

Session Nine (Year A)

Sunday December 3, 2017

Come Holy Ghost

Pentecost Prayer

Second sentence of the Nicene Creed

Kiss of Peace

Questions? Thoughts?

Theme: God is Love

Questions for the Candidates

- What is love?
- Is it a feeling or a faculty?
- Do we mean that Love is god?

The Ten Commandments

Exodus 20

12 **Honor your father and your mother**, that you may have a long life in the land which the LORD, your God, is giving you.

Ephesians 6

- 1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right.
- 2 "Honor your father and mother." This is the first commandment with a promise,
- 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may have a long life on earth."
- 4 Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up with the training and instruction of the Lord.
- 5 Slaves, be obedient to your human masters with fear and trembling, in sincerity of heart, as to Christ,
- 6 not only when being watched, as currying favor, but as slaves of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart,
- 7 willingly serving the Lord and not human beings,

- 8 knowing that each will be requited from the Lord for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free.
- 9 Masters, act in the same way toward them, and stop bullying, knowing that both they and you have a Master in heaven and that with him there is no partiality.

Proverbs 1

- 8 Hear, my son, your father's instruction, and reject not your mother's teaching;
- 9 A graceful diadem will they be for your head; a torque for your neck.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

- 2247 "Honor your father and your mother" (Deut 5:16; Mk 7:10).
- 2248 According to the fourth commandment, God has willed that, after him, we should honor our parents and those whom he has vested with authority for our good.
- 2249 The conjugal community is established upon the covenant and consent of the spouses. Marriage and family are ordered to the good of the spouses, to the procreation and the education of children.
- 2250 "The well-being of the individual person and of both human and Christian society is closely bound up with the healthy state of conjugal and family life" (GS 47 # 1).
- 2251 Children owe their parents respect, gratitude, just obedience, and assistance. Filial respect fosters harmony in all of family life.
- 2252 Parents have the first responsibility for the education of their children in the faith, prayer, and all the virtues. They have the duty to provide as far as possible for the physical and spiritual needs of their children.
- 2253 Parents should respect and encourage their children's vocations. They should remember and teach that the first calling of the Christian is to follow Jesus.
- 2254 Public authority is obliged to respect the fundamental rights of the human person and the conditions for the exercise of his freedom.
- 2255 It is the duty of citizens to work with civil authority for building up society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom.
- 2256 Citizens are obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order. "We must obey God rather than men (Acts 5:29).

2257 Every society's judgments and conduct reflect a vision of man and his destiny. Without the light the Gospel sheds on God and man, societies easily become totalitarian.

The Beatitudes

Not this session

Saints

Mary, Mother of God

Luke 1

Announcement of the Birth of Jesus

- 26 In the sixth month, the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth,
- 27 to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary.
- 28 And coming to her, he said, "Hail, favored one! The Lord is with you."
- 29 But she was greatly troubled at what was said and pondered what sort of greeting this might be.
- 30 Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.
- 31 Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus.
- 32 He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High,* and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father,
- 33 and he will rule over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."
- 34 But Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I have no relations with a man?"*
- 35 And the angel said to her in reply, "The holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. Therefore the child to be born will be called holy, the Son of God.
- 36 And behold, Elizabeth, your relative, has also conceived a son in her old age, and this is the sixth month for her who was called barren;

37 for nothing will be impossible for God.”

38 Mary said, “Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Luke 2

The Boy Jesus in the Temple

41 Each year his parents went to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover,

42 and when he was twelve years old, they went up according to festival custom.

43 After they had completed its days, as they were returning, the boy Jesus remained behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

44 Thinking that he was in the caravan, they journeyed for a day and looked for him among their relatives and acquaintances,

45 but not finding him, they returned to Jerusalem to look for him.

46 After three days they found him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions,

47 and all who heard him were astounded at his understanding and his answers.

48 When his parents saw him, they were astonished, and his mother said to him, “Son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been looking for you with great anxiety.”

49 And he said to them, “Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father’s house?”

50 But they did not understand what he said to them.

51 He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart.

52 And Jesus advanced [in] wisdom and age and favor before God and man.

John 2

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there.

2 Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

- 3 When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine."
- 4 [And] Jesus said to her, "Woman, how does your concern affect me? My hour has not yet come."
- 5 His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever he tells you."

This passage reminds us of several things. Mary has remained close to her adult son. She petitions him with confidence, even when he seems reluctant. She also instructs the servers with confidence knowing that he will not abandon her, and that he has power to do as she asks. Mary's last remark might well be addressed to us. We would, indeed, do well to do whatever he tells us. We might imitate her obedience and her confidence. Lacking confidence to approach the Father or the Son, we may approach her with our petitions, knowing that she has access to the Son, and the Son to the Father.

John 19

- 25 Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala.
- 26 When Jesus saw his mother* and the disciple there whom he loved, he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son."
- 27 Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

This scene has been interpreted literally, of Jesus' concern for his mother; and symbolically, e.g., in the light of the Cana story in John 2 (the presence of the mother of Jesus, the address woman, and the mention of the hour) and of the upper room in John 13 (the presence of the beloved disciple; the hour). Now that the hour has come (John 19:28), Mary (a symbol of the church?) is given a role as the mother of Christians (personified by the beloved disciple); or, as a representative of those seeking salvation, she is supported by the disciple who interprets Jesus' revelation; or Jewish and Gentile Christianity (or Israel and the Christian community) are reconciled.

- Footnote to The New American Bible, Revised Edition

Sacraments

Not this session

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Not this session

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Galatians 5

- 22 In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,
- 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Matthew 5

- 43 "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'
- 44 But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you,
- 45 that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust.
- 46 For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same?
- 47 And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same?
- 48 So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.

John 13

- 34 "I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another.
- 35 This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

1 John 3

- 16 The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.
- 17 If someone who has worldly means sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion, how can the love of God remain in him?
- 18 Children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth.
- 21 Beloved, if [our] hearts do not condemn us, we have confidence in God

22 and receive from him whatever we ask, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him.

23 And his commandment is this: we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ, and love one another just as he commanded us.

1 John 4

7 Beloved, let us love one another, because love is of God; everyone who loves is begotten by God and knows God.

8 Whoever is without love does not know God, for God is love.

9 In this way the love of God was revealed to us: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might have life through him.

10 In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.

11 Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another.

12 No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us.

13 This is how we know that we remain in him and he in us, that he has given us of his Spirit.

14 Moreover, we have seen and testify that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world.

15 Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God remains in him and he in God.

16 We have come to know and to believe in the love God has for us. God is love, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.

17 In this is love brought to perfection among us, that we have confidence on the day of judgment because as he is, so are we in this world.

18 There is no fear in love, but perfect love drives out fear because fear has to do with punishment, and so one who fears is not yet perfect in love.

19 We love because he first loved us.

20 If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.

21 This is the commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

1 Corinthians 12

31 Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

The Way of Love.

But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

1 Corinthians 13

1 If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love, I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.

2 And if I have the gift of prophecy and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge; if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love, I am nothing.

3 If I give away everything I own, and if I hand my body over so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient, love is kind. It is not jealous, [love] is not pompous, it is not inflated,

5 it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests, it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,

6 it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

7 It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

9 For we know partially and we prophesy partially,

10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.

11 When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things.

12 At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

13 So faith, hope, love remain, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Comments? Questions?

Blest Be the Tie That Binds