

ST. JOSEPH PARISH AND SCHOOL – NOVEMBER 19, 2017

Dear Parishioners and Families,

Jesus tells a story about a servant who did everything he was told and then hears this phrase, “You are an unprofitable servant. You have only done what you are obliged to do.” (Luke 17: 10)

Is that startling? Today’s parable from Matthew concerning the servants who were entrusted with possessions possibly explains Luke’s expression. Most of those servants took the gifts entrusted to them, invested them, matured them, and made a profit. However, one servant was so timorous that he simply hid the dollars and then returned them to the master when he returned. The master was not happy and called him a wicked and lazy servant - - an unprofitable servant. The master expected advancement and profit and not simply holding the fort. (Matt. 25: 14-30) The word profit is used analogously.

We are to leave this world better than how we found it. We are meant to create more than what we consume. We are to make a profit for the Lord. Each in our own way the Lord has given us talents and we are to use them to achieve positive results that have meaning in God’s world. “What shall it profit a man if he gains the whole world but ruins his life for God’s Kingdom.” (Mark 8:36).

St. Joseph Church, Randolph, Gets Looped

Sorry, this is not from too much altar wine. Rather, this is the newest technology to assist the hearing impaired to listen to the spoken word and music with amazing clarity.

A new Hearing Aid Induction Loop System was installed beneath the floor circling St. Joseph Church. People who have hearing aids equipped with T-Coils receive the microphone voice and music directly into their ears. Newer hearing aids are already equipped with T-Coils. Those with older hearing aids can get information on how their device may be bettered and adapted. (Advanced EarGear 330/785-0800).

People experiencing hearing loss often struggle to catch the words and softer sounds during worship services. With the echo in church, even people with normal hearing have trouble understanding the spoken word. The new loop technology broadcasts a signal directly into a person’s ear if their aid is equipped with a T-Coil.

Most new hearing aids are equipped with this T-Coil. Often there is a button on the hearing aid where one can tune in for the tele-coil or simply turn it off and listen to all the ambient sound.

St. Joseph Church had the Induction Loop installed as more people are hearing impaired. Mary Denny, our oldest parishioner at 107 years of age, remarked that this is the first time in many years she has heard the music and heard the spoken word in church.

Bob Cline who recently had his hearing aid upgraded could hardly believe his ears. He could hear handily. Don Hatherill went to the Kent State Audiology Department where they also installed the T-Coil in his hearing aid. He told me it is simply remarkable because he now hears everything in the church even when it is said in a low tone.

St. Joseph Church in Randolph invites those people who are hard of hearing and have a T-Coil within their hearing aid to come and worship with us. Technology is a gift from God.

Fr. Tom Acker, S.J.
November 19, 2017