



Saint Wenceslaus Catholic Church

*Friar Timothy Dore, OFM Cov.
Pastor*

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Pastoral Associate*

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Parish Office*

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Lyceum

2100 E. Madison St.....410-675-3320

*St. Wenceslaus is "twinned" with St. Ann Church,
at Greenmount Ave. and E. 22nd St.
410-235-8169*

*Masses at St. Ann: Sunday – 9:45 a.m.
Thursday - 7:00 p.m.*

MASSES

SUNDAY
WEEKDAYS
HOLYDAYS

8:00 and 11:45 am
8:00 am
As announced in the bulletin

CONFESSIONS:

Please contact the parish office to schedule an appointment for confessions

DEVOTIONS:

Infant of Prague Novena - Tuesdays at 8:30 a.m.

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Novena - Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.

First Friday Holy Hour for Vocations - 8:30 a.m.

BAPTISMS:

Adult candidates and parents of infants are invited to contact the pastor so that we can begin preparations for baptism.

MARRIAGE:

We extend a warm welcome to couples desiring to be married in the church. Please contact us early (six months or more) so that we can work with you to prepare for your wedding.

PASTORAL CARE OF THE SICK:

Please notify the pastor when a member is unable to come to church. We will be happy to provide pastoral care at home or in the hospital.

SUNDAY SCHOOL:

Sunday School classes for children and youth meet every Sunday in the Lyceum from 9:30 to 11:30A.M. To register call the church office or Ms. Edith Pumphrey, Director, at 410-488-7069.

PARISH MEMBERSHIP:

We urge you to register as a member of the parish, so that we can keep you informed of church activities. We will be happy to provide you with church envelopes to assist you in the support of the church. You may register in person at the church office weekdays between 9:00 to 2:00 or by completing the following form.

Name _____

Street _____

Phone _____ Zip _____

Check:

New Registration Moving out of Parish

Change of Address Want Envelopes

Catholic Review Yes No

Please cut out and drop in the collection box or mail to the rectory.

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time
August 14, 2016

From the Pastor . . .

My Sisters and Brothers:

Can you imagine what it would be like to have enemies who would throw you into a deep, dark pit, and then leave you there all the way at the bottom, and sinking into the mud? What a perilous predicament that would be! This isn't a very pleasant thought, but according to our first reading today, this is exactly the fate that had befallen Jeremiah the Prophet (*see Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10*). As a servant of God, he had warned the people about the consequences of their unfaithfulness, and it had angered them greatly. In retaliation, they punished him in this most dreadful way—most likely hoping he would then experience an agonizing death by thirst, starvation and/or hypothermia. Although unpleasant and somewhat extraordinary, I find Jeremiah's plight, and the idea of "*sinking into the mud at the bottom of a pit*," a good reference point as we reflect on today's scriptures.

In today's Gospel, Jesus warns his followers they will not necessarily be safe from harm if they are faithful to their calling. In fact, Jesus promises exactly the opposite! He told his followers "*I have come to set the earth on fire . . . not to establish peace on the earth . . . but rather to create division*" (*cf., Luke 12: 49a, 51*). He told them households would be divided . . . fathers against sons, mothers against daughters, etc. In other words, the presence of Jesus, and faithfulness to him, would surely lead to divisions, difficulties and perhaps even persecutions and sufferings. Very much like Jeremiah, Christians who would dare to give testimony to God by their word and example, and consequently who would potentially expose the unfaithfulness of others, likely would be put to the test, and they would probably suffer because of it. Good Christians might even have opponents and enemies within their own families, and such divisions would likely be the source of great anguish and pain. I believe this is what Jesus meant by setting the earth on fire, by not establishing peace, and by creating divisions. And all of that is certainly and symbolically akin to suffering the fate of "*sinking into the mud at the bottom of a pit*." But who wants to do that?

Today's message invites us to look beyond any "*sinking in the mud*" we might be required to do as people of faith. Even though difficulties and suffering apparently are part of the Christian calling, we are also encouraged never to lose heart. In the end, God will prevail and his people will experience that victory with him. I believe these ideas are behind the words found in today's Letter to the Hebrews. The author wrote: "*let us rid ourselves of every burden that clings to us, let us keep our eyes fixed on Jesus who for the sake of the joy that lay before him, endured the cross; let us consider how he endured such opposition, and let us not grow weary and lose heart*" (*cf., Hebrews 12:1-4*).

And so even though Jesus actually promises us we will face difficulties, and the burdens we carry at times may be heavy, we must never become so discouraged as to believe there are no escapes from the present struggles. We need not fear the expected fate of those who literally and/or figuratively find themselves "*sinking into the mud at the bottom of a pit*." Even Jeremiah was eventually pulled out of the mud and the pit, and he was saved—and because of his faithfulness, we believe he now enjoys the fullness of joy with God forever in heaven. Certainly our faith promises us the same destiny as the prophet! And so my friends, let's have an eternal perspective, and let's be confident that our God will always lift our present burdens, will save us from today's difficulties, and will someday give us the future glory of heaven. With this in mind, and in spite of whatever predicaments come our way, may we never grow weary and lose heart!

Praise God! *Friar Timothy*

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and condolences go out to Evelyn Lachica and her family on the death of her brother Basilio Lachica, who past away on Saturday, August 6th. Funeral services were held at St. Philip & James Catholic Church.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for our sick and homebound, **especially Donald Benedict, Beatrice Hradsky, Nancy Gist, Sheila Lambert, Albert J. Novak, II, Mary Schwartz, Charles Supik and Joan Pittman** (sister of Michael Hall).

SAINT WENCESLAUS CHURCH
Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time
August 14, 2016

SUMMER BINGO!

Join us for an afternoon of Bingo and fun. Plenty of refreshments to buy. **Saturday, August 27th, 1 – 5 p.m.** See flyers in back of church for more information.

LECTOR TRAINING

A **formal training session for all lectors** and anyone interested in becoming a lector will be held at St. Wenceslaus Church on **Saturday, August 20** from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** **All lectors are encouraged to attend.** There will be a light breakfast provided. Please sign the sheet on table in the back of church.

NEXT SUNDAY

Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading	Isaiah 66: 18–21
2 nd Reading	Hebrews 12:5–7, 11–13
Gospel	Luke 13:22–30

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun.	Aug 14	8:00 am	Ronald E. Wilson
		11:45	For the Parishioners
Tues.	Aug 16	8:00	Michael & Anna Kalista
Wed.	Aug 17	8:00	Denise Garrett
Thur.	Aug 18	7:00	Gerard S. Goldbeck
Fri.	Aug 19	8:00	Fr. Joseph Coshan, CSSR

Sunday Attendance & Collections

	<i>Masses</i>	<i>Attendance</i>	<i>Collection</i>
8/7/2016	8:00 am	54	
	11:45	<u>37</u>	
		91	
Total			\$2,190.25
Last Year's Total 8/9/2015			\$3,609.66

PRAYER FOR PEACE WALK

Please join Bishop Madden for his next prayer walk on Tuesday, **August 16, at St. Ambrose Catholic Church, 4502 Park Heights Ave.** The evening will begin with a light meal and prayer at 5:30 p.m., the walk starts at 6:00 pm and will end before 7:30 p.m.

BACK TO SCHOOL DAY

Lavista's Annual Back to School Day Event, **Saturday, August 20, 12 pm – 6 pm** at **Rosedale Park, 8500 block Philadelphia Rd.** School supplies giveaways, food, games, prizes, music. See flyer on table in back of church for more information.

BLESSED TERESA OF KOLKATA FEAST DAY

The Missionaries of Charity invite you to a **Novena in preparation for the Feast day of St. Teresa of Kolkata, August 27th – September 4th, from 4 – 5 pm** in the convent chapel, 818 N. Collington Ave. **The Feast Day of St. Teresa is September 5th.** In honor of the canonization of Mother Teresa, a **mass will be celebrated on Saturday, September 10th, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Wenceslaus Church.** Please join the Sisters after mass for a movie and refreshments in the Lyceum.

KEEP ON TEACHING

26th Annual "KEEP ON TEACHING " Catechetical and Evangelization Symposium for those involved in the ministry of religious education, sponsored by the Office of Black Catholic Ministries, will be held on **Saturday, September 10, from 9am – 3pm** at **St. Cecilia Church Hall, 3301 Windsor Ave. Price \$20.00. Registration deadline is Monday, August 22nd.** Registration forms are in the back of church or see Edith Pumphrey.

LABOR DAY PICNIC

Now that the Fourth of July and the Crab Feast are behind us, we look to the Labor Day picnic as our next big social event. Once again we will gather at Rocky Point Park. The date is **Monday, September 5. Tickets are \$7 adults and \$4 children. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5** for cash prizes of \$150, \$100, and \$50.

SIGHT & SOUND TRIP UPDATE

We now have 2 buses for our trip to Sight and Sound. If you know of someone who wants to join us but thought it was too late to **see Samson on October 29th,** let them know there are seats available. **Cost of trip is \$130 for adults and \$85 for children ages 3-12.** We are extending our payment dates. **Next payment of \$35, or catch up amount of \$95, is due August 14th. Final payment of your balance is due September 11th, NO EXCEPTIONS.** Payments can be given to Alicia, Shrene, Antoinette or turned into the church office.

OUTSIDE THE PARISH EVENTS... see bulletin board in back of church for more events and information

Knights of Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary... host a **Crab Feast/Casino trip** to Kentmorr Restaurant and Crab House in Stevensville, MD, then head to Delaware Park on **Saturday, August 27. Cost is \$90 per person – \$30 rebate at casino. Depart from St. Ann's church at 9:45 am and return at 10:00 pm.** For ticket information contact **Cynthia Johnson @ 443-854-8094.**

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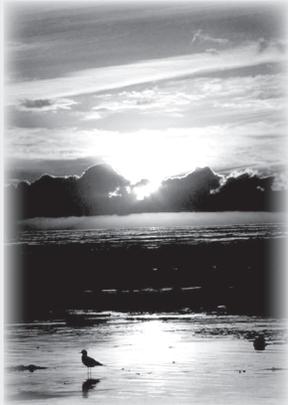
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