
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

AUGUST 27, 2023



THIS WEEKEND'S READINGS

First: Isaiah 22:19-23

Second: Romans 11:33-36

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

FOCUS: *Rely on God for wisdom.*

Simon Peter didn't "figure out" Jesus' identity on his own. Rather, God himself revealed to Peter that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Rather than relying only on our own intellect, we must be open to what the Lord is trying to tell us – or else we may miss something crucial.

LITURGY OF THE WORD:

In the first reading, Eliakim is given the tokens of the master of the palace, and the Lord gives him authority over the palace to be a father to all Jerusalem. Saint Paul writes to the Romans that God's knowledge and wisdom are unfathomable. In the Gospel, when Jesus asks who the crowds say he is, the disciples give varied answers. Peter answers correctly, and Jesus gives him the keys of the kingdom.



MASS INTENTIONS

5 p.m.: The Caldiero Family, Matthew Martin and Timothy Sotis

10 a.m.: Carlos Sanabria, Sr., Michael Faso, Jr., Domingo Rodriguez and June Bisel

CONDOLENCES

We extend our deepest sympathies to the family of Delia Vuksanovich, who died Monday. Please keep them in your prayers.

CHILDREN'S STEWARDSHIP: DO YOUR CHILDREN SEE YOU GIVE?

Every parent wants to raise children who share and give generously. When our children someday meet God face to face, we want to know that they will hear Jesus say to them the same words the master said to those who used their talents wisely, "Well done, my good and faithful servant...Come, share your master's joy." (Matt 25:21)

However, raising a generous child is a challenge in a society that constantly teaches children to want more and more things for themselves. One of the key factors in teaching children to be generous is to let them see you giving. After all, children are more likely to mimic what they **see**, *not* what they **hear**.

Oftentimes today, donations to the parish are made electronically,

monthly, quarterly or via mail. Thus, children may never actually see their parents give. A child who never sees a parent place an envelope in the Offertory

could grow up thinking, "My parents never gave any support to the Church. Why should I?"

Therefore, it is important that parents talk with children about the charitable gifts the family makes. If you would like to increase your giving you might even ask your kids about ways the family budget could be adjusted so that there is more to share with God. Their suggestions might surprise you!



*"PRAY,
HOPE,
AND DON'T WORRY."*

-Padre Pío

TREASURER'S REPORT

Regular Sunday Collection

August 13-20: \$ 7,861.19

Envelopes: \$ 2,698.00 – Online: \$ 5,163.19

THANK YOU!

SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!

DISCOVERING CHRIST UPDATE

Registration has been extended for anyone who is still interested in the ChristLife series. However, you are encouraged to sign up as soon as possible.



For ease in participating in Discovering Christ, the first in the series, use this QR code to access the registration form.

To recap, Discovering Christ is a seven-week experience that begins **September 10** at St. Paul's where anyone and everyone, from the baptized in the pews to the unbaptized, is invited to hear the Good News and encounter Jesus Christ.

The program is free to all who wish to attend.

Should you have a question or concern that's holding you back from making a decision, don't hesitate to reach out to the organizers, Mark Carson at 845-551-2530 or Kate Gallaher Carson at 914-850-5107.

DISCUSSION OF MARK'S GOSPEL

The Gospel discussion group will reconvene its Zoom meetings beginning 10-11:15 a.m. **Monday, September 18.** Everyone is welcome to this session, the Ignatian Gospel Discussion of Mark.

The book that will be used is \$14 and available through Gail Van Tassel. Call her at 845-457-3432.

BEREAVEMENT PROGRAM SCHEDULED

At 9 a.m. **Saturday, September 23, a six-week Bereavement Program** will begin at St. Paul's. Julie Laurenzi, Liz Locatelli and Kate Gallaher Carson, who have completed the Archdiocese's training, will lead the sessions designed to support the bereaved as they continue on their own healing path. It is open to anyone struggling with the loss of a loved one – regardless of when that passing occurred.

Thereafter, the group will continue to meet from 9-10:30 Saturday mornings on September 30 and October 7. There will be no meeting on October 14, but the group will reconvene on October 21 and again on October 28.

The annual **Memorial Mass** to honor deceased relatives and friends will be celebrated at 10 a.m. on November 4. The bereavement program will then wrap up the following Saturday, November 11.

For more information or to sign up, call Julie Laurenzi at 518-225-1170 or email Julie.laurenzi@gmail.com.

MASS ATTENDANCE

5 p.m.: 73
10 a.m.: 130

A DOSE OF CATHOLIC HUMOR

Reprinted from Aleteia, a Catholic website:

In case you didn't know, some saints were well-known for having a good sense of humor. Philip Neri ("The Humorous Saint"), Francis De Sales and Teresa of Avila, for instance, are not only known for their exemplary lives, but also because they certainly knew how to use a proper joke to good effect.

But one doesn't need to go all the way back to the 16th and 17th centuries to find examples of good church humor. It is said that when a journalist asked St. John XXIII (pope from 1958 to 1963) how many people work in the Vatican, the pope paused, thought for a bit and replied, "About half of them."

Father O'Malley answers the phone.

"Hello, is this Father O'Malley?"

"It is."

"This is the IRS. Can you help us?"

"I can."

"Do you know a Ted Houlihan?"

"I do."

"Is he a member of your congregation?"

"He is."

"Did he donate \$10,000 to the church?"

"He will."

After explaining the commandment to honor your father and mother, a catechist asked her class if there was a commandment that teaches how to treat our brothers and sisters.

One boy, the oldest in his family, immediately answered, "Thou shalt not kill."

MAUI RELIEF EFFORTS

From the Most Rev. Larry Silva, bishop of Honolulu: "Today our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by the devastating wildfires that have ravaged the island of Maui. ... It is in times like these that our collective love, faith and compassion can make a tremendous difference.

You can make a tax-deductible contribution by visiting the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/MauiCatholic>.

Every donation, no matter the amount, will play a crucial role in helping to rebuild lives and restore hope.

Let us also remember the power of prayer. In our collective prayers, we ask for strength, resilience and healing for the fire victims and their families. ..."

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