

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time— *July 25, 2010*

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time C 1 *Genesis 18:20-32*

Haggling with God

If your best friend does you a favor, you will want to return it. Sometimes you can get someone to do a favor if you promise some kindness in return. You might have to negotiate. You might have to give up more than you thought. But you can barter and sustain the friendship.

One of the most delightful passages in the Old Testament is the negotiation between God and Abraham. Both have entered a covenant as friends, although they are not at all equals. Still, Abraham negotiates with God about the number of righteous people who might be found in Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham speaks humbly of himself in the presence of God's majesty, yet he boldly asks for a better and better deal.

The passage is delightful until we realize what they are negotiating over: the destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah. God has condemned the city for its misdeeds, but Abraham pleads on behalf of the innocent. This dainty conversation concerns the serious business of saving human lives.

In our friendship with God, we often negotiate in a similar way. "Let my mother live, O God, and I will always treat her with respect." "Let me not get into trouble for my sin, O God, and I will always keep my room clean." "Let me get out of debt, O God, and I will give ten percent of all I own to the church." We barter. The conversation delights God's ears. God loves the people of the covenant.

Readings For Next Sunday July 31 & August 1

1st Reading...Ecc 1:2; 2:21-23
2nd Reading...Col 3:1-5, 9-11
Gospel...Lk 12:13-21

ALTAR SERVERS (Week of July 26)

Monday	Noon	Jim Gates
Tuesday	Noon	To Be Contacted
Wednesday	Noon	Bud Koshewa
Thursday	Noon	Steve Sternberg
Friday	Noon	Communion Service
Saturday	4:30pm	+H. Thiersch, E. Twyman, A. Durbin
Sunday	10:00am	+

+denotes Crossbearer

MASS INTENTIONS (Week of July 26)

Monday	Noon	
Tuesday	Noon	
Wednesday	Noon	
Thursday	Noon	
Friday	Noon	Communion Service
Saturday	4:30pm	St. Raphael Community
Sunday	10:00am	Bob Blair

HOSPITALITY MINISTERS (July, 2010)

4:30pm....David Worland (cpt), Joe O'Toole, Chuck Armes, Ray Krebs, Pat Brown, **Need 1**
10:00am...Steve Haag Jr., (cpt), Tim Haag, Steven Haag Sr., Terry Haag, Brian Bientz, Mark Kaminski, Brian Hickey

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS (July 31 & August 1)

4:30pm...Team B...Carmel Davis, *Cpt.*, Carol Cornell, Bob Massey, Lloyd Vest, Cele Sauter, Jim Gates
10:00am...Team F...Scott Raque, *Cpt.*, Maria Raque, Don Hinkebein, Carol Miller, Steve Sternberg, Pat McCormick

LECTORS

(July 31 & August 1)

4:30pm...Don Bayers & Sandy Cundiff
10:00am...Tom Lane & Bill Stangel

GIFT BEARERS (July 31 & August 1)

4:30pm...Defler Family
10:00am...John & Teresa Crawford

Stewardship Reflection

Tithing for July 18.....\$

Before every major action in His life the Scriptures tell us Jesus prayed. A steward is called to give service to others. It is by following Jesus' example of praying that we ensure we are doing God's work and not our own.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

7th & 8th Grade:

Junior High Youth Group: It's not too late to sign up to work Vacation Bible School and earn house points. Please contact Nick Cummins at 458-2500 ext. 141 to help.

High School:

Special Thanks: A special thanks to all the High School students and their parents that helped deliver summer 'care bags' to people who are sick at home or in care facilities. Great job youth!



Vacation Bible School July 26-30

This summer, bring your kids to SonQuest Rainforest Vacation Bible School (VBS)—an experience of discovery they'll never forget! Best of all, SonQuest Rainforest will take your kids beyond what they can explore with their senses to discover a living spiritual relationship with Jesus Christ. In order to make VBS a wonderful experience for the Children of St. Raphael, we need adult volunteers. If you are interested in helping, please call Nick Cummins, Coordinator of Youth Ministry, at 458-2500 ext. 141. Registration forms are available at the doors of church or online at www.saintraphaelchurch.org.

To All New Incoming Eucharistic Ministers: For those who are interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister, the Archdiocese of Louisville Office of Worship requires all new ministers to attend 2 training sessions (2 hours each). The next scheduled session is Saturday, July 31 & Aug 7, 2010 @ St. Margaret Mary. The training is 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM for both days. Please contact John Rague @ 459-0841 for registration and additional information. We are now in need of new ministers and welcome those interested in this ministry. Thank you.

CALLING ALL ADULT VOLLEYBALL PLAYERS!! Leagues now forming. Get your team of six together, novice or advanced. Age requirement for playing, 21 years or older, no one under 21 may be in attendance. Call Samantha Wood, 649-4815 or 413-5963 for additional information.

Food is Elementary Fundraising Dinner

Saturday, August 7 at 6:30pm

Foxhollow Farm Center

\$50 adults, \$25 children under 12

Benefits program at St. Raphael and other area schools.

For more information email jmackin@olivergroup.com.

Catholic Charities' Migration & Refugee Services, 2911 S. 4th Street, a special resettlement service program for refugees through the Archdiocese of Louisville is having a "Back to School Drive" for the month of July and August. Particular school supply items that are needed for refugee children include back packs, rulers, erasers, glue, scissors, pencils, pens, colored pencils, markers, folders, notebooks, wide rule paper, and school uniform attire (navy blue and khaki pants, white and blue colored dress or polo shirts). In addition, gently used furniture is always needed along with numerous household goods such as towels, washcloths, pillows, clock radios, lamps, twin/full bed sheet sets, cleaning supplies and various kitchen utensils. Volunteers are also needed. Call Chris Clements, 636-0296, ext. 125.

Summer Hours for the Parish Office

Monday-Thursday 8:30am-4:00pm

Friday 8:30am-1:00pm

Please offer your prayers for our sick family & friends in the St. Raphael Parish community:

Mary Lee Anderson, Helen Bethards, Charles Bauer, James Caudill, Richard Chandler, David Charmoli, Victoria Clark, Pat Conner, Robert Coury, Martha Creed, Connor Day, Mary Jeannette Durham, Sara Fante, Daniel Flynn, Frances Gibson, Sue Harris, Anita Hertelendy, Dolores Heuser, Scott Jacob, Rosemary Johnson, Mary Kautzman, Ann Kelton, Damion Kline, George Koestel, Henry Krebs, A.C. Leonhardt, Tina Lomax, Charles Lucas, Andrew McKinley, Tom Meyer, Malinda O'Daniel, John J. Orthober, Ron Parrino, Connie Peters, Dr. Richard Phelps, Angelo Rappa, Tina Ray, Jean Reinstedler, Elfriede Smith, Elmer Smith, Carolyn Sweeney, Dorothy Thomas, Anna Maria Verwest, Jane Wagner, Carol Walls, Joe Welch, Lillian Werkman, Sarah Westerfield, Dorothy Wimsatt

Please patronize the sponsors of our bulletin. Their support makes this bulletin possible. This week's bulletin sponsor is **CatholicMatch.com**.

(In an effort to keep the prayer list up-to-date, please notify the Parish Office of any additions or deletions.)