

*Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time*

July 11, 2021

Jesus summoned
the Twelve
and began to
send them out
two by two
and gave them
authority over
unclean spirits.

Mark 6:7





Jesus instructed the Twelve to take
nothing with them but a walking stick -
no food, no sack, no money in their belts.

Mark 6:8

CALLED TO BE EXTRAORDINARY

Mother Teresa challenged us to do ordinary things with extraordinary love. Basketball coach Jim Valvano said, “Every single day, in every walk of life, ordinary people do extraordinary things.” Sometimes we see extraordinary vocations, such as the child prodigy musician. But usually those whom God chooses to call are reluctant participants who either run from the call or ignore it. Amos tells Amaziah “I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores.” He looked after sheep and punched holes in fruit for a living! Now he was being called to prophesy. In Mark’s Gospel the apostles are sent out two by two to begin their ministry. Paul takes it further, telling the Ephesians, “In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things.” This call goes out to all of us! How are you being called to be extraordinary this day?

TWO BY TWO

Did you ever wonder why Jesus sent them out two by two? Not threes, not groups of four? Perhaps it is just the most practical configuration. Recall that in last week’s Gospel Jesus was not accepted in his own town and was astonished by the lack of faith that he found there. The disciples would be too new in their faith to know how to deal with that kind of rejection. With three you always end up two against one. With a pair, the two could support each other emotionally and spiritually, and lift each other up in prayer. When traveling, having a companion was much safer than being on one’s own, and if there were treacherous spots in the journey, they could help each other through. If you were begging for lodging, two might be able to get in, while a larger group might not be so fortunate. The Gospel gives no indication of who the partners were, but presumably they were sent in combinations that made each pair the strongest proclaimers of Christ. They were able to drive off many demons and cure illnesses.

SHAKE THE DUST OFF YOUR FEET

Jesus told the pairs of disciples, “Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you, leave there and shake the dust off your feet in testimony against them.” Jesus is preparing the disciples for the experience he had in his home town. This is how you behave when you are not accepted. He didn’t tell them to curse them or threaten them, just simply shake off the dust and move on. Rejection is a hard thing for any of us, and Jesus is teaching us how to handle it, as if to say “Pick your battles.” This is a good reminder to us all in a time and culture when the climate is so politically charged. Know when it is best to shake the dust and walk away from social media, from an angry word, or from something that won’t turn out well. Respond and stay true to your calling.

TODAY’S READINGS

Amos 7:12–15
Psalm 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14
Ephesians 1:3–14 [3–10]
Mark 6:7–13

July
11 2021

FIFTEENTH
SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Weekly Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 10, 2021

5:00 pm..... Rhoda Shanahan (RIP)

Sunday, July 11, 2021

5:00 pm.....Conor Kruger & Betty Kinser (RIP)

Monday, July 12, 2021

8:00 am.....Clifford Gobble (Peace & Mercy)

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

8:00 am.....Tom Bole (Successful Eye Surgery)

Weekly Parish Activities

July 11-July 17

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday, July 11

St. Mary

8:30 am..... Confession

9:00 am..... Holy Mass

Our Lady of Guadalupe

10:00 am..... Confession

10:30 am..... Holy Mass

Sacred Heart

11:00 am.....Confession

11:30 am..... Holy Mass

St. Brendan

4:30 pm..... Confession

5:00 pm..... Holy Mass

7:00 pm.....Al-Anon_Meeting

Monday, July 12

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

6:30 pm.....Pastoral Council (St. Brendan)

Tuesday, July 13

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

12:00 pm..... Al-Anon Meeting (St. Brendan)

Wednesday, July 14

6:30 pm.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

Thursday, July 15

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

7:00 pm.....Al-Anon Meeting (St. Brendan)

Friday, July 16

8:00 am.....Daily Mass (St. Brendan)

Saturday, July 17

4:30 pm..... Confession (St. Brendan)

5:00 pm.....Holy Mass (St. Brendan)

7:00 pm..... Confession (St. Mary)

7:30 pm..... Santa Misa (St. Mary)

Online Giving is available on our parish website: www.stbrendanscc.org

Prefer Mail:

Make check payable to your parish and mail to 1444 W. Washington St. Stephenville, TX 76401.

GOD CHOSE US

July 11, 2021

Who chose first, God or you? That is the question explored in today's three readings. The second reading, from Paul's Letter to the Ephesians, reads almost like a hymn. It praises God for choosing us, for calling us to serve, and for blessing us in our service. Paul makes it clear how honored we are and how special is the call to live as children of God. This is through no doing of our own.

The first reading and the Gospel use prose rather than poetry to describe the same truth: God did the choosing, not us. When the prophet Amos was berated for being a prophet, he retorted that the whole thing wasn't his idea in the first place. Neither did the twelve apostles in today's Gospel ask for their calling. Jesus sent them forth, two by two, to do the work of his kingdom.

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DIOS NOS ELIGIÓ

11 de julio de 2021

¿Quién eligió primero, Dios o tú? Esa es la pregunta que exploramos en las tres lecturas de hoy. La segunda lectura, la carta de Pablo a los Efesios, se lee casi como un himno. Es una alabanza a Dios por habernos escogido, habernos llamado a servir, y por bendecirnos en nuestro servicio. Pablo deja en claro el gran honor que hemos recibido y lo especial que es la llamada a vivir como hijos de Dios. Esto no es por nuestros méritos.

La primera lectura y el Evangelio usan prosa en vez de poesía para describir la misma verdad: Dios nos escogió, no nosotros. Cuando el profeta Amós fue criticado por ser un profeta, respondió que, en primer lugar, el asunto no era su idea. Tampoco los doce apóstoles en el Evangelio de hoy pidieron su llamado. Jesús los envió de dos en dos, para hacer el trabajo de su Reino.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ex 1:8-14, 22; Ps 124:1b-8; Mt 10:34 — 11:1

Tuesday: Ex 2:1-15a; Ps 69:3, 14, 30-31, 33-34; Mt 11:20-24

Wednesday: Ex 3:1-6, 9-12; Ps 103:1b-4, 6-7; Mt 11:25-27

Thursday: Ex 3:13-20; Ps 105:1, 5, 8-9, 24-27; Mt 11:28-30

Friday: Ex 11:10 — 12:14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; Mt 12:1-8

Saturday: Ex 12:37-42; Ps 136:1, 23-24, 10-15; Mt 12:14-21

Sunday: Jer 23:1-6; Ps 23:1-6; Eph 2:13-18; Mk 6:30-34

Giving: During this challenging time, we depend on online donations to keep our parish family going. Please take advantage of online giving by visiting our parish website at www.stbrendanscc.org and click Donate Now-Online Giving.

The Annual Diocesan Appeal is complete and all four parishes have surpassed their goals again this year.

Here is the final ADA report from the Diocese:

Our Lady of Guadalupe...18 donors...Goal \$5000 Committed...\$6289 (123%) Paid...\$5990 (120%)

St. Mary's...39 donors...Goal \$16,500 Committed \$16,701 (101%) Paid...\$16,281 (101%)

St. Brendan's...38 donors...Goal \$17,500 Committed...\$18,582 (106%) Paid...\$17,975 (103%)

Sacred Heart...24 donors...Goal \$6000 Committed...\$6889 (114%) Paid...\$6289 (105%)

The Diocese of Fort Worth has awarded \$119,834 in grants to our 4 parishes for 2021-22. It is the largest amount ever for our parishes. Notification was received this week by Father Matthew.

Included in the grants are assistance in salaries, utilities, and Religious Education.

One of the new positions partially funded by the grants is a part-time minister for CCM (Catholic Campus Ministry) for Tarleton State University students. The program has been led by volunteer leaders since its beginning over 10 years ago. By employing a part-time minister, the program will have more organization and structure for its curriculum and activities, enabling growth and student involvement.

Monthly Baptism Preparation Classes: Monthly English Baptism classes are for **children UNDER the age of 7**. Classes are on the Second Saturday of the month. Please contact the office (254) 965-5693 for information/enrollment.

Clases para preparación de Bautismo Mensual: Clases de Bautismo mensuales (Inglés y Español) son para **niños que tengan MENOS de 7 años**. Las clases suelen ser del penúltimo viernes del mes. Comuníquese con Irma Chacón (254) 965-2078 o (325) 642-4473 para el horario de clases

Office: Open M-F from 9-3. Please call (254-965-5693) or email stbrendancc@gmail.com with questions or to make an appointment.

UPCOMING SECOND/SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

PRAYER CORNER: Please pray for the different intentions of each person this week for: Julie Vecera, Mike Coggins, Paul, Gordon, Pelletier Family, Vicki Rawlings, Bob Haschke, Alfredo Pulido, Richard Petronis, Lou Hinzman, Carter Brown, Bill O'Neal, Norman Moore, Bill Svadlenka, Mike Hill, Isaac, Ranisa, Bole Family, Evan and Caitlin, Jody Cornell, Tye Coapland, Laurie Tolboom Martin, Neide Gonsalves, Jackie Demetruk, Natal Mello, Poplin family, Carl Volleman, John McCarthy, Irma Lopez, Jennifer Lancaster and Family, Della Munson and Husband, Isaac & Ismael M., Mack McCormick, Ann Blair, Paulette Jones, Paul and Jami Dominguez, Amanda Nicholson, Jocelyn Lewis, Rudy Guerrero, Florin Schlautman, Nursing Home Patients, all the homebound and ill, and for all the souls in purgatory.

Announcements and Events happening this week:

Hello St. Brendan's Parishioners! We would like to remind you that we will have our monthly Meet-Up on **July 17 & 18** after both 5pm Masses. This gives us a chance to get to know one another while we enjoy a meal and spend time together as a community. This month, we have had a couple of parishioners offer to make cabbage rolls, salad and bread. If anyone would like to provide some kind of desserts, it would be appreciated! Please contact us or the office if you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ed and Susan Gordon--Dan and Carol Kernaghan

Contributions to the St. Brendan's Building Fund may be made either online or through St. Brendan's Office. To donate, please follow this link: <https://stbrendanscc.org/st-brendan-building-fund>

Mass Time Changes:

The Sunday night Mass at St. Brendan has moved to 5pm.

The Wednesday Daily Mass has moved to 6:30pm.

These will be permanent changes.

FAITH CORNER

FEAST OF FAITH: Invitation to the Eucharistic Prayer

After the presider washes his hands, he turns to the people and says, “Pray that our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.” We have brought forward bread and wine, and now we are asked to see in these simple gifts upon the altar a sacrifice offered to God. Our response is rich in theological meaning. “May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands.” The words point to the unique role of the priest, whose hands, at his ordination, were anointed for just this purpose: that he might “sanctify the Christian people and offer sacrifice to God” (*Rite of Ordination*). We ask God to accept our sacrifice not because it is worthy of God, but simply “for the praise and glory of his name.” God does not need our offering, but allows us to give it so that we might grow in holiness. And God, never to be outdone in generosity, gives all that we have given back to us, “for our good and the good of all his Church.” This Mass benefits not just those who have gathered, but, in the mysterious economy of grace, the whole Church. In the words of Saint Paul, when one part rejoices, the whole body “share[s] its joy” (1 Corinthians 12:26).

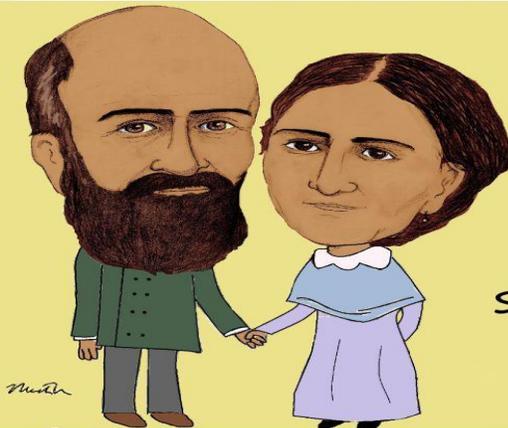
—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

FIESTA DE LA FE: El dinero y otros dones

Durante la presentación de las ofrendas, junto con el pan y el vino se trae la colecta. El pan y el vino se llevan al altar y el dinero se queda en un lugar apropiado. San Justino, en el siglo II, nos recuerda que al reunirnos a celebrar la Eucaristía no podemos “dejar de pensar en los pobres y necesitados”; este mismo dinero se da para “los pobres o para la Iglesia” y “se considera también como dones” (IGMR, 73). El dinero como don, no es sucio y tiene mucho sentido compartirlo. No hay que compartir lo que sobra, eso es limosna; la caridad como una corresponsabilidad por el pobre y por las necesidades de la Iglesia, sale desde el corazón. Damos a la Iglesia y a los pobres de lo que tenemos para vivir. Lo damos como agradecimiento por lo que hemos recibido. No damos limosna al pobre para desentendernos de él, de sus necesidades y luchas; vivimos la caridad con él o ella como hermano que es, damos desde el corazón interesándonos por su calidad de vida, por su necesidad humana inmediata. Vivimos la caridad desde la compasión, no desde la lástima como se hace con la limosna. Dar limosna empobrece; vivir la caridad enriquece, porque sale desde el corazón y, como la viuda del Evangelio, damos cuanto tenemos para vivir.

—Miguel Arias, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

saint snippets



“God gave me a father and a mother who were more worthy of heaven than of earth.”

—St. Thérèse of Lisieux

Sts. Louis & Marie Zelié Martin

19th-century French married couple and the parents of St. Thérèse of Lisieux

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July 12

If you've ever wanted to understand the Bible, this podcast is for you!

In *The Bible in a Year* podcast, **Fr. Mike Schmitz** walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way.

Listen and... Read the ENTIRE Bible, feel more confident about your understanding of Scripture, experience the transformative power of God's Word in your daily life, and start seeing the world through the lens of Scripture. Tune in and live your daily life through the lens of God's word! Click here: [Bible In A Year](#)

Every person is called to a life of holiness, and our vocation (married life, priesthood, or religious life) is the primary way God brings that about in our life.

Single and want to know more what the church teaches about marriage? Watch in: [How to Know if You've Found "The One"](#)

Watch Fr. Mike Schmitz and Fr. Josh Johnson give their vocation stories in this clip. [I Will Follow—Two Catholic Priests' Vocation Stories](#)

"Hallow is an excellent resource for people searching for deeper spiritual lives, especially the younger generation of Catholics today. It helps make clear that a relationship with God is and can be extremely personal and can be a great source of peace, joy, and strength."

Most Reverend Bishop Kevin C. Rhoades (Bishop of Fort Wayne-South Bend)

[Hallow-Catholic Prayer App](#)

SAINT KATERI TEKAKWITHA (1656-1680)

July 14

Though the New York State Thruway runs close by the North American Martyrs' Shrine, traffic's roar never pierces the peace enveloping Auriesville—Ossernon to Native Americans—in the lovely Mohawk Valley, where Kateri Tekakwitha was born barely ten years after the martyrdom of Isaac Jogues and his Jesuit and lay companions. Daughter of a Christian Algonquin mother and non-Christian Mohawk chief, Kateri's parents died in a smallpox epidemic widely blamed on the missionaries. Moreover, many Native Americans had experienced exploitation at the hands of "Christian" traders and trappers, further discrediting the faith Kateri embraced in baptism, then pledged to live even more intensely in vowed virginity. Misunderstanding led to harassment, prompting her move to a Christian village farther north along the Saint Lawrence River. Despite this, Kateri's faith remained undaunted, her selfless charity undiminished. Both before and after her death at twenty-four, this young "Lily of the Mohawks" drew countless converts to Christ by the fragrance of her goodness. Through us, does "the aroma of Christ" (2 Corinthians 2:15), attract others to the beauty of his gospel?

—Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



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