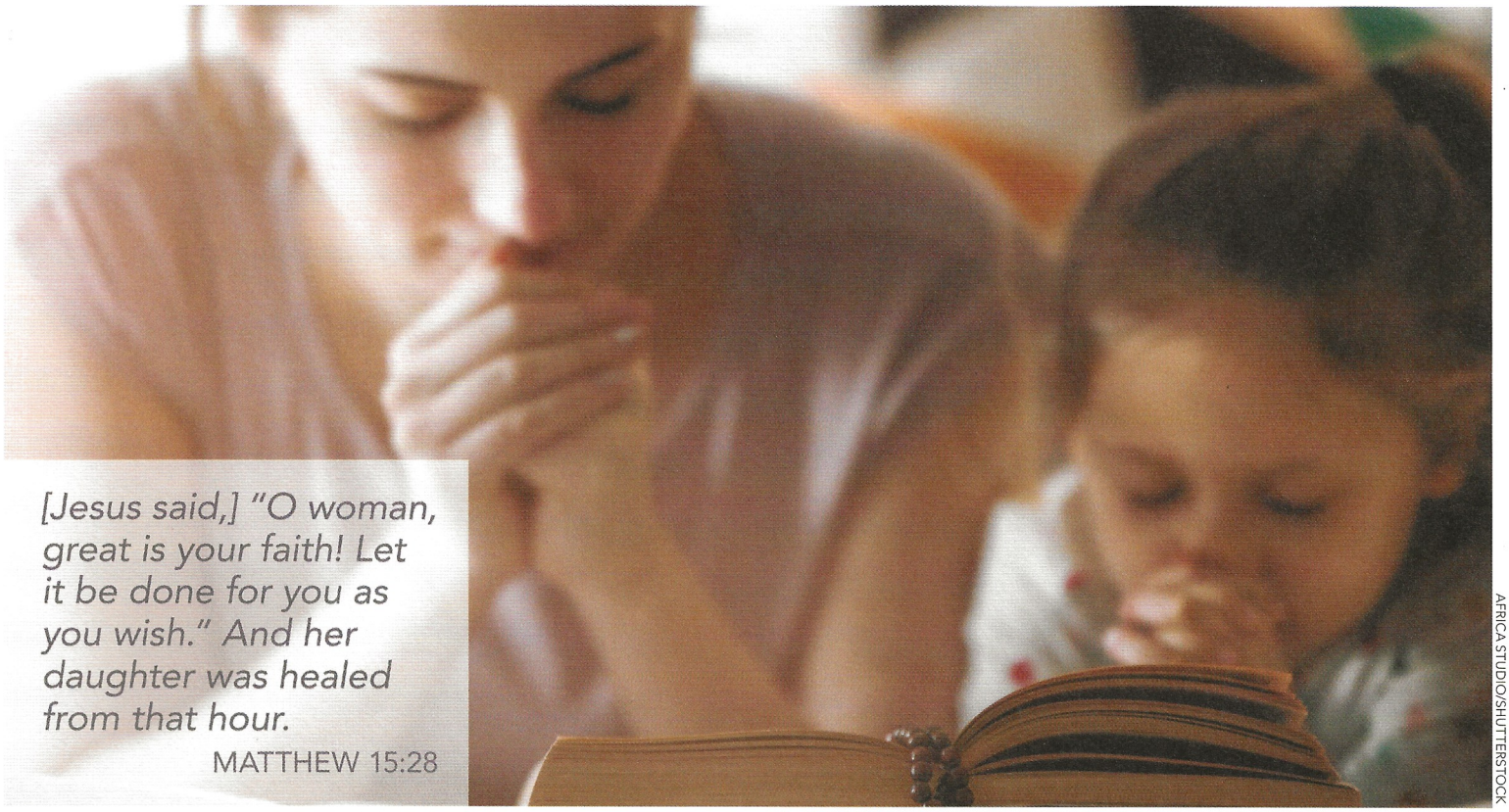
Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 16, 2020
Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
Is 56:1, 6–7
Rom 11:13–15, 29–32
Mt 15:21–28



AFRICA STUDIO/SHUTTERSTOCK

Insider Versus Outsider

Our need to belong often creates community. As nurturing and supportive as communities can be, they can also be exclusive, concerned only with the insiders and marginalizing the outsiders. Today's readings depict something remarkable. We read that foreigners, or outsiders, enjoy hospitality and privilege that one would expect insiders to receive.

The prophet Isaiah states that even foreigners will worship in the temple. This is not a story after conversion to the religion of Israel, but of Israel taking a step toward universality: "My house shall be called / a house of prayer for all peoples" (Isaiah 56:7).

The Gospel story recounts a discussion between Jesus and a Canaanite woman. She was doubly marginalized—as an inferior woman and as a despised Canaanite. Yet, her love for her daughter compelled her to approach Jesus, pleading for help—something a "proper" Jewish woman would never do to a man, nor a Canaanite to a Jew. Many in Israel certainly had a sense of exclusivity, and a disdain for the Canaanites. Those may be evident in Jesus' reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (Matthew 15:24). But we can be sure that Jesus—God's love in the flesh—didn't share his countrymen's disdain for anyone. The woman, having heard that Jesus was a healer, remains undaunted. She crosses restrictive gender and ethnic lines in her search for help. Jesus finally praises her, not for her love, but for the faith that her love engendered. And she was a Canaanite!

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- *What groups are marginalized by our society? How open are you to them?*
- *How welcoming are you to people who are new to your groups?*

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August 16, 2020 – Sunday

Please call Fr. Schmitter to make appointments for: Baptism, Anointing of Sick, Confession, parish registration, Communion to homebound, marriage preparations (9 months in advance), jail visits, and house blessings and information about the Church.

Please call or have someone call Fr. Phil if you or a loved one is in the hospital or is incarcerated.

Office Hours: Currently closed to the public

MASS SUNDAY: 9:45 a.m.: Limited Public
WELCOME ~ CELEBRATE

MASS at NOON: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
MASS at 9 am Friday
Attendable and Live Streamed: Welcome!

Mass Intention & Candle Remembrance Today

John Johnson
Requested by Toby Jackson

08/23 – Connie Edwards Moody – Req. by Toby Jackson
08/30 – Christ the King Parish Flint Parishioners –

Introduction to the Celebration
We gather in this house of prayer as a people brought together by the love of Christ.

Stewardship
Paul, in his Letter to the Ephesians, provides instruction on how to be good stewards of our daily lives – conducting ourselves properly is a key element.

Let's Keep Building Community:

Pray for those on our Prayer – Healing list.
Pray for them. Without Prayer, we are nothing!
Call, listen, to at least one parishioner each day!

Please hold these brothers and sisters in prayer for healing:
Camille Turner, Sharon Hennigar, Bob and Linda Davison, Betty Allen, Barbara Logan, Bill W., Barbara Staton, Robert and Jennie LaValley, Aurelia LaValley, Patricia Gardner, Lorene Ferguson, Eula Collier, Irene Tomlinson, Tamara Crupi, Dave Seely, Sherri Woodard, Dorothy Swift, Nina Poole, Carol Revard, Tracy French, Scott Baker, Sue Kelly, Jason Rogers, Judy Ridley, Michelle Cwiklinski, Lia Jensen- Abbatt, Roberta Rouse, Mary Yaklin, Amber Donajkowski, Kathleen Lyon, Dr Joan Martin, Joe Rowlery, Mama Sol, Andrew Verdun, Dan Getty, Rose Murphy, Audrey Renick, Lynn Steelman, Charlotte Brent, Sr Joanne Fedewa, Virginia Rochelle, Douglas Bland, Nancy White, Baby Hazel McKenzie, Tracey Bernard, Carolyn Shannon, Kristen Smith, Jim Ryan, Michael Raymond Garland, Kathleen Moore, Sherryl Herrick, Baby Franklin Hoffman, Stevie Hoffman, Evan Little, Pat Stokes, Lamar Hill, Wanda Nichols, Teresa Milczarski, Fr Patrick Isichai, Toni Harrison, Nancy May, Joan Renard, John Prince, Robert DuLong, Rick Davies, Janay Ford and her baby, Mike, Danny Woods, Darlene Verdun, Annette, Bernice Mitchell, Carl Weiskittel, Ken Kreiger, Baby Carpenter, and Baby Hazel.

Mass Intention & Candle Remembrance
Tuesday, August 18th at Noon
Mass is live streamed, not Adoration/Confession
That our use of any worldly goods or relationships will lead us to service in God's Kingdom and that we can let go of any material good, relationship, attachment or desire that gets in the way of greater service to Christ the King.

***Catholic Charities* ~ HOPE IN A BOX ~ August**
Razors and Shaving Cream/Lotion

As you attend Mass in person, we will continue to live stream on Facebook. Invite family and friends to join us if they are unable to attend or far away.

Church Schedule for this week

- Tues., Aug 18th: **NOON MASS: *ADORATION / CONFESSION***
- Wed., Aug 19th: **NOON MASS**
- Thurs, Aug 20th: **NOON MASS – *St. Bernard***
- Fri., Aug 21st: **9:00 am MASS - *St. Pius X, Pope***

From the Desk of Fr Phil

My Dear Sisters and Brothers of Christ the King,

God richly bless you as we continue this mysterious journey of 2020! Hold on to the " Walk on Water Faith " that we prayed about last week. Continue to grasp the strong, reassuring hand of Jesus.

This week we meet another strong example and call to faith in the Canaanite woman who approaches Jesus on behalf of her daughter. Her earnest entreaties overcome the seeming rejection of her need by Jesus. I do not know about you but sometimes my faith gets shaky or questioning when confronted by long term problems, suffering or struggles. Is Jesus really listening? Is God really going to do anything? Where is God anyway?

I suspect that today's gospel woman was beginning to become unsure if Jesus would respond to her...but she kept persisting and asking and knocking and seeking. And Jesus says: " O, woman, great is your faith." Discouragement is a real enemy of the spiritual life. Especially in our instant gratification society we get bored, unsure, doubting if our prayer seems meaningless and unprofitable. That is exactly when to redouble our efforts at prayers, meditation, Bible reading and study, our rosary, our daily morning offering, praise and thanksgiving prayers, our examen, and any other spiritual means God has offered us to be mindful of God.

Our prayer of petition is a way to grasp God's sure hand.

The humble dignity of today's heroine actually changes Jesus' perception of her status and need. It seems about the only time in the gospels that Jesus listens to someone and changes his understanding of what to do.

The line from Isaiah 56 today, " My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples," means a great deal to me. Sr. Joanne Chiaverini, IHM, prayed that reading in 1972 and it led to the founding of the St Francis Prayer Center in 1974. It still is a place of prayer and ministry after 46 years. *Thank you, Lord, for such a blessing.*

Please be sure to email me or call in whatever technology you have access to in your household: computer, ipad, smart phone, etc. (antonio7327@gmail.com) so we can best determine how to help gather us together through technology.

May you be filled with trusting, rock solid, hopeful faith this week.
May your house or apartment be a house of prayer for all people.

In Christ's Heart,
Fr Phil

***Mission Statement*: Christ the King Flint Roman Catholic Church is a faith community founded in the African American culture to answer God's "Call" to be a guiding light and disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ. Through our gifts and talents, we strive to evangelize and minister to our entire multi-ethnic community.**

Dear Padre,

Is it wrong to hope for a miracle? My son has been diagnosed with cancer, and I am praying for one!

When my mother was a teenage girl, she suffered from internal problems. Her mother took her across Detroit to a famous healer, Fr. Solanus Casey. He talked to her, prayed over her, and sent her back home. After that visit, my mother's internal problems disappeared!

As Christians, we believe in miracles. It is the legacy handed to us by the Lord Jesus. Remember that once Jesus had trained his disciples, he sent them out in pairs to cure the sick and drive out demons (Luke 9:1–6). They, like the Lord, became miracle workers. Jesus worked his miracles out of compassion (Luke 7:13). He wanted to show us that our God was a personal God, genuinely kind and loving.

PIKUL NOOROD/SHUTTERSTOCK

The first step to asking for a miracle is to believe deeply in the power of Jesus. Jesus always demanded that an initial faith be present before he performed a miracle (Matthew 21:22). The miracle would then deepen, strengthen, and stabilize this faith. The second step is to be tireless in your asking. Saint Luke's section on prayer (Luke 11:1–13) promises success for those who keep knocking on God's door. The final step is to accept whatever the Lord gives. Perhaps the Lord has greater plans for your son than you might know or fathom.

The Lord's greatest miracle for us is the Eucharist. Here would be the proper place to lay your request before the Lord!

—Fr. Paul J. Coury, CSsR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus shows a particular predilection for those who are wounded in body and in spirit: the poor, the sinners, the possessed, the sick, the marginalized. Thus, he reveals himself as a doctor both of souls and of bodies, the good Samaritan of man. He is the true Savior: Jesus saves, Jesus cures, Jesus heals.

—ANGELUS, FEBRUARY 8, 2015

Calendar

Monday
AUGUST 17
Weekday
Ez 24:15–24
Mt 19:16–22

Tuesday
AUGUST 18
Weekday
Ez 28:1–10
Mt 19:23–30

Wednesday
AUGUST 19
Weekday
Ez 34:1–11
Mt 20:1–16

Thursday
AUGUST 20
St. Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Ez 36:23–28
Mt 22:1–14

Friday
AUGUST 21
St. Pius X, Pope
Ez 37:1–14
Mt 22:34–40

Saturday
AUGUST 22
The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ez 43:1–7ab
Mt 23:1–12

Sunday
AUGUST 23
Twenty–first Sunday in Ordinary Time
Is 22:19–23
Rom 11:33–36
Mt 16:13–20

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