

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FEBRUARY 12, 2017

*What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love God, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.  
— 1 Corinthians 2:9-10*

### CHOICE

"If you choose you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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### TODAY'S READINGS

**First Reading** — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

**Psalm** — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

**Second Reading** — God's wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

**Gospel** — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37).

### OUR GIFTS RECORD

	Offertory	Development
<b>Last Week's Collection</b>	\$3,083.00	\$2,108.00
Number of Families contributing	151	117
Total Pledge for 2017	\$175,815.00	\$188,514.00
Pledged to Date (6 Weeks)	\$19,970.00	\$22,288.00
Received to Date	\$19,877.00	\$15,827.00
Envelopes Outstanding	\$93.00	\$6,461.00

### LADIES OFFERTORY RECORD

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$414.00	\$2,043.00

Forty-three ladies made a contribution last week.

### BISHOP'S ANNUAL APPEAL WEEKLY REPORT

2017 Parish Goal	
Amount Received to Date	\$975.00
Amount Outstanding	

Fourteen people made a B.A.A. contribution last week.

### HALL RENOVATION FUND WEEKLY REPORT

Amount given last week	Amount given to Date in 2017
\$1,640.00	\$3,455.00

Nine people made a Hall Fund contribution last week.

**PARKING LOT** totaled \$10.00.

45 **CHILDREN** contributed \$203.00.

**POOR BOX** totaled \$111.00.

The **ATTENDANCE** for last Saturday 4:00 P.M. Mass was 180, 7:00 P.M. Mass was 140 and Sunday 10:00 A.M. Mass was 130.

### THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

A man came upon a tall tower and stepped inside to find it all dark. As he groped around, he came upon a circular staircase. Curious to know where it led to, he began to climb, and as he climbed, he sensed a growing uneasiness in his heart.

So he looked behind him and was horrified to see that each time he climbed a step, the previous one fell off and disappeared. Before him, the stairs wound upward and he had no idea where they led; behind him yawned an enormous black emptiness.

What a frightening situation! Life is just like this one way staircase. There are no steps below where we can retrace our steps. The only way is forward; and as long as one has no idea where the stairs lead to, it would be frightening. It is altogether a different matter for the person who is aware where the stairs lead.

"For we know that though our earthly dwelling be destroyed we have a building from God a dwelling not made with hands eternal in heaven." (2 Corinthians 5:1)

### FLOWERS IN THE CHURCH ARE OFFERED BY:

1. a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite;
2. a Parish Member in thanks to the Sacred Heart;
3. and a Parish Member in thanks to St. Expedite.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to Jayden Carroll and Palace Carroll for making the A-B Honor Roll.

**THANK YOU** to a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and St. Rita for the needy; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Expedite and St. Joseph; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Anthony; a member for a donation in thanks to St. Martin De Porres; and to four members for their donations in thanks to St. Expedite.

### HAPPINESS

Happiness comes a lot easier when you stop complaining about your problems and start being grateful for all the problems you don't have.

**SPECIAL COLLECTION** The second collection next weekend will be for the *Bishop's Annual Appeal*. Please be generous in this collection.

### 8 THINGS TO ALWAYS REMEMBER

1. **The past cannot be changed.**
2. **Things always get better with time.**
3. **Happiness is found within.**
4. **Positive thoughts create positive things.**
5. **Smiles are contagious.**
6. **Kindness is free.**
7. **You only fail if you quit.**
8. **What goes around, comes around.**

**BIBLE GUIDE**

*Why must we believe what God has revealed?*

**We must believe what God has revealed because God cannot err or lead us into error.**

**JOKE OF THE WEEK**

Little Johnny watched fascinated as his mother smoothed cold cream on her face. "Why do you do that Mommy?" "To make myself beautiful," said his mother. Then she began to remove the cream with a tissue. "What's the matter?" asked little Johnny, "Giving up?"

**FUNNY CHURCH BILLBOARDS**

- Honk if you love Jesus. Text while driving if you want to meet Him now.
- You are not too bad to come in. You are not too good to stay out.
- Church parking, trespassers will be baptized.

**NEW YEAR PRAYER** Dear God my prayer for the new year is for a fat bank account and a thin body.

**PLEASE DO NOT MIX THEM UP LIKE YOU DID LAST YEAR!**

**REASON**

*Everything happens for a reason.*

*That reason causes changes.*

*Sometimes it's hurts. Sometimes it's hard.*

*But in the end it's all for the best.*

**MASS INTENTIONS**

- Monday:** In loving memory of Birdie Sherlock on the 29<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of her death.
- Tuesday:** In thanks for Banx Riley on her 1<sup>st</sup> Birthday, in loving memory of Annie Babe Costello and for a very special intention.
- Wednesday:** For Tom Paul Carroll on his Birthday.
- Thursday:** In honor of the Holy Souls and St. Joseph.
- Friday:** In honor of the Holy Souls and Precious Blood.

**SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES**

- Sunday:** World Marriage Day
- Tuesday:** Ss. Cyril and Methodius; Valentine's Day
- Friday:** The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites
- Saturday:** Blessed Virgin Mary

**MY DAILY PRAYER**

*Midst the hustle and bustle of a busy day,  
I pause and take time to kneel and pray.*

*A prayer for all my friends, near and far,  
For God to keep them safely wherever they are.*

*To fill their hearts with His love that nurtures all each day,  
To show that hope will better things that have gone astray.*

*These gifts of patience, love and hope we can always share,  
Them peace will dwell within our hearts and banish every fear.*

**READERS**

**Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M.** Apple's Christina & Dayna  
**Sat. Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.** Dominique & Natalie

**Sun. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Mary Cat

**Sat. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 4:00 P.M.** Christina & Julie Ann  
**Sat. Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 P.M.** Jay & Apple's Mary Regina

**Sun. Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.** Jimmy Joseph & Theresa Maria

**READERS – WEEKDAYS**

- Monday** Ciara
- Tuesday** Cathy Lisa Butts
- Wednesday** Christina Apple
- Thursday** Mary Ashley
- Friday** Macy

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS – WEEKEND**

**Saturday 4:00 P.M.** Front Left Cup  
**Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>** Bridget Ann Winnie Ann

**Saturday 7:00 P.M.** Front Cup  
**Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>** Jay Johnny Jay's Ann

**Sunday 10:00 A.M.**

**Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>** Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie  
**Feb. 19<sup>th</sup>** Pete Man's Nora Rose Marie

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS - WEEKDAY**

- Monday** Mary Cat
- Tuesday** Pete Man's Nora
- Wednesday** Ann T.
- Thursday** Rose Marie
- Friday** Bridget Ann

**COMPANY OF GOOD PEOPLE**

***COMPANY OF GOOD PEOPLE IS LIKE WAITING IN A SHOP OF PERFUME. WHETHER YOU BUY THE PERFUME OR NOT, YOU ARE BOUND TO RECEIVE THE FRAGRANCE.***

**CAREFUL WITH YOUR WORDS**

*The tongue has no bones, but is strong enough to break a heart. So be careful with your words.*

**PRAYER CORNER**

**PRAYER OF DISCIPLESHIP**

*Loving God, I thank You for choosing me to be Your disciple and for the gift of Your Son, Jesus. Help me proclaim and bear witness to the Gospel by word and deed today and everyday. Open my heart to the outcast, the forgotten, the lonely, the sick and the poor. Grant me the courage to think, to choose, and to live as a Christian, joyfully obedient to God. Amen.*