

“Let both grow together until the harvest”

The Parable of the Weeds (13:24-30, 36-43) uses the same agricultural motif as last week’s “Parable of the Sower”, but deals with the problem of the bad among the good in the world . The parable tells us that the kingdom must contend with evil all around it, and that God permits evil and good to co-exist until the end. We need not weed out the bad (message of the parable). God will deal with the bad in the harvest (message of the interpretation).

Two short parables are sandwiched between the Parable of the Weeds and its interpretation. Both the Parable of the Mustard Seed (13:31-32) and the Parable of the Yeast (13:33) promise great effects from small causes. We must not be discouraged by small beginnings—must not lose heart when our efforts seem hopeless.

“Let both grow together until the harvest” Unlike God, we cannot know people’s hearts—or where their lives might take them—or their potential for redemption. God has not equipped us with the insight necessary to weed the garden. As wonderful as it would be to have a “pure” world, a world without sinners, Jesus tells us that only in the harvest will purity be possible. Attempts to achieve it now will prove disastrous—will destroy the good with the bad. Reapers will accomplish the separation at harvest-time—in God’s scheme of things, soon enough.

As the ordained struggle to do God’s will in a world that refuses to listen—it resists our every effort to bring it closer to God’s kingdom. Christians often insist on majoring in minors—too easily tolerate the intolerable—refuse to give anything close to a tithe—frustrate our efforts at every turn. It is a word that we need to hear when we are tempted to tighten membership criteria—to clean up the rolls—to discipline errant members.

It’s also a word that people in the pews need to hear as they encounter other Christians with a too-sharp tongue OR a too-controlling manner OR a too-shallow theology. In the end, the church will be wonderful, fully redeemed and entirely saintly—but not just yet!

If we want a saintly church, perhaps the best place to start is by praying that God will grant us saintly patience with those whose discipleship is presently faulty. Perhaps it will help to remember that our discipleship is faulty too. It is interesting to recall that the disciples to whom Jesus addresses the interpretation of this parable include Judas, who will betray Jesus, Peter, who will deny him, Thomas, who will doubt him and James and John, whose concern has more to do with personal ambition than the kingdom of God . In the end, only Judas will be lost—and I am convinced that, had he asked the resurrected Christ to forgive him, even he could have been redeemed. Amen!

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. 5:30pm for the repose of the soul of Joy Tuschl at the request of Alan & Deb Farabaugh. **Sun 9:00am** for the Lord’s blessings on Pledge Drive IV. **Sun 11:00am** for the people of St. Anna’s.

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP:

\$8,809.51

(Average of \$9,000 per week to balance budget)

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

“LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME...FOR THE KINGDOM OF HEAVEN BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE.”

Matthew 9:14

CATECHISTS AND CATECHIST AIDES ARE STILL NEEDED IN THE SCHOOL OF RELIGION.

Catechists are needed in grades 1 & 3 and catechist aides are needed in grades 1,5, & 6.

BE A CATECHIST AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIFE OF A CHILD OR TEEN! Contact Deb Farabaugh at dfarabaugh@st-annas.com.



FAITH FORMATION NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We are looking for parents/grandparents to work in our **NURSERY** during either the 9a.m. or 12p.m. Mass.

We are also looking for volunteers to facilitate **CHILDREN’S LITURGY OF THE WORD** at Mass. Both of these ministries are not time consuming, but are an important for the children on St. Anna’s (and their parents!) Please prayerfully consider volunteering for one or both of these ministries to help shape the faith of the youngest members of our church. Contact Mrs. Deb

The **VIRTUS CHILD PROTECTION CLASS** for adults will be offered at St. Anna’s on **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26TH** from 9 to Noon. This class is required for all adults (over 18) who will be working with children in any capacity. Registration is online at www.virtus.org. If you are a new catechist, nursery volunteer or Children’s Liturgy of the Word leader, please register for this class.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

Join us for lots of water fun this **Wed., July 26th** from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. for **“WYN WATER NIGHT!”** Bring or wear your swimsuit and a towel. All Middle School & High School students of St. Anna’s are invited!



The Middle & High School Youth Groups will be going to **“THE MAIN EVENT”** in Suwanee on Saturday, July 29th for the day. Permission slips are required and can be found online at www.st-annas.com or in the Narthex under the television. For more information contact either Delilah at 770-773-6259 or delilaht.barron@gmail.com or David at 347-840-4794 or david3251@yahoo.com.

WELCOME

We're Glad You're Here

Men's CRHP (Christ Renews His Parish) is now meeting every Monday @ 6:30pm (SOR).

Women's CRHP Weekend: August 19-20, 2017

Men's CRHP Weekend: September 23-24, 2017

The *Christ Renews His Parish* Weekend is:
an opportunity to refocus;

by setting aside work and pressures of everyday life!

It is an opportunity to enter a quiet and prayerful atmosphere, focused on reconnecting with the Lord.

PRAY ABOUT IT!

JOIN US after Mass: Sunday, July 23 following both Masses OR July 29 after the 5:30 Mass.

Fellow parishioners will be on hand in the parish hall with **food and drink**, to answer questions and provide information regarding the upcoming Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP) weekends. A video created by St. Anna's past CRHP participants will show the spiritual aspect of CRHP and share the moving experience that so many have had.

Come spend a few minutes with us to see what the excitement is all about!

CRHP is truly a gift from the Holy Spirit!

Questions, do not hesitate to contact:

Women-Allison Graham: 770-695-1517

Men-Patrick Graham: 903-905-2455



Do you love sharing your Catholic faith with others?



The **RCIA TEAM** could use your help! RCIA meets on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 8:30pm to teach and share our faith with those interested in learning more about being Catholic. We would love to have more members on the RCIA team and perhaps you are looking for a ministry to become involved in. If

interested, call Don Nye (770-605-9439), Jay Sobczak (404-803-1827) or Deb Farabaugh (770-267-7637).

Please return all Baby Bottles to the baskets in the Narthex.



Available for Mass

Nursery

9:00 Mass

July 16 & 23

Contact Mrs. Deb to HELP

11:00 Mass

July 16 & 23

Contact Mrs. Deb to HELP



Join us for Trivia Night,
Saturday, August 12
Parish Hall at 7pm
Come join the fun!!



Bring at team OR join a team- \$10 / player

Cash prizes, Door prizes, snacks & drinks provided
BYOB - - O.K. Sponsored by your Knights of Columbus



Picnic

Mark Your Calendar:

Parish Picnic is October 16, 2017!

Preparations are underway! If you are already on the picnic committee or would like to be a part of the planning, please join us for the Picnic Planning Meeting: Thursday, August 10, at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall. Come ready to share your ideas and pray about your role in helping with this amazing event.

Enroll or Re-enroll in the Kroger Community Rewards!

Designate the reward points you earn to St.

Anna's by using your Kroger Plus Card.

Re-enrollment begins August 1st Please visit

www.krogercommunityrewards.com



Abbey Hospice is seeking volunteers...

Contact Rachael at (770) 464 5858



IHOP Community Rewards Program has been Suspended

IHOP has terminated their community Rewards Program where a cash percentage of every meal purchased would be donated to the St. Anna's Catholic Church. You no longer need to save your receipts for the church.

Meeting times for the week:

OLPH - Every Mon. @ 3pm (102/3)

Women's CRHP- Every Mon. @ 6:30pm (Lib)

Men's CRHP - Every Mon. @ 6:30pm (SoR)

Centering Prayer - Every Mon. @ 7pm (Chpl)

CC4-Mgmt Team Mtg - Tues. 7/25 @ (Lib)

Dave Ramsey Class - Tues. 7pm (105)

Parish Bible Study - Every Wed @ 10am (105)

K of C Plan. Mtg. - Thurs. 7/27 @ 7pm (PH)

Grief Support - Every Sat. @ 10am (105)

Call the Church Office at 770-267-7637 to get items on the Calendar!!!!

WEEKLY VERSES

A week's worth of God's Word

July 23 thru July 29

Saturday: Confessions

begin at 4 PM

Sunday: Wisdom 12:13.16-19. / Ps 86(85):5-6.9-10.15-16a. / Rm 8:26-27. / Mt 13:24-43.

Monday: Ex. 14:5-18. / Ex. 15:1-2.3-4.5-6. / Mt 12:38-42.

Tuesday: 2 Cor. 4:7-15. / Ps 126(125):1-2ab.2cd-3.4-5.6. / Mt 20:20-28.

Wednesday: Ex. 16:1-5.9-15. / Ps 78(77):18-19.23-28. / Mt 13:1-9.

Thursday: Ex. 19:1-2.9-11.16-20b. / Dn 3:52.53.54.55.56. / Mt 13:10-17.

Friday: Ex. 20:1-17. / Ps 19(18):8.9.10.11. / Mt 13:18-23.

Saturday: 1 Jn 4:7-16. / Ps 34(33):2-3.4-5.6-7.8-9.10-11. / Jn 11:19-27.