



ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

July 17, 2022

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH INFORMATION

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(C) 503-545-2229

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Altar Servers: Don Payne
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503-631-3531

Email Prayer Chain: Heather Hannam
hahannam@juno.com

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, on the second Sunday of this month, we faithfully explored the circumstances that necessitated the powerful and didactic parable of the Good Samaritan. To ensure that he is on the right path to eternal life, a law scholar approached Jesus Christ, the lawgiver, to ascertain the greatest commandments in the law. Jesus' answer and the lawyer's response agree that we should love the Lord our God with all our heart, being, strength, and mind and love our neighbor as ourselves. Also, in his curiosity to know his rightful neighbor, the lawyer questioned Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Responding, Jesus used the parable of the Good Samaritan to shed light on the topic. His elucidation was simple and well understood that the lawyer produced the answer to his question and that of Christ, "The one who treated him with mercy." To conclude this fascinating encounter, Jesus said to humankind via the lawyer, "Go and do likewise." And we urged all to live the teachings of Christ.

We assemble on the 16th Sunday as Christ's body, in God's sanctuary to be nourished with his living word, which is alive and effective, and his body and blood to enable us to continue our pilgrimage of faith. Today's readings revolve around the benefits of offering hospitality, and spending time with the Triune God. In the first reading, Abraham and his wife, Sarah, hosted the Lord, although they had no idea of the identity of their three visitors (Trinity). In his iconic masterpiece, *The Trinity* (also called the *Hospitality of Abraham*), Andrei Rublev depicts the three angels who visited Abraham at the Oak of Mamre. A closer look at the icon reveals so much that happened under the reception tree. Our concern here is that Andrei sees the three visitors as the Trinity. In the first verse of the first reading, "The Lord appeared to Abraham by the terebinth of Mamre, as he sat in the entrance of his tent." (Genesis 18: 1). Patently, the Trinity consistently comes our way in human disguise; however, we often miss such golden opportunities because we are not open to those who pass by us.

The couple's hospitality to three strangers is outstanding and throws a significant challenge to each of us. He did not wait for them to come to him and ask for favors; instead, on noticing them, Abraham ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them and bow, offering them the favor of waiting on them on his property. He immediately offered them the basic needs of life. Undeniably, one would reason that the kindness of Abraham and Sarah automatically unlocked the strong chains impeding their lifelong desire from God. After happily enjoying the sumptuous menu, one of them said, "I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah will then have a son." (Gen 18:10). God's children should capitalize on every opportunity to show charity to others and not be indifferent to others' plight. God visits and passes by us regularly. It is good to soak ourselves in prayer; however, we should not neglect to live love. According to St. Paul, "Three things last: faith, hope, and love, and the greatest is love." (1 Corinthians 13:13). Abraham and Sarah, among other virtues, spoke and lived love, and they received an ineffable reward, Isaac, a fulfillment of God's promise.

Today's psalm articulates the reward of righteous people, those who do not harm their fellow men, those who walk blamelessly and speak the truth from their hearts; also, and those who care for others and welcome strangers. The psalmist says that their deeds help them live eternally in God's presence.

In today's Gospel passage, two sisters, Martha and Mary, welcome Jesus into their home. Both Martha and Mary can be counted among Jesus' friends and disciples. In the passage under review, Jesus advises Martha, as he had done to other disciples, to avoid focusing on the things that are not essential at a given moment. Jesus' warning to her is equally crucial for us to know and place our priorities accordingly. It is a significant disservice to use our time, treasure, and talents wrongly; there are things we do which are good but not required and are irrelevant in a particular setting. Jesus' presence in their home exposed their temperaments; Martha is anxious about many things, while her sister is calm and attentive to only one: Jesus himself. Martha's running around and being occupied, so as to be able to give the Master the best, is reasonable but not necessary from Jesus' judgment at that time. Hence, Jesus said, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things." (Luke 10:41). Jesus is not denigrating active service but cautions about anxiety and worry. Martha's fretfulness echoes Jesus' teaching about the seed that fell among thorns in the parable of the Sower. The planted seed did not last long because it was choked by the anxieties of life, symbolic of people drowned in worries. According to the parable, the seed is the word of God that disciples should embrace with generous and good hearts, as it is conspicuous in Mary's disposition at Jesus' feet. *Continued on Page 7*

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 7/17/2022

8:00am Mass: +Anna Zollner (Dryden Family)
10:30am Mass: All Parishioners

Monday, 7/18/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Thomas Bible (Judith Bible)

Tuesday, 7/19/2022

6:30pm Mass: +Ray Silvander (Mary Lou Silvander)

Wednesday, 7/20/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Valarie Lemuel

Thursday, 7/21/2022

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Fred & Florence Winter
(Lydia Roskey)

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

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



Friday, 7/22/2022 Feast of St. Mary Magdalene

7:40am: Morning Prayer/Church
8:00am Mass: +Stella Hoefflin (Todd & Heather Zak)

Saturday, 7/23/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church
5:30pm Mass: All Parishioners

Sunday, 7/24/2022

8:00am Mass: +Mary Setera (Mary Lou Silvander)
10:30am Mass: +Robert & Emma Sweeney
(Dan & Helen Sweeney)

July 31: Adoration/Church 6:00pm followed by dinner and movie in the Hall at 7:00pm

August 22nd-26th: Vacation Bible School (date changed to 8/22-8/26) 9am-Noon register online (see website) or come to the office.

August 21st: Parish Picnic after 10:30 Mass. 

VBS August 22nd-26th

Come and meet the new Religious Education Director, Melissa Payne, and enjoy a fun week of activities at Vacation Bible School. Ages: Kindergarten to 5th grade are welcome. The theme is, "Monumental, Celebrating God's Greatness,". The cost is \$20 per child. Register online at the link on the website or come to the office.

Save the date!

Our next Adoration/Dinner night is Sunday, July 31st. Come to the Church at 6:00pm for an hour of adoration followed by sandwiches and salads, popcorn and a movie. We will be showing the movie "FATHER STU" (appropriate for mature audiences).

Parish Picnic

Mark your calendars for August 21st! Buster's BBQ will provide the meat. In August look for food tags to pick what you would like to bring to the picnic (salads, desserts...). There will be games for the kids, bingo and fun for the whole family.

Is God Calling you to be a Sister?

Ask us! Stay with us! Pray with us!
Join us in person. Come and see what being a Sister is all about. See the flyer on the bulletin board for more information.

Thank you for your donations to our Sister Parish. We collected \$711.00 to help support their needs.



*Thank you for your donations!
Your support is very much appreciated.*

Finance Corner

Registered Household 218	WEEK OF 7/10/2022 Actual	Budget
Donors 64	\$4,385 (online: \$2,115)	\$4,303
Fiscal Year	\$8,049	\$7,376

Ushers

7/23~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon
7/24~8:00am: Paul Lowry
7/24~10:30am: Kevin Horace

July Church Cleaners: Jerry Welle (503-804-1739) & Sherrie Havens

July Altar Linens: Jeanne Hubel (503-544-5054)



7/24 9:00: Ed, Bill, Barb & Patti
11:30:

Next Weeks Assignments

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam
Kristine Bible
Dan Sweeney



Come On In!

Hospitality has been defined as entertaining your guests and caring for their needs. It is a gracious custom. However, in some ancient communities it was necessary for survival. Travelers were vulnerable to the climate and topography of an unfamiliar area, as well as to its inhabitants. Every stranger was a potential enemy. Conversely, the traveler might be a thief, murderer, or a spy sent ahead to reconnoiter his enemies. People had to be on their guard, and travelers never really knew how others would receive them. They could be robbed by their host, captured, enslaved, or even put to death.

FOR Reflection

- ✦ *How might you offer your services to open-door projects of your parish?*
- ✦ *Most of us trace our family history back to immigration. How have you benefited from that form of hospitality?*

To guarantee protection on all sides, a certain protocol of hospitality had to be presumed and observed. The host was expected to treat all travelers as guests, not as potential enemies. Such treatment was thought to neutralize any threat to the household. The traveler was expected to act as a guest rather than a threat, accepting the generosity of the host for necessary food, drink, and shelter. Such hospitality was a temporary arrangement, but it assured everyone of a degree of safety.

We see traces of this custom in the first reading from Genesis. Surprise! The visitors were no ordinary travelers. They were messengers from God. In the Gospel reading, Jesus was a guest in the home of Martha and Mary. Their hospitality flowed from love, not social custom. Furthermore, he was no ordinary traveler. Both readings encourage us to practice hospitality. You never know who might appear as a guest.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



"The Lord said to her... 'Martha, Martha, you are anxious and worried about many things. There is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part.'"
LUKE 10:41–42

Dear Padre,

Especially in the summertime, parishioners come to Mass dressed quite casually. Some wear shorts, sandals, old jeans, or gym shoes. What is proper church attire?

When I was a child, my father always wore a dress shirt and tie to church, my mother wore a dress, and my eight siblings and I were also impeccably dressed. Times have changed. We're a more casual society. That said, I think it's good for people to dress up for Mass. Parents need to set an example for their children and get into the habit of wearing their "Sunday best"—even if it's Saturday evening.

The Church, being universal, doesn't have an official dress code.



"Appropriate attire" for the jungles of Brazil is different from that in New York City. We must be sensitive to culture and to financial situations. Also, what is inappropriate for Easter Sunday may be fine for a Saturday teen Mass.

Although not a mandate, in 2006 the US bishops issued a statement with suggestions for Mass attire: "As Christians we should dress in a modest manner, wearing clothes that reflect our reverence for God and that manifest our respect for the dignity of the liturgy and for one another" ("Happy Are Those Who Are Called to His Supper").

We should speak up when someone is dressed inappropriately, but do so in a kind, nonjudgmental manner. A sign in the back of church or an announcement in the bulletin may be a better alternative. Try something like, "Summer is here, but remember when you dress for Mass that church isn't the beach." We show respect at church events by our participation and in the way we dress.

Fr. Patrick Keyes, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Jesus' response to Martha—when he tells her that there is only one thing that needs to be done—finds its full significance in reference to listening to the very word of Jesus...If we go to pray, for example, before the crucifix, and we talk, talk, talk, and then we leave, we do not listen to Jesus.

ANGELUS, JULY 17, 2016



Calendar

Monday

JULY 18

Weekday

Mi 6:1–4, 6–8

Mt 12:38–42

Tuesday

JULY 19

Weekday

Mi 7:14–15, 18–20

Mt 12:46–50

Wednesday

JULY 20

Weekday

Jer 1:1, 4–10

Mt 13:1–9

Thursday

JULY 21

Weekday

Jer 2:1–3, 7–8, 12–13

Mt 13:10–17

Friday

JULY 22

St. Mary Magdalene

Sg 3:1–4b or

2 Cor 5:14–17

Jn 20:1–2, 11–18

Saturday

JULY 23

Weekday

Jer 7:1–11

Mt 13:24–30

Sunday

JULY 24

Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

Gn 18:20–32

Col 2:12–14

Lk 11:1–13



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.

Let us show each other God's generosity

Recognize to whom you owe the fact that you exist, that you breathe, that you understand, that you are wise, and, above all, that you know God and hope for the kingdom of heaven and the vision of glory, now darkly as in a mirror but then with greater fullness and purity. You have been made a son of God, co-heir with Christ. Where did you get all this, and from whom?

Let me turn to what is of less importance: the visible world around us. What benefactor has enabled you to look out upon the beauty of the sky, the sun in its course, the circle of the moon, the countless number of stars, with the harmony and order that are theirs, like the music of a harp? Who has blessed you with rain, with the art of husbandry, with different kinds of food, with the arts, with houses, with laws, with states, with a life of humanity and culture, with friendship and the easy familiarity of kinship?

Who has given you dominion over animals, those that are tame and those that provide you with food? Who has made you lord and master of everything on earth? In short, who has endowed you with all that makes man superior to all other living creatures?

Is it not God who asks you now in your turn to show yourself generous above all other creatures and for the sake of all other creatures? Because we have received from him so many wonderful gifts, will we not be ashamed to refuse him this one thing only, our generosity? Though he is God and Lord he is not afraid to be known as our Father. Shall we for our part repudiate those who are our kith and kin?

Brethren and friends, let us never allow ourselves to misuse what has been given us by God's gift. If we do, we shall hear Saint Peter say: *Be ashamed of yourselves for holding on to what belongs to someone else. Resolve to imitate God's justice, and no one will be poor.* Let us not labor to heap up and hoard riches while others remain in need. If we do, the prophet Amos will speak out against us with sharp and threatening words: *Come now, you that say: When will the new moon be over, so that we may start selling? When will the sabbath be over, so that we may start opening our treasures?*

Let us put into practice the supreme and primary law of God. He sends down rain on just and sinful alike and causes the sun to rise on all without distinction. To all earth's creatures he has given the broad earth, the springs, the rivers and the forests. He has given the air to the birds, and the waters to those who live in the water. He has given abundantly to all the basic needs of life, not as a private possession, not restricted by law, not divided by boundaries, but as common to all, amply and in rich measure. His gifts are not deficient in any way, because he wanted to give equality of blessing to equality of worth, and to show the abundance of his generosity.

(From a sermon by Saint Gregory of Nazianzen, bishop).

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“Spending time with God is the key to our strength and success in all areas of life. Be sure that you never try to work God into your schedule, but always work your schedule around him.”

--- Joyce Meyer.

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).

III. The Only Son of God

In the Old Testament, "son of God" is a title given to the angels, the Chosen People, the children of Israel, and their kings. It signifies an adoptive sonship that establishes a relationship of particular intimacy between God and his creature. When the promised Messiah-King is called "son of God", it does not necessarily imply that he was more than human, according to the literal meaning of these texts. Those who called Jesus "son of God", as the Messiah of Israel, perhaps meant nothing more than this. CCC 441

Such is not the case for Simon Peter when he confesses Jesus as "the Christ, the Son of the living God", for Jesus responds solemnly: "Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven." Similarly Paul will write, regarding his conversion on the road to Damascus, "When he who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles..." "and in the synagogues immediately [Paul] proclaimed Jesus, saying, 'He is the Son of God.'" From the beginning this acknowledgment of Christ's divine sonship will be the centre of the apostolic faith, first professed by Peter as the Church's foundation. CCC 442

Continued from page 2

Like Mary, all Jesus' disciples need to listen, be attentive, and spend time in his presence, focusing on things that change lives and hearts. The demands of discipleship that accompany the faith journey could be overwhelming and intimidating. Aware of the Gospel's demands, Jesus tells his disciples, including Martha, to keep their attention on Jesus even amid their activity.

As sons and daughters of God, it is pertinent to be focused on the essential things. Although there are many things we engage in daily life, the most beneficial is to embrace the word of God, Jesus himself, with a generous and good heart, as he commended Mary before her sister, Martha. After cautioning Martha about being anxious and worried about several things, he said, "There is only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, and it will not be taken away from her." (Luke 10:42).

Therefore, modern-day disciples should break from the daily hustle and bustle that mostly distract them from focusing on Jesus and sitting calm at his feet. We should engage and invest our time, talent, and treasure in activities that allow us to appreciate the Lord of work and Master of the vineyard. Not having the time or being distracted from sitting at the feet and listening to Jesus is like working to satisfy your supervisor, and at the same time, the supervisee has no time to listen and obey the supervisor. Such action is purely absurd and amounts to nothing. As we devote time to other things, it is good to take cognizance that spending time at the feet of the Lord changes our lives and hearts for the better. Spending time with the Lord results in indescribable peace and fulfillment. Being in God's presence with rapt attention opens the door to the knowledge of the Father, which is the ultimate good man can possess. Genuine happiness is born when we possess what we seek. Therefore, we need to make spending time with God our priority, and our services will bear fruit in the Lord.

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

*Blessings,
Your servant in Christ,
Fr. Paschal Ezwiké.*



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