

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish

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WELCOME!

Thank you for celebrating with us today. We invite you to come and worship with us again. If you would like to be a member of our faith community, please take a moment to register. We would love to have you as our spiritual companion.

MASS SCHEDULE

SATURDAY

5:00 pm Vigil Mass (Vietnamese)

TUESDAY - FRIDAY

6:00 pm (Vietnamese)

SUNDAY

8:30 am Mass (English)

10:30 am Mass (Vietnamese)

Livestream (Facebook and Youtube)

12:30 pm (Vietnamese for Youth)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS

1st Friday of the Month - 5:30 pm Adoration
6:00 pm Mass

CONFESSIONS

Saturday 4:30 pm - 4:50 pm
Sunday 8:00 am - 8:20 am
Tuesday - Friday 5:30 pm - 5:50 pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Parish



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PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: Closed
Tuesday & Friday: Please Call for Appointment
Wednesday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Thursday: 9:30am - 3:00pm
Please leave a message if no one answers and your call will be returned.



archseattle.org/Partners

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP (JUNE 17TH - JUNE 18TH)

Donation	\$4391.00
Donation Online	\$1,610.00
Maintenance Fund	\$30.00
Debt Reduction	\$0
Total Donation	\$6,031.00

Annual Catholic Appeal 2023 GOAL \$36,577

As of 6.25.23, Gifts Received \$9,251

www.archseattle.org/GiveACA



Annual Catholic Appeal

Funds ministries and services for your local Catholic community



Share your gift today!



SUPPORT THE WORKS OF THE HOLY FATHER



SPECIAL COLLECTION: PETER PENCE COLLECTION June 24th & June 25th

Today is the Peter Pence Collection, a worldwide collection that supports the work of the Holy See and the charitable works of Pope Francis. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a sign of mercy to our suffering brothers and sisters. Please be generous today.

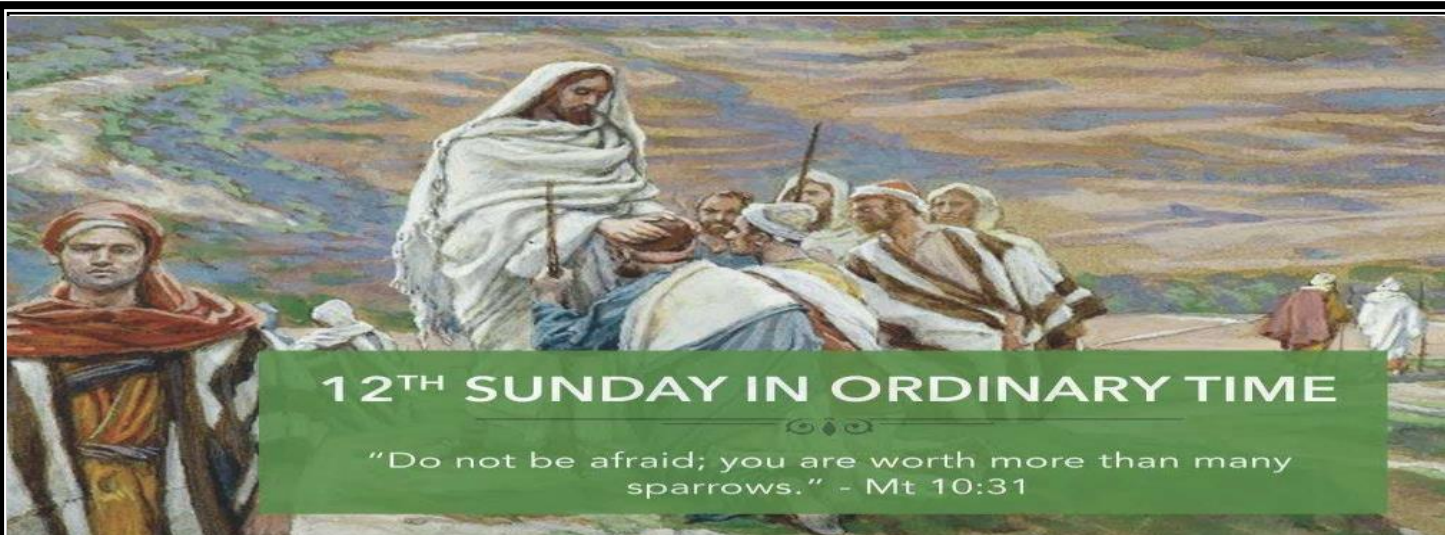
For more information, visit:

www.obolodisanpietro.va/en.html

WORTHY

"Do not be afraid."
MATTHEW 10:31

Illustration from the Treasury for Mass (2014) - 1994, 1995, 2000



12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“Do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:31

Homily by Father Joseph Vu

Persecution and Opposition Go with the Christian Territory

We enter this Gospel scene midstream.

Christ is giving his Twelve Apostles instructions for their first missionary journey.

- The most striking thing about these instructions is the warning.
- In this passage, Jesus tells them three times not to be afraid - three times!
- He wouldn't say it if they didn't need to hear it.
- But why would they need to hear it?

Because as they go out in Christ's name to spread the Gospel in word and deed, they are going to run into serious difficulties.

- Jesus is warning his Apostles that they will meet up with persecution and hardship, just as he will, in a dramatic way, during his Passion.
- He is warning them that their Christian mission will demand heroic courage, perseverance, and fidelity as they constantly face suffering, calumny, mockery, and opposition.
- They are going to run into people who will want to destroy them, humiliate them, and even kill them, just because they bear Christ's name and are trying to spread Christ's message.
- In the verses immediately preceding the passage we just listened to, Jesus was explicit about this. He told them:

- "Beware of men: they will hand you over to sanhedrins and scourge you in their synagogues.
- "You will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them....
- "You will be hated by all men on account of my name."

Those same warnings apply to us too. Being a Christian is not like joining a tennis club.

There is a spiritual battle going on in this fallen world.

Whenever we are truly following Christ and building up his Kingdom, the powers of darkness, the devil and his minions, don't like it, and they try to make it hard for us, just as they made it hard for the Apostles.

Be Not Afraid

Jesus wants us to know that following him is demanding.

But he is no pessimist.

In today's Gospel passage, he tells his Apostles three times - three times in just seven verses - not to be afraid:

These are not idle words of comfort; they are God's words.

As long as we stay united to him, grounded in his friendship, we are assured of meaning, purpose, and everlasting joy - no matter how hard our pilgrimage through time may get.

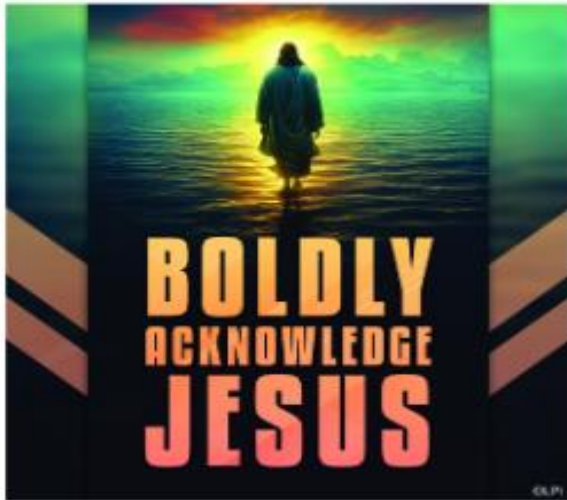
- St Paul understood this well.
- As he said in today's Second Reading, even though sin, evil, and suffering weigh upon us all, Christ's grace is infinitely more powerful:
- "For if by the transgression of the one the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many."
- Jeremiah understood it well too.
- In today's First Reading, after listing his horrible sufferings, he shouts out a cheer of confidence in God:
- "But the Lord is with me, like a mighty champion: my persecutors will stumble, they will not triumph."

The Lord is our champion too.

- He proved it first when he rose from the dead.
- He has proven it thousands of times since, in the lives of the saints - those who have been faithful to his friendship.
- And he proves it every day right here on the altar, in the sacrifice of the Eucharist.
- Jesus will never abandon us. He wants to be our strength as we fight each day to be faithful soldiers of his Kingdom.

Today, let's promise him that this week, whenever we feel the cold breath of fear behind us, we will call out to him in prayer, giving him the chance to show his stuff.

Worship & Meditation



Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I was in middle school, there were times I didn't want my fellow students to see my parents drop me off or pick me up in the school parking lot. I was embarrassed of my parents. Why? I have no idea. Maybe it was our station wagon. Or I didn't want to look like a little kid. But in retrospect that was a silly thing to do. I was a kid. And I had two parents who loved me and had built a wonderful family. I was afraid of the other kids' judgment. How silly! I should have been afraid of forgetting or downplaying my family, which is where my identity had its deep roots.

This is a way to understand Jesus' words to his disciples this Sunday, when he says, **"Don't be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna."** Fear, in this sense, refers to where we find our deepest identity and our highest love. That's why Jesus says next that when we acknowledge him before others, he will acknowledge us before the Father. It doesn't mean we're brash or boastful. But rather we unhesitatingly and humbly embrace our identity as followers of Jesus and children of God the Father. After all, if we love who we are and where we come from, who cares what the other kids think about us?

— Father John Muir

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition, whose founder, St. Benedict, we honor on July 11?

Answer:

Benedict desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others?

Can you imagine sitting at the feast of the Apostles? St. Irenaeus was born in Asia Minor -- now Turkey -- and was tutored in Christianity by St. Polycarp, himself a disciple of St. John the Evangelist. Irenaeus caught the missionary zeal and became a priest sent to Gaul (modern day France). Following a persecution by the pagan Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius, Irenaeus replaced the martyred bishop in the region. His trials were not over, however. The heretical sect of Gnosticism spread to Gaul. Gnostics proclaimed a secret, spiritual knowledge available only to a few. Irenaeus researched the Gnostic texts and exposed the falsehoods they taught, such as denying the divinity of Christ. His book *Against Heresies* is still being published today, over 1800 years after his death. May St. Irenaeus intercede for our own quests for greater understanding!

