



Entry into Jerusalem
Giotto (1266-1337)

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR

My child, do not trust in your present feeling, for it will soon give way to another. As long as you live you will be subject to changeableness in spite of yourself. You will become merry at one time and sad at another, now peaceful but again disturbed, at one moment devout and the next indevout, sometimes diligent while at other times lazy, now grave and again flippant.

But the man who is wise and whose spirit is well instructed stands superior to these changes. He pays no attention to what he feels in himself or from what quarter the wind of fickleness blows, so long as the whole intention of his mind is conducive to his proper and desired end. For thus he can stand undivided, unchanged, and unshaken, with the singleness of his intention directed unwaveringly toward Me, even in the midst of so many changing events. And the purer this singleness of intention is, with so much the more constancy does he pass through many storms.

But in many ways the eye of pure intention grows dim, because it is attracted to any delightful thing that it meets. Indeed, it is rare to find one who is entirely free from all taint of self-seeking. The Jews of old, for example, came to Bethany to Martha and Mary, not for Jesus' sake alone, but in order to see Lazarus.

The eye of your intention, therefore, must be cleansed so that it is single and right. It must be directed toward Me, despite all the objects which may interfere. -Imitation of Christ Book III Chapter 33 (Thomas A Kempis)

By way of personal opinion, and it is a firm one, I believe that every Catholic who wants to deepen their faith and begin the serious work of cultivating an interior life (which goes without saying seeing how such an enterprise is a duty), ought to have and frequently consult *The Imitation of Christ* by Thomas A Kempis. Spiritual reading, apart from the Scriptures or other texts we would use for our daily meditation, ought to be a daily or at least a near daily practice through which we keep our mind elevated and motivated to stay on the path. Our hearts are in continual need of being corrected and instructed.

I chose this one chapter of the *Imitation* as a way of illustrating how practical and instructive this book is, and how despite having been published for the first time in around the year 1420 it could still have easily been written today. It is a timeless classic for a reason, and its great popularity is not so much among the vowed religious (monks) for whom it was written, but more among the laity who desire to learn from the spiritual masters of the Church

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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 July 2023

Sacred Heart, Ronan
Immaculate Conception, Polson
St. Joseph Mission, Charlo

Parish Office

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This week's office hours:

Tuesday & Thursday 2-5 pm; Wednesday & Friday 10 am-12 pm

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday

Immaculate Conception at 6:00 pm
Confessions are available at 5:00 pm

Sunday

Sacred Heart at 9:00 am
Immaculate Conception at 11:00 am

Wednesday

Immaculate Conception at 12:10 pm
Confessions are heard at 11:30 am and again after Mass during a period of Eucharistic Adoration.

Sacred Heart Parish Breakfast

Sunday, July 16th following 9:00 am Mass in Ronan.
Breakfast casserole will be served. All are welcome!

Save the Date

Bishop Vetter's Annual Pastoral Visit

- ◆ Visitation of St. Joseph Mission in Charlo, Friday, July 28th at 2:00 pm
- ◆ Followed by Mass at Sacred Heart in Ronan at 3:00 pm
- ◆ Mass at Immaculate Conception in Polson, Sunday, August 6th at 11:00 am, followed by a luncheon

Food Pantry Necessities

Peanut butter and cereal are a constant need; as well as oats, flour and rice. Clients tend to prefer healthy options for food that are not so loaded with sugar. The Food Pantry will also accept money donations as well. Charitable donations may be left in the basket at the entrance of the church.



ROSARY GROUP

St. Joseph Hospital Chapel

Monday at 6:00 pm
Friday at 9:00 am

DIVINE MERCY RADIO

90.7 FM

DMR is a locally owned, listener supported non-profit 501(c)3



All homilies are available on YouTube and can be found by searching the full name Fr. Kevin Christofferson.

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with the hope of gleaned some little tidbit that they can use to help discipline and govern their lives as they strive to follow Christ more closely.

In today's lesson we learn that our heart and the world we live in are fickle, but Christ is not. Christ is our rock, our supreme good and our final end. He is our all. Each day will contain a variety of adversities, some big and some small, and the way in which we react to them will say an awful lot about our relationship with Christ and our resignation to His will. We pray each day in the Our Father that God's will be done, that is of course as long as it suits our tastes and pleases us in one way or another, and in such a case one is not seeking God but rather their own self-satisfaction.

Much of the interior life, at the end of the day, is going to come down to the necessary work of re-forming our will so that it will be brought into greater conformity with the will of God (and this I would suggest is a large part of the essence of what we mean when we speak of "friendship" with God, for what friend cannot but will the good of the other? *Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth (that is our hearts which have been made of earth and will return to it) as it is in heaven.*

To hallow God's name in our heart is not a matter of lip-service with regards to our use of the name "Christian," nor is the coming of His kingdom an affair that takes place on another continent, and His will is certainly not to be found readily in the sufferings of others, at least in our own estimation, and clearly manifest in our good fortune. No. God's name is hallowed when we behave like Christians and live the faith that we believe in our heart. God brings His kingdom to bear in our lives when we are obedient to His commands and we freely allow Him to govern our heart by the grace of the Holy Spirit, and His will is done when we suffer without complaint all the little trials and difficulties that make up each day. Yes, even though the Our Father is a "family" prayer as some like to say, it still remains that we must pray it sincerely and from the heart as an individual.

Imitation is not a book to be read in order to finish it (and then shelve it), it is a tool to be used little by little and over and over again. There is no right way or wrong way to make use of it as long as that is what we are doing, making use of it. I have found this book to be very helpful and I do try to make a habit of taking it with me wherever I go and so I recommend it to you as well.

I hope the summer is going well for you all and that you are enjoying some rest and recreation in God's good creation...and it's almost half over!

Peace,
Fr. Kevin Christofferson

Humbly asking for your prayers

Maryalice Rouselle, The Clay Family, Virginia Rubel, Michael Conrad, Kaylee Martin, Dave Evertz, Steve Ducharme, Kate Shrider Olsen, Bill Nash, Donna Jacobs, Derrie Edge, Madge Vert, Heather Stocki, Betty Bjork, Vicki Weiss, Jason Avison, Floyd Smith, Nash Niemeyer, Richard Call, Bud Cheff, Jr, Donna Radtke, Bill Rueth, Frank Delgado, Jan Irwin, Monte Jenkins, Brady Hout.

Please help to keep the list current by contacting the Parish Office. Also, out of respect for a person's privacy, please make sure that all individuals wish to be publicly identified.

Grace be to you and peace. We give thanks to God always for you all; Making a remembrance of you in our prayers without ceasing. 1 Thessalonians 1:2

The Holy Father's prayer intention for July

For a Eucharistic life: We pray that Catholics may place the celebration of the Eucharist at the heart of their lives, transforming human relationships in a very deep way and opening to the encounter with God and all their brothers and sisters.

Please pray for our seminarians!

Dillon Armstrong, Shae Bills, Lane Buus, John Cooney, Riley Helgoe, Alex Olmes, Brett Rotz, Jamie Severson, Carter Anderson, Matt Keck, Anthony Olmes, Jack Peed, James Semling, and Kaleb Mitchell.

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time:

Readings:

FIRST READING: Zec 9:9-10

RESPONSORIAL: Ps. 145:1-2,8-9,10-11,13-14;

R. I will praise your name forever, my king and my God.

SECOND READING: Romans 8:9,11-13

ALLELUIA: *Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth/ you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.* - Cf. Mt 11:25

GOSPEL: Mt 11:25-30

Catechism of the Catholic Church:

Nothing is more apt to confirm our faith and hope than holding it fixed in our minds that nothing is impossible with God. Once our reason has grasped the idea of God's almighty power, it will easily and without any hesitation admit everything that [the Creed] will afterwards propose for us to believe - even if they be great and marvelous things, far above the ordinary laws of nature. (CCC 274)

Liturgy Calendar & Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 8th

Vigil of the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Repose of the Soul of Jeff Chada, rb Bob & Louella Chada

Sunday, July 9th

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Repose of the Soul of Eddie Baker, rb Rita Rehbein/

Intentions of the Parish Faithful

Wednesday, July 12th

Repose of the Soul of Jeff Chada, rb Jane Holland

Parish Offertory Progress Report

Fiscal Year beginning July 1st

Immaculate Conception

\$3,750 of \$175,000 (2%)

Sacred Heart/St. Joseph

\$632 of \$44,500 (1%)

I.C. Building Fund Progress:

\$4,755 of \$20,000 (24%)



Thank you for your generosity!

