

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

June 24 / 25, 2023

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MASS SCHEDULE

St. Boniface: Saturday 5:00 pm

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sunday:

8:30 am Confession 9:00 am Mass

Tuesday & Thursday: 5:30 pm

Bible Study
Thursday 8:00 pm
(will resume
in August)

Mission Statement: We are a welcoming parish of Roman Catholic Christians with diverse roots deep in Appalachia and beyond. We are committed to growing in our faith and community through our worship and celebrations, with particular attention to the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and The Holy Eucharist. We are a community gathered together by the Holy Spirit, filled with hope, to love and serve God and neighbor in the name of Jesus Christ; and through our sharing of Good News in word and deed, we seek to live and reveal to all the grace and peace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the unity of the Holy Spirit.

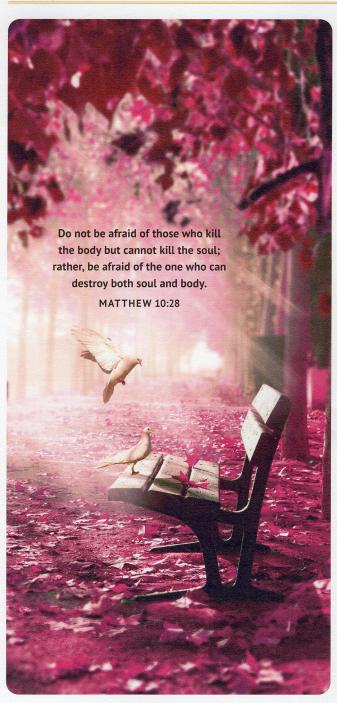
Our Parish

June 25, 2023

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

Jeremiah 20:10-13 / Romans 5:12-15 / Matthew 10:26-33





What Is a Soul, if Not...?

FR. JOSEPH JUKNIALIS

he Gospel of Matthew warns that the greater danger is not about those who may kill the body, but rather it is about those who can destroy both body and soul. Indeed, what if our soul dies long before our body dies? What then has become of our living?

Henry David Thoreau spent a year at Walden Pond in 1845. He did not go to escape life, he said, but to preserve it, to live it more fully. "I went to the woods because I wished to live deliberately, to front only the essential facts of life, and see if I could not learn what it had to teach, and not when I came to die, discover that I had not lived," he wrote in *Walden* in 1854. "I did not wish to live what was not life, living is so dear, nor did I wish to practice resignation, unless it was quite necessary. I wanted to live deep and suck out all the marrow of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan-like as to put to rout all that was not life."

To have a soul is not as if some otherworldly reality has been given a home in our body. Rather, to have a soul is to have a source of hope even in the face of failure, to love in imitation of Jesus even when we are not loved, to see goodness even when it is hidden, to trust in God even when we are powerless. It is the source of mystery, of all that is transcendent, the home of all that is holy.

Reflect

How would you know if your soul was in danger?

Date	OLPH	Saint Boniface	
June 24 / 25 Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:30 am ~ Confession 9:00 am ~ Mass	5:00 pm ~ Mass	
Tuesday	5:30 pm ~ Mass		
Thursday	5:30 pm ~ Mass		
July 1 / 2			
Thirteenth	8:30 am ~ Confession	5:00 pm ~ Mass	
Sunday in	9:00 am ~ Mass	Jioo piii · Mass	
Ordinary Time			

	OLPH Mass 9:00 am			NIFACE 5:00 pm
Date	June 25	July 2	June24	July 1
Lector	Joe McNaughton	Mandy Hall	Jerry Nowak	Mary Jo Leygraaf
Server	Joe McNaughton	Joe McNaughton		

Mass Intentions	OLPH	St. Boniface	
June 24 / 25	Intentions of	Intentions of	
	Parishioners	Parishioners	
July 1 / 2	Intentions of	Intentions of	
	Parishioners	Parishioners	

Our Gifts	OLPH	St. Boniface
June 17 / 18	\$335.00	\$160.00

May God bless you for your generous contributions to our Church!

Reading 1

Jer 20:10-13

Jeremiah said: "I hear the whisperings of many: 'Terror on every side! Denounce! let us denounce him!' All those who were my friends are on the watch for any misstep of mine. 'Perhaps he will be trapped; then we can prevail, and take our vengeance on him.' But the LORD is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph. In their failure they will be put to utter shame, to lasting, unforgettable confusion. O LORD of hosts, you who test the just, who probe mind and heart, let me witness the vengeance you take on them, for to you I have entrusted my cause. Sing to the LORD, praise the LORD, for he has rescued the life of the poor from the power of the wicked!"

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 69:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

For your sake I bear insult, and shame covers my face.
I have become an outcast to my brothers, a stranger to my mother's children,
Because zeal for your house consumes me, and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me.

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

I pray to you, O LORD, for the time of your favor, O God! In your great kindness answer me with your constant help. Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness; in your great mercy turn toward me.

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad; you who seek God, may your hearts revive! For the LORD hears the poor, and his own who are in bonds he spurns not. Let the heavens and the earth praise him, the seas and whatever moves in them!"

Lord, in your great love, answer me.

Reading 2

Rom 5:12-15

Brothers and sisters:
Through one man sin entered the world,
and through sin, death,
and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned—
for up to the time of the law, sin was in the world,
though sin is not accounted when there is no law.
But death reigned from Adam to Moses,
even over those who did not sin
after the pattern of the trespass of Adam,
who is the type of the one who was to come.

But the gift is not like the transgression. For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many.

Alleluia

Jn 15:26b, 27a

Alleluia, alleluia.

The Spirit of truth will testify to me, says the Lord; and you also will testify.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mt 10:26-33

Jesus said to the Twelve:

"Fear no one.

Nothing is concealed that will not be revealed, nor secret that will not be known.

What I say to you in the darkness, speak in the light;

what you hear whispered, proclaim on the housetops.

And do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy

both soul and body in Gehenna.

Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin?

Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge.

Even all the hairs of your head are counted.

So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Everyone who acknowledges me before others

I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father.

But whoever denies me before others,

I will deny before my heavenly Father."

REFLECTION

Today's reading challenges us to preach Christ through our words and live without fear. The first reading tells us how the prophet Jeremiah trusted in the power of God while he faced opposition for his prophetic ministry. He was intimidated by attacks upon his character, but he was unafraid to speak out in the name of the Lord. In the second reading, Paul assures the Christians in Rome that they need not be afraid of opposition both because

they share in the death of Jesus and because they are united with Christ, the new Adam, in his Resurrection.

Today's Gospel passage is taken from the end of Jesus' instruction to his disciples as he sends them forth to carry on his mission of preaching and healing. He asks them to live simple lives and to expect opposition and rejection. After having foretold future opposition and persecution, Jesus encourages his disciples to stand firm. Three times they are urged, "Do not fear!" "Do not be afraid!" Instead of shrinking from their task, they are to proclaim the Gospel boldly because they will be protected, just as Jeremiah was assured of God's protection. Hence, Jesus commands his disciples not to fear their persecutors. He presents before them the image of the sparrow to reinforce the disciples' trust and hope in God. The readings hint at the opposition we future Christians will encounter as we carry on the work of Jesus in the world, and they encourage us to persevere in doing the work of Jesus. They assure us that we will be successful, despite the opposition we encounter.

We need not be afraid because our life is in the hands of a loving God. Every fear we have is grounded in the knowledge that we have something or someone to lose. I can lose my job, family, house, money, reputation, health, and even life itself. Rejection and loss are the basis of our fears. But we forget one thing: whatever trouble or crisis affects us, we know that God understands it better than we ourselves do. Our Heavenly Father knows exactly what is happening. What a release from fear it is to know that God is with us; that our life is in the hands of a loving God! The next time fear grips us we need to remember that being faithful to Christ wherever we meet him in this life is much more important than our fear of loss or rejection by others. Also, let us take a moment to recall some of the great promises of God. Let us remind ourselves that God cares – we are each a dear child of His, and He cares for each of us. "Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows."

UPCOMING SAINTS AND FEASTS

Saint Cyril of Alexandria, Bishop and Doctor of the Church June 27

Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr ~ Memorial June 28

SAINTS PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES ~ Solemnity June 29

The First Martyrs of the Holy Roman Church
June 30

USA: Saint Junípero Serra, Priest; BVM July 1

We pray through the intercession of Saints Peter and Paul that our summer be filled with moments of relaxation and joy and that the love of Jesus, displayed in the image of His Most Sacred Heart, be with us always. Amen.

For these we pray

Pray to end Abortion, Russell Brooks, Cassie & Clifton Centers, Maere Tekanene, Bill Moses, Jerry Roberts, Donna Blevins, Norma Wilson, Dennis Parks & Family, Erica Davis, Chris & Amanda Decker, Debbie Moses Haggins, Rose Grant, Sandy Hurts, Dominic Cureton, Todd Morris, Alex Woods, Christopher Braden, Sister Alice, Curt and LeeAnn Hall, Jay Baird, Gail Willis, Mr. & Mrs. Bill Bisceglia, loved ones who are ill, Brody Beavers and family, Shawn Lee Day, Judy Delisle, Dal Macon, Linda Mills, Judy Patrick, Bob and Marie Alvaro, JoAnn Brown, Cathy Sims, Robert Moses, Kristina Neitsch, Danny Ezell, Yvonne Laschon, Iva Lee Hamblin, Gilbert Steely, Ella Johnson, Garrett Moore and Todd Moore.

Mass intentions in memory or honor of someone are a beautiful tribute representing the love and admiration you have for them and the impact they made in your life. Whether you have lost someone or want to support a person in your life, this special mass intention invites peace and the love of God into them. It is a way for you to bring joy into their soul and heart. If you would like to schedule a Mass for a loved one, please contact Father Lobo or the office.

Dear Padre,

A friend of mine wants to be cremated. Does the Church permit it?

The Church permits cremation when extraordinary circumstances warrant it. There was never a direct canonical ban on cremation until 1886, simply because it was not widely practiced by the Christian Church; its members preferred inhumation—the traditional form of burial—in hopeful imitation of Christ, whose body was resurrected from the dead. The Church reacted to a proliferation of nineteenth-century cremation societies, primarily in Europe, with a decree that forbade Catholics from membership



in these societies or from cremation (with obvious exceptions made in times of public crisis, plagues, wars, etc.). The Church restated the ban as late as 1926 out of concern that these groups were anti-religious in promoting cremation as an argument against belief in the resurrection.

The Vatican has allowed cremation as an acceptable alternative to burial since 1963, except in cases where irreligious motives are apparent (Canon 1176, No. 3). Nevertheless, "although cremation is now permitted by the Church, it does not enjoy the same value as burial of the body. The Church clearly prefers and urges that the body of the deceased be present for the funeral rites, since the presence of the human body better expresses the values which the Church affirms in those rites" (No. 413, Order of Christian Funerals, "Appendix 2, Cremation," 1997). Moreover, while the Church permits cremation, the scattering of ashes is forbidden. They are to be reserved with reverence in a sacred place.

Fr. Byron Miller, CSsR / DearPadre.org

A WORD FROM **POPE FRANCIS**



The great danger in today's world, pervaded as it is by consumerism, is the desolation and anguish born of a complacent

vet covetous heart, the feverish pursuit of frivolous pleasures, and a blunted conscience.... God's voice is no longer heard, the quiet joy of his love is no longer felt, and the desire to do good fades.

> APOSTOLIC EXHORTATION, JOY OF THE GOSPEL (EVANGELII GAUDIUM), **NOVEMBER 24, 2013**

MONDAY

June 26 Weekday Gn 12:1-9 Mt 7:1-5

TUESDAY

June 27 Weekday Gn 13:2, 5-18 Mt 7:6, 12-14

WEDNESDAY

June 28 St. Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr Gn 15:1-12, 17-18 Mt 7:15-20

THURSDAY

June 29 Sts. Peter and Paul, **Apostles** Acts 12:1-11 2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18 Mt 16:13-19

FRIDAY June 30

Weekday Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22 Mt 8:1-4

SATURDAY

July 1 Weekday Gn 18:1-15 Mt 8:5-17

SUNDAY

July 2 Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a Rom 6:3-4, 8-11 Mt 10:37-42

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