

Dear Friends,

Actions speak louder than words. Put your money where your mouth is. Faith without works is dead. Any of these sayings could be used with today's gospel. The third saying is from scripture itself, the letter of James to be exact.

In God thought and action are the same, but we are not God. We have an idea to do something, but it is not yet done. We may speak our promises sincerely, but that does not mean we will keep them. The potential within us to do good is only brought to its fullness when we complete the good action.

Both sons in today's gospel changed their minds. What mattered is whether they carried out their father's will. Was doing the father's will carried out by saying yes or by completing the task? When put in worldly terms like in the parable the answer seems obvious. It is evident enough in how busy civil courts are with people suing each other. Making a contract is not considered enough, it is expected that the contract will be fulfilled.

That is how we expect to be treated. Do we think God should receive the same treatment? Do we say we want to do God's will, but then do only our own? Do we expect God to accept us into heaven because we say that is where we want to be, but never change our sinful behavior?

God is always ready to take back anyone who turns back to him, but we actually have to turn to him. Not because we are earning something or paying something back, but because we are human. We are beings of both body and soul, both are integral parts of us, both are part of the person God loves, and a true full human action involves both.

It is eternal life that God is offering, so let us live our yes to God completely.

Fr. Peter Giovanoni

Knights of Columbus

--The next chicken dinner will be Sunday, October 8th from 11:30am-5:00pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Ridge.

--The next Bingo will be held on Saturday, October 21st. Doors will open at 5:30pm.

Stewardship Report

September 24th Collection \$5,087.00



Weekend Ministries

October 7th & 8th

Saturday--5:00pm

Lector: E. McCarthy

EMs: J. Orr

Altar Servers: A. McCarthy, J. McCarthy, C. Dursee

Sunday--8:15am

Lector: C. Tennyson

EMs: J. Dominic, J. Kayser, C. Carson

Altar Servers: C. Dameron, J. Dameron, M Wise

Sunday--10:30am

Lector: B. Herdlick

Reader: M. Padukiewicz

EMs: M. Herdlick, C. Miller, H. Miller

Altar Servers: C. Herdlick, D. Herdlick, P. Gaydar

Sunday--6:00pm

Lector: A. Bishop

EMs: A. Bishop

Pray for the Sick



Joyce Ack
 Emma Aparicio
 Vivian Barnes
 Pam Bohmann
 Lisa Carpenter
 Catherine Dean
 Jane Dougherty
 Jack Greenwell
 Mary Agnes Hill
 Cameron Kalen
 Paul Mackie
 Ann McDonough
 William Morris
 Fr. O'Connell
 Robert Lee Owens
 Lawrence Potter
 Patty Raley
 Gabriel Santos
 Gertrude Sullivan
 Hilda Trossbach
 Elizabeth Woodburn

Grace Angela
 Charles Aud
 Timothy Binder
 Robert Bradburn
 Jack Cullison
 Erica Dingle
 Fritz Feltman
 Pam Hayden
 Norma Hofmeister
 Jane Kenyon
 Addie McBride
 Diane Miller
 Gerry Mueller
 Kay Owens
 Lin Perry
 Peggy Raley
 Janet Sanders
 Nicole Shreve
 Wise Tennyson
 Janice Wood

Mass Intentions

October 2nd-8th

Monday	9:00am	Special Intentions
Tuesday	9:00am	Emerson Taylor
Wednesday	9:00am	Edna Long
Thursday	9:00am	Patricia Collier
Friday	9:00am	St. Michael's School
Saturday	5:00pm	Clarence (Buzzy) Ridgell
Sunday	8:15am	Stephen (Tinky) Ridgell
Sunday	10:30am	St. Michael's Parishioners
Sunday	6:00pm	Anna Vial

Catechetical Corner

The gospel today called attention to the need to act on profession of faith. The first reading tells us that we need to stay faithful until the end. Last week we were reassured that it is never too late to follow God. We are reminded today that our final choice is not final until the end of our time here.

This idea can be expressed as an answer to the question, "are you saved?" The answer to that question is yes, not yet, I hope so.

Yes because in the Passion death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ, God has all that is needed to redeem the universe and all in it from sin.

Not yet because God has given us free will and after God's offer of salvation we need to accept it by our lives on earth. Until my race is run the ending is not determined.

I hope so because I do not want to presume on God's mercy. Hopefully I am not aware of any mortal sins on my soul and if I am I need to go to confession as soon as possible. Once that is done I need to recall that in the spiritual life we are either going closer to God or moving away from God. There is no standing still. So I check myself from time to time and ask, "do my words and actions indicate that doing God's will is the most important thing in my life?"

Discovering Christ--St. Michael's, St. Peter Claver and St. Cecilia Parishes are hosting "Discovering Christ", a seven week experience where anyone and everyone, from the baptized in the pews to the unbaptized, is invited to hear the Good News and personally encounter Jesus Christ. Discovering Christ helps people enter into or renew a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, experience the love of God the Father and be empowered by the Holy Spirit to live as God's children. This life-changing experience is open to adults of all faiths and a youth tract is offered for grades eight and up. The series is comprised of dinner, music, a video and small group interaction. The series will be held on Wednesday evenings at St. Michael's School gym starting October 4th – November 15th from 6:30pm to 8:30pm as well as a retreat Saturday, November 4th. Makeup sessions will be held Sunday evenings from 4:30pm-5:30pm. The \$10 registration fee includes 7 dinners, the retreat and a participant guide as part of the program. To register or for information DiscoverChristInRidge@gmail.com. For additional information call Winnie Sullivan @301-904-8568 or Ann Wood @ 240-587-1248.

Roman Catholic Mass On St. Clements Island

--All are welcome to join in a special celebration Catholic Mass on the site of Maryland's first colonial landing in 1634, the birthplace of religious freedom in America. This event will be held on Sunday, October 8th with the Mass beginning at 3:00pm. This Mass will be celebrated by – Reverend Anthony Lickteig, Pastor of Holy Angels Catholic Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. Free boat rides to St. Clements Island and free admission into St. Clements Island Museum. Blessing of the Fleet Admission \$10.00 (12 and under: Free) visit www.blessingofthefleetsomd.net for more information.

Fatima Centenary--Celebrate the 100th anniversary of the final apparition of Our Lady of Fatima on Friday, October 13th at 7:00pm at St. Aloysius Church. The commemoration will include Mass, a consecration of St. Mary's County to Jesus through Mary, and a Eucharistic procession through Leonardtown Square.



St. Michael's School News



Angel Wings and Things Thrift Store-

The store is open from 9:00am-4:00pm on Saturdays and from 10:00am to 1:00pm on Sundays. Items can be dropped off on Saturdays between 10:00am-2:00pm.



The Archangel Scholarship Foundation,

supporting St. Michael's School, will again be sponsoring the Rhythm & Riches event. It will be held on Friday, October 20th at the Hollywood Fire Department and doors open at 5:00pm. Music, games, cash prizes and much more. Tickets and additional information are available at www.rhythmandriches.com or by calling 240-587-7111. Buy two tickets in September and receive 1 Raffle ticket free.



Queen of Hearts--Every Friday night at the American Legion in Ridge. Tickets will be on sale from 4:00pm-7:00pm and food will be available starting at 5:00pm. Drawing at 7:00pm. Come out and support St. Michael's School for a fun night of chance!

Mark Your Calendars:

October 1--Parish Picnic, 11:30am-4:00pm
October 6--Queen of Hearts, 4:00pm-7:00pm,
October 15--SMS Breakfast, 8:30am-11:00am
October 20--Rhythm & Riches, 5:00pm