

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

DO NOT WORK FOR FOOD THAT PERISHES BUT FOR THE FOOD THAT ENDURES FOR ETERNAL LIFE.

AUGUST 2, 2009

— John 6:27a

## TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITIONS

In 1794, a young Irish woman befriended two widows aboard ship while emigrating to America. They bought a house in Philadelphia and began to live a community life under the direction of a priest. Soon they relocated to Washington. There, the “*pious ladies*,” as the neighbors called them, were asked by their priest friend, by then the president of Georgetown University, to begin a religious community. In 1799 they established a branch of the Visitation Order founded by Saint Jane de Chantal and Saint Francis de Sales in the 1620’s.

The unique vision of this order followed a sensible routine, less arduous and more flexible than most traditions, and also accepted widows and older women. Amazingly, this American outpost of the Visitation began without reference to the “rule” of the Order. Most of the European convents had been lost under the “reign of terror,” and the rules and customs of the community could not be obtained. A copy of the rule was discovered in 1812, and in 1816 the pope officially established the monastery. By then, some French nuns had regrouped, and they sent a habit and cross to be copied. (No religious wore the habit in public in the United States until after the Civil War.) From the beginning, the Georgetown nuns had an educational mission, even though they discovered in the “rule” that such work was officially off-limits for the contemplative life. In America, the nuns depended on a school for their livelihood, so the rule was adapted. Today, the Academy of the Visitation is a thriving example of **excellence in Catholic education**, and the adjacent monastery is the oldest monastic foundation in the original thirteen United States.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

## LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

Members of the Liturgy Committee are urged to attend a liturgy meeting on August 3rd at 7:00p.m. in the Rectory.

## NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

The readings for next Sunday, *The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time* are listed below along with questions for your quiet reflection.

**FIRST READING:** 1 Kings 19:4-8

**SECOND READING:** Psalm 34

**GOSPEL:** John 6:41-51

*Am I closing myself off to the possibility of something greater happening in my life? How can faith open up my potential.*

## CHILDRENS RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

One of our parish responsibilities is to provide opportunity for students to experience the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to bring Catholic beliefs and values into their lives and the world. We know that through forming a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, children build a strong foundation for lifelong discipleship. **Therefore, we invite you to enroll your children in our Elementary Religious Education program this year. Registration forms will be available after all the Masses on August 15/16 and August 22/23.** More instructions will be available when you pick up the registration form.

## MARKET BASKET COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

Because so many people are in need, our local **Catholic Charities Pantry is in critical condition**. They are in need of dry or canned beans, rice, canned meat, canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter and cereal (all non-perishable foods.) **In order to help, our parish will sponsor a food drive on the first weekend of each month.** Your contribution of non-perishable food this weekend may be placed inside the grocery basket located outside the church. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, please place your donation inside an envelope marked *MARKET BASKET COLLECTION* and drop it in the Sunday collection basket. Thank you for your help.

## MANNA MEALS LUNCH

The Manna Meals lunch-makers will meet in the Parish Hall at **8:45a.m. on Friday, August 14** to assemble sack lunches for the St. Luke’s Shower Program. All help is greatly appreciated.

## COMUNIDAD MEETING

Our next meeting will be held this Tuesday, August 4th at 7:00p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel Parish Hall where we will screen *TRINIDAD*. Part observational film and part essay, *TRINIDAD* explores the diverse characters and personal histories of a group of people who have come together because of similar life experiences. Filmed in the small community of Trinidad, Colorado, *TRINIDAD* is compassionate and compelling. Due to the length of the film **we will begin our meeting at 7:00p.m. sharp.** A discussion will follow. All are welcome.