

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 22, 2021

“As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.”

— Joshua 24:15b

DECISIONS

There is an axiom that states, “Not to decide is to decide.” This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation’s involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Making such choices is never easy. Avoiding them is common. Jesus, for his part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but a clear decision-maker. As he pursued the mission to which the Father called him, he continually decided for us and for the Father. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make similar choices. Never did he make decisions for others or force others into decisions, even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. We won’t be absolutely sure. What is sure, however, is the command that issues from God’s word: Take the risk. Decide!

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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).

Gospel — Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

OUR GIFTS RECORD

Offertory Development

Last Week’s Collection	\$2,426.00	\$1,809.00
Number of Families contributing	70	56
Total Pledge for 2021	\$161,051.00	\$162,928.00
Pledged to Date (29 Weeks)	\$102,313.00	\$104,127.00
Received to Date	\$93,931.00	\$74,581.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$8,382.00	\$29,546.00

LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$83.00	\$6,255.00

Nine ladies made a contribution last week.

PARISH LIFE CENTER HALL FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2021
\$210.00	\$88,125.00

Two people made a P.L.C. contribution last week.

BICENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN

GOAL	\$165,000.00
Total Pledged	\$210,300.00
Total Received	\$63,780.00

POOR BOX totaled \$36.00.

11 **CHILDREN** contributed \$69.00.

BAA totaled \$0.00.

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

A lady went to the Pastor and said, “I won’t be attending Church anymore.”

The Pastor said, “May I ask why?”

She said, “I see people on their cell phones during Church service, some are gossiping, some just aren’t living right, they are all just hypocrites.”

The Pastor got silent, and he said, “Okay, but can I ask you something before you make your final decision?”

She said, “What’s that?”

The Pastor said, “Take a glass of water and walk around the Church two times and don’t let any water fall out of the glass.”

She said, “Yes, I can do that!” She came back and said, “It’s done.”

The Pastor asked 3 questions:

1. Did you see anybody on their phone?
2. Did you see anybody gossiping?
3. Was anybody living wrong?

She said, “I didn’t see anything because I was so focused on this glass so the water wouldn’t fall.”

The Pastor told her: “When you come to Church, you should be just that focused on God so that you don’t fall.”

That’s why Jesus said, “Follow me.” He did not say follow Christians. Don’t let your relationship with God be determined by how others relate with God. Let it be determined by how focused you are with God.

FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. the Family of Tom’s Teter in loving memory of her on her Birthday and the Anniversary of her death;
2. a Parish Family Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

HEALTH

Health doesn’t come from nutritious foods, vitamins, and medicines alone...It comes from:

- *Peace of Mind*
- *Peace in the Heart*
- *Peace in the Soul*

It is magnified by:

- *Laughter*
- *Love*
- *Faith in God*

THANK YOU to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and St. Joseph for the needy; and a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite.

DID YOU KNOW?

Veterinary doctors are the only doctors who eat their patients.

QUIPS AND QUOTES

1. It seems some refuse to come to the front of the church unless escorted by pallbearers.
2. If you are disgusted with your children just imagine how God must feel about you.
3. There is a way to stay out of hell but no way to get out.

OPPORTUNITY

ALPHABET "O" stands for "OPPORTUNITY", which is absent in YESTERDAY, available in TODAY, and thrice in TOMMOROW.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

A pastor wound up the services one morning by saying, "Next Sunday I am going to preach on the subject of liars. So, I would like you all to read the seventeenth chapter of Mark."

On the following Sunday, the pastor rose to begin, and said, "Now, then, all of you who have read the seventeenth chapter of Mark, please raise your hands." Nearly every hand in the congregation went up. Then said the pastor, "You are the people I want to talk to."

Mark did not write the 17th chapter.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: St. Rose of Lima
Tuesday: St. Bartholomew
Wednesday: St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz
Friday: St. Monica
Saturday: St. Augustine

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: In honor of the Infant Jesus for the sick and holy souls.
Tuesday: For the repose of the soul of Deputy's Mary Ann and for Patricia on her Birthday.
Wednesday: For the repose of the soul of Kaiser on the 52nd Anniversary of his death and for the repose of the soul of Al on his Birthday.
Thursday: For the repose of the soul of Blonde Mary Sherlock on the 6th Anniversary of her death and for the repose of the soul of Mary O'Malley Carroll on the 9th Anniversary of her death.
Friday: In honor of St. Joseph for Mr. Joe.

THROUGH WINDOWPANES

*When troubles come and friendships fail,
And no one seems to care
I've but to gaze through windowpanes,
To know my God is there!*

*To see the pastures, green with grass,
And hear the lowing cattle's call,
To see the swallows in their flight,
I know God made them one and all.*

*To some, the house may seem secure,
May fill their needs from strength within;
But oh, for me, to gaze outside
Gives me such joy and hope of men!*

READERS

Sat. Aug. 21st, 4:00 P.M.
Christina & Julie Ann

Sun. Aug. 22nd, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Monroe

Sat. Aug. 28th, 4:00 P.M.
Cathy Lisa & Reed

Sun. Aug. 29th, 10:00 A.M.
Jimmy Joseph & Monroe

READERS – WEEKDAYS

Monday	-	Reed
Tuesday	-	Joy
Wednesday	-	Natalie
Thursday	-	Bryce
Friday	-	Tanel

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY

Monday	-	Cathy Pole
Tuesday	-	Nora
Wednesday	-	Catherine Ann
Thursday	-	Rita Weaver
Friday	-	Joy

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND

August 4:00 P.M.	August 21st
Front	Winnie Ann
Right	Cathy Pole
Left	Catherine Ann

August 22nd	August 29th
Rose Marie	Rose Marie
Mary Cat	Mary Cat

TOUGH SITUATIONS

YOUR HARDEST TIMES OFTEN LEAD TO THE GREATEST MOMENTS OF YOUR LIFE. KEEP GOING. TOUGH SITUATIONS BUILD STRONG PEOPLE IN THE END.

THE BIBLE

- ❖ A Bible in the hand is worth two in the bookcase.
- ❖ The Bible contains the vitamins for a healthy soul.
- ❖ Bible verses will save you from spiritual reverses.
- ❖ Read your Bible. A chapter a day keeps Satan away.
- ❖ Other books were given to us for information, but the Bible was given to us for transformation.

WISDOM OF ST. FULTON SHEEN

So the divine love is sacrificial love. Love does not mean to have and to own and to possess. It means to be had and to be owned and to be possessed. It is not a circle circumscribed by self, it is arms outstretched to embrace all humanity within its grasp.

~~~~~PRAYER CORNER~~~~~

A PRAYER FOR FRIENDS

Guardian Angel watch over those whose names You can read in my heart. Guard them with every care and make their way easy and their labors fruitful. Dry their tears if they weep; sanctify their joys; raise their courage if they weaken; restore their hope if they lose heart, their health if they be ill, truth if they err, repentance if they fall. Amen.