

## **Session Twenty-two (Year B)**

**Sunday April 30, 2017**

[Come, Holy Spirit!](#)

Pentecost Prayer

Kiss of Peace

Questions? Thoughts?

Theme: Sacred Art

Questions for the Candidates

- What do you think of all the statues, paintings, and stained glass in the church?
- Are the plastic arts the only kinds of art in church?
- Are statues the only kind of idols?
- What do you think of science, engineering, and technology?

## **The Ten Commandments**

[Exodus 20](#)

- 4 **You shall not carve idols** for yourselves in the shape of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters beneath the earth;
- 5 you shall not bow down before them or worship them. For I, the LORD, your God, am a jealous God, inflicting punishment for their fathers' wickedness on the children of those who hate me, down to the third and fourth generation;
- 6 but bestowing mercy down to the thousandth generation, on the children of those who love me and keep my commandments.

## Genesis 1

- 26 Then God said: Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the tame animals, all the wild animals, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth.
- 27 God created mankind in his image; in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

## Exodus 31

### *Choice of Artisans.*

- 1 The LORD said to Moses:
- 2 See, I have singled out Bezalel, son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah,
- 3 and I have filled him with a divine spirit of skill and understanding and knowledge in every craft:
- 4 in the production of embroidery, in making things of gold, silver, or bronze,
- 5 in cutting and mounting precious stones, in carving wood, and in every other craft.
- 6 As his assistant I myself have appointed Oholiab, son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan. I have also endowed all the experts with the necessary skill to make all the things I have commanded you:
- 7 the tent of meeting, the ark of the covenant with its cover, all the furnishings of the tent,
- 8 the table with its utensils, the pure gold menorah with all its utensils, the altar of incense,
- 9 the altar for burnt offerings with all its utensils, the basin with its stand,
- 10 the service cloths, the sacred vestments for Aaron the priest, the vestments for his sons in their ministry,
- 11 the anointing oil, and the fragrant incense for the sanctuary. According to all I have commanded you, so shall they do.

## Exodus 32

### *The Golden Calf.*

- 1 When the people saw that Moses was delayed in coming down from the mountain, they gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make us a god who will go before us; as for that man Moses who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has happened to him."
- 2 Aaron replied, "Take off the golden earrings that your wives, your sons, and your daughters are wearing, and bring them to me."
- 3 So all the people took off their earrings and brought them to Aaron.
- 4 He received their offering, and fashioning it with a tool, made a molten calf. Then they cried out, "These are your gods, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."
- 5 On seeing this, Aaron built an altar in front of the calf and proclaimed, "Tomorrow is a feast of the LORD."
- 6 Early the next day the people sacrificed burnt offerings and brought communion sacrifices. Then they sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

## Psalm 115

I

- 1 Not to us, LORD, not to us but to your name give glory because of your mercy and faithfulness.
- 2 Why should the nations say, "Where is their God?"\*
- 3 Our God is in heaven and does whatever he wills.

II

- 4 Their idols are silver and gold, the work of human hands.
- 5 They have mouths but do not speak, eyes but do not see.
- 6 They have ears but do not hear, noses but do not smell.
- 7 They have hands but do not feel, feet but do not walk; they produce no sound from their throats.
- 8 Their makers will be like them, and anyone who trusts in them.

## Judges 17

### *Micah and the Levite.*

- 1 There was a man from the mountain region of Ephraim whose name was Micah.
- 2 He said to his mother, “The eleven hundred pieces of silver that were taken from you, about which you pronounced a curse and even said it in my hearing—I have that silver. I took it. So now I will restore it to you.” Then his mother said, “May my son be blessed by the LORD!”
- 3 When he restored the eleven hundred pieces of silver to his mother, she said, “I consecrate the silver to the LORD from my own hand on behalf of my son to make an idol overlaid with silver.”
- 4 So when he restored the silver to his mother, she took two hundred pieces and gave them to the silversmith, who made of them an idol overlaid with silver. So it remained in the house of Micah.
- 5 The man Micah had a shrine, and he made an ephod and teraphim, and installed one of his sons, who became his priest.
- 6 In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in their own eyes.

An idol overlaid with silver: two nouns in Hebrew, one indicating a wooden image and the other denoting an image cast from metal. The probable interpretation is that the woman intends for her silver to be recast as a covering for an image of a god, possibly the Lord. This was forbidden in Mosaic law.

An ephod and teraphim: cultic paraphernalia. An ephod was a priestly garment, especially that worn by the high priest, which contained a pocket for objects used for divination. Teraphim were household idols which may also have had a divinatory function.

## Acts 19

### *The Riot of the Silversmiths.*

- 23 About that time a serious disturbance broke out concerning the Way.
- 24 There was a silversmith named Demetrius who made miniature silver shrines of Artemis and provided no little work for the craftsmen.
- 25 He called a meeting of these and other workers in related crafts and said, "Men, you know well that our prosperity derives from this work.
- 26 As you can now see and hear, not only in Ephesus but throughout most of the province of Asia this Paul has persuaded and misled a great number of people by saying that gods made by hands are not gods at all.
- 27 The danger grows, not only that our business will be discredited, but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis will be of no account, and that she whom the whole province of Asia and all the world worship will be stripped of her magnificence."
- 28 When they heard this, they were filled with fury and began to shout, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

### **The Beatitudes**

Not this session

### **Saints**

St. Margaret Mary Alacoque

### **Sacraments**

Not this session

### **Gifts of the Holy Spirit**

Not this session

### **Fruits of the Holy Spirit**

Not this session



- V. Jesus, meek and humble of Heart.  
R. Make our hearts like unto Thine.  
V. Let us pray:  
Almighty and everlasting God, look upon the Heart of Thy well-beloved Son and upon the acts of praise and satisfaction which He renders unto Thee in the name of sinners; and do Thou, in Thy great goodness, grant pardon to them who seek Thy mercy, in the name of the same Thy Son, Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee, world without end.  
R. Amen.

### John 17

- 1 When Jesus had said this, he raised his eyes to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come. Give glory to your son, so that your son may glorify you,  
2 just as you gave him authority over all people, so that he may give eternal life to all you gave him.  
3 Now this is eternal life, that they should know you, the only true God, and the one whom you sent, Jesus Christ.

### Luke 1

- 31 "Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."  
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."

### John 1

- 1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

### Genesis 28

- 16 When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he said, "Truly, the LORD is in this place and I did not know it!"  
17 He was afraid and said: "How awesome this place is! This is nothing else but the house of God, the gateway to heaven!"

Comments? Questions?

### Blest Be the Tie That Binds

## Supplemental Readings

### Genesis 11

#### *Tower of Babel.*

- 1 The whole world had the same language and the same words.
- 2 When they were migrating from the east, they came to a valley in the land of Shinar and settled there.
- 3 They said to one another, "Come, let us mold bricks and harden them with fire." They used bricks for stone, and bitumen for mortar.
- 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city and a tower with its top in the sky, and so make a name for ourselves; otherwise we shall be scattered all over the earth."
- 5 The LORD came down to see the city and the tower that the people had built.
- 6 Then the LORD said: If now, while they are one people and all have the same language, they have started to do this, nothing they presume to do will be out of their reach.
- 7 Come, let us go down and there confuse their language, so that no one will understand the speech of another.
- 8 So the LORD scattered them from there over all the earth, and they stopped building the city.
- 9 That is why it was called Babel, because there the LORD confused the speech of all the world. From there the LORD scattered them over all the earth.

### 1 Corinthians 3

- 6 I planted, Apollos watered, but God caused the growth.
- 7 Therefore, neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who causes the growth.
- 8 The one who plants and the one who waters are equal, and each will receive wages in proportion to his labor.
- 9 For we are God's co-workers; you are God's field, God's building.

(I have also seen this translated "You are God's work of art.")