

July 19, 2015

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary time (B)

From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

What should we do, as a parish, to thank Pope Francis for his visit to New York? One way is to promote his campaign to combat change. But how? Have you any suggestions? One possibility is to use his visit and the upcoming Jubilee Year, (which begins on December 8, 2015) as opportunities to dramatize the theme that "We are all connected". The "we" is not only human beings but everything that is part of our planet earth. The last Jubilee Year was in the year 2000. Do you remember what we did? We created a pilgrimage walk. We walked fifteen miles visiting twenty Catholic churches in Yonkers. It took six hours. At the finish line (in our Parish Hall) we were exhausted but hopefully spiritually refreshed. Some of you still have the oyster shell which was given to all who completed the pilgrimage. That was fifteen years ago. It was a great accomplishment. What could we do this time?



COLLECTION:

The collection for last Sunday, July 12, 2015 was \$ 2,650.00

The second collection this Sunday, July 19, 2015 will be to help with our Property Insurance.

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: In the midst of our busy lives, in the middle of a hot summer season, how we would welcome **Jesus'** invitation "**Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while**". Yet perhaps that is just what we need to do. Run-down batteries need to be re-charged, and so do we. Let us pray today that we can find a way soon to rest and be renewed by the **Spirit of God**.

In the first reading, Jeremiah 23:1-6: The **Lord** was angry and promised to punish the shepherds who misled and scattered the flock. The **Lord God** would gather the flock and appoint new shepherds to care for it.

Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 23: "**The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want**"

In the second reading, Ephesians 2:13-18: In **Christ**, we are reconciled and united with each other and with **God**. **Christ Jesus** came to announce the good news. Through him we come in one **Spirit to the Father**.

In the Gospel, Mark 6:30-34: The disciples return from work and went with **Jesus** to a quiet place to rest. Crowds followed; **Jesus** took pity on them "**for they were like sheep without a shepherd**."

Today's Focus; A Covenant to Welcome In, Not to Wall Out: We can sometimes think that the covenant we have and keep with **God** is a way to keep others out or away from **God's** grace. But **God's** intent is exactly the opposite.



Praying with the Word: Holy Spirit of God, you draw all people into unity. May you lead us to break down walls of hostility and separation, so that your blessing may extend to all people. Amen



Pope Frances:

A great challenge: stop ruining the garden which God has entrusted to us so that all may enjoy it.



Religious Education News:

- ❖ Registration for the 2015-2016 Religious Education classes will begin on June 15th.
- ❖ Registration will be on Mondays from 9:30 to 1:00pm and Thursdays from 9:30 to 1:00pm and Saturdays by appointment only.
- ❖ Please bring your child's birth certificate and baptismal certificate when registering your child for the first time.
- ❖ **Last day of registration will be August 13th.**
- ❖ We need teachers for our religious instruction school on Saturday mornings. Please consider volunteering for this most important mission.

