

Intentional Me

In the gospel last Sunday, we received a clear and wonderful experience of Jesus' Intention in regard to those who are lost. Jesus provided us "The Trilogy" which He especially addressed to the Scribes and Pharisees who were listening to Him teaching and were providing a running commentary: *"This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."*

Jesus is challenging them as the so-called shepherds of Israel, saying they have abandoned their sheep--- His sheep! He does not abandon, PERIOD. Should the sheep abandon Him, or turn away from Him, He is going out in search of them. His Intention is clear...a total contrast to the Scribes and Pharisees.

This week's gospel also provides a unique perspective into the idea of Intention... **"My Intention."** Jesus relates another parable, a story quite often referred to as the parable of the Unjust Steward. So challenging is this parable of the "the wicked household manager" (another title given) with all of its teachings and nuances, that it has received a disproportionate amount of scholarly discussion. Although the basic point may appear to be clear to many at the outset, and doesn't appear complicated, making all of the details fit together is a great challenge.

I invite you to re-read the parable during the course of the coming week (Luke 16:1-13).

Ask yourself: What is the parable saying to me?

What is Jesus addressing specifically to me in this parable?

How does it relate to **Intention**, our word for the month of September?

How do you reconcile the apparent "oddities" in the story?

In a very simple understanding of the parable, the Steward or "the household manager" was called in by the answer. He had been reported for squandering his master's property. The master sent for him, asking him to provide a full account of his stewardship...to state what his Intentions were. "You can no longer be my steward," the master said. To us from a very worldly perspective that appears to be the just and right solution. Yet, how different is the perspective of our Heavenly Father, who has entrusted us as Stewards of His Kingdom.

If you were reported to the Master for your Stewardship, what are some of the things you might imagine others saying about you? Take time to list or note some of the things that could be or might be said about you!

What do I wish to do about those things? Why?

The difference between myself and the steward in the gospel is that I am not about to be dismissed from my past. He is calling me in to offer me forgiveness for my squandering ways, and to ask me again if I would be willing to be **His Steward, His Disciple-- An Intentional Disciple!** What can I say!

Mass Intentions

Week of: Sept. 19— Sept. 25, 2016

7:30 am Mon.: Jeff Bush (RIP)

7:30 am Tues.: People of the Parish

6:00 pm Wed.: Michael Lalo (RIP)

7:30 am Thurs.: Melissa Mathison (RIP)

7:30 am Fri.: HE & Roselyn and Jon Pickett (RIP)

5:30 pm Sat.: Sandra Reichelt (RIP)

8:00 am Sunday: Norie Kent (RIP)

10:30 am Sunday: People of the Parish

Adoration This Week: Monday-Friday: 8am-12pm

Wed. 6:30 pm-7:30 pm;

* Need to fill Mondays 11am-12 pm. Call the church office if you are able to commit to this Holy Hour.

New Announcements

Sept. 24th @ 10am— Craft Fair Meeting in the FLC.
Call Suzanne Guillory @ 601-613-9701

RCIA begins on Sept. 27th @ 6:30pm— All are welcome to join us. 1st class will be a welcome and explanation of the course.

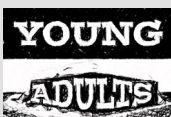


Saint Paul Knights of Columbus Parish Meals

The Saint Paul Knights invite all parishioners to attend meals the weekend of October 1-2. There is no cost but donations are welcome, with all proceeds benefiting the Saint Paul Knights Culture of Life fund.

- October 1st following the Saturday 5:30 Mass- spaghetti dinner.
- October 2nd following the 8:00 Mass- breakfast will be served.
- October 2nd following the 10:30 Mass- spaghetti dinner.

Our Young Adults Group will begin meeting again soon and would like to invite all post high school graduates to join them for spiritual study, service, and fellowship. Email Lexie Gosselin if you are interested — lexiegosselin@yahoo.com



A big thank you from the **Early Learning Center** for your continued support of our Golf Tournament. It was another successful year for our school and we could not have done it without you.

Weekly offering for Sept. 11th: \$18,653

Thank You!

Altar flowers are donated by Janie Romero, in memory of Juan Carlos Romero.

Blessed Mother flowers are donated by Nancy Stewart in memory of Ruth Stewart.

Tuesday, September 20th @ 6pm— Father George Murphy cordially invites you to celebrate his 50th anniversary of ordination at a Mass of Thanksgiving at St. Joseph Catholic Church, 12290 DePew Rd, Gulfport, Mississippi. A reception will follow in the parish hall.

The Rise of the Phoenix: Healing of Abuse Retreat— Sept. 29– Oct. 2 A retreat for those who have experienced physical, sexual or emotional abuse. A time to regain a sense of self-worth and healing of guilt and self-condemnation through Christ's healing, saving power. For more information contact The Dwelling Place at 662-738-5348 or email us at dwellpl@gmail.com

September 25th — 30th annual St. Joseph Catholic Church **GermanFest** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m

September 25th— **Holy Savior Catholic Church in Clinton** will celebrate its 50th anniversary during a celebratory Mass at 11 a.m. Sept. 25 at the church on the corner of Old Vicksburg Road and Lindale Street. Co-celebrants are Bishop Joseph Kopacz and Father Thomas McGing. A dinner on the grounds will follow. For details, call the church office at (601) 924-6344.

Join Catholic Charities at The Journey of Hope Luncheon, featuring guest speaker, legendary football coach and analyst for ESPN, **Lou Holtz** Wednesday, **October 5, 2016** from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. at the Jackson Convention Complex.

Catholic Charities is also hosting a **Meet and Greet** sponsorship gathering Tuesday, **October 4, 2016** from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Mississippi Sports Hall of Fame. For more information on these events please visit www.catholiccharitiesjackson.org or call 601-355-8634.

Prayer Intentions

Barrett Talley

Mary Helen Walton

Mary Jo Perkins

Cliff Russell

Ed Hayes

Amelia Agostonelli, friend of Katie Gordon

Repose of the Soul

Leonel Medina, brother of Fr. Odel Medina

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00pm or by appt.
Lectio Divina Mondays @ 7pm; and Tuesdays @ 10 am

Reminders

- ***Religious Education for ALL AGES** has begun!
 - **Adult Education & Religious Education— Sundays** at 9:15am-10:15am
 - **Wednesday night classes— 6:00 pm-8:30pm**

The Women's Guild will have two meeting times on **Monday, Sept. 26th**. Meet @ **11:00am** in the Family Life Center for a lunch event. **Lunch, drink, and dessert will be provided.** The Women's Guild is also hosting a wine tasting and pairing in the Family Life Center at **7:00 pm**.

Habitat for Humanity 31st Catholic Build will be held on **October 1, 2016**. Sign up this weekend in the back of church for a 4 hour morning shift or the 4 hour afternoon shift. You will also be able to sign up to provide breakfast or lunch items for the builders.

See the website for more detailed information on previously published events.

***Time to order 2017 Offertory Envelopes.** Please fill out the form in the back of church with your request or contact Renee' Carpenter if you have any questions.

* Join our **Big Deal Youth Group** on **Thursday, November 3rd @ 6pm** for a **5K Color Race!!** Register now for the race on our website.

"Prayer: The Faith Prayed"

This year, the Church will celebrate Catechetical Sunday on September 18, 2016 and will focus on the theme "Prayer: The Faith Prayed." Those who the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be recognized to be commissioned for their ministry. Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

As a parent, you are the first and greatest teacher of your children, in the ways of faith. We are the secondary teachers and are there to support you in the work you are doing in raising your children in the Catholic Faith. So we are all Catechist, teaching our own children and the children around us and helping them grow in their faith. May we all be reminded this weekend to be models for those around us.

As a parish, we continue to focus on personal prayer and making Christ the center of our lives. Daily prayer shines the light of the Gospel on everything we do, so that all our thoughts, words and actions can be informed and measured by love of God and neighbor.

Our Lord's disciples frequently observed him interrupting his journeys in order to spend long hours alone in prayer to his heavenly Father. They were moved to ask him to teach them how to pray. May we be moved this year to do the same as an essential element of our discipleship. May we all draw closer to the Lord and to one another through a deeper and more faithful commitment to prayer, in private and with others, in communion with the sacramental life of the Church.

The prayer below is a prayer for all of us, not only those who are currently involved in a Catechist role.



A Catechist's Prayer

Father of all families, you have called me to serve the family in truth and love as a catechist.

May I be faithful to this call, rooted in your Word, and open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

May I use these gifts, especially the gifts of faith, hope, and love, to serve the family as a witness to you, who are love and life and the source and destiny of all families.

Let your Spirit enlighten my mind and strengthen my heart so that I can be a path of Christ's love to families, especially those in need, the homebound and aged, the disabled and disheartened.

Through the intercession of Mary and Joseph, I pray for the Church, the Bride of Christ, whose mission to build a civilization of love passes through the family.

Amen.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday — Thursday, 8 am - 4 pm /Friday Hours 8am - 12pm (Closed Mondays)

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

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