

September 27, 2015

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary time (B)

From The Desk of Msgr. Corrigan:

The number of new participants in our Eucharistic celebrations is increasing. We welcome them and invited them to become official members of our parish by signing up for our envelope system.

I am writing this on Tuesday. Pope Francis will be delivering major speeches on Thursday and Friday. I hope to comment on them for next week's bulletin. Two items in the newspaper got my attention last week: the legal definitions of "asylum" and "refugee" and a new doll for girls named "Call Barbie" which will be available in a few months. Both have far reaching consequences.

Asylum means offering refuge to the persecuted. According to international law if a person merits asylum by showing she/he has a "well founded fear of being persecuted" based on race, nationality, religion, political opinion or membership in a particular group he/she is no longer a migrant who can be sent away at any time. She/he must be protected for as long as it is unsafe to return home. The United States accepted 70,000 new refugees last year. A modest proposal is to raise the number to 100,000 in 2016. The number of refugees seeking asylum in Europe so far this year is over 380,000. Turkey is hosting 1.9 million refugees from Syria, Jordan has received over 600,000 and Lebanon over one million. Is this a impossible situation for the world? There is hope. After the Vietnam War millions of people fled their country (remember the boat people?). After twenty years about 1.8 million Vietnamese refugees were resettled throughout the world "blending into the human crowd, living out their lives in new lands".

"Call Barbie" will soon be on sale. It is a doll that has A.I. (artificial intelligence). It will have the ability to have a conversation. It will be programmed to say 7,000 lines. Will small children come to believe that she is a real friend with no need for human friends? How does she answer questions like "Am I beautiful?" "I find math very hard. Am I different from other girls?" "Is there a God?" As one critic put it: "In small doses it just doesn't matter: it is just a trivial toy. But the way the world is going; these are not just going to be small, isolated technologies in a child's life. They are becoming a pervasive form of interaction".

COLLECTION:

The collection for last Sunday, September 20, 2015 was \$4,119.00

The second collection this Sunday, September 27 2015 will to help with our Church Property Insurance.

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time: It seems that everywhere we turn today; our world is divided into factions. Everyone seems determined to cling to their own perspective, and few seem to care who gets hurt along the way. Jesus today simplifies things: "Whoever is not against us is for us". Perhaps today our prayer can be for greater civility in our discourse with others, and for end to the factions that divide us and keep us from doing God's work in the world.

In the first reading, Numbers 11:25-29: Moses said to Joshua, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the people of the Lord were prophets!"

Responsorial Psalm, Psalm 19: "The precepts of the Lord give joy to the Heart"

In the second reading, James -5:1-6: Come now, you rich, weep and wail over your impending miseries. Your wealth has rotted away.

In the Gospel, Mark 9:38-43: Jesus reassures the disciples, "Whoever is no against us is for us....if your hand causes you sin, cut it off".

Daily Masses: Daily Mass will now be observed in the Main Church. We move from the Main Church to the Chapel in the summer months in order to maintain the cost of cool the church down and in the winter months we once again go back into the Chapel to maintain the cost of heating the Church down. Now that the weather is cool we can enjoy daily Mass in the Main Church.

Pope Frances:

In spite of injustices and sufferings, the Lord's victory is certain.

Food Collection: Next Sunday we will once again be collecting food for the needy in our community. So please be mindful of those in need when you do your food shopping this week.

Religious Education News:

❖ **Classes have started on Saturdays from 9:30 to 11:00am. All children are to meet in the Parish Hall at 9:15am. Class will be held in the School Building.**



Wedding Bands

Kryste-Eve Rodríguez to Osman Obregon