

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH

912 SEVENTH STREET, MOUNDSVILLE, W. VA. 26041

304-845-1593

sfxmoundsville@comcast.net



As high as the heavens
are above the earth,
so high are my ways
above your ways
and my thoughts
above your thoughts.

ISAIAH 55:9

TWENTY-FIFTH
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME
SEPTEMBER 20
2020



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Jesus' parable depicts workers who "punch the clock" at various times throughout the long day: dawn, nine, noon, three, and five o'clock. Regardless of when they began working in the vineyard, the laborers all receive the same reward. The reward seems lavish to the latecomers, of course, and shockingly unfair to the long-faithful workers. The landowner soothes his most dutiful laborers, however, delighting in them as friends and transforming their bitter confrontation into a reflection on generosity. The laborers who arrived at five o'clock might have been late to the job, but those who began at the crack of dawn were last to understand the extravagant bounty of the landowner. Seen in this way, the parable discusses not only God's generosity toward "unworthy" believers, but also the Lord's inexhaustible patience toward those who thought they had nothing more to learn.

BEGINNING AGAIN

Today's readings provide sweet refreshment to all of us who know the bitterness of discouragement. No matter how stubbornly we determine to improve ourselves, the human

condition often leaves us in puddles of failure and regret. Jesus has a new plan for us. Today's Gospel parable demonstrates the mercy of God, mercy that rejoices in fresh beginnings. We take comfort in knowing that God accompanies us in our labors—and works for us—whether we struggle with caring for our bodies, striving for patience, avoiding gossip, making time for prayer, being generous, overcoming addiction, remaining in recovery, or simply attending to our daily work. Jesus shows us that he actively engages with us each time we fall short. From dawn to dusk, the Lord seeks us out, calling us to join him in the vineyard. Now, today, right this moment, is our dawn. Or our nine o'clock. Or noon? Ignore the clock! Jesus invites us to forget past failures; divine mercy wipes them away. Today's psalm insists that the "Lord is near to all who call upon him." In hope, then, we begin again.

Today's Readings: Is 55:6–9; Ps 145:2–3, 8–9, 17–18;
Phil 1:20c–24, 27a; Mt 20:1–16a

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Catechetical Sunday

Teaching Ministry Is Celebrated

This weekend Catholics world-wide are observing Catechetical Sunday, which celebrates the importance of the Church's teaching ministry.

This year's theme, "I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you," speaks directly to the Church's renewed

focus on evangelization and how active ministry of the Word is a fundamental element of spreading the Gospel.

The theme is inspired by St. Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, which focuses on the essential work of catechesis and is an invitation to a whole new life given by Christ Himself. It emphasizes that living faith necessitates active witness.

The observance is considered a perfect opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. It is also a good opportunity for all to rededicate themselves as a community of faith to spreading the Word, especially parents, who are regarded as primary catechists of their children. Parents must prepare the soil and plant the

first seeds of faith and are encouraged to take seriously their role of making their Catholic households a place where faith is passed to the next generation.



Catechesis is a distinct and special ministry in the Church. As the Catechism of the Catholic Church

states: "Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life ... her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis."

Called are all Catholics by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops to find their place in this ministry by spreading the Word through evangelization.

You can learn more about the history, purpose, and meaning of Catechetical Sunday at the USCCB's website usccb.org.

With sympathy

*to the family and loved ones of
Jim Campbell,
our heartfelt condolences.*

Masses for the Week

- SEPT. 19 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Phil & Mary Skvarka†**
(Phil Skvarka)
- SEPT. 20 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Deceased members of the Raymond/Padula Family (Family)**
10:00 A.M. **Robert (Coke) DeCola†**
(Veronica DiCola)
- SEPT. 21 MONDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(Tina Minor)
- SEPT. 22 TUESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Charlie Freeman†**
(Terry & Chris McDonald)
- SEPT. 23 WEDNESDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Charlie Freeman†**
(James & Diana Barker)
- SEPT. 24 THURSDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Theresa Myer†**
(The Saporito Family)
- SEPT. 25 FRIDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Charles Freeman†**
(Gary Rine)
- SEPT. 26 SATURDAY**
4:00 P.M. **Danny Prado**
(Terry & Chris McDonald)
- SEPT. 27 SUNDAY**
8:00 A.M. **Mary Ann Barnes†**
(Mary Jasinski)
10:00 A.M. **Stephanie Phillips Eddy†**
(Cindy Gunto)

This weekend's special collection is to support recovery and humanitarian efforts related to recent natural disasters across the country, as well the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon.

REV. THAT SON NGOC NGUYEN, PASTOR

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS):

Sat. 3:30 p.m. or any other time upon request.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

By appointment. Contact the parish office at least six months before the date of the marriage. Pre-Cana is required.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

By appointment. The diocese requires instructions beforehand for parents or guardians. Contact the parish office.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (PSR):

Sundays during the school term at 9:00 a.m. to 9:50 a.m. for Grades 1-12.

REGISTRATION AND CHURCH SUPPORT:

Parishioners should be properly registered at the parish office.

Church Office Phone: 304-845-1593
Church Hall Phone: 304-845-9238
Xavier Hall Phone: 304-845-7080
Rev. That Son Cell: 408-858-7467

Email: sfxmoundsville@comcast.net

Website: sfxmoundsville.org

MASS SCHEDULE:

Weekends: Saturday - 4:00 p.m.
Sunday - 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.
Weekdays: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.
Holy Days: 8:00 a.m., 7:00 p.m.

**PRAY FOR OUR
PARISHIONERS
& FRIENDS**



Recently Sick: Joseph Grampa, Jane Klug, Eleanor Smith, Thomas Sullivan, Sara Walters, Bobby Kleinedler, Anna Mae Veronis Holiday, Sami Wilson, Bill Fowkes, Shirley Moczek, Sue Riffle, Isabella Wood, Dale Whitlatch, Sandye Yoho.

Homebound: Semon & Phyllis Prado, Rachel Kerekes, Doris Murphy, Deanne Ferraro.

Nursing Homes: Hazel Markey, Katie Renshaw, Joan Weekly, Alma VanSyoc, Ron Flading, Betty Kerns, Marie Lohori, Bill Tennant, Ron Jaworski, Amelia Rynkievich, Raymond Pennybacker, Helen Remke, Barb Meyer.

Names of those recently sick will appear for approximately two months to ensure requests stay current. Please resubmit requests after this period for those who still need our healing prayers.

LECTORS

Sept. 26 4:00 p.m. **D. Evans**

Sept. 27 8:00 a.m. **L. Whitlatch**

10:00 a.m. **P. Whitwam**

WEEKLY OFFERING SEPT. 6, 2020

Envelopes:	\$2,179.00
Loose Offerings:	\$186.00
Xavier Hall:	\$550.00
Online Giving:	\$60.00
Memorial Offerings:	\$1,300.00
Pennies for God:	\$15.00
Candles:	\$38.00
Attendance:	145

Thank you for sending us your donations and for using online giving.

OUR MASS INTENTIONS

book for 2021 opens Monday, Oct. 5.

Intention forms are available in the vestibule of the church and at the entrance to Xavier Hall.

A downloadable form also can be found in the FORMS menu at our website sfxmoundsville.org.

For those unable to pick up forms at church or access the website, please contact the parish office at 304-845-1593. We will be happy to send a form to you.

WE ARE DISCERNING the idea of sponsoring a missionary family and two seminarians from the Neocatechumenal Way, which is a charism within the Catholic church dedicated to Christian formation. Members embrace a tripod ministry: Word of God - Liturgy - Community.

We will have more information in next week's bulletin.



GERRY FAUST is one of the most successful football coaches in America. From 18 years at Cincinnati's Moeller High School to head coach at The University of Notre Dame, Faust has become a popular inspirational speaker who weaves his dramatic life story into lessons for everyday life, always placing faith in God in the center of the huddle. If you haven't yet, take time this football season to join **FORMED.org** to enjoy Faust's inspiring story. Signups are free, easy, and only take a few minutes. Also, there are simple instructions in the FORMS menu at sfxmoundsville.org.

SFX IS POSTPONING the start of in-person PSR until Sept. 27 to voluntarily observe two-week's closing at McNinch Elementary and Sherrard Middle schools after two teachers tested positive for Covid-19. The PSR delay is out of an abundance of caution. No SFX students or families are ill. PSR families are asked to watch their e-mails for more information.

NOT POSTPONED is heartfelt gratitude for the members of our SFX teaching ministry, whom we recognize as part of Catechetical Sunday for their dedicated service to forming our parish youth.

Many thanks to Director Mary Helen Marling, Matt and Monica Miller, Christine King, Mark Hitt, and Randy and Kathy Swift. Prayers for a blessed school year.

SOME OF THE RUMMAGE sale shoppers from our Labor Day event are asking what became of our surplus inventory. Those still interested in those items can find them at the St. Vincent DePaul Thrift Store in Wheeling, which is located at 225 McColloch St - # 1, and at the Appalachian Outreach Hidden Treasures Retail Store, which is now also in Wheeling at 3643 Jacob St. A reminder that our sale raised more than \$1,300 to benefit the St. Vincent DePaul Society and its work helping the needy of our area.

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