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Thirty-second Sunday In Ordinary Time November 8, 2009

The Lord keeps faith forever,
secures justice for the oppressed,
gives food to the hungry.

— Psalm 146:7

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 47:1-2, 8-9, 12; Ps 46; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
 Tuesday: Wis 2:23 — 3:9; Lk 17:7-10
 Wednesday: Wis 6:1-11; Lk 17:11-19
 Thursday: Wis 7:22b — 8:1; Lk 17:20-25
 Friday: Wis 13:1-9; Lk 17:26-37
 Saturday: Wis 18:14-16; 19:6-9; Lk 18:1-8
 Sunday: Dn 12:1-3; Ps 16; Heb 10:11-14, 18; Mk 13:24-32

SAINT RAPHAEL TREASURE CHEST



Week of November 1:

Total: \$ 11,053.45
Loose: \$ 3,299.95
Envelope: \$ 7,753.50

All Saints Day Offering: \$ 2,121.50

All Souls Day Offering: \$ 1,161.00

CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

GOAL: \$ 166,000
PLEGGED: \$ 98,636.32 59.42 % OF GOAL
RECEIVED: \$ 92,433.32
HOUSEHOLDS PARTICIPATING : 36.17%

THE CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP

The core vocation in the Gospel of Mark is the vocation, or call, to discipleship. Today's Gospel passage provides us with one last example of what the vocation to discipleship means, and one example of what it doesn't mean. A destitute widow shows us that discipleship means following Jesus' way of service, even if it requires giving one's livelihood (or life). The scribes show us by their bad example that discipleship should entail a vocation to extend God's care to those who are most in need.

In our reading from the book of Kings another widow and her son are close to death. They, too, give what little they have, but they are rewarded by Elijah with food enough for a year. And the reading from the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Jesus sacrificed his life "to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him" (Hebrews 9:28).

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TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Veterans Day began with the signing of a symbolic treaty between the Allies and Germany ending World War I (then called the "Great War") on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. The auspicious date was actually a well-established religious holiday, the feast of Saint Martin of Tours, a beloved soldier saint of the army of Rome. After World War II, Armistice Day was changed to Veterans Day in the United States and Remembrance Day in Britain, but of course the feast of Saint Martin endures.

Martin was named after Mars, the god of war, and against the advice of his parents he went on his own to church. He became a catechumen at the age of ten. By fifteen he was enlisted in the cavalry in France. Coming across a poor man, Martin had an impulse to divide his bright red soldier's cape and clothe him. He later had the insight that he had served Christ, and the other half of his cape became a lifelong sign to him of his duty to serve the poor. Housed in a tiny church *capella* or "chapel," the cape became a great object of pilgrimage on the way to Compostella, and a favored place for the prayers of soldiers. Martin was not so eager to serve as bishop as he had been as a soldier, and legend says that he hid in a barn filled with geese to avoid Episcopal election. To this day, the customary meal for November 11 is goose! Traditionally, this is the last feast day before winter closes in, and begins a period of fasting once known as "Saint Martin's Lent" or "Martinmas," that later developed into the season of Advent. —Rev. James Field, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

Today's psalm says, "The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy." Good stewards demonstrate by their living and giving that they understand God as the Source of all they are and have.

Prayer Chain Please call Dorothy Seymour at 474-8904 if you would like to be part of the prayer chain or when prayers are needed (parishioner or non-parishioner). We invite members of the parish to participate.

OFFERTORY GIFTS Our ushers are always looking for parishioners to volunteer to bring up the offertory gifts. Perhaps the people who have requested a Mass intention for that day/time would like to volunteer to help. If so, there is a sign up list in the back (vestibule) of the Church. Always grateful and many thanks.

Today we recognize Farmworker Sunday.

Prayer for Farmworker Justice

(written by His Eminence Roger Cardinal Mahoney)

Father, God of goodness, you give us the land to provide us with food. Hear the prayers of your people and give all who work on that land a full measure of human dignity and justice. May we bring the spirit of Christ to all our efforts, and may these efforts yield a rich harvest of justice, peace, and love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Bishop Frank J. Dewane is the Episcopal Moderator for the Farmworker Justice Committee of the Florida Catholic Conference. Since 1993, the Diocese of Venice has supported the efforts of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to bring about just wages and better conditions in the fields of our tomato pickers. If we are true to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching, then, it is incumbent on us, as Catholic Christians, to advocate in behalf of the most vulnerable among us, and the field workers fall into that category. Please keep them in your prayers.

K of C SHOW OF SHOWS

For over a decade Catholic Charities, the Diocese of Venice and the Knights of Columbus Councils in Venice, Englewood, North Port & Grove City have partnered in a worthy cause called the Sugar Bowl Fund. This program helps families that suffer an economic hardship because of a medical emergency, housing or transportation expense. As a fundraiser for this important program Catholic Charities and the Knights of Columbus are proud to present the 2nd Annual Sugar Bowl Show of Shows on Saturday, November 14th at the Venice Community Center at 2:00PM. Featured performers will be Ken McBride and the Ditchfield Family Singers. Please consider supporting this event. The proceeds from the Sugar Bowl will go directly to families in our community that are experiencing financial difficulty. Tickets for the event are available in the Parish office. The Knights of Columbus Council at St. Raphael Church purchased the tickets in advance and in bulk, therefore allowing you to be able to purchase the tickets at a reduced rate of \$15. (Regularly priced at \$20). Contact Jim at 475-2155 with any questions.

K Of C CASINO TRIP Tuesday, November 10

A trip to the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Tampa. The bus departs from St. Raphael at 8:30AM. \$35 donation includes round trip bus fare, free coffee, donuts and water before boarding the bus, \$25 play coupons, \$5 food voucher and \$5 Pasta Dinner ticket (usual price \$7 adv. purchase, \$8 at door). Reservations are required. Please contact Pete Maggi at 473-1489. Thank you for supporting the Knights of Columbus in its charitable activities.

ST CECILIA SING will be held in the church on Sunday, November 15th at 2PM. Come, select your favorite hymn and we will sing it. We will have a new hymn supplement— come and learn new hymns!

CCW will have its monthly meeting on November 11 following the 8:30 AM Mass. A continental Breakfast will follow at the Parish Activity Center. Henry Cancel speaker from the Alzheimer's Assoc. will follow the general meeting. New members are welcome. *There will be a Board Meeting on November 10th at 9AM in the Activity Center.*

The CCW Luncheon/Card Party will be held on Wednesday, Nov.18 from 12:00—3:00 pm at the Parish Activity Center. **Reservations are required.** Please call Fontaine at 474-5605 or purchase in Parish Office.

Craft/Bake Sale: The CCW will hold its annual Craft and Bake Sale in the Parish Center on Saturday, November 21st (8AM-5PM) and Sunday November 22nd (8AM-1PM). Come and see our great homemade Holiday items. For more information call Pat at (941)474-9481.

The CCW Casino Trip to benefit "Packages to the Troops" is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st. Reservations are required. The cost is \$30 which includes bus trip to and from the Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Tampa, \$25 free play and a \$5 food voucher. Continental breakfast will be provided on the bus along with a free raffle. Bus leaves at 8:15AM from the St. Raphael parking lot and returns at 5PM. Contact Marianne Riley 474-1329 for reservations or to make a donation for postage. Help us send packages to the troops for the holidays and have a fun time too.

PACKAGES TO THE TROOPS is an ongoing fundraiser to send goodies year round to those serving our country overseas. Anyone wishing to donate items or money for postage may bring them to the Activity Center on Friday's 9-11 AM or to the church on the weekends. They will be picked up. For questions call Marianne at 474-1329.

H.O.P.E CHARITIES: As we all know these are tough times for many people. Food and gas prices seem to rise almost daily. Many people in our area are out of work due to layoffs or closings. We are receiving more calls than usual for food, gas, water bills, FPL bills, auto repairs, mortgage & rental assistance, medical bills, prescriptions, help with insurance bills, and many calls are from people who just need someone who will listen and maybe offer a bit of hope. We wish to thank all of you who are faithful with your weekly donations to the poor boxes, and the many donations of good used furniture and clothing. Please know that without you we would not be able to touch the lives and hearts of the needy and provide them with hope for the future. Please call Carole @ 475-7010 if you have any questions. Again, thank you for who you are and all you do, to help the less fortunate in our parish and the surrounding area.

IT TAKES MORE... Going to church doesn't make you a Christian any more than going to a garage makes you an automobile. —Billy Sunday

“Year for Priests”

June 19, 2009-June 19, 2010

A Prayer for Priests

Dear Lord,
 we pray that the Blessed Mother wrap her mantle around your priests and through her intercession strengthen them for their ministry. We pray that Mary will guide your priests to follow her own words, “Do whatever He tells you” (Jn 2:5). May your priests have the heart of St. Joseph, Mary’s most chaste spouse. May the Blessed Mother’s own pierced heart inspire them to embrace all who suffer at the foot of the cross. May your priests be holy, filled with the fire of your love seeking nothing but your greater glory and the salvation of souls.
 Amen.
 Saint John Vianney, pray for us.



Abortion and euthanasia...are the places where those committed to a *conditional* and *selective* vision of human rights have planted their flag in our time. They want to draw lines between the important and unimportant members of society, between persons and “nonpersons.” In a different time or place the forcing issue might be slavery, racism or anti-Semitism - today abortion and related issues force us to decide whether we mean what we say in speaking of inalienable human rights, inherent in simply being human. —Cardinal Justin Rigali, “Where do we go from here?” *Respect Life Program (2009-20010)*

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED THE LOSS OF SOMEONE CLOSE?

The Bereavement Support group meets every Wednesday in the parish center from 9:30 to 10:30 am. Please join us and meet others in the same situation.

EPIPHANY SCHOOL DRAWING for October 21 was Ms. Linny Lane of Englewood, ticket #1548.

HANDICAPPED SEATING Please remember that the pew sections that are marked for handicapped should be kept available for our handicapped parishioners and guests. Once Mass has begun, if those areas are not filled, then we invite you to make use of those seats. Please be considerate and allow anyone who is physically challenged to enjoy those special seats.

The American flag flying over the Parish Center was donated in memory of Charles Osborn.

Altar Flowers this weekend were donated in loving memory of Dominic C. DiRoma by his wife, Anne Marie.

ST. RAPHAEL ACTIVITY CORNER
Mon., November 9 through Sun. November 15

- Mon. 9:00AM Cornerstone Bible PC
- 11:30AM Respect Life Meeting PC
- 6:15PM Rel. Ed Grades Grades 6-8 PC
- Tues. 9:00AM CCW Board Mtg. PC
- 6:15PM Rel Ed Grades 1-5 PC
- Wed. 9:00AM CCW Bus. Mtg. PC
- 9:30AM Bereavement Support Group PC
- 6:15PM Sacrament Prep Class
- Thurs.
- Fri. 9:00AM CCW Crafts PC
- Sat.
- Sun. 8:30 AM Our Lady’s Prayer Group PC

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES CORNER
IS OPEN SUNDAY MORNING
AFTER ALL MASSES

RESPECT LIFE There will be a Respect Life meeting on Monday, November 9, at 11:30 am in the parish center. All are invited. We need all the bodies we can get plus new ideas.

STEPHEN MINISTRY: Depression A sadness so soft settles on us. It is seemingly without cause. Yet it lingers like the winter fogs. A caring Stephen Minister is ready and trained to help you find yourself through the mist. Stephen Ministry is entirely confidential. Call Sheila Luetkehans at **474-6228** or the Parish Office.



Monday, November 9 through Sunday, November 15

- Mon. 8:30AM Deceased Members of Micelotta & Consolazio families
Req. by Wm. Consolanzio
- Tues. 8:30 AM Eleanor McCluskey
Req. by her husband
- Wed. 8:30 AM Intentions of CCW
- Thu. 8:30 AM Deceased Members of Balmat Family
Req. by family
- Fri. 8:30 AM Otto & Elsbeth Trodler
Req. by MagdalenTrodler
- Sat. 8:30 PM Purgatorial Society
4:00 PM Eglantine Boffardi
Req. by Irma Carbone
- Sun. 7:30 AM John Haughey
Req. by his wife
- 9:00 AM Fran Matherne
Req. by Maryan Matherne
- 11:00 AM Lillian & Joseph Buslawich
Req. by family

Please, also remember in your prayers the sick of the parish and all those who have gone before us in faith.

Received from the Diocese of Venice

Bishop Frank Dewane

May 1, 2009

All parishes in the Diocese of Venice are being asked to take the following precautions to help mitigate the spread and the effects of the Swine Flu.

- The faithful should be encouraged not to hold hands during the reciting of the Our Father.
- The faithful should be encouraged to share the Sign of Peace without touching hands. This can be done with meaningful eye contact, smiles, and a bow of the head in reverence to one another.
- The Precious Blood is not to be shared with the faithful during Mass. Communion is only to be given under the species of the consecrated bread.
- If a non-communicant comes forward for a blessing, the blessing should be given without touching them.
- All priests and Eucharistic Ministers must wash their hands before Mass begins and after Mass.
- Ushers should be encouraged to wash their hands before and after greeting others, taking up of the collection and passing out bulletins.
- Remind parishioners that they should not come to church when they are not feeling well.

Once the emergency nature of this scare has passed, we will revisit our traditional means of sharing the sign of peace and norm of distributing communion from the cup at the celebration of the Eucharist. Until such time, the above rules are to be followed in all parishes of the Diocese of Venice.

GOOD HEALTH HABITS CAN HELP STOP GERMS

1. **Avoid close contact with people who are sick.** When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
2. **Stay home when you are sick.** If possible, stay home from work, school, and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.
3. **Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing.** It may prevent those around you from getting sick.
4. **Clean your hands.** Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.
5. **Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth.** Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose or mouth.
6. **Practice other good health habits.** Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food.

FROM THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

TIPS ON MANNERS AT MASS

Attire: The idea of “Sunday best” should be honored; churchgoers of all ages should dress conservatively. Coat and tie is appropriate for men, but not required. Women should wear modest dress. Tank tops, very short skirts, low necklines or tight-fitting clothing would be considered disrespectful. Shorts are not appropriate for men or women.

Arrival: Prepare your offering envelope ahead of time. Arrive at least 10 minutes before Mass begins. This helps reduce distractions and provides time to get settled. Late-comers should wait to be seated by ushers so as not to disrupt the service and the congregation. Gum or candy should never be in your mouth when coming to Mass.

Seating: No parishioner has an assigned seat or the claim to any seat for Mass. If someone is already seated in a place where you “usually” sit, please do not tell them to move, instead be courteous and find another place to sit.

Entering the church: Once you leave the gathering space, refrain from over socializing with your friends. Remember that others are already engaged in prayer in their seats. It is optional to bless yourself with holy water, but as a sign of respect for the Blessed Sacrament, genuflect (or bow if unable to genuflect) before taking your seat. Move over to the center of the row as a courtesy to accommodate others who arrive after you.

Quiet time: Turn off cell phones and pagers. It is understandable that children have difficulty sitting quietly, but when they become distracting, take them out briefly until they settle down. They may be too warm and need a change of environment.

Sign of Peace: People usually shake hands briefly or exchange a quick kiss, but if you have a cold or cough, you can politely say, “Peace be with you,” without shaking hands.

Consecration: Elevation of the Host and the Chalice after the words of consecration are spoken is a sacred time, and there should be silent reverence with no movement around the church, except in an emergency.

Communion: Again, refrain from socializing when leaving the row to receive Communion. Receive the Holy Eucharist with reverence, bow slightly and respond “Amen.”

Leaving the church: Singing the closing hymn is still part of the Mass. Leaving before the hymn ends is inappropriate. After the hymn, genuflect (or bow) toward the altar before leaving. Refrain from greeting and visiting each other until out in the gathering space. Have respect for those who wish to remain in prayer.