

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 16, 2020

The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord...
I will bring to my holy mountain...
for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.

Isaiah 56:6, 7

The Holy Mountain, folio 3 from *Monte Sancto di Dio*, 1477

Baccio Baldini (Italian, c. 1436-1487)

Chicago Institute of Art (CCI)

Matthew opens the scene in today's Gospel by setting up a conflict. Unlike the parallel story in Mark (7:24), the woman is described as "a Canaanite." This label serves to evoke the ancient animosity between Jews and other peoples in the region. The woman, who is never named, begs for help for her daughter. The disciples are actively dismissive of her, as a woman and a foreigner, and deem her to be unworthy of their attention. The text suggests that Jesus initially sided with the disciples. But then he recognized the strength of her faith.

Many women, foreigners, or marginalized persons might identify with this woman's story. Sometimes faith means standing fast, in care for others or in fidelity to truth, even when it seems that no one supports you. Somehow, the woman recognized God's power and God's care within Jesus. And Jesus recognized that God was active within her, manifested in her commitment to her daughter. Jesus saw his Father's larger horizon of care for everyone, Jew and Gentile, within this faith-filled woman.

A NEW TEMPLE

Isaiah articulates the vision that it is God's deep desire that all human beings will respond to God in prayer and thanksgiving. God will summon everyone to "my holy mountain," that is, the temple Mount. The temple was the primary symbol of God's presence among the people. The Temple was where communal worship and sacrifice took place. Worship served to give thanks for God's blessings on the people. Sacrifice served to help heal relationships between God and Israel, and within the community, when sin had damaged or broken them.

The early church reflected upon this vision and saw Jesus as a new temple. The person of Jesus is to be worshiped as God's active presence within human life. Jesus is to be worshiped in prayer and thanksgiving, and Jesus is where relationships are healed and renewed. In Jesus, God invites the whole world into God's loving care.

Today's Readings: Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8;
Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider
PERMANENT DEACON:
Rev. Mr. Leonard "Len" Snider

Reconciliation:

Saturday & Sunday: 45
minutes before Mass

Marriage or Baptism:

Contact the parish office six
(6) months prior to the
anticipated date 903-769-3235

Holy Spirit

Catholic Church

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Church Phone: 903-769-3235

Fr. Mike Snider

Cell Phone: 903-490-3883

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Temporary
Mass Times: Sat., 5:00PM & Sun., 9:00AM
Tues. - Fri. 8:00AM
Confessions: Tues. & Wed. 9:00-10:00AM

Welcome Visitors!

We hope that you have enjoyed celebrating Mass with us and felt welcomed in our church as your "home away from home." Whether you are new to the area or have lived here for years, you are invited to join our parish family. Please come again!

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We remember in our prayers all the sick, especially the following:

Jess Corrigan. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Gayle McCloskey. Randy Epp. Shay Mikalonis. Dwight Nunley. Wendy Melton. Wanda & George Duke. John Ott. Fleming Family. Carolyn Shannon. Doris Hoffman. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Patricia Guy. Jacob Stephens. Randy Burris. Albert Hernandez. Karina Hawkins. Frankie Durst. Susie Strickland. Doug Lawson. Dana Moffatt. Emly Walker. Mike Brown. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Ester Coronel. Diane Stanley. Chase Larsson. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Rose Kennedy. Judy Fazzio. Marsha & Marty Blahitka. Carolyn Edwards. Joshua Larsson. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda Stephens. Wanda Thompson. Kathryn Allen. Jim & Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month. **We remember in our prayers all those who have recently died, especially: Ruth Linker.**

Please pray for the men and women active military service from our parish community:

New active recruit, Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 2LT Joseph Chandler, U.S. Army (Nephew of Mike & Margaret Jernigan) Seaman Logan Adkinson (great grandson of Fr. Mike). Jay Guajardo, Navy Rescue School (Great Nephew of Lex & Liza Forster). Senior Airman, Natalie York (Daughter of Steve & Julie York). Pvt First Class Randall Scheaffer US Army (Grandson of Carlos & Pat Gallardo). Lt. Col. William P Shea. (Nephew of Deacon Sam and Nancy Mullen). Colonel John Anthony Fontana. U.S. Army (Son of John & Mary Fontana). Ensign Gary Buchanan; 2ndLt. Blake Gaughan (Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). E-3R James Morgan (SonInLaw of Kathy & Dale Boman) Paul Moreno USCG (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Emma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (brother of Jeff & Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

WHY PRAY?

The "foreigners" as Isaiah calls them, the "Gentiles" as Paul calls them, or the "Canaanites" as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today's readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely "knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend," but also to "break, blow, burn, and make me new" (Holy Sonnets, XIV). It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, "Knock and the door will be opened to you" (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today's Gospel, the results will follow.

POPE'S UNIVERSAL INTENTION FOR AUGUST

The Maritime World

We pray for all those who work and live from the sea, among them sailors, fishermen and their families.

Mass—Intentions

- Sat 8/15** John & Helen Kowalewski+ (Mary Catalano)
- Sun 8/16** Shirley Bonicard+ (Carolyn Bonicard)
- Tue 8/18** Ben & Marcella Rottinghause+ (M/M Murfin)
- Wed 8/19** Joe Cirasola+ (M/M Murfin)
- Thurs 8/20** NO MASS
- Fri. 8/21** John & Lois Murfin+ (M/M Murfin)
- Sat. 8/22** Laura Funk (Carolyn Bonicard)

PARISH SUPPORT

Attendance
8/8 Sat. 8/9 Sun.

Required Weekly Funds: \$ 3,962
Offerings from last two weekends: \$ 6,473 33 40

One can Give without Loving...
But one cannot Love without Giving.

I am so grateful for the support that our parishioners has given during these bumpy days, weeks and months. You always come through in the time of need. Thank you for taking the time to send in your contributions plus more above and beyond.

I truly appreciate each and every one of you.

Rev. Fr. Mike Snider

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Thus says the LORD: "Stand firm in justice; do what is right" (Isaiah 56:1, 6-7).

Psalm — O God, let all the nations praise you! (Psalm 67).

Second Reading — The gifts and the calling of God are unable to be revoked (Romans 11:13-15, 29-32).

Gospel — Recognizing the Canaanite woman's great faith, Jesus told her, "It shall be done as you wish" (Matthew 15:21-28).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Ez 24:15-24; Dt 32:18-21; Mt 19:16-22

Tuesday: Ez 28:1-10; Dt 32:26-28, 30, 35cd-36ab; Mt 19:23-30

Wednesday: Ez 34:1-11; Ps 23:1-6; Mt 20:1-16

Thursday: Ez 36:23-28; Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; Mt 22:1-14

Friday: Ez 37:1-14; Ps 107:2-9; Mt 22:34-40

Saturday: Ez 43:1-7ab; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Mt 23:1-12

Sunday: Is 22:19-23; Ps 138:1-3, 6, 8; Rom 11:33-36; Mt 16:13-20

GRATITUDE: O Thou who has given us so much, mercifully grant us one thing more—a grateful heart.—George Herbert

GOOD EXAMPLE: A faithful Christian, illumined by the rays of grace like a crystal, ought to illumine his neighbor with the light of good example, through word and deed.—St. Anthony

Temporary Weekend Mass held in parish hall: Saturday, Aug. 15th at 5:00pm and Sunday, Aug. 16th at 9:00am.

Protocols for weekend Masses:

1. **Limitations on Attendance:** Limited seating maximum 81 seats are available. In order for the households to maintain at least 6-foot separation.
2. **Strongly consider wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the parish hall or outside glass doors before or after Mass. Avoid touching door handles, use restrooms before coming to Mass.
4. **Chairs** are set up with the 6-foot separation. Please **DO NOT MOVE CHAIRS**, they are to remain as they are.
5. **Enter & exist double glass doors into the parish hall to the left of the overhang.** Do not enter through glass doors into the Narthex to the church

Temporary Weekday Mass Times held in church: Tuesday — Friday at 8:00am. ++++Thurs. 8/20 NO MASS++++

Protocols for weekday Masses:

1. **Call Fr. Mike on his cell phone 903-490-3883 (do not text). Limited to 20 people.**
2. **Strongly consider wearing a mask that covers mouth & nose.**
3. **No socializing** in the Narthex or outside glass doors before or after Mass. Avoid touching door handles, use restrooms before coming to Mass. Enter & exit same set of double glass doors into the church through the overhang.
4. **In church** we ask you to cooperate by **alternating every other pew.** Households must maintain at least 6-foot separation.
5. **Enter & exit** double glass doors into the church through the overhang.

How do I pray?

Various forms of prayer are presented in the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC 2623-2649). These various forms include prayer of blessing or adoration, prayer of petition, prayer of intercession, prayer of thanksgiving, and prayer of praise.

What is meditation?

Meditation is a Christian practice of prayer dating back to the early Church. As the Catechism states: "Meditation is above all a quest. The mind seeks to understand the why and how of the Christian life, in order to adhere and respond to what the Lord is asking." By meditating on the Gospels, holy icons, liturgical texts, spiritual writings, or "the great book of creation," we come to make our own that which is God's. "To the extent that we are humble and faithful, we discover in meditation the movements that stir the heart and we are able to discern them. It is a question of acting truthfully in order to come into the light: "Lord, what do you want me to do?" (CCC 2705-2706).

Meditation is above all a quest.

Meditation is an essential form of Christian prayer, especially for those who are seeking to answer the vocational question, "Lord, what do you want me to do?"

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Dispensation: The entire diocese remains dispensed from the Sunday and holy day Mass obligation until further notice. The faithful are under no moral obligation to attend Mass at this time. Before deciding to attend Mass, everyone is asked to consider their own health condition and living situation carefully. All vulnerable individuals should continue to stay at home. Members of households with vulnerable residents should be aware that they could carry the virus back home. People who feel sick or have symptoms of possible COVID-19 MUST remain at home.

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

CONFESSIONS: TUES., AUG. 18TH & WED., AUG. 19TH 9:00—10:00AM. If you have an emergency and need Fr. Mike call him on his cell # 903-490-3883.

Second Collections for the month of August:

15th & 16th: "Black & Indian Missions and Church in Central/Eastern Europe."

Cenacle of Life: Fr. Mike has given us his permission to resume the Cenacle of Life devotion each **Wed. from 3:30—4:30pm.** Please join us in church as we pray two rosaries for an end to abortion, euthanasia and all sins against the sanctity of human life. Questions call Vicki 817-637-9382

Food donations: Our parishioners have done a wonderful job keeping our food pantry full this past month or two. Now we are running low on can spaghetti sauce, boxed pasta and jellies/jams. We are still in need of **sundries (i.e. shampoo, deodorant, soap bar & liquid, etc.). Blessings to all of our givers.** Plastic container is located in the **parish hall** for now. We have been feeding 70—90 people per week. Please call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net if you know someone that needs help or if you have questions for Bob.

Dear Organization/Ministry/Service leaders,

The **Welcome Committee** would like to provide a brief description of Holy Spirit's Organizations/Ministries/Services on the parish website. This will hopefully assist anyone who is considering becoming involved in our parish. Some descriptions have already been provided but not all.

We would appreciate the **leader/coordinator for the ministries** listed below to **please send a brief description of their committee to Anna Parker @ parkerbiz52@yahoo.com** or call 903.833.7019 (home #). Thank you.

Anna is waiting for a list of brief descriptions of the following ministries before the "Welcome Committee" puts out a new pamphlet/trifold.

Angel Tree	Bible Study Men's & Women's
Cleaning Crew	Community/Parish Events
Finance Council	Fundraiser Committee
Grounds/Maintenance	Legion of Mary
Parish Council	Prayer Blankets
Prayer/Meditation Garden	Rite to Christian Initiation for Adults
Respect Life	Ushers



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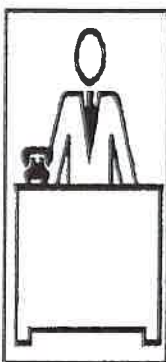
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