

CLOSING PRAYER:

~ A Prayer for strength ~

**Give me courage, O Lord,
to stand up and be counted,
to stand up for others
who cannot stand up for themselves.
to stand up for myself,
when it is needful to do so.**

**Let me fear nothing more
than the thought of losing you.
Let me love nothing more
than I love you,
for then I shall fear nothing.**

**Let me have no other God than you.
Let me seek no other peace,
but the peace which is you.
And make me its instrument,
opening my eyes
and my ears
and my heart,
so that I can know always
what work of peace
I should do For you.
Amen.**

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

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 — AUGUST 6-7:

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 at our Masses this weekend. As a faith community, we want your school year to be filled with the joy and excitement of life, as well as the presence of God. Join us for this special blessing.

**COME TO THE FEST — THIS SUNDAY:**

The **FEST 2016** is here! Join us for our 15th Annual Catholic Family FESTival on **Sunday, August 7th from noon until 10:00 PM** as we bring together 39,000+ from across our region for a day of faith, family, and fun – and it's FREE. Come and hear the best of the best of the national Christian artists: *Newsboys, Michael W. Smith, Matthew West* and *Lauren Daigle*. The day also includes dynamic activities for all ages, opportunities for prayer and reflection, a large outdoor Mass followed by fireworks and more. **TOGETHER we can make this a great day for thousands from across our region!**

**PLANTING SEEDS OF HOPE AND GOODNESS CONTINUES:**

Once again this year, we are going to undertake our **Planting Seeds of Hope and Goodness school supply program**. Our Lady Chapel is working to assist the needy children of **St. Adalbert's Parish**. Come join us as we work together to help these children get the next school year off to a good start come this Fall. The Fall term of the school year is quickly approaching. The following is a list of school supplies that need adopting to help with this effort — **Facial tissue boxes; hand sanitizer; hand soap; pocket plastic folders; Clorox wipes; white chalk; No.2-pencils; paper towels; large pink pencil erasers; black ink pens; notebook paper; crayons-jumbo 8 pack; pencil pouches; single subject notebooks** [any and all quantities of these supplies are welcome!].



Here is how you can be a part of this outreach. Simply shop for items on the list. Kindly **return the items between now and August 7th** to Our Lady Chapel. **If you do not have time to shop, simply place an envelope in the collection basket and mark it “St. Adalbert’s” or drop it off in the chapel office.** “Come Grow with us” — as together, we work and plant our seeds of hope and goodness to this community. Thank you in advance for your generosity and helping the children of St. Adalberts! Contact Patty in the Chapel Office [440-473-3560] if you have any questions.

PAUL TODD in CONCERT:

Renowned entertainer, composer, arranger and singer Paul Todd and his son, Paul Todd Jr. will be performing two concerts at Our Lady Chapel on Saturday, August 20th at 3 PM and 7 PM. Paul has performed in theaters and concert halls around the world and is currently the music director at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Naples, Fla. The performances will benefit the ministry of Fr. Pedro Opeka and the life-changing work he has done for the poor in Madagascar for more than 25 years. Tickets for the concerts can be purchased through “iTICKETS” at their website: <https://www.itickets.com/events/364896>. If you have any questions, please call Patty or Father John at the chapel office [440-473-3560].

**LOVE and COMPASSION:**

Love and compassion lead to the ability to engage in honest intimacy with ourselves, other people, the world and God. They are central to most sacred traditions. The opening of the heart, the birth of compassion and love from within, is often the beginning of the true spiritual life. From that initial awakening, it becomes essential to further develop these qualities throughout our lives.

—Christina Grof

PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Cheryl Kazel, sister of Daniel [‘86] and Gilmour counselor, Jamie, who is undergoing treatment for cancer..
- For Romano Bruno, great uncle of Richard Jones [‘20] who is critically ill.
- For Nathan Breitsch, grand-nephew of Brother Ken Kane, C.S.C., who injured his back in a fall.
- For Justin Tarr who is critically ill with brain cancer.
- For Bill Slattery [‘77] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For John Burkey, uncle of religion instructor, Rachel Burkey, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Annie Trivassos who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Nicholas Zanella, who is undergoing medical treatment
- For Jan Botek, wife of Fred, mother of Fred [‘85], grandmother of Matthew [‘14], Jonathan [‘17] and Daniel [‘21] Botek, who is undergoing treatment for dementia.
- For Teddy Prusock, nephew of Lower School associate, Nina Prusock, who is undergoing neurological testing.
- For Jay Cusick who is undergoing treatment for cancer.

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 [7/30/16] ----- \$ 588.00
Total Offerings: Sunday [7/31/16] ----- \$ 573.00

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

**IMAGINATION:**

Imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited, whereas imagination embraces the entire world, stimulating progress, giving birth to evolution.

—Albert Einstein

PRAYER REQUESTS:

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

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:

- For Connie Allerton, wife of former Holy Cross Brother, Norbert Allerton, who is recovering from a stroke.
- For Mary Shea, mother of Theresa Stark who is recovering from a mild stroke.
- For Stan Cox who is undergoing medical testing
- For Carol Carr, Gilmour Trustee, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- For Kay Passalacqua, who is undergoing medical treatment.
- For Tom Slater, who is undergoing treatment for lymphoma
- For Halle Markel ['14], sister of Hannah ['16] who is recovering from surgery.
- For Father Dan Begin, pastor of St. Mary [Bedford] who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Janice Treer who is undergoing treatment for a heart condition and kidney failure
- For Brother Robert Brown, C.S.C., who is undergoing treatment for dementia.
- For Beth Call, cousin of Sylvia ['18] and Stephanie ['20] Leonor, who has been diagnosed with Lymphoma.
- For Kaitlyn Wene, teen-age daughter of former Kitchen Associate, Stephanie Toma, who is undergoing treatment for meningitis.
- For Robert Vandall who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Brother Romard Barthel, C.S.C., who is on hospice care.
- For Joseph Morek ['14] who is recovering from surgery resulting from a military accident.
- For Elaine Willey, sister of Father John, who is under the care of hospice.
- For Todd King ['87], brother of Christie ['91] King, who is undergoing treatment for microconda
- For John DiCillo, husband of long-time Gilmour teacher, Bonnie, father of John ['83], David ['84], Dawn ['86] and Daniel ['88] DiCillo, who is seriously ill with lymphoma.
- For Jenny Blender, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Dorothy Kazel, mother of Daniel ['86] and Gilmour counselor, Jamie, who is undergoing treatment for cancer..
- For Mark LaCasse, brother of Upper School Associate, Linda Wheeler, uncle of Molly ['06] Wheeler, who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Drew Franco, son of Brian ['90], nephew of Jeff ['88] and Kristin ['94] Kirkpatrick, who is struggling with a seizure disorder.
- For Michael Palumbo, father of Michael ['14], Marisa ['15], and former Gilmour student, Christian, who is undergoing treatment for cancer
- For Dennis Kavran, father of Dennis ['86] and Jennifer ['95], grandfather of Adam ['14] and Madeleine ['16] Miller, who is undergoing further treatment for cancer.
- For Donna Farkas who is undergoing treatment for cancer.
- For Lexi Pappadakes, who is undergoing treatment for complications from surgery..
- For Rosemarie Lemieux who is ill.
- For Matt Barry ['13], brother of Tim ['12], who continues treatment for cancer.
- For Maria Ricci, friend of Linda McGraw, who is ill.
- For Jeff Warner, brother of Denise Calabrese, who is undergoing treatment resulting from a stroke and seizure.
- For Karen Wanders, mother of upper school Head of School, Jonathan Wanders, who is seriously ill.
- For Betty Herten, aunt of Hope ['13] and James ['15] Herten, who is undergoing treatment for leukemia.



FAITH EDUCATION — FALL OF 2016:

It's not too early to begin thinking of enrolling for Faith Education for this coming fall. **Faith Education will begin on Sunday, September 11th.** Our Sessions go from **8:45—9:45 AM**, with the hope that our children would then **participate in our 10:00 AM Family Mass. Register your family for classes by contacting Patty in the Chapel Office [[440-473-3560].** If you have any questions, please call Patty in the chapel office. Thank you for taking care of this important responsibility.



SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK:

Sunday, August 7: 19 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM
Monday, August 8: St. Dominic	NO MASS
Tuesday, August 9:	NO MASS
Wednesday, August 10: St. Lawrence	NO MASS
Thursday, August 11: St. Clare	NO MASS
Friday, August 12:	NO MASS
Saturday, August 13: 20 th Week in Ordinary Time	5:00 PM
Sunday, August 14: 20 th Week in Ordinary Time	10:00 AM

UPCOMING CHAPEL ACTIVITIES:

August 6 -----	Blessing of College Students	5:00 PM
August 7 -----	Blessing of College Students The FEST [Pastoral Life Center]	10:00 AM Noon—10 PM
August 15 -----	Mass for the Feast of the Assumption	5:30 PM
August 16 -----	Faculty Retreat Day OLC Council Meeting	8:30 AM 6:15 PM—8:00 PM
August 18 -----	New Student Orientation Freshman Class Mass	2:00 PM 9:00 PM
August 19 -----	Freshman Morning Prayer Service	7:00 AM
August 22 -----	Opening of School Convocation Class Meetings	9:30 AM Throughout the day

REFLECTION ON THE THEME FOR THE WEEK:

One of the wonderful ways of continuing family identity is to tell stories, show pictures, and relate how things were in the “good” or “bad” old days. Even if these stories have been told and shown many times before, there is a comfort of re-remembering with the characters and events of our formation. With each telling of a story, a little varnish and garnish is added, and the great events are even more so, and the lesser times and relatives tend to be shined up. The Book of Wisdom has many aspects of a family album. The Book of Wisdom has many differing sections all centered around God’s creation and love for the people of Israel. For the author 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.

It is within this backdrop that we recall just how faithful the people of Israel’s history had been [Wisdom 17:1, 18:5-9]. They were in slavery in Egypt, but they kept faith in the Covenant of their faithful God. They kept faithful to their religious traditions and so found courage to persevere during the many years of slavery. God eventually punished the Egyptians — there is no greater God than our God.

This is a great praise-poem, based in history; it is 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. Israel is no exception. God was very good and so were we. It is meant to be a history and a reminder of just who Israel was and desires to continue to be.

In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus has just finished reminding the people that they are more important than the lilies of the field and birds of the air who are beautiful and known by God [see Luke 12:27-28]. Now Jesus wants to focus on the implications of that thought upon each of us — we are 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.

But there are implications to belonging to this kingdom [Luke 12:32-48]. 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. For what do we wait and with what degree of patience and watchfulness? 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 a parable makes the tension quite clear. We have some choices to make.

There is a master who 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 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. Unlike the Pharisees they are to be faithful in tending the household and the men and maidservants of the household. The emphasis is on the living the teachings of Jesus until his return.

You might make a financial investment in some company — and they might in turn think quite 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 might think you have lost interest, or conduct business in such a way that you do not receive any interest for your investment. God — in Christ — has bought into the human company. God invested totally in our human recovery. We believe in this and desire to live reverently and gratefully for this infinite affirmation of our company. We can also live unjustly, unsobberly, unaware of our dignity, and so deflate our value and the whole human operation.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

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

FOR THE DECEASED:

- For James Sickora.
- For Norma Leahey
- For Lindsay Giannobile.
- For Brother John Platte, C.S.C.
- For Kathy Muniak
- For Patricia Brooks, mother of Carl [;89] and Frank [‘91]
- For Sister Mary Francis Dunham, S.N.D.
- For Christopher Feighan, cousin of Kathleen Berry
- For Carl Plumlee
- For Margaret Lane, grandmother of Jack [‘17] and Grace [‘19] Bujoll.
- For Carmella DeJohn, wife of Deacon Ross DeJohn
- For Father Ed Lajack.
- For Samuel Fosu, father of Peter Ofosuhene, Holy Cross Candidate
- For James Cermack, brother-in-law of former teacher, Flo Bonacci
- For Sister Mary Jane Rohr, S.N.D.

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS:

- For the safety and well being of all who are involved in and attending the Olympic Games..
- For all those on vacation.
- For a person who lost their job
- For an end to violence in our society.
- For the families who are grieving the loss of loved ones.
- For an end to human trafficking..
- For those who struggle with family relationships.
- For a greater respect for human life, from the moment of conception until natural death.
- For all caregivers.
- For a special intention.
- For all service men and women serving our country, and for their families.

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 March of 2016. There is a **basket in the narthex of the Chapel** to collect any donations you may have. Thank you for your help!



THE INVISIBLE GORILLA:

Practically nothing in Scripture was written by eyewitness — not even our gospels. Only after years, or even centuries of reflecting on God’s actions in their lives did our sacred authors eventually compose the writings that make up our Sacred Scriptures. Though many of the people involved in their narratives seemed to understand the implications of those divine actions as they were actually taking place, scholars constantly remind us that such insights most probably didn’t become part of their faith lives until far down the road. Even today we often catch ourselves saying: “I didn’t notice it at the time, but . . .”

One need only Google Christopher Chabris and Daniel Simons’ famous “Invisible Gorilla” experiment to see how easy it is to miss things that happen right before our eyes. The two professors demonstrated that our eyes normally see only what our minds program them to see. If we’re not expecting it, we usually don’t see it. On a practical level, experts tell us that’s why motorcycles are so frequently involved in highway accidents — drivers of cars are geared to see other cars, not motorcycles. Based on that insight, highway signs have recently appeared encouraging us to “Watch Out For Motorcycles!”

On a Scriptural level, that also seems why we have these three liturgical readings for our 19th Week in Ordinary Time. Our sacred authors are concerned that we not only discover what happened to them, but that we also be prepared to discover those same things and events happening in our own lives. If we’re not prepared to have them take place, we’ll rarely notice them taking place.

Our Wisdom author [17:1, 18:5-8] is convinced that only those enslaved Israelites who were anticipating God to destroy their foes actually interpreted the Exodus correctly. Historically, according to the Exodus author, the majority of Jews in Egypt argued against Moses. What turned out to be the greatest saving event in Jewish history started as a huge aggravation. Especially the Torah’s “Yahwistic author” reminds us of the people’s constant “griping.” They were more content eating watermelon as slaves along the Nile than crossing the Reed Sea as free people. What a chosen few saw, most ignored.

The author of Hebrews [11:1-2, 8-19] wants to make certain such blindness never happens to Jesus’ followers. So he constantly hammers away at Abraham and Sarah’s faith. Presuming they’re the first Jews, they don’t have God’s track record to fall back on. Only their faith helps them see God’s hand in the daily events of their life. They didn’t emigrate from Ur to Canaan, for instance, simply to acquire more food in a foreign land, but because God had a unique plan for them and their descendants. Likewise they didn’t engage in intimate relations because of any physical attraction but because that was an essential part of God providing them with an heir. Our sacred authors are convinced that faith enables us to notice what others ignore.

That seems to be why Luke’s Jesus wants us to be certain about where our “treasure” is located [Luke 12:32-48]. Those who consistently “sell their belongings and give alms” will also be the ones who are consistently prepared to notice the risen Jesus present in their lives. Those who focus on caring for the needs of others will also be focusing on experiencing God’s kingdom in their midst. The historical Jesus presumed his followers would see what he chose to see during his earthly ministry. That was the only way they would be his faithful and prudent stewards.

Perhaps it would be more faith effective to replace some of our elaborate church decorations with simple yard signs reading: “Watch For God Working In Your Lives!”

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

**WISE WORDS:**

16 Don’t follow fickle feelings; follow God

Jesus calls us his flock and possessors of the whole investment portfolio. 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

PREPARATION IS A “NOW EVENT”:

In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples to prepare for the coming of the Son of Man, who may arrive at an unexpected hour. They are to be like servants who await their master’s return from a wedding feast, well prepared to open the door for him whenever he arrives — even late into the night. Appreciative of their vigilance, the master will tuck in his robe, have them recline at table and will serve them a lavish banquet [Luke 12:32-48].

However, it is important that we not only see Jesus’ teaching as a call to be prepared for the coming of Christ not only at the end of time, but even more importantly as a call to be prepared in our daily lives. We are to be vigilant, on alert, for any word from the Lord that comes to us in and through special moments of grace as well as our everyday experiences. Prepared by prayer and reflection, our task is to discern the authentic voice of Christ and to respond to his personal call.

Here is an example: A young couple deeply in love took very seriously their responsibility to prepare for a happy, challenging Christian marriage. They participated wholeheartedly in the parish marriage preparation program — meeting three times with their pastor; filling out a Focus questionnaire which prompted serious discussion on their quite different attitudes toward spending money; participating in a whole day of guided discussion led by married couples on various aspects of marriage such as communications, sexuality and spirituality. They made a mutual decision to exercise restraint in their sexual relationship, saving intercourse for marriage. This led them to search for other ways to enjoy one another’s company. Although their interests were different — sports for him and music for her — they found a mutual love for nature — walking in the metro park, gardening, spending time by the water. They wanted their marriage ceremony to be a spiritual event and not a show. With this in mind, they spent a good deal of prayerful time choosing the scripture readings and writing a commentary on them which the priest used in preparing his homily. Before the wedding, they experimented with various ways of praying together, finding that it worked best if they actually set aside time to read a passage from the Gospel and discuss something that struck them.

Reflecting on their first ten years of marriage, they can see that their preparation has attuned them to the presence of Christ in their shared life together. At times, their love making feels graced, bringing them closer to each other and to the Lord. Their regular prayer together has gotten them through difficult times. Their shared enjoyment of nature helps renew their spirits. They are grateful that their spiritual approach to marriage has enriched them individually and as a couple. They prepared well and have been blessed with Christ’s presence in their marriage.

How can you better prepare for encountering Christ in your life?

THE TRUTH:

Love has nothing to do with what you are expecting to get — only what you are expecting to give — which is everything. What you will receive in return varies, but really has no connection with what you give. You give because you love and cannot help giving. If you are very lucky, you may get loved back. That is delicious, but it does not necessarily happen.

—Katherine Hepburn



FAITH IN THE DESERT:

The situation seemed impossible! It had started out as a morning excursion to a nearby site — The Springs, in the Judean Desert. Since we had an average temperature of over 100 degrees for the last two months, The Springs drew us with visions of “cool, clear, water.” Little did we realize that the road — then the trail, then the rocky inclines and declines — would leave us sitting in a dried up wadi under a thorny skeleton of an acacia tree. Ahead of us was an incline. Behind us lay an even steeper decline. The one ahead had a forty-five degree curve about one third of the way up. Jim tried it. The engine roared. He tried it again, and again, and again, and spun out every time. I prayed to El Shaddai — the Hebrew God of mountains and wind. I stretched out my arms as Moses did for victory in the time of battle. I sang aloud so El Shaddai would hear me. I pleaded with Abraham who had walked in this Israeli desert. Nothing. Nothing, but the wind. My mind reminded me of the gentle breeze that spoke to Elijah in one of the caves surrounding this same desert. Nothing. I asked God to send at least two angels to help us. Nothing. We started walking. It was 1:30 PM — the hottest part of the day. Avoiding the road that had not a single tree offering shade, we trekked down the wadi conserving our water and resting often in the scattered shade of dried out trees.

Somehow, my heart never faltered — God would not have brought me to Israel to die in the desert. I thought of Abraham who went forth as God called. He has been my guide for the three summers I’ve volunteered in Israel. He “went out, not knowing where he was to go” [see Genesis 12]. This experience in the same location helped me realize the strength of Abraham’s faith. Did he have enough water? Did he have enough food? He was not only responsible for himself, but for the entourage of people and animals traveling with him. Over and over, the Scripture passage says, “by faith”! What is faith? [Hebrews 11:1-19] — “Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen.” Abraham — the great father of multiple religions — was the man of faith.



Faith and hope are brother and sister. In the desert, we “walked by faith and not by sight” as our water dwindled [see 2 Corinthians 5:7]. The hope that an angel would rescue us also dwindled as the sun moved westward casting shadows — delicious shadows. The inner core of my strength weakened, and I began to be afraid that we would be trapped by the night. Yes, the wadi was full of animal tracks — signs both consoling and frightening. Somehow, I still had tracks of hope in my heart that God would send help. I prayed with every step. I became aware of my breathing. Stop and rest. Stop and rest. I ate a few dried blossoms from a tree. They wet my mouth. There were no cell phone connections. Only God! Somehow, we trekked on.

At 6:30 we found Hwy 227 and sat on roadside rocks. A car going the opposite direction stopped — evidence of faith? They poured water into Jim’s empty container. Our first angel, but still no rescue! — there were no cars going in our direction at all. Dusk was falling. God, another angel, please? An old truck with a red flag standing straight up in back, stopped. A ride, please? A ride? Hope rose! Our second angel gave us more water and it was cooler. Would God send a third angel? We continued to walk. According to a road sign, we had twenty kilometers to go. Darkness. Piercing my exhaustion a tiny glimmer of hope survived. God’s sheltering hand was still hovering over us. Through the darkness, I spied a truck with a red flag off the road about fifty feet. The Bedouin driver was on his knees, head touching the ground — he was praying. As we walked past, he stood up and waved. My mind called out: “Yes. Hello! And thank you for the water!”

But then, he got into his truck and drove out to us! He signaled us to get in. He spoke no English. He got out and opened the back door for me. A gentleman! A big smile. God sent our second angel

But, after failing over and over again, we eventually despair of finding a quiet, contemplative space for prayer in our lives. Although we need to continue to search for that, we can already live with the consolation that, deep down, our very frustration in not being able to find that quiet space is already a prayer. In the groans of our inadequacy the Spirit is already praying through our bodies and souls in a way deeper than words.

One of the oldest, classical definitions of prayer defines it this way — Prayer is lifting mind and heart to God. Too often in our efforts to pray formally — both communally and privately — we fail to do that, namely, to actually lift our hearts and minds to God. Why? Because what is really in our hearts and minds, alongside our gratitude and more gracious thoughts, is not something we generally connect with prayer at all — our frustrations, bitterness, jealousies, lusts, curses, sloth, and quiet despair are usually understood to be the very antithesis of prayer, something to be overcome in order to pray.

But a deeper thing is happening under the surface — our frustration, longing, lust, jealousy, and escapist daydreams, things we are ashamed to take to prayer, are in fact already lifting our hearts and minds to God in more honest ways that we ever do consciously.

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

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

We are currently discerning a new group of Eucharistic Ministers who would undergo training within the next month. 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.** We are always in need of Eucharistic Ministers.

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK:**

Monday: Ezekiel 1:2-28, Matthew 17:22-27

Tuesday: Ezekiel 2:8-3:4, Matthew 18:1-14

Wednesday: 2 Corinthians 9:6-10, John 12:24-26

Thursday: Ezekiel 12:1-12, Matthew 18:21-19:1

Friday: Ezekiel 16:1-63, Matthew 19:3-12

Saturday: Ezekiel 18:1-10, Matthew 19:13-15

20th Week in Ordinary Time: Jeremiah 38:4-10, Hebrews 12:1-4, Luke 12:49-53

AMAZON.COM:

Please remember that when you want to buy something from Amazon.com, you need to first go to www.ourladychapel.org and click on the Amazon logo at the bottom of the home page! Because of this simple step — and at no cost to the purchaser — Our Lady Chapel receives a percentage of all purchases that are made from Amazon.com. Ever since we have begun this program, we have consistently been receiving significant checks from Amazon that are being credited to help pay for chapel expenses. This affinity program remains in effect throughout the year, so we ask everyone to continue to remember to start your purchases at Amazon on the Our Lady Chapel home page! Thank you.



GROANING BEYOND WORDS — OUR DEEPER WAY OF PRAYING:

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus reminds us that "where your treasure is, there also will your heart be [Luke 12:32-48]. When we no longer know how to pray, the Spirit, in groans too deep for words, prays through us [Romans 8:23-26]. These words of St. Paul contain both a stunning revelation and a wonderful consolation — namely, there is deep prayer happening inside us beyond our conscious awareness and independence of our deliberate efforts. What is this unconscious prayer? It is our deep innate desire, relentlessly on fire, forever somewhat frustrated, making itself felt through the groaning of our bodies and souls, silently begging the very energies of the universe — not least God Himself — to let it come to consummation.

Allow me an analogy. Some years ago, a friend of mine bought a house that had sat empty and abandoned for a number of years. The surface of the driveway was cracked and a bamboo plant — now several feet high — had grown up through the pavement. My friend cut down the bamboo tree, chopped down several feet into its roots to try to destroy them, poured a chemical poison into the root system in hopes of killing whatever was left, packed some gravel over the spot, and paved over the top with a thick layer of concrete. But the little tree was not so easily thwarted. Two years later, the pavement began to heave as the bamboo plant again began to assert itself. Its powerful life force was still blindly pushing outward and upward, cement blockage notwithstanding.

Life — all life — has powerful inner pressures and is not easily thwarted. It pushes relentlessly and blindly towards its own ends, irrespective of resistance. Sometimes resistance does kill it. There are, as the saying goes, storms we cannot weather. But we do weather most of what life throws at us, and our deep life-principle remains strong and robust — even as on the surface the frustrations we have experienced and the dreams in us that have been shamed slowly muzzle us into a mute despair so that our prayer-lives begin to express less and less of what we are actually feeling.

But it is through that very frustration that the Spirit prays, darkly, silently, in groans too deep for words. In our striving, our yearning, our broken dreams, our tears, in the daydreams we escape into, and even in our sexual desire, the Spirit of God prays through us, as does our soul, our life-principle. Like the life forces innate in that bamboo plant, powerful forces are blindly working inside us too, pushing us outward and upward to eventually throw off whatever cement lies on top of us. This is true, of course, also of our joys. The Spirit also prays through our gratitude, both when we express consciously it and even when we only sense it unconsciously.

Our deepest prayers are mostly not those we express in our churches and private oratories. Our deepest prayers are spoken in our silent gratitude and silent tears. The person praising God's name ecstatically and the person bitterly cursing God's name in anger are, in different ways, in radically different ways of groaning, both praying.

Our frustrations, bitterness, jealousies, lusts, curses, sloth, and quiet despair are usually understood to be the very antithesis of prayer. There are many lessons to be drawn from this. First, from this we can learn to forgive life a little more for its frustrations and we can learn to give ourselves permission to be more patient with life and with ourselves. Who of us does not lament that the pressures and frustrations of life keep us from fully enjoying life's pleasures, from smelling the flowers, from being more present to family, from celebrating with friends, from peaceful solitude, and from deeper prayer? So we are forever making resolutions to slow down, to find a quiet space inside our pressured lives in which to pray.

FAITH

*is not believing that God can
it is knowing that He will.*

back to us! All I could say was: "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" When we arrived back, I pressed shekels into his hand, but he pressed them right back into my hand — "No, no." Jim handed him American dollars, receiving the same response. God bless this Muslim Bedouin, this son of Abraham, who saved two Christians who were trusting in the same God who just has a different name.

The next day after showers and gallons of cold water, we were strengthened. But the ordeal was ongoing. Our vehicle was still resting under an acacia tree in that deep wadi. Faith and hope still stood in my heart. Who to call? Who spoke English? Where to get phone numbers? At noon, finally a connection! And God sent a third angel — this time, Jewish. We finally contacted an Israeli park ranger. His dark good looks were heightened by a smile and open attitude. He spoke beautiful English! He drove us back to our "waterloo." Would his 4x4 truck be strong enough? Again, faith and hope joined hands in my heart. I prayed as he towed us up that steep incline, slowly, slowly, slowly! Alleluia! Success! Success! Thank you, God! God of the mountains. God of the wind. God of the wadi. God who keeps his promises.

The ranger said he wasn't supposed to do this, but... All he accepted was our thanks.

We were not prepared for this experience. It came like a "thief in the night". We didn't expect to be stranded in 100 plus heat with no cell phone service and only about two liters of water between us. The situation seemed impossible. We were in desperate straits! Our flimsy faith and hope were rewarded. God watched over us as promised again and again and again. What do we need to fear? God, help me remember who you are!

—taken from the writings of Sister Patricia DeGroot, OblSB., which appear on the internet

SERVING THE LORD IN THE POOR:

For the past year, our teens have been volunteering at **Our Savior Lutheran Church Food Pantry** [located right across the street from the chapel]. The Pantry is open on the **third Saturday of every month from 11:00 AM – 1:30 or 2:00 PM**. Our Savior Lutheran's Food Pantry was formed to serve those in emergency situations and/or with on-going need in the cities of Mayfield Heights, Mayfield Village, Highland Heights and Gates Mills. The Food Pantry respects social and cultural diversity and upholds the worth and dignity of those it serves. All those in the area with need will be served equally, as supplies allow. The food pantry is a member of the Greater Cleveland Food Bank. During the course of the past year, the food pantry at Our Savior Lutheran Church served an average of 141 households each time. Our teens have loved this ministry and have been very faithful to it. **We would now like to open this ministry up to our entire Chapel Community. If you would like to help on any given third Saturday, please call Patty at the chapel office [440-473-3560] to let us know that you are going to volunteer, or email Elina Gurney at gurney.oh@gmail.com.** Come as a family or by yourself.

**COMING HOME:**

In the parable of the prodigal son [Luke 15:11-32], there are two sons — the younger son, who runs away from home to an alien country, and the older son, who stays home to do his duty. The younger son dissipates himself with alcohol and sex; the older son alienates himself by working hard and dutifully fulfilling all his obligations. Both are lost. Their father grieves over both because with neither of them does he experience the intimacy he desires. Both lust and cold obedience can prevent us from being true children of God. Whether we are like the younger son or the older son, we have to come home to the place where we can rest in the embrace of God's unconditional love.

—Henri Nouwen

PROFOUND:

If we see the beauty of the people in our lives, we can push through excuses and become Christ's servants.

THE CHURCH IS ALIVE:

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” in the Church? The answer is no! There have always been tensions and struggles. St. Paul and St. Luke openly talk about such struggles. The commentator advises us to check it out with Saints Paul and Luke! In his letter to the Church at Corinth, Paul tells it like it is about sexual immorality — “I have been told as an undoubted fact that one of you is living with his father's wife” He calls the case “unparalleled even among pagans” [1Corinthians 15:1]. 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” [Galatians 1:6-7]. Another controversy centered around the famous circumcision dispute that raged through the early church — do Gentile Christians need to be circumcised or not [see Acts 15]. —This controversy threatened to tear the early Church apart.

Circumspectly Luke writes: “This led to disagreement” — that’s an understatement. The bottom line is these surely are not the best of times — but neither are they the worst. Dark pages are being written in the contemporary Church. But so, too, are splendid ones. Let me tell you about one of the latter. I am certain that were you to think about it, you could tell me of several more. No matter what you are told by your neighbor or read in the press, the Nazarene’s 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 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 their closets 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 teared when she received a surprise papal blessing. Eventually they plan to settle in the Baltimore area so that they might assist with the Catholic Worker house of hospitality. They may someday 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 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



faith: Faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen. Faith is taking a step into the unknown and trusting in God.

Faith demands a way of thinking that is completely opposite the expectations of people of the computer age. Faith says that we cannot find the answers ourselves. We have to trust in God. For example, people come to my office for wedding preparation. I know that none of them will admit it, but I am certain than many do have a doubt — “How can I know that this is the right person? How can I know that I am doing the right thing?” To those who might be thinking about becoming engaged, let me remind you that when it comes to spiritual relationships — and marriage, true marriage, is a spiritual relationship — no one can ever know. People have to have faith. They need to trust God. When they see another person as their way of salvation, they have to recognize that it is God who brought them together. When we people of faith become ill, we go to the doctor. We do as we are told. We take the medication, treatments, etc. Still we realize that in the long run, our lives are in God’s hands — not the doctor’s. Live or die, we have faith that God will provide.

Faith is present when we listen to that voice within us that is our consciences. We follow this voice, trusting that as God found a way for Abraham to be the Father of Many Nations, He will find a way for us to confront and conquer the challenges of life. We do that which is moral, and we trust in God. It is easy for us to take the way of least resistance in every aspect of our lives. We can easily reject having the deep faith that the Letter to the Hebrews offers. But then we would be denying who we really are — People of God. We need God’s help to live as People of Faith. We are all weak. Recall the incident in the Gospels where a man came to Jesus and asked him to cure his son of epilepsy. Jesus asked him: “Do you believe?” And the man responded: “I do believe, but help my unbelief” [Mark 9:24]. Help those parts of me that don’t believe. Faith is the assurance of things hoped for and the conviction of things not seen. Ask God to deepen your faith.

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

CLEAN OUT THOSE CLOSETS AND SERVE OTHERS:

Summer is here — and fall is approaching. It is another time to once again clean out the closets. Clothing that no longer fits, or has been replaced by new items, can become 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 [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 summer and 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].**

**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].**



FAITH:

As the old commercial would say: “It’s that most wonderful time of the year. The children are going back to school.” The other day I was in a local office supply store and there was one of our families shopping for school supplies. Parents have purchased pens, pencils, notebooks, and backpacks for years. Now, however, there are some new items that parents have to buy — ipads, laptops, computers, flash drives, printers, etc. The computer has become such a huge part of American life that most of our young people cannot fathom how old folks could ever do a term paper using a library. For those of you who never heard of a library, that’s an ancient building that used to contain books. In schools most libraries have been replaced by Media Centers — which, of course, consist in more computers. On the positive side, when I see the work that the young people are able to produce using computers, it is absolutely amazing.

Where our “old-time” reports were full of smudges and somewhat legible writing, their reports are neat, organized and easy to read. Where our grade school reports were usually verbatim copying of articles from the World Book Encyclopedia, their reports contain numerous references to all sorts of publications. The internet provides so much information that we can easily come to the conclusion that the answer to every question is out there — somewhere. You just need to know where to look. That is a fallacy. The answers to the most important questions — the fundamental questions of life — are not on the internet. They are not out there; they can only be found in our heart. The answers to the fundamental questions of life can only be found in faith.

If we are honest, we will recognize that this is hard to handle. We would like to find the answers to everything — but we can’t. Only faith can point us in the direction of the answers we need. More than that, only faith can provide us with the questions we need to ask. Faith forces us to ask about that which is unseen, that which is spiritual. That’s what the author of the Letter to the Hebrews is trying to say [Hebrews 11:1-2,8-19] — it’s all about faith. Abraham is the example of what our faith must be like — Abraham is the Father of Faith.

This was not just because Abraham is the Patriarch of Israel — the leader of all those from whom the Jews are descended. Abraham is the Father of Faith because of all the figures in Hebrew Scripture, Abraham’s life gives the greatest example of the deepest meaning of faith. Abraham was living in the fertile crescent — the Tigris-Euphrates Valley, rich in farming and pasturing land — when he heard the call of God to leave his ancestral home. Abraham trusted God to bring him to a place where God would start a new people. Abraham had complete faith that God would work things out. Abraham had been promised that his descendants would be as numerous as the sands of the seashore or stars of the sky. He had a child by a servant girl, Hagar, whom he named Ishmael, but he knew that Ishmael was not his true descendent [see Genesis 16 and 17]. He needed a child by his wife Sarah. But Sarah was elderly and past child bearing years.

While Abraham could not see how God would work this out, he knew that God would work it out. And when a child came — Isaac, the son of laughter — Abraham realized that this is the one promised. He had faith that God would be true to his promise, even when God demanded a terrible test of Abraham’s faith. He was told to sacrifice Isaac [See Genesis 22]. He finally had a son and was told to sacrifice him. He prepared to do as God told him. He trusted in God. Soren Kierkegaard would refer to this as Abraham’s great leap of faith. The Letter to the Hebrews presents a profound definition of

**"FAITH
IS TAKING THE
FIRST STEP
EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T
SEE THE WHOLE
STAIRCASE."**

— MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

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

BE PREPARED FOR MARTYRDOM:

Like Jesus, Pope Francis tells to be prepared, be prepared for martyrdom — be ready to surrender all to Jesus. During World Youth Day we had the opportunity to visit the sites of modern martyrs — St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Edith Stein and Blessed Jerzy Popieluszko. Pope Francis has often reflected on martyrdom. He said this regarding the Central American martyr, Archbishop Oscar Romero: “Each Christian ought to be ready to give his life for the faith. A martyr is not born — it’s a grace that the Lord allows, and that in a way concerns every baptized person.” Quoting a phrase of Blessed Oscar Romero, the Pope said that “We must be willing to die for our faith, even if the Lord does not give us this honor. To give one’s life doesn’t only consist of being killed, but rather to give one’s life — to have the spirit of a martyrdom — is to surrender it in duty, in silence, in prayer, in the fulfillment of duty; in this silence of everyday life; to give one’s life little by little.”

Jesus tells us to “be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come” [Luke 12:32-48]. In saying this, Jesus is giving us advanced warning. Before considering the warning, we should note that the saying is very hopeful. No matter what you and I have done, matter what condition we are in right now, we can still make a new beginning. We can at least get started by asking God’s help to put things in order. Jesus tells us that the important thing is what we are doing the moment he returns. We might ask why that one moment is so important. Early Christian writers used to compare our lives to a potter forming clay. While the clay is moist it can take any form, but when you put it in the oven it retains its shape forever.

Death is the fire which fixes us eternally — either with hearts open to receive Jesus, or backs turned on him. In the Hail Mary, we ask Our Blessed Mother to pray for us now and at the hour of our death. These are the two moments that matter. Yesterday is gone; tomorrow may never come. Today is what matters. How small our arguments and our battles will be when Jesus comes for us! This life is serious. We can easily forget how serious this life is. We can start thinking our lives are random — a kind of cosmic accident. Or that we will always have a second chance, so why worry?

Some people believe in reincarnation, not because it makes a lot of sense, but because it seems to offer repeated chances to get it right. Jesus brushes that thinking aside. The famous theologian, Fr. Hans Urs Von Balthasar said: “It is indispensable that every individual Christian be confronted, in the greatest seriousness, with the possibility of his becoming lost.” Some people say that if we focus on the afterlife — heaven and hell — we neglect this world. But, perhaps surprisingly, it’s just the opposite — people who focus on eternity are often the ones who do the most in this world. Think about Mother Teresa. Who did more than her to help the outcast? Mother Teresa illustrates that those who focus on receiving Jesus will do good for people here on earth.

Pope Francis tells to be prepared for martyrdom — to surrender to Jesus. Maybe you have heard of the book *Atlas Shrugged* — it posits that, like Atlas, a small number of key people hold up our world. It’s not the materially rich who hold up our society, but those rich in the things of God — those who in a hidden way give themselves to Christ, who strive to put their lives in order [see Genesis 18:32]. We are called to put Christ above quarrels, to avoid mind-numbing drugs — including gambling and pornography. Wake up, says Jesus. Our world depends on those who live his word: “Be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come.” Like Jesus, Pope Francis tells to be prepared — be prepared for martyrdom, be ready to surrender all to Jesus.

—taken from the writings of Father Phil Bloom., which appear on the internet.



POPE FRANCIS QUOTES FROM WORLD YOUTH DAY 2016:

Here are a collection of quotes from Pope Francis' visit to World Youth day. Take up the challenge:

- “So I ask you: Are you looking for empty thrills in life, or do you want to feel a power that can give you a lasting sense of life and fulfillment? Empty thrills or the power of grace? To find fulfillment, to gain new strength, there is a way. It is not a thing or an object, but a person, and he is alive — His name is Jesus Christ.”
- “All together, then, we ask the Lord: ‘Launch us on the adventure of mercy! Launch us on the adventure of building bridges and tearing down walls, barriers and barbed wire. Launch us on the adventure of helping the poor, those who feel lonely and abandoned, or no longer find meaning in their lives.’ ”
- “The Lord does not keep his distance, but is near and real. He is in our midst and he takes care of us.”
- “God prefers to let himself be contained in little things, unlike ourselves, who always want to possess something greater. To be attracted by power, by grandeur, by appearances, is tragically human. It is a great temptation that tries to insinuate itself everywhere. But to give oneself to others, eliminating distances, dwelling in littleness and living the reality of one’s everyday life — this is exquisitely divine.”
- “That is what we too, in the Church, are constantly called to do — to listen, to get involved and be neighbors, sharing in people’s joys and struggles, so that the Gospel can spread every more consistently and fruitfully: radiating goodness through the transparency of our lives.”
- “In the life of Mary we admire that littleness that God loves, for he “looked upon the humility of his servant”, and ‘lifted up the lowly’ [see Luke 1:48, 52]. He was so pleased with her that he let his flesh be woven from hers, so that the Virgin became the Mother of God.”
- “When Jesus says to us in the Gospel, ‘He who strikes you on the cheek, give him the other,’ he means this — to leave in the Lord’s hands this wisdom of forgiveness, which is a grace. However, we must do all we can on our part to forgive.”
- “Peace builds bridges; hatred is the builder of walls. You must choose in life — either to build bridges or to build walls. Walls divide and hatred grows. When there is division, hatred grows. Bridges unite, and when there is a bridge, hatred can go away, because I can hear the other, I can speak with the other.”
- “Where is God, if evil is present in our world, if there are men and women who are hungry and thirsty, homeless, exiles and refugees? Where is God, when innocent persons die as a result of violence, terrorism and war? Where is God, when cruel diseases break the bonds of life and affection? Or when children are exploited and demeaned, and they too suffer from grave illness? Where is God, amid the anguish of those who doubt and are troubled in spirit? These are questions that humanly speaking have no answer. But Jesus’ answer is God is in them. Jesus is in them; he suffers in them and deeply identifies with each of them. He is so closely united to them as to form with them, as it were, one body.”



- “God loves us the way we are — and no sin, fault or mistake of ours makes him change his mind. As far as Jesus is concerned — as the Gospel shows — no one is unworthy of, or far from, his thoughts. No one is insignificant. He loves all of us with a special love; for him all of us are important: you are important! God counts on you for what you are, not for what you possess. In his eyes the clothes you wear or the kind of cell phone you use are of absolutely no concern. He doesn’t care whether you are stylish or not; he cares about you! In his eyes, you are precious, and your value is inestimable.”
- “The fact is that God loves us even more than we love ourselves. He believes in us even more than we believe in ourselves. He is always ‘cheering us on’; he is our biggest fan.”
- “God, on the other hand, is hopelessly hopeful! He believes that we can always get up.”
- “God demands of us real courage — the courage to be more powerful than evil by loving everyone, even our enemies.”
- “People may laugh at you because you believe in the gentle and unassuming power of mercy. But do not be afraid.”
—Pope Francis

LIFE TEEN:

Our LifeTeen regular meetings will begin again on Sunday, August 28th. Normally we meet right after Sunday Mass — from **11:30 AM—1:00 PM** in the **Lennon Board Room**. Life Teen is open to **all high school aged young people**. **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. We have a great deal of fun together and we grow in our faith at the same time. Our LifeTeen Group has a Faith-Service-Social component, and we look forward to your participation. **Respond to your texts and/or emails, or call the chapel office [440-473-3560] to be notified.** Please join us for a wonderful experience. Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in your prayers.



LIFE TEEN

MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP — THE EDGE:

Our EDGE regular meetings will begin again on Sunday, August 28th. Normally we meet right after Sunday Mass — from **11:30 AM—1:00 PM** in the **Lennon Board Room**. Come and try us out. Our EDGE program is open to **all middle school aged young people [Grades 6-7-8]**. 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 look forward to your participation. All are welcome. Please join us for a wonderful experience. Please continue to remember all our teens and young people in

**CEDAR POINT — HERE WE COME:**

Our annual **LifeTeen AND EDGE** trip to **Cedar Point** is this **Tuesday, August 9th**. Tickets are \$42. You may pay in cash, or make your check payable to Our Lady Chapel. **We will leave Gilmour at 8:00 AM and return to Gilmour at 10:30 PM.** This is going to be a great day of fun and celebration. Please feel free to bring a friend. Parents of students attending are also welcome to come along. We will form a “parent group”. **If you haven’t signed up and still want to go, you must call Patty or Father John at the Chapel Office [440-473-3560] by noon on Monday August 8th. No exceptions.**

**WISDOM:**

A fool always finds a greater fool to admire him.

—Nicholas Despeaux