

September 25, 2022

My Brothers and Sisters in the Risen Lord,

The Emperor's New Clothes, written by Hans Christian Anderson, might be a story one remembers from childhood. In this morality tale, an arrogant, egotistical, and pretentious ruler learns a life lesson--that the fabric his clothing and his fine accouterments cannot protect him from the cold consequences of this world. He cannot wrap himself in riches. He learns, as he traipses about amid sneers from parade-goers, he is just a human being, like everyone else in this world. And it takes a child to call out this childish man, who ultimately cannot change his preposterous ways.

Today is the Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, and in Luke's Gospel, the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus, we recognize a similar but more compelling description regarding redemption and the promise of heaven. Jesus, interestingly, does not name the rich man in the parable, but describes him as being dressed regally and eating "scrumptiously." As rich as he is in wealth, he not rich in compassion – and not willing to offer any of his treasures to another person. Lazarus, a poor soul, covered in sores, waits diligently at this man's gate while dogs lick his wounds, but the rich man looks past him and offers him nothing to ease his pain. When they both die, Lazarus goes to heaven and the other man, goes to hell with no way to cross over to the other side. Despite the fact the rich man believed in God (in that he appealed to Abraham to save him), he could not see that in offering nothing of himself to another person—his inaction doomed him to suffer the consequences of his poor performance in life.

In this gospel of sharp contrasts, Jesus is asking us to open our eyes and hearts to what is around us and love our neighbor. It applies to everything we hold dear in our lives—privilege, money, talent, education—all those things we can share with others if we are poised to do so. We all have something to offer to one another, and especially to those who are in need. A few weeks ago, we learned about the narrow gate for entrance into Heaven. Are we narrowing this gate even more by how we treat another person who asks for our help? It's a question we all should ponder, as well as these words:

"A life not lived for others is not a life."--St. Teresa of Calcutta.

Yours in Christ, Father Rudy

You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin

You can **read Fr. Rudy's letter** at:
www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromthePastor'sDesk

**If you are having items shipped to Saint Leo's please have them shipped to Saint Boniface. We are having a lot of issues at Saint Leo's with deliveries. Please send any deliveries to:
St. Boniface - Attn: Saint Leo -1750 Chase Avenue-Cincinnati, OH 45223**

Upcoming Dates to Mark on your Calendar:

September 25th – Meeting after mass for the youth (12-18 years)

October 2nd - Meeting after Mass



ITEMS NEEDED: The food Pantry has an urgent need for plastic bags. We are beginning to prepare for the Toy and Clothing drive by needing clothing/coat racks and storage bins.

Don't forget the Food Pantry is in dire need of items we hope you can help! You can see our latest request on our [Amazon Wish List](#)

Link:https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

PARISH FAMILY NEWS: Mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 9th, for a get-acquainted party with other members of our parish family. Little Flower will be hosting us beginning at 1:00 p.m. We are asking people to bring a dish to share. Bring your own beverage. If the weather is nice, we will be outside on their beautiful grounds. There will be soccer and volleyball for the kids and adults. Or we can enjoy the opportunity to mingle and get to know each other. If the weather isn't nice, we will be in the parish undercroft.

Today is the 18th annual Blue Mass Celebration is Sunday September 25, 2022! All Greater Cincinnati Police, fire, and public safety personnel are welcome to join at The Cathedral Basilica of Saint Peter in Chains. The blessing and procession begin at 10:45 a.m. with mass at 11:00 a.m. followed by a reception. For more information please call 513.421.5354.

SAVE THE DATE!!! All parishioners are invited to a special celebration event where a banner will be awarded for the Archdiocesan Laudato Si' Recognition Award. This will take place at Earth Connection located at 370Neeb Road Cincinnati, Oh 45233 on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, October 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

Comboni Missionaries 13th Annual Taste of Mission- Join on Saturday October 8th from 3:00 -7:00 pm. Fr this one day festival which includes international food booths, wine, and beer tastings from Country Fresh Farm Market, Children's area, Mission Museum Tour live entertainment, and More! This event is held at the Cincinnati Mission Center located at 1318 Nagel road, Cincinnati, OH 45255.

St. Gerard Morning of Reflection – The second annual St. Gerard Morning of Reflection is a free event featuring a morning of prayer, reflection and community for married couples experiencing a season of infertility. The event will include Holy Mass with opportunity to venerate a first class relic of St. Gerard, the patron saint of mothers, followed by presentations and fellowship; RSVP online by October 10 at <https://www.centerforthenewevangelization.org/event/st-gerard-morning-of-reflection>.