



Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time February 27, 2022

A good tree does not bear rotten fruit,
nor does a rotten tree bear good fruit.
For every tree is known by its own fruit.

Luke 6:43-44

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Today's reading from Sirach reminds us not to praise others before they speak, "for it is then that people are tested." Jesus, in Luke's Gospel, takes it a step further, reminding us that we are also known by the fruit borne in our lives. It doesn't take long to think of a person or group of people who speak beautiful, praiseworthy words, and yet their lives are unfruitful, or their lives outright contradict their speech. This is the class of people we call "hypocrites," and it's clear in all the Gospels that Jesus has no time for them. Our speech does test us, but the test is really to demonstrate that there is a connection between what we say and how we live. Expressed another way, this is the age-old discussion about faith and works. A truly deep-rooted faith will bear fruit in the works, in the actions of our lives. As happens so often in discipleship, we are dealing with the both/and, not either/or.

TALKING HEARTS

As disciples who follow Jesus, we believe that we are following God's very Word-made-Flesh. The theological

term for this is In-carn-ation, the "in-flesh-made" second person of the Trinity. As followers of the Word, our words are truly important. Our hearts and mouths are wired together, as Jesus tells us today: "from the fullness of the heart the mouth speaks." This is yet another echo of the wisdom of Sirach: "Speech discloses the bent of a person's heart." Eventually, our words—and the other actions of our lives—will convey what is truly in our hearts. Perhaps the ultimate test of our discipleship is not merely our words, or even our actions, but on a deeper level the test is whether or not others will find in us God's word "in-flesh-made." Our mission is to be the Word-made-flesh, in the flesh again in our own place and time.

Today's Readings: Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-14, 15-16;
1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

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PASTOR: Rev. Michael T. "Mike" Snider

Celebration of the Sacraments:

Mass: Saturday: 5:00 PM
Sunday: 9:00 AM
Tues - Fri: 9:00 AM

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

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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!***

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

Yolanda & Eldon Boyd. Gayle & Jim Hickey. Doris Hoffman. Wanda & George Duke. Lonnie & Tammy McClung. Jean Hamilton. Randy & Louise Beard. Sven Sterner. Kathy Gravatt. Nancy Rasca. Jess Corrigan Jr. Clifford & Frances Jo Moore. Fran & Kathleen Fleming. Dave Cormier. Thomas Holzmann. Michael Allen. Joe Fazio. Ron Emma. Kate Serres. Belinda Flowers. Dona Jordan. Jaye Anderson. Georgette March. Kyle Fabitz. Greg Mooney. Gary Fetsch. Karee Haney. Bollinger Family. Charlie Parker. Tammy Johnson. Carolyn Simmons. Dianne & Gary Laudt. Jo Ann Crowell. Ann Richardson. Jacob Stephens. Mary Margaret Ellison. John Kominis. Esther Coronel. Elise Sugg. Joann Rayl. Avery Boultinghouse. Wanda & Mike Stephens. Geri O'Neil. We list the names of our sick Parishioners. Friends and Relatives for one month.

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

Dawn Quinn, US Army PFC (Granddaughter of Bob & Jean Quinn). Reid Patrick Hope, US Marine (Nephew of Mike & Wanda Stephens). 1LT 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. "JG" Gary Buchanan; Capt. Blake Gaughan; 2nd Lt. Will Corrigan (Great Nephews of Jess & Eva Corrigan). Paul Moreno E4 AMT 3rd Class (Grandson of Kathy & Dale Boman). Staff Sergeant Daniel Hodan. U.S. Army (Grandson of Ron & Barbara Eamma). Warrant Officer Michael Hauck (Son of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & brother of Cathy Ellis) & Seaman Rainer Hauck (Grandson of Jerry & Vicki Hauck & nephew of Jeff & Cathy Ellis).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Tuesday: Mardi Gras; Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday: Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence; Almsgiving

Thursday: St. Katharine Drexel

Friday: St. Casimir; First Friday; Abstinence; World Day of Prayer

Saturday: First Saturday

THE DIFFERENCE: The difference between perseverance and obstinacy is that one often comes from a strong will, and the other from a strong won't.—Henry Ward Beecher

THANKS: No duty is more urgent than that of returning thanks.—Ambrose of Milan

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading: One's speech shows the bent of one's mind. Praise no one before he or she speaks (Sirach 27:4-7).

Psalm: Lord, it is good to give thanks to you (Psalm 92).

Second Reading: We are given victory over death through Jesus. In the Lord our labor is not in vain (1 Corinthians 15:54-59).

Gospel: A good person produces good, an evil person produces evil. The mouth speaks from the goodness of the heart (Luke 6:39-45).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Pt 1:3-9; Ps 111:1-2, 5-6, 9, 10c; Mk 10:17-27

Tuesday: 1 Pt 1:10-16; Ps 98:1-4; Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 — 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

Thursday: Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25

Friday: Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15

Saturday: Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32

Sunday: Dt 26:4-10; Ps 91:1-2, 10-15; Rom 10:8-13; Lk 4:1-13

Mass—Intentions

Sat. 2/26 Carol Polakoff+ (Laudt Family)

Sun 2/27 Deacon Jim Boland & Deacon Jim Petkovsek (Daughters of Divine Hope)

Tue 3/01 Chuck Snodgrass+ (Mary Jane)

Wed 3/02 Brooks Funk (Carolyn Bonicard)

Thurs 3/03 Carolyn Todaro (K of C)

Fri. 3/04 Chuck Snodgrass+ (Kelley)

Sat. 3/05 Virginia Elick+ (Laudt Family)

PARISH SUPPORT

Average weekly amounts for the year of 2021

Expenditures \$ 3,666

Regular and debt & maintenance collections \$ 3,799

Attendance: 2/19 Saturday: 70 2/20 Sunday: 70

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



Pope's Intention for March:

For a Christian response to bioethical challenges. We pray for Christians facing new bioethical challenges; may they continue to defend the dignity of all human life and prayer and action.

Reflection question:

How can I help bring about God's peaceful reign?

PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,
that the course of our world
may be directed by your peaceful rule
and that your Church may rejoice,
untroubled in her devotion.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

WE ARE KNOWN BY OUR FRUIT

This week, Jesus tells us that we must examine our own inner selves, our attitudes and dispositions, virtues and faults, rather than judging others. What is in our hearts comes out in what and how we speak. If our hearts are filled with kindness and compassion, those qualities will be evident in our speaking, just as beautiful, wholesome fruit comes only from healthy trees. And vice-versa. The Wisdom writer Sirach in the first reading agrees with this concept—that we will be judged by our words. Paul reminds us that the reward of discipleship is eternal life. Today's psalm of thanksgiving and praise reminds us of God's kindness and faithfulness, which we are to emulate in our thoughts, words, and deeds. We are known, each of us, by our own fruit.

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Special Request: Fr. Mike is in need of your palms before Ash Wednesday, March 2nd. Please drop them off in the basket located in the Narthex.

FEBRUARY NEWS & EVENTS

Sun., Feb. 27th: Following 9:00am Mass, coffee & donuts in St. Jude's Hall.

MARCH NEWS & EVENTS

Tues., Mar. 1st: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

Wed., Mar. 2nd: Ash Wednesday. The beginning of the Lenten Season. This is the day for universal fast & abstinence in the Church. To make it convenient for our parishioners, Fr. Mike is having two Masses 9:00am & 6:00pm.

Fri., Mar. 4th: Vespers (evening prayers) at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. We will start back with soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sun., Mar. 6th: *K of C* will start back with the **best breakfast in town** (first Sunday of each month). Immediately following 9:00am Mass.

Tues., Mar. 8th: 9:00am Mass & Adoration (Adoration 9:30am—12:30pm; 6:00-8:00pm).

Fri., Mar. 11th: Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. *Soup supper* in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sat., Mar. 12th: 9:00am Patriotic Mass & Rosary. **St. Patrick's Cornbeef Pot Luck Dinner** immediately following the 5:00pm Mass in St. Jude's Hall. Cornbeef provided by Bob Mailliard. We are in need of vegetables, pastas, salads and dessert dishes. **WEAR YOUR GREEN!**



Sun., Mar. 13th: Day light savings time begins. Set your clocks forward one hour. Following 9:00am Mass, coffee & donuts in St. Jude's Hall.

Wed., Mar. 16th: Casino Fundraiser Meeting at 6:00pm in St. Jude's hall.

Fri., Mar. 18th: Vespers at 4:00pm followed by the Stations of the Cross. Soup supper in St. Jude's Hall, immediately following the stations.

Sat., Mar. 19th & Sun. Mar. 20th: After Mass Casino Event Tickets and raffle tickets go on sale.

Sun. Mar. 20th: Immediately following 9:00am Mass, coffee, juice, biscuits & gravy provided by Bryan & Dolly Todd, in St. Jude's Hall. Jane Bidlack facilitates "The Mass as Heaven on Earth" (Hebrews & Revelation)" Class in the middle classroom.

Thurs., Mar. 24th: No 9:00am Mass due to Fr. Mike attending a Study Day in Tyler.

March Second Collections:

2nd: "Aid to the Church in Central & Eastern Europe." **5th & 6th:** "Building & Maintenance." **12th & 13th:** "Black & Indian Missions." **19th & 20th:** "Holy Spirit Easter Flowers." **26th & 27th:** "Hunger Relief in the Diocese."

Legion of Mary—Pilgrim Statue: Our Lady of Fatima Statue is now ready to visit your home. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex or you may contact: **Marge Clymer, 903-216-7953 or Jane Bidlack, 903-569-7749.** If scheduling permits, the Statue may be kept for two weeks.

Celebrate Life Banquet

Sat., March 26, 2022 at 6:30pm (Seating by 7:00pm for beginning of program). Infinity Event Center, Holiday Inn North, 300 Tuttle Circle, Longview, TX (behind Hobby Lobby). Reservations Required, \$ 40.00 per person. Seating is limited, reservations by Sat., March 18, 2022.

Fr. Mike would like to reserve at least one table possibly two. Please notify him if you want to attend this event.

SAVE THE DATE: *The Roaring 20's*

DINNER & CASINO NIGHT SAT., APRIL 30, 2022

TICKETS TO ATTEND EVENT \$ 40.00 PER PERSON or TABLE OF 8 \$ 320.00

RAFFLE TICKETS \$5.00 each or a book of 6 for \$ 20.00

PRIZES: FIVE --- \$ 500.00 Visa Gift Cards

EVENT & RAFFLE TICKETS GO ON SALE MAR. 19TH & 20TH

Rosary Makers donated all of the proceeds \$ 1,600.00 from game day to the Parish. Holy Spirit is blessed to have generous, funny & hard working ladies in this group.

Eva Corrigan

An Invitation to a Lenten Retreat – March 5, 2022

The Legion of Mary at St. Peter the Apostle Church at 203 Meadowbrook Dr. in Mineola, extends to you an invitation to an inspiring Lenten presentation by Deacon Keith Fournier "Walking with Mary during Lent". From 8:30a.m to 12:30p.m. You'll have an opportunity to attend Holy Mass at 8:30a.m., followed by Adoration, Reconciliation, and 2 inspirational presentations. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Men, women and teens are all welcome! If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact Patty Mone at 903-638-8089.

Results of Carter BloodCare: You may be interested to know 5 people signed up and 5 walk in's. The mobile unit registered a first time donor. Eight units of blood was collect. Each unit saves 3 lives, we saved 24 people.

Thank You, Bridget



The Holy Spirit Food Ministry would like to thank all our parishioners for their food donations. The large plastic bin is located by in the hallway by Bridget's office. **Cake & muffin mix; cereal and pudding cups.**

Looking for volunteers to get involved with the Food Ministry. Call or email Bob Mailliard at 903-769-3963 or theduckdude@att.net

Thank you, Bob Mailliard; Bryan & Dolly Todd; Stan & Terry Evans; Al & Evelyn Murfin. Holy Spirit Food Ministry Team

Article for the Big Sandy-Hawkins Journal. 23 February 2022 Edition
(Submission date: 18 February 2022) Submitted by Randy Munoz.

Snacking on Scripture – Little Nibbles of the Bible. Series 1, Snack 2 – Isaac.

A great “believer” in the bible can be found in the person of Isaac. [Isaac was a “miracle child” and was born after his mother (and father) were resigned to the idea that Sara would never have any children.] (<https://www.newadvent.org/cathen/08175a.htm>) ... **Isaac** was the son of **Abraham and Sara**. The incidents of his life are told in Genesis 15-35, in a narrative the principal parts of which are traced back by many scholars to three ... (source) documents (**J, E, P** ... [The means by which the basic sources of the Pentateuch were distinguished, and their chronology established ... The names by which these sources are now known, ... are: the **Yahwist, or J**, source, so called because it employed as the Lord’s name a Hebrew word transliterated into English as YHWH (called J from the German: JHVH) and spoken as “Yahweh”; the **Elohist, or E**, source, distinguished by its reference to the Lord as Elohim; the Deuteronomist, or D, source, marked by distinctive vocabulary and style; and the **Priestly code, or P**, source, which contains detailed ritual instructions.] ... utilized in the composition of the Book of Genesis. ... According to Genesis 17:17; 18:12; 21:6, Isaac’s name means: “he laughs”. He was circumcised eight days after his birth, weaned in due time, and proclaimed the sole legal ancestor of the chosen people (21:1-12). His early years were spent in Bersabee, whence he was taken by his father to Mount Moria to be offered up in sacrifice, and whither he returned after his life had been miraculously spared (21:33; 22:19). His mother died when he was thirty-six years of age (cf. Genesis 17:17; 23:1). A few years later, he married Rebecca, Bathuel’s daughter, whom one of his father’s servants had, according to Abraham’s directions, brought from Mesopotamia (24). The union took place in “the south country”, where Isaac then lived, and continued to live after he had joined with Ismael in committing the body of Abraham to burial in the cave of Machpelah (24:62, 67; 25:7-11). Many years elapsed before Isaac’s longing entreaty to God for children was actually heard. Of the twins to whom she then gave birth, Esau was beloved by Isaac, while Jacob was Rebecca’s favorite (25:21-28). Drought and famine made it necessary for Isaac to take the road down to Egypt, but, at Yahweh’s bidding, he stopped on his way thither and sojourned in Gerara, where an incident similar to that of Abraham’s disavowal of Sara is recorded of him (26:1-11). We are told next how, through envy of Isaac’s prosperity as a husbandman and a herdsman, the Philistines among whom he dwelt began petty persecutions, which the Hebrew patriarch bore patiently, but on account of which he finally withdrew to Bersabee. There he was favored with a new vision from Yahweh, and entered a solemn covenant with Abimelech, King of Gerara (26:12-33). During the last years of Isaac’s career, there occurred the well-known incident of his conferring upon Jacob the Divine blessing, which he had always intended for Esau (27), followed by Isaac’s concern to protect Jacob from his brother’s resentment and to secure for him a wife from his mother’s kindred in Mesopotamia (28:1-5). After Jacob’s return, Isaac died at the age of one hundred and eighty and was buried by his sons in the cave of Machpelah (35:27-29; 49:31).

As delineated in Genesis, the figure of Isaac is much less striking than that of Abraham, his father. Yet, by his manner of life, always quiet, gentle, guileless, faithful to God’s guidance, he ever was the worthy heir and transmitter of the glorious promises made to Abraham. He was pre-eminently a man of peace, the fitting type of the Prince of Peace, whose great sacrifice on Mount Calvary was foreshadowed by Isaac’s obedience unto death on Mount Moria.

The New Testament contains few, but significant references to Isaac (cf. Matthew 8:11; Luke 12:28; 20:37; Romans 9:7; Galatians 4:28; Hebrews 11:17 sqq.; James 2:21).



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