

THE EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 26, 2017

*Can a mother forget her infant, be without tenderness for the child of her womb?
Even should she forget, I will never forget you.
— Isaiah 49:15*

DON'T BE ANXIOUS

People have, it seems, a natural penchant for misplaced emphasis on unimportant things. They can easily get caught up with what they're having for dinner or what they will wear.

Often it is a tragedy that helps people to refocus on what is really important. What I shall wear is an irrelevant question when I am facing surgery or chemotherapy. What's for dinner is immaterial to those living through grief or unemployment.

In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us not to worry. He doesn't say, "Don't eat. Don't cook. Don't buy clothes." He says, "Don't worry." Jesus asks us not to relinquish our responsibilities but to let go of our anxiety. Anxiety betrays a lack of trust and Jesus reminds us that "Your heavenly Father knows" all that you need (Matthew 6:32).

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TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — God will never forget you (Isaiah 49:14-15)

Psalm — Rest in God alone, my soul (Psalm 62).

Second Reading — Make no judgments; the Lord will judge (1 Corinthians 4:1-5).

Gospel — God feeds the bird and clothes the flowers. Do not be anxious; God knows all your needs (Matthew 6:24-34).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
Last Week's Collection	\$4,981.00	\$6,146.00
Number of Families contributing	163	134
Total Pledge for 2017	\$175,815.00	\$188,514.00
Pledged to Date (8 Weeks)	\$26,620.00	\$29,384.00
Received to Date	\$27,878.00	\$24,593.00
Envelopes Outstanding	(\$1,258.00)	\$4,791.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$349.00	\$2,739.00

Thirty-seven ladies made a contribution last week.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2017 Parish Goal	
Amount Received to Date	\$1,608.00
Amount Outstanding	

Seventeen people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$250.00	\$3,755.00

Six people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

PARKING LOT totaled \$8.00.

49 **CHILDREN** contributed \$238.00.

POOR BOX totaled \$152.00.

BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL COLLECTION totaled \$678.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 185, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 115 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 130.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The year was 1983. In Australia, the long-distance race from Sydney to Melbourne was about to begin, covering 875 kilometers — more than 500 miles! About 150 world-class athletes had entered, for what was planned as a six-day event. So race officials were startled when a 61-year-old man approached and handed them his entry form.

His name was Cliff Young, and his "racing attire" included overalls and galoshes over his work boots. At first, they refused to let him enter. So he explained that he's grown up on a 2,000 acre farm, with thousands of sheep. His family could afford neither horses nor tractors so, when the storms came, his job was to round up the sheep. Sometimes, he said, it would take two or three days of running.

Finally, they let Cliff enter, and the race began. The others quickly let him way behind, shuffling along in his galoshes. But he didn't know the plan included stopping each night to rest, so he kept going.

By the fifth day, he had caught them all, won the race and became a national hero. He continued to compete in long-distance races until well up in his seventies. He was an inspiration to millions and a great encourager of younger runners.

In his honor and memory, in 2004, the year after his death at age 81, the organizers of the race where he first gained fame, permanently changed its name to The Cliff Young Australian Six Day Race.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. the Family of Peyton Sherlock in loving memory of her on the 1st Anniversary of her death;
2. Pete Mike, Allison, Luxe and Seve in loving memory of Ned Sherlock on the 7th Anniversary of his death;
3. Tommy, Kimberly and Nolan in thanks for Isla on her 3rd Birthday;
4. Black Pete, Bridgette Anna and Johnny Ringo in thanks for Juda on her 1st Birthday;
5. Pete Carroll, Liz and Jayden in thanks for Palace Carroll on her 8th Birthday;
6. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

CONGRATULATIONS to Montela Gorman for making the A-B Honor Roll.

ASH WEDNESDAY Lent begins with **ASH WEDNESDAY**. Mass on Ash Wednesday, March 1st, will be celebrated at 12 NOON. Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of 6 ½ weeks of repentance, fasting and abstinence in preparation for the Easter. The ashes are symbols of being sorry for things we have done and want to get rid of them forever. This is also a reminder to us that we all come from ashes and to ashes we return.

MASS ON FRIDAYS during Lent will be at 7 P.M.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS during Lent, will be held every Friday after 7:00 p.m. Mass. The Stations of the Cross will be led on Friday:

- Mar. 3: Legion – O.L. of Presentation
- Mar. 10: Legion – O.L. of Epiphany
- Mar. 17: Religious Education Teachers
- Mar. 24: Lectors
- Mar. 31: Youth Group & Young Girls Group
- Apr. 7: Society of Mary Immaculate
- Apr. 14: Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS The collection on Ash Wednesday will be for *Aid to the Church and Central and Eastern Europe* and the second collection next weekend will be for *Black and Indian Home Missions*. Please be generous in these collections.

DISCUSSIONS AND ARGUMENTS

Discussions are always better than arguments because an argument is to find out who is right and a discussion is to find out what is right.

MASTER’S TABLE The Society of Mary Immaculate Group is scheduled to prepare and serve a hot meal to their guests at the Master’s Table in Augusta on Thursday, March 2nd. If you would like to participate in this God rewarding opportunity, please contact Ned’s Priscilla.

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in honor of Blessed Ceferino; two members for their donations in honor of St. Expedite; and two members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

BIBLE GUIDE

Where is the Bible?

The Bible is a collection of sacred books, which were composed under the positive influence of the Holy Spirit by men chosen by God, and which have been accepted by the Church as inspired. It is the most authorized, most admirable, and most important book in the world because it is the only “Divine book,” the word of God in the language of human beings.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

Three friends from a local congregation were asked, “When you’re in your casket, and friends and congregation members are mourning over you, what would you like them to say?”

Don said: “I would like them to say I was a wonderful husband, a fine spiritual leader, and a great family man.”

Jeff commented: “I would like them to say I was a wonderful teacher and servant of God who made a huge difference in people’s lives.”

Pat said: “I’d like them to say, ‘Look, he’s moving!’”

MASS INTENTIONS

- Monday:** In loving memory of Betty McGuire and Huey Gabe Sherlock on their Birthdays and Birdie Sherlock on the 29th Anniversary of her death.
- Tuesday:** In loving memory of Betty Jean O’Hara on her Birthday.
- Wednesday:** In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.
- Thursday:** For Pete Suedle Carroll.
- Friday:** In loving memory of Pete Curly Riley on the 6th Anniversary of his death.

READERS

- Sat. Feb. 25th, 4:00 P.M. Dominque & Natalie
- Sat. Feb. 25th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple’s Carolyn
- Sun. Feb. 26th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria
- Sat. Mar. 4th, 4:00 P.M. Rita Riley & Scott’s Mercedes
- Sat. Mar. 4th, 7:00 P.M. Jay & Apple’s Mary Regina
- Sun. Mar. 5th, 10:00 A.M. Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

READERS – WEEKDAYS

- Monday Ciara
- Tuesday Cathy Lisa Butts
- Wednesday Christina Apple
- Thursday Mary Ashley
- Friday Macy

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

- Saturday 4:00 P.M. Front Left Cup
- Feb. 25th Bridget Ann Winnie Ann

- Saturday 7:00 P.M. Front Cup
- Feb. 25th Jay Johnny Jay’s Ann

Sunday 10:00 A.M.

- Feb. 26th Pete Man’s Nora Rose Marie
- Mar. 5th Pete Man’s Nora Rose Marie

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

- Monday Mary Cat
- Tuesday Pete Man’s Nora
- Wednesday Ann T.
- Thursday Rose Marie
- Friday Bridget Ann

GOLDEN SENTENCES

1. Heavy rains remind us of challenges in life. Never ask for a lighter rain, just pray for a better umbrella. *That is attitude.*
2. When you are in a problem, don’t bend the End. *It is only a Bend in life.*
3. Difference between man and God is God gives; gives and forgives. *Man gets; gets and forgets.*
4. Never play with the feelings of others. You may win. *But loose the person for a lifetime.*

PRAYER CORNER

LENTEN PRAYER

Heavenly Father, Your Risen Son claims the Church as his beloved spouse and pours love over all the baptized. Hear our prayers for the church throughout the world. Let this Lenten Season draw us closer to His Sacred Heart in deeper commitment to the mission of proclaiming and living the Kingdom of God. Amen.