CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer for Unclenched Fists ~

Dear God,
I am so afraid
to open my clenched fists!
Who will I be
when I have nothing
to hang on to?
Who will I be
when I stand before you
with empty hands?

Please help me
to gradually open my hands
and discover that
I am not what I own,
but what you want to give me.

And what you want to give me
is love —
unconditional,
everlasting love.
Amen.

CAMPUS MINISTRY OFFICE:
The Campus Ministry Office is located in **Our Lady Chapel**.
phone: [**440**] **473-3560**. e-mail: jbcsc@ix.netcom.com

Volume XVIII No. 36
August 10-11, 2013

Our Lady Chapel

Our Lady Chapel is a Roman Catholic community founded in the love of the Father, centered in Christ, and rooted in the Holy Cross tenets of building family and embracing diversity. We are united in our journey of faith through prayer and sacrament, and we seek growth through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit in liturgy and outreach, while responding to the needs of humanity.

BLESSING OF COLLEGE STUDENTS — THIS WEEKEND:

As so many of our college-aged young men and women are beginning to prepare to depart for the up-coming orientations and new school year, we will do a blessing over all college [undergrad as well as graduate] students this weekend at our Masses.

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF MARY:

Thursday, August 15th is the **Feast of the Assumption** of Mary into heaven — a **holy day of obligation**. When the course of her earthly life was completed, the Blessed Virgin Mary was taken up body and soul into the glory of heaven, where she already shares in the glory of her Son's Resurrection, anticipating the resurrection of all members of his Body. [**Catechism of the Catholic Church, #974**]. Mass schedule for the holyday will be as follows: **Wednesday** vigil Mass at **5:30 PM**. Mass on **Thursday** will be also be at **10:00 AM**. **Both Masses will be in the main chapel.** The following prayer is taken from the Byzantine Liturgy:

> **In giving birth, you kept your virginity; in your Assumption, you did not leave the world, O Mother of God, but were joined to the source of Life. You conceived the living God and, by your prayers, will deliver our souls from death. Amen.**

FAITH EDUCATION:

It's time to start thinking about **Faith Education** for this coming school year. Our sessions will begin on **Sunday, September 8th.** Our Sessions go from **8:45—9:45 AM** each time we meet, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass.** We have a number of families who attend the chapel regularly who have children who attend non-Catholic schools. **If you have not registered your child for Faith Education, please do so as soon as possible.** Our **Faith Education Program** will help to fulfill your on-going religious education. Our program runs from grades K-8. Students in grades 9-12 are encouraged to participate in our Life Teen Program. Thank you for taking care of this important task.

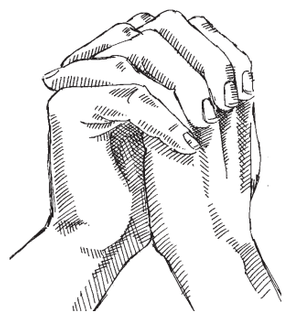
A PILGRIMAGE FOR THE YEAR OF FAITH:

Most Reverend Richard Lennon, Bishop of Cleveland has designated five parishes as pilgrimage sites in the Diocese of Cleveland for the "Year of Faith." The five parishes are: the Cathedral of Saint John the Evangelist, E. 9th Street & Superior Avenue, Cleveland; Saint Sebastian, 476 Mull Avenue, Akron; Saint Mary, 320 Middle Avenue, Elyria; Saint Mary, 242 N. State Street, Painesville; and Saint Mary of the Immaculate Conception, 527 Beall Avenue, Wooster. The diocesan-wide pilgrimage is taking place at these fives parishes all weekends until September 8th. These particular parish sites were chosen by Bishop Lennon because they well represent the culture and history of the Diocese of Cleveland. You can begin at any parish, but you are asked to end at the Cathedral of St. John. Individuals who choose to take the diocesan-wide pilgrimage can request a "Pilgrim Passport" at any of the five parishes. The passport will then be stamped for that parish visit and can then be taken to the remaining parishes to have it stamped at each of those parishes. Information about the pilgrimages is available on the table in the narthex of the Chapel.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:



- For Rita Fafrak, mother of Music Director, Matt, who is recovering from surgery.
- For Brother John May, C.S.C., former Business Manager, who is hospitalized with a serious infection.
- For Vern Weber, former Gilmour teacher and coach, father of Larry [‘73], Terry [‘76], Tony [‘80], Heidi [‘84], and Teresannn [‘78] Weber, grandfather of Hope [‘13] and James [‘15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Winnie McCamley, mother of former Gilmour instructor, Frank McCamley, grandmother of Brian [‘03 and Lauren [‘08] McCamley, who is recovering from vascular surgery.
- For Kathy Haas-Falbo, who is experiencing paralysis resulting from an infection.
- For Frank DeFlorio who is preparing for surgery.
- For Marsha Maire who is recovering from surgery.
- For Father John Dunne, C.S.C., who is critically ill.
- For Joan Janovitz, sister of Judy Morgan, who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Patrick Rhoa, brother of Michael [‘80] and Matthew [‘81] who is under the care of hospice.
- For Daniel Gilson who has been diagnosed with lymphoma.
- For Dan Hathey, technology associate, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Laura Jones who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Matthew Keller, nephew of Brother Richard, who is undergoing treatment for a back condition.
- For Pat Myers who has an inoperable brain tumor.
- For Hamm Biggar who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Maurice Huffer who is critically ill with cancer.
- For Jim Skerl who is undergoing treatment for pancreatic cancer.
- For Roger DiPenti who is in rehabilitation following a serious fall.
- For Debbie McLaughlin who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Ken Kotner who has been diagnosed with bone cancer.
- For Francis Bellitto who is under the care of hospice.
- For Margaret Keller, sister-in-law of Brother Richard, who is ill.
- For Ida Urbancic, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Evelyn Catanese, great-aunt of Alyssa Solano [‘15] who is critically ill.
- For James Keller, nephew of Brother Richard, who is recovering from surgery.
- For Betty Herten, aunt of Hope [‘13] and James [‘15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.
- For Jenny Hammond, daughter of Librarian, Lynn Hammond, who is ill.
- For Donald Bibbo, parents of Randall [‘71] and DJ [’72] Bibbo, who is ill.
- For Frank Furlong, grandfather of Jennifer [‘13], Craig [‘17] and Sean [‘19] who is undergoing treatment for cancer
- For Ann Raymond, grandmother of Adam Lesko [‘05] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Eileen Belak, sister of Maintenance Director, Dan Kohn, and aunt of Matt [‘07], who is seriously ill with acute leukemia.
- For Dan Houlahan who is in rehabilitation following a brain aneurysm.
- For Nicholas Zanella , who is undergoing treatment for a rare medical condition.
- For Sister Barbara Johns, I.H.M., who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For Richard Sitar, former Holy Cross Brother and Gilmour teacher..
- For Ronald Lewis
- For Kenneth Zychowski
- For Bernice Moavero
- For Mary Reese, sister of Brother Roland Driscoll, C.S.C.
- For Arthur Aufmuth.
- For Helen Baco.
- For Helen and John Blazek, parents of Father John [wedding anniversary]
- For Sister Jean Miller, O.S.U.
- For Dorothy Sabik, mother of former Gilmour teacher, Cindy Sabik, grandmother of Olivia [‘10] Sabik.
- For David Fink.
- For Brother Robert Ewald, C.S.C.
- For Father Réal Charlebois, C.S.C.
- For Anne Nyman.
- For Anne Mockler

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Diane DeMarco, cousin of chapel associate, Patty Szaniszlo, and Kathy DeMarco.
- For Dan Kohn, director of Maintenance, who is recovering from knee surgery.
- For a person critically ill with cancer.
- For Christian Connors, son of technology associate, Kevin Connors, who was seriously injured in a motor cycle accident.
- For Thomas Melillo, father of Janna Melillo [‘96], who is undergoing experimental treatment for cancer.
- For Les Borden, father of Kristine [’95], Andrew [’07], and Julie [’10], who is undergoing treatment for a serious infection..
- For Ben Brewer who is undergoing treatment for neuroblastoma
- For Mary Kampman, mother of Mark [‘81], Matthew [‘85], Dean [‘86], and Douglas [‘88] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Margaret Carlin, former kitchen associate, who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For Ken Gabele, nephew of Brother Richard, who is recovering from cancer surgery.
- For people who have MS.
- For Gil Lowry Sr., father of upper school instructor, Cyndi Lowry, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Peter Settlemire, brother of Bill [‘79], Ted [‘81], and Bob [‘88] Settlemire, who is critically ill following a brain aneurism.
- For Janine Yardy, daughter of Geraldine Mockler, who is seriously ill.
- For Father Denis St. Marie, who is undergoing treatment for a heart condition and for cancer.
- For Marie Lynch Julius who is seriously ill with cancer.
- For Brother Richard Keller, C.S.C. who is undergoing treatment for prostate cancer.
- For Mary McMullen, wife of Tom McMullen [’52], who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

DRESSES FOR HONDURAS:

One of the nurses in our Gilmour Clinic is involved in a **dressmaking project** for the children of Honduras. They have devised a method of making sundresses out of common pillowcases, and then adorning them with other items for decoration. And that is where you come in**. If you have any old buttons, ribbon, ric-rac, lace or other sewing trim,** please bring them in. The group would like to collect these items to help decorate the dresses they are working on. This is an on-going project; the dresses will be sent to Honduras every time there is a mission trip. The next trip is scheduled for the summer. There will be a **basket in the narthex of the Chapel** to collect any donations you may have. Thank you for your help!

SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, August 11: **19th Week in Ordinary Time**	**10:00** AM
Monday, August 12:	**5:30** PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Tuesday, August 13: **Transfiguration of Jesus**	**5:30** PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Wednesday, August 14: **Vigil of Assumption of Mary**	**5:30** PM
Thursday, August 15: **Assumption of Mary**	**10:00** AM
Friday, August 16:	**5:30** PM [Eucharistic Chapel]
Saturday, August 17: **20th Week in Ordinary Time**	**5:00** PM
Sunday, August 18: **20th Week in Ordinary Time**	**10:00** AM

MATT’S FIRST CD:

Over the course of the past 5 years, Matt Fafrak has been our music director here at Our Lady Chapel. We have been blessed with his many talents, and his love of the Eucharist. So many have commented and appreciated the group of musicians that has assembled under his leadership. **On Wednesday of this past week, Matt released his first CD entitled: DANCE. Copies of the CD are available in the chapel office for $10.** Let’s all support Matt on this wonderful occasion.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Father John will be available to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with you on **every Saturday** between **3:30 – 4:00 PM**. Confessions are also available “by appointment.” The Reconciliation Room is located in the small chapel directly across from Father John’s Office.

REFLECTION ON THIS WEEK'S THEME:

There is the familiar saying: "What's a nice guy like me doing in a place like this!" We may have all found ourselves in a similar frame of mind about being somewhere we'd rather not be, or surprised at being exactly where we always dreamed of being. Perhaps you have wondered the same thing while being in church and at the Eucharist. If you asked the people who are at Mass on any given Sunday, their answers would be varied and some amusing — "It's Sunday. That's what I do on Sundays." "She made me come." "I need a silent place and maybe the homily will make some sense in my life." "I like the feeling I get of being holy, and I like the music." "I like the spirit there and all that is going on — except the collection".

Think about what your answer would be. Whatever reasons we have for attending, celebrating, God will use those to get you right where God wants you to be, and he will send you right where you can be a blessing.

The Book of Wisdom has many differing sections — all centered around God's creation and love for the people of Israel. The Book of Genesis has two creation narratives which present two different theological positions current at the time [See Genesis 1-2]. For the composer of this almost poetic book of Wisdom, the creation of Israel as the People of God was even a greater manifestation of God's love than the creation of the universe. But just a beautiful was the response of God's people, who even in the midst of oppression were recognizing all that God had done [Wisdom 17:1, 18:5-9]. They were in slavery in Egypt, but they kept faith in the Covenanting and faithful God. They kept faithful to their religious traditions, and so found courage to persevere during the many years of slavery. While God eventually punished the Egyptians, the people of Israel did not take vengeance on their former slavers.

What a magnificent praise-poem — based in history and as well a national self-celebration of their past. It is a general truth that the victors in a war tend, as time goes on, to exaggerate their own glories as a group. And this is what is happening here — God was very good, but so were we! It is meant to be a history and a reminder of just who Israel was and desires to continue to be.

Luke's Gospel [12:32-48] reminds us that we already belong to God's flock, and the treasure has already been given to us, so we need not fear about our eternal futures. But we also need to be aware of the implications of our being so precious and cared for. The "kingdom" is being given to us who have faith in the Giver. If we do so trust, then our "treasure" does not rely on or support the temporal kingdom here on earth.

Our preciousness in God's eyes is contrasted with the preciousness of material treasures. We get our value from the Creator and not the accumulation of other creatures. Our heart's desires will announce to which kingdom we belong. Which kingdom do we wait? And what is the degree of patience and watchfulness with which we wait?

Jesus is an investment of God's love in us. We are invited to make a similar investment in the holiness of humanity and the dominion of God. As usual with Jesus, a parable makes the tension quite clear.

A master has gone away, promising to return, but the "when" is indefinite. The servants who remain in the house are to act justly, live soberly, aware, and above all, expect the Master's return at any

HOW ARE YOU FIGHTING THE BATTLE?

So why did the Colonists win the American Revolution? Well, it shouldn't be a surprise if you saw how the Red Coats fought. They fought battles in the old fashion European way — line up in straight rows, the front row shoots, then the next row rotates in while the others reload. Now, the Colonists on the other hand, didn't believe in lines. They just came in from everywhere. They saw those red uniforms all lined up in a rigid row and said: "Oh, nice targets!" Now, the Colonists looked like they were disorganized, but their new way of fighting won a battle.

Transferring this thought to our life of faith, we too can get caught in a rut — a "this is the way I do it" attitude. For example, the Pharisees and the teachers of the Law — the religious leaders of Jesus' time complained to the disciples: "Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?" Jesus answered: "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I've not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance" [Matthew 9:11-12]. Later Jesus reminds us that "no one pours new wine into old wineskins. If you do, the new wine will burst the skins, the wine will run out and the wineskins will be ruined. No, new wine has to be poured into new wineskins" [Matthew 9:17]. Jesus broke out of the religious mold to reach people that no one was touching — it was new wineskins.

Sometimes you have to replace an old idea with a new idea if you want God to do a new thing in your life. It's like those Revolutionary War soldiers. You know the Red Coats were rigid and they lost. The ones that were flexible won the battle. Maybe God is trying to do a new thing in your life. Could it be that you're unwilling to go with his flow? There are some things that never change and must never change — the product, the Gospel, the message, the doctrine of Jesus Christ — that never changes. The package constantly changes; the message never changes.

Believe it or not, we live in a "post-Christian" world — most of us are biblically illiterate. We wouldn't think to go to a religious meeting to hear a religious speaker talk on a religious subject. We need to try new things — both in our own life and in trying to reach out to others. For example, we've got to learn to express Christ without all of our religious language. Maybe we need to look at our music as more than a "nice tune", and get to the message of faith.

All missionaries know that you need to speak in the language of the person you're trying to reach. It may have to be with some new ideas. Maybe we need to learn to wrap this Gospel that's so unfamiliar to people in a familiar need. So we talk about marriage, or parenting, or handling stress, about sex and lifestyle, and then move from these into the story of Jesus and show the difference a Savior can make. In Jesus' day the religious people totally missed what God was doing because they couldn't accept the new approach. The British soldiers of Revolutionary times lost because they were rigid. Now, we're in a battle for our lives, and the lives of those in our world — the ever-living, never-dying souls of men and women. If God says: "I'm doing something new" [Revelation 21:5]. Let's lose the battle by insisting on the same old formations. —adapted from the writings of Ron Hutchcraft which appear on the internet.

A WAKE-UP CALL:

"Too many of us are hung up on what we don't have, can't have, or won't ever have. We spend too much energy being down, when we could use that same energy – if not less of it – doing, or at least trying to do, some of the things we really want to do." —Terry McMillan

THE FLIGHT OF THE BUTTERFLIES:

Considering how many people read these commentaries every week, I receive very little feedback. But a few years ago, one of my columns was an exception. It was the one in which I referred to the migration of Monarch butterflies as an example of faith. No doubt the recent release of the IMAX film — ***The Flight of the Butterflies*** — will again stir interest in that annual phenomenon, thus making the author of Wisdom very happy. He or she was convinced that we can discover a lot about God's behavior by studying patterns in nature.

The amazing part of the Monarch's yearly trek is that it takes four or five generations to complete a single migration. No one butterfly can pull off the entire trip by itself. Each generation is programmed to go to a place it's never been before. If it doesn't go, the migration can't be completed.

Though our Wisdom author doesn't refer to nature [Wisdom 17:1-18:9], the idea of someone doing something out of sheer faith — without seeing the end result — is certainly what he or she had in mind. Without knowing anything about a miraculous crossing of the sea and an eventual entry into the Promised Land, the Israelite slaves still performed the rituals that the Lord insisted they carry out. None who celebrated that first Passover ever got to Canaan — they, like generations of butterflies, died before the whole trip was complete.

But if we follow the Book of Exodus closely, we will also remember that many of those Hebrew captives constantly complained before and during their actual trek through the wilderness. If these malcontents had their druthers, they would never have left Egypt — and their descendants would have remained slaves instead of becoming free Israelites.

That's why the author of Hebrews stresses the aspect of faith in our faith-ancestors — "All these died in faith. They did not receive what had been promised but saw it and greeted it from afar" [Hebrews 11:1-19]. Each generation — from Abraham and Sarah on down — did what their faith in God moved them to do, without ever knowing exactly what the end result of their faith actions would be.

Of course, the authors of Wisdom and Hebrews held a huge advantage over the people about whom they wrote — they were looking backward, not forward. It's far easier to see God working in our lives after the work has been completed than it is to notice God's presence in things we're simply doing out of faith, long before the end is in sight.

The end certainty wasn't in sight for Luke's community. Among other things, they were still trying to figure out their unexpected switch from being a Jewish church to becoming a Gentile church. But even more important — now convinced that Jesus' second coming wasn't going to take place in their lifetime — they had to deal with an unknown future. Spending their entire natural lives as other Christs hadn't been part of their original commitment to the risen Jesus. Though they believed that the Father was "giving them the kingdom," a lot of the details had yet to be worked out. Yet they still did what the risen Jesus expected them to do — every day.

I once thought, during and immediately after Vatican II, that I knew what to expect from my church in the days to come — constant and meaningful reform. My ministry of helping in that reform was fairly clear. But more and more today I identify with those generations of butterflies who never know what to expect. I simply continue to do what I think God wants me to do, trusting that because of my actions, someday — in the distant future — my church might actually achieve that reform, and I'll somehow have played a part in it.

—taken from the writings of Father Roger Karban, which appear on the internet

moment. This is a direct charge to the listening-disciples. The disciples are the servants in whom Jesus has invested the treasures of his teachings. They are not to get distracted; they are to be faithful in tending the household. The emphasis is on the living the teachings of Jesus until his return.

You might make a financial investment in some company. They might think highly of their venture because of your confidence. The company might conduct themselves by good management and produce a profit for you. On the other hand, it is also possible that the company may see you just as a "number" — a person who has put forth some investment. But it is the funds that become the focus. Very often, they will conduct business in such a way that you do not receive any interest for your investment.

God, in Christ, has bought into the human family. He has invested totally in our human recovery. We believe in this, and we desire to live reverently and gratefully for this infinite affirmation of our life.

But we can also live unjustly, unsoberly, unaware of our dignity, and so deflate our value and the whole human operation. When we hear who we are through the stories, pictures and deeds of God for us, then we re-member ourselves to the "company" of Jesus. The real problem for us humans is having the faith that there is a kingdom to come in which we are to invest now and the payoff is in the "then" to come. There is the "here" and the "here-after" — where is our heart?

—taken from the writings of Father Larry Gillick, S.J., which appear on the internet

CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS AND SERVE OTHERS:

We are all beginning to look ahead to the start of another school year. It is another time to once again clean out the closets. Clothing that no longer fits, or which was replaced by new items, becomes great items for others. Always remember the words of Jesus: "The poor you shall always have with you" [Matthew 26:11]. Please continue to bring your ***gently used*** men's, women's and children's clothing to the Lennon Board Room, or place it in the cedar chest which is located in the chapel narthex of the Chapel [just press the key button to open the chest]. We partner with Fatima Center to help provide clothing for general use. Also, **business work clothing for this season is especially needed. The Fatima Center helps men and women prepare for job interviews.** If you have some of these items, this would be a good time to send them along. Clothing for all seasons is accepted, but please try to keep in mind that storage facilities are limited at Fatima — so it would help if you could focus on fall items at this time. You may pick up a tax form when you drop off the clothing here at Our Lady Chapel — there are forms in the cedar chest. Clothing may be brought on the weekend, or during the week. Thank you. **If you have any questions, please contact Patty in the chapel office [440-473-3560].**

LIVING IN GOD:

After an optimistic explosion that we call hope, and an ensuing sense of deep safety, comes an experience of deep rest. "Rest is the verb that is most used by the mystics of all religions — some kind of "resting in God." All of our striving and our need to perform, climb, and achieve becomes — on some very real level — unnecessary. The gift, the presence, the fullness is already here — now. We all need to stop this overproduction and over-proving of ourselves — that's Western and American culture. It's not the Gospel, and yet we have made the Gospel conform to the meritocracy of most cultures. Males are especially driven by the "performance principle". Most males just cannot believe that we could be respected, admired, received, or loved without some level of achievement. So many of us are performers and overachievers to some degree, and we think that only then will we be lovable or acceptable. Even when we "achieve" something with a good day of "performing," it is never enough because it is inherently self-advancing and therefore self-defeating. We might call it "spiritual capitalism."

—Father Richard Rohr, O.F.M.

THE BEST OF TIMES; THE WORST OF TIMES:

If we live in the past, we tarnish the present and forget the future. If you want to become depressed, reflect that people are constantly telling us that one out of two marriages in the United States end in divorce. And, if you want to reach for Prozac, listen to those who mournfully tell you how many couples are living together without benefit of marriage. Usually the doomsayers end with the line: "Give me the good old Church." One anonymous Christian calls this mentality a rearview mirror look at the Church. Was there any such phenomenon as the "good old days" of the Church? The answer is no.

To affirm this answer, all we need to do is look at the writings of St. Paul. In his letter to the Church at Corinth, Paul writes about sexual immorality: "I have been told as an undoubted fact that one of you is living with his father's wife" [1 Corinthians 5:1]. Paul calls the case "unparalleled even among pagans." In his letter to the Church at Galatia, Paul takes off after heresy: "I am astonished at the promptness with which you have decided to follow a different version of the good news, thus abandoning the message of Christ" [Galatians1:6-7].

St. Luke also discusses interesting "goings on". In his Book of Acts of the Apostles, Luke refers to the famous circumcision dispute that threatened to tear the young Church apart. Circumspectly he writes: "This led to disagreement" [Acts 15:1-2]. The bottom line is that these surely are not the best of times, but neither are they the worst — to borrow a line from Charles Dickens.

Dark pages are being written in the contemporary Church — but so, too, are splendid ones. And I am sure that you are able to come up with many more. No matter what you are told by your neighbor, or read in the press, the Church has not run out of heart — nor should you run out of hope.

The marriage took place in a school chapel in Baltimore. The handsome couple are Kate and Dave. Each is 23. Both are graduates of New York's Jesuit Fordham University. By choice, she is a teacher of inner city children. He works as a public defender for people without funds. His degree is from the prestigious Columbia University Law School. Kate's parents — Willa and Brendan — operate a Catholic Worker house of hospitality for the poor in a "bad" section of Baltimore. It is named Viva — translated as "Alive". They have run it for the past quarter of a century. Husband and wife serve 350 meals daily. Their mentor is the late Dorothy Day.

The rehearsal dinner was held not in a posh country club, but at the Catholic Worker house. The wedding couple and guests ate at the same tables where the poor had eaten earlier in the day. The fare was simple — and all home-made. Religious brothers in Vermont made the wine. Kate gave to her attendants as gifts articles that she herself had made.

On the wedding day, there was not a tuxedo to be seen. The male attendants wore their Sunday "going to Mass" suits. The maid of honor and bridesmaids wore any green dress that their closet might own. The bride wore her mother's wedding dress. Her father wore a suit and a blue work shirt. The bride's stretch limousine was the van usually used to bring food for the poor.

The couple publicly took a vow of voluntary poverty so that they might become spiritually rich. The bride cried when she received a surprise papal blessing. Eventually they plan to settle in the

certainly let him in." I assured her that, no doubt, God felt the same way — given that God's understanding and forgiveness infinitely surpasses our own.

What are the ten principles inviting us to live in less fear?

1. God's insight and understanding surpass our own.
2. God's compassion and forgiveness surpass our own.
3. God respects nature, our human make-up, and our innate propensities.
4. God is a blessing parent, not a threatened one.
5. God can handle our questions and doubts and angers.
6. God reads the heart, and can tell the difference between wound and malice.
7. God gives us more than one chance, opening another door every time we close one.
8. God desires our salvation and the salvation of our loved ones more that we do.
9. God is the author of all that is good.
10. God can, and does descend into hell to help us.

"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love" [1 John 4:18].

—taken from the writings of Father Ronald Rolheiser, O.M.I., which appear on the internet

READINGS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday:	Deuteronomy 10:12-22, Matthew 17:22-27
Tuesday:	Deuteronomy 31:1-8, Matthew 18:1-14
Wednesday:	Deuteronomy 34: 1-12, Matthew 18:15-20
Thursday:	Revelation 11:19-12:10, 1 Corinthians 15:20-27, Luke 1:39-56
Friday:	Joshua 24:1-3, Matthew 19:3-12
Saturday:	Joshua 24:14-29, Matthew 19:13-15
20th Week in Ordinary Time:	Jeremiah 38:4-10, Hebrews 12:1-4, Luke 12:49-53

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jesus calls us to pray for one another. Please keep all these people in your prayers

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For all students as they begin a new school year.
- For a young couple and their unborn child.
- For an end to violence in our society.
- For those who struggle with family relationships.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For a family going through a difficult time.
- For all caregivers.
- For a special intention.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

LIVING WITH LESS FEAR:

We live with too much fear of God. This has many faces — from the superstitious fear of the naïve, to the legalistic fear of the over-scrupulous, to the intellectual fear of the very sophisticated. In the end, we all struggle to believe that God is the last person of whom we need to be afraid. But in our own ways, we all struggle with fear of God.

There is, of course, a healthy fear — not just of God, but also of anyone whom we love. Scripture tells us that "fear of God is the beginning of wisdom" [Proverbs 9:10; Psalm 111:10], but fear, in this context, is not understood as fear of punishment or arbitrariness. Fear of God in its healthy sense is basically love's fear — fear of not living with the proper reverence and respect before the one we love — namely, fear of violating love's proper boundaries. But that is not fear of hell-fire, as we commonly understand this. Fear is the antithesis of faith, and a sign that something is wrong in our love. We aren't afraid of what we love, and of what truly loves us.

Everything inside of our Christian faith invites us to move towards God in intimacy rather than in fear. Indeed, in virtually every instance in scripture where God appears within ordinary life — either through an angel, a special phenomenon, or through an appearance of the resurrected Christ — the first words are invariably: "Do not be afraid!" The soothing of fear — not is intensification — is the normal criterion that the voice we are hearing is coming from love.

With that in mind, let's look at ten principles — all rooted in the person and revelation of Jesus, that, hopefully, can be of help in purifying our image of God, so that our faith might cast out fear rather than enkindle it. But first a story, that though true, can act as a parable to expose and highlight many of our unconscious fears of God — fear that God is not as understanding and compassionate as we are; fear of God is not a big-hearted as we are; fear that God does not read the heart and cannot tell the difference between wound and coldness, immaturity and sin; fear that God gives us only one chance and cannot bear any missteps and infidelities; fear that God doesn't respect our humanity, that God created us in one way but wants us to live in another way in order to be saved; fear that God is threatened by our achievements, like a petty tyrant; fear that God is threatened by our doubts and questions, like an insecure leader; fear that God cannot stand up to the intellectual and cultural scrutiny of our world, but somehow needs to be segregated and protected like an over-pious novice; fear that God is less interested in our lives than we are, and less solicitous for our salvation, and that of our loved ones, than we are; and, lastly, fear that God is as helpless before our moral helplessness as we are.

Here's the parable. A number of years ago, I was at the funeral of a young man who had died tragically in a car accident. At the time of his death, on the surface, his relationship to his church, and to some of its moral teachings, was far from ideal — he was not attending church regularly, was living with his girlfriend outside of marriage, was not much concerned about poor or the larger community, and was, in simple terms, partying pretty hard. But everyone who knew him also knew of his essential goodness, and his wonderful heart. There wasn't an ounce of malice in him, and heaven would be forever a less-colorful and more impoverished place if he weren't there. At the reception following the church service, one of his aunts said to me: "He was such a good person. If I were running the gates of heaven, I would

Baltimore area so that they might assist with the Catholic Worker house of hospitality. They may some day run it themselves. This will be their gift from the bride's parents.

The wedding reception was in the school cafeteria. The caterers were the guests themselves. Each brought food for the feast. As a wedding gift, money was unacceptable. The bride shared with her guests a poem that was written for her by a boy in the fourth grade. It was titled ***My Heart*** — "If it is far away, I'm lost. If it is split apart, I'm apart. If it is lost, I'm not to be found. If it is in me, I'm peaceful. So far it's where it's supposed to be."

A Church that can produce such young people has its heart where it's supposed to be. Like them, be full of hope.

—taken from the writings of Father James Gilhooley which appear on the internet

ATTENDANCE:

If you attend Mass regularly here at Our Lady Chapel, it would be helpful if you filled out a form [name, address, phone number, children, etc.] indicating this fact, if you have not already done so. Such information not only helps us to know who is attending Our Lady Chapel; it also is of great assistance to us in record keeping [for our friend, the IRS] of any contributions which you may make.

ENVELOPES:

- When you need a **new supply** of envelopes, please feel free to take a supply of them from the table in the vestibule, or call Father John at the Campus Ministry Office [473-3560].
- When you **use** your envelope, please make sure that **your number** is on it. If you need to know your number, please call the Campus Ministry Office. Thanks.

WEEKLY OFFERING:

Baskets will be passed during the "Preparation Rite" and will be brought to the altar as part of the Offerings to help offset chapel daily operating expenses. When you choose to use the envelopes, your donations to Our Lady Chapel will be acknowledged so that you have a record for the IRS.

Total Offerings: Saturday [8/3/13] ---------- $ 803.00
Total Offerings: Sunday [8/4/13] ---------- $ 603.00
Honduran collection ----------$ 2,123.00

WHAT'S YOUR CHOICE?

As the Israelites were journeying through the desert, Moses reminded them that they did not have to go looking for God. Rather God was within them — "This command I am giving you today is not too difficult for you to understand, and it is not beyond your reach. It is not kept in heaven, so distant that you must ask: 'Who will go up to heaven and bring it down so we can hear it and obey?' It is not kept beyond the sea, so far away that you must ask: 'Who will cross the sea to bring it to us so we can hear it and obey?' No, the message is very close at hand — it is on your lips and in your heart so that you can obey it" [Deuteronomy 30:11-14]. Have you ever said that you would obey God if you knew what he wanted? Have you ever complained that obedience is too difficult for a mere human? We so often know what God wants us to do — the most difficult part is simply deciding to start. Moses challenged Israel to choose life, to obey God, and therefore continue to experience his blessings. doesn't force his will on anyone. He lets us decide whether to follow him or reject him. This decision, however, is a life-or-death matter. God wants us to realize this — for God would like us all to choose life. Are your choices moving you toward God, or away from him? Choose life.

THERE'S ROOM FOR EVERYONE:

We are God's chosen people. We are not a race where our identity is determined by our heredity, nor are we members of a group of friends brought into the circle on the recommendation of others. We are God's people, and we have been chosen individually by him. Our identity comes from the fact that God has singled us out — just as God singled out Abraham in Old Testament times. It is important that we never lose sight of this. We are not Catholics because we were born into a Catholic family; we are Catholics because we deliberately chose to respond to the call of God.

Yes, many of us were brought up as Catholics by our parents, and are steeped in Catholic culture, but each of us has consciously chosen to respond to God's call within the Catholic Church. Our membership in the Church is a real calling, and we can certainly say it is our true vocation in life.

Naturally, all right thinking Catholic parents want their children to continue with the practice of the faith. They go to great lengths to hand on the faith to their children — insisting on them coming to Mass, enrolling them in a Catholic school, bringing them to Faith Education classes, praying together, and trying to share their own faith with them. And these are certainly all the right things to do.

But, ultimately, each individual person must make the decision of faith for themselves. It is not enough to merely consent to the religious practices of one's parents. Each person must respond to the call of God on their own account.

This is what the Sacrament of Confirmation is all about. In the preparation for this sacrament, the emphasis is not on a complicated set of doctrines — although one has to "know" their faith. But the focus is on trying to draw out for our young people the faith that is within them. The whole purpose of Confirmation is to help them to respond to the call of God. We try to help them find a faith relevant for themselves as they grow into adulthood in the modern world. Doctrines are absolutely essential to the faith — our Catholic doctrine is a logical working out of the faith of the first apostles, and it is important that we know what it consists in. But before anyone can do that, we must first hear and recognize the call of Christ.

By hearing God's call and responding to it — even by wrestling with it — we enter into a relationship with our creator. We begin a dialogue with God that lasts our whole life long. This is not some airy-fairy intellectual discussion with our maker, but a deep relationship in which we respond to God's love and try to show our love for him.

As an integral part of this dialogue, each of us must be able to discuss our problems with God. We must try to see them as he sees them. In and through this dialogue with God — which we call prayer — we grow and deepen our faith and trust in Him. St. Paul reminds us of the importance of this — "it was by faith that Abraham set out on a journey for a country that was his inheritance, and he set out without knowing where he was going" [Hebrews 11:1-19]. The Lord calls us on a journey through life. We choose to follow him "by faith" even though — like Abraham — we don't know where we are going. However, for us the Promised Land is no earthly kingdom; rather it is heaven itself. We don't know what this will be like and we don't know the way, but "by faith" we trust that God will lead us there.

from the New Testament and talk to God about it. Many families say Grace before dinner and help the little children with their bedtime prayers. There is nothing in the world that you will do that is greater than opening your children to their spiritual potential. But, as you know, that takes continual hard work. That keeps you busy.

Standing up for the Lord keeps us busy. Those of you who are not married know how difficult it is to live as a decent Christian single. It is sad that for many Americans unwed implies immoral. There are some who feel that if a guy or a girl is a bachelor, then somehow he or she has the right to be, to put it bluntly, a lecherous drunk. This is not the way of the Catholic who treasures the Divine Presence within him or her. But the single person has to make an effort to fill his or her life with actions that reflect Christianity — he or she has to be busy, filling life with meaningful, Christian experiences. The Church depends on our committed singles to be generous with their time.

Those of you who are married will often say that it takes work for a marriage to be successful. This work is the work of the Lord when it involves His Love — sacrificial Love. It is not easy to express love as the Lord created Love — an act of giving — when you live in a culture that says love is a way of taking satisfaction from someone else. The sex culture has degraded marriage to measuring its success in proportion to the satisfaction generated by a blue pill. Married Christians can withstand this exploitation of their sacrament by seeking ever new ways to give themselves to their spouses in loving, selfless care and concern. It takes work — you have to be busy — to make a marriage a Christian marriage.

Many of you are married, but your children have left the nest. They never really leave, you know. They still look to Mom and Dad for their stability before the Lord. Along with your children — and, perhaps, their children — you are obligated to make the love of Christ real in other people. You have to reach out to those in your office, your neighborhood, your family, and let them realize that they are lovable not just to you, but to the Lord.

No matter what your vocation, or where you are in life, "Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. For, I say to you, he will gird himself, have the servants recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants".

The Lord is here. It is not enough for us to just look busy — we have to be busy. And we have to trust in Him. He will respond to our determination to live our faith by caring for us.

taken from the writings for Father Joseph Pellegrino, which appear on the internet.

REACHING OUT:

Ed Boulware continues his project to help collect **USO Care Packages** for our troops across the world and their families. **One of the greatest needs** that the troops have during this time is their families — many of the families of our troops suffer greatly because of the lack of income when the "breadwinner" is overseas. **Thus, the USO has begun collecting packages for the families of the troops.** The items needed are common household non-perishables and paper products. **Letters, cards of encouragement, and children's drawings for our troops will continue to be sent to them. Food supplies will be distributed to their families.** Ed and his wife, Marie, continue to take all donations to the "drop off area in Chagrin Falls. **Drop off donations in the office at Our Lady Chapel.** If you have any questions, please call **Ed Boulware** at **440-564-9345.**

HUMILITY:

Humility is the key which opens all the treasures of God. —St. Mary Euphrasia Pelletier

DON'T JUST LOOK BUSY — BE BUSY:

Luke's Gospel [12:32-48] reminds me of the old story of the apparition on the corner of Main and Market in a busy city. It was Saturday morning when Father Pascucci heard a knock on the rectory door, and an extremely excited lady said: "The Lord has appeared on the corner of Main and Market." Father was in the process of trying to decide if she was suffering from stress or whatever, when a second person came running: "Father, Father, the Lord has appeared on the corner of Main and Market."

"When?" Father Pascucci asked.

"He's there right now," they both answered.

So Father Pascucci went down the block where a large crowed had formed, and sure enough, he saw Jesus. After a while the Lord left. Father Pascucci didn't know what to do, so he called a monsignor friend of his. His friend told him to call the bishop. So Father Pascucci called the bishop and told him the news: "The Lord has appeared on the corner of Main and Market. What should I do if he comes back?"

The bishop thought for a while, and then told Father Pascucci he'd get back to him.

The bishop then called Rome, and, being an important bishop, he got the pope. "Holy Father", he said, "one of my priests, Father Pascucci, reports that the Lord has appeared on the corner of Main and Market in his parish. He wants to know what he should do in case the Lord comes back."

After a few moments the pope replied: "Tell Father Pascucci to look busy."

Good advice for us all. The Lord is coming back. How should we prepare? Not just by looking busy, but by being busy.

There is a lot to keep us busy. People are seeking meaning in life. We Catholics have been given the gift of recognizing the reason for existence. The answer to all questions is simple — Jesus. We can provide the answer by our attitude in life. We have to be devoted to the Lord — out there — here among us, here within each of us. This complicated world of ours becomes very simple when we make it clear to ourselves that we are enriched by the presence of the Lord. As I come to a deeper understanding of Jesus' presence in my life — as you come to a deeper understanding of his presence in your lives — then Jesus becomes the pearl of great value that the merchant in the Gospel parable sacrifices all he has to obtain [see Matthew 13:46]. When every aspect of our lives revolves around Jesus, we just don't want anything in our lives that distracts us from the His Divine Presence. We don't avoid immorality just because the Church says that this or that are bad — we avoid immorality because we refuse to allow immorality to cloud the presence of the Lord within us — to steal Jesus from us.

Holding on to Jesus keeps us busy. We are always fighting against our imperfections. We are always fighting against temptations. We are continually fighting against those who mock us for our dedication to Catholicism. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed by the negativity around us. That is particularly when we have to put up a fight for the Lord. That is particularly when we have to be busy.

Those of you who are blessed with children know that you cannot allow your children to flounder. Children take a tremendous amount of work to grow into decent Christian men and women. Children need a tremendous amount of love to help them manifest their Christian identity. When you do this work — when you provide this love — children experience Jesus in their homes. Be busy doing the important things in your home. Pray together as a family. Pray the rosary together every evening, read a chapter

In Luke's Gospel [12:32-48], Jesus addresses his followers as a "little flock". He then gives a set of instructions — the main thrust of which is a call not live for self but to live for others — be generous and do not amass material wealth, but instead to build up treasure in heaven. What Jesus is taking about here is not so much the specifics of discipleship, but the attitude of a disciple. Jesus could have chosen to give a long list of do's and don'ts, but instead he emphasizes attitudes. If he had given us such a long list of precise requirements they would soon become out of date — what applied to a rural situation in the Middle East two thousand years ago would hardly be relevant to life in the West today.

But by giving us a set of attitudes and by speaking to us in parables, Christ uses a language that is timeless. He speaks not to our intellects, but to our hearts. He speaks about readiness, about generosity, about care for the poor, about trust and fidelity; he speaks about duty and responsibility. These things are timeless, and these are the attitudes to be found in the Kingdom.

Even though there might be over two billion Christians in the world, we are still a "little flock". That word "little" should not be thought of in terms of numbers, but in terms of attitude. We are a "little flock" because we realize the greatness of God and see his hand at work all around us. We are a "little flock" because we are not aligned with the forces and powers of this world. We are a "little flock" because we seek the way of holiness — and, in a real sense, are therefore innocent in the ways of the world.

The way of Christ is open to all. There are no barriers to his love or inclusiveness. The poorest, most despised or weakest individual, is welcome into his Kingdom. But so also is the greatest of sinners — should they seek admittance.

The point is whether we desire to be part of his Kingdom. When the sinner wants to be part of the Kingdom he is already repenting of his sins. His attitude has already changed. He is seeking the way of truth and goodness and justice. He is changing from becoming a big sinner to becoming a little disciple.

Abraham and Sarah were a feeble old couple, simple farmers who heard the call of God and responded to it. They were led on a long journey.

This was, in fact, a journey on foot but in a real and deeper sense it was more of a journey of faith. They began that journey very late in life but it took them a long way and they saw many miracles as they went to where God led them.

We too are on this journey of faith. It is also something of an epic journey with many by-ways and resting places but we always move on, growing ever stronger in faith and love. Little disciples on a big journey.

—taken from the writings of Father Alex McAllister, S.D.S., which appear on the internet.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We are beginning to discern a new group of Eucharistic Ministers who would undergo training soon. If you feel that the Lord is calling you to this ministry, we would be delighted to include you in that ministry here at Our Lady Chapel. Both adults and teens [must be going into Senior year of High School] are welcome to participate in this very special ministry. We are need of ministers for both our Saturday evening and Sunday morning Masses. **Contact Father John or the chapel office [440-473-3560] if you feel called to this ministry.**

DID YOU KNOW?

Apologizing does not always mean that you are wrong and the other person is right. It just means that you value your relationship more than your ego.

SHARK WEEK IS HERE:

Throughout this past week, the ***Discovery Channel*** has given us marathon programming meant to help us better understand — or fear — sharks. In fact, as I write this, a great white shark the size of a Winnebago is chomping a seal in half while guys in windbreakers film on a rocking boat. My favorite part of shark week is people with PhD's in marine biology making questionable decisions involving boats, sharks, and cameras. Every time a diver dons a seal costume to swim in shark-infested waters for a close-up, I shake my head, yell at the television, and wonder why some people thrive on living so close to the edge?

Marine life is not the only danger that humanity seems to relish getting close to. When I watch photographers and biologists diving into the ocean to give sharks an awkward-side-hug in the name of science, it reminds me of the "close calls" that I have had with sin because I have ignored the warnings and tell-tale signs that I was getting close to trouble. What do I mean by this? I'm talking about the "occasion of sin".

An "occasion of sin" is any person or situation that we know could lead us into sin. It is not sin in itself — it's a set of conditions when we know that we will be especially vulnerable. For example, if we know we are prone to gossip, we should avoid the people that are always ready to dish the latest in the lunch line. If we struggle with drinking, we should stick to parties where we know there will be soft drinks — not spiked solo cups.

If we are serious about not sinning, avoiding the occasion of sin is a critical first step.

This is easier said than done. Avoiding the occasion of sin means discerning what our biggest struggles are, and actively avoiding them through changing our actions and habits. The author of the Book of Hebrews challenges us to "rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us, and persevere in running the race before us, while we keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of our faith" [Hebrews 12:1-2].

This week, the ***Discovery Channel*** has shown us hours of people diving into shark-infested waters to get as close as they can to big jaws and sharp teeth. And, of course, I will watch — amazed that anyone things swimming with sharks is a good idea, no matter how misunderstood the marine biologists try to tell us they are.

When it comes to the people, places, and situations that place us in the occasion of sin, don't live every week like it is "Shark Week". Be aware of the safety of your soul, and your relationship with God — don't test how close you can get to sin.

Live every day with heaven in mind. After all, you never know which Shark Week is going to be your last Shark Week. —taken from the writings of Alison Griswold, an associate of the Bible Geek

GIVING THANKS:

However the day went — whether it was easy or difficult, barren or fruitful — let us give thanks to God. The great Christian Hymn ***Te Deum*** ["To you, O God"] contains deep wisdom. It is a wisdom which makes us say that in spite of everything, good exists in the world, and that this good is bound to win thanks to God, the God of Jesus Christ, who was born, died and rose again. It's a great way to keep our eyes focused where they need to be. —Pope Benedict XVI

LIFE TEEN:

LifeTeen Youth Group meets **EVERY SUNDAY at 11:30 AM. All who are in grades 9--12 are invited to join us and get to know what the Life Teen is all about.** The meetings will take place in the **Lennon Board Room** following **the 10:00 AM Mass.** [Of course, we stop to get our donuts first]. Life Teen is open to **all high school aged young people**. Come and try us out. We have a great deal of fun together and we grow in our faith at the same time. **Come even if you are unable to make the Mass**. Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in your prayers. **Our next few meetings of our Life Teen Group will be meet Sunday August 11th, 18th, and 25th.**

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — THE EDGE:

Our Middle School Youth Group — THE EDGE — meets next on Sunday, September 8th from 11:30 AM — 1:00 PM. All who are entering 6th grade next fall — as well as all 7th and 8th graders —are invited to join us. Come and find out what **the EDGE** is all about**.** If you have not joined us before, that's OK. **Just call the office and let us know that you are going to be coming.** We ask you to do this because there will be food involved. Our EDGE Youth Group has a Faith-Service-Social component, and we need your help. Join in on an exciting happening. **Call the Chapel Office at 440-473-3560.** Come to learn what the EDGE is all about. Join us for a fun filled faith experience. All are welcome.

SUPPORT OUR LIFETEEN PROJECT — AUGUST 17-18:

Our Teens have undertaken a project to keep the pantry filled with wholesome foods at the Ronald McDonald House. As you know, the Ronald McDonald House is the residential facility in University Circle for families with children in the hospital, or who reside at Ronald McDonald House while their child is receiving outpatient treatment. Very often, a family can miss meals because of the hospital schedule. We will keep the pantry filled with foods that will enable them to "have a meal on the run" when they return. **Every 3rd Weekend of the month, we will collect food items for the pantry, which our teens will then take down to Ronald McDonald House and place in their pantry.** Here is what we need: **Cereal, Jelly, Peanut Butter, Spaghetti Sauce, Mayonnaise, Canned tuna and chicken, Paper Plates** [no Styrofoam, please]**, and Paper Bowls. We do not need commercial size products — just the regular sizes that you buy for your family.** Just place the items in the narthex of the chapel — right by the "registration table", and we will take them from there. We hope you will join us in this wonderful outreach to families who are going through tough times.

ALTAR SERVERS and LECTORS:

We continue to be in need of servers and lectors. **Any student who is in the 3rd [and up] grade is invited to become an altar server; any student who is in the 5th [and up] grade is invited to become a lector**. These are both wonderful ministries — a great way to serve God and the faith community. If you would like to take advantage of these opportunities, **please give your name to Father John**. You do not have to attend Gilmour to be an altar server, lector, or to be involved in any other ministry at Our Lady Chapel. **Please call the chapel office [440-473-3560].**