

EPHAPHATHA

JULY IS DEDICATED TO THE MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD OF JESUS CHRIST



Issue 7
July, 2011

Dear Friends,

The dog days of summer are approaching, although we seem to have had them in May too! Summertime allows us some time to be out of our normal schedule. That can be good and bad. Bad because it sometimes disrupts our prayer time or routine. Good because it might allow more time for reflection and prayer.

Use these months to try a new way of praying, or a new way of relating to God. How did Jesus spend His summer time? Do you think about what He did or where He lived? Generally at the time of Jesus they thought of two seasons (winter-summer) rather than the four we think of. The weather at the time of Jesus in Palestine was moderate, but the elevation was extreme. Mount Hermon is snow capped year round at 9000 feet while the Dead Sea is 1300 feet below sea level.

In the summer time there was little rain beginning in May till September with lots of sun. It was during these times they would travel and make pilgrimages.

Get to know Jesus, how He lived, and in your imagination place Him in a real setting. He was and is REAL!

Have a blessed summer!
Father Ken

Web Page for Spiritual Life Center
www.slwichita.org



In this newsletter you will find a card with a Gift and a Fruit of the Holy Spirit. As a family, pray that from now until the next celebration of Pentecost these will be you aim.



Fr. Ken has a new address.

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Special Days in July

- 01—the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
- 02—Immaculate Heart of Mary
- 04—St. Elizabeth of Portugal
Independence Day
- 05—St. Anthony Mary Zaccaria
- 06—St. Maria Goretti
- 11—St. Benedict
- 14—bl. Kateri Tekakwitha
- 15—St. Bonaventure
- 16—Our Lady of Mount Carmel
- 22—St. Mary Magdalene
- 25—St. James-Apostle
- 26—St Joachim & St. Anne
- 29—St. Martha



Happy Birthday

- 02—Shirley Lampe
- 13—William Pyles
- 17—Teresa Mount
- 17—Stephan Schwebke
- 19—Paula Smotherman
- 19—Christina Weber
- 22—Zachary Sanders
- 22—Julie Severs
- 23—Thomas Shepherd
- 29—Riley Troester
- 30—Sheila Shepherd
- 31—Melinda Smeltzer



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- 10—Andy/Keli Stone
- 13—Stan/Melinda Smeltzer

The Liturgical Year: An In-depth Look

The question was asked why the Easter Candle was carried out after Mass on Pentecost Sunday. The reason being the Easter Season has come to a close and we are now in what is called **Ordinary Time**. The Easter Candle will be used only at Baptisms and Funerals.

You will notice in the Missalette that this 1st Sunday in July is named the 14th Sunday in **Ordinary time**. This Ordinary Season is that part of the Liturgical Year that lies outside the season of Lent-Easter and Advent-Christmas. Ordinary Time is called “ordinary” simply because the weeks are numbered. The word ‘ordinary’ comes from a Latin word *ordinalis* which stems from the Latin word *ordo*. There is nothing ordinary about **Ordinary Time**. The liturgical color of Ordinary Time is green., a sign of hope. Other colors are worn on particular feast days. The readings during the liturgies of Ordinary Time help to instruct us on how to live out our Christian faith in our daily lives. The feast of Christ the King is the last Sunday of Ordinary Time and of the liturgical year. Following this feast we begin Advent and the



July 4th we celebrate the feast of St. Elizabeth of Portugal. She was name after her great-aunt, Elizabeth of Hungary. She is sometimes known as the **Peacemaker**. Elizabeth quietly pursued regular religious practices.

After her husband died she retired to a convent of the Poor Clares. She acted as a peacemaker between her husband and son and later between her son and the King of Castile.

July 6 we remember St. Maria Goretti. When Maria was a young girl an 18 year-old neighbor tried to rape her. She resisted and he began stabbing .her She forgave the boy. It is said that he repented after a dream he had of Maria giving him some flowers as he worked in a garden. After his release from prison he was present at her canonization in 1950. She is the patroness of youth and victims of rape.



July 5th we honor St Anthony May Zaccaria. He became a medical doctor, was ordained a priest and cofounded the Barnabites who helped reform the morals of the faithful,encouraged laymen to work together and promoted frequent reception of Communion. He made popular the forty-hour devotion. Tradition says that in his last moments he had a vision of St. Paul the Apostle.



Kateri was born near Auriesville, NY. She was 4 years-old when her mother died of smallpox. This disease also attacked Kateri and transfigured her face.. She was baptized at age 20 and suffered great hostility from her tribe. She remained firm in her faith. She was devoted to the Eucharist waiting every morning in the bitter cold for the chapel door to open and remained until after the last Mass. She died at age 24. She is known as the “Lily of the Mohawks” Work is underway for her canonization. She is the 1st Native American to be declared a Blessed.





Riddel/Cowherd Family

Dakota (11) Casey (14) Elizabeth Michael (11) Rebekah (7)

Read the story about Casey on pages 5-6 of this Newsletter. It is one of great faith!!



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

**RETREAT FOR THE DEAF
AND THEIR FAMILIES
AT MT. ST. MARY'S
CONVENT
3700 E. LINCOLN
OCTOBER 22, 2011
CHECK-IN TIME
8:30 A.M.**



July 11th is the feast of St. Benedict. In our modern world everything is based on speed where we even check our watches if Mass goes pass time. Contrary to this for Benedict the power is in reading Scripture when every word is from God. He let that power work within him. When confronted with the immoral behavior of his classmates he gave up his inheritance and lived in solitude in Subiaco. Nearby monks, impressed by his holiness asked for his leadership. He warned them that he would be too strict which proved true. They even try to poison him. Benedict was alone again until another set of monks proved more sincere. In Monte Cassino he founded a monastery which became the root of the

Church's monastic system. He wrote the Rule of St. Benedict. The Word of God was the basis for prayer and Benedict turned to the psalms which Jesus had prayed. Thus the *Divine Office* came to be. Another valuable prayer originating from Benedict is that of *lectio divina*—divine reading. In Benedictine prayer, our hearts are the vessels empty of thoughts and intellectual striving. All that remains is trust in God's providence to fill us. Benedict died in 547 while standing in prayer before God. He is the patron saint of our Holy Father, Pope Benedict XVI. It is a good act to pray to St. Benedict for Pope Benedict asking for the grace needed in our troubled times.



According to the traditions of the Carmelite order, on July 16, 1251, the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to St. Simon Stock, a Carmelite. During the vision, she revealed to him the Scapular of Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, popularly known as the "Brown Scapular" A century and a quarter later, the Carmelite order began to celebrate on this date the Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. One finds the Brown Scapular in First Holy Communion sets and sometimes children are enrolled in the scapular at the time of their First Holy Communion.



Apparently Jesus had a special love for Mary, Martha and Lazarus who were brother and sisters. He visited their home 3 times as given in John's Gospel: 10:38-42; 11:1-53; & 12:1-9. Many of us would find it easy to identify with Martha as she welcomes Jesus and his disciples. She immediately goes to work to serve them. To her hospitality was very important as it was in the Middle East. Mary seems to ignore the rule of hospitality in order to sit and listen to Jesus who tells Martha that Mary has chosen the better part. But we see that Martha shines in her statement as recorded in John 11:27. Mary Magdalene is called "The Penitent" yet she is the first one to see the Risen Lord. There are references given here for each one. You are encouraged to take your Bible and look up each reference and put yourself in the place of Mary and Martha. What would you say to Jesus?

Mary Magdalene

Mt. 27:56 & 61; 28:1-10

Mk. 15:40-41 & 47; 16:1-13

Lk. 8:2; 10:38-42; 23:55 to 24:12

Jn. 11:1-44; 12:3-8; 19:25; 20:1-18

Feast Day—July 22



Martha

Lk. 10:38-42

Jn. 11:1-44; 12:2

Feast Day— July 29

Patron of Cooks



July 25 is the feast of St. James the Greater not to be confused with James the Less. James, a relative of Jesus or James an elder of the church. James was a brother of John. It was Peter, James and John chosen to witness the Transfiguration and joined Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane for His final prayer. Take time to find any reference to James in the New Testament. He and John were called "Sons of Thunder". Can you find the answer?? What name would Jesus give you if he would describe who you are and your gifts?

Some facts about the death of the apostles

Peter—crucified upside down

James the Greater—beheaded with a sword

Andrew—crucified on an X- shaped cross

Philip—crucified

Bartholomew—skinned alive and then beheaded

Matthew—killed by an axe

Thomas—killed by a spear

James the Lesser—beaten to death with a club after being crucified

Jude & Simon the Zealot— crucified

(Continued in the column to the right)

Judas Iscariot—hanged himself

Matthias (replaced Judas)—stoned & beheaded

Notice how many were crucified as was Jesus



July 26th we honor Sts Anne and Joachim parents of Mary and grandparents of Jesus.

The name "Hannah" means grace. In Galilee, where she lived,

Mary's mother was probably called "Hannah" even though we know her as St. Anne. So, if you are named "Hannah" or "Anne" you are named after the mother of Our Blessed Mother.

Mary was immaculately conceived—born in the state of grace and free from original sin. Her parents raised her to be faithful to God's word and remain free from sin.

Anne is patron of Christian mothers and Joachim of fathers. Let us pray for all parents today to raise their children to love and follow God. This is a grave responsibility and a difficult one in today's world.