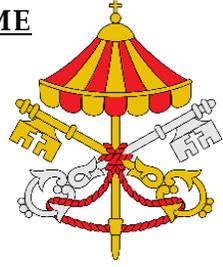


THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 30, 2020

Notes on the Gospel



Many people use that phrase "Live for today" as a motto. Enjoy life today and postpone pain until tomorrow.

Sometimes this attitude seeps into our prayer life. We ask God with expectation, not anticipation. If the Creator does not deliver, we will be tempted to abandon prayer (or at least postpone it). Yet, if we are honest with ourselves, we would recognize that prayer life is different from popular culture. Prayer sometimes demands the pain and suffering of patience. Sometimes we need to wait, even if that means "hanging by a thread."

Jesus took this spiritual fact one step further. The Christian life means life postponed for the good of others. That's what Jesus did as he walked to Jerusalem and to the cross. He called us to do the same.

Peter declared Jesus was the Messiah. From then on, Jesus began to clearly show his followers what he needed to do. "I must go to Jerusalem, suffer at the hands of the leaders in the city and its Temple, and be killed," Jesus stated, "I will be raised the three days after that."

Then Peter took Jesus aside. "It will never happen to you like this!" Peter scolded him. "May God have mercy on you, Lord!" Jesus turned to Peter and said, "Go away, Satan! You're in my way! You think like everyone else, not like God." When Peter scolded Jesus, he challenged the Master's authority. Jesus responded with a strong rebuke, invoked the name of evil. From Jesus' point of view, anyone who did not accept God's will was in league with the devil, whether the subject knew it or not.

Then Jesus told his followers, "If anyone wants to come with me, he must stop being selfish. He must pick up his cross, carry it, and follow me. If someone only wants to keep everything they have, they will lose it. But, if someone loses everything they have because of me, they will find true life. How would it help anyone if they gained the whole world but lost true life? What can anyone give in exchange for true life?"

The Son of Man will soon come in the glory of his Father along with God's messengers. Then he will repay everyone for what they did." This gospel can be divided into two sections: 1) Jesus' prophecy and the controversy with Peter and 2) Jesus' teaching on discipleship.

Peter had a different view of the Messiah: God's Spirit would lead Jesus and his cohort into Jerusalem so they could sweep the Romans into the sea. Jesus would cleanse the Temple from corruption and restore true worship. Jesus would establish a rule that would last 1000 years! Talk of suffering and death diminished the status of Jesus, his group, and Peter's authority in the group. Peter figured it was time to talk some sense into his Teacher.



PILGRIMAGES TO THE BASILICA

The Basilica of Saint Mary of the Assumption welcomes all visitors encouraging them to come, pray, and enjoy our beautiful church. If you are a member of a group who would like to tour our Basilica or make a spiritual pilgrimage, please let us know how we can be of assistance.

Special Events & Scheduled Pilgrimages at the Basilica:

- Sept. - 9, - CWC Mass (Bishop & Keynote speaker – 10:00 am Mass (Basilica)
- Sept - 17, - Marietta College Students tour of the Basilica – 1:00 pm.
- Oct. - 23, - Closing of the Eucharistic Congress & the 75th Anniversary of the Diocese (Bishop)
- Nov. - 8, - Diocesan Women Religious Celebration – (live-stream)
- Nov. - 22, - Marriage Anniversary Mass (Noon - Bishop (live-stream)
- Mar. - 20, - DCCW Lenten Day of Spirituality for Women
- May - 19 - PCHS Baccalaureate Mass (Basilica)



REVERENTIAL QUIET IN THE BASILICA

It is an ancient tradition in the Church to have a reverential quiet tone in a Catholic Church – especially in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. More and more, this tradition is being ignored in the Basilica. Sometimes, people are trying to pray before or after Mass – we need to respect them. Please observe a quiet tone when you are present in the Basilica.



DECEASED PRIESTS OF DIOCESE

On Tuesday, we remember the 19th anniversary of the death of Msgr. Cronan Molloy and the 27th anniversary of the death of Fr. John Price. On Thursday, we remember the 43rd anniversary of the death of Fr. Robert Glynn, Er.Cam. On Saturday, we remember the 28th anniversary of the death of Fr. Ronald Griffith. May God grant peace and eternal rest to them and all deceased priests who have served the people of our Diocese of Steubenville.



Perpetual Help Devotions on Monday

On Monday evening at 6:15 pm., Perpetual Help Devotions will be celebrated. All parishioners are encouraged to attend this devotion. Perpetual Help devotions are the official devotion celebrated in this Basilica. We thank all parishioners who regularly attend the devotion.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE MEMBERS OF OUR PARISHES WHO ARE ILL.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AT THE BASILICA

Jesus Christ Himself invites us to a personal visit with Him in our basilica. When we place ourselves in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament we place ourselves before the gaze of Christ who loves us and wants us to experience that love.

Adoration of Jesus in the Most Blessed Sacrament is making Jesus the very center of our lives and the very center of our Parish. Jesus stays with us in the Blessed Sacrament to refresh us in mind, in heart and in spirit.

Take advantage of Eucharistic Adoration which takes place at our Basilica. Come and visit the Lord in Adoration this Wednesday and/or Friday.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

Thursday, September 3, Saint Gregory the Great (Pope & Doctor)

As pope, Gregory is noted for his liturgical reform and chant. He sent missionaries to England, and wrote on many moral and theological subjects. He is one of four great doctors of the Latin Church.

Catholic Church teaching on Satanism

"All forms of divination are to be rejected: recourse to Satan or demons, conjuring up the dead or other practices falsely supposed to "unveil" the future. Consulting horoscopes, astrology, palm reading, interpretation of omens and lots, the phenomena of clairvoyance, and recourse to mediums all conceal a desire for power over time, history, and, in the last analysis, other human beings, as well as a wish to conciliate hidden powers. They contradict the honor, respect, and loving fear that we owe to God alone." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2116)

China suppresses Catholics under Covid-19 cover



Hundreds of underground Catholics in mainland China were stopped from celebrating the Feast of the Assumption on Aug. 15 in the latest example of communists suppressing Christians under cover of Covid-19. Although most public places, including movie halls, remain open, churches are yet to function in most parts of China. The Marian feast is a day of obligation for Catholics when they are required to take part in Eucharistic liturgy.

Traditionally, the Feast of the Assumption is considered one of the major Catholic celebrations in China along with Christmas and Easter, when hundreds gather in their parish churches for solemn liturgical celebrations and exchange greetings.

EVENTS & MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Monday, August 31,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass
6:15 pm. - Perpetual Help Devotions

Tuesday, September 1,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass

Wednesday, September 2,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration

Thursday, September 3,

7:45 am. - Mass
12:05 pm. - Mass

Friday, September 4,

7:45 am. - Mass
8:20 am. - Adoration
12:05 pm. - Mass

Saturday, September 5,

9:00 am. - Mass
2:00 pm. - Wedding
3:30 pm. - Confessions
5:30 pm. - Mass

Sunday September 6,

8:00 am - Mass
9:30 am. - Mass - (St. Henry's)
10:00 am. - Mass
12:00 pm. - Mass



Legal abortion 'above my pay grade,' says religious sister who will pray at DNC



Sister Simone Campbell offered a prayer at the Democratic National Convention last Thursday and has declined to take a stand on the morality of abortion protection.

Asked Aug. 19 whether her organization opposes the legal protection of abortion, Campbell told CNA, “That is not our issue. That is not it. It is above my pay grade. It’s

not the issue that we work on.”

Campbell is one of the leaders of “Nuns on the Bus” who came on a tour to Marietta several years ago. The group has previously clashed with the U.S. bishops’ conference. In 2010, when the bishops were working for strong restrictions on abortion and for strong conscience protections in the major healthcare bill known as the Affordable Care Act, Sr. Mary Ann Walsh, director of Media Relations at the USCCB, said the group “grossly overstated whom they represent in a letter to Congress that was also released to media.” She does not represent the Catholic Church.

Catholic Church in Belgium sees rise in adult baptisms

The Catholic Church in Belgium has reported a significant rise in adult baptisms. It is reported that 305 adults will be baptized this year, an increase of 61 compared to 2019. The number of adult baptisms has grown steadily from 143 in 2010, to 180 in 2015, to more than 300 in 2020. Although the majority of Belgium’s 11.5 million population are baptized Catholics, Sunday Mass attendance is below 7%.



THE BASILICA OF



SAINT MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

506 4TH STREET • MARIETTA OH 45750 • 740-373-3643

August 23, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Jesus said, "If anyone wants to come after Me, let him (completely) renounce (his self-interest), pick up his cross, and follow Me". To renounce (his self-interest)" is traditionally translated "deny himself." Deny in this sense does not mean loss of identity but of self-focus. The follower of Christ must be a person for others, just as the Master was.

In Matthew's Gospel, whoever acts in a way to save his/her reputation could lose eternal life, by denying one's place in the Christian community. But, the Christian who willingly allows others to trash his/her reputation over faith will receive eternal life. "Gain the entire world" meant "life's desires," not ultimate power. "Lose his life" here meant eternal life. In other words, one cannot be truly selfish and be a Christian at the same time.

Jesus compared two ways of life, the way to true life and the way to death. This analogy was popular in the early Church. As one of the first Christian catechisms ever written, the Teachings of the Twelve Apostles (circa 110 A.D.) painted the Christian life in these terms. One road led to self-giving, light, and life. The other road led to selfish sin, darkness, and death. Jesus compared the two ways as focal points. The road to life traveled through suffering and death. To follow him meant looking beyond what the disciple possessed at the present moment, even at the risk of losing it all. In fact, physical death meant total loss, possessions, power, and relations. "We are born into the world alone. We will die alone."

Yet, how many cling vainly onto the power, possessions, and relations they have today, in mistaken hope they will have them forever? Jesus played these two focal points (today vs. forever) against each other in the word "life." "If someone only wants to keep their life (i.e., everything they possess today), they will lose it. But, if someone loses their life (everything they possess) because of me, they will find it (i.e., true or eternal life)."

Finally, Jesus wove the notion of the Christian life with the ethical life. The Christian life was based upon sacrifice, just as the Master sacrificed himself on the cross. Matthew held one's righteousness can only be measured by sacrifice made for others, in the name of Jesus. As the Son of Man would die, rise, and return to repay everyone for their deeds, the Christian would suffer and even die (through self-giving), only to be raised and receive his/her reward.

Sincerely,

Rev. Msgr. John M/ Campbell
(Rector)

[Five minute warning: Santa Fe warns of preaching suspensions for homilies over time limit](#)



Priests in the Archdiocese of Santa Fe have been warned that they could lose the faculty to preach if they give homilies longer than five minutes. The archdiocese said that the restriction is part of the archdiocesan response to the coronavirus pandemic.

In the memo, sent July 31, archdiocesan vicar general Fr. Glenn Jones said that the archdiocesan chancery had “received reports of some homilies going on for well over the 5-minute limit set by the Archbishop. This not only increases exposure time [of the coronavirus] to others, but increases the discomfiture of many congregants, to the point of some not attending Mass because of it. If such homilies continue, [Archbishop John Wester] will consider severer actions for subject clergy,” Jones wrote, “up to and including possible suspension of the faculty to preach.”

“The intent of Father Glenn Jones’ memo was to underscore the seriousness of the pandemic, Archbishop’s great concern for human life and the health and safety of our parishioners,” the spokesperson said.

Rare discoveries shed light on secret Catholic life in Tudor house



A restoration project at a country house in Norfolk has uncovered items that shed new light on the steadfast faith of a Catholic family in the wake of the English Reformation.

The discoveries include a fragment of a 15th-century illuminated manuscript found by a builder in the eaves of Oxburgh Hall, a moated manor house in the village of Oxborough. The builder’s eye was drawn to the parchment by the glint of gold leaf and the blue illuminated initials, which remained bright though the text had lain for centuries amid debris. Researchers believe that the manuscript may have been used during secret Masses celebrated at the country house, which has been home to the Bedingfeld family for the past 500 years.

The family once occupied a prominent position in the Tudor royal court but was ostracized after Sir Henry Bedingfeld refused to sign the Act of Uniformity 1588, which imposed fines on those who refused to attend Anglican services. The family defied the authorities by continuing to practice the Catholic faith, building a priest hole to shelter clergy in the event of a raid. The narrow room was reached via a trap door that blended in with the tiled floor when shut.

Anna Forest, the curator overseeing the restoration work, said that the text on the illuminated manuscript was part of Psalm 39 in the Latin Vulgate translation of the Bible. James Freeman, medieval manuscripts specialist at Cambridge University Library, suggested that the parchment might have belonged to a Book of Hours, a prayer book for lay people containing an abbreviated form of the Divine Office recited in monasteries. The parchment was found during a \$7.8 million project to reroof Oxburgh Hall. The book, which was found in an attic void, was written by St. John Fisher, the Catholic Bishop of Rochester who was executed by order of Henry VIII in 1535.

Democrats for Life Press On Despite Party's Freeze-Out



For the first time since 2000, the Democratic National Convention did not permit Democrats for Life of America (DFLA) to caucus as an official part of the convention and refused even to allow them to testify before the platform committee — the latest signs of the party's overt hostility to the pro-life movement within their ranks. The exclusion of their life-affirming perspectives from party consideration severely dampened the enthusiasm Democrat pro-lifers otherwise might have experienced from the convention's formal nomination of Joe Biden, who became only the fourth Catholic major-party nominee in U.S. history.

"There's so much frustration, and people are so excited about coming out and speaking out," said Kristen Day, DFLA's president, said. "They want to vote for Biden, but Biden's giving us no reason to vote for him. ... He's talking about late-term abortion, paying [for abortion] with taxpayer funds and codifying Roe." Pro-life Democrats nonetheless made their voices heard protesting in Milwaukee against their exclusion. Day said that her movement consists of pro-life Democrats who also "want social justice, racial justice, economic justice," but who are disappointed by "the fact that we're being excluded and not even a small effort is made to ask for our vote." She said this climate is "the most hostile" it has ever been for pro-lifers in the party and referenced a 2017 meeting with Democratic National Committee Chairman Tom Perez, where he remarked that "we welcome pro-life people in the party as long as they don't vote that way."

Day also commented on criticism leveled by Rep. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, D-N.Y., against former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, a Republican critic of President Donald Trump, who spoke at the Democratic National Convention. Ahead of his appearance, Ocasio-Cortez called Kasich an "anti-choice extremist" who "fights against women's rights."

John Paul II rose added to White House Rose Garden



A rose named for the late Pope St. John Paul II has been included in a renovation of the White House Rose Garden.

The Pope John Paul II rose, a white tea rose cultivar, is included in a redesign of the Rose Garden overseen by First Lady Melania Trump, which was unveiled Aug. 22. Other roses included in the garden redesign are the JFK rose cultivar and the Peace rose.

The Rose Garden, a space of about 1,700 square feet, sits outside the Oval Office. It was first designed and planted in 1913 under the direction of First Lady Ellen Wilson, and a 1961 redesign was overseen by First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy. The Pope John Paul II rose was bred by American horticulturist Keith Zary in 2006. It has since been planted in the Vatican Gardens.

After Hagia Sophia, Turkey Turns Second Historic



A month after the former cathedral Hagia Sophia was converted from a museum into a mosque, another Istanbul church-museum, renowned for its exquisite Byzantine mosaics, will undergo the same transformation.

Last Friday, Turkey's president, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, ordered that the 700-year-old Chora Church -- currently the Kariye Museum -- be turned into a fully functioning mosque. The building's history mirrors that of the famous former Byzantine cathedral Hagia Sophia. Holy Savior in Chora is a 4th-century Greek Orthodox church whose structure was originally part of a monastery in Byzantine Constantinople. The church's current form, instead, dates from the early 14th century. It is highly valued for its masterful mosaics and frescoes.

After the Ottoman conquest of Istanbul in 1453, the church was taken for Muslim worship, and the wall paintings and mosaics thinly covered with dye and lime. In 1945, the secular Turkish republic declared the building a national monument, and extensive restoration and conservation work was carried out on the former church's artworks before it opened as a museum in 1958. Like Hagia Sophia, the building is designated a UNESCO World Heritage site.

In November 2019, Turkey's top administrative court, the Council of State, ruled the structure should return to use as a mosque, on the basis that the museum was unlawful for violating the Ottoman declaration that the building be used for Muslim worship.

Other church-museums in Turkey have also been converted back into mosques in recent years. The Hagia Sophia and Chora decisions are thought to be an effort by Erdoğan to appeal to Muslim voters after the president's party, AK, lost the Istanbul mayoral election in 2019.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC WOMEN'S CONVENTION



Because of the pandemic, the annual CWC Convention has been canceled. The alternative program will be celebrated this year.

On Wednesday, September 9, 2020, Bishop Monforton will celebrate a live streamed Mass from the Basilica of St. Mary in Marietta at 10:00 AM. Following the Mass, there will a presentation celebrating the work of the CWC these past 75 years.

Anyone can attend the Mass and presentation. Because of the restrictions resulting from the virus, there will not be a luncheon following the Mass and presentation.

The time set aside for the mass and the Keynote Address is from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon.

