

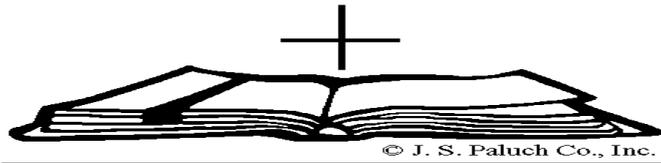
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 August 16, 2020
 Observe what is right, do what is just;
 for my salvation is about to come,
 my justice, about to be revealed.
 — Isaiah 56:1

WHY PRAY?

The “foreigners” as Isaiah calls them, the “Gentiles” as Paul calls them, or the “Canaanites” as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today’s readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why friends should talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We could talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely “knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend,” but also to “break, blow, burn, and make me new” (Holy Sonnets, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, “Knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today’s Gospel, the results will follow.

Mass Intentions



Sat., Aug. 15, 4:30 p.m. Dennis McCloskey, Huval Family, Larry Kass Sr., Theresa Arceneaux, and for the living: Ed and Amy Sicard, and Nancy Chambless

Sun., Aug. 16, 7:30 a.m. Parishioners

Sun., Aug. 16, 9:15 a.m. Carol Pieri

Sun., Aug. 16, 11:00 a.m. Marie Duhon, Trent Meche, Dorothy Heap McDow, Vivian Boudreaux, Doris M. Letsch, Richard W. Letsch and for the living: Sandy Fanguy, Phyllis Legnon

Mon., Aug. 17, 8:00 a.m. Nick Sita

Tues., Aug. 18 NO MASS

Wed., Aug. 19, 8:00 a.m. Joseph Legnon

Thurs., Aug. 20, 8:00a.m. Will Brown (L)

Fri., Aug. 21, 8:00 a.m. Juan Navarrette

PRAYER LIST

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| James Michael Cole | Dot Willie |
| Scott St. Romaine | Freddie Addotto |
| Fred Kopfler | Louise Cashmere |
| Florence Hoffman | Nita Addotto |
| Joseph Hadad | Richard Atkins |
| Roy M. Piazza | Ruthi Olson |
| Pam Addotto | Yolanda Bourgeois |
| Brandy Toups | Maurice Houk |
| Larry Ardoin | Alicia Ardoin |
| Ed Sicard | Amy Sicard |
| Karen Appe Lewis | Kenneth Vicari |



The Weekly Collection totals will be posted in next week’s bulletin.

Thank you to all for the continued contributions. If you wish to give online, please go to:
<https://giving.parishsoft.com/app/giving/stjohnfolsom>.

The candles burn in honor of:

Sanctuary: Fr. Odilo Alt. O.S.B.

Blessed Mother: Earline Mauthe

St. Joseph: Carol Pieri

St. Ann: Shirley Lungsford (L)

If you would like to honor your intention by burning a 7-day candle please call 796-3806.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS ARE IN HONOR OF

Carol Pieri

+ TWO BECOME ONE +

Wedding banns are announced between

Mason Shealy

and

Megan Thibodeaux

PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM CORONAVIRUS

LET US PRAY,

Loving and faithful God, the coronavirus reminds us that we have no power and we are dependent on you. We place ourselves in your loving hands. Give eternal rest to all who have died from the virus. Place your healing hand on those who are ill and give your protection to us in this time of fear and uncertainty. Calm our fears and help us to trust you as our faithful God. Enlighten our government and Church leaders as they are faced with important decisions. Give blessing to those in health care and protect them. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Our Lady of Prompt Succor hasten to help us. Blessed Francis Seelos, pray for us.

AMEN

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS CAR SHOW

Due to Covid-19 we regret we will not have our annual car show. However, we will be selling raffle tickets for the \$1,000 prize in front and back of church at all masses on the weekend of August 23rd. Please consider purchasing raffle tickets to support the K. C.'s Council at St. John's Church.

GRATITUDE

On behalf of the parishioners of St. John's, thank you to the Knights of Columbus Council 10176. They covered all labor and expenses to paint and repair Odilo Hall. Odilo Hall is the oldest building at St. John's and it needed some TLC. We commend you for taking on this project. **God Bless You.**

PIVOTAL PLAYERS

The next Pivotal Players will be on Sunday, August 16th at 6:00 p.m. in Odilo Hall. We will study St. Augustine, who is perhaps the premier example of how faith in Jesus Christ can change a person. In an age when people insist upon sharp demarcations between spirituality and religion, or between Christ and the Church, St. Augustine provides a unifying way forward. We do not have to choose one way or the other but are chosen by Christ for His Church.

We welcome all newcomers to St. John's Church and invite you to register as members of our parish family. Please complete a "Parishioner Form" located in the back of church and drop it in the collection basket. A member of St. John's Church will contact you to assist you with registration.

SAINT PIUS X (1835-1914)

August 21

Presidential vetoes we understand. But imagine vetoing a papal election! Yet in the conclave of 1903, the Archbishop of Cracow (ironically, a predecessor in that office of Karol Wojtyla, the future John Paul II) vetoed the leading candidate on the order of the Austro-Hungarian emperor. Instead, the cardinals elected Giuseppe Sarto of Venice as Pius X, the first pope, after a succession of nobles and diplomats, to hail from humble origins. Nor did the papacy alter his endearing simplicity. Tailors eventually made his cassock cuffs detachable because he absentmindedly wiped his fountain pen on them, forgetting that his old black cassock had been replaced by papal white! Taking as his motto "To restore all things in Christ" (Ephesians 1:10), Pius condemned the theological innovations called "modernism," yet dramatically altered the then-common practice whereby people rarely received Communion for fear of unworthiness, mandating early First Communion and urging everyone to frequent reception. Refusing to bless troops assembled in Saint Peter's Square—"I bless peace, not war!"—he died brokenhearted as World War I engulfed Christian Europe despite his peacemaking efforts.

REMINDERS

First Saturday Mass at 8:00 a.m.

Weekly Wednesday Adoration, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

First Friday Adoration Benediction, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Men's Study Group in Odilo Hall, Thurs. 7 p.m.

On Monday August 17th at 9:00 a.m. in Odilo Hall, our Church history class will be studying the threat of the Arian heresy, the Catholic response at the Council of Nicaea, and the rise of Monasticism.

Knights of Columbus meet Thurs., Aug. 13th at 7:30 p.m.