

Sixth Sunday, Ordinary Time February 12, 2023

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading: Sirach 15: 15-20

If you choose you can keep the commandments, they will save you; if you trust in God, you too shall live; he has set before you fire and water to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand.

Before man are life and death, good and evil, whichever he chooses shall be given him. Immense is the wisdom of the Lord; he is mighty in power, and all-seeing. The eyes of God are on those who fear him; he understands man's every deed.

No one does he command to act unjustly, to none does he give license to sin.

The Word of the Lord. . . Thanks be to God!

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 119

Response: Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Second Reading: 1 Cor. 2: 6-10

Brothers and sisters:

We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, not a wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away.

Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden, which God predetermined before the ages for our glory, and which none of the rulers of this age knew; for, if they had known it, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But as it is written: What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit scrutinizes everything, even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord. . . Thanks be to God!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Gospel Matthew 5: 17-37

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets. I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter will pass from the law, until all things have taken place. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do so will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.

But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven. I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. You have heard that it was said to your ancestors, You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment. But I say to you, whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; and whoever says to his brother, 'Raca,' will be answerable to the Sanhedrin; and whoever says, 'You fool,' will be liable to fiery Gehenna. Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,

"and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift.

Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court. Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge, and the judge will hand you over to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. Amen, I say to you, you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said, You shall not commit adultery. But I say to you, everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already



committed adultery with her in his heart. ***If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna.***

And if your right hand causes

you to sin, cut it off and throw it away.

It is better for you to lose one of your members than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

"It was also said, Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce. But I say to you, whoever divorces his wife - unless the marriage is unlawful—causes her to commit adultery, and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors, Do not take a false oath, but make good to the Lord all that you vow. But I say to you, do not swear at all; not by heaven, for it is God's throne; nor by the earth, for it is his footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. Do not swear by your head, for you cannot make a single hair white or black. Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.' Anything more is from the evil one."

The Gospel of the Lord. . . Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ!

CDA Special Thanks. . .

We are grateful to all our members who assisted us in our Christmas project for Chyrstalis House. You certainly brought joy to many on with your special gifts and donations. We thank you and appreciate your kindness and generosity. Your thoughtfulness will not be forgotten.

Sincerely, Mrs. Pert Toins-Banks, Regent and CDA
Court 2676

Seek the City to Come

As you have heard, the archdiocese has begun a process of evaluation and study of all the City parishes.

This process entails a parish visit which occurred on Dec. 7th, 2022 followed by lengthy meets for Fr. Paul and the parish leadership team. The archdiocese is asking all the parish to continue the discussion over

the next month or so. Soon and very soon we will schedule meetings to discuss the parish and the future of the parishes in the city. All Fr. Paul asks is that each parishioner commit to this process and enter fully into it when asked. Please be attentive to the bulletin and announcements for further details.



Mass Intentions

Feb. 5th, Mrs. Betty Butler, on the 4th anniversary of her passing at the request of her beloved husband, Mr. Alphonsus Butler.

Feb. 12th, Mrs. Cathy Olson, at the request of her beloved brother, Fr. Paul.

Feb. 19th, Alice Theresa Baysmore-Manns, on the 1st anniversary of her death at the request of loving and children and family.

Feb. 22nd, Ash Wednesday, Mrs. Ella Preston
Eternal Rest grant unto them O Lord and let your perpetual light shine upon them, may their souls and all the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace,
Amen

Mrs. Barbara Brown Retires

After 18 years of dedicated service to the parish Mrs. Brown will be retiring on March 31st, 2023. Needless to say how sad we are at her retirement but happy for her to enter into this next stage of her life to enjoy her husband and family. Fr. Paul and the whole parish community will miss her terribly. A search will be underway to find a replacement for Barbara. We love her and wish her well!



Adult Session with Sister Seton

Sister Seton will host her next adult education session on Monday, Feb. 27th at noon in the rectory. This month the topic is: Heart Health. Next month is Nutrition on March 27th.



Missionary Discipleship Program

This program was designed by our Pastor, Fr. Paul Zaborowski, OFM, Cap, in response to Archbishop Lori's Pastoral Letter: **A Light Brightly Visible**. In it the archbishop challenged the faithful to develop their relationship with Christ through our discipleship in him.

The program involves classes in adult education, training in Leadership and Evangelization skills along with evangelization activities, spiritual renewal through prayer and retreat.

The program continues from now until Pentecost Sunday (May 27, 2023). You can continue yearly from where you left OFF so you are not required to fill all the requirements in one year.

Agree to do the following and you will be designated as a Missionary Disciple on Pentecost Sunday.

1. **One Evangelization Training Workshop, Feb. 19, 2023**
2. **One Leadership Training Workshop, March 19, 2023**
3. Attend 3 of the many sessions of Adult Education Sessions.
4. Attend two evangelization Activities: Christmas Caroling Operation Faith Lift, St. Anthony Closet, & more.
5. Retreat Day, May 20, 2023 for Missionary Disciples.

If able to attend and fulfill the obligations, you are commissioned on Sunday, May 27th, 2023 at 10am mass. Sign up NOW!

For more info or to sign up see Ms. Paula Cullings at the MD's table in the back of church or call her at 443-858-4646.



Holy Hour for Peace

The next Holy Hour will be Sunday, February 19th, 2023 from 8:45 to 9:45am in the church. The hour will end with Rosary at 9:30am followed by benediction.

Black History Month Activities:

The church will be decorated for the month and we have speakers planned to celebrate Black History month.

1. Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023, Ms. Adrienne Curry, Office of Black Catholic Ministries will present: **"Three Black Popes"** after mass in the St. Augustine room.
2. Ms. Tierra Stone will present the Spoken word entitled: **"Were gonna be Alright"** on Sunday, Feb. 19th.



The Lenten Season

Ashes: are a sign of repentance.

Covering Statues: We refrain from the other objects of faith to concentrate on what is most important---the Cross! We enter into a Visual Fast.



Liturgical Changes: "Alleluia" and "Gloria" are the songs of the Angels. We wait quietly in this Season of Lent until the Tomb is Open and we can join in the song of the Angels to announce that He is Risen!

Clapper: We use this sound to shake us into the reality of the Season. The time to change is NOW!

Kneeling and Prostration: Signs of our humility before the Lord. We are a sinful people always in the need of God's Grace and Mercy.

Fast and Abstinence: Ash Wednesday and Good Friday are obligatory days of fasting (MEAL SIZE RESTRICTIONS) and abstinence (NO MEAT) for Catholics. Also, Fridays during Lent are obligatory days of abstinence. The obligation is from age 18 til 60. When fasting, a person is permitted to eat one full meal, as well as two smaller meals that together are not equal to a full meal. The norms concerning abstinence from meat are binding upon members of the Catholic Church from age 14 onwards. If possible, the fast on Good Friday is continued until the Easter Vigil (on Holy Saturday night) as the "paschal fast" to honor the suffering and death of the Lord Jesus, and to prepare ourselves to share more fully and to celebrate more readily his Resurrection.



Healing Prayer: Mary Adderly, Helen Augins, Jean Bennett, Parrish Boyd, Karen Brown-Berkley, Annie Bruce, Renee Bruce, Al Butler, Anita Cole, Tonya Crowder, Eric Cullings, Dale Dyson, William Ford III, Eric Frazier,

Sarah Gamble, JoAnn Glenn, Angela Johnson, Cornell (Nelson) Johnson, Josie Johnson, Joseph Jones, Sheila Leary-Smith, Charles Manns, III, Kimberly Merrill, Allan Noble, Rhonda Rumbra, Carl & Bernice Shrieves, Daniel Smith Sr., Veronica Spears, Sr. Helene Therese Stanislaus, OSP., Augustine & Archie Stith, Rosalita Stone, Gloria Tate, Ernest Thames, Jean Thomas, William Young, Sr., and Alice Zaborowski.