

Mass/Service Schedule/Intentions

Tue: 8/16 9:30 am
Wed: 8/17 5:30 pm Adoration
6:45 pm
Sat: 8/20 6:30 pm People of the parish
Sun: 8/21 8:30 am Elmer Burk (D)
~given by Nancy Williamson

CONTRIBUTIONS for August 7, 2016

Church Budget	\$ 2,100
General Offertory	\$ 2,549.40
Building Fund	\$ 524
Mission Cooperative	\$ 30

COUNTERS for this week are: Mary Beverly and Jan Dover.

Flowers this weekend are in memory of Michael Hornick.

Parish Committees

Pastoral Council: Deanna Holmer 706-297-7493
Finance Committee: Bob Defenbaugh 706-886-8950
Ladies of Saint Mary: Gerrie Chalk 706-963-0050
Religious Education: Sharon Cook 706-297-8344
Jessica Burger 1-904-219-1129
Knights of Columbus: Mike Staley 770-241-8544
Maintenance Committee: Larry Barbour 706-244-1410
Bulletin editor: Christa O'Barr 706-886-2819;
stmarystoccoa@gmail.com (email)

SEEKING CRAFT SALE PARTICIPANTS!

The 9th Annual Indoor/Outdoor Craft Sale at Sacred Heart Church at 1009 Benson St.(across from Quality Foods) in Hartwell will be held on Saturday November 12, 2016.

We are seeking anyone who would be interested in reserving a table to sell their things at \$35 per 8ft table. Please call Judy Earle at 706-436-3944 for reservations as tables will go fast.



Pray for ... PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please keep the following people in your prayers: Zachary Carreno, Kevin Chase, Carl Dowell, Joe Franzmathes, Chuck Hansen, Judy Hawkins, Edna Kane, Ed Kernan, Carl Pope, Chloe Smith, Skip Studley, Joe Todd, Jim Zell, Elaine Peterson, Charles Roberts, Glenn Gloeckner, Mary Hennessey, Hubert Jones, Lisa Panatera - Esquivel, Karen Poole, Carlton House, Mac Boswell, Karen Perchinski, Brion Lanier, Max Biester, Gloria Woodall, Laura Barnett, Dell Thomas, Nan Lunn, Diane Farmer, Tina Vu, Lore Schnell, Gwen Cuvo and Larry Barbour.

St. Vincent dePaul

Saint Mary's Conference of Saint Vincent de Paul will meet Wednesday, August 17th in the Religious Education room at 7:15PM following Mass. Since September 2015, St. Mary's has helped nearly 30 families and disabled individuals with food, utility bills, rent, and other services, totaling over \$7,500. Thanks to the generosity of St. Mary's Parishioners, who gave nearly \$2,500, three donors who gave \$1,000 each and assistance through "twinning" from other conferences in the Diocese, we have been able to continue our spiritual and charitable outreach. Our services are most rewarding and we invite all parishioners (with variety of ages and abilities) to join us in our mission to bring Christ out into our community.

"Our Faith in Action: Today's Society of St. Vincent de Paul" debuts on Eternal Word Television Network (EWTN) Tuesday, August 16 at 6:30 PM. SVdP members grow spiritually by helping people in need. Live your faith!!! For more information, please call Nancy Williamson at 706-356-8046 or Sharon Cook at 706-297-8344. For more information, please call Nancy Williamson, 706-356-8046.

HELP-LINE number for those needing assistance is: **1 (678) 892-6163.**

RECEPTIONS AFTER FUNERALS: Once arrangements are made at the funeral home and the family contacts the Bereavement Committee, we may have 24 to 48 hours to prepare a luncheon for as few as 40 or up to 100 people. The Crew Captain calls the ladies on her list and they volunteer to provide sandwiches, salads, casseroles, fruit, desserts and beverages. The required number of tables and chairs are arranged in the Social Hall and set with linens. It takes many willing hands and generous hearts! Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex for this important ministry. Thanks!.

A note...

The fire Jesus promised has consequences. Sometimes it does indeed divide families. Often, only to reunite them anew in Him. The fire consumes all that would lead us away from God's loving and perfect plan for each one of our lives. The fire purifies, refines and empowers us to become those new creations of which the Apostle Paul wrote. (2 cor.5:17) The fire changes us into the Image of Jesus Christ and shines through us into a world of darkness. The Fire draws us into communion and participation in His Divine Life and mission. That communion is lived in His Church. The Catholic Catechism, quoting St Augustine, affirms - What the soul is to the human body, the Holy Spirit is to the Body of Christ, which is the Church.

Thank you St. Mary's for wrapping your arms around us in the loss of our grandson Michael. For the many cards, mass cards and prayers we thank you. The reception after the service was so thoughtful and nice. Keep us in your prayers. St. Mary's church family is great.

Johnny and Rilla

It's that time of the year again...

CCD registrations forms are in the narthex, please fill-out and return as soon as possible so books can be ordered. For one child it's \$25, for two it's \$35 and three or more it's \$45 for family.

FAMILY VALUED?

Listening to Jesus describe the divided households that would result from following him is somewhat startling in our society, where the Christian church is seen as one of the last great refuges of the family. And yet we know that in many ways religion still divides families, when one spouse is observant and another is not, when children choose or reject the beliefs of their parents, when lifestyles of a loved one do not conform to Church teachings, when a marriage or remarriage occurs outside of the sanctuary, when a non-believing yet baptized child merely goes through the religious motions to satisfy a grandparent . . . the list goes on. Centuries ago, Jesus knew that deeply held and honestly followed religious convictions could often be a source of division, in spite of the fact that what he and his Father in heaven wanted most deeply was unity.

TYPICAL TEENAGER

In the days when Luke's Gospel was written, Christianity was in its adolescence. In its infancy it was a branch or sect of Judaism. Ongoing dissension within the Jewish faith about the nature of Jesus and his messianic role created a rift. Social and political situations aggravated by the destruction of the Jerusalem temple deepened it. Luke was preaching and writing to many people who, day by day, were living through the kinds of household divisions that Jesus was describing. Anyone who has lived through a child's teenage years knows that "son against father, daughter against mother" is a common situation. It was no different for Christianity as it wrested itself away from its parent religion. The followers of Christ in Luke's day were learning that sometimes a household divided was the price paid, in the words of the Letter to the Hebrews, for keeping their eyes "fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith" (Hebrews 12:2).

Today's Readings: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10; Psalm 20:2-4, 18; Hebrews 12:1-4; Luke 12:49-53