



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A CLEAN HEART CREATE FOR ME, O GOD,
AND A STEADFAST SPIRIT RENEW WITHIN ME.

Psalm 51:12

September 15, 2013

~ Parish Life and Activities... ~

<p>LAVISH FORGIVENESS</p>	<p>Moses appeals to God for compassion in today's first reading. The point of Moses' pleas is not to provide a blueprint for pacifying an angry God, but to demonstrate that no matter our sin and its grievousness, God will always forgive.</p> <p>In his Letter to Timothy, Paul uses himself, the great sinner, as an example of just how great is God's forgiveness. Finally, today's Gospel parables create a mural of God's forgiving love. Like a diligent housekeeper, a good shepherd, a loving father, God goes out of the way to recover the lost and to forgive. By pointing out that the woman leaves her nine silver pieces, that the shepherd leaves his ninety-nine sheep waiting, and the father leaves his elder son upset, Jesus urges us to abandon a stingy view of life. If God can be so generous, so forgiving, and so loving to those deemed unworthy, we must act likewise.</p>
<p>TWO THUMBS UP FROM FR. JACK STOEGER</p>	<p>On Friday, October 4, 7:00p.m. Fr. Felix Just, S.J. will discuss "<i>What Is Love Really? — A Look at the Teaching of the New Testament.</i>" It is often said 'love makes the world go round' but we need to ask, <i>love who?</i> and, <i>love how?</i> Meet with other parishioners in the parish hall to be inspired and enlightened.</p>
<p>LET US PRAY FOR PEACE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>"In beloved Syria, in the Middle East, in all the world, let us pray for reconciliation and peace, let us work for reconciliation and peace." Pope Francis</i></p> <p>The world is in desperate need of our prayers. Please join other parishioners each Saturday morning at 8:30 to pray the rosary.</p>
<p>COME ONE COME ALL!!</p>	<p>Everyone is invited to join the fun next Sunday as we celebrate the feast day of our patron, Saint Matthew. The festivities will begin at noon with a variety of delicious foods & fun games. Entertainment will be provided by a variety of music groups. Bring your family and friends to enjoy the first day of autumn! <u>Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets TODAY!!!</u></p>
<p>EXCERPTS FROM SEPT. 11 STATEMENT BY USCCB</p>	<p>WASHINGTON—Catholic Relief Services (CRS), the U.S. bishops' overseas humanitarian aid agency, is deeply committed "to Church teaching in fulfilling its mission of mercy," the U.S. bishops' Administrative Committee said in a September 11 statement the first day of its annual fall meeting in Washington. The bishops strongly endorsed the 70-year-old agency after critics "raised allegations about CRS' adherence to Church teaching and its identity as a Catholic institution" and questioned its pro-life credentials, the statement said. "Those making these public critiques, albeit, we hope, in good faith, do not speak for the Catholic Church and we advise the Catholic faithful to exercise caution and consult the CRS website for clarification before endorsing or giving credence to the groups' critiques." The bishops "urged the Catholic faithful to continue to support Catholic Relief Services."</p> <p>"The U.S. Catholic bishops stand firmly behind CRS in its commitment to promote and defend human dignity and the sacredness of every human life from the moment of conception until natural death, and at every moment in between," the bishops said. "Its service around the world makes us all proud," the bishops added. Specifically, the bishops said, "it is and has been CRS' policy never to distribute or promote artificial contraceptives or abortifacients or to promote abortion."</p> <p>"All of CRS' life-saving work to provide food and clean water, to fight malaria and other diseases, to promote education, and to help the poor find ways to support themselves and their families fully conform with Catholic teaching," the statement said.</p> <p>The full statement can be found at http://www.usccb.org/catholic-giving/opportunities-for-giving/catholic-relief-services-collection/support-for-catholic-relief-services.cfm</p>
<p>REFLECTIONS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">THE 25TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME First Reading: Amos 8:4-7 Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-8 Gospel: Luke 16:1-13 [10-13]</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"No servant can serve two masters."</i> Jesus is telling us we cannot serve God and wealth.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What in your opinion most helps lift poor people out of poverty?</p>