

*From Your Pastor*  
*God Bless Our Children!*

**We Welcome the Children of the School and Their Families to the 9:30 AM Mass.** As you know, we are celebrating the beginning of a new school year at St. Columbkille Partnership School this morning at the 9:30 AM Mass. What a long and proud tradition our School has! This year the School opened for its 109<sup>th</sup> year. We welcome our returning and new students; our great teachers and staff; and Dr. Michael McCarthy, our Head of School.

In a very special way, I want to welcome the parents and families of our school children. As great as the education is at St. Columbkille School – and it is the best! – those of us engaged in the academic and spiritual formation of your children in the classroom are very conscious that our role is only supportive of the primary role you have in raising and educating your children. Our goal is to assist you in helping your boys and girls grow into young men and women who not only know what truth and virtue are, but who embrace truth and virtue as gifts from God that set each of us on a healthy path to holiness and to happiness.

I want to thank our parents as well – and those who help you – for the great sacrifice you make in sending your children to our Catholic school. God knows we would love to run the school tuition-free. That is impossible, but we have tried to keep the burden on you as low as possible. While it costs us nearly \$7,000 to educate a student per year, the annual tuition per student in grades 1-8 is only half that. In addition, many families are eligible for Archdiocesan and private financial aid.

Our teachers and staff also deserve a very warm word of thanks for the sacrifice they make for your children and for the Church. Though their salaries are considerably less than those who teach in government schools, the expertise, the commitment and the joy that they bring to your children every day is unequalled. They deserve our abiding thanks, support and prayers. May God bless them and us with a great year of learning and grace.

**Today Is Respect Life Sunday.** *Cardinal Justin Rigali, the Archbishop of Philadelphia and Chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Pro-life Activities, offers this*

*thought-provoking reflection on our observation of this year's Respect Life Sunday –*

“From the neighbor next door to the unknown person living thousands of miles away, each and every one of us has intrinsic and immeasurable worth. That is because God created each of us in his image by the outpouring of his infinite and unconditional love. In return he asks only that we share that love with others, beginning with those most in need – the poor, vulnerable, and despised of this world.

“This intrinsic God-given human dignity is the basis for all inalienable human rights – beginning with the most basic right, the right to life. It is most basic because it is the condition for all the others. First we must live, then we can talk about living well. If a government acknowledges a right, such as free speech, but can kill you if you say something it dislikes, you don't really have a right to free speech.

“The right to life is not more important or higher than all other rights. In a sense the highest or supreme right is freedom of religion, because that is the right to do what God created us for, loving and serving Him by loving and serving others. But the right to life is the core element of other rights. All other earthly rights involve something more than life itself – but without life, they are nothing.

“That “something more” is vitally important. The defense of life reaches its fullness when it expands to defend the entire range of human flourishing. This is all one vision, and ultimately one issue – the dignity of the human person. In the words of St. Irenaeus, *Gloria Dei vivens homo* – the glory of God is man fully alive.

“To keep that vision constantly before our eyes, to remember why we are here and to gain the strength to move forward, we need to begin all our efforts with prayer. Our efforts must be centered on God and His infinite love for us – for the born and the unborn, for those who oppose us as well as those who agree with us. Only in this way can we maintain our perspective in a world of political pressures and partisan loyalties.”



God bless each of you.

*Mrs. Fay*

## TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**Prayers Are Requested** for those who are ill, for vocations to the Priesthood and to the Consecrated Life; for married couples and for families; for the safe return home of the men and women in our military services; for the prayers listed in our book of intentions; and for the repose of the souls of Margaret M. O'Hare, Anthony J. Rufo, Sr., and the deceased members of our parish, our families and our benefactors.



The **ARISE Together in Christ** process begins this week. Please know that you are able to join a group at any time during the Season, which runs through mid-November. As always, we ask you to pray regularly the *ARISE* Prayer (from the card in the pew or the back flap of the bulletin) for the success of this process in the parish. Thank you very much.

**“CLEAN UP THE CHURCH DAY” – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:30-12:30, with Lunch following.** Join us again for our annual “clean up of the church day.” There’ll be plenty to do – big and small tasks, and *everyone is welcome – young and old* – even if you think you might be able to contribute only a little in the work. The gathering of the community for this event is as important as the work we accomplish. We will provide the cleaning materials and a hot lunch in the school cafeteria following our work. Just bring yourselves in your old clothes. Lunch will be served around Noon. Sign up sheets will be available next weekend at all the doors of the church so we’ll know how many to expect.



**Statue from St. Gabriel** – The statue of the Crucifixion scene from above the main altar in St. Gabriel’s Church is being reproduced in a weatherproof material so that it can be placed on our grounds. Since the work is near completion, I would like to invite any former parishioners of St. Gabriel Parish who might be interested to join me at the rectory from 7:00 – 8:00 PM on Monday evening, October 5 to talk about a proper placement for the statue.

**St. Vincent de Paul Yard Sale** will be held on Saturday, October 10, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm in the church parking lot. Donations of household items, gently used clothes, toys and small furniture are needed. Donations may be dropped off at the St. Vincent DePaul trailer, which will be at the Market St. side of the parking lot, between 12:00 – 6:30 pm on Thursday and 10:30 am-6:30 pm on Friday. Spaces are also available for \$15.00. Bring your own table. Call Patricia at the rectory for more information.

**The Catholic Daughters** will meet on Tuesday at the K of C Hall at 7:00 pm. There will be a talk on the Rosary. All women are invited.

**Knights of Columbus** will meet this Thursday, October 8 at 7:00 pm in the K of C Hall.

**Congratulations** to Edvin Juarez and Erika Carrillo, Jason London and Erin McCubrey, Padraig Carolan and Carolyn Dunne, José Hernandez and Romelia de Jesus Lopez, David Maciose and Rosemary Barrett, Joseph Maloney and Gina Fox and Carlos Morales and Diana Argueta who were married in our church. May God bless their unions.

### **UPCOMING PARISH EVENTS**

**Thursday, October 15, 7:00 pm** - Theology on Tap at the Greenbriar; Speaker will be Andy Rennie.

**Saturday, October 17, 9:30-12:30** – Fall Church Clean-up

**Thursday, October 22,** - Sodality meeting; Rosary 6:45 pm followed by Mass at 7:00 pm

**Thursday, October 29, 7:00 pm** – Healing Mass

**Saturday, November 7, 2:30-3:30** – Pastor Listening Session

### **PARISH GIVING**

**Parish Offertory (Sept. 26 – Sept. 27): \$4,876**

**Catholic Appeal (to date): \$37,993**

**St. Vincent de Paul (Sept. 26 – Sept. 27): \$127.00**

*Thank You for Your Generosity*

**OCTOBER 4, 2009**

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**A Sermon about the Nature of Angels  
by Pope St Gregory the Great (d. 604)**

*(On September 29 we celebrated the Feast of the  
Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael)*

You should be aware that the word “angel” denotes a function rather than a nature. Those holy spirits of heaven have indeed always been spirits. They can only be called angels when they deliver some message. Moreover, those who deliver messages of lesser importance are called angels; and those who proclaim messages of supreme importance are called archangels. And so it was that not merely an angel but the archangel Gabriel was sent to the Virgin Mary. It was only fitting that the highest angel should come to announce the greatest of all messages.

Some angels are given proper names to denote the service they are empowered to perform. In that holy city, where perfect knowledge flows from the vision of almighty God, those who have no names may easily be known. But personal names are assigned to some, not because they could not be known without them, but rather to denote their ministry when they came among us. Thus, Michael means “Who is like God”; Gabriel is “The Strength of God”; and Raphael is “God’s Remedy.”

Whenever some act of wondrous power must be performed, Michael is sent, so that his action and his name may make it clear that no one can do what God does by his superior power. So also our ancient foe desired in his pride to be like God, saying: I will ascend into heaven; I will exalt my throne above the stars of heaven; I will be like the Most High. He will be allowed to remain in power until the end of the world when he will be destroyed in the final punishment. Then, he will fight with the archangel Michael, as we are told by John: A battle was fought with Michael the archangel.

So too Gabriel, who is called God’s strength, was sent to Mary. He came to announce the One who appeared as a humble man to quell the cosmic powers. Thus God’s strength announced the coming of the Lord of the heavenly powers, mighty in battle. Raphael means, as I have said, God’s remedy, for when he touched Tobit’s eyes in order to cure him, he banished the darkness of his blindness. Thus, since he is to heal, he is rightly called God’s remedy.

**OCTOBER 4, 2009**

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**A PRAYER FOR OUR PRIESTS**

We thank you, God our Father,  
for those who have responded  
to your call to priestly ministry.  
Accept this prayer we offer on their behalf:

Fill your priests  
with the sure knowledge of your love.  
Open their hearts to the power  
and consolation of the Holy Spirit.  
Lead them to new depths of union with your Son.  
Increase in them profound faith  
in the Sacraments they celebrate  
as they nourish, strengthen and heal us.

Lord Jesus Christ, grant that these, your priests,  
may inspire us to strive for holiness  
by the power of their example,  
as men of prayer who ponder your word  
and follow your will.

O Mary, Mother of Christ and our mother,  
guard with your maternal care these chosen ones,  
so dear to the Heart of your Son.  
Intercede for our priests that,  
offering the Sacrifice of your Son,  
they may be conformed more each day  
to the image of your Son,  
our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Celebrant:** *St. John Vianney, universal patron of priests.*

**R.:** *Pray for us and our priests.*

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**ORACIÓN POR NUESTROS SACERDOTES**

Te damos gracias, Dios nuestro Padre,  
por aquellos que han respondido  
a tu llamado para el ministerio sacerdotal.  
Acepta esta oración que ofrecemos en su nombre.

Llena a tus sacerdotes  
con la seguridad de conocer tu amor.  
Abre sus corazones al poder  
y consuelo del Espíritu Santo,  
condúcelos a nuevas profundidades  
de unión con tu Hijo.

Llénalos de profunda fe  
en los sacramentos que ellos celebran,  
que nos alientan, nos fortalecen y nos sanan.

Señor Jesucristo, haz que estos tus sacerdotes,  
puedan inspirarnos a luchar por la santidad  
con el poder de su ejemplo,  
como hombres de oración que escuchan tu palabra  
y siguen tu voluntad.

O María, Madre de Cristo y madre nuestra,  
protege con tu cuidado maternal a estos llamados  
tan queridos al Corazón de tu Hijo.

Intercede para que nuestros sacerdotes,  
que al ofrecer el sacrificio de tu Hijo,  
puedan parecerse cada día más a tu Hijo,  
nuestro Señor y Salvador Jesucristo. Amén

**Celebr.:** *San Juan Vianney, patrón universal de los sacerdotes.*

**R.:** *Ora por nosotros y por nuestros sacerdotes*

**OCTOBER 4, 2009**

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**Masses for the Week**

**Sunday, Oct. 4 – 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

- (Sat.)** 4:00 pm John Pacitto, Elizabeth Allison &  
The DiMambro Family, Mem.  
7:30 am Mildred F. Conroy, 1<sup>st</sup> Ann.  
9:30 am Rose & Angelo DiFruscia, Mem.  
11:15 am John Hazell, Mem.  
12:45 pm *Missa pro Populo*  
5:00 pm James Snow, USMC, 64<sup>th</sup> Ann.

**Mon.** 7:00 am George Sorensen, 4<sup>th</sup> Ann.

**Tue.** 7:00 am Kathleen McGloin, 15<sup>th</sup> Ann.

**Wed.** 7:00 am Domenico, Lucia &  
Maria Cirigliano, Mem.

**Thu.** 7:00 am Patricia O'Brien & Catherine Hughes, Me

**Fri.** 7:00 am Thomas Coary, Mem.

**Sat.** 7:00 am Johanna Cecilia Murphy, Mem.

**Sunday, Oct. 11 – 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Ordinary Time**

- (Sat.)** 4:00 pm Michael & Margaret Houlihan &  
Thomas & Ann McKniff, Mem.  
7:30 am *Missa pro Populo*  
9:30 am Dante & Margherita Cardarelli, Mem.  
11:15 am Donald Ferguson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ann.  
12:45 pm Ana & Ramon Montes, Mem.  
5:00 pm Leone & Maria Alfano & Maria &  
Vincenzo Cirigliano, Mem.

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**Comments:**

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