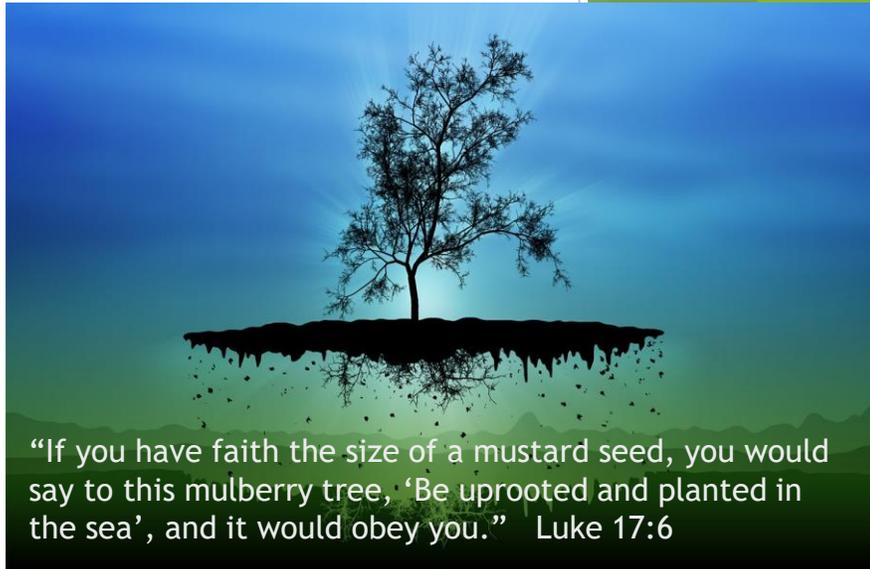




ST. PHILIP BENIZI CATHOLIC CHURCH

October 2, 2022

Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



“If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea’, and it would obey you.” Luke 17:6

PARISH INFORMATION

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FAX: 503-631-7443

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(C) 503-887-7701

Youth Minister: Katy Schnoor
(C) 503-314-8907

Pastoral Council President:
Matt Anderson

Administrative Council Chair:
Dan Sweeney

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

Minister Volunteer Coordinators

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

Prayer Requests: Peggy St Andre
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, last Sunday's liturgy of the word invested much time and emphasis on those who savor the sweetness of their fraudulently acquired wealth, but are indifferent to the plight of the poor and those in the margins. In offering more insights into the inspired word of God, the reflection challenged us to shun the examples of unconcerned people who sleep upon beds of ivory and stretch comfortably on their couches. They eat lambs taken from the flock and calves from the stall, but they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph. (Amos 6:1-7). Also, like the rich man in the Gospel who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously, however was indifferent to the poor man named Lazarus. (Luke 16:19). Conversely, the words of encouragement urge us to step out of our comfort zones to assist those in need. We are admonished to share our wealth with others; the poor are with you always; open your compassionate eyes, and you will see them.

We assemble with baskets of thanksgiving to render thanks to God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the uncountable visible and invisible blessings upon humankind. In the same vein, we haul to God's healing presence loads of our needs and challenges because we find true peace, freedom, and care in him. Today's food for the journey from the table of the word underscores the necessity of faith as we walk the path of life. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church, faith is the theological virtue by which we believe in God and believe in all that he has said and revealed to us, and that Holy Church proposes for our belief." (CCC,1814). The first reading from one of the twelve Minor Prophets, Habakkuk, is part of a dialogue between God and the prophet. Like the other prophets before him, he feels the burden of office. The prophet complains to God about the prevalence of injustice and God's failure to intervene: "How long, O Lord? I cry for help, but you do not listen! I cry out to you, 'violence!' but you do not intervene." (Habakkuk. 1:2). However, God responds by promising to save those who trust and those who have faith in him: "Then the Lord answered me and said: Write down the vision clearly upon the tablets...the rash one has no integrity; but the just one, because of faith, shall live". (Habakkuk. 2: 2-4). The encouraging and enduring message in this prophecy is that however ugly and tough things are, the one who walks by faith reaches the end.

Often, during our pilgrimage to the promised land, we see ourselves in the shoe of Habakkuk, who prophesied amid hopelessness and economic and political instabilities. When we are in these situations, it seems that the Lord does not intervene or answer our numerous cries and pleas, but we are greatly encouraged to remain steadfast in faith and know that the faithful God will answer the faithful ones, and they shall live. May we not allow ourselves to fall into the 'rash one' category who 'has no integrity.'

The Psalmist in the responsorial psalm urges us always to listen and take in the word of God: 'If today you hear his voice harden not your heart.' We hear his voice daily through reading the Scriptures, homilies/sermons, radio, newspaper, and spiritual books, and sometimes God speaks directly to us through things and people around us. We need to listen and pay attention to the Mass readings of the day – and harden not our hearts to God's word. Undoubtedly, we are greatly influenced by what we hear and read. A passage, a phrase, a sentence, or word can ignite that fire in us. Today, God is calling us not to follow the paths of our forefathers who hardened their hearts and tested him in the desert; instead, to trust and have faith, for He will always respond to our cries at his will and at his own time.

In the second reading, St. Paul continues to admonish his spiritual son, Timothy, and all Christ's followers. In this passage, Paul challenges us to use the power God has bestowed on us as his sons and daughters through our baptism, confirmation, matrimony, and Ordination. We are also admonished not to be afraid because God has given us not the spirit of cowardice/timidity but power, love, and self-control. Therefore, we should not be ashamed to profess our faith and what we believe before people. We should not compromise our faith; instead, we should brazenly keep waving the flag of our faith. We should firmly stamp our feet and be counted and not be intimidated by voices around us. Our voices should be heard. Let us stir into flame our gifts as faithful followers of Christ. Pray for increasing faith: "Lord, increase my faith."

This brings us to the Gospel, where the apostles asked the Lord to increase their faith. Jesus says that if we have faith as small as a mustard size, its effect would be humungous. Therefore, we are encouraged to put our faith into use no matter how little we think the faith is because using our faith convincingly yields inestimable results. Faith is God's pure gift to man. We can lose this priceless gift if we are not careful, as St. Paul indicated to St. Timothy: "Wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have made shipwreck of their faith." (1 Timothy 1:19). *Continued on Page 7*

This week at SPB and Upcoming Parish/Archdiocesan Events

Sunday, 10/02/2022

8:00am Mass: +Rita Duffy (Josh & Mary Pattyn)
10:30am Mass: +Bill Celorie (Lois Celorie)

Monday, 10/03/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Tuesday, 10/04/2022 Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi

7:00pm: RCIA/Hall

Wednesday, 10/05/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Thursday, 10/06/2022

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

7:00pm: Faith Sharing via Zoom

8:30am-10:00pm:

Eucharistic Adoration



Friday, 10/07/2022 Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary

8:00am: Morning Prayer/Church

Saturday, 10/08/2022

4:00-5:00pm: Reconciliation/Church

5:30pm Mass: +Leta Tlusty (Don & Loretta Payne)

Sunday, 10/09/2022

8:00am: All Parishioners

10:30am Mass: +Cecil H. Krueger

(Jerry & Janeene Siler)

October is Respect Life Month

Oct. 2nd: Respect Life Sunday

Confirmation Class after 10:30 Mass

Blood pressure readings/Hall 9:15

Oct. 8th: JPPI Young Adult Crew-5:30 Mass

followed by dinner and discussion at the Hive.

October 23rd: World Mission Sunday

All Saints Party for the whole parish

Come celebrate All Saints Day with our parish family. Enjoy saint themed games and fun for the whole family after the 10:30 Mass on October 30th. Please bring a potluck dish to share.

Confirmation Classes will start on October 2nd after the 10:30 Mass in the Hall.

Join Catholics nationwide in celebrating Respect Life Month! respectlife.org/celebrate.

Every October the Catholic Church in the United States celebrates Respect Life Month, and the first Sunday of October is observed as Respect Life Sunday. As Catholics, we are called to cherish, defend, and protect those who are most vulnerable, from conception to natural death, and at every point in between. During the month of October, the Church asks us to reflect more deeply on the dignity of every human life.

The month of October is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. The feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is Oct. 7th.

Join the JPPI Young Adult Crew (Young Adult Group) on October 8th for Mass at 5:30 followed by dinner and discussion at the Hive in Oregon City. The theme is, "Being Catholic in the world today".



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

Finance Corner

| Registered Household 218 | WEEK OF 9/18/2022 <u>Actual</u> | <u>Budget</u> |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| <u>Donors</u> 52 | \$3,676 (online: \$440) | \$4,902 |
| <u>Fiscal Year</u> | \$52,047 | \$54,849 |

Next Weeks Assignments

Ushers

10/08~5:30pm: Tom Muldoon

10/09~8:00am: Paul Lowry

10/09~10:30am: Kevin Horace

Lector/Commentator

Heather Hannam

Kristine Bible

Dan Sweeney

Below is the QR code for Parish Soft.

October Church Cleaners: Larry Sullivan (503-701-8752)

October Altar Linens: Elaine Buxman (503-655-7208)



10/09 9:00: Jim & Li

11:30:



Have Faith

That is so easy to say and so hard to do. This might be because we misunderstand what faith is and what it might do. Today's readings offer us three glimpses into what the Bible means by faith.

The reading from Habakkuk and the Gospel passage seem to contradict each other. The Gospel suggests that one can do wondrous things if one's faith is strong enough. Many people understand this literally and then are confused and terribly disappointed when things do not turn out as they wanted. Habakkuk is in a dire situation. He had turned to God, but it seems to no avail: "You do not intervene" (Habakkuk 1:2). What response did he get? "Don't give up. Don't lose faith."

Paul's letter was written to Timothy, one of Paul's own converts to faith in the risen Lord. Paul encourages Timothy to remain steadfast in that faith. It's clear that faith is not solely a set of beliefs and doctrines; it is a way of life—one that follows and is

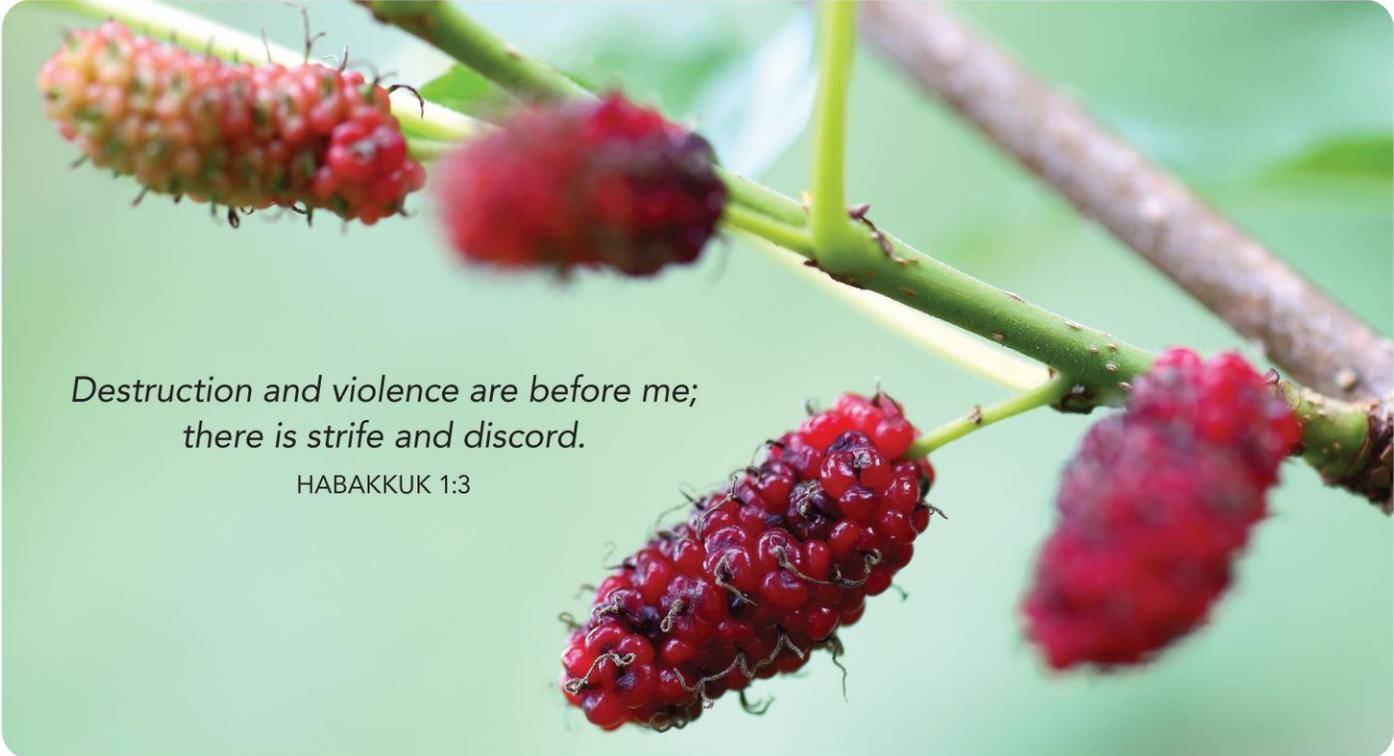
inspired by the example Jesus' life provides. It is also clear that living such a life might be dangerous, as evidenced by Paul's own imprisonment.

Reading the Gospel passage again after considering these reflections, one might understand the power of faith in a new way. Perhaps the mulberry tree stands for the struggles that had to be endured by Habakkuk, the danger that Timothy faced in a hostile world, and the hurdles that challenge our own faith. It assures us that if we don't lose faith, we also can do wondrous things.

Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR *Reflection*

- ✦ *For you, what is the difference between faith as what you believe and faith as how you live?*
- ✦ *How might your faith help you get beyond life's hurdles?*



*Destruction and violence are before me;
there is strife and discord.*

HABAKKUK 1:3

Dear Padre,

Why should we be married in the Church?

At baptism, every Christian is called to be not just Jesus' disciple, but an apostle. While it's easy to see how priests and religious sisters and brothers serve as missionaries, a man and woman joined in the sacrament of matrimony are also missionaries. Saint Paul noted the way a husband and wife love each other reflects how Christ loves his bride, the Church: "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ loved the church" (Ephesians 5:25).

The first beneficiaries of the missionary vocation of marriage are the husband and wife. Through their exclusive love, they support each other.



KHAMIAK / SHUTTERSTOCK

Their relationship is open to sexual expression, allowing the body and soul of two to become one. And, if God wills, children will benefit from the Christian bond of their parents. They bring their children to baptism, then teach them about their faith at home through example and instruction.

Those who encounter a couple throughout their lives—relatives, friends, coworkers, parishioners, and even strangers—benefit from their Christian marriage. How often have we been touched by the sight of an older couple walking hand in hand?

God will reveal to them only in eternity how many lives have been impacted by their love.

Jesus praised matrimony as part of the initial vocation given to humanity (see Mark 10:6–9). Without reproduction, there would have been no human race. But humans, created in God's image, lead lives reflecting God's love. In the couple who says, "I do," God's love shines brightly as a light to the world.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

Marriage isn't just a social act. It's a vocation that's born from the heart, a conscious decision for the rest of one's life that requires specific preparation....God has a dream for us, love, and he asks us to make it our own. Let us make our own the love which is God's dream for us.

MONTHLY PRAYER INTENTION, JUNE 1, 2021

Calendar

Monday

OCTOBER 3

Weekday

Gal 1:6–12

Lk 10:25–37

Tuesday

OCTOBER 4

St. Francis of Assisi

Gal 1:13–24

Lk 10:38–42

Wednesday

OCTOBER 5

Weekday

Gal 2:1–2, 7–14

Lk 11:1–4

Thursday

OCTOBER 6

Weekday

Gal 3:1–5

Lk 11:5–13

Friday

OCTOBER 7

Our Lady

of the Rosary

Gal 3:7–14

Lk 11:15–26

Saturday

OCTOBER 8

Weekday

Gal 3:22–29

Lk 11:27–28

Sunday

OCTOBER 9

Twenty-eighth

Sunday in

Ordinary Time

2 Kgs 5:14–17

2 Tm 2:8–13

Lk 17:11–19

DAYbreaks

Leading Catholic voices inspire the faithful with daily reflections & prayers for Advent and Lent.

Including: Fr. Ron Rolheiser, Dr. Mary Katharine Deeley, Sr. Dianne Bergant, Fr. Paul Turner, and more at Liguori.org.

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THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, MOTHER OF THE CHURCH

Meditating on the close relationships between Mary and the Church, for the glory of the Virgin Mary and for our own consolation, we proclaim the Most Blessed Mary Mother of the Church, that is to say of all the people of God, of the faithful as well as of the pastors, who call her the most loving Mother. And we wish that the Mother of God should be still more honored and invoked by the entire Christian people by this most sweet title.

This is a title, venerable brothers, not new to Christian piety; it is precisely by this title, in preference to all others, that the faithful and the Church address Mary. It truly is part of the genuine substance of devotion to Mary, finding its justification in the very dignity of the Mother of the word Incarnate.

Just as, in fact, the divine maternity is the basis for her special relationship with Christ, and for her presence in the economy of salvation brought about by Jesus Christ, thus it also constitutes the principal basis for the relations between Mary and the Church, since she is the mother of him who, right from the time of his Incarnation in her virginal bosom, joined to himself as head his Mystical Body which is the Church. Mary, then, as mother of Christ, is mother also of all the faithful and of all the pastors.

It is therefore with a soul full of trust and filial love that we raise our glance to her, despite our unworthiness and weakness. She, who has given us in Jesus the fountainhead of grace, will not fail to succor the Church, now flourishing through the abundance of the gifts of the Holy Ghost and setting herself with new zeal to the fulfilment of its mission of salvation.

And our trust is even more lively and fully corroborated if we consider the very close links between this heavenly Mother of ours and mankind. Although adorned by God with the riches of admirable prerogatives, to make her a worthy Mother of the Word Incarnate, she is nevertheless very close to us. Daughter of Adam, like ourselves, and therefore our sister through ties of nature, she is, however, the creature who was preserved from original sin in view of the merits of the Savior, and who possesses besides the privileges obtained the personal virtue of a total and exemplary faith, thus deserving the evangelical praise, *beata quae credidisti* (blessed art thou who believed). In her earthly life, she realized the perfect image of the disciple of Christ, reflected every virtue, and incarnated the evangelical beatitudes proclaimed by Christ. Therefore, in her, the entire Church, in its incomparable variety of life and of work, attains the most authentic form of the perfect imitation of Christ.

(From an allocution by Pope Paul VI (1897-1978) at the Second Vatican Council)

REFLECTION OF THE WEEK

“Faith is unseen but felt, faith is strength when we feel we have none, faith is hope when all seems lost.” – Catherine Pulsifer.

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).

Christ's human will

Similarly, at the sixth ecumenical council, Constantinople III in 681, the Church confessed that Christ possesses two wills and two natural operations, divine and human. They are not opposed to each other, but cooperate in such a way that the Word made flesh willed humanly in obedience to his Father all that he had decided divinely with the Father and the Holy Spirit for our salvation. Christ's human will "does not resist or oppose but rather submits to his divine and almighty will." CCC 475

Christ's true body

Since the Word became flesh in assuming a true humanity, Christ's body was finite. Therefore the human face of Jesus can be portrayed; at the seventh ecumenical council (Nicaea II in 787) the Church recognized its representation in holy images to be legitimate. CCC 476

At the same time the Church has always acknowledged that in the body of Jesus "we see our God made visible and so are caught up in love of the God we cannot see." The individual characteristics of Christ's body express the divine person of God's Son. He has made the features of his human body his own, to the point that they can be venerated when portrayed in a holy image, for the believer "who venerates the icon is venerating in it the person of the one depicted". CCC 477

The heart of the Incarnate Word

Jesus knew and loved us each and all during his life, his agony and his Passion, and gave himself up for each one of us: "The Son of God. . . loved me and gave himself for me." He has loved us all with a human heart. For this reason, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, pierced by our sins and for our salvation, "is quite rightly considered the chief sign and symbol of that. . . love with which the divine Redeemer continually loves the eternal Father and all human beings" without exception. CCC 478

Continued from page 2.

With faith, we can move mountains and what looks impossible becomes possible. Without faith, we see only the ugly and dark side of life. Without faith, it is impossible to please God; we remain helpless, and slaves to despair and hopelessness. Faith liberates us and helps us see God's power and love at work in our lives. Without faith, there is no reason for anything, and nothing is in its proper place. Life becomes uninteresting, incomprehensible, and unbearable without our faith in God.

Furthermore, faith gives meaning to life. Also, faith answers the most profound and intriguing questions of life. Our daily prayer should be: "Lord, increase our faith." Let us hold on tenaciously to the priceless gift of faith to each of us and not let anything whatsoever snatch it away from us. Life's journey becomes dark, meaningless, and burdensome if we carelessly lose this invaluable treasure. When we, with faith, do what the Lord wants us to do, we see ourselves as unworthy and unprofitable servants.

Finally, it is pertinent to remind us that this month calls us to deepen our devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary (October devotion). So, remember to pray the Rosary daily. Use this secret weapon that could resolve personal problems, deepen your spiritual life, rescue your mind from anxiety, combat the powers of darkness, and save family and friends from the darkness of sin. In the words of Venerable Fulton Sheen: 'The power of the Rosary is beyond description.'

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

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



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