

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time Do Not Fear – June 28, 2009

Reading I: [Wisdom 1:13-15, 2:23-24](#) In God's Image

Reading II: [2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-15](#) That There Be Equality Gospel: [Mark 5:21-43](#) Jesus Heals

Gospel Summary - Mark tells two stories at the same time in this Gospel. First of all in the crowd, a woman who had been suffering with an illness for many years, touched Jesus' robe and was immediately healed. At the same time, walking with Jesus in the crowd is Jairus, a prominent official of the synagogue. Jairus had searched out Jesus to ask for his help in healing his daughter. When the woman touched Jesus' robe, he felt the healing energy flow through him and searched out the person who had touched him. When the woman came forward, Jesus told her that she was healed by her own faith. At that very moment, people from the official's house came to him telling him that his daughter was dead, that he should not bother with the teacher anymore but come home. Jesus went with the man and healed his daughter.

Reflection for Parents - As parents we can easily understand the synagogue official's desperation in seeking out Jesus. It is clear from the response of those who came to get him that he was moving outside the circle of his friends. They told him not to trouble the teacher anymore perhaps as much as to ask why he even bothered in the first place. They did not have his faith. Parents will fight to the end and not hold back any energy in an effort to save their children. But we are only human and today's Gospel reminds us that we can't manage alone. We need God's help and must continue to have faith in God's plan for us and for our children.

Bringing the Gospel into Your Family - Does your family know people who are sick? Make a prayer card for these people and lift them up in prayer every day. You might even send them a cheerful note or card and let them know your family is praying for them.

HOPE MEAL & RIDE PROGRAM

Hope will be on summer respite starting 6/28 and will return to the schedule starting on 9/6. Thank You!

WELCOME TO OUR PRIESTS RESIDENTS

We welcome back to the parish Rev. John E. Mulgrew as our resident. Fr. Mulgrew will be here starting September. We also welcome Rev. William J. Chiriaco.

Fr. Bill will be a fulltime theology teacher at Cardinal O'Hara High School.

Please pray for my classmate, Bishop Joseph Cistone who will be the Bishop of Saginaw, Michigan and for Msgr. Timothy Senior who will be ordained as our Auxiliary Bishop. They are wonderful priests and delight in serving God and his people.

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, June 27

8:30AM Thomas P. Dougherty – 12th Anniversary

5:30PM Helena D. Schmidt

SUNDAY, June 28

7:30AM Panichi & Ward Family

10:00AM Donald D' Angelo

11:30AM Walter Scheuerman

5:30PM People of the Parish

MONDAY, June 29

6:30AM Teresa Campbell

8:30AM Isabelle Coffman

TUESDAY, June 30

6:30AM Sr. Eileen Hughes

8:30AM Kirstie Matt

WEDNESDAY, July 1

6:30AM Gea DelSordo

8:30AM Inten. Of Fr. Ralph Chieffo

THURSDAY, July 2

6:30AM Deacon James DiFerdinand

8:30AM Walter Scheuerman

FRIDAY, July 3

6:30AM People of the Parish

8:30AM Frank Spang

SATURDAY, July 4

8:30AM Intentions of Holly Walsh

5:30PM Michael Doyle

SUNDAY, July 5

7:30AM John Kelly

10:00AM Mary Ciardelli

11:30AM John Clark

5:30PM Maureen Applegate

We need lectors for 5:30 SUNDAY MASS

PETER'S PENCE

Today our parish will take up a collection for Peter's Pence. This collection allows the Holy Father to cast the light of Christ upon the world by providing emergency assistance to those who need it most around the globe. Please be generous.

SMM CHAPEL

The chapel will close for the 4th of July holiday. It will shut down on Thursday, July 2nd after Mass and reopen on Tuesday, July 7th after the 8:30 Mass.

From Mrs. Burke's Desk...

Have a peace-filled and restful summer. We will see you in September! Registration information: 610-565-1822. Celebrate our vision for learning...moral awareness, academic excellence, responsible citizenship and cultural development.



SCHOOL TUITION

Anyone who has not paid the 1st tuition payment (due May 8th) please forward immediately to the **Parish Offices**. A late fee of \$25 is also due. Call Mary Lou with any questions.

SMM SCHOOL REPORT

We invite you to enjoy the blessings of a Catholic formation of your children by visiting our school. Contact Miss Miniszak at 610-566-8821 ext. 122. Our capacity is at 460 with no more than 20 students per class for Kindergarten, 25 for first to third grades, and no more than 27 for fourth through eighth. Presently, we have 394 registered for the 2009-2010 school year. If you need information, please call us and we will be happy to give a tour of our school. We are passionately Catholic and Academically Challenging!

SPONSOR A STUDENT

We would be very grateful to anyone who can help a needy student attend our parish school. Donations to our "Sponsor a Student Program" allow us to help those who otherwise could not take advantage of our wonderful school. Please forward your donation to the parish office attention Mary Lou.

PERPETUAL EUCHARISTIC ADORATION: HE IS RISEN! ALLELUIA!

Our Lord, Jesus Christ, the same Jesus Christ that suffered and died for us and is now raised from the dead, is present every day and night in the Monstrance in our very own Chapel! Stop and reflect for a moment what that means. It has been said that if we truly believed in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, we would be crawling on our hands and knees to Church to visit with Him and to be near Him. As it is, the Lord of the Universe has one or two adoring Him most hours. Consider the blessing we have here at SMM to have the Risen Jesus present in our Monstrance just waiting for a visit from YOU. We need an adorer for Saturday, 1-2 AM and there are many hours with only one adorer

where two are preferable. Won't you prayerfully consider spending one hour per week or even every other week with the Lord who has done so much for YOU? Call Monica 891-9483 or Shelly 353-7739.

To be baptized: Vivienne Antoinette Cholmeley-Jones, Henry James Landgraff

BAPTISMAL PREP CLASSES: Call **Peter or Mary Zurbach** to sign up for class at **610-565-5736**. Sponsor Eligibility Letters from the parishes are needed three weeks before the Baptism. Next Pre Jordan **will be in September**. We ask you to come for instructions before you give birth so that you can be prepared in choosing your date and sponsors. We remind all parents and Godparents that they must be registered and practicing Catholics. Godparents must be 16 years of age and have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A time to die, pray for the members of our SMM Faith Community who have died, **Gary Papa** and all victims of war, hurricanes, and the 4,100 daily abortions.

A time to heal...PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK & OUR SOLDIERS in harm's way: Our Children: Joan Anderson, Constance Ashbach, Fred Cambio, John Cammorato, Giana Campbell, Chick Carman, Rosemary Casey, Daniel Casullo, Lily Ciocca, Dave Clark, Nancy Clay, Christina Connors, Sean Cosden, Regis Cronin, Joseph DelSordo, Ann DiDonato, Marcella DiMaggio, Erin DiMartino, Eleanor DiPangrazio, Carla Donato, Sr. Michael Marie Donnelly, RSM, Gennela D'Orazio, Frances Dougherty, Robert Franklin, Louis Gentile, Vincent Grasso, Margaret Greto, Dorothy Greenwald, John & Helen Hartman, Rev. James Hughes, Elliott Johnson, Henry Johnson, Anthony Lanciano, Richard Leighton, Richard Lucente, Joseph Manion, Michael Manganiello, Joe MacDonald, Theresa MacCombie, Elizabeth MacIntyre, Debra Marcoux, II, Joseph Maylish, Peggy Matthews, Joe McCarthy, Mary McDevitt, Ann Miniszak, William O'Brien, Fran Okon, Timothy Poole, James Ranieri, Sr, Bobby Ruggieri, Jean Quarto, Carolyn Rock, Louise Saar, John Scott, John Shea, Dan Shillington, Betty Tedesco, George Tyson, Samantha Johnston-Twining, Louise Veit, Catherine Walsh, Lindy Zwahlen

WEDDINGS need to be arranged 6 months ahead.

Please call the rectory if you are sick or want a priest to visit you in the hospital or at home. Please pray and visit the sick & bring them consolation and companionship. You can contact Deacon James or Anita Morro also to provide Communion.

WELCOME OUR NEW FAMILIES

Robert Kelly, Steven & Jennifer Lundeen & Family, and Norman Kleinberg.

See Fr. Chieffo for a Registration Form after Mass. If you would like your family and home to be blessed, please call the parish office. If you are interested in visiting our new families to share about our parish activities, please contact **Joanne Hinkle at 610-892-3998.**

CONGRATULATIONS

The following students received honors at **Merion Mercy Academy**. **Distinguished Honors:** Grace, Harris, Allison Theveny and Jennifer Grugan. **Honors:** Jessica Javage, Audrey Jensen, Sara Siegfried, Leah Tassoni, Tara Halt, Alexandra LaMonaca, Brigid Schramm, Clare Brabson and Katie Welliver. **St. Joseph's Prep: First Honors:** Steven DiPietro, Kevin E. Melone, Matthew S. Potako, Anthony G. Ricco, Joseph T. Sincavage, **Second Honors:** David R Cycon, Kyle P Gillen. **Archbishop Carroll: First Honors:** Tobiasz Fabisiak, Alyssa Bellia, Catherine Erbicella, Maura Campbell, Alyssa DiBona, William Garrison, Danielle Morro, John Erbicella, and Jeffery Gropp. **Second Honors:** Alexander Christinzio, Matthew Gropp, Eric Dowrick, Nicholas Hope, Bryan Newman, William Ghaul, and Erica Volpe.

LITTLE CHURCH SCHOOL

Parents are reminded that **Little Church School** takes place most Sundays during the 10:00A.M. Mass. **Little Church School** is for children from ages 4 to 5. Parents bring children to the Gathering room in the church opposite the restrooms. Children learn about God through stories and arts and crafts while parents are attending the 10:00A.M. Mass. **A special request goes out to anyone who can be a leader for Little Church School starting next year in September.** Anyone who has experience with Little Church School and can act as leader, please call Deacon James DiFerdinand 610-565-5782.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY

We are hiring **Karen and John Hoey** to replace **Paul Manion** as our Youth Minister. They will lead the music for 5:30 Sunday Mass. We thank Paul for his labor of love and wish him well for serving as an inspirational role model as a man of faith, husband and a proud Daddy.

BEREAVEMENT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on July 13th at 7PM in the Parish Meeting Area.

THE ROSARY

Join us every Tuesday in the chapel at 7:15PM to pray the Rosary. Benediction will resume in September.

BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY

The Bereavement Ministry would appreciate help in sending cards a few times a year to those who have lost a loved one. These cards reinforce the concept that we are a caring parish. They mean a lot to those who are grieving. If interested please contact **Dottie Donohue at ddonohue@cohs.com**

EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY: Angel Visits

Our parish needs individuals who can visit private homes and Nursing Homes with Holy Communion and good cheer for those who are sick or can't come to Sunday Mass. Visits can be made on any day of the week. Some of these visits will be once each week, others may be for a short term only. If you can help us bring God to those in need, please call **Anita Morro and Deacon James** in a ministry that lets you bring spiritual aid and comfort to those in need.

REACH OUT WITH THE COMPASSION OF JESUS AND HE WILL BLESS YOU

Our small Faith Sharing group is more a discussion group with your fellow parishioners using the current Sunday Mass readings as a kick-off point. The time you invest, especially will return to you a hundredfold in a deeper awareness of your own spirituality and that of your neighbors. Meetings are kept to an hour and a half and are in a relaxed, sociable setting. Facilitators and times of meetings are listed below. Please call **Bonnie Clark (610-353-7930)** or one of the facilitators.

Mondays 2 PM: Betty Mulhern 610-353-5035.

Twice monthly: Sue Mita 610-566-4819

Tuesday 7:30PM (monthly): Mary Ann Foster 610-566-1399.

Men's Group: Jim Dooley (1st & 3rd Tuesdays) 610-892-9684 at 7:30PM.

Wednesday 7AM Men's Group: Don Saleski (610-566-3492) in Church Gathering Room.

Monthly, 9:30AM, toddler's welcome: Jeanne Barker 610-627-1009.

Weekly, 3 PM: Eleanor O'Rourke, White Horse Village 610-558-9128.

Thurs 7:30PM: Bonnie Clark (2nd & 4th wks) 610-353-7930. If you would like to start a group, call Father.

LEGION OF MARY

The Legion of Mary makes Saints and it makes them by the bushel. Want to learn more about the Catholic faith? Want to enrich your Spiritual Life? Want to develop close Catholic friendships? Want to grow closer to Jesus and his Mother? Come as a guest to a Legion of Mary meeting! The legion is the largest lay apostolic organization in the Catholic Church, approved by the Popes and endorsed by Vatican. The mission of the Legion of Mary is to give glory to God through the sanctification of its members. The legion wants to be a big help to the Pastor. Members meet once a week for prayer, planning and discussion and to do an assigned work each week with an experienced partner. The Legion of Mary is open to all Catholics who want to faithfully practice their religion, participate in the apostolic of the Church through the Legion and are prepared to fulfill each and every Legionary duty. The first step is to be a guest at a meeting. Guests are always welcome and can go on one of the work assignments. We meet Mondays, 7:00PM, Parish conference room. St. Mary Magdalen's Church, Media, Pa. Info: Call **Karen Kelly 610-565-6539**. Our Lady is calling you to this great work! **Events scheduled:** Mass in celebration of St. Mary Magdalen's Legion of Mary's patron – Our Lady "Rosa Mystica" Monday, **July 13, 2009, 7:00PM** at St. Mary Magdalen Church. Rosa Mystic encouraged everyone to intercede for prayers for all our religious & priests.

RELIGIOUS BOOK STUDY GROUP

Celebrate the year of St. Paul by joining the religious book study on **St. Paul & His Epistles**. The group meets every 2nd and 4th Tuesday evening of the month from 7:35PM-9PM in our library. Please contact Gina Mesko at 610-872-0876 or gagm2002@comcast.net

BETHESDA (My Brother's House)

Parishioners prepare casseroles to serve 8-10 homeless men. Tins, lids, and recipes are provided in the school cafeteria. Prepared casseroles are placed in a labeled freezer in the school kitchen during school hours to be delivered to My Brother's House as the freezer is filled. Your generosity feeds our needy. Call Mary Ann Schriver 610-356-9870.

INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY

If you would like to make a donation to the IHN Program, you can send a check to: Delco IHN, PO Box 2384, Aston, PA 19014. Funds are desperately needed.

HUNGER NEVER TAKES A VACATION

Please remember those less fortunate this summer by bringing a bag or two of non-perishables with you to church. Drop off anytime in the wood container on the side of the Narthex. There are many families out there who are struggling to make ends meet. Daily newscasts remind us of the constant job layoffs happening around us. Can we meet the challenge? Scrip donations welcome. Sue Fromhold 610-356-3626.

OPEN ARMS

Open Arms is a reconciling ministry of Daylesford Abbey whose purpose is to present a loving and welcoming presence to gay and lesbian Catholics, their families and friends. We meet on the third Monday of each month in the Spirituality Room at 7:30 pm. Contact Brother, Jack Ginder, O. Praem jbginder1@yahoo.com or parishioners George & Ellen Curran, gdcetired@aol.com.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Enrich and renew your marriage. The next couples experience will be August 7 – 9, 2009. For more info, call 1 800 456 8330.

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

Saturday – July 4

5:30PM – L. Croquette, S. Jenson

Sunday – July 5

7:30AM – T. & A. Le

10:00AM – A. & C. Kole

11:30AM – G. Fardone, J. McLarney

5:30PM – M. T. Bane, J. Fratoni

STEWARDSHIP AND TITHING

It is truly more blessed to give than to receive. May God bless your family-team spirit for providing for our material and spiritual needs. I am especially grateful to all who volunteer their time and talents to make Jesus live and love our parish family and friends.

Jesus loves you and so do I, Fr Ralph

June 21st - \$24,251.00

Last Year - \$16,506.00

Please consider using Electronic Funds Transfer for your Sunday donation. Forms are available in the narthex or call the Parish office.

YEAR OF THE PRIEST

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

With these words, holy priests for a holy people, I am pleased to announce the observance of the *Year of the Priest* in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

Our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI, has called for this year of grace for the whole church as a new opportunity for priests to grow in holiness and live more fully united to the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and for all the members of the Church to recall the essential role of priests among us and in society.

The universal observance of the *Year of the Priest* began with the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus just celebrated this past Friday, June 19th, and will conclude on the same date next year in Rome with a worldwide meeting of priests with our Holy Father. A significant part of the *Year of the Priest* is the commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the death of the Cure' of Ars, Saint John Vianney, who continues to inspire all of us as a priest ever at the service of his people.

As Archbishop of Philadelphia, I invite everyone in the Archdiocese, all priests and all the faithful, in solidarity with our Holy Father to observe the *Year of the Priest* as a splendid opportunity to reflect on the gift of the priesthood of Jesus shared with his priest. This gift belongs to the whole church and is for the whole Church. I ask of you, sharers and benefactors of this gift from Jesus, to participate wholeheartedly in the *Year of the Priest* here in Philadelphia.

Our primary participation is through prayer. Pray for priests. Pray for priests as they announce God's Holy Word and celebrate the Sacraments. Pray for their holiness.

An archdiocesan Pray for Priests will be made widely available for use in our parishes, schools and religious education programs and other institutions. I invite you to pray this prayer as families, in parish groups, and alone. I especially encourage praying for priests in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament.

I also invite you to participate through the many programs to be offered throughout the year by the Archdiocese and our parishes. The programs offered by the Archdiocese have been published in the *Catholic Standard and Times*, this past Thursday, June 18. One of these programs includes an opportunity for every parish, one week during this year, to pray for our priests through the intercession of St. John Vianney as his statue and

relic travel from parish to parish throughout the Archdiocese.

This *Year of the Priest* offers all of us a unique occasion for many blessings. May our observance of this *Year of the Priest* truly provide the Archdiocese of Philadelphia with *holy priests for a holy people!*

Sincerely in Christ,

Cardinal Justin Rigali, Archbishop of Philadelphia

SAINT PAUL, PRIEST AND PASTOR By Fr. Ralph J. Chieffo

As we end the Year of Saint Paul and begin the Year of the Priest, there is no better time for all priests and pastors to examine the inspirational model that Saint Paul has provided for all of us.

In his own words, Paul described himself as “a spiritual father” and “a nurturing mother,” forming new disciples by leading them to a personal experience with the Risen Lord. Paul did so by making a total donation of self, offering his whole person as a “living sacrifice (Romans 12:1). He nurtured their faith. He provided for their needs. He protected and corrected them from false teachers.

Saint Paul drew many people to Christ as an inspirational preacher and teacher because he practiced what he preached. Likewise, we must follow that example and realize the magnitude of what we preach. For example, the impact of priests and pastors witnessing to a life of charity, commitment and stewardship has no boundaries. It can transform minds and hearts and quickly enable faithful disciples with the spiritual tools to evangelize others and create new communities. It can change lives, one by one and one for all. Just as Paul did, never isolating himself as a “super apostle,” but rather in unity with all, especially his fellow apostles. There is much to be learned from his message that “None of us lives as his own master and none of us dies as his own master. While we live we are responsible to the Lord and when we die we die as his servants.” (Romans 14:7-8)

As a transparent image of Christ, Paul also exemplifies that all charity must begin with prayer to the Father, who blesses us with all good gifts.

The success of his ministry, as well as the failures, always led to more prayer of praise and intercession on the power of God. For as Father Raniero Cantalamessa, one of the papal preachers, reminds us: “The opposite of sin is not virtue, but praise.”

Too often as priests, we are paralyzed by our weaknesses and sinfulness. We are human. We reach roadblocks and challenges in our ministry. Like our lay faithful, we have similar questions. We face adversity and challenges that sometimes seem overwhelming. It is at those times that I urge you to remember Saint Paul’s proclamation that “The power of God reveals itself in our weakness.” It is so true. It is at those difficult times when I turn to the best place possible for help – I bow before the throne of God and pray for the grace and guidance of the Holy Spirit. The outcome during these most severe setbacks and challenges can be a renewed growth and intimacy with Christ, for “we carry within us both the dying and rising of Jesus.” So, St. Paul would remind a priest, that success in ministry is often measured by faithfulness more than fruitfulness.

I would often find myself on my knees in daily conversation with the Lord seeking his grace and guidance on how to keep my parish family unified in its support of a daunting church construction project. At times, I doubted if I was the one to accomplish God’s plan for me and my parish. It was emotional and difficult at first. Yet, each time I prayed, I felt the self-doubt gradually diminish as the Lord began to show me his plan. As new tasks arose, I humbled myself before the Eucharist. My prayers were heard and answered, with the Lord revealing faces of my parishioners and brother priests who would eventually partner with me with their talents and resources.

As we conclude the Year of Saint Paul, that faithfulness is similarly tested among a secular culture that glorifies instant gratification and pleasure. It is a culture that questions our commitment to priestly celibacy, just as it does the sacredness of marriage and chastity. Saint Paul motivates us to seek those things that are above and enjoy the consolation of the Spirit, rather than the passing pleasures of the flesh. Paul witnessed how a life in the flesh or a life without God constantly

lusts against the spirit. Celibacy for the priest and chastity for the married and single stand as a sign of the spiritual union between Christ and his Church. Embraced in fidelity and permanency, as priests we can encourage both the single and married that ultimate happiness and fulfillment can never be attained this side of heaven.

We often hear that we would not have a vocation crisis if priests were permitted to marry. Yet, other religions whose leaders do marry often assure us that the issue is not marriage or celibacy, but rather permanent commitment. Other religions also are experiencing a decline in vocations and an increase in divorce. The reason goes back to commitment. Period. As a young priest, Saint Paul taught me that the same heroic virtues and qualities are necessary for a married person as well as a priest.

Celibacy and marriage freely chosen are both gifts from the Lord. They help us to bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit which are “love, joy, peace, patient endurance, kindness, generosity, faith, mildness, and chastity.” (Galatians 5:22) If we reject life in the Holy Spirit, Paul warns us that there is no other choice but the life of the flesh or a life without Christ. Paul warns us that a life totally dependent upon our human spirit, devoid of God’s grace, leads to “lewd conduct, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, hostilities, bickering, jealousy, outbursts of rage, selfish rivalries, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and the like.” (Galatians 5:21)

I rejoiced and welcomed the call of Pope Benedict XVI to celebrate the Year of the Priesthood. Upon reflection on the Year of Saint Paul, I was encouraged to persevere and grow in my priestly commitments and became more proactive in fostering priestly vocations.

In his pastoral wisdom, Saint Paul would advise all followers of Jesus to begin this Year of the Priest together in prayer: “That is why I kneel before the Father from whom every family in heaven and earth takes its name; and I pray that He will bestow on you gifts in keeping with the riches of his glory. May he strengthen you inwardly through the working of his Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, and may charity be the root and foundation of your life.” (Ephesians 3:14-17)

SMM Alumni News: *In many different areas our graduates are continuing to make a difference.*

Pam Stewart, a 1983 SMM School graduate, started her career in advertising (agency side) and from there moved into marketing. Roughly 8 years ago she transitioned to Marketing Research, working with various brand teams in assisting strategy development for new products, communications, relaunches etc... She worked at McNeil Consumer and McNeil Nutritionals (both J&J) for over 7 years – across the OTC brands (Tylenol Motrin, Pediatrics) and Nutritional brands such as Splenda. About two years ago she moved to Shire Pharmaceuticals, a specialty pharmacy company. Here she leads the patient/consumer Marketing Research efforts across their ADHD portfolio of medications and the GI brands for ulcerative Colitis.

In addition to her career, she and her husband, Christopher who owns and operates a spring/wire form manufacturing company (Liberty Spring USA), have three children: Lucy (6-1/2); Buddy (5) and Joe (2-1/2) and another one on the way shortly! She states: “We are surrounded by loving grandparents and are blessed with a wonderful nanny (Jodi Jamgochian-Jones) who is truly part of our family.” Her daughter, Lucy, just finished her first year at St. MM School and her son, Buddy, will be coming next year.

Regina Ciavardini, from SMM class of 2000, has developed her God given talents which is shown through her accomplishments. She attended Merion Mercy Academy high school, where she was elected to the National Honor Society, as well as the Spanish National Honor Society. The summer before her senior year, Regina traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico, to do missionary work. She was an active member in the school’s music department by playing the harp and guitar in the ensemble and liturgy group. Regina also appeared in four Merion Mercy Music Theatre productions, including the lead role of “Maria” in West Side Story.

In addition, Regina played the role of “The Evil Stepmother” in Upper Darby Summer School’s world premiere of “Isabelle and the Pretty Ugly Spell,” where she was then asked to record a CD of

the vocal score for Disney, as they were sponsoring an off-Broadway presentation of the play. Regina also played the lead role of “Mabel” in the operetta “Pirates of Penzance” at Devon Preparatory School during her junior year.

At Catholic University of America, she was accepted into the Benjamin T. Rome School of Music as a Vocal Performance Major. Although she changed her major to Spanish for International Business, Regina was the only student chosen from the university to travel with an opera company along the Amalfi Coast in Italy to perform in 3 different operas during the summer of her freshman year. Halfway through her sophomore year at Catholic, Regina transferred to Temple University, where she completed her Bachelor’s degree in Spanish for International Business, while continuing to study opera. She graduated in the top 5% of her class, earning the awards of Summa Cum Laude and President’s Scholar. After graduating in May 2008, Regina earned her Series 6 and Series 63 financial certifications and began working at Vanguard as a bilingual client relationship associate. On a daily basis, Regina works with clients regarding their 401(k) investments. She continues to study opera and plans to pursue a more active music agenda one of which is singing at mass in our parish.

Melissa Fry Hague, from SMM School class of 1995, graduated from St. Joseph’s University in 2003 magna cum laude, Widener Law School in 2006. She passed both the PA and NJ bars in 2006. Melissa lives in NJ with her husband whom she married in 2006. Currently, she is working for the law firm, Anapol Schwartz, in center city.

Kristen Bodalski, a 1998 SMM School graduate, went on to graduate from Kutztown University in 2006 where she thoroughly enjoyed her time majoring in Speech Communication and minoring in Public Relations. Also, she was a member and captain of the Kutztown University Women’s Tennis team and maintained the honor of a scholar athlete. Now she is working as a pharmaceutical sales representative and consultant. Her responsibility is to sell medications that treat hypertension and cholesterol to physicians. She consults with family practice physicians and cardiologists.

We would love to hear what our other graduates are doing. Please e-mail any alumni update to presidentsmm@comcast.net. Thank you again for the information for our alumni database. Our all class reunion for the classes from first graduating class to the class of 2005 is planned for Saturday, November 28, 2009. In the spring we will have a reunion for all of our high school students.

TEN COMMANDMENTS FOR THE DEACON

1. Have a heartfelt love for the Catholic Church, regardless of its stains or wrinkles, because it was founded by Jesus.
2. Be a person of prayer. Always find time for the rosary, confession, Mass, visits to the Blessed Sacrament, morning and evening prayer.
3. Have zeal for souls. Deacons need to help people into heaven and avoid the “smoking section,” which is hell. Your ministry can make the difference between heaven and hell for others.
4. Balance family, job and church ministry, and enjoy life.
5. Be faithful to the magisterium and to the liturgical norms. Be neither ultra-conservative nor ultra-liberal. Remember, a bird needs both a right wing and a left wing to fly straight.
6. Obey and cooperate with your bishop.
7. Work with, communicate with and respect your pastor. Don’t align yourself with those who disagree with him. Deacons have to be bridges of peace. Like Aaron and Hur, holding up Moses’s arms when he needed support, you must support your priest.
8. Respect sacred boundaries. You are a public figure in the diocese. You represent the Church.
9. Minister with truth and charity.
10. Remember the ministry of charity and minister to the poor and the sick. Be a “foot washer.”

If you think you have a calling to the diaconate see Fr. Chieffo or Deacons Peter and James. The Church and Jesus may be calling you to this Ministry of Charity.

LAUGH WITH THE PASTOR

Sitting by the window of her convent, Sister Barbara opened a letter from home one evening. Inside the letter was a \$100 bill her parents had sent.

Sister Barbara smiled at the gesture. As she read the letter by the window, she noticed a shabbily dressed stranger leaning against the lamppost below.

Quickly, she wrote, “Don’t despair. Sister Barbara, “on a piece of paper, wrapped the \$100 bill in it, got the man’s attention and tossed it out the window to him. The stranger picked it up, and with a puzzled expression and a tip of his hat, went off down the street.

The next day, Sister Barbara was told that a man was at her door, insisting on seeing her. She went down, and found the stranger waiting. Without a word, he handed her a huge wad of \$100 bills.

“What’s this?” she asked. “That’s the \$8,000 you have coming Sister, “he replied. “Don’t Despair paid 80-to-1”

EWTN’s Family Celebration in Birmingham!

You are invited to attend EWTN Global Catholic Network’s Family Celebration in Birmingham, AL on August 8 & 9, 2009. This free, no tickets required event will feature talks by Fr. Wade Menezes, Marcus Grodi, Raymond Arroyo and others. Check EWTN’s website at www.ewtn.com for details or call 1-205-271-2989, Monday thru Friday, 8am-5pm CDT.

ARE YOU READY FOR SPIRITUAL WARFARE?

Christianity is losing the Spiritual Warfare to the secular world. We are approaching the Final Confrontation when Jesus will come again as the Divine Mercy to confront and conquer Satan. But we need more apostles to spread the Divine Mercy message. For more information on how you can help in this battle, please call George Hudson at 610-565-8098.

DOES ANYONE NEED A COOK?

Diane Pieper has cooked for the Augustinians at the monastery at Bonner for many years. Since they will no longer be in our area, Diane is looking for a job as a cook. She is looking for work before or by July 1st. She comes highly recommended by the Augustinians. For more information, contact Fr. Francis X. Devlin, OSA at 610-259-7750.