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Parish Office: 831 S. Chestnut Street
Reed City, Michigan 49677
Office Hours: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Friday 2:00 PM
Closed Wednesdays
Prayer Chain – Mary Lou Proefrock 231-832-4938

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time September 3, 2023

Sunday, September 3, 2023

Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 20:7-9; Romans 12:1-2;
Matthew 16:21-27

Monday, September 4, 2023

Labor Day

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Luke 4:16-30
1:00 PM -2:00 PM – Al-anon

Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 9-11; Luke 4:31-37

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

Colossians 1:1-8; Luke 4:38-44

1:00 – 3:00 PM – Bible Study St. Philip Neri

Parish Room

Office Closed

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Colossians 1:9-14; Luke 5:1-11

6:00 PM – Christian Service Meeting-

Parish Room

Friday, September 8, 2023

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

1 Thessalonians 4:1-8; Matthew 25:1-13

9:00 AM Daily Mass – St. Philip Neri

Rectory

†John Thomas by Robert Walley

Saturday, September 9, 2023

1 Thessalonians 4:9-11; Matthew 25:14-30

4:00 PM – 4:30 PM – Reconciliation –

St. Philip Neri

5:00 PM – Mass St. Philip Neri Church

†Virginia Vargo by Irene Taylor

Christian Service Committee

Members needed: St. Philip Neri and St. Anne have another service group that needs bolstering up with more working members on its books: the Christian Service Committee. Presently, we only have a couple of women who are trying to keep the community projects going. Formerly, the committee had seven projects it headed: Walk for Warmth (February), Baby Shower for Life Resources (February/March), Right to Life Memorial Roses (April/May), Recycling (August), CROP Walk (September/October), Thanksgiving Baskets (October/November), and the Giving Tree (November/December). Because of the lack of volunteers and our present church circumstances, we have not been able to cover them all, so some have gone by the wayside. Thanks to the Knights, the Memorial Roses have continued the last couple of years. The Thanksgiving Baskets and Giving Tree have also managed to squeak through.



The bottom line is this committee needs regular working members, both men and women, to help with these much needed community projects. An informative/planning meeting will be held on Thursday, September 7 at 6:00 p.m. in the Parish Room. Our parish members have always been wonderfully generous donors, and we thank you, but workers are needed to plan and carry out the projects. Please consider this committee for your time and talents.

Harriet Lenahan, Sue Maskill, and Birdie Wayne

Thank you

Thank you to my home and church families for a wonderful 85th birthday party after mass August 26th. It was great and you are too.

God Bless

Mary Lou Proefrock

Faith Formation News

This weekend the second reading is from Romans 12:1-2. Short but powerful scripture reading: I urge you, brothers, and sisters, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship. Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

In the culture we live in offering your body as a living sacrifice would be offensive to many people. However, our bodies were created in the likeness and image of God. Our bodies were created by God. We are responsible to take care of our bodies, to do good with him and not harm. We are called to treat our bodies with care. Sometimes I even hear, "it's my body and I will do whatever I want with it." How often we forget that God is the creator, and we are the creatures. We also forget that our choices affect more than just ourselves. That our selfishness has a ripple effect which often causes pain and suffering for others, and even death. This brings us to next line: holy and pleasing to God, your spiritual worship.

We are all called to holiness. Don't let that word put you off: holiness. We are ALL called to be holy. To walk in the way of the Lord. To run after him. To live a life pleasing to the Lord. To form our conscience in line with our loving Lord and his Church. I have been listening to the Catechism of the Catholic Church with Father Mike Schmitz. We are on the section addressing morality. It is difficult, but oh so good. I pray that some of you are doing this series as well. We are called to live that holiness within a moral life.

"Do not conform yourselves to this age be transformed by the renewal of your mind," Our minds so need to be renewed. There is so much coming at us these days that is horrible, even deadly to our minds. We suffer from the mantra of our culture of death, selfishness and online media that allows one to post whatever they want no matter the hurt or suffering it may cause. We watch movies, television and tik tok that is full of pornography. Often it fills us with negative self-talk and self-image. I have found that I need to start with good holy input first thing in the morning. I start with a commentary on the daily readings move to the Catechism in a year, then often another podcast on the way to work or Christian music on the radio. If I don't start with the good stuff, terrible self-talk and all the things that could go wrong for the day start playing in my head. Better that I begin with prayer, and scripture. It does not make the day perfect, but it sure helps me start off in a good direction.

"That you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." Recently my spiritual director talked to me about being in the Father's will. No matter what is going on, good or bad, suffering, anxiety, or joy. I am always in the Father's will. I am right where God wants me to be. My part is to trust. To trust in God's plan and purpose for my life. Oh boy there is that word again, TRUST! Yes, trust trust trust in God's will and plan for your life. Pray for God's will that it done, pray that your trust grows deep. Pray that you may not be afraid to trust no matter what is going on.

All this from two verses of scripture! Indeed. Sometimes from the smallest comes the greatest lesson. Just as Jesus used the example of the mustard seed, the smallest of all seeds to describe the kingdom of God. Jesus also uses the mustard seed to talk about our faith: if you have faith the size of a mustard seed you can say to this mountain move and it will move. Our society is about being the loudest, having the most money, dressing in a certain way, being the smartest and having the best of everything. Our Lord uses the smallest, simplest elements to teach us how to trust, to live in his grace and to find the path to holiness.

In peace, Beth Dake, Director of Faith Formation

Collection Report

August 26, 2023

St. Philip Neri/St. Anne

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| Envelopes | (30) \$2,140.00 |
| Loose | <u>\$370.00</u> |
| | \$2,510.00 |
| Wkly. Budget: | <u>\$3,100.00</u> |
| O/ (U) Budget: | (\$590.00) |
| YTD Budget: | \$27,900.00 |
| YTD Total: | <u>\$24,886.00</u> |
| | (\$3,014.00) |

Schedule of Ministers

September 9, 2023 5:00 PM

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|---------------------|------------------|
| Eucharist: | Beth Dake |
| Eucharist: | Cecile Slywka |
| Eucharist: | Brenda Battle |
| Word: | Lynne Kreger |
| Hospitality: | Richard Karns |
| | Ed Suckow |
| | Kay Suckow |
| | Steve Leporowski |