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Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 9, 2017

“Come to me, all who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

-- Matthew 11:28



Daily Mass

Week of July 10th – 15th

- Monday: 8:00 Angela McCormick+
- Tuesday: 8:00 Stacy Burch+
- Wednesday: 8:00 Special Intentions
- Thursday: 8:00 Vicki Bauer+
- Friday: 8:00 Bob Raymer+
- Saturday: 8:00 Maurice Gracias+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially John Miller, Thomas Lee, Michael Kluziski, Betty Perkins, Dennis Reeve, Sebastian Romeo, Louise Ahern, Bonnie Danielson, Owen Burns, Bernice De Vries, Michael Vasquez, Paul Cummings, Patricia Dombrink, Laura Pierce, Marvin Johnson, Cora Rose, Tom Reid, Henry Souza, Rosa Santos and Juanita Estrelles.

Pray also for the faithful departed, especially Michael Tonsing, husband of Cecilia Tonsing. Our condolences to the family.



Summer Hours: The Parish Office will be closed on Fridays during Summer through August 31st. We will be open from 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Mondays through Thursdays. Have a fun and safe summer vacation!

Through Love's Great Power!

Through love's great power to be made whole
 In mind and body, heart and soul --
 Through freedom to find joy, or be
 By dint of joy itself set free
 In love and in companionship:
 This is the true and natural good.

To undo justice, and to seek
 To quash the rights that guard the weak --
 To sneer at love, and wrench apart
 The bonds of body, mind and heart
 With specious reason and no rhyme:
 This is the true unnatural crime.

-- Vikram Seth



From
Father Leo



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Jesus said to his disciples, “To those whom much is given, much is expected. The words of our Lord should speak to last weekend as we celebrated Independence Day. As a nation, we have been truly blessed. We live in a country free of tyranny and oppression. Our individual rights are protected by the Constitution and the rule of law. Many people around the world admire the democratic principles by which we govern ourselves.

While there are citizens of our great nation who suffer from poverty, many of us live lives of prosperity never imagined by our foreparents. We are fortunate indeed! But, our good fortune brings with it a greater responsibility. We cannot take our blessings for granted, nor can we ignore those who suffer here and abroad. In our Declaration of Independence, we proclaim that: “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...” These are not hollow words, but reflect who we are when we are at our American best.

The Fourth of July was a good time for us to pause and offer a prayer of gratitude for the blessings we have received as citizens of this wonderful country. It also affords us the opportunity to recommit ourselves to the mission of enhancing the lives of those who are less fortunate than we are. I encourage you to spend some time reflecting on what Jesus said, “To those to whom much is given, much is expected.”

Love, Fr. Leo

Something to Know About!

Sunday sermons can be seen via video on our website: www.corpuschristipiedmont.org. You can also check out the Mass schedule, current Bulletins and other important information around the Parish.

Today's Readings!

First Reading -- Rejoice heartily, O Jerusalem! For see, your savior comes (Zachariah 9:9-10).

Psalms -- I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God (Psalm 145).

Second Reading -- The one who raised Christ from death will give life to your mortal bodies also (Romans 8:9, 11-13).

Gospel -- Come, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest (Matthew 11:25-30).

Not Sure What You Believe?

Do you consider yourself spiritual but not religious? Or have you been a churchgoer for some time but you have doubts and questions about what you believe? Perhaps something feels like it is being rearranged inside your heart and you want to explore your spirituality more. Or maybe your partner or spouse is Catholic, but you feel completely "out of the loop" when it comes to his/her religious beliefs. If you fit any of these descriptions, you are invited to gather with others who want to explore their spiritual lives more as well.

The RCIA process (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) at Corpus Christi offers a chance for anyone on a spiritual journey to gather with others who are asking questions about their spirituality or faith beliefs. It is an opportunity to search, share, question and grow alongside others. Jesus always invited others, without pressure, to "come and see" if they were interested in living the way that he lived. We invite you to do the same, no strings attached. Please join us in the Parish Office for a Q&A session about this group on July 16th or August 20th at 9:15 a.m., between the morning Masses. Feel free to bring family members or friends. To learn more, contact Ann Naffziger at: ann@gospelliving.org or call 521-8011.

Setting Aside the Weapons of War!

Why, we might ask the prophet Zachariah today, would God want to banish chariots and horses? The answer follows: because they are used to violate God's reign of peace, along with the warrior's bow. In the days of Zachariah, chariots and horses were high-priced items used only for war-making. They were the aircraft carriers and nuclear missiles of his day. And for his culture, which thought of any king as being a military leader first and foremost, a king riding on a lowly beast of burden to proclaim peace without horses, chariots and bows would have set his listeners topsy-turvy,

This lowly, beast-riding king of peace, we believe, was fulfilled in Jesus, gentle and humble of heart, in a world torn by military strife often generated by differing religious views. Even in our own lives and homes where we are often at "war" over the tiniest things, we would do well to stop and consider to what degree we are willing to be like that "king" whose way of gentleness and humility is the way for us to find rest for our weary souls.



Lost and Found!

If anyone has lost or misplaced something in the Church or Gibson Center, please check with the Parish Office. We may have it!



Weekend Mass Collection During the Summer!

It is important that we maintain the level of weekly giving to the Sunday Mass collection even as we make payments towards our Stewardship Campaign pledges. If the giving in this area declines, we will have defeated our purpose in maintaining a healthy operating budget, paying off the debt and sowing the seeds for the future in terms of the needs outlined in the Stewardship Campaign. The Parish has been very responsive to this message and your generosity is very much appreciated.

This especially holds true during the summer months when many of us are away for extended periods of time. Please remember your Parish by writing a check that includes the Sundays that you are away, either before you leave or upon your return. Or, you can set up automatic bill payments from your bank's Online Banking system.

Again on behalf of the Finance Committee, thank you for your continued generosity and responsiveness as we work together towards keeping the Parish finances on a firm footing and share collectively the responsibility for stewardship of Corpus Christi.

Finance Committee

Upcoming Concert!

The Choir, *Maitrise des Hauts de France*, will give a performance at St. Margaret Mary Church, 1219 Excelsior Avenue in Oakland on Friday, July 21st, at 7:00 p.m. Works by Antonio Vivaldi, Guillaume Bouzignac, Giovanni Battista Martini, Waclaw x Szamotul, Johann Sebastian Bach, Léo Delibes and Giovanni Battista Pergolesi will be performed by the young Choir whose members come from the city of Lille and the area of Lambersart in France. Admission is free. A free-will offering accepted at the concert. For more information, please contact the Parish Office at 482-0596 or: parishoffice@stmargaretm.org.

Share the Burden!

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest." These words of our Savior seem to be in stark contrast to the previous chapter from the same Gospel, when we were told that if we do not take up our crosses, we are not worthy of Christ. Connecting these two messages might help us on our faith journeys. Being a follower of Christ surely means that we must embrace the cross in its mystery of both suffering and triumph. This is something that we need not do alone, for the burden is often too heavy for us to carry by ourselves. Who, then, do we turn to? We can turn to the Body of Christ -- the community of disciples gathered for worship. When we find the burden too heavy, let us remember that we can share that burden with our Christian sisters and brothers, who can help bring us rest.

