HARVESTING OUR BLESSINGS

Today, when peaches and watermelon are plentiful at any grocery store in January, asparagus is available in August, and grapes are a year-round food staple, it can be difficult to appreciate the importance of the seasonal harvest during the time of Jesus. Jesus lived closer to the earth than we do in third-millennial America. The harvest was the essential indicator of the quality of your nutritional life for the rest of the year; indeed, it foretold whether you would be able to feed your family at all. A good harvest was a time of festivals and thanksgiving for all God had brought to fruition.

When our children were young, we planted a garden every spring. While we were never able to sustain ourselves with what we grew (there were times, in fact, when I think it would have been cheaper to buy the amount we harvested at the grocery store), the care and cultivation of our produce taught us patience.

The long summer of watering and weeding taught us that delayed gratification is the sweetest fruit. Even the pests who sometimes stole our vegetables had a lesson to teach us: share! Learning how things grew— berries on vines, apples on trees, carrots underground—helped our children appreciate the wonder of our God-given earth. They learned there is no such thing as a cupcake bush and that nothing tastes better than a ripe raspberry still warm from the sun.

Parables of the harvest abound in the Gospels. Beloved are the stories of the sower and the seed that fell on different soils (Luke 8:4-15); of the separation of the grain from the weeds (Matthew 13:24-30); of the tiny mustard seed (Matthew 13:31-32); of the withered fig tree (Mark 11:20-24); of the vine and the branches (John 15:1-8). "By their fruits you will know them," says Jesus (Matthew 7:20).

We gardeners relate to the biblical harvest. We know a garden can bring an embarrassment of riches. Friends shake their heads at our recurring baskets of tomatoes. Neighbors close their blinds when we approach with an armload of zucchini. The freezer groans under the weight of frozen herbs and fruits. We are so rich, so blessed!

The harvest is a Christian metaphor for the blessings we reap when we give our lives to Christ. The light of faith ripens us as we age. If we are gardeners of love, the harvest of a life of following Jesus yields a generous bounty of compassion, kindness, and care for our neighbor. "The harvest is abundant but the laborers are few" (Matthew 9:37), says Jesus, calling us to labor in his harvest. Our response to that call makes all the difference. (Valerie Schultz)

SANCTUARY LIGHT

October 23 – Philip and Ruth Gehl October 30 – Lawrence and Lillian Lustig November 6 – Leo and Anna Rieselman

MASS INTENTIONS

October 22 – Anthony Hilbert October 23 – Jeff and Cindy Weisenbach 25th Wedding Anniversary October 29 – Ron Moorman October 30 – Dennis Schwering

LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Saturday – October 29 at 4:00 PM

Lector: Tara Johannigman Gifts: Dennis and Flo Wagner Eucharist Minister: Judy Steuri

Sunday - October 30 at 10:00 AM

Lectors: David Hardesty, Donna Harlemert *Gifts*: Steve and Ann Wagner *Eucharist Minister:* Cindy Weisenbach

Saturday - November 5 at 4:00 PM

Lector: Terry Harmeyer *Gifts*: Ken and Terry Harmeyer *Eucharist Minister*: Roseann Wirth

Sunday – November 6 at 10:00 AM

Lectors: Youth *Gifts*: Youth *Eucharist Minister*: Amanda Schutte

PARISH SUPPORT

Adult Envelopes	\$3322.00
Children's Envelopes	\$ 3.00
Loose Collection	<u>\$ 468.00</u>
Total Regular Collection	\$3793.00
Capital Improvement	\$75.00
World Mission	\$20.00
Religious Ed	\$20.00

HARVEST BLESSINGS UPON EACH OF YOU!

"How many times do those who are prominent, raise up walls to increase distance, making other people feel even more rejected?

Or by considering them backward and of little worth, they despise their traditions, erase their history, occupy their lands, and usurp their goods...Alleged superiority...oppression and exploitation, exist today!'' ~ Pope Francis **<u>REST IN PEACE</u>** – St. Maurice parishioners extend our sympathy to Rick Ahlrich and his family upon the death of his mother, Mary, who died on Wednesday, October 12. May she rest in the Eternal Love of her God!

<u>**CONGRATULATIONS**</u> – Blessed Silver Wedding Anniversary to Jeff and Cindy Weisenbach! Your faithfulness to your marriage vows these past 25 years is a gift to us as well. Thank you.

THANK YOU – "The family of Mary Gilland would like to thank our church family, Sister Shirley, Fr. Bill, the music ministry, and the Mary and Martha Circle for all the prayers, visits, cards, online messages, gifts, and memorials during Mom's illness and during her funeral services. Mom would have been so humbled at the outpouring of support we've received. Her church and the people in it, was the one thing mom missed most during her last few weeks. We are so forever grateful to all of you and our extended family and friends. God bless!"

<u>**RUMMAGE SALE**</u> – Did you see in last week's bulletin that our ladies made **\$3,899** from their Fall Rummage Sale? Wonderful!

Roberta Bohman wishes to thank everyone who worked on and donated to the rummage sale. A special thank you to Rita Cox, Kay Koppel, and Ann Hermesch, who worked tirelessly all week!

FALL SMORGASBORD – A big thank you to all who donated the ground beef for our smorgasbord. **We are still in need of frozen corn and sweet potatoes.** We will be serving a buffet style this year! In a few weeks there will be sign-up sheets so we can get our workers lined up.

<u>SERVERS</u> – In the September 25th bulletin, the names of our servers were listed, but Sam Simon, one of our most faithful servers, was not mentioned. I apologize for this mistake and thank him also for his service to the parish.

<u>RESPECT LIFE MONTH</u> – If you are participating in "Serving Our Moms in Need," please bring your baby items or baby bottles to church next Sunday, the 30th of October. Thank you for reaching out to those in need.

YOUTH MINISTRY HAYRIDE AND BONFIRE WHERE: Joyce Muckerheide's Home

WHEN: Sunday, October 30, 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Hayride, Bonfire, Corn Hole, Board Games, and Wiffle Ball

Parents are also invited.

6th and 7th Grade youth bring chips; 8th thru 10th Grade bring dessert; 11 th and 12th bring buns or a package of hot dogs. If you have further questions, call Joyce at 812-363-5828.

Other Youth Coordinators are Jill Jansing and Mariah Volz.

<u>MASS GREETERS</u> October 29 – Paul Simon and Ken Hellmich October 30 – Paul and Arlene Gehl

<u>RELIGIOUS ED</u> – Preschool through Grade 5 will meet for class on October 26, 6:45 PM.

JR. HIGH & HIGH SCHOOL RELIGIOUS ED

Classes for Grades 6 through 11 next Sunday,
October 30, at 8:30 AM.

<u>UNITED CATHOLIC APPEAL</u> – Yes, this is the time of the year for the United Catholic Appeal 2022-2023. During this week you will receive in the mail a letter from Archbishop Thompson, an educational brochure, pledge card, reply envelope and prayer intention card. November 12-13 is the official Intention Weekend, but your card and gift can be sent to the Archdiocese at any time. We are **"United in the Eucharist."** Jesus' desire and will was that **"we all may be one!"**

<u>**THE LORD'S LAUGHTER**</u> – As the rabbis put it: "Why was man created last? In order to say, if he is worthy, all creation was made for you; but if he is unworthy, he is told, even a gnat preceded you." (Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, *Covenant & Conversation: Genesis*)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
	POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR THE MONTH For a Church open to everyone: We pray for the Church; ever faithful to, and courageous in preaching the Gospel, may the Church be a community of solidarity, fraternity and welcome, always living in an atmosphere of synodality.					Mass 4:00 PM Blood Pressure Checks
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
RE Classes 8:30 AM Mass 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks Donuts & Coffee 11:00 AM		FEAST OF ST. FRANCIS	Faith Formation Meeting 4:30 PM Blessing of Pets 6:30 PM RE Classes 6:45 PM	Parish Council Meeting 6:30 PM	FEAST OF HOLY ROSARY Adoration 8:00 AM - Noon Rummage Sale 8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Rummage Sale 8:00 AM - Noon Mass 4:00 PM
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
NO RE CLASSES (FALL BREAK) 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass 10:00 AM Donuts & Coffee 11:00 AM	Columbus Day	FEAST OF POPE JOHN XXIII	NO RE CLASSES (FALL BREAK)			FEAST OF ST. TERESA OF JESUS Mass 4:00 PM
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
RE CLASSES 8:30 AM 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass 10:00 AM Donuts & Coffee 11:00 AM		FEAST OF ST. LUKE	RE Classes 6:45 PM Parish Friends Program Begins			FEAST OF ST. JOHN PAUL II Mass 4:00 PM Hall Rented
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
RE CLASSES 8:30 AM 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass 10:00 AM Donuts & Coffee 11:00 AM			RE Classes 6:45 PM		FEAST OF STS. SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES	Mass 4:00 PM
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
RE CLASSES 8:30 AM 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time Mass 10:00 AM Donuts & Coffee 11:00 AM	EVE OF ALL SAINTS					