on money matters but who recognize the critical need to preserve, protect, and promote the environment. We need leaders who see beyond issues of birth and address the totality of the human condition. A study by USA Today ranks the United States as the worst country in the industrialized world to bear a child. That's obscene.

As for me, I'm back to the pew to beg God not for special favors but for the strength to live through difficult times and the courage to change what I can. At our home in Florida we have a wall hanging that reminds us not to merely wait for the storm to pass but to learn to dance in the rain. We all need to dance in the rain.

Michael Klodzinski achieves Eagle Scout Rank

By Mary Anne King

Boy Scout Troop 256 recently recognized Michael Klodzinski for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank in scouting, at a Court of Honor held on June 21st, at St. Ambrose Hall.

Michael began his scouting career in 2006 as a

Tiger Cub with Cub Scout Pack 256 at Our Lady of Charity Parish, and crossed over to Troop 256 in 2011. As a Boy Scout, he held various positions of responsibility, participated in many community service projects and was a positive role model to his fellow scouts while he moved through the ranks of scouting. Michael's Eagle Scout project was the renovation of a class room at the former St Ambrose School which will be used as a lounge for STREAM students when South Buffalo Catholic School (Notre Dame Academy) expands to this building with grades 5 -8 this fall. He successfully completed his Eagle Scout Board of Review on May 21st, 2018.

Among family, friends, and fellow scouts in attendance at the Court of Honor was Erie County Clerk Mickey Kearns. He spoke of his experiences in scouting and encouraged Eagle Scout Michael to live each day cognizant of the dedication and hard work it took to become an Eagle, the responsibility that the rank carries, and the obligation to continue to live by the Scout Law as an example to others

While only 21 merit badges are required for the rank of Eagle, Michael has 30 to his credit. He was also awarded his Bronze Palm in recognition of the completion merit badges beyond those required for Eagle. Michael is a 2018 graduate of Bishop Timon St. Jude High School, a member of the National Honor Society and the recipient of the Ryan Purcell Memorial Scholarship. He will be attending John Carroll University in the fall. Michael is the son of Peggy and Michael Klodzinski of our parish.

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Friendship Corner

By Audrey Kunz

“Summer is delicious, rain is refreshing, wind braces up, snow is exhilarating; there is no such thing as bad weather, only different kinds of good weather.

– John Ruskin

“There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us.”

– St. John Vianney (Feast Day-August 4th)

“Go forth in peace, for you have followed the good road. Go forth without fear, for He who created you has made you holy, has always protected you, and loves you as a mother. Blessed be you, my God, for having created me.”

– St. Clare of Assisi (Feast Day-August 11th)

“The purpose of life is not to be happy. It is to be useful, to be honorable, to be compassionate, to have it make a difference that you have lived and lived well.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin Mary too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did. If anyone does not wish to have Mary Immaculate for his mother, he will not have Christ for his brother.”

– St. Maximilian Kolbe (Feast Day-August 14th)

“Love is friendship that has caught fire. It is quiet understanding, mutual confidence, sharing and

forgiving. It is loyalty through good and bad times. It settles for less than perfection and makes allowances for human weaknesses.”

– Ann Landers

“True happiness is ... to enjoy the present, without anxious dependence upon the future.”

– Lucius Annaeus Seneca

Student Honors - Fourth Quarter

Mount Mercy Academy

First Honors

Julia Maria Acosta
Kathleen Ball
Emily Burns
Elizabeth Higgins
Alyssa Lickfeld
Madeline Lickfeld
Phoebe Palmisano

Second Honors

Fiona Danahy
Mary Catherine Thie
Audrey Welsby

Merit Roll

Kayla Armbruster
Madeline Bigouette
Reilly D'Anthony
Emma Lewis
Roisin Lynch

St. Francis High School

Second Honors

Ryan A. Young

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Thank You Notes

Consolata Missionaries were very thankful for the generosity of our parish . Our gift to support their mission work was greatly appreciated.

The Sisters of St. Francis thanked us for our gift that helps the Timau Mission in Kenya They were so grateful for our kindness and generosity.

Sister Johnice from the Response to Love Center expressed her gratitude for our donation that will help them serve the poor and less fortunate families and clients who come to them for help all year.

AMVETS Post 24 sent a note to thank us for the Memorial Day donations for veterans.

Via International were grateful for our donation that allows them to continue to provide nutrition education, leadership development, and economic empowerment tools.

The VA sent a note of appreciation for our donation that will be used for veteran patients and their families.

The Sisters of Mercy acknowledged with gratitude our gift that helps the spiritual and physical needs of so many.

The Congregation of Holy Cross is deeply grateful for the continued investment in their mission and ministries in Peru.

We welcome into our parish family:

Newly Baptized:

Callan Daniel Seemueller
Stella Rose Jowsey

New Parishioners

Anne Kmack

Monthly Money Minutes

By Amy Jo Lauber

*Certified Financial Planner™ Professional and president of
Lauber Financial Planning*

No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money. Matthew 6:24

One of my favorite non-scriptural quotes about money is from Aristodemus: “Money is a good servant but a bad master.”

As a financial planner, I strive to help people understand how they can most wisely and beneficially use money, but not to let the money be the master of them; to let God be their only master.

If we let money be in charge of our life, we will never be satisfied; we’ll never have enough or be good enough. Money simply is not the source of love and acceptance we desire.

It is only when we apply a virtuous mind and heart to the way we earn, save, spend, invest, protect and share money can we be serve God with our money.

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