

TODAY IS THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JUNE 22, 2008

**Scripture Readings for Today****1st Reading:** Jeremiah 20:10-13**2nd Reading:** Romans 5:12-15**Gospel:** Matthew 10:26-33**Scripture Readings for June 29th****1st Reading:** Acts 12:1-11**2nd Reading:** 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18**Gospel:** Matthew 16:13-19

Dear Parishioners,

While this Tuesday is the Feast of the Birth of John the Baptist, a lesser known feast is commemorated on the same day, that of the "Martyrs Under Nero." Begun on this date in 64 A.D., it was the first major persecution of the Church. So savage were the torments to which Christians were exposed, that even the Roman populace, long since de-sensitized to human misery by their degenerate forms of entertainment, were moved to pity for the martyrs. In fact, their courage amidst their torments even won many converts. Today, many Catholics still endure persecution to the point of death, but in our own lives, it is typically something more subtle. I could give endless examples of Christian students discriminated against on campuses, Catholic workers harassed and fired for not contradicting their beliefs, and professors denied tenure for their adherence to the Magisterium. Of course, the words of Jesus in today's Gospel apply to each of us as they did to the Martyrs under Nero, and everyone who has been persecuted for the Gospel ever since: "Everyone who acknowledges Me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. But whoever denies Me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father."

Several years ago a local high school baseball team traveled out of state for a tournament. One of the players, however, was chastised by his coaches and ostracized by his teammates because he caused them to be late in arriving at the playing field. His reason for not being at the bus at the scheduled time? It was Sunday, and he had to go to Mass first. He tried to explain this ahead of time, but was told he would simply have to miss church; to him, this wasn't an option. While it is not the same as being fed to a lion or burned alive, this was a courageous act by a teenager under such peer pressure, and our lives will not be lacking many such opportunities as well to profess Christ before others. Whether confronted by the savage cruelty of another Nero, or the petty persecutions of a godless world, there is no such thing

as remaining neutral. By being faithful to the Gospel we will win the friendship of Jesus, and perhaps, like the martyrs under Nero, give those around us something to think about.

Fr. Tim



The psalmist assures us that "the Lord hears the poor." Often, however, He answers their need through the generous gifts of good stewards.

Stewardship of treasure is based on giving a percentage of our income. If we have little income, we will give little. If we have greater income, we will give more. Whether we are poor or rich, we can each give a percentage of our income to church and other charities.

THE COLLECTION FOR JUNE 14-15TH

Envelopes	\$15,146.35
Loose	\$1,241.18
Poor Boxes	\$496.57
Children's	\$40.64

THE MASS COUNT FOR JUNE 14-15TH

5 PM – 230	7:30 AM – 199	9 AM – 283
10:30 AM – 338	12 PM – 272	Total – 1322

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS of our deceased parishioners.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS, especially those in hospitals – Gilbert Sommers, and Noreen Newcomb.

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for all those recovering from surgeries and illness and for: Christian Murray, Robert Nelson, Jim Frentz, Louise Smith, Ernie Gruber, Fr. Karwacki, Cathy Parsons, Reva Geppi, Carl McCullough, Melvin Marshalek, Jackie Desrosiers, Mary Van Dusen, Bea Shaw, Nancy Baucom, Milton Getka, Boyd Crofts and George Weinhold.



PRAYER FOR OUR SERVICE PEOPLE: We ask you to remember the following: parishioners, family & friends serving in the military: 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; Lance Corporal Sean Fitzpatrick, USMC and Lance Corporal John J. Cohee, Jr. USMC.

MASSES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 23-29TH

MONDAY 6:30 a.m. – Frank Cummings
6/23 8:00 a.m. – Poor Souls in Purgatory

TUESDAY 6:30 a.m. – Alva Slicher
6/24 8:00 a.m. – Erma Koenig

WED. 6:30 a.m. – Angelo Glorioso
6/25 8:00 a.m. – Irene Schultz

THURSDAY 6:30 a.m. – Mildred Walters
6/26 8:00 a.m. – Special Intention

FRIDAY 6:30 a.m. – Mary Kemp Haas
6/27 8:00 a.m. – Nellie Maggio

SATURDAY 8:00 a.m. – Dorothy Vogler
6/28 5:00 p.m. – Thomas Dougher

SUNDAY 7:30 a.m. – For the Parishioners
6/29 9:00 a.m. – Rosaria Fonti
10:30 a.m. – Robert & Ella Parrott
12:00 p.m. – Int. of Veronica Annarino

DAILY READINGS

Monday 6/23	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a Gospel: Matthew 7:1-5
Tuesday 6/24	<i>Solemnity of the Nativity of St. John</i> Reading: Isaiah 49:1 Reading: Acts 13:22-26 Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80
Wednesday 6/25	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3 Gospel: Matthew 7:15-20
Thursday 6/26	<i>Weekday</i> Reading: 2 Kings 24:8-17 Gospel: Matthew 7:21-29
Friday 6/27	<i>St. Cyril of Alexandria</i> Reading: 2 Kings 25:1-12 Gospel: Matthew 8:1-4
Saturday 6/28	<i>St. Irenaeus</i> Reading: Lament. 2:2, 10-14, 18-19 Gospel: Matthew 8:5-17

FLOWERS –Flowers on the Main Altar are in loving memory of Tom Tacka requested by his children and grandchildren. Flowers on our Blessed Sacrament Altar are in loving memory of Jerry Cleaver requested by his family. Flowers on our Holy Family Altar are in celebration of the 36th Wedding Anniversary of Debbie & Dave Dutrow requested by their family. To donate fresh flowers in loving memory or for a special occasion, call Doris Mellendick at 410-747-2751.



MEN'S CLUB CRAB FEAST RAFFLE – Members of our Men's Club will be selling chances after Mass this weekend. Win 2 bushels of steamed crabs, a bushel of corn, 3 cases of beer and 2 cases of soda for \$1 per chance, 6 chances for \$5, or 15 chances for \$10. Drawing will be held Wednesday, August 20th. Please help support our parish youth athletic program.

SHARING CHRIST Join local college-age Catholics for a course on evangelization called *Sharing Christ*. This course teaches you how to share your personal friendship with Jesus Christ with others. It began on Thursday, June 12th and continues every Thursday through July 24, from 7:30-9:30 pm at UMBC Interfaith Center. Sponsored by ChristLife; Contact Pete Ascosi at pete@christlife.org or 410.531.7701.

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.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS – The summer hours for the Parish office are as follows: Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

OUR 3rd ANNUAL PARISH CRAB FEAST will be held Friday, August 29th. Mark your calendar now and plan to join the fun! All proceeds will benefit the building fund.

SILVER CIRCLE WINNER: Congratulations to Albert Melaragno, Silver Circle winner for June! Thanks a million to all of you who supported us. Even though you may not have won monetarily, you won the daily prayers of our Sisters.

God bless you!
Gratefully,
Sister Gracette

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATES



Work Completed the Past Two Weeks

- Concrete floor poured in the main gym space
- Masonry walls nearing completion
- Bathroom plumbing 70% complete
- Steel work begun to upper section of building

Scheduled Work for Next Two Weeks

- Continue steel work
- Metal deck will begin
- Block veneer will begin to exterior walls
- Plumbing in bathroom continues

CATHOLIC FAMILY EXPO - Save the date for the Catholic Family EXPO, July 25-26, 2008 at Church of the Resurrection in Ellicott City.

The EXPO provides inspiring and practical talks for Catholics of all ages, in addition to a book and exhibitor fair in the Church gym. Please visit www.nache.org for more information.

SUMMER CAMPS AT MOUNT DE SALES: Camps include: Basketball, Field Hockey, Lacrosse, Soccer, Strength & Conditioning, and Volleyball. For brochures and permission slips, visit www.mountdesales.org. Questions? Call Janet McKinnon at 410-744-8498 x 163.

BASKETBALL CAMP at Cardinal Gibbons School. Camps will focus on fundamentals, team basketball, and overall player development. 2 Great Weeks: July 14-18 (Boys); July 28- August 1 (Co-ed). Time: 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. Ages: 7-17. For more info please contact Jeff Cheevers at (410) 644-1770 ext. 126.

MT. ST. JOSEPH SUMMER CAMPS - Camps include Lacrosse, Soccer; & Speed, Agility & Conditioning. For more information, please visit www.msjnet.net and click on Summer at the Mount or email mike@acheivespeed.com for Soccer & Speed, Agility & Conditioning camps and tbrock@admin.msjnet.edu for Lacrosse camp.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - St. Mark Parish is sponsoring Vacation Bible School during the week of July 7 -11th from 9 - 11:30 am - for ages pre-K thru 5th grade. Call 410-744-6560. Ex 224.

ST. AGNES YOUTH MINISTRY

Sunday, June 22 -Praise and Worship

Join us as we sing praise and worship songs led by youth group members!

Sunday, June 29 -Fr. Tim Night

Tonight, we will meet in the Church to hear a talk by Father Tim Fell. Immediately following his talk, Father Tim will lead a Holy Hour.

Summer Stretch is a service program for students in grades 6-9. The program meets on Tuesdays in July and concludes on the first Thursday in August. This is a great opportunity for students to accrue their service hours for Confirmation and Scouts, as well as build lasting friendships. Information and registration packets for Summer Stretch are available in the Parish Office.

A LIFELINE FOR MARRIAGE - Retrouvaille



(pronounced retro-vi with a long i) helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. It is designed to provide the tools to help get your marriage back on track. This program has helped many couples experiencing marital difficulty. Our next weekend will be September 12-14th. For confidential information call 410.647.0350 or visit the website at www.HelpOurMarriage.com.

ST. AGNES SCHOOL FUNDRAISER: Before you go to the store, stop by the Food Certificate table after Mass and purchase a \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 or \$100 food certificate to put toward your groceries. You get dollar for dollar value, and St. Agnes School will receive up to 5% of your grocery bill -- at no cost to you! Certificates are also available in the School and Parish offices.

TRAVELING THIS SUMMER? For nationwide Mass times and locations, call 1-410-676-6000, or visit the web at www.masstimes.org.



MEMORY VERSE

JEREMIAH 20:13

Sing to the Lord, praise the Lord, for He has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!