



ST. CHRISTOPHER'S CHURCH

SERVICE TO HIS PEOPLE

Member of 5 Saints West Pastoral Planning Group

October 11, 2009

GLORY BE TO GOD!

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

At the end of last week's Gospel reading Jesus said that "whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it. (MK 10:15) This child like attitude that Mark is referring to is a spirit of trust, generosity and openness. Today Gospel; speak of an individual, a rich young man, who tried to enter the kingdom of God on his own merits. He was self centered, independent, and judgmental. The invitation to his request for "life everlasting" is lost to him because he has too much in the way of his understanding of Jesus. He walks away sad and uncompromising in his belief that Jesus offers a more in life. That a struggle we all wrestle with in our own faith challenges. Let me share with you this story.

Arlene and Willis Hatch lived simple lives on their farm near the tiny town of Alto, Michigan. Until their retirements, Arlene taught seventh grade; Willis raised beef cattle. They never had children of their own; to them, their neighbors were their family. They invested in friendships and in their little church community. Arlene and Willis loved their town - and the feeling was mutual. During their lives, the Hatches quietly paid for local children to attend summer camp when their parents couldn't afford it, and they made certain no child went without warm clothing when winter came to the farmlands of the Grand River.

So the town was devastated when the couple died within days of each other, the result of a traffic accident. Both in their 90s when they died, the Hatches had been married for 57 years.

A few weeks after the funeral at their small Methodist church, the letters started to arrive. More than 70 neighbors were informed that they had inherited money from the Hatches. The amounts ranged from a few thousand dollars to more than \$100,000; the church received \$80,000 for its building fund.

Simple, unassuming Arlene and Willis Hatch had amassed a fortune of almost \$3 million in CDs, stocks and the assets of the farm. Both children of the Great Depression, Arlene and Willis were known for their frugality - but no one was prepared for this.

The money will help these families make it through job losses, pay for college tuitions, and cover medical bills. Many of the recipients who are able have given the money to several local charities, including food banks, the ASPCA and services for seniors.

That was the legacy Arlene and Willis Hatch wanted - a legacy of kindness as much as one of dollars and cents. The Hatches wanted to enrich the lives of not just a handful of family members but the community they loved and who

loved them in return. With kindness and caring, one elderly couple taught younger generations about investing in what matters most - each other. [ABC News, October 12, 2008; Reader's Digest, October 2008.]

The question is not whether money is good or bad; the Gospel challenge is what we do with our wealth, our sense of responsibility for the many blessings God has given us for the benefit of all. That is the challenge behind the CMA and it challenge to be generous in the way that keeps the "Spirit Alive in our Diocesan Church. The rich young man can't embrace Jesus' call for a God-centered spirit of generosity. Wealth should enable us to live life to the fullest and be of service to many in need. Too often what we have can weigh us down, preventing us from moving on with our lives - the prosperity that should enable our journey becomes more important than the journey itself. While the rich young man is entombed by his possessions, Arlene and Willis Hatch realized that what they have should be the tools for building lives of purpose and meaning. May we have the spirit of compassion not to become possessed by our possessions and the vision of faith to distinguish between the things of our world and the things of God.

May God touch your hearts in the week ahead as you discerning your offering to this year's campaign. God bless.

Spirit Alive

Read: Acts 4: 32 - 5: 16

Reflect: This section of Acts describes the early Christian community as being "of one heart and mind," with no one claiming any possessions as their own...right up until some do! Has my experience of community been that people are always of one mind and heart? How do I help when there are problems in my community? Do I hold back? Why? Is there a part of my life where I need to stop holding back and give all that I have for the good of my community?

Did anything else stand out for me in this section of Acts?

Act it Out! *How do my reflections today inform how I will live out my discipleship in the world this week?*

Could I...

...help people think differently about a conflict or painful situation in my workplace or school?

...give my child some helpful language so that she or he can be a part of peacemaking with friends?

...say "no" to doing one more thing that saps my energy for the important work of being a disciple?

How else could I act it out?

MASS INTENTIONS - Oct 10th to Oct 18th**Saturday**

4:30 PM Bob Booher by wife, Doll

Sunday

9:00 AM Florence Becker by Ginny Lockridge

11:00 AM Joseph Anthony Salati by Colleen & Emily

Monday

9:00 AM For the people of St. Christopher

Tuesday

9:00AM Fathers living and deceased

Wednesday

9:00AM Fred Stohr by Mary Ewing & Dept of Ed Univ of VA

Thursday

9:00 AM Communion and Prayer Service

Friday

9:00 AM Roberta Daniels by husband

Saturday

4:30 PM Larry Dachille by the Mackey family

Sunday

9:00 AM Paul Zukaitis by Ron & Barb McKenna

11:00 AM John Beeke by Bill & Sharon Beeke

NEXT WEEK'S ACTIVITIES**Sunday, October 11**

9:00 AM - 02:00 PM (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive

12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrm) Youth/Young Adult Choir

1:00 PM - 03:00 PM (Hall) Youth Group

Monday, October 12

Columbus Day—Office Closed

Tuesday, October 13

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive

Wednesday, October 14

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive

7:00 PM - (Church) Folk Group

Thursday, October 15

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive

6:15 PM - 08:00 PM (Hall) Hope & Healing

7:00 PM - (Church) Choir

Friday, October 16

9:00 AM - 02:00 PM (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive

Saturday, October 17

8:00 AM - 04:00 PM Wildlife Fund Raiser for St. Christopher's and Wildlife

9:00 AM - (Hall) Fall Clothing Drive - pack and ship

4:30 PM - 05:30 PM (Clsrm 6) Liturgy of the Word

Sunday, October 18

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (Hall) Liturgy of the Word

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM (All Clsrms) Pre School - Kindergarten

11:00 AM - 11:00 AM (Clsrm 6) Liturgy of the Word

12:00 PM - (Any open Clsrm) Youth/Young Adult Choir

1:00 PM - 03:00 PM (Hall) Youth Group

7:00 PM - 08:00 PM (Hall) Parent Meeting for Reconciliation Candidates

**Golden Agers Baked Food Sale**

The Baked Food Sale will be on October 24th & 25th after each Mass.

If you would like to donate items to be sold it would be greatly appreciated

Mark Your Calendars- Five Saints West Fall Retreat "JOURNEYING WITH LUKE"

Monday, Oct. 19—7pm at St. Christopher's

Monday, Oct 28—7pm at St. Mary's

Monday, Nov. 2—7pm at St. Columba-St. Patrick

Monday, Nov 9—7pm at St. Vincent

Dr. Joseph Kelly, Professor Emeritus of Scripture at Nazareth College, will bring the Gospel of Luke alive to help us journey towards a deeper relationship with God.

R & R for Liturgical Ministers, Oct. 24

This R&R gives us a time to gather together to pray and reflect on our ministries at St. Christopher's as well as be commissioned in those ministries. Your prompt reply to this invitation helps us in planning and organizing. Deacon Larry Feasel, our keynote speaker, currently serves at St. Salome's Church in Irondequoit and as duty chaplain at Rochester General Hospital. He is a native of Rochester, attended McQuaid Jesuit High School and John Carrol University in Ohio. He holds two Masters Degrees, one in history from the University of Rochester, and the other in Theology from St. Bernard's Institute. We hope all those involved our Liturgies plan to attend this event.

**Parish Bike Ride!**

Please consider joining us on our parish bike ride! It will be hosted by St. C's youth group, and open to ALL ages. Anyone under 12 will need to a parent/guardian along on the ride. The ride is on Sunday October 18th at 2pm! Go north on Union Street to Spencerport, we'll be meeting in the parking lot on the

LEFT directly BEFORE the canal bridge. PLEASE bring your bike, helmet, and a bottle of water! The ride will be about 14 miles total. We are planning on biking from Spencerport to Brockport, and then back. Any group of at least 3 people (with one 21 or older) that would like to do a longer OR shorter ride, we can have different groups riding different routes/distances! We hope you will join us to celebrate the nice fall weather! Any questions? Email Kim and Dave at stchristophersyouthgroup@hotmail.com

Youth Group...

~ Don't forget that there is always a newsletter the 1st weekend of every month with the youth, young adult, and music updates and monthly calendars! Check that for events and details! If you miss getting it any month, request a copy or check the bulletin board outside the youth room upstairs!

Golden Agers

The Golden Agers meeting for October will be Tuesday, October 27th following the 9:00 AM Mass. After the meeting there will be a mini-retreat as planned by Judy Leone. After the Retreat we will go to the Town and Country restaurant for lunch and order off the menu. Please sign up by October 25th by calling Chris McCabe at 293-9248.

Annual Fall Clothing Drive

The Fall Clothing Drive will be Saturday Oct 10th - Friday Oct 16th. Clothing can be dropped off at the Church Hall After Oct 10th and Oct. 11th Masses. and on Tues. Oct 13th - Friday Oct 16th 10 to 3 when Religious Education Offices are open. We are Especially in need of Women's clothing all sizes and Children's Clothing Baby to Five Years old for Bethany House. We also need Men's Size Small for the Migrants of Brockport. We ask that the clothing be clean, packed and labeled in Bags or Boxes. Thanks so much

HOPE & HEALING

—a peer-support group for the Separated, Divorced, and Widowed will meet on Thursday, October 15th from 6:15-8pm

Topic: FINANCES - LIVING TODAY & PLANNING FOR TOMORROW

Deacon Dennis E. Lohouse, CFA-Principal, holds an MBA in Finance and Accounting from the William E. Simon School at the U of R. Topics could include: income planning, retirement spending, the economy, the health care reform issues, long term care, or any other finance or investment issue you care to raise. This presentation is for the everyday layperson. Please call Deacon John or Peggy at 585-293-3337 or e-mail peggymcunningham@yahoo.com

Building Peace with Justice

In our gospel reading today, the disciples are astonished that the rich man's successful personal life and good behavior are not enough to grant him eternal life. Jesus loves the rich man but reminds him and the disciples that eternal life is granted by God alone.

Reflection: Catholic social teaching reminds us that our basic human dignity is derived from our status as sons and daughters of God, created in God's image. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as our own church leaders, consider health care to be a basic human right, not a benefit given only to people who have achieved worldly success or fit other narrow criteria. Are we willing to work towards more universal healthcare coverage even if it means some sacrifice on our part? Or, like the rich man, are we afraid of what we might have to give up?



Tuesday Nights @ Jitters Bible Study

For Young adults / College Students & Adults 18-35

A special 7 week Fall Bible Study, entitled "The Bible & Catholicism" will be starting up SOON! Join us each Tuesday night at 7:30pm for a cup o' coffee, brief presentation & lively discussion! Come each week or stop by when you can! All Gatherings take place at Jitters Café on Buffalo Road in N. Chili. Our Fall series runs from

Oct. 6 - Nov. 17. Please bring a Bible. RSVP appreciated! Please contact Maranda for more info! 719-5851 or marandaskolen@hotmail.com

The Joy of Stewardship

Parish Financial Stewardship Summary

	LAST WEEK	YEAR TO DATE
Last Week	\$ 9,344.93	\$ 88,578.53
Attendance	686	#of Envelopes 235

"Keep Our Campus Cool" Campaign

\$ 53,016.30 received \$ 54,451.30 pledged 325 families

A Stewardship Moment

Jesus makes a dramatic statement regarding the rich in today's Gospel.

We are all rich compared to most in the world.

Our society causes us to occasionally develop a misplaced trust in our money and our possessions instead of trusting in God's generosity.

When we seek security in at-risk things, like our possessions, we are vulnerable to anxiety and fear. As good stewards we know that our possessions must not possess us, lest they get in the way of our discipleship.

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PARISH STAFF

Pastor	Rev. Robert Gaudio 594-1400
Sec/Business Mgr	Marilyn Weinert 594-1400
Deacon	John Cunningham 594-1400/301-8540
Rel. Ed. Coordinator	Judy Leone 594-1441
Rel. Ed. Secretary	Karen Curtis 594-1441
Music Director	Celeste Dynski-Trumble 293-2358
Pastoral Minister	Chris McCabe 594-1400/293-9248
Young Adult Minister	Maranda Skolen 719-5851/594-1091
Youth Minister	Kim Potter 329-4642/594-1091

PASTORAL COUNCIL

Pastoral Council.....	Bill America	503-9415
Chairperson		
5 Saints West Rep.....	Tom Staccone	889-3784