

# From the Deacon's Desk

## September, 2016

Odd month, September. Summer is over but the warm weather continues to hang on. Labor Day is past and so no big holidays coming up. All the usual routines start back up. Meanwhile we wait for October when the weather may cause us to start looking for that sweatshirt and the Halloween decorations start appearing. The next several months will be busy with various holiday preparations but not September. "Usual routines" may be the key description of September. Not unlike the time we find ourselves in on the Church calendar. Ordinary Time. Ordinary, meaning usual or routine, not boring or dull. And yet in this Ordinary Time there is also some anticipation. Just as the children know that next month will be Halloween, we know that the end of the Church's calendar will be here in a couple months. Advent will begin a new year but not before we celebrate the Feast of Christ the King.

Our ordinary lives are mirrors of our faith lives. The readings at Mass over the last several weeks begin preparing us for the coming of Jesus. "Thy Kingdom come" as we pray at each Mass is the ultimate goal for us as Christians. Our readings now begin to focus more on what we must do to achieve the Kingdom when it comes. We'll hear more about the love and service and mercy that are required of us as Christians.

And so that's why months like September are good for us. That's why Ordinary Time is good for us. It's a chance to get ready. It's a time to prepare, to put things in order. No holiday distractions, no hurried schedules. It's a time to focus on those things we need to do in anticipation of bigger things to come.

### Upcoming Events

#### **Fall Festival Weekend Mass Location Change**

All weekend Masses on October 8 & 9 will be celebrated at St. Agnes church in order to avoid the Fall Festival crowds. Mass times remain the same: Saturday, 4:30 PM. Sunday, 8:00 and 10:00 AM. Also Confessions will be available before Mass on Saturday beginning at 3:30 PM. Weekday Mass times and locations DO NOT change. This change is for one weekend only. All weekend Masses will return to St. Boniface church the following weekend.

**Pet Blessings** – Our annual blessing of pets will take place on Saturday, October 1 at 10:00 on the lawn next to Sacred Heart church. This is in recognition of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi which occurs the following week on the 4<sup>th</sup>. You are welcome to bring any and all pets you may have. We ask that you keep your pets on a leash or in their cages.

**FALL FESTIVAL** – We have two booths and a parking lot to staff this year. These are not only great fundraising activities for the school and parish but also a good way to get to know other people while you work with them. Whether you have students in the

school or not, please sign up for a shift or two and help us with staffing. Call the school office and find a time that works in your schedule.

**Server Training** – Any Catholic students, fourth grade or older, who wish to be Servers for weekday or weekend Masses may now sign up for training. There will be training sessions September 27 and 28 at 3:00 PM. There will also be a session on Saturday, October 1 at 11:00 AM. All training will take place at St. Boniface church. The training sessions are identical so you only need attend the one most convenient for you. This is training for all NEW servers who have not completed a training session in the past. And yes, we welcome high school students as well.

**Eucharistic Adoration** – The first Friday of each month we have Adoration and Benediction at Sacred Heart church. Adoration begins immediately following the 8:00 AM Mass and continues until Benediction at 5:00 PM. The church is open throughout the day and you are encouraged to stop in, even if for a few minutes, and spend some time in prayer. October 7 is our next First Friday.

**Scripture Study** – The St. Boniface Pastoral team has put together two new classes for parishioners. A NEW Scripture Study will be held on Wednesday afternoons, 1:00 – 3:00 PM in the St. Agnes Daller Room from September 7 through October 19. The study is led by Deacon Wayne Hoy and covers a New Testament/Christian Scripture Bible Study course. There will be a ‘bible sharing’ time during each meeting.

**Catholicism Series** – The Barron Catholicism Series will be held on Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:00 PM in the Daller Room on the St. Agnes campus. Each week a video is shown with discussion to follow. The series covers the journey with Bishop Robert Barron to more than 50 locations throughout 16 countries to learn what Catholics believe and why. The series is led by Jim Mattingly and Ross Vaughn of the Spiritual Life Commission.

**Women’s CRHP** – The St. Boniface Parish “Christ Renews His Parish”, CRHP Team (*pronounced chirp*) invites all women of the parish over the age of 18 to join in the next weekend: October 22 & 23. The CRHP Team is excited about continuing this valuable program. It is a fun and uplifting weekend that follows a program allowing for time to get to know one another, sing, pray, love and laugh! Contact Nancy Nelson 812-779-6261 or Terri Scheller 812-449-3039 for information. Please pray for the success of CRHP!

### **Some “Did You Know” Items**

**Stewardship the LAZY way** – Wouldn’t it be nice if you didn’t have to do a thing and it still helped your parish? What if I told you that you can just keep on doing what you’re doing and St. Boniface will benefit from it? Well that’s what SCRIP is all about. It’s a lazy way to support the parish. You already buy groceries. You stop at the gas station regularly. Chances are you eat out frequently. Why not use SCRIP for those purchases? It costs you nothing. Instead of giving the gas station \$25, get a SCRIP card for \$25 and use that. You aren’t paying any more and the parish gets a rebate

from the retailer. You can get your cards after all the Masses, at the parish office and even online. Can't get much easier and it really helps the parish. So go ahead. Be lazy! But do it in a way that makes a difference. In a parish our size we have the potential to make over \$100,000 a year just by being lazy.

**Children's Liturgy** – We offer a Children's Liturgy most Sundays at the 8:00 and 10:00 AM Masses. Children are called forward before the readings begin and depart with our catechists. They return normally during Offertory. All children, including visitors, are welcome to participate.

**C.A.S.H.** – The **C**hristian **A**dults **S**taying **H**ealthy group meets three times a week in Ryves Hall at the St. Agnes campus. Participants meet at 8:30 am on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. The group exercises using numerous types of aerobics, weights and stretches on mats plus a cool down period. The program is much cheaper than a gym, and they have all of the equipment for everyone. There's no commitment necessary, only what is convenient for your schedule. All participants must provide a doctor's consent. We welcome everyone, especially seniors! For more information call Patti Grannan at 812-963-3541.

### **Did You Miss These Events?**

September 14 – The Altar Society Annual Card Party was held in Ryves Hall.

September 17 – Bishop Thompson celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with us at the 4:30 Mass. Fourteen students received the Sacrament. Please continue to keep them in prayer.

### **Concluding Thoughts**

The end of the year will be here sooner than you think. It is during these final months that many people begin to look at what needs to be done before the tax year ends. Perhaps you have been considering a one-time donation? Or maybe your tithing is done on an annual basis. As you look at where your tithing may go, please keep in mind St. Boniface Parish and the support of her ministries.

This is also a good time to mention that as you prepare or review your estate plans or preplan a funeral many people will include a gift to their parish as a lasting memorial. A gift of this type can be done in many ways including endowments or earmarked for specific uses. If this is something you would like to learn more about, please call the parish office.

God bless all of you!



Deacon Dave