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Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time • August 5, 2012

Good News!

August 5, 2012

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Ex 16:2-4, 12-15 / Eph 4:17, 20-24 Jn 6:24-35

As an adolescent I loved a popular book series called Choose Your Own Adventure. You'd read for several pages and then be faced with a choice: "Turn to page 67 if you want to explore the castle," or "Turn to page 82 if you want to continue across the stream." Many endings were possible, and you could end up regretting your choices if the story didn't go the way you hoped, but it was always an adventure.

In today's Exodus reading, the Israelites seem to regret their choice of an adventure in the wilderness with God. They appear to have forgotten the harshness of their Egyptian enslavement. Faced with the insecurity of life in the wilderness without the certainty of daily bread, the Israelites complain bitterly to God that they'd rather be back in Egypt, where at least they had their three daily squares. Their current challenges lead them to forget how God led them out of slavery and promised to be with them always.

But though their complaints may shock us, are we very different? How many times, when life becomes difficult, have we forgotten God's goodness? How often have we tried to rely on ourselves rather than trusting that God is with us even when the adventure of life feels insecure and shaky?

It is a focused choice to believe God is with us, to believe Jesus really is the bread of life, and to commit to such trust. It's what Saint Paul preaches to the Ephesians – "put away the old self of your former way of life" and "put on the new self" that is willing to choose the adventure of life with God, as rocky and bumpy as it sometimes may seem.

Janel Esker
sundaybulletins@liguori.org



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WEEKEND MASSES:

Saturdays at 5:00 p.m.

Sundays at 7:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Holy Days at 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

WELCOME!

If you are new in the Parish, please register and introduce yourself to the Pastor. The Parishioners wish to meet and serve you! Drop by at our Coffee Social or Pancake Breakfast after the Sunday Mass, both per the Calendar online or as announced inside the bulletin. We hope you will favor our Parish with your prayers, your presence, your talents and your financial assistance according to your means!

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION):

By appointment.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM:

Please call the rectory (860-643-4466) to arrange for a meeting with the Pastor.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE:

Arrangements must start more than 6 months before marriage. Necessary interviews, a pre-cana course and plenty of paperwork is required. We strongly urge you to contact us to begin the Diocesan preparation course as soon as you are engaged to get the most out of it without rush.

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

The Sacramental Guidelines define Church Membership in terms of Sunday Mass attendance and Church support. For membership verification and sponsorship certificate, registration and regular use of the envelope system are the only way we have of verifying this for you. Please notify us if there are changes in your address, marital status, etc., so that we may update your records.

VISITATION TO THE SICK:

We are most anxious to help anyone who is not able to celebrate Mass with us in Church due to illness, handicapped or age. If you wish the Sacraments, please call 860-643-4466.

THIS WEEK

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Aug 4 – Aug 5, 2012

USHERS GROUP IV

SATURDAY, AUG 4

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Maureen Festa request of Rich, Gail & Terri Gidius

SUNDAY, AUG 5

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Clara Stygar request of Lauretta Doleski Hopko

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Raymond Lemaire request of Yolande Tellier & Ruth Gousy

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, AUG 6

9:00 A.M. Mass offered for + Clayton Skaggs request of Helena Skaggs and Ernest & Louise Stokes

5:00 P.M. Parish BINGO – Food available from 5 P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, AUG 7 – No Mass

WEDNESDAY, AUG 8

9:00 A.M. Special Intentions –St. Maurice Prayer Line

9:00A.M. – Noon - Christmas Fair Workshop

THURSDAY, AUG 9 – No Mass

7:00 p.m. – Knights of Columbus business meeting

FRIDAY, AUG 10 – No Mass

SATURDAY, AUG 11

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Last week's Offertory July 29 \$2,968.86

Last Year's Offertory July 31 \$2,452.00

"Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not." (Exodus 16:4)

God frowns upon it when we take or keep more than we need. When the Israelites gathered more than their daily portion of manna, that which they hoarded away became wormy and rotten. In the same way, God calls us today to be content with a fair portion and to be willing to share the rest.

NEXT WEEK

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Aug 11 – Aug 12, 2012

USHERS GROUP I

TRIPLE PLAY CAFÉ BREAKFAST
BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

SATURDAY, AUG 11

5:00 P.M. Mass offered for +Alfred Amatrada request of Rich, Gail & Terri Gidius

Altar Servers: Ally Cianci, Kaila Troce

Lector: Charles Luchini

Eucharistic Minister: Georgette Pelletier

SUNDAY, AUG 12

7:30 A.M. Mass offered for +Marion & +Bill Miller, request of The Family

Altar Servers: Shirley Warbeck

Lector: Joel Cohan

Eucharistic Minister: Linda Richardson

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY after Mass

10:00 A.M. Mass offered for +Raymond Lemaire, request of Yolande Tellier & Ruth Gousy

Altar Servers: Angelica & Alex Czercowy

Lector: Evelyn O'Connor

Eucharistic Minister: Betty Aitken

5:30 P.M. LITURGY OF THE HOURS

MONDAY, AUG 13

9:00 A.M. Special Intentions – St. Maurice Prayer Line

5:00 P.M. Parish BINGO – Food available from 5 P.M. GAMES begin at 6:30 P.M.

TUESDAY, AUG 14 – No Mass

WEDNESDAY, AUG 15, - FEAST OF THE

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN - HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

7:00 P.M. - Mass offered for +Rev. Robert W. Cronin, request of Mary Mumford

Altar Servers: Lee Ann & Ben Snuffer

Lector: Charles Luchini

Eucharistic Minister: Georgette Pelletier

THURSDAY, AUG 15 – No Mass

FRIDAY, AUG 17 – No Mass

SATURDAY, AUG 18

ROSARY BEFORE 5:00 P.M. MASS

Readings for the Week of August 5, 2012

Sunday: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15/Eph 4:17, 20-24/Jn 6:24-35
Monday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10
Tuesday: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Mt 14:22-36 or 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Jer 31:1-7/Mt 15:21-28
Thursday: Jer 31:31-34/Mt 16:13-23
Friday: 2 Cor 9:6-10/Jn 12:24-26
Saturday: Hb 1:12--2:4/Mt 17:14-20
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Eph 4:30--5:2/Jn 6:41-51

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VOLUNTEER NEEDED – OUTREACH TO HAITI

The Diocese of Norwich is asking our help regarding a toy drive for children in Haiti. Outreach to Haiti is collecting new, unwrapped toys for children in kindergarten through high school in our Education Scholarship Program. Many of these children's parents do not have the means to provide Christmas gifts, and we would like to send a gesture of love and support during the blessed Christmas season.

Because shipping to Haiti takes some time, the toy drive will go from July 28 through September 23, so that we can pack and ship the toys in time for the students to get them on Christmas Day.

We need a volunteer to help by setting up a large box, or a drop-off area somewhere in your church so that parishioners can drop off toys to donate. Outreach to Haiti can then pick up the toys when you have collected a substantial amount.

To Volunteer please contact Theresa at the parish office at 860-643-4466.

Defending Our Religious Liberty

Our American founding fathers -- Madison, Adams, Washington, Hamilton, Franklin, and Jefferson -- saw religious faith as vital to the life of free people, why can't the authors of the federal healthcare mandate see the same thing?

If you haven't already, please contact the offices of your Congressional Representatives and United States Senators to express your opposition to the federal healthcare mandate. For addresses and phone numbers, please visit: www.ctcatholic.org or www.norwichdiocese.org.

EXCERPT – CATHECHISM FOR CATHOLIC**VOTERS – Fr. Stephen F. Torraco, Ph.D.**

If I have strong feelings or opinions in favor of a particular candidate, even if he is pro-abortion, why may I not vote for him?

As explained in last weeks' excerpt, neither your feelings nor your opinions are identical with your conscience. Neither your feelings nor your opinions can take the place of your conscience. Your feelings and opinions should be governed by your conscience. If the candidate about whom you have strong favorable feelings or opinions promotes abortion, then your feelings and opinions need to be corrected by your correctly informed conscience, which would tell you that it is wrong for you to allow your feelings and opinions to give lesser weight to the fact that the candidate supports a moral evil.

If I may not vote for a pro-abortion candidate, then should it not also be true that I can't vote for a pro-capital punishment candidate?

It is not correct to think of abortion and capital punishment as the very same kind of moral issue. On the one hand, direct abortion is an intrinsic evil, and cannot be justified for any purpose or in any circumstances. On the other hand, the Church has always taught that it is the right and responsibility of the legitimate temporal authority to defend and preserve the common good, and more specifically to defend citizens against the aggressor. **This defense against the aggressor may resort to the death penalty if no other means of defense is sufficient. The point here is that the death penalty is understood as an act of self-defense on the part of civil society.** In more recent times, in his encyclical *Evangelium Vitae*, Pope John Paul II has taught that the need for such self-defense to resort to the death penalty is "rare, if not virtually nonexistent." Thus, while the Pope said that the burden of proving the need for the death penalty in specific cases should rest on the shoulders of the legitimate temporal authority, it remains true that the legitimate temporal authority alone has the authority to determine if and when a "rare" case arises that warrants the death penalty.

Moreover, **if such a rare case does arise and requires resorting to capital punishment, this societal act of self-defense would be a morally good action even if it does have the unintended and unavoidable evil effect of the death of the aggressor.** Thus, unlike the case of abortion, it would be morally irresponsible to rule out all such "rare" possibilities *a priori*, just as it would be morally irresponsible to apply the death penalty indiscriminately.

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