SUNDAY MASSES & CONFESSIONS: See inside

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGE: For these Sacraments please notify the church office as soon as possible so that we may advise you of the requirements. Thank you.

NEW PARISHIONERS: Please fill out registration card and return to ushers or the church office.

RCIA - Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: Tel. 482-6883 or 481-7172

RELIGIOUS ARTICLES STORE: Tel. 437-9876
The Gift Shop is located in the front of the church

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE: Tel. 482-6883

YOUTH MINISTRY OFFICE: Tel. 481-5144

PARISH OFFICE: Tel. 481-7171 or 481-7172
Fax: 481-8007, www.resurrectionch.org

July 24, 2016

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

KEEP PRAYING

St. Monica, whose feast we celebrate in August, is often known as “the persistent mother.” She watched her oldest son, Augustine, turn his back on his Christian faith.

Monica was exasperated. For years she gave up talking directly to her son on the advice of a local bishop, who told her that it was better to talk to God about Augustine then to Augustine about God.

The mother never gave up praying for her son. Eventually Augustine gave up his wild ways, was baptized, and later ordained and named bishop of Hippo. St. Augustine went on to become one of the Church’s greatest scholars.

Today’s readings address the importance of persistent prayer. Abraham, in spite of trepidation that he is bothering the Lord, continues to ask about the fate of Sodom and Gomorrah. Jesus, in Luke’s Gospel, tells his disciples to “ask and you will receive; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you” (Luke 11:9). This is our charge: keep praying.
You were buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

— Colossians 2:12

TODAY’S READINGS
First Reading — Abraham bargains with God to spare the city (Genesis 18:20-32).
Psalm — Lord, on the day I called for help, you answered me (Psalm 138).
Second Reading — Buried with Christ in baptism, we were also raised with him; all our transgressions are forgiven (Colossians 2:12-14).
The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary.

Asked and Answered:
Scott Hahn Reflects on the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Though we be “but dust and ashes,” we can presume to draw near and speak boldly to our Lord, as Abraham dares in this week’s First Reading.

But even Abraham - the friend of God (see Isaiah 41:8), our father in the faith (see Romans 4:12) - did not know the intimacy that we know as children of Abraham, heirs of the blessings promised to his descendants (see Galatians 3:7,29).

The mystery of prayer, as Jesus reveals to His disciples in this week’s Gospel, is the living relationship of beloved sons and daughters with their heavenly Father. Our prayer is pure gift, made possible by the “good gift” of the Father - the Holy Spirit of His Son. It is the fruit of the New Covenant by which we are made children of God in Christ Jesus (see Galatians 4:6-7; Romans 8:15-16).

Through the Spirit given to us in Baptism, we can cry to Him as our Father - knowing that when we call He will answer. Jesus teaches His disciples to persist in their prayer, as Abraham persisted in begging God’s mercy for the innocent of Sodom and Gomorrah.

For the sake of the one just Man, Jesus, God spared the city of man from destruction (see Jeremiah 5:1; Isaiah 53), "obliterating the bond against us," as Paul says in this week’s Epistle.

On the Cross, Jesus bore the guilt of us all, canceled the debt we owed to God, the death we deserved to die for our transgressions. We pray as ones who have been spared, visited in our affliction, saved from our enemies.

We pray always a prayer of thanksgiving, which is the literal meaning of Eucharist. We have realized the promise of this week’s Psalm: We worship in His holy temple, in the presence of angels, hallowing His name.

CONFESSIONS - Saturdays 2:15-3:15 or 30 min. before Sunday Masses or by appointment.

REMEmBER IN YOUR PRAYERS......all those who have gone before us marked with the sign of faith, especially James Martin.

PRAYERS FOR PRIESTS - Please join us every Thursday immediately after the 8:00 Mass to pray for priests.

RESURRECTION PRAYER LINE MINISTRY
For prayer requests or to sign up as a volunteer call: 481-1170.
WEAKLY OFFERING

July 17, 2016
Regular Offertory: $14,478.82
SVDP: $518.00
Latin Mass: $429.00

Thank You

On-Line Giving for June 2016
Regular Offertory: $8,007.00
Education: $808.00

Thank You

SVDP Distributions, June 2016
Rents: $5,276.50
Electric: $1,806.31
Water: $255.62
Food: $399.50
Travel: $120.00

Thank You

July 24: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
In the Gospel, Jesus teaches us that God is our “Father” and just as a parent’s love for their children is unlimited, so is God’s love and care for us unlimited.
This week, as you give your gift to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, know that you are showing them that God loves them and that he is indeed their “Father.”

Prayer for Safety In Hurricane Season
O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed Your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade our land, and spread chaos and disaster.
During this hurricane season we turn to You, O loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose memories are still so vivid and whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your Son on our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach the heavenly Jerusalem, where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen.
Youth ministry registration open for the fall!

Register fees:
- $45 thru July 31
- $55 thru Aug. 31
- $65 thereafter

NEW TIME FOR RYM BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 25TH...
Family/Youth Mass 5:15pm
Followed by
Youth Gatherings 6:15–7:45pm
Call RYM or email with any questions:
Vikki@resurrectionch.org / 481-5144

*Add’l fee for Confirmation Prep. ~
2yr. Program begins in 9th gr.
Registration forms can be printed out from our website: www.resurrectionch.org
Or stop in at the Parish Center!

We invite all young people of the parish who have not yet received the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Communion, or Confirmation
To register now for Classes!

- Sacramental Preparation is a two year faith formation program.
- In preparation for the reception of these most holy sacraments, weekly Mass participation is expected.
- All families are welcome!

*Registration forms may be found online or in the church office—open from 8:00-4:00 daily.

YOUTH MINISTRY IS HELPING OUR FRIENDS AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES GET READY FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.....

WE ARE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO FILL 40 BACKPACKS!

Items that we will be filling the backpacks with are:
Pens, pencils, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, rulers, erasers, crayons, glue, colored pencils, markers, highlighters, scissors, pencil sharpeners, etc.

If you are unable to pick up any supplies but would like to make a monetary donation, we’ll be happy to shop for you!

R.Y.M. “Helping, mentoring, building community!”

All donations can be dropped off in the Parish Center with Youth Ministry
If you have any questions, call Vikki at 481-5144.
R. C.I.A.
RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION for ADULTS

Baptism initiates us in the community of faith!
Confirmation seals us with Gifts of the Holy Spirit!
Eucharist nourishes us daily with the Body of Christ!

Sacraments celebrate the Love and Presence of Christ.
Are you searching for meaning in your living?
Do you have questions?
Consider inquiring.

Call: Joanne MacPeek - 481-7171
Or email: resurrectionre@gmail.com

COME & SEE
“You did not choose me, I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit that will remain, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name he may give you. This I command you: love one another.”
John 15:16

SIGN UP TO BE AN ALTAR SERVER

Being an altar server is a wonderful opportunity for our young parishioners to participate in the Sunday liturgy. Any child in the fourth grade or higher who would like to become an altar server is invited to sign up for training (2 classes, dates and times to be announced).

If interested, please fill out the following form and drop it in the collection basket at Mass or bring it to the parish office.

Server’s Name_________________________________________

Parents Name________________________________________

Address_____________________________________________

Telephone # Cell_________________Home________________
Tips for Grandparenting

This deacon and his wife are helping others meet the challenges of life as grandparents in the 21st century.

BY SUE STANTON

(Left) Grandparents can offer "time, talent, and treasure to their grandchildren," says Deacon Gary Atchison of the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa—pictured here with his wife, Kay.

AS A LINK BETWEEN PAST and future, it is the grandparents who plant the seed, knowing full well they may not see the fruit of their harvest.

They plant anyway.

Sue and Marv Prins have grandchildren in Milwaukee—an eight-hour drive from home. Facebook and phone calls help shrink the distance, but Sue, who lives with a chronic illness, reasons, "I probably won't live to see my grandchildren as adults. So what I do is show them, whenever I get the chance, that I'm not afraid to try new things simply because I may be limited. I feel that is the most important thing for me to pass on to them. As Jesus says, 'Do not be afraid.' So I'm not. It sends a message to my kids, too."

For grandparents Ken and Anne Recker, grandparenting means travel—logging thousands of miles crisscrossing the Midwest as they visit their eight grandchildren. They help with sickness when flu season hits, or cooking meals and clean house if there are hospitalizations. They are cheerleaders during baseball season and worry about injuries during soccer games.

Through these experiences, they have learned they can be indispensable to all three of their married children. And to foster a new level of family connection, the Reckers use social media and share stories of past generations. The walls of their home are covered with black-and-white photos, visual reminders of where both sides of the family came from.

"We feel it is important that we're involved with their lives as much as possible," notes Anne, who loves sharing vivid childhood memories of her grandparents.
Reflecting on memories of grandparents—what they valued and how they lived those values—is one important way to begin looking at the role of grandparenting. These memories can show how grandparents give witness to life, serving as a model for the next generation. They face increasing challenges, giving them the ability to leave a legacy of resilience, acceptance, faith, and love.

Additionally, the love of a grandparent is unconditional and total. At no other time in life would adults uproot themselves—sell a home, relocate their job, leave friends and possibly other family members—except for the powerful, consuming love of a grandchild who they feel needs them. As one laughing grandmother admits, “I simply lost my mind when my first grandchild was born. I left everything I had and moved to be near them.”

Grandparents are vital to a child’s identity, research shows. Therefore, it is important to keep the lines of family communication open and strong between grandparents and grandchildren through e-mail, Skyping, texting, blogging family news, cell phone calls, family vacations, or snail mail. As grandchildren grow out of some activities, they no doubt grow into others, and those interactions—ongoing and changing—allow for enriching life on both sides of the age gap.

**One Couple Offers Help**

While grandparenting can be rewarding, the path is not always rosy, especially in today’s society. Deacon Gary and Kay Aitchison from the Archdiocese of Dubuque, Iowa, have seen a transformation in the family structure, working as a diaconate couple throughout their

(Above) Technology has opened new ways for grandparents to stay connected to their children and grandchildren, allowing for these special family relationships to continue to flourish.
It might not seem like it at first, but being a grandparent is a calling, one with practical and spiritual dimensions that touch future generations with knowledge and wisdom.

lives. They saw people struggling to meet the challenges of life as grandparents in the 21st century and being totally unprepared for this new role in their lives.

The Aitchisons have had ample opportunity to witness the growing diversity in families through their involvement with the Christian Family Movement (CFM) since 1966. Having the roles of national presidents of CFM from 1981 to 1985, and international presidents from 2010 to 2013, they have headed an organization that serves over 100,000 families in 48 countries.

Observing their own family of six children, and hearing increasing anxieties from the numerous married and single parents they have met during their ministry, Deacon Gary and Kay identified many hurdles: a rising divorce rate, single parenting, changing family structures, and a lagging commitment to religious traditions. Due to these issues, they noticed that many aging married couples were being called upon to raise their grandchildren—assisting in the day-to-day care from infancy to adulthood. Grandparents were having to step up to share in transportation needs, emotional investment, counsel during a family crisis, and occasionally serving as live-in help as well as a financial resource.

The Aitchisons began to interact with new grandparents to help them look deeply into the ongoing and changing roles of family life, and at their own history to find the hidden gems there. They wanted to try to break open the mindset families have concerning aging parents, as well.

"Grandparents have much to offer in time, talent, and treasure to their grandchildren, and it is more important than ever to do," explains Deacon Gary. "Part of the problem lies in one word, elderly, as opposed to grandparent. These people do not think of themselves as elderly or frail. They are people with health and vitality, [which they] place at the disposal of their families. Many of them work hard, if not harder than they did when they were raising their own kids.

"Grandparents don't usually see it as a calling at this time of life, but it's really the beginning of a new spiritual path. Most feel they've raised their children. But does it really end once their children are grown? Not really. It never ends."

Addressing Changes in Family Dynamics

The 2010 US Census shows that over one-fourth of the total US population is between
A Grandparent Blessing

God, our heavenly Father,
we ask your blessings on these grandparents gathered here today.
We recognize their treasured gifts to their families and to the parish family. They are valuable links between the past and the present.

May they be surrounded with the love, respect, and support of their families as they embrace their unique vocation.

May they be strong models for their families and for our parish community.

May they be anchors that provide stability and a firm foundation.

May their witness to their faith guide and strengthen us.

Lord, bless and empower these grandparents. Help them share their distinct gifts with their families and all whom they encounter. Keep them in your love. Give them your joy and peace each day so that they may always follow your son, Jesus. Amen.

The Aitchisons give special recognition to the grandparents of Jesus with a prayer written by Kay. Her prayer has been used in several parishes throughout the United States on the feast day of Sts. Joachim and Anne (July 26), but can be used at any time. Kay wrote the prayer so that parishes can use it as a special blessing just for grandparents.

the ages of 45 and 64. More than one in every four adults is a grandparent, and as parents are torn in more directions for their jobs, it is falling to grandparents to pick up the slack.

Kay Aitchison sees this in her own family. “Young families, especially, are too busy to get everything accomplished. Two careers pull them in all different directions,” she points out. “So there are lots of things getting missed, not being done, not covered.”

“Grandparents are concerned about this,” Deacon Gary adds. “They tell us they are worried about passing down the faith, teaching kids manners, and a large number we hear from are concerned over the lack of teaching values.”

Here, grandparents are powerful role models. They have a life of accumulated experiences—both good and bad—along with a skill set to share. However, the biggest obstacle the Aitchisons have discovered when speaking with grandparents is that they hesitate to get too deeply involved out of fear.
"If you don’t share with your children and grandchildren your own life of faith and hope in the future," Deacon Gary tells them, "the culture will teach them for you."

And that outcome gives many grandparents pause. "Most of all, grandparents don’t want to interfere or cause trouble within the family," he continues. "This is where we can help them explore new ways to enhance the grandparent/grandchild relationship. This like-to-like ministry gives grandparents support and friendship, while it empowers them in their new vocation."

The Value of Grandparents
Deacon Gary and Kay give talks to groups on grandparenting called "The Grand Adventure." They begin by reminding audiences of the earliest tradition in Christianity of grandparenting—the lives of Sts. Joachim and Anne, grandparents of Jesus.

According to the Greek Orthodox tradition, Mary’s parents moved with her from Nazareth to Jerusalem where they dedicated their daughter to God as a consecrated virgin at the age of 10. Not long after this, St. Joachim died at age 80. St. Anne, a widow wishing to live close to her daughter, bought land for a tomb where she could be buried with her husband. The spot she chose? Near the gates of the Garden of Gethsemane.

One can easily imagine Mary taking her son by the hand to visit and pray at the tomb of his grandparents throughout his early life. This makes his choice of the Garden of Gethsemane for his own final hours on earth steeped with tenderness and relevance for any grandparent’s meditation and prayer.

"Along with self-confidence and family pride," Kay says, "family stories teach the faith, ethics, and values of a family. Our faith stories help us to see how God has worked in the family story and brought us to where we are today. They link us to the good and saintly people who have been part of the family chain, and these people provide models for newer generations. Children need heroes with whom to identify, and they are greatly enriched if [those heroes] can be in their own families."

"And it is the actions of grandparents that show their grandchildren how to be good citizens and witnesses to the faith," says Deacon Gary. "They are ultimately models for aging—not only to their grandchildren, but also to their children."

Sue Stanton is a freelance author from Des Moines, Iowa. She has authored six faith-based books for children and adults.

PLANTING THE Seeds of Faith

How does a grandparent begin a spiritual journey of faith with a grandchild? Below are 10 tips that may get you started.

1. Don’t forget that your actions will always speak louder than your words. Little ones are taking your cues of how to proceed in life from you! If you’d rather whine about it, they will, too. Always give children hope in the future.

2. Along with learning a value such as “patience is a virtue,” your grandchildren will also learn attitudes from you such as impatience, intolerance, and discrimination or respect for others, kindness, and empathy.

3. Help teach children age-appropriate skills and tasks such as baking, sewing, or helping to clean. These activities will provide moments of interaction that can be filled with stories.

4. Great conversations can take place during car rides. It allows a reluctant or shy child to ask difficult questions or express feelings without having to do it face-to-face.

5. Short trips to your church can be a great outing with a small child when the church is quiet. Children do enjoy the mysterious. Allow them to ask questions and talk out loud. Tell them how you are a friend of Jesus and how you respect His house when visiting.

6. Walk in nature. Explain how God is present in all things. Try looking for God in a plant, and if it sounds funny to your grandchild, they’ll remember you doing it.

7. Make sure you always have plenty of time to spare when speaking of faith matters with a grandchild. Making an encounter can turn a child off to further discussion in the future.

8. Family reunions are a good time for children to meet relatives from across the country and understand where they fit in the larger family structure.

9. Provide a designated wall for pictures of family and point out family members as you tell their life stories. You’ll be surprised at how children don’t seem to be listening, but they actually are.

10. The best thing a grandparent can do is to listen first, speak when needed, and always love everyone. At this stage of life, there is no time for hurt feelings. Be open and welcoming like Jesus.
Check out our newest CD’s, DVD’s, Books and Pamphlets at the front entrance of the church.

Some of our new titles include:
CD’s -
The Baseball Priest with Fr. Burke Masters
Attack on Religious Liberty - Battle for the Faith
From Atheism to Catholicism: My Conversion Diary
15 Things to Do in the Midst of Suffering
Getting Others to Heaven - Learning to be a Leader
Books -
Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Heaven
Joan of Arc
Crossing the Tiber
Rome Sweet Home

RESURRECTION CALENDAR
All events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.
Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, June 6, July 11, Aug. 1, 8:30am. For more information call Alouise 481-8168
Coffee & Donuts, Sundays after 10:30 Mass
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men’s Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:00p.m., Sept. - May
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel
RCIA, Sundays, after the 9:00a.m. Mass, for info, 482-6883
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, for info, call Judy at 287-1237
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel
Rosary Makers, 3rd Thursdays Oct. thru May, 9-11 a.m.
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749, or email, svdp@resurrectionch.org
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m. Sept. - May

THE MARK OF THE MAKER
If things created are so full of loveliness, how resplendent must be the One who made them! The wisdom of the Worker is apparent in such handiwork.
—St. Anthony of Padua

Lectors Needed
No experience necessary since training will be provided. Flexible Mass schedule. Call Todd at 239-284-4979.

MARRIED COUPLES: What have you done for your marriage today? Successful marriages don’t work on automatic pilot – at least not for long. Like a garden, they require constant attention: fertilizing, watering, and weeding. Healthy marriages, like gardens, don’t die suddenly. More often they fade away from a gradual lack of attentiveness, letting things slide, taking each other for granted. Plan to attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter and discover God’s plan for joy, romance and passion in your marriage. The next available WWME weekend in this diocese is at OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP RETREAT CENTER in Venice on August 12-14, 2016. For more information or to register go to WWME.org or call Pat & Debbie Powers at 813-270-7832.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK
IMPORTANT NOTE TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:
When admitted to the hospital please register as Catholic and notify the parish office immediately, 481-7171. Resurrection priests visit the hospitals daily.
To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission.
The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:
* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by St. John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

“A Nation That Kills Its Own Children Is a Nation Without Hope.”
~ Pope John Paul II

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FT. MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY AND EVERY 2ND THURSDAY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD, CORNER OF WINKLER & COLLEGE ANYTIME BETWEEN 9 AM AND NOON.