

## SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear Friends,

As a doctor was examining Bill, his 95-year-old patient, during a routine checkup, the widower mentioned to the physician that he had just re-married.

“Oh?” replied the doctor. “Tell me about her. Is she recently widowed?”

“Nope, never married,” answered the old man.

“Is she in good health?” asked the doctor.

“The old man replied, “She should be. She’s only 22.”

The doctor was aghast and said, “You know, Bill, marrying a girl that age could be life-threatening.”

The old man replied, “Well, Doc, if she dies, she dies.”

Everyone of us has heard that it’s not how old you are, but rather how old you think you are that matters. Indeed, our attitude has an extremely important role not only in our physical well-being, but also in the very way we accept and enjoy life itself.

When it comes to an appreciation of our faith, the attitude with which we approach an understanding of the truth God has revealed to us can make an enormous difference in our spiritual growth. The same is true in regard to the practice of our faith in worship.

In a time when authority is so often suspect in the minds of many, the role of the Church as interpreter of God’s revelation for us can be called into question. I sense, though, that this attitude of distrust is not limited to the Church, but may extend to other segments of society where leadership is exercised. The attitude may have developed due to some hurt one experienced due to a decision the authority may have made, or perhaps because of pride. In any case, with regard to the Church, the disposition may need attention so that some healing may happen.

Some, too, may maintain an attitude that God’s revelation is irrelevant in today’s world. The gospel mandate may seem impractical. The result may be that one will decide to pick and choose what part of God’s word to accept. One of mature faith knows, though, that the power of God’s word lies in the challenge as well as in the comfort it offers. A healthy attitude is open to both.

My sense is that, when it comes to worship, the attitude that we carry into the sanctuary is the attitude that will enable us either to get something out of the experience or to see it as an exercise in boredom. Developing an attitude that we are there first and foremost not for ourselves but for God and others will go a long way to making the experience a meaningful one for us. In addition, if we seek at each liturgy to take away with us at least a grain of gospel truth to guide us, our presence will be worthwhile. Finally, asking God for the grace to appreciate the power of the Eucharist in our life will always bear fruit.

Love,

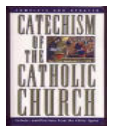
Fr. Dave

### Schedule of Liturgies

**January 17 - January 25, 2004**

- SATURDAY**, January 17, Vigil: 2nd Ordinary Sunday  
4:30 PM Donald R. Gibson; James Jacob;  
Liv./Dec’d Clement & Clara Falter Fam.  
6:30 PM Thomas & Barbara Fretz - 35th Anniv.;  
David & Hilda Tiell; Richard Vassalle
- SUNDAY**, January 18, Second Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 AM James Proctor; Joseph T. Simmons, Jr.;  
Weinandy & Donjoian Families  
10:00 AM Evelyn Ward; Michaelina Paulus;  
Paul Lang  
11:30 AM St. Mary Parish Family
- MONDAY**, January 19, Weekday  
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Hubert & Dorothy Elchert;  
Lydwyn M. Fisher
- TUESDAY**, January 20, Weekday  
6:30 AM Communion Service  
8:30 AM Paul Elchert, Sr  
4:30 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- WEDNESDAY**, January 21, Agnes, virgin, martyr  
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Joyce Ardner
- THURSDAY**, January 22, Weekday, Vincent, deacon, martyr  
6:30 AM Communion Service  
8:30 AM Larry Baumgartner  
4:30 PM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**
- FRIDAY**, January 23, Weekday  
7:00 AM **Mass at St. Francis Convent**  
8:30 AM Neenan-Wolter Family
- SATURDAY**, January 24, Vigil: 3rd Ordinary Sunday  
4:30 PM Anthony Ruggiero, Sr. Family;  
Francis Theis  
6:30 PM Rosemary Yandura
- SUNDAY**, January 25, Third Sunday in Ordinary Time  
8:00 AM St. Mary Parish Family  
10:00 AM John Wilhelm; Franklyn Ambrose  
11:30 AM Dominic & M. Arleen Gaietto;  
Wilbur Taylor

**CATHOLIC IDENTITY** will be offered on Saturdays starting on January 17, 2004, at St. Michael’s Parish in Findlay. Catholic Identity is a basic overview of the Catholic faith incorporating prayer and reflection for lay people who are interested in deepening their faith. For more information, contact the Diocese of Toledo at 419-244-6711, ext. 515 or check the web under Adult Formation at [www.toledodiocese-spl.org](http://www.toledodiocese-spl.org).



**CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD**, 10 a.m. Mass on the first three Sundays of the month.

**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, January 18: Coordinator, Phyllis Hays; Gate, Marguerite Bernard, Nick Collett, Phyllis Hays; Instants, Randy Hunt, Tina Schank, Lori Sherman, Nancy Warnement; Floor, Janet Coffman, Deb Daughenbaugh, Dale Fitch, Steve Gorsche; Concession, Ruth Laibe

**TIFFIN CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DEVELOPMENT OFFICE** is beginning the 2004 Annual Fund Drive. You should have already received the Annual Fund letter this past week. The monies this year will be used to help in recruitment of new students and to help keep the cost of Catholic education as low as possible. Your support for the Annual Fund will allow the Tiffin Catholic Schools to offer the best possible Catholic education at the most reasonable rate to our children. The 2003 Annual Fund has already dispersed an extra \$39,000 to our schools, with an additional \$6,000 to be passed along in the near future. Your generosity has helped to keep Catholic education strong in the Tiffin community. Please consider making a contribution.

**NEW PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Beginning Jan. 19, the new parish office hours will be 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**WELCOMING COMMITTEE MEETING:** 2-3:30 p.m., Tues., Jan. 20, Room 22.

**2004 ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL** will begin in our parish and in the Diocese of Toledo in two weeks (Jan. 31 - Feb. 1). Formerly called the DDF (Diocesan Development Fund), this annual operations appeal was incorporated into the "One Faith...Many Blessings" comprehensive campaign for the last two fiscal years, 2002 and 2003. DDF was always intended to return this year, but with a new spirit.

You will learn more about this year's appeal in the coming weeks. All parishes in the Diocese of Toledo have been asked to participate in this endeavor by our new Bishop Leonard P. Blair. This year's appeal will seek to raise \$3.7 million for the many programs, ministries, and services provided in Northwest Ohio. We would like to conclude the active phase of this year's appeal before the Lenten season. Thank you for your consideration and support in this vital effort.

Again, you will hear more about the appeal in the coming weeks in the mail and from the pulpit. Let us pray together for the success of this year's Annual Catholic Appeal, entitled "Disciples Growing Together."

<b>Sacrificial Giving — January 11, 2004</b>		
<u>Description</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Env.</u>
Amt. Needed Each Sunday	\$ 13,000.00	
Sunday Offering	\$ 9,795.03	424
(Includes loose money/checks \$ 734.03)		
Difference	\$ 3,204.97	
Christmas	\$ 440.00	13
New Year's Day	\$ 528.00	26
Repairs & Maintenance	\$ 39.00	7
<b>Deposit</b>	<b>\$ 10,802.03</b>	
High School Offering	\$ 19.75	17
Children's Offering	\$ 95.35	80
Tuition Assistance	\$ 33.00	4
<b>Total Sunday</b>	<b>\$ 10,950.13</b>	
<b>CHRISTMAS TO DATE: \$45,981.93</b>		

- "52" Club Winners**
- |                                      |  |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 2. V. Ditmar<br>3. Marguerite Conrad | 1. Barbara Drown<br>4. Jerry Bentz<br>5. Tom Ritzler |
|--------------------------------------|--|

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #608** is sponsoring a Free Throw Contest for any boy or girl aged 10 - 14 as of Jan. 1, 2004. It will be held at Calvert High School gym, Sun., Jan. 18, registration 12:30 - 1:00 p.m., competition 1:00 p.m., please bring a parent. All will receive a certificate of participation, and winners will advance to District Championship. For questions, contact Pat Marinis at 419-983-2902.



**CENACLE CHARISMATIC RETREAT:** Jan. 29 - Feb. 1, MCR Center, 550 Clark St., Toledo, OH, for a deeper understanding of the Lord. Contact Walter Beat for any questions at 419-447-1174.

**BABY GRAND PIANO:** We are still in need of donations for the refurbishing of the baby grand piano that the parish acquired. If you can help us out, please contact Tom Fretz, 447-2087, ext. 30.



*Lee's*  
**Floor Covering**  
 263 S. Washington Street  
**DOWNTOWN TIFFIN**  
**ABBEY CARPET**

**Thank You to our Sponsor of the Week**

**SCAT DRIVERS** for Jan. 25 are Mike and Jack Magers.

**MINISTRY SCHEDULES:** This will be the last week that the ministry schedules will be listed in the insert of the bulletin. In an effort to cut costs, we will not be creating an insert. Please use your schedules that were sent to your homes.

**TIFFIN K of C REVERSE RAFFLE** still have tickets available. The cost is \$25.00. The raffle will be Jan. 24. Contact the K of C Club at 419-447-0901 or Russ Gase at 419-447-1809 for more information.

**HOPEWELL-LOUDON BBQ CHICKEN DINNER:** The sophomore class will be sponsoring a Harlan's BBQ Chicken dinner Fri., Feb. 6, 4 - 6 p.m., Hopewell-Loudon cafeteria, before the New Riegel vs. Hopewell Loudon Boys' basketball game, 1/2 BBQ chicken \$6, 1/4 BBQ chicken \$5. Tickets available in school office, Bascom Telephone Co. or from a sophomore student. Tickets must be prepaid by Feb. 2.



**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**