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September 12, 2010

Dear Friends of Unity Acres,

Almost a month has gone by since our Annual Outdoor Mass and Picnic. The skies threatened but rain held off until almost 2:30 pm and even then many lingered under the trees and many were still in the dining room. Our hats go off first of all to our kitchen staff and helpers who worked many hours and put on another beautiful meal. Thanks guys and Helen for the great food and to your clean-up crew for their dedicated work. Every year we say its been the best yet and it might just have been-again! The celebration began shortly before noon with Mary Agnes and Jan gathering us in song and then the McCarthy family leading us "*Here in this place....here in our lives...our God is here*". We then proceed with our Mass and its theme of *Perseverance* with the bounty of our vegetable garden as its focus, *Inch by inch, row by row....Someone bless these seed we sow, Someone warm them from below....*

Our reading from the letter of James speaks of patience...see how the farmer is patient waiting for the land to produce precious crops, so we must keep our hopes high, for our Lord is coming as we then sang these words of James as our Responsorial Psalm. Our second reading from Paul's letter to the Romans again reminds us of having endurance which brings God's approval and God's approval creates hope. The Gospel proclaimed (both from Luke 8 and Mark 4) was of the Mustard Seed, the smallest of seeds which eventually grows to become the biggest of plants -- we compare with our huge Rose of Sharon plants gracing the front of our main building, "B" Building.

*THANKS BE TO THE HOLY  
SPIRIT*

*Even if I walk along yet still I walk,  
With faith and with trust in God.*

*Ever forward to the calling and ministry  
He has called me to with  
Joy and thanksgiving always in my heart.*

*And always for the Glory of my God  
And in his love, grace, and mercy  
He has given to me freely.*

*Amen.*



During the Offertory on this feast of the Assumption we pay tribute to Mary, our Blessed Mother, with the beautiful “Hail Mary, Gentle Woman” ...*Gentle woman, quiet light, morning star, so strong and bright, gentle Mother, peaceful dove, teach us wisdom, teach us love.*

At Communion time we ask God to give us peace, *Dona Nobis Pacem*, peace for all, like a river running freely, and our Liturgy comes to a close as we all join in *The heavens are telling the glory*

*of God and all creation is shouting for joy.....*, Marty Haugen’s “Canticle of the Sun”.

After Mass many stopped in to our Sacred Heart Chapel, newly renovated by our men this past winter and spring and are surprised and impressed with our latest part of the renovation, a beautiful cabinet crafted by Ed D. which contains some of Father McVey’s belongings as well as reminders of Kate Stanton, Carol Guthrie and Brother Marcellus (Bill Spurrier).



To name all that contributed to making this annual event another great success is impossible. For every name that we know, there are those who slipped in with their contribution without us getting their name.

To all who helped in any way, we offer our most sincere appreciation.

Peg McCarthy

## HELP, WE'RE DROWNING

This article has been on our minds for some time and we haven't known whether we should include it in our Newsletter or if we would upset and shock many of our friends and benefactors. This past couple of weeks we again had to fill our Cargo Van with bags of clothing and take them to Syracuse to the Rescue Mission Warehouse. Two of the thrift shops that we have taken clothes to in the past informed us that they no longer can handle large clothing donations. It has become a problem all over -- there is a glut of used clothing. We are reminded of an article by a Catholic Worker House in Houston asking people not to buy new clothes for at least a year and instead of cleaning out their closets and taking them to a thrift shop, to continue to wear their old clothes. Our Clothing Room is overflowing, our men's closets and rooms are overflowing with too many clothes as well.

We are also having a problem with donations of large items such as couches, we have no room for them, as well as used appliances such as telephones, and large TVs and items that no longer work. We find ourselves in a very awkward position of seeming to be ungrateful, but the fact remains that these "donations" cost us considerably, what with trying to take the clothes elsewhere or taking appliances that don't work to the transfer station. It now cost \$5.00 to dispose of a TV or Microwave at the Transfer Station.

A few years ago a bag of men's T shirts traveled between here and another Thrift Store at least three or four times!

We pray that this request is not taken the wrong way. It is not that we don't appreciate what so many are doing for us, but we need to get the word out that many of the items brought up here need to be carted back by us.

We have a sign posted now on our Clothing Room stating that we cannot accept used underclothing or socks, no soiled clothes of any kind, no large TVs, only small TVs in working condition, No used pillows. No large furniture.

We do intend to include notice of specific needs for clothing items in future newsletters, as the need arises.

Thank-you for your understanding.

## September Prayer: God's Work—Human Labor

“Blessed are You, Lord, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this bread to offer – which earth has *given* and *human hands have made*. It will become for us the bread of life.

“Blessed are You, Lord, God of all creation. Through Your goodness we have this wine to offer – fruit of the vine, and *work of human hands*. It will become our spiritual drink.”

—Prayer over the gifts at every Mass.

Loving God of all creation, we praise You in all Your works. Any ability we have for working is Your gift to us. Grant that we may work honestly, justly, for Your honor and glory, and for the good of all.

We pray that those who cannot work will be helped by those who can, and by your grace. We pray You heal the scourge of joblessness.

At every Mass we offer gifts of bread and wine, to be consecrated and become our Eucharist, the gift of Your son. Human labor is needed for this sacred mystery. But these, and all Your gifts, are part of Your loving work of creation.

We ask You, Lord, in this time of rampant unemployment, to provide opportunities to work. May all thus come to enjoy and share the fruits of their labor. Amen.

Father Robert Jones