

Embracing the Tough Message

Kathleen M. Basi

When I was little and attended Mass, I dreaded the homily every week—and the Eucharistic Prayer, and usually the readings. In fact, I think I dreaded all of Mass except the songs. Because at least during those, I knew what I was doing—singing stirred my heart.

At some point, I realized that what sounded to me like the chatter of the adults in the *Charlie Brown* TV cartoons was actually supposed to mean something. I started trying to wrap my brain around all those words. Although most of it still zipped over my head, every week a word or a phrase would emerge from the gibberish and ping my conscience like divine sonar.

These days, I still struggle with distraction and preoccupation: forgotten tasks, lists in progress, my preschooler lying down on the front pew. My mother once told me, “There were a lot of Masses when you girls were little that we didn’t get much out of.” I understand now exactly what she meant.

Of course, the point of the liturgy is not what we “get out of it.” Christ is there whether we’re preoccupied or not, and grace touches us either way. But it’s worth the effort to refocus after each distraction. As with most things, we get out of liturgy what we put into it. If we make the effort to listen with an open heart, we almost always come away with a word that speaks to



a situation, relationship, or problem we’re facing.

That is the beauty of the Word: It’s not static, or dead, but rather living—Jesus, the Word of God “veiled in flesh.” Jesus is always speaking. He speaks through every breath of wind and every person we meet, and in particular, through liturgy. The question is whether we’re willing to face up to what it tells us about our lives, right here, right now. It’s easy to hear words meant for someone else. However, to embrace words that reach into the raw places of our soul and call us to change—that’s a harder Word to swallow.

Yet that is why we come to church. The liturgy is the spiritual food that sustains us for daily living. God won’t force himself on us. We have to be willing to be vulnerable. We have to listen with ears open to our own weakness. Most important, we have to be willing to change.

But if we muster the courage to respond to the Word when he calls, our lives—and by extension, our corner of the world—will be better for it.

**God won’t force himself on us.
We have to be willing
to be vulnerable.
We have to be willing
to change.**



**Generous God, while I am grateful
to have what is necessary
for my well-being... let me always
be intent on one thing:
listening and responding to your
presence in my life. Amen.**

—From *Celebrating the Gospels: A Guide for Parents and Teachers* by Gaynell Cronin

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 1–6

Monday, St. Alphonsus Liguori:
Jer 28:1–17 / Mt 14:13–21

Tuesday, Weekday: Jer 30:1–2, 12–15, 18–22 /
Mt 14:22–36

Wednesday, Weekday:
Jer 31:1–7 / Mt 15:21–28

Thursday, St. John Vianney:
Jer 31:31–34 / Mt 16:13–23

Friday, Weekday:
Nah 2:1, 3; 3:1–3, 6–7 / Mt 16:24–28

Saturday, The Transfiguration of the Lord:
Dn 7:9–10, 13–14 / 2 Pt 1:16–19 /
Lk 9:28b–36

Bringing Home
the Word 

July 31, 2022

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Bringing Home the Word

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)
July 31, 2022

Becoming Rich in What Matters

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

What are we working for? What is the desire that moves us to sacrifice every day? Where is our heart? These are the deep questions pondered by the author of Ecclesiastes. He sees people around him struggling for years and then, as fate would have it, their wealth falls into the hands of someone who hasn’t worked for it. He sees others, toiling and anxious, and wonders, “What does it really get them?”

Jesus also pointed out the vanity of making our life goal a struggle to

amass wealth, as if that was the source of security. To keep us from spiritual shortsightedness, he reminds us of an undeniable truth: we know neither the day nor the hour when we will be called before God to give an accounting of how we invested the talents he gave us.

We have been raised with Christ. Our greedy, miserly nature has been buried with Christ so that our generous, magnanimous, and farsighted nature could be set free. So if we believe in Christ, in the one who left all his heavenly treasures and became poor so that we might become rich, then the best investment is in him and his truths. He guarantees a return, even if it is deferred. He promises that what we surrender to him will be reimbursed a hundredfold and will give dividends for eternity.

So when examining where our treasure is, where our hearts and worries go, Jesus would have us ask ourselves: Will this make me richer in what matters to God?

**Our greedy, miserly nature
has been buried with Christ
so that our generous,
magnanimous, and
farsighted nature
could be set free.**

A Word from Pope Francis

Material goods are necessary—they are goods!—but they are a means to live honestly and in sharing with the neediest. Today, Jesus invites us to consider that wealth can enslave the heart and distract it from the true treasure which is in heaven.

Angelus, August 4, 2019



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- Would living a simpler life make my life better? How?
- Do “things” get in the way of my relationship with others?



Parish of St. Vincent De Paul

"We as a community rooted in the Catholic faith seek to imitate Christ's Examples of love and service to others and spread the light of our faith to others."

Parish phone: 509-234-2262 **July 31, 2022 website: stvincentconnell.org**

Fr. Miguel A. Gustavo Ruiz Juárez 509-318-0295 gruiz@dioceseofspokane.org

Deacon Arturo Biebrich parish phone: 509-222-9223 after 5 pm only

18th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass July 31, 2022

Lector: Molly Kunkel

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Marv Grassl

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Stacy Ferguson Family

Altar Servers:

Aubriel S. & Brandy F.

19th Sunday Ordinary Time

Mass Aug. 7, 2022

Lector: Greg Hart

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS:

Stacy Ferguson

Greeters & Presentation of Gift

Danny & Martha Holt

Alter Servers:

Isabella & Nadia Holt

Pope's Prayer intentions:

For the elderly:

We pray for the elderly, who represent the roots and memory of a people; may their experience and wisdom help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility.

Mass Schedule

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. @ St. Paul's in Eltopia

10:30 a.m. @ St. Vincent's (English)

12:00 p.m. @ St. Vincent's (Spanish)

Saturday: 7:00 p.m. @ San Juan Diego (Spanish)

Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. Adoration @ St. Vincent's

8:30 a.m. Mass @ St. Vincent's

Confessions: Wednesdays 6:30 pm @ St. Vincent's

Saturday 6:30 pm @ San Juan Diego

Church Secretary: Elida Fernández - secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com

Tues, Weds, Thurs 12:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917 - 12 – 3:30 pm on Tues. Weds. Thurs.

Prayer Chain: Call Carolyn Nordhus @ 509-234-5972

Breezeway Calendar: If you have any parish events or meetings that you would like on the all parish calendar that is posted in the breezeway please contact Marla Goade @ 539-5354 wmgoade73@gmail.com

Weekly Bulletin: Please email Elida Fernández secSt.vincent2015@gmail.com by WEDNESDAY EVENINGS for information to be included in the upcoming Sunday bulletin.

Elida can be reached at 509-318-0917

Website: To add or send information, pictures or news to the website please email Jaeniffer Kaiser @ jaeniffer2002@hotmail.com

LIKE our Facebook page to get updated posts and information about our parish. You can also see photos of all the activities that have been happening. If you want to post church happenings on Facebook please email Onna Pollock at olpollock@yahoo.com

UPCOMING EVENTS MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Altar Flowers

Aug. – Guadalupanas

July – Altar Society

TODAY AFTER MASS

Food fund raiser by the

Guadalupanas

\$10 a plate of

Enchiladas, rich and beans.

Come join us or take out is also available.

CONFESSIONS

Wed. 3rd of Aug.

@ St. Vincent Parish

@ 6:30 pm

Connell Food Bank

Seniors: Tuesdays

3rd Edad- los Martes

Aug. 9th & 23

10:00 am – 11:30 am

General Public:

El público en general:

Wednesdays / los Miércoles

Aug. 10th & 24th

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK FROM THE PASTORAL PATTERNS BY JS

PAULISH CO:

When have you felt that possessions were becoming too important in your life? Have you ever received a gift you wanted a lot and then found it didn't make you as happy as you thought it would?

STEWARDSHIP

"Take care to guard against all greed, for though one may be rich, one's life does not consist of possessions." Luke 12:15

The Gospel message is contrary to modern culture that continually tries to convince us that our joy comes from the material things we possess. That the more we acquire, the happier we will be. Jesus shows us that our true joy comes from our "invisible" gifts like love, mercy and forgiveness. True joy comes from "emptying" ourselves, giving of ourselves rather than always taking. We are called not to hoard but to share. True joy comes from living a grateful and generous lifestyle; become more "God-centered" and less "self-centered."

Thank you for your generous Weekly contributions

July 3, 2022

July 10, 2022

10:30 am - \$1636.00 Bilingual - \$1033.91

12:00 pm - \$449.32 12:00 pm - No Mass

Basin city - \$590.00 Basin City - \$893.69

Request of Sacrament Certificates

Please be advised, there is a 10-day minimum needed to search for records. Please be timely in your request of a new certificate.

ANNUAL ONLINE TEST FOR SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The annual test for recertification has been assigned to all volunteers. If you have problems taking the test please contact Elida Fernandez 509-318-0917

FR. GUS'S SCHEDULE FOR 2 WEEKS: July 31, 2022 - Aug. 14, 2022

Monday Aug. 1:

Fr. Gus day of Rest

Tues. Aug. 2:

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Mass @ Eltopia

Wed. Aug. 3:

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confessions @ Connell

Thurs. Aug. 4:

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

7:00 pm Marriage Prep @ Eltopia

Fri. Aug. 5:

8:00 am Prison Ministry

6:00 pm EU Ministers & Lectors @ Connell

Spanish Only

Sat Aug. 6:

4:30 pm Confessions @ Basin City

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

Sun. Aug. 7: Mass

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell

Please keep Fr. Gus in your daily prayers.

Monday Aug. 8:

Fr. Gus day of Rest

Tues. Aug. 9:

4:00 pm Confessions @ Eltopia

5:00 pm Mass @ Eltopia

Wed. Aug. 10:

8:00 am Adoration @ Connell

8:30 am Mass @ Connell

6:30 pm Confessions @ Connell

Thurs. Aug. 11:

10:00 am Adoration @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Eltopia

7:00 pm Parish Council @ Basin City

Fri. Aug. 12:

8:00 am Prison Ministry

Sat Aug. 13:

1:00 pm Baptism @ Connell

1:00 pm Quinceanera @ Basin City

No Confessions @ Basin City

7:00 pm Mass @ Basin City

Sun. Aug. 14: Mass

8:00 am Mass @ Eltopia

10:30 am Mass @ Connell

12:00 pm Mass @ Connell