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

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. Stephen E. McNamara, V.G., V.F.
Parochial Vicars: Fr. Oliver Toner
Deacons: Rev. Mr. Michael Esper, Rev. Dr. David Reardon
Business Manager: Bonnie O'Connell
Co-Directors of Faith Formation: Deanna Latell, M.A., Joanne MacPeek, M.A.
Youth Ministry Director: Vikki Melchiorre
Organist: Connie Kish

September 4, 2016
TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
INVITED

The Good News is that we have all been invited—invited to the Kingdom, invited to be disciples. It’s a life-changing invitation, and like so many other such invitations, it requires a great deal of deliberation and discernment. Whether we choose marriage, ordination, single life, or community life, we know the serious planning and consideration that accompany these profound decisions. Like the tower-builder in the Gospel, we have weighed both the monetary and emotional cost. We have pondered and planned our lives in the direction to which we believe God has called us. And while we pray for guidance and acceptance of God’s will, we often fail to understand so much. Like Solomon, we turn to God for wisdom and counsel in our life-changing decisions.
Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 4, 2016

Fill us at daybreak with your kindness, that we may shout for joy and gladness all our days.
— Psalm 90:14

This Sunday’s Readings:
First Reading
Wisdom 9:13-18b
Knowledge alone has limits. We also need wisdom to understand the ways of God.

Responsorial Psalm
Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14-17
God’s power has no boundaries; it is not limited by space and time.

Second Reading
Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Paul encourages one of his converts to consider his former slave a brother in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading
Luke 14:25-33
Jesus teaches about the demands of discipleship.

Background on the Gospel Reading
In chapter 14 of Luke’s Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people gathered at the table about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him doing something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to be a disciple and enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many, even some of the guests at the table, reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. Jesus explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes “hating” one’s father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew’s version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to “hating” father or mother, but to loving them more than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one’s own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don’t start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else.

Day of Prayer to Promote Peace and Unity -
In the wake of the multiple tragedies over the past months, two of which were in our own community of Fort Myers, Bishop Frank Dewane will be celebrating a Day of Prayer to promote peace and healing in our community. The Day of Prayer will take place on Wednesday September 7th at St. Francis Xavier, 6:30 p.m.
All of the Lee County faithful are invited, along with ecumenical and interfaith leaders from the Fort Myers area, to pray for peace in our community.
This week’s Sanctuary Candle:  
*In loving memory of Robert Baker*  
by wife Dottie

Altar Flowers  
This Week:  
In loving memory of:  
*Ray & Barbara Walsh*  
by Friends at Resurrection

WEEKLY OFFERING

**August 28, 2016**
Offertory: $13,362.00  
Latin mass: $604.00  
SVDP: $702.00

**2016 CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL**

Our assessment for this year is $347,000.00  
*Payments made thus far Total:*  
$310,301.65, Thank you!

*We still need $36,698.35 to pay our assessment.*

*Please join our parish by making a donation today!*

Registration for Faith Formation  
Grades K-5 is still open!

**Start Date:** September 25th  
**Class Time:** Sundays 4:00-5:00pm  
Followed by 5:15 Mass

**Tuition:** - $70  
- $15 each additional child  
- $25 Sacramental Prep fee if receiving First Communion this year

Registration forms are available in the church office or on line at:  
www.resurrectionch.org

*Please register by September 1st*  
*Tuition assistance is available.*

**WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!**

“Let the little children come to me.”  
Matt. 19-14

Bereavement and Beyond -  
Because of the Labor Day holiday, the next Bereavement and Beyond meeting will be Monday Sept. 12 at 8:30. Regular weekly meetings will resume in October.
PRAYER FOR PEACE IN OUR WORLD
Pope John Paul II
O God, Creator of the universe, who extends your paternal concern over every creature and guides the events of history to the goal of salvation, we acknowledge your fatherly love when you break the resistance of mankind and, in a world torn by strife and discord, you make us ready for reconciliation. Renew for us the wonders of your mercy; send forth your Spirit that he may work in the intimacy of hearts, that enemies may begin to dialogue, that adversaries may shake hands and peoples may encounter one another in harmony. May all commit themselves to the sincere search for true peace which will extinguish all arguments, for charity which overcomes hatred, for pardon which disarms revenge. – www.usccb.org

Mark Your Calendars!
Annual Women’s Guild Craft Bazaar
October 28th and 29th

We are getting closer to the cooler weather and that can only mean it is time for the Annual Craft Bazaar. So mark your calendars and start looking forward to this great event. Whether you are a crafter, baker, volunteer or have some gently used items to donate, we welcome you all. Donations of hand crafted items, used books, dvds, cds, puzzles, jewelry, craft supplies and other cherished items can be dropped off at the Parish Center. Keep in mind we will be having the popular bake sale at the bazaar too! So, all of you home chefs, plan on donating your favorite goodies. Our volunteer schedule will be available at the first Guild meeting of the season on September 21st at 9am. Looking for some fun? Join our crafters on Tuesday mornings at 8:30am for chit chat, coffee and crafts. You don’t have to be a Martha Stewart to enjoy creating items for the bazaar. Whether you donate, create, volunteer or shop you will be helping the Women’s Guild support their charitable works. For more information call Joan at 239-432-0656.

Lectors Needed
Looking to grow in your faith? Look no further than participating in the Lector Ministry. It will literally change your life! No experience necessary since training will be provided. Flexible Mass schedule. Call Todd at 239-284-4979.

GIFT SHOP HOURS
Sat: 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.  Sun. 8:00 - 11:45 a.m.

PLEASE JOIN US FOR ADORATION EVERY FIRST FRIDAY AFTER THE 8:00 MASS
All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Switch to the Choose Life License Plate for Free and Help Promote Adoption -
For a limited time, you can save the $85 fee to switch to the Choose Life License Plate if you agree to keep it for 5 years. Each year the special fee of $25 (approximately $2 per month) will provide $20 to a local agency to support life and adoption. The funds are needed for housing, utilities, food, medical care, clothing, transportation and counseling for pregnant women making an adoption plan. Email russ@choose-life.org to request your free gift certificate to switch. Questions? Contact Jeanne at Berdeaux@dioceseofvenice.org or 941-441-1101.
Mother Teresa knew what being unloved felt like, priest says

ROME (CNS) -- In the chapel of the first house Blessed Teresa of Kolkata established in Rome, Father Brian Kolodiejchuk of the Missionaries of Charity Fathers, postulator for the cause of Blessed Teresa of Kolkata, poses for a photo in the chapel of the Missionary of Charity Fathers' house in Rome Aug. 19. (CNS photo/Robert Duncan).

"She was very human -- she loved chocolate, she loved ice cream," the priest said. At the same time, her letters to her spiritual directors make it clear "she's among the great mystics of the church," having experienced the sweetness of hearing Jesus' voice and, later, the desolation of feeling he had abandoned her.

"Mother Teresa was no plastic saint," said Father Kolodiejchuk, who is superior general of the Missionaries of Charity Fathers and postulator of Blessed Teresa's sainthood cause. Mother Teresa was a "very concrete, feet on the ground" organizer and hands-on minister to the poorest of the poor, he said.

The priest, a native of Canada, spoke to Catholic News Service Aug. 19 at the home Mother Teresa initially founded in Rome for novice sisters. Now a base for the order's priests, it is a warren of rooms built around a courtyard covered with a densely leafed grape vine laden with fruit nearing purple ripeness.

The grapes should be ready for harvest by Sept. 4, the date Pope Francis is scheduled to declare Blessed Teresa a saint.

"Mother Teresa could be the patron saint of women who are having difficulty conceiving," Father Kolodiejchuk said when asked for suggestions. When couples would tell her they were having trouble having children, "she would take a miraculous medal, kiss it and then she would say simply, 'Say this prayer: 'Mary, mother of Jesus, give us a child.'" That was the whole prayer. And sure enough, one year later there would be the couple with a baby in hand."

But the priest, who travels constantly as superior of his order and chief promoter of Blessed Teresa's sainthood cause, said she also could be the patron saint of airline travelers. "She's my personal patron saint for my luggage," he said. Before a trip, he says a little prayer and "I have never had any difficulty with my luggage. Never lost. Always shows up."

Mother Teresa's canonization is the church's formal proclamation that she is with God and can intercede on behalf of those who pray for her assistance, Father Kolodiejchuk said. Sainthood recognizes that she "lived in an excellent way -- a heroic way -- the Christian life and shows us concretely what the Christian life involves."

For Father Kolodiejchuk, "the single most heroic aspect of her life" is her extraordinary commitment to God, the church and the poor despite what Mother Teresa described in letters to her spiritual director as "the darkness," a feeling that lasted some 50 years.

"She was a woman passionately in love with Jesus," Father Kolodiejchuk said. "As a young religious she made this resolution to love him as he's never been loved before, which is a daring thing to say if you are taking it seriously."

In 1946, Mother Teresa -- at the time a Loreto sister -- heard the voice of Jesus calling her to serve him in the poorest of the poor. It was an intense, mystical experience of "that union, that presence, that intimacy with Jesus," he said. "And then she lost it and that's painful."

"So the trial is that she feels that Jesus doesn't love her. She feels unwanted, unloved," he said.

Father Kolodiejchuk said that for Mother Teresa, it was like "a woman who loves passionately her husband, but it seems like he couldn't care less, and yet she is there faithfully, loving, doing all the things a loving wife would do."

Living through that experience with "heroic faith," constant acts of charity and real love for God and for the poor, he said, is a witness to the real meaning of commitment and that "love is not principally a feeling. Certainly that's part of it for almost everyone, but in the end, it is classical Thomas Aquinas: Love is in the will. It's our choosing."

Feeling unloved was not just a painful experience for Mother Teresa, he said. It was also another way for her to live in deep communion with Jesus and with the materially and spiritually poor she dedicated her life to serving.

In the chapel of every Missionary of Charity community, next to the crucifix, are the words of Jesus, "I thirst."

"Thirst for Jesus explains everything" the missionaries do, he said. From the very beginning, Mother Teresa said the order was founded "to quench the thirst of Jesus on the cross for love and souls. So, in this darkness, she is quenching, satisfying Jesus' thirst by, paradoxically, not experiencing that love. Or to say it in another way, they are so united that Jesus can share with her his most terrible pain."

Her experience of feeling unloved also meant she lived "in solidarity with the spiritually poor," Father Kolodiejchuk said. "She would have this empathy because she would have the same sense of, 'Yeah, I know what it is to be unloved and unwanted and feeling lonely -- to want to love and be loved, and it seems like it's not there.'"
**Calling All Moms...**

You are invited to share in a Catholic ministry for mothers!

**Ministry for Moms:**
Where mothers are nourished, strengthened and cherished, and families are celebrated!

Join together with other MOMS to celebrate family, parenting and life as Mom on the first and third Thursday mornings beginning in OCTOBER. If you are interested in joining the core ministry team to share your gifts, ideas, experiences or suggestions please contact Amanda Gavini at: 239-222-0452 or girlyamanda@yahoo.com

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**Safe Environment Training** - As part of the Safe Environment Program, the Diocese of Venice requires that all employees and those volunteers who work with children and/or vulnerable adults be fingerprinted and trained in Safe Environment. For further information, visit the Diocesan website at www.dioceoseofvenice.org/safeenvironment. For the current training schedule go to the following web address: http://files.constantcontact.com/45669ebe001/241ccf9-afb243e6-b186-978830a9662d.pdf

**AFFCAM Volunteer Needed** - A Volunteer or Volunteers are needed for coverage of the front desk reception area at AFCAAM, a program of Catholic Charities, located at 3681 Michigan Avenue, Fort Myers. Requirements of the position are personable, basic computer and copier knowledge, excellent phone skills and can lift 25 lbs. There is a strong preference for bilingual (Spanish/English) candidates. Duties include helping children, parents, and staff.

**Study the Bible!** - The Diocese of Venice is hosting "The Bible and Prayer" program presented by Dr. Scott Hahn's Saint Paul Center for Biblical Theology on Saturday, September 24. It runs from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Saint Patrick Parish, 7900 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota. Participants will not only develop a deeper understanding of the Scriptures, but be trained to bring this teaching back to their parishes. Interactive talks will be given by St. Paul Center's nationally known speaker and author Matt Leonard and the Center's executive Director Rob Corzine. Whether you have attended this event before, or are new to studying the scripture, you are encouraged to attend. Spaces are limited, so sign up soon. Registration ends on September 16. The cost is $40 per person. Registration and more information can be found at http://dioceoseofvenice.org/bible-study. Questions? Call 941-484-9543 or email evangelization@dioceoseofvenice.org.
Operational Revenues vs Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income:</th>
<th>July 2014 - June 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Offertory</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bequests/Gifts/Donations</td>
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<td>Religious Education/Youth Ministry</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>$1,699,413.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses:

| Lay/Clergy Salaries and Stipends | $675,145.33 |
| Lay/Clergy Benefits              | $195,979.45 |
| FICA Taxes                       | $34,937.93  |
| Facility/equip. Grounds Maintenance | $113,882.05 |
| Utilities                       | $87,366.52  |
| Tuition Assistance               | $80,148.59  |
| Charitable Donations             | $223,650.05 |
| Vehicle repairs, insurance, mileage | $1,382.60 |
| Miscellaneous Personnel          | $34,227.76  |
| Property/ Liability Insurance    | $82,569.52  |
| Religious Education/Youth Ministry | $41,002.64 |
| Liturgy                         | $23,945.48  |
| Hospitality                     | $95,423.43  |
| Office/Administration            | $54,203.74  |
| Miscellaneous Ministry           | $12,855.08  |
| Contracted Services             | $85,312.89  |
| Other Expenses                  | $40,825.85  |
| TOTAL                          | $1,882,858.91 |

Net Loss                     $(183,445.77)