

# Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 25, 2013

## From the Pastor's Desk

This Wednesday, August 28, we Americans will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom. The highlight of that day in 1963 was Dr. Martin Luther King's "I have a dream" speech. George Raveling who then was a 26-year-old former college basketball star, has the story of a man who not only witnessed history but walked away with a piece of it as well:

"It took place right here in this designated spot," he says. "As I look back now I can feel a little nervousness inside my body, a little tremor, because I certainly view it a lot differently than I did then." "I was to the left of Dr. King, I would suggest probably seven or eight security people away." Just having a front-row seat to such a momentous occasion is a memory worth talking about, but George Raveling's story really begins with what happened after the speech. "I walked over, and he was just foldin' ... the paper. And I said, 'Dr. King, can I have that copy of the speech?... and he - he turned and handed it to me; it happened that quick."

That's right, Martin Luther King Jr. handed George Raveling one of the greatest speeches in American history. It all happened by chance -- the result of a dinner conversation at the home of a friend a few days before the march. "At that time my best friend was a young man named Warren Wilson, and his dad was a very prominent dentist in Wilmington, Del.," Raveling explained. "And so I was down visiting them, and when dinner was done, we went into the family room to watch the evening news, which was dominated with this forthcoming march on Washington." "And so when the news ended, Dr. Wilson asked us if we were going to go, and we said 'no'. He said, 'I think it's really important that you go down and be part of this movement.' "

So Raveling and Wilson made the trip to Washington, D.C., the night before the march. "We got down to the monument grounds, and we parked, and we're walking around, and we ran into a gentleman. And he asked us if we were coming to the march, and we said 'yes'." And he said, 'Would you be interested in volunteering?'" They said yes, and showed up early the next day; they were assigned to handle security around the podium. Tens of thousands descended on the Mall . . . black and white, rich and famous, working and middle class. Beginning at 9 a.m., a steady stream of speakers and singers took to the podium. Finally, by late afternoon, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was announced.

King: "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character -- I have a dream today." The words Dr. King spoke that day signaled a turning point in American history, but as for the three pages they were written on, Raveling simply tucked them away in an autobiography of Harry Truman and forgot about it.

"For over 20 years I never looked at the speech again," Raveling said, "Until I got to the University of Iowa as head basketball coach, I never once went back and reviewed the speech again. But it hadn't taken on the historical significance that it had now, or I certainly would have gone back and make sure I still had it, and put it in a safe place."

Then, one day in 1984, a local newspaper reporter interviewed Raveling about the significance of being the first African-American coach at Iowa. "He said to me, 'Were you ever involved in the civil rights movement?' And so I told him the story, and he said, 'You have the speech?' And I said, 'Yeah.' And so he got all excited, he said, 'Well, where is it?' "The speech was right where he left it -- tucked in the Truman book inside a box in his basement. The speech looks none the worse for the wear. But the irony of the document is that the words "I have a dream" are nowhere to be found.

"It doesn't have a title ... It's not identified as 'I have a dream.' You can simply see the date and the time. You'll see that he pretty much followed the script. " "Right here is where we now go into the ad-libbed part of the "I have a dream" speech," said Raveling. It's true: those famous words were ad-libbed, turning a planned four-minute speech into a 16-minute address. Raveling says he would be happy to turn the speech over to a museum, but he hasn't found the right match.

I hope all of you enjoyed this true story. Happy anniversary and blessings on your week!

*Father Michael Tang*

## Petition for the Sick

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Learie Apparicio, Helen Augusta, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Joyce Burnett, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Beryl Davidson, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Gwen Files, Anita Finie, Edith Foster, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Lauretta Jackson, Robert Jordan, Anita Kennedy, Maggie Lacour, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sister Marianna, Vylfred Manor, Muriel Meyers, Yvonne Morgan, Louis Murphy, Dorothy Okoye, Dale Payne, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Alice Vogel, Lubertha Weathers, and Lilla Williams.

# SAVE THE DATE

Friday, September 20, 2013

9:30 AM to 1:30 PM

## ACCW District Meeting

held at Transfiguration Parish.

### School News

**PAPER DONATION:** As we begin our school year we are in need of copy paper – if you can assist, please contact the School Office 323.292.3011.

### Pastor Scholarship

Transfiguration School is accepting new students in all grades. The school has a **Pastor's Scholarship Fund** for scholarships ranging from \$500 to \$2,500 per child which will be awarded to new students on the basis of academic achievement as well as family involvement in the Transfiguration community or at local parishes that do not have a Catholic school. The school serves Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade children and welcomes students of all faiths, ethnic background and economic circumstances. The school is accredited, provides a rigorous core curriculum, and recently added fine and performing arts to its offerings. Counseling services are also available at the school. Please contact Fr. Michael Tang or Jo Ann Levi in the rectory office at 323.291.1136 for more details.

### Calling All Students Attending Public Schools!

Religious Education registration for all students from Kindergarten to High School will be after all Sunday Masses in August. Please bring student's Baptism Certificate. Classes includes: First Communion and Confirmation preparation.

### Mass Intentions

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 24</b>
5:15 p.m.	Soul of Cynthia Lockett
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 25</b>
8:00 a.m.	Soul of Mary Brule
10:00 a.m.	Souls of Jackeline, Dilcia, & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.
12:15 p.m.	Intention of all Parishioners
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 26</b>
8:00 a.m.	Intention of Victoria Levi

**Happy Birthday to Felecia Johns**  
who celebrated her birthday on August 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Many blessings!!!**

From your Parents, Fr. Tang  
and the Rectory staff.



**~We love you!**



### Thank You!

Last week we had another great picnic! Putting this event together takes the support of many people. I want to publicly **THANK** the many parish ministries and individuals who assisted in making our picnic a success: The Knights and Ladies of Peter Claver, Ushers, Eucharistic Ministers, Seniors, Mr. & Mrs. Newton, St. Vincent de Paul, Lectors, and Choir. My **THANKS**, also to the many parishioners who donated their time, talent, and treasure in making our picnic a wonderful time for fellowship: Mary Captain, Ms. Godinez, and Sharron Easson for the toys, Gloria McClaurin ~ table decorations, Frank Rhodes ~ tacos, Carl Smith ~ sound, snow cones, etc, and Sabrina Markos (Auntie Bree) for our children activity section. I hope everyone had a chance to have their picture taken with our guest from Rome. Pictures will be available from Jimmy Martin soon. Once again, my heartfelt thanks to all who helped in some way.

Sincerely,

*Deacon Greg Patterson*

**Did you know** that, in order to baptize a child Catholic, the Church requires at least one Catholic Godparent? This is someone who must be confirmed, currently practicing and registered at a Catholic parish, and at least 16 years of age. In the eyes of the Church, a Godparent is not the one who would take legal custody of your child in the event that something should happen to you. Rather, a Catholic Godparent is the person who *helps* you to raise your child Catholic. A Catholic Godparent can help shop for your child's First Communion outfit, or purchase her/his first set of rosary beads and Bible, or take your child to Church when you're under the weather. A special aunt or uncle who is not a practicing Catholic, but has a strong zeal for their faith that you would like your child to have for the Catholic faith, can be recognized as a Christian witness on your child's Baptism Certificate.

### RCIA

Any adult interested in receiving the sacraments, baptism, first communion, and confirmation, should sign up with a representative after mass. Registration will start this weekend and during the month of September. RCIA classes will start in October.

### VIRTUS Training

To comply with the Archdiocese's *Safeguard the Children Program*, "**All parish/staff and volunteers who are alone with a child or young person or who have supervisory control over a child or young person**" is required to attend a VIRTUS Certification session. This includes parents and guardians who would like to volunteer at the school. There will be a session on Wednesday, September 4, and another the following Wednesday, September 11. Both are from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, in the school. The session lasts 3 hours. Due to the nature of the material, no minors are allowed and child care will not be provided. Please call the school, 323.292.3011, to register for either session.