

**Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-8,
James 1: 17-18, 21b-22, 27, Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

FOCUS: Strive to be obedient to the heart of God's law.

In today's reading from the letter of James, he tells us we must not only hear God's word, but that we must put it into action. James tells us, elsewhere in his letter, that "...faith without works is dead" (Jas 2:26). In the Gospel, the Lord tells us that our listening needs to be with more than just our ears, but with our heart and soul as well, it is not sufficient simply to follow the letter of the law if the spirit of the law is ignored.

It could certainly be said of the Pharisees in today's Gospel that they heard God's law and put it into action. However, it could also be said that they put only the words of the law into practice, not its intent; not its heart. With great care they made sure their hands and eating utensils were clean, and that they did not violate any of the laws of ritual purity. However, they believed that their external actions justified them before God and were of more importance than their interior dispositions. Jesus tells them that they should have been concerned about keeping their hands and utensils clean because such cleanliness would reflect the clean hearts and souls they were called to by God's covenant. In fact, they stopped at this external cleanliness, ignoring what it was supposed to signify.

No one should ever ignore the importance of God's laws. Just and moral law is a gift as it sets out the parameters of good relationships among people. Though we might not refer to it as law, we know that in any good relationship there are rules which govern behavior. We may not speak of formal laws of marriage, but the covenant of marriage calls spouses to be faithful, to support one another, and to be attentive to the needs of each other and the families they have. Unfaithfulness, disregard or abuse are outside the parameters of the commitment of married life and love.

Just as human law guides our earthly relationships, obedience to God's law should be seen as expressing our care and concern for our relationship with him. Divine law, as taught by our Lord Jesus, teaches us about relationships with God and with one another.

One would, hopefully, see God's law not as a burden, but as an expression of God's goodness and our desire to be filled with love for God and for each other. Although compliance to God's laws may at times seem difficult, this difficulty expresses the reality that all good relationships require work, devotion, and faithfulness. The reality of love reciprocated, whether from another person or from God, is a gift which is certainly worth the work and effort involved. All that we do should be motivated by our love for God and each other, even when difficult. Such motivated becomes a sign of our love and commitment to God and to our neighbor.

MILITARY COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC WOMEN

President-Lisa Glen 446-4874
VP-Lisa Gossart 446-8345
VP- Patty Verzola 446-7926
Secretary-Michele Perez 446-8108
Treasurer-Laura Lahood 446-2871

MCCW Outreach

Prayer Circle	Eileen Carver, 446-7165
Elder Outreach	Vacant
Mercy Meals	Marta Torres, 446-5843
Shelter Meals	Jeanne Etheridge, 446-0503
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Childcare Coordinator	Helen Sobchak, 446-8036
Cadet Representative	Jennifer Barrow, 515-5918
Hospitality	Mary Julich, 446-1071 &
Representatives at-large,	Susan Lathrop, 446-4593
	Alice O'Hara, 446-5797

Dates to remember

5th September —MCCW First Friday Mass & Pot Luck @ 1300

7th September—Opening Day for Religious Education.

7th September — Parish Picnic, Camp Buckner, 2nd Class Club. 1200 Mass. Buses will start @ 1100, from the Supt's box.

21 Sep—Baptismal Class, MHT Rectory 1230

***5 & 22 Sep— Ministry Training -1900 MHT /Rectory
Catechist Orientation Mtg. / Cloister Room 1800***

Tues Nights—RCIA , 1930 Rm 5326 Washington Hall, POC: Kay Heppes, x8761

SCRIPTURE FOR WEEK OF Aug 31, 2003

Mon – 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, Luke 4: 16-30
Tue – 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-6, 9-11, Luke 4: 31-37
Wed – 1 Thessalonians 2: 9-13, Matthew 23: 27-32
Thurs – Colossians 1: 9-14, Luke 5: 1-11
Fri – Colossians 1: 15-20, Luke 5: 33-39
Sat – Colossians 1: 21-23, Luke 6: 1-5
In honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary

ANNOUNCED MASSES

Sat 30 Aug 1715 Parishioners of MHT
Sun 31 Aug 0900 Parishioners of MHT
Sun 31 Aug 1100 Stephen Breen & family (healing Mass)
Mon 1 Sep 1205
Tue 2 Sep 1205
Wed 3 Sep 1205 Benjamin Stover
Thurs 4 Sep 1205 Samuel Stover (healing Mass)
Fri 5 Sep 1205 William Scheve

Attendance and Offering Last Weekend:

Attendance 567 Offering \$2,496.07

**The Next Designated Offering : Sep 23/24 will be for
“Sacred Heart”**

LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS Sep 6-7

1715 Volunteer
0900 Volunteer
1100 Volunteer

USHERS FOR Sep 6-7

1715 Volunteer
0900 Volunteer
1100 Volunteer

ALTAR SERVERS Sep 6-7

1715 Volunteer
0900 Volunteer
1100 Volunteer

PROCLAIMERS FOR Sep 6-7

1715 Cindy Scullion / Jacob Brady
0900 Tom Weafer / Beth Vollmer
1100 Kathleen Campbell / Carl Fossa

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS:

GOD’S TYM (Total Youth Ministries)

POC Tanya Tolentino @ 424-3609

I have a question. Whom do I call?
Pastoral Coordinator...Kate Hayden 938-8760

Chaplain's Assistant... SPC Alexander 938-3721

Director Rel-Ed... Kay Heppes... 938-8761
Faith Formation, Rel. Education of Children & Adults, RCIA.

Wedding Coordinator...Lorraine Finn...932-2784
Wedding information, scheduling, paperwork,
Pre-Cana/Engaged Encounter information.

Director of Music... Meredith Baker...938-3544
Adult, Children's and Cadet Choir, Wedding Music, Liturgical Music.

Pastor... Fr. Joseph Deponai...938-3721
Reconciliation, Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Pastoral and Sacramental Concerns.

Cadet Issues...Fr. Edson Wood...938-2784

Visit our Web Site @<http://www.usma.edu/Chaplain/mht/>
RECONCILIATION, ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND BENEDICTION:
Wednesday 1820 –1930 at
MHT Chapel

Liturgical Ministers

If you can serve in our parish as a Minister of Eucharist, a Proclaimer, a Music Minister, an Usher or as a Hospitality Member, please attend one of our Liturgical workshops. There is going to be one held on Tuesday Sep 5 & 22, @1900. Both will be held here at MHT. These are intended primarily for new Liturgical Ministers, but all those in our ministries are encouraged to attend as a refresher.

Description of our Ministries:

Minister of Eucharist – Shares in the ministry of sharing the Body and Blood of Christ at Mass, at a Communion Service, or bringing Communion to the sick.

Proclaimer – Shares in the ministry of bringing God's word to his people by proclaiming the Scripture at Mass.

Music Minister – Shares in the ministry of leading prayer at Mass by cantoring, singing with the choir, or playing an instrument.

Usher – Shares in the ministry of hospitality by welcoming people to our liturgy, assisting them to find a seat, and to help with any other logistical issues. Ensuring that everyone has a songbook and a parish bulletin; counting the collection after Mass.

Hospitality Opportunities to serve include: Donuts and Bagels after Sunday Masses, Parish Picnic, Pumpkin Pie social.

Servers – Shares in the ministry of acolyte by carrying candles and the Processional Cross, and holding the Sacramentary.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION HIGHLIGHTS:

The Parish Religious Education program for ALL REGISTERED STUDENTS in Grades Kdg. to High School begins Sunday, 7 September at 0920 in Robinson Auditorium of Thayer Hall, with a Paraliturgie that includes a catechist and parent commissioning; prayer service, and student introductions to their catechists. After the Paraliturgie, there will be an orientation meeting for all parents with an overview of our curriculum and the parent handbook.

FURTHER INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED
TO ALL FAMILIES OF REGISTERED STUDENTS.

Included in the mailing is a schedule for opening day and bus route information.

BUS MONITORS are needed when transporting children for the Religious Education program starting 7 September. A sign-up sheet will be available at Thayer Hall on Opening Day, 7 September.

REMEMBER THE SAFETY OF THE CHILDREN IS A TOP PRIORITY.

POC: 'Ms.Kay' Heppes 938-8761

PRESCHOOL

(4 year old) program begins on Sunday, 14 September in the Cloister Room of the Chapel.

**IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED OR
RE-REGISTERED FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

PLEASE DO SO ASAP!

RCIA:

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults is a process by which people who are considering membership in the Catholic Church come together to experience Christian community and share a journey of faith. FOR WHOM IS IT INTENDED?

1. Unbaptized adults who wish to learn more about the faith and Christian life, with the possibility of being a Catholic Christian.
2. Baptized Christians from other denominations who would like to know, to learn more about, and to possibly join, the Catholic Church.
3. Baptized Catholics who have not received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Eucharist.

Please call 'Ms. Kay' at 938-8761 for further information.
Regularly scheduled sessions for the RCIA process are held on Tuesday evenings at 1930 Hrs. in Rm 5326 of Washington Hall.

Musings from the Pastor's Corner

"I am the Resurrection and the Life! Whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" (Words of Jesus to Martha from the Gospel of John.)

And His words to us as we mourn the loss of Cadet Peter Todd Heuchling, Class of 2006.

A superb young man who touched many people with his love of life, his striving for excellence in all areas, and his dedication to his fellow Cadets! It was obvious listening to the remarks of his fellow cadets that we have much to be thankful for in his person.

We celebrated the 1100 Mass Last Sunday to thank God for the gift of Peter's life, to pray the peace and comfort of Jesus with his family, friends, fellow cadet, coaches and all he knew, and for the repose of his soul in the ancient tradition of the Church!

Come and sit with Jesus! Wednesdays @ 1820-1925 in Most Holy Trinity Chapel. Exposition, Confessions, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament at MHT! Come with the family - rest with Jesus!

Thanks to all those who made the Parish Registration and Liturgical Ministries sign up a success.

Parishioners from EE&CS were working behind the scenes on this one! A great amount of work was put in to the effort by many people. To one and all who were a part of the effort for this past weekend's Masses. THANKS!

May we all know this week that we are being held in the palm of God's Hand!

With Prayer and Gratitude,

Fr. Jerry