



ST MARK PARISH

602 Military Road, Rothschild, Wisconsin

Ordinal 16
July 18, 2021

Liturgical Schedule

(For the common good, masks are encouraged for weekday and weekend Liturgies)

Monday, July 19

No Sacrament of Eucharist

Tuesday, July 20

Saint Apollinaris, Bishop and Martyr

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Wednesday, July 21

Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, Priest and Doctor of the Church

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Thursday, July 22

Saint Mary Magdalene

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Friday, July 23

Saint Bridget, Religious

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:10 am

Saturday, July 24

Saint Sharbel Makhluf, Priest

Ordinal 17

Sacrament of Reconciliation, 10:30 am

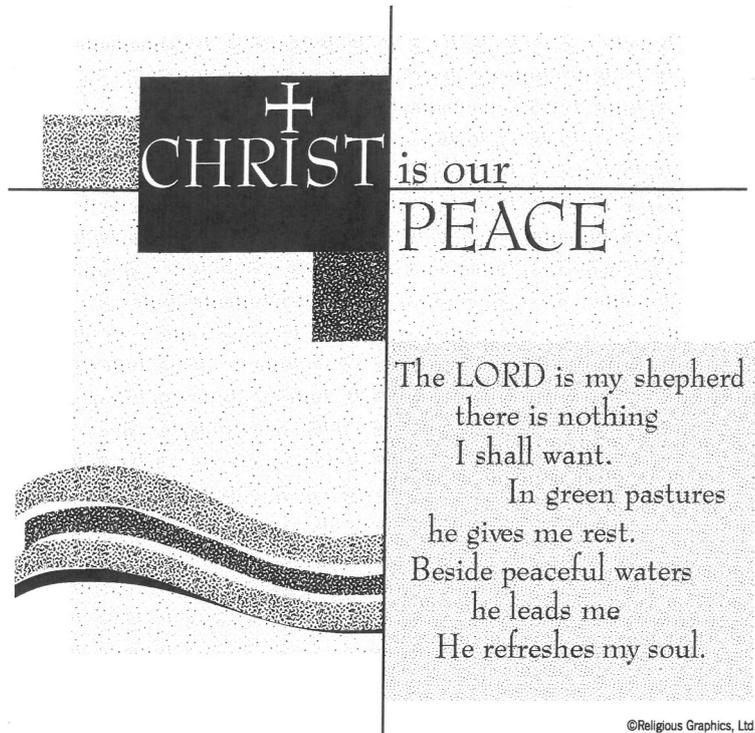
Sacrament of Eucharist, 4:30 pm

Sunday, July 25

Ordinal 17

Sacrament of Eucharist, 8:00 am

Sacrament of Eucharist, 10:00 am



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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - Contact the Parish Offices for baptism dates and to register for preparation sessions.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION Saturday - 10:30 am

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING - Celebrated in the Spring and Fall or in the home and hospital.

RCIA - A catechetical process to assist adults interested in becoming Catholic. Contact the Parish Offices.

MARRIAGE - Couples planning to marry are to notify the Parish Offices one year prior to the desired wedding date.

FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH with the parish, Contact the Parish Offices and ask for Father Slowiak.

Parish Offices: 715-359-5206. Monday through Thursday, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm, Friday 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Pastor: (Rev) Allan L. Slowiak, 715-359-5206

Deacon: Patrick McKeough, 715-359-5206

Director of Religious Education: Mary Hart, 715-359-5206

Pastoral Musician: Mary Martin, 715-359-5206

Primary Accompanist: Mikki Fronck, 715-359-5206

Pastoral Care to the Homebound: Susan Soriano, 715-675-3262

Secretary to the Parish: Mary Maly, 715-359-5206

Bookkeeper: Amy Tishken, 715-359-5206

Newman Catholic Schools at St. Mark 715-359-9662. Principal: Tina Meyer

Email: stmarkroths@smproths.org

Web: www.smproths.org

Bulletin article deadline: Tuesdays by Noon

SACRED WORSHIP

Bishop Callahan has announced that beginning the week-end of June 26-27 the dispensation from the obligation to worship is lifted; he welcomes all "who are able and well" to celebrate in-person the Sacrament of Eucharist as our observation of the Lord's Day.

In the parish then,

- If fever or flu-like symptoms are observed, the obligation, as always, is to elect not to gather until one is healed.
- For the unvaccinated, the use of a mask is encouraged but not required; those who have been vaccinated are welcome to mask.
- The pews in the wings will continue to follow the every-other-pew-occupancy model for those who would welcome more space between them and others.
- As numbers increase the green cards will be removed from the central pews; do continue to practice common sense social distancing as we move forward.
- Let's continue to use the hand sanitizer when entering the church.

Reflection of Today's Scripture Texts

—Father Slowiak

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Here, a call to sort out the responsibilities of one who leads. This passage is of comfort to those under the leadership of others – whatever the failures in leadership; God will protect the folks and provide for them.

Ephesians 2:13-18 Another comforting passage – those who had been, for whatever reason, excluded from citizenship in Israel [read, Kingdom of God here] whether race, culture, traditions or geography have been reconciled in the blood of Christ. The way of Christ has no basis for excluding any group of peoples.

Mark 6:30-34 The choice of this pericope does make a connection with the two quotations above; it contains a word of advice to leaders, that they are called to share in the work of the Lord *always subject to Him*. There is also a word of hope again for followers: Jesus' compassion is great; he is always ready to "teach" us.

Marian Shrine

Week of July 18, 2021

Lillian Lang



Liturgical Ministry

July 17 and 18, Ordinal 16

4:30 pm

Servers. 2 Volunteers Needed

Lector. Nicholas S.

Ministers of Hospitality. Don B., 1 Volunteer Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. Lisa S., Phyllis B.

8:00 am

Servers. Patrick B., 1 Volunteer Needed

Lector. William S.

Ministers of Hospitality. Jerry W., Margaret K.

Extraordinary Ministers. John P., 1 Volunteer Needed

10:00 am

Servers. Lillian B., Claire B.

Lector. 1 Volunteer Needed

Ministers of Hospitality. Ross B., 1 Volunteer Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. 2 Volunteers Needed

July 24 and 25, Ordinal 17

4:30 pm

Servers. 2 Volunteers Needed

Lector. Al R.

Ministers of Hospitality. Don B., 1 Volunteer Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. Margee R., Phyllis B.

8:00 am

Servers. Lillian B., Claire B.

Lector. William S.

Ministers of Hospitality. Jerry W., Margaret K.

Extraordinary Ministers. Ross B., 1 Volunteer Needed

10:00 am

Servers. Aubrey P., Damien P.

Lector. 1 Volunteer Needed

Ministers of Hospitality. 2 Volunteers Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. Pat G., 1 Volunteer Needed

July 31 and August 1, Ordinal 18

4:30 pm

Servers. Ina EA, Eva EA

Lector. Jim M.

Ministers of Hospitality. Don B., 1 Volunteer Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. Phyllis B., Margee R.

8:00 am

Servers. 2 Volunteers Needed

Lector. Ruth L.

Ministers of Hospitality. Jerry W., Margaret K.

Extraordinary Ministers. Deb M., William S.

10:00 am

Servers. 2 Volunteers Needed

Lector. Nicholas S.

Ministers of Hospitality. 2 Volunteers Needed

Extraordinary Ministers. Lisa S., 1 Volunteer Needed

Pastoral Music —Mary Martin

The **Handbell Choir** will rehearse on Tuesday, July 27 at 3:45 pm, in the church. The choir will play at the 10:00 am Liturgy on August 1. Prelude music will be, "All Who Hunger," arranged by Diane McAninch.

Homebound Communion —Susan Soriano

Homebound visits for the week of, July 18, Team D: Theresa S., Agnes G., Greg C., Natalie S., Gail K.

In the Liturgy of the Church —Helen Ackermann

When meditating on the gospel for this Sunday from the community of Mark, it is very easy to use our imagination. We can imagine how excited the disciples that Jesus sent out were because now they could tell Jesus their stories of preaching the good news, of healing and being attentive to the many who needed words of encouragement. Jesus, who was always attentive to others, saw that they needed to rest. "He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest awhile.'" By boat they went off to such a place but even there, Jesus and his disciples encountered many who needed the healing. When he saw them he knew that they were like sheep without a shepherd. They needed his attention and so he gave it to them.

Think about your own life. Living in our fast paced culture amid the challenges of the pandemic and other stressing issues, we are advised that taking time to rest awhile is necessary. And yet, what happens when we try to do this? It seems there is always another responsibility, be it to a family member or a neighbor, or attention to the ways that we can bring about justice in local and national politics. There is so much that calls us to take action as the disciples did. If we are to be authentic followers of Jesus we have to find a balance in our lives. We must take time for rest, but we also must continue to meet the needs of others. Focusing only on ourselves will not enable us to be aware of the needs of others. In reading the Scriptures we know that Jesus spent much time in prayer often early in the morning and then he was ready to meet the needs of others. So this too is our challenge as we go out into the world helping others to realize salvation and redemption; the good news.

We remember this week, Apollinaris, bishop, martyr, (Tuesday) Lawrence of Brindisi, priest, doctor of the Church (Wednesday) Mary of Magdala, apostle to the apostles (Thursday) Bridget, religious, (Friday) Sharbel Makhluף, priest (Saturday)

St. Mary Magdalene (apostle to the apostles)

Mary Magdalene was from the town of Magdala. Since she was had this name referring to the town, it is believed

that she had some funds which she used to support the work of Jesus. She and other women traveled with him throughout the area. She was faithful to Jesus and was there when he died on the cross. She was the first witness to the resurrection. Jesus appeared to her after the resurrection and because of this she was able to witness to the apostles that Jesus indeed had risen. She was the first to announce that Jesus had overcome death. That is way she is called "apostle to the apostles."

CATHOLIC EDUCATION/FORMATION

Religious Education —Mary Hart



Registration is now open for the 2021-22 Religious Ed Year. We appreciate your early registration and look forward to walking with your child on their journey of faith. Contact me if you are new to

the parish or have not received materials in the mail. Registration forms are also available on our website at smproths.org

SAVE THE DATE!!

NCIS Wausau is back this year! The summer camp is a local service experience designed to bring youth into a fun and meaningful atmosphere while serving the community. Join in the spirit of service with youth from around the community and truly make a difference in the lives of those we serve!

WHEN: August 9 - August 13, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm daily

FOR: Youth entering grades 6-8

REGISTRATION COST and MORE INFO:

www.wausaudeanery.weebly.com

Contact me at maryhh@smproths.org with questions.

Newman Catholic Schools

The NCS Mission Statement reads:

Newman Catholic Schools provides excellence in education in a Catholic environment and enhances the personal and spiritual growth of our students to meet life's challenges.



Enrolling Now 4K - Grade 12

Set your student on a strong path to a bright and successful future!



Visit: newmancatholicsschools.com/enrollment
for more information or contact Jacci Lepak - 715-849-7721

FAMILY LIFE



St. Mark Fellowship Sunday, July 18, after the 8:00 am and 10:00 am Liturgies. Visit with fellow parishioners over coffee, donuts, and cookies.

Sponsored by **St. Mark Chapter 72 of Catholic Financial Life**

Preparation for the Celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism



August 5, 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm

Parents with their first child or if you have recently joined the parish. Call the Parish Offices, 715-359-5206 to register.

Discussions: God Talk, The Meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism . The Church and Baptism . A Multiple Choice Clinic . The Liturgy of the Sacrament of Baptism . Concerning godparents.

Subcommittee on JUNE BUG '21

Financial Report for the JUNE BUG '21 Raffle:

Net: \$36,300.85

Donation: \$ 182.00 (Deposited on July 12, 2021)

Net Income: \$36,482.85

SOCIAL CONCERNS

Mission Cooperative Appeal 2021

Thank you for your generous donations to this year's Mission Cooperative Appeal on behalf of the Archdiocese of Madras-Mylapore (India). If you haven't returned your envelope for the Mission Appeal there is still time. Place your envelope in the tithe basket or bring it in to the Parish Office.



THANK YOU for your continued support of the **St. Mark Parish Circle of Joy**. If you know a person or family who is in need of assistance, contact the Parish Offices (715-359-5206).

LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW

— Father Slowiak

There is a parable in one of the four Vedas of the Hindu tradition that tells of a man entering a darkened room. To his horror he sees a snake coiled in a corner. Terrified at the prospect of a venomous snake ready to strike, he fights the urge to flee . . . but chooses to move toward the snake to examine it. His choice not to flee finds a harmless coil of rope in the corner. The point made is that knowledge of the truth about the environments in which we live spiritual and physically displays them as less hostile and as a community that is life-giving.

LADIES COUNCIL OF ST. MARK PARISH



Prayer Shawl Ministry. New members are welcome to join this ministry, Thursdays 12:30 to 2:00 pm in the Adult Formation Room (or outside the school building when the weather is nice.) Prayer Shawls are available in the Parish Office for anyone who has need of one. Donations of yarn (including partial skeins) are greatly appreciated!

PARISH FINANCE COUNCIL

Budget Committee

Stewardship of Time and Talent

Volunteer/community involvement this week by parish members, 15 hours.

Mass Attendance

	20-Jun	27-Jun	4-Jul	11-Jul
4:30	93	102	81	95
8:00	107	79	78	80
10:00	<u>75</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>100</u>
Total	275	271	274	275

Operating Income

	11-Jul	1 Jul-11 July	2021	Balance
Adult	9,955.00	23,577.29	585,000	561,422.71
Student		0.00	600	600.00
Offering	74.00	227.00	23,500	23,273.00
Debt Rdctn	195.00	440.00		
Totals	10,224.00	24,244.29		

Adult Tithe Summary

Tithe Budgeted Per Week	11,250.00
Received this Week	<u>9,955.00</u>
	-1,295.00
Avg Contribution this Week	118.51 84 families/individuals
Received Weeks 1-2	23,577.29
Budgeted Weeks 1-2	<u>22,500.00</u>
Budget	1,077.29

Other Income/Transfers

Circle of Joy	50.00	50.00
Votive Candles	.00	.00
Mission Coop	2,255.00	2,255.00

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS Your tithe is greatly appreciated! It can be mailed in or brought to the Parish Office. If you are interested in automatic withdrawal, contact the parish office for the form.

FROM THE DIOCESE —Diocese of La Crosse

Natural Family Planning Awareness Week is July 25-31. NFP is a holistic approach to family planning; to learn more about NFP visit www.dioclc.org/nfp

Pregnancy Resource Centers – Pro-Woman, Pro-Life. If you or someone you know is experiencing a crisis pregnancy, there are many pro-life pregnancy care centers around the diocese. For a complete listing, visit www.diolc.org/respect-life and click on “Pregnancy Help.”

Have you ever wondered if the Lord is calling you to be a priest? To begin the conversation or to inquire about what it means to be a priest, contact Fr. Nate Kuhn, Director of Vocational Recruitment for the Diocese of La Crosse, 3710 East Ave. S., PO Box 4004, La Crosse, WI 54602; or by phone at: 608.791.2667.

How Rooted Are You? 4 Keys to Remaining Faithful to Jesus Christ and His Church, Saturday, August 7. Be part of the Virtual Witnesses for Christ Conference on August 7, featuring Dr. Petroc Willey, an engaging and humorous presenter. Cost is \$10. For more information and to register, visit diolc.org/witness.

Men of the Cross, La Crosse, inspires men to live out their Baptismal call by igniting and intensifying their love for Jesus Christ and His Church. Visit and follow <https://www.facebook.com/MenOfTheCrossWI>

Heroic Men is a free Catholic streaming platform designed for men. Offering more than 100 feature length films, TV shows, documentaries, and short films; Heroic Men seeks to source the best Catholic media and make it available all in one place. Check out the website heroicmen.com.

The U.S. Bishops’ “Action Alerts” Page. For more information visit www.votervoice.net/USCCB/home.

Discover and Support the Work of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse. Learn about its mission and services, and how you can volunteer or donate, by visiting cclse.org.

FAITH ENRICHMENT

St. Anthony Spirituality Center, Marathon, for information about retreats and events visit <https://sarcenter.com/retreats-and-events/>. Register by calling 715-443-2236 or email info@sarcenter.com.

2021 Know Your Faith Series: The Social Justice Teachings of the Church | Thursdays from April 22 - October 28, 2021.

Social justice teaching emerges from the truth of what God has revealed to us about who God is and the depth of God’s love for us and for all creation. You are invited to join us as we explore the seven tenets of social justice teaching in our 2021 Know Your Faith Series. The presentations will be held from 6:30 to 8:00 pm on the 4th Thursday of each month from April through October. You may participate via Zoom meeting or by gathering with us at St. Anthony’s in the Solanus Center.

No cost - free will donations are encouraged.

There is no online registration for this event. Reservations need to be made by phone or email, by 5:00 pm the day before the session.

- **August 26: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**
Lee Ann Lella will help us consider “An Option that is Not Optional” and what this means for us today and how we are called to live it out. A basic moral test for our society is how we treat the most vulnerable in our midst.

OPPORTUNITIES

Newman Catholic Schools is an equal opportunity employer. Questions regarding employment openings should be addressed to Samantha Nevienski, HR Manager, at 715-845-5735 or email: snevienski@newmancatholicsschools.com Interested parties will find more information about the following positions and the employment application at: www.newmancatholicsschools.com/careers

- **St. Therese - Licensed Child Care Teacher**
- **St. Michael - Licensed Child Care Teacher**
- **Lead Custodian / Maintenance / NC MS/HS**
- **Varsity Girls Basketball Head Coach**

Print off the employment application and return to: NCS District Office - 1130 W Bridge Street, Wausau, WI 54401.

Newman Catholic Schools is in search of help in our cafeterias beginning in late August. This is a perfect opportunity for a parent with children in school or a retiree. We have one position open at St. Mark. The position is for 3-3.5 hours per day and includes prepping and serving food that is prepared and transported to St. Mark from an offsite location, dishes and clean up. Applicants who are willing to work two or more days/week would be considered. We are looking for substitutes and volunteers to help with lunch service in all of the buildings.

Contact: Jennifer Derks, Food Service Coordinator
Newman Catholic Schools
1130 W Bridge St., Wausau, WI 54401
jderks@newmancatholicsschools.com
(715) 845-5735 ext. 2033

Holy Name of Jesus parish is seeking a full-time Director of Religious Education and Youth Ministry. As it relates to faith formation this position will be responsible for organizing and implementing the parish religious education program for grades K-10, along with VBS and Children’s Liturgy of the Word. The DRE will also coordinate sacramental preparation for Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, Confirmation and RCIA. Other duties will include: coordinate safe environment for the parish, and all office and administrative duties related to the areas of responsibility. Relating to Youth Ministry this position will manage all youth ministry events, gatherings, fundraising, and trips for youth in grades 6-12.

For a more detailed job description contact Fr. Sam Martin at 715-842-4543.

Holy Name of Jesus Parish, Wausau is looking for a part-time bookkeeper/office staff, approximately 3-6 hours per week, with flexible scheduling. Position is hourly and reports to parish pastor. Position will also include some administrative responsibilities as needed. Call Judy with questions at 715-842-4543 and mail resumes to 1104 S. 9th Ave Wausau, WI 54401

IN THE AREA

St. Ladislaus Parish 2021 Concert on the Grounds, 173141 State Hwy 153, Bevent. Bring a chair/blanket and enjoy an evening of great music while you relax with family and friends. No pets. The concerts are free, but a free-will offering will be taken up to help defray expenses so that we can continue to have additional summer concerts. Concerts are from 6:00 to 8:00 pm on the following dates:

- July 27, Night Train**
- August 10, Wayne Cebula**

89Q Hope in the Park FREE Concert, featuring Jeremy Camp August 15, 2:00 pm - gates open at 1:30 pm. Food vendors and children's activities too! This event is looking for volunteers - those who are interested can email angie@89q.org, or go to 89q.org to register, see role descriptions, time frames and other details.



ST. THERESE AUGUST FEST

113 W. Kort Street
Rothschild/Schofield, WI



Saturday - August 14th 4:00pm - 11:30pm
Polka Mass at 4:30 pm - Church
Music by: Maroszek Bros. 6 pm - 8 pm
Music by: HYDE - 8 pm - 11:30 pm

~Events for Both Days~

Bucket Raffles - Cherry Tree - Beer Tent - Food Stand - Flea Market - Bakery Spin Pierogi, Ice Cream, & Frozen Polish Sausage Stand - Children's Games

Sunday - August 15th 10:00am - 5:00pm
Music by: Old Time Brass - Polka Mass @ 10:00 am - Church
 Playing on the Grounds from 11:00 am - 4:30 pm

Chicken/Smoked Ham/Sausage & Kraut Dinner
 11:00am-1:30pm (School Cafeteria) NO CARRY-OUTS AVAILABLE
 Includes Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Buttered Corn, Relishes, Rolls & Butter, Desserts, Coffee & Milk (Regular & Chocolate)
 CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT IN THE AFTERNOON

Bingo 12:00 pm to 5:30 pm (Air-Conditioned Church Basement)
 Cash & Packer Raffle - Over \$4,000 in Prizes!
 Get Your Tickets on the Picnic Grounds!
 Drawing: August 15, 2021 at 4:30pm - 112 W. Kort St.
ABSOLUTELY NO CARRY-INS!!!



Visit **St Mark Catholic Parish, Rothschild Facebook page** "Like", "share" and "invite" your friends and family (<https://www.facebook.com/StMarkCatholicParish/>)



ABSOLUTELY NO CARRY-INS!!

IT'S BACK!!!

MUSIC * FOOD & FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

RAIN OR SHINE UNDER THE BIG TENTS!

ST. FLORIAN PICNIC

HATLEY HWY 29 E EXIT 185

JULY 31-AUG 1, 2021

FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

CHEESE CURDS, BEER, BRATS, BURGERS, FRIES, ICE CREAM + MORE

PICK-A-STICK KID'S GAMES BOUNCE HOUSE

GAMES & RAFFLES COUNTRY STORE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE WWW.STFLOS.ORG (CLICK CALENDAR OF EVENTS)

SATURDAY JULY 31

4:00PM OUTDOOR MASS - TOM MIGAL & POLKA ACCESS
 5:00PM - MIDNIGHT GAMES, FOOD AND REFRESHMENT, RAFFLES, COUNTRY STORE
 5:00 - 7:00PM TOM MIGAL & POLKA ACCESS
 8:00PM - MIDNIGHT JERRY SCHMITT BAND

SUNDAY AFTERNOON - CONTINUOUS POLKA MUSIC FOR YOUR LISTENING AND DANCING PLEASURE!

SUNDAY AUGUST 1

10:30AM OUTDOOR MASS
 MAROSZEK BROS. BAND
 11:30AM GROUNDS OPEN
 NOON - 6:00PM MAROSZEK BROS. VS. POLISH CONNECTION
 6:00PM RAFFLE DRAWINGS

NEW KIDS EVENT!

RIVER VALLEY PEDAL TRACTOR PULL

Held right here on the church grounds!
 AGES 4 - 12 • ALL TRACTORS AND EQUIPMENT FURNISHED
 TROPHIES PROVIDED. BRING THE KIDS, PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS, UNCLÉS & FRIENDS TO CHEER THE KIDS ON. Arrive 1 hour early to register.

RACES START AT 1:30pm • Sun. Aug. 1

NO ENTRY FEE





EVENT IN BEVENT

AUGUST 28 & 29, 2021

ST. LADISLAUS PARISH
 173141 STATE HWY 153, BEVENT
 (Jct of Hwys 153 & Y)



Music, Food, Refreshments, Games, Cherry Tree, Country Store
 Cash - Mini - ATV - Raffles galore!!

Our famous homemade noodles will be available to purchase in the Country Café.
 Bingo Sunday at 1pm.

Saturday - August 28

4:00pm Outdoor Polka Mass and immediately following until 8pm:
The New Generation

8 - Midnight:
The Brady Luke Band

Sunday - August 29

10:10am Outdoor Polka Mass with the **Maroszek Bros**

Music immediately following Mass until 6pm Alternating:
New Polish Sounds
Maroszek Bros



Please Note: There will be no Chicken Dinner this year.



6

SCRIPTURE TEXTS - Ordinal 17

Opening Prayer: Lord God, As I meditate on Your Holy Word, fill me with a desire to be fed by Your Son, Jesus Christ. He offered food for those who gathered. As I gather with others for the celebration of Eucharist, fill my heart with a desire to share at the Altar Table knowing that my strength will come from my participation in the Body and Blood of the Lord. I make this prayer in the name of Jesus, He who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

2 KINGS 4:42-44

A man came from Baal-shalishah bringing to Elisha, the man of God, twenty barley loaves made from the firstfruits, and fresh grain in the ear. Elisha said, "Give it to the people to eat." But his servant objected, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" Elisha insisted, "Give it to the people to eat." "For thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and there shall be some left over.'" And when they had eaten, there was some left over, as the LORD had said.

PSALM 145:10-11, 15-16, 17-18

R. (cf. 16) **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs**

Let all your works give you thanks, O LORD,
and let your faithful ones bless you.

Let them discourse of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might.

R. **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**

The eyes of all look hopefully to you,
and you give them their food in due season;
you open your hand
and satisfy the desire of every living thing.

R. **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**

The LORD is just in all his ways
and holy in all his works.

The LORD is near to all who call upon him,
to all who call upon him in truth.

R. **The hand of the Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.**

EPHESIANS 4:1-6

Brothers and sisters: I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another through love, striving to preserve the unity of the spirit through the bond of peace: one body and one Spirit, as you were also called to the one hope of your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

JOHN 6:1-15

Jesus went across the Sea of Galilee. A large crowd followed him, because they saw the signs he was performing on the sick. Jesus went up on the mountain, and there he sat down with his disciples. The Jewish feast of Passover was near. When Jesus raised his eyes and saw that a large crowd was coming to him, he said to Philip, "Where can we buy enough food for them to eat?" He said this to test him, because he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Two hundred days' wages worth of food would not be enough for each of them to have a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish; but what good are these for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people recline." Now there was a great deal of grass in that place. So the men reclined, about five thousand in number. Then Jesus took the loaves, gave thanks, and distributed them to those who were reclining, and also as much of the fish as they wanted. When they had had their fill, he said to his disciples, "Gather the fragments left over, so that nothing will be wasted." So they collected them, and filled twelve wicker baskets with fragments from the five barley loaves that had been more than they could eat. When the people saw the sign he had done, they said, "This is truly the Prophet, the one who is to come into the world." Since Jesus knew that they were going to come and carry him off to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain alone.

Reflection Questions:

1. How do you understand the feeding by Jesus of the large crowds? Why do you think this is recounted in all four gospel versions?
2. There is scarcity in many areas of necessary food. How can you be involved with providing food for those who are needy?
3. Jesus instructs that the leftovers should be gathered. Nothing should be wasted. Are you careful not to waste food? Are you comfortable with leftovers?

Concluding Prayer: Lord God, fill me with a desire to share at the Altar Table of God. By my participation there, may I become aware of the needs of many who do not have enough to eat. Show me how I can assist others both in their spiritual and physical hunger. I make this prayer in the name of Jesus, He who is Lord forever and ever. Amen.

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715-675-3258
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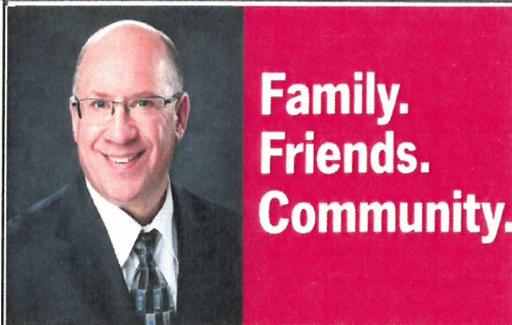
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