PERCEPTION and the Gospel

As we move toward the beginning of November, we come to the end of our reflections on the word for the month of October — **PERCEPTION** — I have had a lot of interesting thoughts and **PERCEPTIONS** shared with me during the course of the month.

It is truly a great word for reflection because, if our **PERCEPTION** is unclear, then our whole process can go haywire!! If we follow a **PERCEPTION** that appears to be true, but in pain of face is clearly untrue, we can find ourselves in a whole lot of trouble!

I had the opportunity to attend a rendition of the great musical, *The Music Man*, which was excellently performed by the students at Jackson Prep. (A number of our youth from St. Paul were in the performance.) It is an outstanding musical, one of my favorites. But, while I was sitting in the audience I couldn't help but think of our word for the month, over and over again.

In the play, "Professor" Harold Hill poses as a boys band leader and creates a tremendous **PERCEPTION** in River City, Iowa, as he attempts to connive the local townsfolk. A delightful tale unfolds.

Thinking about the play led me back to some reflection on last Sunday's Gospel, (Lk 18:9-14) the great story of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector going up to the Temple to pray. I couldn't help but think to myself — If a handful of people (locals) were standing outside the Temple and observed this scene unfolding, I bet they would move toward the **PERCEPTION** that the Pharisee is a really good man (they may even wish to be like him), and I am sure they would look upon the tax collector with great disdain! Yet, one could not have possibly prepared themselves for what actually unfolded inside the Temple!

Talk about PERCEPTION — couldn't have been further off the mark!

This Sunday's Gospel presents a deeper view of the Master's **PERCEPTION**. (Lk 19:1-10) It is pretty clear that Zacchaeus had heard a great deal about Jesus. So, he wanted to see for himself — WOW! Did he get more than he bargained for! This was for all the world like the Eucharist.

The Lord has so much more in store for each of us than we could ever think or imagine!

Continued on page 3



October 30, 2016
Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time



Mass Intentions

Week of: Oct. 31— Nov. 6, 2016

7:30 am Mon.: Hugh Glass (RIP)

7:30 am & 6:00 pm Tues.: Solemnity of All Saints

6:00 pm Wed.: Alphonse Watts (RIP)

7:30 am Thurs.: Rosie Palmer Graves (RIP)

10:00 am Fri.: Healing Mass

5:30 pm Sat.: Hehir & McNamara families (RIP)

8:00 am Sunday: Michael Lalo (RIP) 10:30 am Sunday: Tom Harris Sr. (RIP)

Adoration This Week: Monday-Thursday: 8am-12pm Wed. 6:30 pm-7:30pm Friday: 8am-10am

New Announcements

*RCIA-Tuesday, November 1st. Class begins at 7:00pm Topic- Prayer – The Invitation of Jesus- ALL ARE WELCOME!



Women's Guild Craft Fair raffle is under way. Stop by after mass and chance your luck!!



The Big Deal Youth Group Ski Trip sign up has begun! \$100 deposit is due by Wednesday night, Nov. 16th. See Cory on Wed. night for more details.

Weekly offering for October 23rd: \$22,710





September 28 - November 6, 2016

Prayer Intentions

Celia Purser

Becky Irby, mother of Susan Irby Joanne Edwards, sister of Steve Walton Raymond Bergsten, father of Dawn Clancy

Repose of the Soul

Rosie Morris Helen Phan

Steve "Buddy" Pollman, friend of Jennifer Janes

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00pm or by appt. Lectio Divina- Tuesdays @ 10 am

Reminders

*Ministry Fair Retreat-This Sunday, October 30th-**2-4 pm-** *mandatory* for all who signed up for a ministry even if you are continuing in the same ministry.

*Tuesday, November 1st- Solemnity of All Saints - Mass @ 7:30 am and 6:00 pm

*The Big Deal 5K Color Race- Nov. 3rd @ 6pm. Register on our website. We are excited to have a sponsorship night at Five Guys on Nov. 7th from 4:00–10:00 pm. Bring the family and tell your friends!

*November First Friday Healing Mass will be held on Nov. 4th at 10 am followed by our Senior Adult Brunch.

*Join the Armed Forces Ministry on Nov. 5th @ 4:45 pm to pray the rosary for our US Armed Forces and our country.

*St. Paul Women's Guild Craft Fair -Nov. 12th & 13th. Label all items that are dropped off.

*Our Mass of Remembrance will be on November 17th at **6pm.** If you lost a family member over the past year, please check our board so that we can remember them at our mass.



Altar flowers are donated by Marcia and Ray Butz in memory of John Lewis and Patty Butz. Blessed Mother flowers are donated by Thomas and Michelle Harris in memory of Rose and Tom Harris.

> Church Office Hours: Tuesday — Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm /Friday 8am - 12pm www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com (601) 992-9547

Pastor — Fr. Gerry Hurley — pastor@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com or office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Receptionist— Renee Borne— office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Faith Formation—Sarah O'Donnell —rel.edu@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Finance/Bookkeeper—Renee Carpenter —finance@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Grounds/Maintenance — Kevin Smith — office@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Learning Center — Jennifer Henry, Director — stpaullearningcenter@gmail.com

Liturgy, Prayer Requests, Births, Baptisms — Monica Walton — liturgy@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com **Music Ministry**—Ed Thomas —est5271@gmail.com

R.C.I.A.—Rodney Hipp —adult.edu@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Senior Adult Ministry—Monica Walton —sradults@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Youth Group— Cory Head— youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

**BULLETIN: Information must be submitted in writing by note or email to the parish office no later than 12:00 noon on Wednesdays for the following weekend. When sending an email, please put "BULLETIN" in the subject line. Thank you for your cooperation!

Continued from page 1

A huge crowd had shown up for Jesus, there was a lot of attention and adulation for Him. But, Jesus spots Zacchaeus in the tree. Jesus has more interest in others than Himself, especially those in greatest need! Zacchaeus had to have been very impressed — Jesus noticed him and called him by name — all because he was open to discovering and trying to see the Messiah! I'm pretty sure Jesus' choice upset the majority of the crowd. It surely changed their **PERCEPTION** of Him!

Why not *me* next Sunday? Do I believe that Jesus could call me out at next Sunday's Eucharist — call me by name, and come to my place to share His life with me?!

PERCEPTION

- What do you see?
- What do you believe?
- What do you hope for?

—Fr. Gerry

PERCEPTION - Lukewarm Christians -

In Matthew Kelly's latest book*, "Resisting Happiness," he talks about lukewarm Christians. He writes:

"The lukewarm typically go to Mass every Sunday and give money to their parish and other charities. From the outside they appear to be committed Christians. But the lukewarm also tend to choose convenience and comfort over what is right and just. They rarely talk about God or their spiritual journey. Jesus is part of their lives, but He is not at the center of their lives. They are not willing to make sacrifices to grow spiritually. They almost never think about Heaven, but are instead obsessed with the things of this world. They structure their lives so they never really have to trust God too much.....

God doesn't want us to be lukewarm. He wants to set us on fire." A Date story about sky are sacrolage considered.

A Date story about sky are sacrolage considered.

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MATTHEW KELLY

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

*NOTE: "Resisting Happiness" will be our Christmas book giveaway this year! So, be ready to get your very own copy!

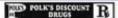
Please join Saint Joseph Catholic School as it presents its fall play, "The Phantom Tollbooth." Performances will be held on campus at the Fine Arts Center on Thursday, November 3 at 7:00 p.m., Friday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m., and Saturday, November 5 at 2:00 p.m. This fantasy play is based on the popular book of the same name. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased at the door. Admission is free for Saint Joseph students. We hope you will come support the arts and our talented young students. For more information, please call Saint Joseph Catholic School at 601-898-4800.

Saint Joseph Catholic School's Open House is Sunday, November 6 at 2:00 p.m. This is a student-inspired, performance-filled showcase. Incredible art, academics, theater, music and athletics - not to mention that one-of-a-kind spirit which makes Saint Joseph the exceptional place that it is. See for yourself the bright, shining soul of Saint Joseph. For more information, please contact Kristi Garrard, Director of Enrollment, 601-898-4812.

Catholic Diocese of Jackson Positions Available

Employee Benefits Coordinator. Administers diocesan employee benefit program including group insurance - medical, dental, vision, various voluntary coverages, life and disability - along with its accounting. Position also includes two pension plans, Affordable Care Act reporting, and HIPAA compliance. Requires 2 4 years experience in benefits or related benefits administration, effective communication skills, experience in Word, Excel and database programs, detail oriented, confidentiality. Send resume to PO Box 2248, Jackson, MS 39225-2248.

Creative Services Coordinator. Responsible for maintaining websites for the diocese as well as the design and production management of all internal and external communications. This includes design and layout for Mississippi Catholic newspaper. Requires 3-5 years of experience in graphic design and website production or maintenance, deadline and detail-oriented and have expertise with Adobe Creative Suite, WordPress and advanced knowledge of social media platforms and strategies. Send resumes and samples to editor@mississippicatholic.com by Friday, Nov. 4.



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