

*Your words, Lord, are Spirit and life;  
you have the words of everlasting life. (John 6:63c, 68c)*

My Dear Brothers and Sisters in the Lord,

We continue the Bread of Life Discourse in today's Holy Gospel. There is a dramatic turn of events in today's passage. Many cannot accept the Lord's teaching in this regard. They walk away from them. He then asks his disciples a direct question: "Do you wish to leave me also?" What is our response to the Lord?

The recent reports of sexual abuse that have come out of the dioceses of Pennsylvania are most disheartening. While the majority of these cases happened decades ago, it still causes us much anguish and sorrow. Please pray for the victims, their families, as well as the abusers and our society in general, that healing and justice may come to pass. Please be assured that in our parish and our diocese such matters are being taken most seriously, and all of the necessary safeguards have been put in place for anyone associated with the parish or working with children and all who are vulnerable. I assure you that all in this parish are in a safe environment.

Due to a full calendar and a number of conflicts and absences, there will not be an annual parish picnic this summer. We hope to start up one again next summer. In the meantime, enjoy the remaining days of summer before the school year gets into full swing.

If children still need to be enrolled for religious education they are urged to contact Margaret Stastny as soon as possible to get their registration completed. We want to have all in order before the classes begin.

Also, if you know of anyone interested in the Catholic faith, or an adult Catholic who has not yet been confirmed, please have them contact Jenifer Parsons to get them enrolled in this year's RCIA program.

Anyone interested in becoming an extra-ordinary minister of Holy Communion or a lector at Mass should call the parish office and leave their name and number. Lectors need to be at least 16 years of age and extra-ordinary ministers need to be at least 18 years of age. Our head MC, Hugh O'Hagan, will then contact you and a special training session will be set up for the month of September before the new schedule is made out and he will decide who is qualified to fulfill these important liturgical roles. The same is true for any young man wishing to be an altar server.

As we get ready for another school year let us remember to keep the Lord as the center of our lives and activities!

Devotedly yours,

*Agustin M. Nichols*

Pastor

**Basilica of St. John WEEKLY INCOME:** 8/12/18

Total - \$13,160.37

Need - \$21,198.08

Year to Date (YTD) - Fiscal Year July 1, 2018-June 30, 2019

YTD Total - \$138,522.02

YTD Need - \$169,594.64

**ELEVATOR FUND**

Current Donations.....\$ 769,600.42

Goal.....\$ 1,030,000.00

**Annual Diocesan Appeal-Current balance due: \$68,264.00**

**LITURGICAL SCHEDULE  
AUGUST 25 TO SEPTEMBER 2  
TIMES FOR EUCHARIST AND INTENTIONS**

**SAT 25** 4:00PM +Whipple & Gabriel Families  
6:00PM Spanish Mass

**SUN 26** 8:30AM +Joseph & Mary Nguyen  
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

**MON 27** 12:00PM +Sheila Gallop

**TUE 28** 12:00PM Intentions of Adam & Kara Storey Family

**WED 29** 12:00PM Intentions of Michael Siddall

**THU 30** 12:00PM +Fr. Basil, O.S.B.

**FRI 31** 12:00PM +Steve Cavanaugh

**SAT 01** 9:00AM +Cody Henritz

**(Vigil Mass)**

4:00PM +David Micklesh

**SUN 02** 8:30AM Intentions of Chi Do  
10:30AM Parish & Benefactors

**THE BASILICA OF ST. JOHN STREAMING ONLINE:  
[www.BasilicaofStJohn.org](http://www.BasilicaofStJohn.org) and click on the link...**

**PRAYER CHAIN:** Do you know someone who is in need of prayer? The Basilica Prayer Chain can help. To request prayers email Deacon Luke Tieskoetter at tieskoetterluke3@gmail.com or Terri at 321-2743 or sinc2@aol.com.

**CATECHISM CORNER:**

Last week's question: **\*\* Who are the faithful? \*\***

**ANSWER:** The Christian faithful are those who, inasmuch as they have been incorporated in Christ through Baptism, have been constituted as the people of God; for this reason, since they have become sharers in Christ's priestly, prophetic and royal office in their own manner, they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church. There exists a true equality among them in their dignity as children of God.

**LOST & FOUND:** A cell phone was found in the church this past week. If you think it may be yours please call the parish office to identify it. 515-244-3101, ext. 0



*The Basilica of St. John*  
*Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*  
*August 26, 2018*

Respect  
Life



**YOUR PARISH THIS WEEK**  
**AUGUST 27 THRU SEPTEMBER 2**

MON 27	9:00AM 6:30PM	Adoration Begins@ Foundation Meeting%
TUE 28	8:00AM 5:00PM	Organ Practice+ H.S. Humanities Class**
WED 29	9:00AM 8:00AM	Adoration Begins@ Catholic School House Classes**
THU 30	8:00AM 1:30PM	Organ Practice+++ Organ Practice+++
FRI 31	9:00AM 9:00AM 6:00PM	Adoration Begins@ H.S. Humanities Class** Quinceneara Rehearsal##
SAT 01	8:30AM 12:00PM	Chaplet of Divine Mercy## Quinceneara
SUN 02	8:00AM	Vietnamese Prayer Group+

**SIGN INDICATORS**

+++ = Choir Loft; \*\* = School; @ = Chapel; \* = Rectory  
 + = Church Hall; ## = Church; % = Conference Room;  
 (N) = (North Hall); (S) = (South Hall)

**Daily Scripture Readings for the week of August 27, 2018:**

**Monday:** 2 Thes 1:1-5, 11-12; Mt 23:13-22  
**Tuesday:** 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17; Mt 23:23-26  
**Wednesday:** 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18; Mk 6:17-29  
**Thursday:** 1 Cor 1:1-9; Mt 24:42-51  
**Friday:** 1 Cor 1:17-25; Mt 25:1-13  
**Saturday:** 1 Cor 1:26-31; Mt 25:14-30  
**Sunday:** Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

**LIFELINES: The Consequences of Being Wrong!**

Any reasonable person considers the possibility that he (or she) could be wrong regarding any important position they take. If the pro-life movement is wrong, then we are guilty of trying to deny women a so-called right to privacy (which has never been part of our Constitution). But, if the pro-abortion side is wrong, then they are indisputably and directly responsible for the slaughter and mass murder of millions of innocent children---three and a half thousand a day in the United States. So, the question is, would it be better to be pro-life and wrong, or pro-choice and wrong? The answer is very clear! (pro-lifefarticle.org/Oct. 2017)

**BASILICA GARAGE SALE:** Please consider donating items: kitchenware, linens, books, furniture, knickknacks and other suitable items to our garage sale to be held September 20/21. No clothing, old computers, tv's or mattresses. You can bring items to the stage in the parish hall. Contact Linda Murphy at 865-1050 for more info.

**HOSPITALITY** is a virtue we can practice in our parish as well as our homes. So come and help welcome visitors and newcomers to our beautiful parish as a Basilica of St. John greeter. It doesn't take a lot of time — just arrive 20 minutes before Mass starts, look for new faces and say "Hi". Whether you've been attending the Basilica for decades or just a few years, it's a great way to connect with fellow parish members and encourage newcomers and guests with a friendly smile and kind words. Interested? Contact Sherri Ribbey at [msribbey@yahoo.com](mailto:msribbey@yahoo.com) or call or text me at 515-490-0854. Please include your name and contact information.

**BASILICA ADULT CHOIR:** Music at the Sacred Mass is one of the highest forms of praising God! Do you enjoy singing? Now is your opportunity to offer your time and talents to praise Our Lord! Please prayerfully consider if the Lord is calling you to honor Him and serve our parish by singing in the choir. Yes, we have been blessed with many people who commit to this ministry, however, lives and schedules change which often limits their ability to commit. It leaves a void and opportunity for others to fill in the gap! No experience is needed. Please consider joining the music ministry by singing or playing an instrument for special occasions. Thank you! For more information, call Gail Johl: 641-919-5431.

**HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL:** School pictures will be taken Tuesday, August 28. Wear your nice clothes and great smiles that day! Friday, August 31, is an out of uniform day at Holy Family. If a student chooses to dress out of uniform this day, he/she must bring \$1 to school which will be donated to the missions. There will be no school on Monday, September 3 in observance of Labor Day. Classes will resume as usual on Tuesday, September 4

**BASILICA BUS TRIP, September 13, 2018: The bus is full!! For those who have signed up please make your payments in the parish office ASAP. Those who are on the waiting list will be contacted if there is an opening.**

**DES MOINES BENEDICTINE OBLATES:** There will be a meeting **TODAY**, Sunday, August 26, from 2:30 to 4:00 p.m. in the Basilica parish hall. Learn about the Rule of St. Benedict and praying the Liturgy of the Hours. The Des Moines Oblates meet every last Sunday of the month. All who are interested in becoming an Oblate are welcome. **NO pot-luck dinner this month.**

**AROUND THE DIOCESE**

**ROSARY PRAYER WALK FOR CREATION:** The Companions of St. Francis Fraternity-Secular Franciscan Order will be sponsoring the **Rosary Prayer Walk for Creation** on Saturday, September 8, 2018. They will meet at Northwest Community Center, 5110 Franklin Ave. The walk is from 10-11am (1.5 Miles). Bring a rosary and bottled water and join us! No registration required. Sorry, no pets are allowed. This event is not a fundraiser. Contact: [thecompanionsofs@gmail.com](mailto:thecompanionsofs@gmail.com).

**We Need A Minister of First Impressions:** St. Joseph Church needs a cheerful person to be the first contact for our parish. You must belong to the Catholic faith, be detail oriented, organized, comfortable with a computer, someone who works well in a team atmosphere and is flexible working with constant interruptions. Being able to speak Spanish is a bonus, 35 hours a week position, Monday through Friday. For more information or to send your resume, contact Fr. Joseph Pins at [jpins@stjosephdsm.org](mailto:jpins@stjosephdsm.org). or call 515-266-2226