



ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

August 28, 2022

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH INFORMATION

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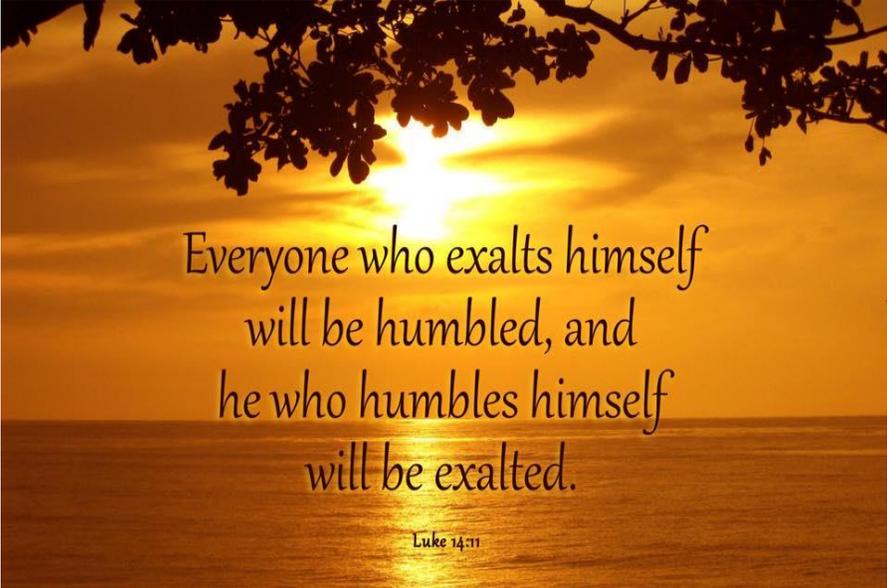
Adoration: Janet Tankersley
(C) 503-545-2229

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Altar Servers: Don Payne
(H) 503-632-4370

Prayer Requests: Peggy St Andre
503-631-3531

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hahannam@juno.com



Everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled, and
he who humbles himself
will be exalted.

Luke 14:11

MASS SCHEDULE:

Saturday Vigil - 5:30pm Mass

Sunday - 8:00am & 10:30am Mass

Mon/Wed/Thurs/Fri - 8am Mass

Tuesday - 6:30pm Mass

RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays – 4:00-5:00pm or by Appointment

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Thursdays – 8:30am-10pm (*ends with Benediction*)

ANOINTING OF THE SICK:

If you or someone you know is homebound, wants to receive Communion or the Sacrament of Anointing, please call the parish office, 503-631-2882.

Baptisms: Call the Parish Office.

Funerals: Call the Parish Office.

Weddings: Call Fr. Paschal at least 6 months in advance of the planned date.

St. Philip Benizi Website: www.philipbenizi.com

God is good, all the time! All the time, God is good!

Dear friends in Christ, the number of those that would finally occupy God's kingdom was the center of the reflection last weekend. The exciting search came from the question an unnamed man asked the Savior, "Lord, will a few people be saved?" (Luke 13:23). In response to the question from the curious mind, Jesus gave specific requirements, "Strive to enter through the narrow gate for many, I tell you, will attempt to enter but will not be strong enough." (Luke 13:24). The words of encouragement highlighted that striving to enter through the narrow gate calls for committing to the teachings of Christ and disciplining ourselves. It is also being who God created us to be and not living a chameleonic life by following the crowd and allowing hypocrites to use us to their advantage.

Last Sunday's reflection further reminded us that we should not take God's mercy, love, and compassion for granted, for he is also a just God that will reward each of us accordingly. Many will be disappointed because they think their nearness to God or being a member of any religious affiliation gives them a valid ticket to the kingdom. What gives us express pass is our life lived in love.

Today's liturgy of the word promotes the virtue of humility and equally emphasizes its significance and benefits to all Christ's followers. The first reading from the book of Sirach praises the humble person. Sirach encourages humility because a meek person receives more, than a giver of gifts. After all, the giver's motive might be more self-centered than virtuous. Humble persons are always conscious of their weaknesses and accept words of wisdom from other people. A humble person finds favor with God and treasures this favor more than the love received from friends and neighbors. Sirach further instructs that rather than seeking things too sublime or beyond one's strength, the humble person listens and finds joy in the words of the wise. The final verse of the passage states that giving alms will serve as atonement for sin. Indeed, humility and almsgiving draw the prudent person into a deeper relationship with God. The virtue of humility should manifest in the life of a follower of Christ. Pride raises a significant barrier to God's graciousness and communion with others.

Today's Gospel continues with the theme of humility. On a specific sabbath, Jesus went to dine at the home of a prominent Pharisee; observing the attitudes of other guests scrambling for recognition, he narrates a parable centering on the sublime virtue of humility. The precis of the parable is captured thus, "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 14:11).

It is usual for people to seek recognition in life; however, people should do it appropriately. Jesus' parable stems from the fact that the guests did not wait to be recognized, but they recognized themselves, which is against the etiquette of recognition and humility. In this parable, the Savior criticizes those who trust themselves forward and push their way inordinately to the top. That's not the right way to gain honor in the kingdom of God. The host gives the glory to the guest and not the invitee, bestowing the honor on themselves.

A person is ultimately honored and given the appropriate position by exercising humility. Humility is knowing who you are and sticking to it. Indeed, understanding our true selves frees us from fake projections of ourselves. It helps to see ourselves as God sees us. True humility is not feeling bad about ourselves or demeaning and belittling ourselves; it is the truth and understanding of oneself. A person fakes importance and undeserved reputation when the person places themselves where they do not belong, and such destroys the actual image. In the wisdom of Pope emeritus Benedict XVI, "Man, in assigning to himself, inflated importance damages his true self." A humble person follows not the crowd nor does things to win the applause of the others despite the pressure. A humble person is not carried away by fame, reputation, success, challenges, or failure. The humble person flees from insults and embarrassment because the person does not occupy the place of others.

In continuation of the Gospel story, Jesus highlights what we should do and how to treat others, especially those on the margin. He instructs the host and all God's children not to invite those who will repay or be able to reciprocate our benevolence; instead, we should host the poor because of their inability to return the kind gesture. God will repay us at the resurrection for towing this path of not expecting anything back. Jesus asks us to honor those who could not be honored according to the world's standards. It is the virtue of humility that frees us to love and serve others selflessly. Pride focuses on self, but humility enables us to view and judge ourselves correctly. Knowing who we are and what God expects from us propel us to love and serve without asking for reimbursement for any kind. Humility helps us empty ourselves from excessive attachment to material things; it also enables us to obey God's commands and not manufacture our commandments. Jesus Christ is the model of humility; he emptied himself and took the form of a servant, humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even death on the cross. *Continued on Page 7*

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 8/28/2022

8:00am Mass: All Parishioners
 10:30am Mass: +Karen Gefreh
 (Dan & Helen Sweeney)

Monday, 8/29/2022 Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Tuesday, 8/30/2022

Wednesday, 8/31/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Thursday, 9/1/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

8:30am-10:00pm:
 Eucharistic Adoration



Friday, 9/2/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Saturday, 9/3/2022 Memorial of St. Gregory the Great

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
 5:30pm Mass: +Leta Tlusty (Don & Loretta Payne)

Sunday, 9/4/2022

8:00am: All Parishioners
 10:30am Mass: +Fr. Michael Patrick
 (Janet Tankersley)

Sept. 4th: Blood pressure readings after 8am Mass/Hall

Sept. 6th: RCIA begins Tuesday, 7:00pm/Hall

Sept. 10th: Young Adult group 5:30 Mass, pizza and conversation/Hall

Sept. 11th: RE classes begin

Sept. 23rd-24th: Western OR. Catholic Charismatic Renewal Conference, Keizer



Thank you to all who helped at the Parish Picnic. Your help was greatly appreciated. It was great to see so many parishioners at the picnic.

Thank you to those who helped make VBS a Monumental success!

Travel with Fr. Paschal Ezurike, on our Pilgrimage to Ireland and England (date change)

Where: Galway, Our Lady of Knock, Cliffs of Moher, Killarney, Dingle Peninsula, Dublin, Downpatrick, City of Belfast

Trip Dates: August 11-August 21, 2023 Cost: \$4,999.00
 Airfare and ALL-Included, except lunches and travel insurance.

To register, please contact (855) 842-8001 or (508) 340-9370. You can also register online at www.proximotravel.com.

Calling all kids preschool - 12th grade, it is time to register for Religious Education. Please register by September 4th. Forms are at the side door and in the office. Classes will begin September 11th. Volunteer teachers are needed. If you have questions or would like to volunteer contact Melissa, mbear@archdpx.org

Join us for RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) meetings begin on **September 6, 2022**
 Tuesday Evenings at 7:00pm in the Hall.

Do you have a friend, family member, or co-worker curious about the Catholic Faith? Are you a Catholic who's ready to explore your faith anew? Come join us on Tuesday evenings. If you have questions call Ed Schneider 971-563-3893

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Finance Corner

<u>Registered Household</u> 218	WEEK OF 8/21/2022 <u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
<u>Donors</u> 57	\$3,968 (online: \$1,535)	\$6,074
<u>Fiscal Year</u>	\$33,782	\$37,277

Ushers

9/03~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon
 9/04~8:00am: Paul Lowry
 9/04~10:30am: Kevin Horace

Next Weeks Assignments

September Church Cleaners: Erin Person (503-826-4288) & Karen Baurer (503-632-2940)

September Altar Linens: Rosalee Welle (503-804-1739)



9/04 9:00:
 11:30:

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
 Kristine Bible
 Jerry Siler





Our Parish COMMUNITY

August 28, 2022

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time (C)

Sir 3:17–18, 20, 28–29

Heb 12:18–19, 22–24a

Lk 14:1, 7–14

*Humble yourself the more,
the greater you are, and you will
find mercy in the sight of God.*

SIRACH 3:18



I'm Nobody! Who Are You?

This is the title of one of Emily Dickinson's most beloved poems. Did she really think she was nobody? Probably not. But neither was she eager to get bogged down by the approval of others. She seems to have been satisfied with who she was and how she lived her life.

Unlike Dickinson, many of us live for the approval of others. In fact, we almost glorify celebrities—and not simply for their accomplishments. Their taste becomes our choice in buying clothes; their opinions shape our thinking; their social life becomes our entertainment. This is a strange turnaround, for the only reason they are famous is that we have given them our approval. We made them celebrities.

We all know people who, in the eyes of the broader society, might be considered “nobodies” but who really are the “somebodies.” They are like Dickinson. They know who they are and do not pretend to be someone or something else. They do not put on airs; they do not expect to be treated better than others. They simply are who they are. These are the people described in today's readings. They have lived as Sirach counsels: “Humble yourself” (Sirach 3:18). This does not mean humiliate yourself or put yourself down. It means be who you are, the *you* that God made. Don't try to be someone else. The Gospel story shows what might happen if you think you are more than you really are. The proud man was literally put in his place.

So, who are you?

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- * **What do you do to gain other's approval?
Does that change who you are?**
- * **How often do you describe yourself as better
than others? Is it true?**

Dear Padre,

Isn't natural family planning (NFP) a form of birth control? The couple still controls the potential of human life that God may have wanted to create at a particular moment.

Couples who use NFP aren't practicing contraception. By giving themselves completely to one another in body and soul, they're preserving the integrity of the marriage sacrament. In God's design, women



MANUEL FINDES/SHUTTERSTOCK

are naturally infertile for many days of the menstrual cycle. The marital act during these times promotes bonding and yet is open to new life. There is no sin in abstaining from the marital act. When a husband and wife use NFP appropriately, they share responsibility for living with their combined fertility. Neither spouse takes

the other for granted. NFP is a healthy and holistic way to plan for children.

Many couples find that living an NFP lifestyle gives them a better understanding of their fertility, frees them from fear of medical side effects, increases their communication, encourages a greater sense of sharing and a generosity toward life, fosters sexual self-control, and gives them the peace of following their spiritual, religious, cultural, or ethical beliefs. Periodic abstinence encourages couples to focus on aspects of their relationship beyond the physical, resulting in a "honeymoon effect."

NFP's most important benefit is that it enables spouses to live the mutual gift of self that is an essential element of marriage. The Church values marital sexual love. NFP helps couples to be authentic in the expression of that love.

From *Natural Family Planning: A Catholic Approach*, © 2009 Liguori Publications.

Calendar

Monday

AUGUST 29
*The Passion of
St. John the Baptist*
1 Cor 2:1-5
Mk 6:17-29

Tuesday

AUGUST 30
Weekday
1 Cor 2:10b-16
Lk 4:31-37

Wednesday

AUGUST 31
Weekday
1 Cor 3:1-9
Lk 4:38-44

Thursday

SEPTEMBER 1
Weekday
1 Cor 3:18-23
Lk 5:1-11

Friday

SEPTEMBER 2
Weekday
1 Cor 4:1-5
Lk 5:33-39

Saturday

SEPTEMBER 3
*St. Gregory the Great,
Pope and Doctor
of the Church*
1 Cor 4:6b-15
Lk 6:1-5

Sunday

SEPTEMBER 4
*Twenty-third Sunday
in Ordinary Time*
Wis 9:13-18b
Phlm 9-10, 12-17
Lk 14:25-33



A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Jesus teaches this: "The one who humbles himself will be exalted" (Luke 14:11). God does not exalt us because of our gifts, because of our wealth, or because of our skills, but because of humility. God loves humility. God lifts up those who humble themselves; he lifts up those who serve.

ANGELUS, SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION, AUGUST 15, 2021



Liguori Publications is celebrating 75 years of ministry throughout 2022.

Follow progress toward our October 23 anniversary date in *Liguorian* magazine and at Liguori.org.

On humility and peace

Do not care much who is with you and who is against you; but make it your greatest care that God is with you in everything you do.

Have a good conscience, and God will defend you securely; no one can hurt you if God wishes to help you.

If you know how to suffer in silence, you will surely receive God's help. Since he knows best the time and the way to set you free, resign yourself to him, for God helps you and frees you from all confusion.

It is often good for us, and helps us to remain humble, if others know our weaknesses and confront us with them.

When a man humbles himself for his faults, he more easily pleases others and mollifies those he has angered.

God protects and frees a humble man; he loves and consoles a humble man; he favors a humble man; he showers him with graces; then, after his suffering, God raises him up to glory.

He reveals his secrets to a humble man and in his kindness invitingly draws that man to himself. When a humble man is brought to confusion, he experiences peace, because he stands firm in God and not in this world. Do not think that you have made any progress unless you feel that you are the lowest of all men.

Above all things, keep peace within yourself, then you will be able to create peace among others. It is better to be peaceful than learned. The passionate man often thinks evil of a good man and easily believes the worst; a good and peaceful man turns all things to good.

A man who lives at peace suspects no one. But a man who is tense and agitated by evil is troubled with all kinds of suspicions; he is never at peace with himself, nor does he permit others to be at peace. He often speaks when he should be silent, and he fails to say what would be truly useful. He is well aware of the obligations of others but neglects his own. So be zealous first of all with yourself, and then you will be more justified in expressing zeal for your neighbor.

You are good at excusing and justifying your own deeds, and yet you will not listen to the excuses of others. It would be more just to accuse yourself and excuse your neighbor. If you wish others to put up with you, first put up with them.

(From the Imitation of Christ)

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“Pride makes us artificial, and humility makes us real.” --- Thomas Merton.

St. Philip Benizi Mission Statement

St. Philip Benizi Catholic Church being part of the universal church shares in its mission: to proclaim Jesus Christ who came to the world to fulfill His father's will; by proclaiming the kingdom of God, building up the parish community as a witness to God's love and care for the world, helping one another to become what God has called us to be. We are therefore encouraged to work toward God's purpose of “wanting all men to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth.” (1 Tim 2:4).

"HE WAS CONCEIVED BY THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND WAS BORN OF THE VIRGIN MARY"

Paragraph 1. THE SON OF GOD BECAME MAN

I. WHY DID THE WORD BECOME FLESH?

With the Nicene Creed, we answer by confessing: "For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, he became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man."

CCC 456

The Word became flesh for us in order to save us by reconciling us with God, who "loved us and sent his Son to be the expiation for our sins": "the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world", and "he was revealed to take away sins":

Sick, our nature demanded to be healed; fallen, to be raised up; dead, to rise again. We had lost the possession of the good; it was necessary for it to be given back to us. Closed in the darkness, it was necessary to bring us the light; captives, we awaited a Savior; prisoners, help; slaves, a liberator. Are these things minor or insignificant? Did they not move God to descend to human nature and visit it, since humanity was in so miserable and unhappy a state? CCC 457

The Word became flesh so that thus we might know God's love: "In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life."

CCC 458

The Word became flesh to be our model of holiness: "Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me." "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but by me." On the mountain of the Transfiguration, the Father commands: "Listen to him!" Jesus is the model for the Beatitudes and the norm of the new law: "Love one another as I have loved you."-This love implies an effective offering of oneself, after his example. CCC 459

The Word became flesh to make us "partakers of the divine nature": "For this is why the Word became man, and the Son of God became the Son of man: so that man, by entering into communion with the Word and thus receiving divine sonship, might become a son of God." "For the Son of God became man so that we might become God." "The only-begotten Son of God, wanting to make us sharers in his divinity, assumed our nature, so that he, made man, might make men gods." CCC 460

Continued from page 2.

Finally, following the Lord's teaching, we need to be humble and engage in activities not motivated by self-interest or recognition. Those who act out of motives of self-interest will receive no reward from God. But those who operate from motives of charity will receive compensation at the resurrection. Working for the sake and love of others will earn us tangible and everlasting rewards than several dinner invitations. Therefore, let's focus on cultivating and nurturing the virtue of humility and know what motivates us to do what we do.

Remember, the closer we are to God, the better for us.

Blessings.

Your servant in Christ,

Fr. Paschal Ezurike.



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