

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Hymnal #1027

Gn 18: 1-10a
Col 1: 24-28

Ps 15: 2-5
Lk 10: 38-42

 *Mass Intentions*

| | | |
|----------------|----------|-----------------------------|
| Mon. July 23 | 8:15 am | Harry Eveslage |
| Tues. July 24 | 8:15 am | Donald Scheidler |
| Wed. July 25 | 8:15 am | Mary Sack Webster |
| Thurs. July 26 | 8:15 am | Arthur Castro |
| Fri. July 27 | 8:15 am | Ann Whalen |
| Sat. July 28 | 4:30 pm | Edith Tenkman |
| Sun. July 29 | 8:15 am | Welfare of the Parish |
| | 10:00 am | Mary Gottmer |
| | 11:30 am | Spec. Int. Ken & Peg Mersch |

WEDDING BANNS 

II Kasey O'Donnell and Suzanne Misner

Vocation View: Jesus desires that we, like his friend Mary, would spend time in his presence. Take time regularly to be with Jesus and listen to his living word.



St. Maria Goretti Parish: A Success Story

Before Hurricane Katrina, St. Maria Goretti parish was a suburban parish of over 3000 families. It has been in existence for about 40 years, and its present pastor, Monsignor Gauthreaux, is only its second pastor. Msgr. Gauthreaux led the building of the present complex, and the hurricane forced him and his people to rebuild everything except the brick walls and stained-glass windows. Nearly two years after the hurricane, St. Maria Goretti is 90% to 95% restored. It is a success story built on the generosity of Catholics across the country who contributed to the relief fund following the hurricane and the hard work of its own people.

It had to be a success story. St. Maria Goretti serves its area, New Orleans East, as a community center as well as a parish church. Since the hurricane, its parish center is the only building in the area able to host public meetings, and they have hosted meetings and gatherings of every type imaginable. Out of eight parishes in the area, only four have reopened. St. Maria Goretti now serves an area that used to be three parishes and its population is about 1000 families. While the facilities have been mostly rebuilt, the parish has some ongoing needs. Hymnals for church and athletic equipment for the CYO programs were two things on the list.

Hymnals and athletic equipment? Things must be nearly back to normal. Not so. One other thing we were repeatedly asked for was for our prayers. Things are far from "back to normal." The parish may nearly be refurbished, but the need of the parishioners and the surrounding area is glaring. Most of the stores and businesses in the area remain closed. My rough guess is that only two in ten houses are either refurbished or being worked on. FEMA trailers dot the neighborhoods, but they are few in number. As families get enough money to rebuild, they are trickling back to the area. Others have built new lives and livelihoods elsewhere and will never return. These are the fortunate ones. They are young enough or have enough resources to rebuild their lives in New Orleans or wherever the hurricane left them. As in most disasters, it's the elderly and poor who suffer most.

The story of a long-time usher at St. Maria Goretti provides a common example of the troubles of the elderly. This Cajun retiree stayed at the parish with the assistant pastor to ride out the hurricane. The levee that holds back Lake Pontchartrain is less than a mile down the street from the parish, so it was only a matter of time before the flood waters came. Seriously injured when a window exploded inward, he was rushed to Methodist Hospital (which has yet to reopen) by a Good Samaritan on a jet ski. He survived, but his house didn't. His house was demolished by flooding. Not having flood insurance, there was nothing to rebuild with. His mechanic's tools – his only possible livelihood – were stolen from his garage in the weeks following the hurricane. "Now I'm living in a shack in the bayou." Because of the price of gasoline, he isn't able to make it every week to the church he nearly gave his life for. Now this retiree will probably spend his remaining years just scraping by.

Invited to speak at Mass on Saturday afternoon, the Feast Day of St. Maria Goretti, I said, "Greetings from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati and the people of St. Vivian Parish who sent us because we heard that our brothers and sisters were still hurting. We came to see what might be done." Exactly what we as a parish community might do remains to be seen. However, finding ways to creatively help people who have lost everything, or who need some help so that they can come home may be what we can do. And certainly, we can pray. Please keep these good people, our brothers and sisters in faith, in your prayers. We will keep you informed as plans to help become clear.

Fr. Paul

Women Full of Grace

You are invited to the next Women Full of Grace meeting to be held on Wednesday, July 25 at 7:00 pm in the Gather Room. Topic is "Wisdom: Vision for the Abundant Life." All Women are invited. Call Mary Key Berning at 729-5747 for information.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Hymnal #1030

Gn 18: 20-32 Ps 138: 1-3, 6-8
Col 2: 12-14 Lk 11: 1-13

Liturgical Ministers

Sat. July 28 4:30 pm Fr. Paul Gebhardt

Eucharist: M Burke, J Fiorini, M Frey, A Kremer,
E McMahan, G Meyer, R Norris,
J & L Staneck
Greeters: S Pasqualetti, C Engelhardt
Lectors: Kent, Hagen
Servers: A Martin, K Georgopoulos

Sun. July 29 8:15 am Fr. Kenan Freson

Eucharist: T Diegmuller, G & L Neltner,
J & M Allgeier, J Burst, I Fremont,
L Hadden, S Riley
Greeters: B DeNoma, JA Schildmeyer
Lectors: Biederman, Hadden
Servers: J Allgeier, S Hagedorn

Sun. July 29 10:00 am Fr. Kenan Freson

Eucharist: E Neltner, B Elsen, S Hermes,
M Holterman, I Hufnagel, S Kent,
L Morris
Greeters: M Heckle, E Neltner
Lectors: Anderson, Hummer
Servers: K Shoaf, T Bove, S Kent

Sun. July 29 11:30 am Fr. Paul Gebhardt

Eucharist: D McCabe, J & P Altenau, D Patterson,
M Weithofer, F Tully, H Vanarsdall,
F Schwartz, P Brooks
Greeters: E Krumdieck, E Maycox
Lectors: Eha, Maag
Servers: B Lee, M Collier

Free Spirits

The Monday, August 6, meeting will be a pot luck lunch. Bring a dish, salad, pasta, or dessert to serve about six members. Tuesday, August 14 is the annual visit to River Downs. The bus will pick us up at St. Nicholas Greek Church parking lot at 10:45 am so that we arrive just as the Club House opens. Lunch is served and is included as well as bus transportation. The price for this trip is \$30.

St. Vincent de Paul Fifth Sunday

Next Saturday and Sunday, July 28 & 29, is the fifth weekend of the month, and a collection will be taken up with the regular collection for the work of the St. Vincent de Paul Society. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated. There will be envelopes in the pews or use the envelope that has been provided in your packet.

Child Protection Decree Classes

Anyone wishing to volunteer with the children of St. Vivian Parish and/or School must attend a Child Protection Decree Class and be fingerprinted by the Archdiocese. The classes will be held at St. Vivian in the Youth Room in Ursuline Hall and the dates and times are listed below. The fingerprinting can only be done at designated locations in the Archdiocese. The days and times of fingerprinting locations are available thru the Archdiocese's web site at www.catholiccincinnati.org, "fingerprinting information" and then "sites". The class must be completed and the results of the fingerprinting must be obtained prior to volunteering. Look Ahead – please do not wait until the last minute. Our children need you!

Child Protection Decree Classes

| | |
|--------------|----------|
| July 29 | 7:00 pm |
| August 7 | 7:00 pm |
| August 29 | 7:00 pm |
| September 24 | 7:00 pm |
| October 7 | 1:00 pm |
| November 3 | 10:00 am |
| January 12 | 10:00 am |
| February 20 | 7:00 pm |
| March 10 | 7:00 pm |
| April 9 | 7:00 pm |

Parish Picnic

You are invited to the St. Vivian Parish Picnic to be held next Sunday, July 29, at Winton Woods Park, Redbird Roost picnic area off Lakeridge Drive. You will need a park sticker to get into the park. Come "Grillin' with Ed." Ed Neltner will be the grillmaster. You will be able to purchase a hamburger, hot dog, bratt or mett. All proceeds from food go to the Boy Scouts. Please bring a dessert to share. The parish will provide beer, soft drinks and set-ups. There will be a cornhole tournament, kids activities, music, sports equipment available, and lots of fun. The time is from 1:00 to 8:00 pm. This event is sponsored by the Parish Fellowship Committee. For questions or more information call 931-9608.



St. Bartholomew, July 27, 28 & 29

St. James White Oak, July 27, 6:00 pm to Midnight, July 28, 4:00 pm to Midnight, and July 29, 3:00 to 10:00 pm. Sunday Chicken dinner from 2:30 to 6:30 pm. Bengal Season Ticket Raffle. Major Award \$10,000. For more information go to www.stjamesfestival.org.