

## September 10, 2023 Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Am I my brother's keeper? All three readings today suggest that for the Christian steward the answer is "Yes!"

### Mass Schedule Week of Aug 27

### Intentions

|           |         |               |                       |               |               |
|-----------|---------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Monday    | 8:00am  | Piedmont      |                       |               |               |
| Tuesday   | 8:00am  | Piedmont      |                       |               |               |
| Wednesday | 6:00pm  | Piedmont      |                       |               |               |
| Thursday  | 8:00am  | Piedmont      | Clifton & Anne Guidry | 5:15Van Buren | Homan Family  |
| Friday    | 5:00pm  | Piedmont      |                       |               |               |
| Saturday  | 4:30pm  | Williamsville |                       |               |               |
|           | 6:30pm  | Piedmont      |                       |               |               |
| Sunday    | 8:30am  | Van Buren     | / Hour of Adoration   |               | parish family |
|           | 11:00am | Piedmont      | Sandra Tucker         |               |               |

All Piedmont masses are live streamed on Facebook: daniel hirtz

Confessions: ½ hr. before mass, or by appointment 247 0277

6:00pm Tues. Holy Hour in Piedmont

6:00pm Wed. Piedmont: Extra-Ordinary Eucharistic Ministers and Readers Meet

Thurs. 6:00pm Van Buren Parish Council

Eucharistic Revival: This fall we will be offering a special sharing session for 14 weeks on Jesus and the Eucharist. There will be 7 this semester and 7 after Christmas. Make it a priority.

We will also be having an hour of adoration once a month. Can you show the Lord that much love?

If anyone would like to attend the Congress in Indianapolis July 17 2024 please call the rectory.

**Homily:** GET BEHIND ME SATAN. Today we get an insight into the ways of Satan. Satan, the tempter, is anything or anyone who would tempt others to be less than what God called them to. There are certainly times when we all act the tempter. There are times when someone will ask me about, or for an exception to God's will. Sometimes I might cave in by spelling out what they might technically get by with but then, am I really helping them? We are all called to become the best version of ourselves and help one another become the Christians we are called to be. Satan is always a tempter and if he doesn't outright lie he insinuates that there might be an easier way. With Eve he simply asked 'Did God really say that?' with Jesus he asked him to turn a rock into bread which He certainly had the power to do. He asked Jesus to throw himself off the temple and demonstrate his trust in God; and, if he really wanted to save everyone, he asked Jesus to worship him and Satan would leave everyone else alone. Today we hear a trusted disciple, a disciple who had just been given the power to bind and to loose, try to convince Jesus to take the easy way. Scripture says that Satan would look for other opportunities to tempt Jesus. This would be one of them. Now, though, instead of simply, as He did with Satan telling him to 'begone' Jesus tells Peter, as Origen puts it, 'be gone and get behind me.' in other words, 'get in line and follow me. Do it my way and not yours'. Here I'd like to share a little clip from William Barclay on this verse. He says "what made the temptation more acute was the fact that it came from one who loved him. Peter spoke as he did only because he loved Jesus so much that he could not bear to think of him treading that dreadful path and dying that awful death. The hardest temptation of all is the one which comes from protecting love. There are times when fond love seeks to deflect us from the perils of the path of God; but the real love is not the love which holds the knight at home, but the love which sends him out to obey the commandments of the chivalry which is given, not to make life easy, but to make life great. It is quite possible for love to be so protecting that it seeks to protect those it loves from the adventure of the warfare of the soldier of Christ and from the strenuousness of the pathway of the pilgrim of God. What really wounded Jesus' heart and what really made him speak as he did, was that the tempter spoke to him that day through the fond but mistaken love of Peter's hot heart.' We also need to remember that scripture says Satan would look for other of Mary's children to devour. What do our temptations sound like? whether from ourselves or others: 'honey, we don't need to go to church today.' 'honey, what will people think if they find out we went to church to worship what seems like a piece of bread?' 'Surely there is nothing wrong with mowing the yard on Sunday, I don't leave myself time on any other day.' 'Does tithe mean my gross income or my net income?' 'God doesn't expect us to have as many babies as possible so surely it's alright to use artificial birth control, since it achieves the same end as abstinence. 'if you don't have this abortion it will ruin your life.' Or, how about our temptation to materialism? You ever go to a store to pick up two or three items and all of a sudden you need that thing you had just seen advertised on tv? You ever notice a special sale on say, a large screen, bigger than yours, and tell yourself you could be a nice guy and pass your older one on to someone else. Remember, we are tempted by the world, the flesh and the devil. Like Jesus we need to constantly be saying 'get behind me Satan.' But, also, like Jesus we need to admonish those, in love, who try to tempt us. Jesus had told Peter that Satan had asked for him but when he was made strong he was to help the others. With that, Peter went on to trust God totally and give his life for the Gospel. Peter continues to help all of us today, through the church, to become all we can be. You and I can also trust God totally and help one another do all that God asks of us.



**Great News: you can now give whenever amount you want in a very easy way. Just click on this qr code. You can fill out a quick simple way to track your on line giving and which events you want to support. Including mass intentions. Just list who you wish to be remembered in the box. Fr dan**

**Coming Soon**

**This fall we will have the opportunity to participate in a special Eucharistic program the United States Bishops have provided for focusing on the Eucharist. There will be special presenters for each session and a small group sharing.**

**Looking at Piedmont Sunday 6:00pm Wednesday 1:00 pm and Van Buren on Thursdays 6:00pm Is there another time which would really work well for you and others you might know?**