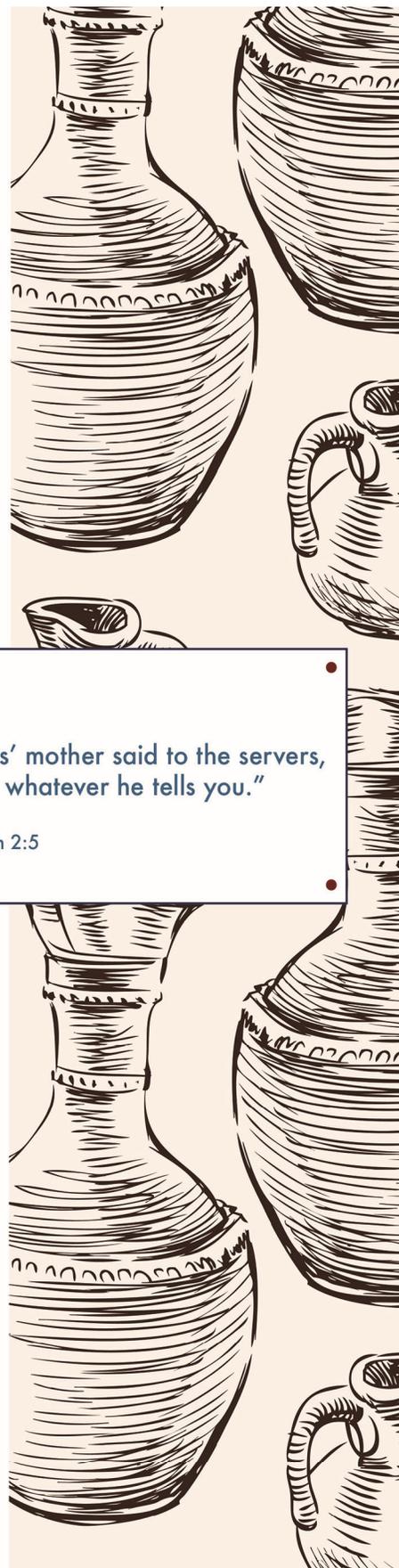
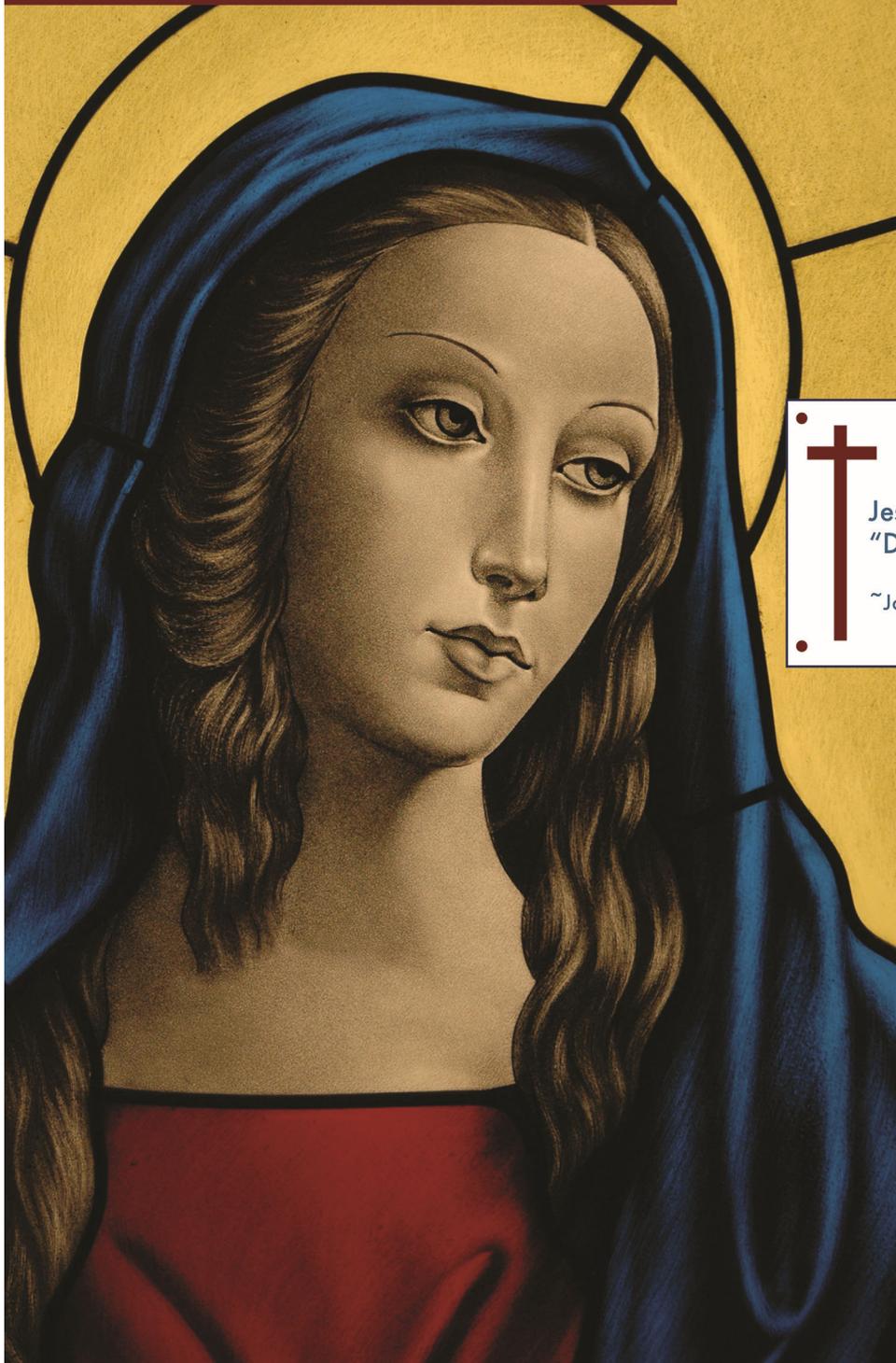


January 16, 2022

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Jesus' mother said to the servers,
"Do whatever he tells you."

~ John 2:5

SAINT BRIDGET CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Dear St Bridget Family,

Welcome to the liturgical season of Ordinary Time (Cycle C). The primary gospel for this cycle is the gospel of Luke. However, on this opening Sunday, we read from John's Gospel. This diversion from the Gospel of Luke is done because of the special event that is only recorded in the gospel of John. This is an event which describes the beginning of Jesus' ministry and His first miracle. The mother of Jesus plays a very important role in this event. This is a reminder to us about the role of Mary in the life and ministry of Jesus and if we allow her, she will play the same role in our own lives.



The feast of the Baptism of our Lord last Sunday not only concluded the Christmas Season, but also began the Ordinary season. The feast of the Baptism of the Lord therefore takes the place of the First Sunday in Ordinary Time. This explains why the Ordinary Season of the Liturgical Calendar has the Second Sunday as the first in its Sunday series. Last Monday, the Liturgical Calendar opened unto us the Ordinary Season where the primary liturgical color is green.

The expression Ordinary Season does not, in any way, mean that this period is less important but signifies the period in which, as disciples, we are invited to follow in the life and ministry of Jesus Christ as recorded in the Gospels. These accounts are systematically recounted to us during the year. It is a Season in which we live our lives neither in loud feasting nor in pronounced penance. Spanning through 34 weeks, the Ordinary Season is spread between the period after Christmas and Lent and after the Pentecost Sunday and concludes on the Saturday after the Solemnity of Christ the King. During this Season, we are invited to walk with our Lord and to sanctify ourselves and our days with the venerable words of His teachings and to practice the virtues which the various mysteries of the life of Christ inspire within us.

In the Gospel Reading of today, we have an account of the first miracle of our Lord Jesus Christ at the wedding feast at Cana in Galilee where He changed water into wine, at the request of His Mother Mary and at the obedience to His instruction by the servants of the host. The statement from the Blessed Virgin Mary to the servers is very striking and probably captures the reason this gospel is chosen at the beginning of Ordinary Time. The gospel tells us that: His mother said to the servers, "**Do whatever he tells you.**" As we begin this year, the invitation to us is the same, an invitation to do whatever Jesus tells us.

The gospel concludes by pointing out that Jesus did this as His first sign and in so doing revealed his glory, and His disciples began to believe in Him. In the gospel of John, miracles are called signs. We can therefore say that the first miracle of Jesus was performed at the request of Mary. In fact, from the gospel reading, Jesus had no intention of doing it. He did it at the explicit request from His blessed Mother. This speaks volumes about the power of Mary's intercession.

My dear brothers and sisters, as we enter into this long Ordinary season in our journey of faith, we are invited to enter it with our Blessed Mother Mary. Just as she interceded for the wedding feast in Cana, she is there to intercede for us. She is always looking out for the best interest of her children. Let us therefore always have recourse to her in the ups and downs of our daily life, trusting that she will stand with us.

For those who already have a relationship with Mary, press on to deepen and strengthen it. For those who do not have a relationship, perhaps this is an opportunity to begin cultivating it. It may be as simple as beginning to pray a Hail Mary every day.

Thanks and God bless,

Fr Simon Peter

TODAY'S READINGS

FIRST READING | (Isaiah 62:1-5)

PSALM | (Psalm 96)

SECOND READING | (1 Corinthians 12:4-11)

GOSPEL | (John 2:1-11).

REVELATION OF GOD'S PRESENCE

Today's first reading from Isaiah arises out of the ordeal of the people of Jerusalem and Judea as they anticipate the end of seventy years of exile in Babylon. Their sufferings and their oppression will end, and they are promised joy like that of a great wedding upon returning to their homeland. Although this passage is probably set in the early sixth century B.C., it is free of historical particulars. Accordingly, the Church has understood its imagery universally, as it proclaims God's promise of healing, hope, and happiness for all peoples, in this world and in the next. When read against this background, the story of Jesus' turning water into wine at the wedding at Cana becomes a revelation of God's presence in the person of Jesus, making these promises real for us in the here and now, in the transformation of our own lives. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Almighty ever-living God,
who govern all things,

both in heaven and on earth,

mercifully hear the pleading of your people
and bestow your peace on our times.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

God, for ever and ever.

REFLECTION QUESTION

What can I do to help to bring about God's peace?

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SAINTS AND OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins

Wednesday: Julian Calendar Theophany (Epiphany)

Thursday: St. Fabian; St. Sebastian

Friday: St. Agnes

Saturday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

MONDAY | 1 Sm 15:16-23; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mk 2:18-22

TUESDAY | 1 Sm 16:1-13; Ps 89:20-22, 27-28; Mk 2:23-28

WEDNESDAY | 1 Sm 17:32-33, 37, 40-51; Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10; Mk 3:1-6

THURSDAY | 1 Sm 18:6-9; 19:1-7; Ps 56:2-3, 9-13; Mk 3:7-12

FRIDAY | 1 Sm 24:3-21; Ps 57:2-4, 6, 11; Mk 3:13-19

SATURDAY | 2 Sm 1:1-4, 11-12, 19, 23-27; Ps 80:2-3, 5-7; Mk 3:20-21, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer

SUNDAY | Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

MIRACLE THROUGH THE INTERCESSION OF MARY

By Melissa Cisneros

When I was young, my family would always say "Hail Mary's" whenever we heard an ambulance. Never touched by the loss of life in our young lives we said these Hail Marys out of duty. It became a ritual said, without much thought to whom might be dying in the ambulance. I never gave this habit of prayer much thought until a year and a half ago when I said the "Hail Mary" for my own dear son Dylan from inside an ambulance.

This is the miraculous story. My husband and I were separated, and I was living on my own with my then 9 year old daughter Anna and my son Dylan. Dylan was only 2 at the time. When he became sick one night, it seemed to me he just had a fever or the stomach flu. So I gave him some infant Tylenol and some juice. We went to bed.

I changed my mind in the morning. He didn't recognize me and he couldn't hold his little cup to drink some more juice. I knew then that something was seriously wrong. I woke my daughter up and prayed my medical coupons had not expired (I had no medical insurance.) I then prayed I'd be able to find them, and went searching for them. I found them first place I looked. I may not have taken him to the hospital had I not found them. I have never been prone to over-react and still thought maybe he just had a high fever that I could take care of at home.

Then I prayed again. "Please Lord Jesus let my car start." I had been having car trouble all week and again, if it hadn't started I probably wouldn't have gone to the trouble of going to the hospital. The car started like a charm.

My daughter and I wrapped up baby Dylan in a blanket. She held him in the back seat while I drove him to our local hospital. I called his father and my mother at that point. When we arrived at the hospital, the doctors quickly discovered what I hadn't even dreamed of. My son was dying. By examining him and doing a horrible procedure called spinal tap they discovered he had an infection called meningococcal meningitis. In successfully treating this infection, timing was everything, and we had very little time left.

They ordered a helicopter to meet us at a helicopter pad to take him to the Seattle Children's Hospital an hour and a half's drive from our home. My mother arrived, and took care of Anna. I crawled into the ambulance with Dylan and said 'Hail Mary's' the whole way to the Helicopter pad. It was during that cramped, noisy, terrifying drive I was suddenly enveloped with a unexplainable peace. I can only compare it to the warm and safe feeling that you have when your mother would hold you and make you feel everything will be all right.

I knew then too, despite the doctors telling me that his chances of survival were slim. that all would be O.K. I knew my son would live.

When they put Dylan in the helicopter they wouldn't allow myself or my mother to ride with him. So the three of us; my mom, my daughter and myself drove to Seattle to meet Dylan and his father at the hospital.

I consoled them on the way there. I repeated over and over that I was not scared, I felt the peace of Mary.

When we arrived at the hospital my husband was by Dylan's bedside in Isolated Intensive care. He had a mask and robe on and was looking and sounding very grim. (He had lost both his parents the year before 6 months apart from each other.) He told us the doctors had told him that Dylan had gone into shock while in the helicopter, we also found out later he had a stroke.

I told him firmly "My son will live." I knew that as surely as though Jesus had told me himself. Other relatives began arriving. They were all crying in the waiting room. I didn't cry. I love my children more than I can tell you. But I felt strength and peace.

That night, despite the fact the doctors told me how contagious he was I crawled into bed with him and nursed him. (I was still breast feeding) The doctors and nurses didn't say anything, I think they thought this might be our last goodbye, and didn't stop me.

Dylan began getting better that night. But in the room next door a Filipino family was singing. They sung their baby to Heaven. The next morning, my little son looked at me and asked, "Where is Rosie?" We don't know anyone named Rosie, so I thought "Great, he is still dis-oriented or has brain damage." But two hours later I discovered the baby next door had died of the same Meningococcal Meningitis infection. Her name was Rosie.

Today, Dylan is a bright and extremely gifted 4 year old. He loves Jesus and prays to St. Therese and St. Michael. He, at his bidding, has a prayer table in his room with a statue of Mary and his Rosary on it.

I have felt very close to The Blessed Virgin Mary since this ordeal and just wanted to share this story.

**Meningococcal Meningitis is a serious bacterial illness that attacks the body's vascular system and clotting ability. It may also include Meningitis an infection of the covering of the brain. The same bacteria is involved in both illness. It works rapidly sometimes causing death within hours.*

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CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS



The CDA Anniversary Celebration will be held Thursday, January 20th at Politz Restaurant in Thibodaux.

WEEKLY ACTIVITES

Come Lord Jesus—a scripture study focusing on the weekly readings is held on Monday's from 9 AM –10:30 AM. Call 446-9096 for more information.

The Rosary is prayed every Wednesday and Friday after the 8 am Mass. All are invited to join in this experience.

MASS INTENTIONS

The special intention book for 2022 is open. A Mass donation is \$5 per mass and a Sanctuary Light donation is \$10 per week. Please contact the office to schedule.

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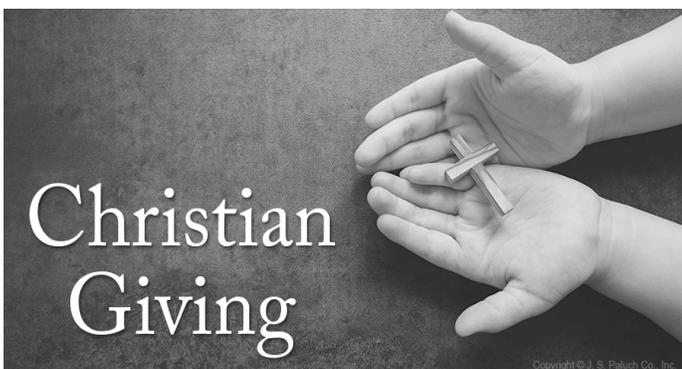
The Corinthians seem to have been Paul's problem children. His two letters to them are much longer than any of his other letters—two, three, or four times as long as some. It seems that if the early Christians at Corinth could misunderstand or do something wrong, they would. Fortunately for us, the two letters to the Corinthians, though they contain much didactic or instructional material, also provide some of Paul's most well-crafted and grace-filled writing. This is certainly true today, with Paul's litany of gifts that the Spirit bestows on the faithful, even to this day. Paul seeks to calm the squabbling that seems to have been going on, as the Corinthians tried to claim one gift or another as more important. All gifts come from the same Spirit, Paul reminds them; and the various gifts are given for the benefit of the community. When jealousy arises in our midst today, we can still turn to Paul's insights so we might stop being prideful, problem children.

In the Gospel scene at Cana, we see Mary turning to her own child, Jesus. Perhaps she recalled the power of the Spirit that had flowed in her womb at his Incarnation, leading her to discern that surely he must have Spirit-given gifts that could help with the impending crisis at the wedding. As at her Annunciation, she may not have been completely certain, at first, exactly how this would come about, but in faith at Cana she turned to Jesus. In faith, her words, "do whatever he tells you," echoed her reply to Gabriel: "Let it be done to me as you say." In faith, she knows whatever words the Word will speak are bound to bring another inbreaking of the Spirit, another manifestation of God's reign. And she is right. Her wondrous child, John the Evangelist tells us, performed his first wonder there, and signaled the presence of the divine in the everyday.

Today's Readings: Is 62:1–5; Ps 96:1–2, 2–3, 7–8, 9–10; 1 Cor 12:4–11; Jn 2:1–11

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1/16/2022



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THE SANCTUARY LIGHT | IN MEMORY OF

January 16th— January 22nd

Kelly Theriot

January 23rd—January 29th

Brandon Filardo by Mom and Dad

MASS INTENTIONS

January 15th	4:00 PM	Tristan Ables (DA) by Sharon Pollet, Ma Maw and Family
January 16th	8:00 AM	Emily Cavalier (DA) by Charles and Anita Cavalier and Family
		Grace 'Graziella' Pujols by Pujuals Family
	10:30 AM	Grace 'Graziella' Pujols by Pujuals Family
January 17th	8:00 AM	Laurie Ann Hebert (DA) by Mom and Dad
January 21st	8:00 AM	Adeline Legendre Bernard (DA) by Family
January 23rd	8:00 AM	Joe Richterberg by Amy Richterberg
	10:30 AM	Claire Babin by Andrew and Girls (DA)

PRAYER LINE

To be added to the prayer line, call Nina Richard at 446-1206 or the rectory at 446-6801. In the charity of your prayers, please pray for the sick, elderly, and homebound. Please pray for: Elaine Ables, Susan Arceneaux, Donnie Aucoin Jr, Jacob Aucoin, Jeannie Aucoin, Sara Aucoin, Elvin Babin, Tommy Badeaux, Chad Barrileaux, Ronnie Bednarz, Chuck Beebe, Gertrude Benoit, Fr. Paul Bergeron, Mitzy Bettridge, Gretchen Bilello, Preston Billiot, Alvin & Gail Blanchard, Dennis Blanchard, Ronald Blanchard, Lynn Bonneval, Aline Boudreaux, Delores Bourgeois, Emile "Jay" Bourgeois, Patricia Bourgeois, Connie Bouterie, Emma Del Broussard, Susan Caillouet, Ronnie Carrier, Gary & Sheila Cavalier, Bessie Chiasson, Randy Chiasson, Jane D. Clement Bryce Comeaux, Huey Cortez Sr., Martha Cortez, Randy Davis, Cary Davis, Jr., Dorothy Didier, Barbara & Ronni Duhon, Linda Ekiss, Avery "Brother" and Sonja Fonseca, Melissa Fontana, Robin Ford, Marie Fournier, Alisa Frederick, Julie Frisella, Dante Galliano, Toby Gambarella, Leigh Ann Gardner, Carrie Gibbens, Belinda Gil, Brandon Gil, George Gil, The Gil Family, Carrie Mae Givens, Austin Gros, Chad Gros, George Gros, Rosebella Gros, Kendra Guillot, Kevin Hardee, Myles Harris, Joy Hebert, Katie Hebert, Jerrell Hebert, Sr., Cheryl Henderson, Jessie Hoffpauir, Samara Holland, Kristen Koppel, Eldine LaFleur, Jackson LaFleur, Mona Lambert, Elmay Landry, Joyce Landry, Craig Landry, Mark Landry, Barbara Nell Lapeyrouse, Allie LeBlanc, Emily LeBoeuf, Evelyn Leger, Tammy Babin Loney, Tim Long, Payton Martin, Keith Matherne, Rick Melancon, Asher Miller, Savannah Miller, Emma Mire, Bethany Moore, Meghan Naquin, Misty Naquin, Shannon Naquin, Eric Olivieri, Annie Ordoyne, Angie Parr, Kara Pellegrin, Sherry Pennison, Lisa Pennison, Kenneth Pitre, James Pierce, Kip Pierce, Sharon Prejean, Ed Raidl, Kerri Reynolds, Bryce Richard, Ella Richard, Gladys Richard, Lorita Rodrigue, Susan Rodrigue, Cynthia Rogers, Danielle Samanie, Chester Sanchez, Karla Saunier, Kathy Savoie, Earline Simmoneaux, Penny Simmons, Brenda Sonier, Mike Stegall, Louis Stevens, Melissa Tardiff, Trish Templet, Pierre & Mary Theriot, Cammie Thibodaux, Earl Thibodaux, Lacey Thibodeaux, Thibodaux Family, Joyce Touns, Ricky Turner, Sara Day Vignes, Allison Walters, and Wanda Wawrose, Freddie Webre, Mike Wiley, Anna Wooten.

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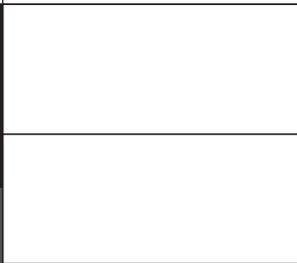
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