



Scripture Readings for Today

1st Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

2nd Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43



“Those who are just must be kind,” says today’s first reading. If our words and deeds are kind and selfless, we will be like the good seed in the Gospel parable and gathered as wheat in the Lord’s harvest.

Scripture Readings for July 27th

1st Reading: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

2nd Reading: Romans 8:28-30

Gospel: Matthew 13:44-52

For everything is from you, and we only give you what we already have received from you.

Dear Parishioners,

Life is not complicated. Yet, the world we live in makes us think it is. The wisdom of the world beckons us to be successful in all things striving to be the most powerful, the wealthiest, or the most famous. Today’s readings explain a ‘wisdom’ which beckons us to slow down, be patient, caring, compassionate and forgiving.

The world’s impulsive and wise choice in today’s Gospel would require a cleansing of the field having the workers carefully extract the weeds from the wheat, despite the reality that some of the wheat would be lost in this process. Jesus wisely says ‘wait’, so that none of the wheat will be lost. Who loves us more, the world we live in or Jesus? The answer should be apparent, but to some it is confusing. When it seems difficult to choose between the world and Jesus, remember what St. Paul wrote to the Romans, “The Holy Spirit comes to the aid of our weakness.” Does the world make such a promise when we are troubled by sin?

Do not avoid Jesus and embrace the world because you are a sinner. Sin is not an excuse. All of us sin. Jesus gave his life for our sins, once, for all, forever. We were bought by His precious blood. If you believe this, go to Confession NOW and be rid of your sins. Bishop Fulton Sheen wrote, “When the priest raises his hands in absolution over you, the blood of Christ is dripping from his fingers.” Each of us surely would be overcome with sorrow if we realized this merciful sacrifice each time we are forgiven. Seek his love in prayer, patiently forgiving yourself and others.

Make your life less complicated. Live in the world with the love and compassion of Jesus Christ.

Deacon Jack

THE COLLECTION FOR JULY 12-13TH

Envelopes	\$14,642.00
Loose	\$1,081.29
Poor Boxes	\$467.09
Children’s	\$27.86

THE MASS COUNT FOR JULY 12-13TH

5 PM – 205	7:30 AM – 178	9 AM – 182
10:30 AM – 325	12 PM – 270	Total – 1160

Children’s Stewardship

Six -year old C.R. writes on his envelope:
 Time: helping Mom make dinner
 Talent: playing baseball
 Treasure: \$1.00

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOUL of Genevieve Lewis.

PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE: We ask



you to remember the following: parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: LCpl. Joseph Bytella, USMC; Capt. Brian Gallagher, USAF, 2nd Class Petty Officer John Benjamin Maggio, Pfc. William O’Brien, USMC; Pvt. Harry Harrison Bruns, USMC; Pfc. Ryan Kamauff, National Guard; Recon Scout 101st Airborne Matt Lambert, David Parker, National Guard; Army Sgt. Joshua Callow, 1st Lieutenant Stephen Winter, U.S. Army; LCpl. Sean Fitzpatrick, USMC; LCpl. John J. Cohee, Jr. USMC; Sgt. David Burton, USMC; LCpl Alex Webb; 1st Lieutenant Sheldon Broedel, U.S. Army and Army Specialist Stephen Grenfell.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Mr. & Mrs. William Lang, Tammy Randle, Noreen Newcomb, Christian Murray, Robert Nelson, Reva Geppi, Melvin Marshalek, Nancy Baucom, Boyd Crotts, Milton Getka, and George Weinhold.

FLOWERS – Flowers on our Main Altar are in loving memory of Bob Mellendick requested by Diane and Bob. To donate fresh flowers, call Doris Mellendick at 410-747-2751.



SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS – The summer hours for St. Agnes School will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Tuition may be paid at the Parish Office Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

SCHOOL TUITION: The Book Bill and first tuition payment for the new school year was due Tuesday, July 15th. The Book Bill is \$195. per child for all children in Kindergarten through 8th grade.



CATHOLIC FAMILY EXPO — will be held July 25-26, 2008 at Church of the Resurrection in Ellicott City. The EXPO provides inspiring and practical talks for Catholics of all ages. There will be Mass each day and opportunities for the Sacrament of Reconciliation For info, visit www.nache.org.

THE SECOND COLLECTION to be taken up at all the Masses next weekend will be the annual Archdiocesan collection for the Missionary Cooperative. Please make checks payable to St. Agnes Church. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

NATURAL FAMILY PLANNING WEEK IS July 20-26th. Natural Family Planning is a call to celebrate and reverence God's vision of human sexuality. For inner peace and for family happiness, you have to let God reign in your heart and in your marriage. For more info, please contact Tom and Patty Strunck at 410-696-2269 or strunckfamily@cclcentralmd.org

BUILDING UPDATES: In the coming month, the large oak tree behind the church near the temporary playground will need to be removed. There have been several branches that have died and fallen, one striking a child. Recently the tree was evaluated by a tree preservation specialist. It was his opinion that the tree was dying and would pose a continued threat to the safety of parishioners and school children from falling limbs. Once the tree is removed and the new playground is installed, a new tree will be planted.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 21-27TH

MONDAY 7/21	6:30 a.m. – Rose Aruny 8:00 a.m. – Nellie Maggio
TUESDAY 7/22	6:30 a.m. – Saby Kuruthukulam 8:00 a.m. – Francis & Margaret Levy
WED. 7/23	6:30 a.m. – Paul Carter 8:00 a.m. – Henry & Cecelia Hoffman
THURSDAY 7/24	6:30 a.m. – Ann P. Hoffman 8:00 a.m. – Rose Lancellota
FRIDAY 7/25	6:30 a.m. – Teodolfo G. Ramos 8:00 a.m. – Frank Lewis
SAT. 7/26	8:00 a.m. – Kenneth Zeller 5:00 p.m. – Eileen D. Cook
SUNDAY 7/27	7:30 a.m. – Tony Aquilla 9:00 a.m. – For the Parishioners 10:30 a.m. – John Ascosi 12:00 p.m. – Shirley Kelly

DAILY READINGS

Monday 7/21	<i>St. Lawrence of Brindisi</i> Reading: Micah 6:1-4, 6-8 Gospel: Matthew 12:38-42
Tuesday 7/22	<i>St. Mary Magdalene</i> Reading: Micah 7:14-15, 18-20 Gospel: John 20:1-2, 11-18
Wednesday 7/23	<i>St. Bridget of Sweden</i> Reading: Jeremiah 1:1, 4-10 Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9
Thursday 7/24	<i>St. Sharbel Makhlu</i> Reading: Jerem. 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13 Gospel: Matthew 13:10-17
Friday 7/25	<i>St. James, Apostle</i> Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:7-15 Gospel: Matthew 20:20-28
Saturday 7/26	<i>St. Joachim & St. Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i> Reading: Jeremiah 7:11 Gospel: Matthew 13:16-17

"IN HIS LIKENESS"

ST. MARY MAGDALENE

Feast day – July 22nd

To St. Mary Magdalene was given the privilege of being the first to whom the risen Jesus appeared. The opening prayer of the Mass states that Jesus "first entrusted to Mary Magdalene the joyful news of his resurrection," and the gospels tell us she was sent to the disciples to make this reality known.

Who is this Mary of Magdala? Apparently not the woman, the unknown sinner who anointed the feet of Jesus (Cf. Luke 7:36); not the sister of Martha, for she had been wrongfully identified with both.

From the Gospels we do conclude that she was the one from whom Jesus had cast out seven devils (Cf Mk. 16:9 & Lk. 8:2); that she is one of the women who ministered to the needs of Jesus (Lk. 8:2), was a witness of the crucifixion (Mt. 27:56; Mk. 15:40; Jn. 19:25), was present at the burial of Jesus (Mt. 27:61; Mk. 15:47), and was at the empty tomb (Cf. Mt 28:1-10; Mk- 16:1-8; Lk- 24:1-12). The gospel of John specifically says she was the first to whom the risen Jesus appeared. (Cf. Jn. 20:11-18).

Among the women who followed Jesus during his public ministry, Mary Magdalene is always mentioned first, and it would seem that she was the leader of this group who used their means to provide for Jesus and his apostles. From the attention that she is given by the evangelists we are certain that she was a devoted follower, and because she received the privilege of being the first to experience the Resurrection, we understand that she was obviously greatly loved by Jesus.

In a homily that we read on this her feast day, St. Gregory the Great suggests: "We should reflect on Mary's attitude and the great love she felt for Christ; for though the disciples had left the tomb, she remained. She was still seeking the one she had not found, and while she sought she wept; burning with the fire of love, she longed for him who she thought had been taken away. And so it happened that the woman who stayed behind to seek Christ was the only one to see him. For perseverance is essential to any good deed, as the voice of truth tells us: *Whoever perseveres to the end will be saved.*

Today we pray that we may "proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day see Him in glory," and that we be filled "with the same faithful love that kept Mary Magdalene close to Christ."

ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY**Sunday, July 20 – Steubenville Testimonies**

Tonight, we will view pictures and videos from our trip and discuss our favorite memories. Please bring your cameras and the cables that will connect them to a television for viewing!

Sunday, July 27 – Movie Night

Please bring a G or PG rated movie for voting! We will watch the winner.

CONSIDERING ADOPTION: Catholic Charities of Baltimore has both International and Domestic Adoption Programs. We hold periodic information meetings to explain the various options and discuss all of our programs. Our next meetings will be held on **Wednesday, July 30, 2008**, 6:45-9 pm and **Wednesday, August 27, 2008**, 6:45-9 pm at our office 11 E. Mt. Royal Ave., Baltimore, MD 21202. For further details or to register, please call 410-659-4050.

OUR 3rd ANNUAL PARISH CRAB FEAST will be held Friday, August 29th. Mark your calendar now. Proceeds will benefit the building fund. For ticket information, please call Sue Bianco at 410.788.3537 or email suebianco@yahoo.com.



WOMEN'S RETREAT: Oct. 17-19, 2008 at Loyola Retreat House in Faulkner, MD. Cost \$215. The retreat will be limited to 12-15 women. Call Cathy Arini 410.747.7736 for more info.

ST. AGNES CHURCH WEBSITE – Check out our parish website. Our bulletins and Liturgical Minister schedules are posted there, as well as Sacramental and Mass schedules. Visit us at www.stagnescatholicchurch.org.

TRAVELING THIS SUMMER? For nationwide Mass times and locations, call 1.410.676.6000 or visit the web at www.masstimes.org.

**MEMORY VERSE****MATTHEW 13:42**

The righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father.