

EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

Dear Friends,

Once upon a time there was a Louisville University quarterback who had a dream, an obsession. His dream was to play pro football. However, upon graduation, this young quarterback was not drafted by the pros.

He did not give up. He wrote to several teams and finally got a tryout with the Steelers. He gave it his best shot but did not even make the third string.

"You got a raw deal." "It wasn't meant to be ." "I guess it's time to hang it up," his friends told him. But the young athlete didn't hang it up. Continuing to knock on doors and write letters, he finally received another invitation. Again, he did not make the team.

Most people would have given up long before this, but not this determined young man. He was fanatically committed to his personal dream. From his early days of playing sandlot football, through his success in high school and college football, he had hung tight to his goal.

Patiently and persistently, he continued to pursue tryouts with pro teams. He finally went to Baltimore and made the team. Training and working long hours on fitness and skill, he worked his way from third string to becoming known as the greatest quarterback in the NFL.

This dreamer was Johnny Unitas.

How often have we come across a phenomenal success story like this one and said to ourselves "Something like this could never happen to me?"

In the spiritual realm when we hear over and over again of the heroic deeds of sinners turned saints, like for example, Augustine, we assign these personage to the world of myth because we think they are almost unreal.

As technology advances in our society, and specifics become the hallmark of those who will be successful we tend to narrow our focus of what is possible rather than expand our horizons. The dreamers lose out, those who are down - to - earth and practical. Is it a wonder then that we have a dearth of heroes today.

Consider the kinds of goals and dreams Jesus would have us pursue when he told us that faith can move mountains. When he told us to ask anything from the Father in his name and it would be granted to us, was he just kidding? Jesus told us that he was going to the Father to prepare a place for us and that he would return for us. Surely he couldn't be serious!

Our faith in the Lord Jesus is indeed a foundation for our dreams on this earth. If we believe that with God all things are possible then we will not limit ourselves to the parameters which others impose upon us. The grace we are given will sustain us when others impose upon us. The grace we are given will sustain us when we face our struggles for growth in the things of this world and in the next. We will be realistic, but not be confined to the definition of what is real which others might offer. We will dream now and perhaps the next generation will discover in us their heroes and saints.

Love,

Fr. Dave

Schedule of Liturgies

September 13 - September 21, 2003

- SATURDAY**, September 13, Vigil: Exaltation of the Cross
4:30 PM Eugene Gaietto; Bob Schleter; Clara Frank;
Anthony & Frances Latona; Ann Poignon;
Larry Baumgartner; Denny Clouse;
Paul & Ellen Elchert—57th Anniv.
6:30 PM David & Hilda Tiell; Paul Bugert;
Jennifer Bugert; Charles W. Reinhart
- SUNDAY**, September 14, Exaltation of the Holy Cross
8:00 AM George & Marcella Pahl; Philip Steinmetz
10:00 AM John Wilhelm; Herman Lauterbur;
John & Jan Brewer - 30th Anniv.;
Agnes Karch
11:30 AM St. Mary Parish Family
- MONDAY**, September 15, Our Lady of Sorrows
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
8:30 AM Hubert & Dorothy Elchert
- TUESDAY**, September 16, Cornelius, pope, and Cyprian,
bishop, martyrs
6:30 AM Communion Service
8:30 AM Patrick Omlor
4:30 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- WEDNESDAY**, September 17, Weekday
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
8:30 AM Aloysius Niese
- THURSDAY**, September 18, Weekday
6:30 AM Communion Service
8:30 AM Cecil Warnement; Corrine Kennedy
4:30 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- FRIDAY**, September 19, Weekday
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
8:30 AM Philomena Longo
5:00 PM Derek Duffey/Christina Jeffery Wedding -
St. Peter, Alvada
- SATURDAY**, September 20, Vigil: 25th Ordinary Sunday
1:30 PM Matthew Wellman/Jacqueline Chester
Wedding
4:30 PM Dec'd Members of William Kowpak &
Anthony Falter Families; James Jacob;
Robert, Naomi, Jeffrey Wagner
6:30 PM Twila Falter; Ralph & Mary Frances Brown
- SUNDAY**, September 21, 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
8:00 AM Angela Stefanelli; Evelyn Ward;
Joseph T. Simmons, Jr.
10:00 AM St. Mary Parish Family
11:30 AM Special Intention H & K;
Dolores "Dodi" Bean

SCAT DRIVERS for Sept. 21 are Carol & Dennis Scherger

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD, 10 a.m. Mass.


ROSARY FOR WORLD PEACE: Saturday, 9 a.m.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: St. Mary, midnight Monday through midnight Tuesday; St. Joseph, midnight Tuesday through midnight Wednesday.

TIFFIN PRAYER GROUP: Meets every Thursday at 7:45 p.m., in private homes. Call Walter Beat at 419-447-1174 for any prayer requests or for the location of the gathering.


BINGO WORKERS for today, September 14: Coordinator, Jan Betz; Gate, Jan Betz, Mike Kimmet; Instants, Dan Traxler, Susan Wade; Floor, Julie Brickner, Lori Weininger, Sharon Weber, Regina Runion; Concessions, Laura Kommick

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: There is still time to sign up for a scheduled hour. If interested, please call Fr. Ferris at 419-447-2087, ext. 25.


CONGRATULATIONS! to John & Jan Brewer on their 30th wedding anniversary and to Paul & Ellen Elchert on their 57th wedding anniversary. 

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR SACRED HEART HOME will be visiting our parish this weekend.

ST. MARY WEBSITE: We are experiencing problems with our St. Mary website. The problem will be resolved soon. You can view our web site temporarily at <http://members.tripod.com/~SaintMaryChurch2>. If you have any questions, please contact the parish office.

BASILICA AND NATIONAL SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION, Carey, invites everyone to join us on Sun., Sept. 21, (Family Pilgrimage Day) to spiritually strengthen your family at the noon Liturgy of the Eucharist. The Franciscan Friars and Staff will host a picnic lunch and a family treasure hunt at the Shrine Cafeteria. The day will conclude with Devotions at 2:30 p.m., and an outdoor rosary procession and individual blessings. Let's all take time to celebrate the sacred gift of family life! 

OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER: *Gift of the Harvest Years* - Wed., Sept. 17, 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m., cost \$15.00, a day for those 50 and over. The Rev. Nick Weibl directs this day long retreat titled: "Are We Really an Image of God?" Lunch is included and the day closes with Mass at 2 p.m. For reservations call 419-332-6522.

MARRIAGE NEWS: The marriage encounter weekend of Sept. 26-28 held at the beautiful grounds of Maria Stein Retreat Center still has 9 openings. First come, first serve - so call at once, 419-968-2947, for your reservation. Only \$50.00 reservation fee. Treat your marriage to the best! Fr. Harry Brown will co-team on this weekend. 

Sacrificial Giving — September 7, 2003

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Env.</u>
Amt. Needed Each Sunday	\$ 13,000.00	
Sunday Offering	\$ 12,375.63	492
(Includes loose money/checks \$825.63)		
Difference	- \$ 624.37	
Assumption	\$ 20.00	2
Initial Offering	\$ 5.00	1
Repair & Maintenance	\$ 457.00	31
Deposit	\$ 12,857.63	
Catholic University of America	\$ 55.00	3
High School Offering	\$ 17.80	19
Children's Offering	\$ 25.75	31
Tuition Assistance	\$ 43.00	5
Total Sunday	\$ 12,999.18	

"52" Club Winners

- 1) Kathleen B. Malling
- 2) Chris & Dawn Lautermilch
- 3) Rose Ludwig
- 4) Ann M. Chambers
- 5) Mary Ellen Zahn

DAUGHTERS OF ISABELLA CARD PARTY: Mon., Sept. 15, card party starts at 7 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m., smorgasbord supper, door prizes, raffles. Call Theresa 419-937-2208 or Christine 419-937-2791 for information.

CHRISTIAN VOCAL ARTIST, MICHAEL O'BRIEN returning to Tiffin to do a live concert on Wed., Sept. 17, at St. Mary Church, Tiffin, 7-8:30 p.m. Concert to benefit 6 yr old Christi Thomas and the Mercy Tiffin Radiation Therapy Center. Sponsored by Health Ministries of North Central Ohio (Mercy Hospital of Tiffin, Mercy Tiffin Health Foundation and Autumnwood Care Center/Volunteers of America.) Tickets at \$8 per person and may be purchased at St. Mary parish office, Mercy Hospital of Tiffin business office or by calling 419-448-3156 or 419-448-8867. Only 500 tickets will be sold. No tickets sold at the door the night of the performance. Experience a fun, unforgettable and uplifting evening. 

ST. FRANCIS HOME BOOK FAIR will be held on Fri., Sept. 19. The event will take place from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., in the first floor auditorium. Hundreds of adult and kid's books, toys and gift items - perfect for Christmas gift-giving - will be available at up to 70% off retail prices. Public is welcome.



ADVANCED LIMO
"Come Cruise with Us"
 Featuring the Area's Largest Limos
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Thank you to our *Sponsor of the Week*

SENIOR HEALTH & WELLNESS EXPO will be held Tues., Sept. 23, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at Camden Falls Conference Center. The event is sponsored by the Tiffin Area Senior Healthcare and Housing Professionals, and will feature over 40 exhibitors and a variety of free screenings. The screenings will include blood pressure, strength testing, oxygen saturation, blood sugar, skin cancer screening, diabetic foot screening, osteoporosis screening, body fat analysis and more. Cholesterol screening will be available for a nominal fee. Lift chairs donated by B&K Medical Services and O.E. Meyer Co. will be given away. In addition, more than 40 door prizes will be given away throughout the Expo.

ST. MARY SCHOOL BOOSTER CLUB

Sunday Night BINGO

...in the Recreation Room of St. Mary School
 Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Early birds at 6:30 p.m.
 Two Specials Two Jackpots
Handicapped Accessible * Snacks Available

ST. MARY MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2003

	<u>4:30 PM Sat.</u>	<u>6:30 PM Sat..</u>	<u>8:00 AM Sun.</u>	<u>10:00 AM Sun.</u>	<u>11:30 AM Sun.</u>
<u>COORDINATORS</u>	Liz Rochester	Phil Horn	Ruth Bowman	Carole Zimmerman	Carol Dull
<u>LECTORS</u>	Liz Rochester	Bridget Falter	Juanita Magers	Pam Kelbley	Jeanne Tackett
<u>EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS</u>	Elizabeth Rochester Helen Mullins Ruth Laibe John Brewer Thomas Bell Susan Murphy	Phillip Horn Sue Krauss Kim Birch Suzy Smith Dean Smith	Ruth Bowman Pat Schilling Juanita Magers Brian Coleman Matt Coleman Nancy Kiser	Pete Bronson Barbara Bronson Paul Lapczenski Kate Lapczenski Marge Fisher Dave Fisher	Carol Dull Jeanne Brickner Julie Brickner George Fretz Kayleen Fretz Joe Hartzell
<u>USHERS</u>	*TimHarper Ken Kuhn Jim Zimmerman	*Jon Fuller Mariann Aiello Duane Schank	*Jerry Snyder Bob Schilling John Borer	*Edward Kimmet Dick Gabel Roland Zimmerman Tony Steyer	*Gary Smith Lynda Smith Mike Hayes
<u>SERVERS</u>	Kershauna Young Lauren Smith Matt Harper	Bryce Reinhart Trey Gase Gregory Reinhart	Tyler Hicks David Hufford Nathan Burns	Monica Miller Zach Seislove Michelle Seislove	Nick Dutro Chris Dutro Nick Chaney

COMMUNITY HOSPICE CARE SUPPORT SERVICES:

Caregiver's Support Group will gather twice each month offering information, mutual support, social activities and more to anyone in the role of a caregiver in their home, family members' home or nursing facility. Group meetings in September are scheduled for 1-3 p.m., Wed., Sept. 3 & 17. For more information call 419-447-4040. **"Living with Loss,"** is a weekly grief support group held at Mercy Hospital, Willard, on Monday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Sr. Rita Wasserman at 419-964-5190 .



ST. CASIMIR, FREMONT, is sponsoring a Golabki (cabbage roll) dinner on Thurs., Sept. 18, in the parish hall on Lake Street. Dinner will be served beginning at 5 p.m. Adult meals are \$7 and children are \$5. Carry outs are available.

ARE YOU BEING CALLED TO A MINISTRY? What better way is there to proclaim one's faith than through a particular ministry in the church? We are reminded that through grace at our baptism, our ears were opened and our deafness was healed. We are now called to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.

Please consider joining the **choir**, becoming a **cantor**, an **usher**, a **Eucharistic minister**, a **greeter** or any of the many ministries the church offers. If you have any questions or are interested in becoming involved, please contact the Parish Office at 447-2087. Come and join the circle of Christ's life through ministry.

2003 MEMORY WALK: The Alzheimer's Assoc. of Northwest Ohio Chapter's 5th Annual Tiffin Area Memory Walk will be held Sat., Sept. 27 in Hedges-Boyer Park. Families, caregivers and community members will walk a one-mile path in the park to raise awareness of Alzheimer's disease. The Memory Walk also raises funds for the Alzheimer's education and support programs. The Alzheimer's Assoc. assists people who are experiencing memory loss and their caregivers, and offers training programs for professional caregivers.

FRANCISCAN EARTH LITERACY CENTER:

Franciscan Farm Fest: Sun., Sept 14, 12-5 p.m., admission is free, dinner \$6, various small fees for some activities. Enjoy indoor and outdoor farming activities including face painting, wagon rides, games, petting zoo, crafts, music, raffles, and marinated chicken dinners. **For more information call Joy at 419-448-7485.**

OUR LADY OF THE PINES RETREAT CENTER: Children and Teens...Dealing with Grief...The Divorce Process, Wed., Oct. 1, 6:30 - 9 p.m., sponsored by Catholic Charities. This workshop is designed to provide information to family members, caregivers, home/hospital visitors, Eucharistic ministers, parish nurses, befrienders and other parish volunteers to help children and teens deal with grief. A special session will focus on children and teens surviving the divorce process. Presenters will be Jan Baden, Director of the Family Grief Center of Monroe County, MI and Louis Cocchiarella, Executive Director of Catholic Charities Diocese of Toledo. To register please call Sue Burks at 1-800-926-8277, ext. 410. Registration deadline is Fri., Sept., 26.

OUR LADY QUEEN OF THE MOST HOLY ROSARY CATHEDRAL: Celebrate the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Sun., Sept. 14, with a Solemn High Tridentine Mass at 2 p.m., celebrated by Rev. Eduard Perrone. Following the Mass will be Benediction, a solemn Procession of the Holy Cross and veneration of the True Cross.

LOOKING FOR AN AUTUMN GETAWAY WHERE YOU CAN GET CLOSER TO THE ONE YOU LOVE? You can do that on a Worldwide marriage Encounter weekend! Marriage Encounter is 44 hours where married couples can get away from jobs, kids, chores, and phones-and focus only on each other. The next Marriage Encounter weekend is September 26-28 at the Spiritual Center of Maria Stein in Maria Stein, OH. A quick response is encouraged. For more information or to register, contact John & Marge Greve at 419-968-2947 or by e-mail at grevehse@bright.net.