

6SEVENTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

JULY 30th, 2017

Two Sundays ago, we heard and saw Jesus as He sat facing the stony soil of Galilee and illustrated the viability of faith as it is received by different kinds of believers: the careless, the shallow, and the receptive.

Last Sunday, our parable, once again, focused on seeds, as an image. Tiny encapsulations of divine life, whose potential is a mystery until the opportunity for growth ends. One week, we learn that God gives His life generously and widely. The next, we are instructed that we will be judged by the way we nurture our precious seeds of faith.

This week three parables examine the activity of three types of people, people who are wise enough to recognize the inestimable value of the gift of faith and who use different strategies to employ faith in advancing the Kingdom of God.

In the first story, a farmer found something precious and ancient, not so much by chance, as by the pursuit of his regular life. However, when he did find it, he went to extreme measures to make it his own. The presence of Christ can be found in our day's work, when that work is honestly and conscientiously done. The discovery of the Kingdom of God is not confined to sacred moments in church. The presence of Christ is detected when we dig deeply into the moments of our lives, when we avoid scraping the surface of our existence.

In the second situation, the model of discovery of the Kingdom of God is found in a moment's illumination. The diligent pearl merchant, who has been searching for years and knows what he is looking for, grasps the prize with great joy. We see discipline and self-denial as a way of becoming experts in the search for God's will. And like the merchant, we must know what we are looking for: "Thy Kingdom come; Thy will be done." Promoting the Kingdom of God becomes our desire, and so, we submit to His will.

In the third parable, we find a fisherman who succeeds in catching a great haul of fish. We can imagine him in his patience and watchfulness. We anticipate his promptness in seizing the moment to cast and then raise his net. Like the fisherman, it is our task to be on the look-out, to be ready to advance the work of the Kingdom when the time is appropriate.

Whether individuals who discover the Kingdom of God do so suddenly, or as the result of a life-long search, finding and embracing God is something we choose. This search is worth choosing. Above all else, and with no hesitation.

Today's lesson ends with the question, "Have you understood these things?" Jesus tells us to enhance our understanding by making use of our heritage from the Old Testament and from the Church. Scripture and the Church assure us that the Kingdom of God is here. Nevertheless, we must search for it. The Kingdom of God is here. It is within us. The Kingdom of God is here. We make it visible. The Kingdom of God is here. We activate the force of its potential by using our gifts and abilities to find, to recognize, and to promote Jesus Christ in the world around us. As we search, the result will be peace of mind and heart. We will gain a treasure beyond whatever price we pay.

FATHER RICARDO

From Father Ricardo's Desk:

BAPTISMAL INSTRUCTION

Parents and godparents planning to have their children baptized in the near- future may come to the required instruction on August 2nd at 8:00pm, in the Church hall.

C.C.D.

The Religious Education Office is closed for the summer. Mrs. Mary Jo Bancroft, Co-coordinator, will resume office hours on Tuesday, August 15th in preparation for the new school year.

R.C.I.A

Our Adult Program for the preparation of the Sacraments (RCIA) is open. Please contact our parish office, or Father Ricardo directly.

A REMINDER

The Bishop's Annual Appeal gives us the opportunity to respond to the imperative to love our neighbors, with emphasis on those in greatest need. Catholic Charities, seminaries, Nazareth Village for Retired Priests, and inner-city schools are the principle beneficiaries of this campaign. We are asked to complete our pledges to enable these works of service to continue.

MARIAN PILGRIMAGE

The Diocese of Paterson is offering a Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception on October 21, 2017. For further information please contact Jean or Roger Grey at 973-764-8843

POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Catherine of Bologna Parish in Ringwood, NJ is seeking candidates for the position of Director of Music Ministry. Please call (973) 962- 7032, Ext. 7.

*In your prayers please remember the soul of:
+Sandra Maiella+
who has entered eternal life*

THANKS AND THANKS AGAIN

We have received a second expression of thanks from the Little Sisters of the Poor in Totowa. The final tally for the contributions made during their visit to our parish was \$1800. They are most grateful, and we are remembered in their daily prayers.

MISSION APPEAL

On the weekend of August 12-13th, Fr. Anthony Bernas, a priest of the Archdiocese of Capiz in Panay in Visayas (Philippines) will be preaching at all the Masses and conducting a Mission Appeal here in our parish.

Father Anthony is seeking help to provide a residence and care for old and sickly priests. Called Lolek's Home, after the nickname of Pope Saint John Paul II, this facility will provide a decent place with a room for each priest and a small residence for Merciful Brothers of St. Joseph, a group of religious assigned to take care of the priests and to supervise and maintain the area.

Local Philippine Catholics have contributed \$116,400.61 to this endeavor. The estimated building cost is \$176,056.04. Please be generous in support of these worthy men who gave their lives to serving the people of God.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS
SUPPORT OF OUR PARISH. GOD BLESS YOU**

JULY 23RD

1ST Collection: \$4,256.00

**The next Maintenance Collection will be July 29-30.
Your continued support is appreciated.**

This Week's Events

Tue. 6:30pm - Community Rosary
 7:00pm - Holy Hour
 8:00pm - Baptism Meeting - hall
Thur. 10:00am - Legion of Mary - hall
 6:30pm - Legion of Mary - chapel

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

SUNDAY JULY 30

8:00am +Viola Mundhenk req. by Joan and Larry Bono
9:30am +Josephine and Frank Tritak req. by Joey Helmrich
11:00am +Joseph Bono req. by Angie and Sal Vizzini

MONDAY JULY 31

8:45am +John W. Fischer by Orso Family

TUESDAY AUGUST 1

8:45am +Richard Carmody. by Julia and Michael
Campbell

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 2

8:45am For the Intentions of Fr. Bob req. by Ted Dugas

THURSDAY AUGUST 3

8:45am +Henry Bono req. by Dolores Bono and Family

FRIDAY AUGUST 4

8:45am +Nancy Scheuermann req. by Murphy Family

SATURDAY AUGUST 5

8:45am +Deceased members of the Pacifico Family
req. by John Pacifico

5:00pm +Frank Nisch req. by Family

SUNDAY AUGUST 6

8:00am +Margaret and Richard Murphy, Cathy Dignan
req. by Family

9:30am +Rick Ridings req. by Pat and Paul Corbutt

11:00am +Austin L. Morton req. by Family

1:00pm Polish Mass

PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

*Aidan Alvarez, Scott Anderson, Baby Grace Andrews
John Apgar, Artie, Ray Bonomini, Tina Brightly, Janet
Brunke, Rose Bruno, Roberta Busch, Jerry Calcagno, ,
Carolina Chimarney, Louis Cimaglia, Teresa Contento,
Aibhlinn Coyle, Elizabeth Copeland, Patricia and Paul
Corbutt, Doug Crum, Joan Dahl, Nathanael Davenport,
Jean Marie Day, Alice DeLorenzo, Courtney Dignan,
Eileen Donahue, Katie Drago, Bonnie Dubovich, Roseann
Dundon, Jim Ecker, Barbara Etzel, Eva Ferlauto, Debbie
Fuentes, Kay Gallo, John Gonzalez, Florence Guilfoyle,
Barbara Hellwig, Christopher Hoehel, Jean Jones, Julianna
Klinger, Carly Kosen, Emily Lewis, Brian Linke, Henry
Mancuso, Rose Martis, Fran and Larry Marsh, James
McAlary, Kathy Nestico, Jennifer Oldham, Janis O'Neill,
Theresa and John Orso, Joan Quest, Maura Reagan, Mary
Reynolds, Linda Ross, Ron Shelly, Lou Pra Sisto, Kateri
and Sam Sullivan, Father Patrick Sullivan, Alexander
Truong, Mary VanDyke, Pat and Jim Van Gorder,
Vincent and Debbie Ventriglia, , Russy Wright, Nick
Zayatz*