

## PASTOR'S NOTES

### Fr. Kevin's Farewell Reception - June 25, 2017

The Quad Parish will be having a Reception from 2:00-4:00pm at Sacred Heart Church's Hall in Franklin for all 4 Churches to celebrate Fr. Kevin's service to our Quad Parish for the last seven years. Please come and enjoy refreshments and wish Fr. Kevin well on his new assignment.

June 25, 2017 - Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time  
Jer 20: 10-13/ Ps 69: 8-10. 14. 17. 33-35 (14c)/ Rom  
5: 12-15/ Mt 10: 26-33

We return to the Sundays of Ordinary Time and their survey this year of the Gospel of Matthew. We keep in mind that we left off, on February 26, in Matthew 6, near the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount, with Jesus' great exhortation against anxiety. Today we are already in chapter 10. Due to the occurrence of Pentecost, Trinity Sunday, and the Body and Blood of Christ, we have, unavoidably, skipped over the following Gospel passages: the conclusion of the Sermon on the Mount, and its warnings against facily crying out "Lord, Lord" and against building one's house on sand (7: 21-27); the call of Matthew (9: 9-13); and Jesus' observation about crowds of people who were "like sheep without a shepherd," with his designation of disciples as "twelve apostles" (9: 36 — 10: 8).

Today's Gospel passage is toward the end of Jesus' "marching orders" to the Twelve. I remember the tenth chapter of Matthew staying with me in my junior year of high school, as I found myself seriously thinking about priesthood and embarking on a reading of the entire Bible. I did this reading, as I recall, while waiting during our Thespians' rehearsal of Bye Bye Birdie. I was struck by the self-abnegation which would be required of those to be apostles.

This portion of Matthew 10 is an echo of a part of the Sermon on the Mount, which we heard just before the beginning of Lent, on February 26. Jesus addresses the anxieties of the men whose very poverty would be the guarantee of the genuineness of their message — certainly a far cry from the sickening "gospel of prosperity," of which we hear too much these days. The birds and the wildflowers are evoked again as Jesus speaks of the concept popularized in the hymn "His Eye Is on the Sparrow."

The idea that our God is intimately aware of and concerned for every last happening in our world is a

challenge today. Many people look at the universe and suppose that the rotations of galaxies and the spin of subatomic particles are a mindless, random exercise into which we are dissolved and which allows no escape from oblivion. This outlook, of course, spills over into concern about the problem of theodicy: the question of how a good God can permit evil. To the extent that we are convinced of the reality of love, as we experience it in our most significant relationships, we can, with varying degrees of ease, attribute to our God the fullness of the love which has been hinted at in familiar human bonds.

## OUR GIFTS TO GOD

### THE WEEK OF 6/11/17

St. Mary's \$1,114	Budget (\$1,900) -\$786
Sacred Heart \$1,009	Budget (\$900) +\$109
Visitation \$268	Budget (\$400) -\$132
St. Sebastian \$127	Budget (\$400) -\$273

Sister Parish Luncheon Collection: \$368.00

## LONGITUDE

2017 June 25 SUN:

2:00-4:00pm, Fr. Kevin's Farewell Reception, Sacred Heart Church Hall, Franklin. Refreshments will be served.

Second Collection: Peter's Pence.

2017 July 3 & 4:

Franklin's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration. Sacred Heart Parishioners helping with Bowl Service.

2017 July 12-16:

Morgan County Fair, Jacksonville.

2017 July 15-16 SAT, SUN:

Missionary Sunday. Fr. Mansuetus Setonga of the Diocese of Same, Tanzania. Fr. Seth will be at Mass.

## PRAY FOR THE SICK

Carole Fitzpatrick, Floann Kirsch, Nancy Flach, Cecilia Peters, Calyssa Richie, Zach Overton, Dale Fitzpatrick, Julie Bergschneider, Mary McCray, Carl Bertolotti, Rosanne Peters Hartley, Heather Boudreau, Don & Margaret Laughery, Jane Ryan, Jean Knight, Tina Green, Sy & Judy Haber, Donna Reichart, Presley Kerber, Jim Riggins, Joyce Henn, Olivia Loving, Sam Haycraft, George Eck, Opal Sutura, Theresa Yates. \*\*Call 488-3545 to submit names, which will appear with presumed consent\*\*