

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

AUGUST 8, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for Aug 15th The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Revelation 11:19; 12:1-6, 10

Mary is the archetypal disciple in whom we see, as in a mirror, all that we can become through God's grace, despite our human weakness.

1 Corinthians 15:20-26

Orthodox icons of the Dormition of Mary tell of the belief that at her death Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven as a foretaste of the resurrection.

Luke 1:39-56

As an unmarried woman Mary had no status in Israel. As an unmarried mother she risked public shame and death by stoning. She had nothing, yet she believed that God's power could make of her a blessing for all the world.

WEEKDAY MASSES August 10 - 13

Tues: 5:00 pm +Heidi Petrick & +Isaac Hill

Wed: 8:40 am +Danny Roy & +Dorothy & Larry Schroeder

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Elaine Machacek & +Blanche Karas

Fri: 10:30 am **Maple Manor** +Frank & Kathryn Shablow **(No Public is Allowed)**

WEEKEND MASSES August 14 - 15

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma People of the Parishes

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus +Mike Gellner
Reader: Michael Nuebert
EMHC: Carol Hoffarth

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Francis Muhs
Reader: Greg Fetsch
EMHC: Harvey Metzger
Musicians: Bob & Choir

St. Michael's - Wales NO MASS AT WALES TODAY

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Sally Stremick
Reader: Dennis Horpestad
EMHC: Dennis Schill
Musicians: Bob & Choir

Fellowship Hall Host: Dennis & Diane Schill

Fr. Michael Hickin's cell phone: 701-891-1238

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

Confessions: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or by appointment

Weekly Reflection for August 1, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,857.00
Intentional Givers	\$1,935.00
Plate	\$279.00
Children	\$48.00
Total	\$5,119.00

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In some of the Gospel stories, we can understand the confusion of the people who listened to Jesus. They had known him since he was a child, had watched him play and learn alongside their own children; together they had attended the local synagogue and travelled to Jerusalem for the celebration of the major Jewish festivals. The same people knew Mary and Joseph, and had spent time with them at the well and at the market, and they may have visited Joseph's workshop. They could probably list all the relatives who lived in Nazareth and the outlying villages. How could Jesus claim to be special, to have heavenly origins? It didn't make sense.

In the scene in today's Gospel, they have just heard Jesus declare that, through him, they could enjoy eternal life. Surely eternal life was in God's gift, so was this your man saying that he was equal to God, with whom Jesus said that he had a unique relationship? They complained to each other about these unlikely claims. Yet Jesus persisted. He declared himself to be "the living bread", which they must eat if they wanted to live forever. Was he inviting them to cannibalism? Were they listening to a madman or to a blasphemer? No wonder they were confused. Jesus' listeners thought that they knew him, but they didn't. To use familiar saying, they were guilty of judging a book by its cover: they saw the man but couldn't understand his message. This isn't really surprising: two thousand years later, we are still discovering its meaning, sometimes also arguing about it and sometimes, like Li, finding it more precious than life itself.

Taken from The Living Word

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"Get up and eat or the journey will be too much for you!" ~ 1 KINGS 19:7

God knows that committing to a stewardship lifestyle is difficult. However, we were not designed to do it on our own, we need His help. Fortunately, God gave us the greatest gift of all, His son, Jesus. Through the gift of the Eucharist, we join our sacrifice with the sacrifice of the Holy Mass and receive the strength and courage to be His joyful disciples.

ENDURING FOOD - As Jesus' Bread of Life discourse continues, we continue with the 3rd segment of our 5-week review of the Mass.

Section Two, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, part one, *The Preparation of the Gifts.*

We transition from the Liturgy of the Word to the Liturgy of the Eucharist.

Creed finished, we all sit down. We usually sing a hymn, and it is particularly meaningful if it echoes the **Readings** and the **homily**. During this hymn, the priest prepares the Altar and ushers take up the Collection. These two events are deeply related.

At the Altar (place where we re-present the sacrifice of Jesus on the Cross), the priest unfolds the *corporal*, a square linen named for the Body (*corpus*) of Christ, which is laid on top of it. On this linen, the unbloody sacrifice of the Mass is offered. The *corporal* serves as an extra layer of protection atop the altarcloth, catching possible drops of Blood from a spilled chalice or crumbs from the Host when it is broken.

The priest places the Missal (book of prayers for the Mass) and chalice(s) next to the *corporal*. With the chalices, there are *purificators*, linens for wiping the chalices clean after Holy Communion. Also, there is the *pall*, a stiff piece of linen used as a lid for the chalice in the event that any pesky bugs are in the vicinity.

While the priest is 'setting the table', ushers take up the **Collection**. This action stands for a number of things. Sure, it's how the parish survives financially. It's also how we reach out to the poor and afflicted, locally or globally. It's also, and foremost, the moment when worshippers offer something of themselves, a sacrifice.

You've heard of tithing. It comes from the word "tenth"—a biblical understanding that believers give 10% of their earnings to charity—a goal to work towards. Catholics seem to struggle with this more than Protestants. Not sure why. A suggestion for tithing is 1% to the Diocese, 4% to outside charities, 5% to the parish. If this appears sacrificial, it's supposed to. This isn't meant to put people on a guilt trip, but to remind us all of our duties to charity. It's what makes the world go round.

The Collection is not just a 'money thing'. It is a moment to symbolize one's generosity and willingness to live for others in imitation of Christ, "who though he was rich made himself poor that you, through his poverty, might become rich" (2 Cor 8:9).

Continued on the next page

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OFFICE HOURS: The week starting August 9th Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday 8:00am – 12:00pm

Our Sympathy to the family of Sue Schneider who was called home last week. May she rest in the love of the Father.

Altar Society meeting on Tuesday, August 10 at 6:00pm in the fellowship hall.

In Honor of blessed Michael McGivney the Knights of Columbus will lead the rosary on Friday, August 13th at 11:00am in the church.

Fellowship Hall Cleaning for August - 7 – Carleen Schill & Becky Overby; 14 – Gael Balsdon & Carrie Bachman; 21 – Ruth Ann Olson & Janet Hall; 28 – Janet Hall & Kim Schneider

The St Alphonsus Religious Education Department is in need of volunteer teachers for this upcoming year. Classes will be starting on September 22nd. As of right now the program needs 5 teachers. Please contact Carla Horpestad @ 370-0594 for more information. Teachers can pick up the Teacher's Manuals in the RE Office on Wednesday's in September. Thank you and God bless.

Langdon Knights of Columbus Council 5057 has received the distinction of Star Council, the international organization's top award for local councils. The Star Council Award recognizes overall excellence in the areas of membership, promotion of fraternal insurance benefits, sponsorship of faith formation programs and service-oriented activities. For information on joining the Knights of Columbus contact Dennis Horpestad 256-2924 or Grand Knight Dan Lamping 256-2431

Knights of Columbus – Knight of the month for July is Jeremy Schuler

St. Edward's Church cleaning for July/August – Cheryl Wilhelmi & Judy Hammer

Vitalant, formerly United Blood Services is the only blood provider to nearly 70 area hospitals across ND, SD and Western MN. Locally, 250 volunteer blood donors are needed every day to meet local patient needs. Just think, it could be someone you know.

The next blood drive is on Wednesday, August 18th 12:30 – 5:30pm at United Communications. Call Mikan at 256-5156 or visit www.vitalant.org today to make an appointment to donate blood.

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

Last year, we started the cherished tradition of letting the little ones approach the altar first with their giving before the ushers pass the baskets to the big people. It's a good way to educate the next generation. It also offers, more often than not, a little levity following Father's homily.

Besides the Collection, this gift of self is seen in the bread and wine. All three are brought forward to the Altar, except in this pandemic period

The prayers of the priest, sometimes heard, sometimes not, make clear that the bread and wine provided by God require "the work of human hands." Along with the monetary donations, they represent the people's self-offering. This is also a moment for each one to offer God in his and her own heart their cares, their lives, their all. The faithful unite their very selves with the Gifts of the Altar to become the Great Body of Christ.

Usually with the aid of servers, the priest mingles a few drops of water with the wine. Doing so, he prays, "By the mystery of this water and wine may we come to share in the divinity of Christ who humbled himself to share in our humanity." Jesus Christ became one of us; we ask to become one with him. The mingling of water and wine also symbolizes the oneness of Christ and the Church.

The priest washes his hands. Sometimes this is practical, especially if there's stickiness from the wine, but it also expresses desire for inward purity as he gets ready to let Christ work through him. As he washes his hands, the priest prays, "Lord wash away my iniquity and cleanse me from my sins."

From the Missal, the priest prays the *Prayer over the Gifts*. This concludes the introduction to the Liturgy of the Eucharist.