



Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

January 17, 2021



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi"—which translated means Teacher— "where are you staying?" He said to them, "Come, and you will see." - Jn 1:38-39a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

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**WEEKEND MASSES:
SATURDAYS AT 5PM
SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM**

**DAILY MASSES:
TUESDAYS &
THURSDAYS 8AM**

**RECONCILIATION:
SATURDAYS 3:30 - 4:30PM**

**HOLY HOUR:
WEDNESDAYS 6 - 7PM**

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MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 16

8:00am: Living and Deceased
Parishioners of Immaculate
Conception Parish
5:00pm: Ray Geraci

Sunday, January 17

10:30am: Parishioners of
Immaculate Conception Parish
Augustina Aragon
Amelia Vena

Monday, January 18

8:00am: Deceased Parishioners of
Immaculate Conception Parish

Tuesday, January 19

8:00am: Gilda De Rose
Otto Cortesi
Gennaro Rinaldi

**Wednesday, January 20**

8:00am: Cassie Lopez

Thursday, January 21

8:00am: Irma Ori
Frank Dachs

Friday, January 22

8:00am: Judi Meissner

Saturday, January 23

8:00am: Living and Deceased
Parishioners of Immaculate
Conception Parish
5:00pm: Elzbieta Roza Rudzka
Jesse & Kathie Roa

Sunday, January 24

10:30am: Parishioners of
Immaculate Conception Parish

PRAYER SHAWLS

A Prayer Shawl is a shawl that has been crocheted or knitted in different patterns. It is around 24" by 62" with some being narrower or longer. They can be requested for, or by, anyone experiencing a medical or physical need. They can be blessed and come with a prayer to help comfort and ease any suffering. There is no cost, however, donations can be made to purchase more yarn to continue this ministry.



If you would like a Prayer Shawl, arrangements can be made for delivery or pickup. Please contact Mary Roberts at 847-445-7483.

Psst... YOU STILL HAVE TIME

Please consider a year-end gift to Immaculate Conception!

We will be accepting donations for 2020 through January 17th. Please write "2020" on the memo line of your check and drop it in the collection basket or the Parish Center office!

Thank you for your generosity!



Fr. Mike's Homiletter – January 17, 2021 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Scripture: 1 Samuel 3:3b-10, 19; Psalm 40:2, 4, 7-10; 1Corinthians 6:13c-15a, 17-20; John 1:35-42

This week we will inaugurate a new president of our nation, and begin the process of establishing a new administration for our country. The past four years have been a lesson in how our elected representatives, of both political parties, can fail at collaboration for the common good. Let us pray for a new era of civility in our national political life this week.

It is timely that our readings this week address how we absorb the spoken word. There are many terms for the process – but I'm thinking of two: hearing and listening. Hearing tends to suggest something is coming from the outside to the hearer, who may or may not pay much attention. Here in Highland Park, with a hospital in our midst, we hear sirens all the time, but I suspect we are so used to them, we don't pay any attention - they are just noise. Listening, on the other hand, suggests that the non-speaker is paying attention – the words being spoken are being processed for meaning, both the obvious ones and the not-so-obvious ones.

In our first reading, we meet Samuel, a young boy who lives in the temple with the priests, of which Eli was one. Years before, Samuel's mother Hannah, who had no children, had begged the Lord to give her a child. Eli, coming upon her praying aloud and crying with sorrow, had thought her drunk. But the Lord heard Hannah's prayer, and gave her Samuel. In gratitude, she promised to give Samuel to the temple when he was about three. And she did. We meet Samuel eight or ten years later, when he was studying with the priests of the temple, including Eli. Samuel was asleep when he heard his name called, and he responded, running to Eli to do whatever he wanted. Three times the Lord called Samuel, and three times he ran to Eli to answer. Finally, Eli realized that it was the Lord calling the boy, and instructed him to respond appropriately. And he did, saying "Speak, Lord, for your servant is *listening*." And Samuel grew up blessed and favored by the Lord. Samuel had learned to *listen*, not just to hear. He *listened* to God's call and he *responded*.

Our second reading contains Paul's words to the Corinthian community. Corinth was a busy Roman city, a crossroads of traffic from Rome to what we now know as Turkey and the Middle East, with many influences on the culture. Some Corinthians had heard Paul's message, but hadn't listened carefully. Paul later finds that they have decided that since the spirit is so important in the relationship with God, the body doesn't matter – they felt free to engage in immoral behavior as long as they maintained what they thought was the right "spirit". Paul is letting them know that while they may have heard his teaching, they hadn't *listened* to it. In Baptism, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and become part of the Body of Christ, *body and spirit*. Our bodies are not our own - we have become temples of the Holy Spirit. *Listen* carefully, Corinthians – there's more to my preaching than you got the first time.

Our Gospel presents John the Baptist at the Jordan, after Jesus' baptism. John is talking to two of his disciples, and comments "Behold, the Lamb of God." John knew Jesus was the Messiah. He was sharing this knowledge with Andrew and another disciple I think of as the Anonymous Friend. They both turn and follow Jesus: they had *listened* to what John was saying. Jesus realized they were following him and turned and asked "What are you looking for?" Like many of us when faced with a question we are uncertain about answering, they fudged – asking "Where are you staying?" Jesus *listened* – he knew what they wanted to know, so he invited them along, and they spent the day with him. At the end, they knew *he* was what they were looking for. Then right away Andrew went to his brother Simon Peter to share the good news – to tell him they had found the Messiah. And they followed Jesus. They had heard the call, *listened* to Jesus, and *responded* – not just in word, but in deed. We would all do well to imitate them.

Peace, Father Mike

Food for Thought...

Neighborliness is not a quality in other people, it is simply their claim on ourselves.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer,
The Cost of Discipleship

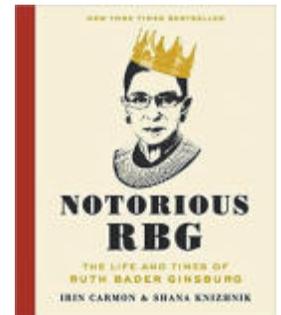


ST. TERESA OF AVILA PARISH BOOK CLUB

**“Notorious RBG: The Life and Times of
Ruth Bader Ginsburg”**

by Irin Carmon & Shana Knizhnik

Thursday, January 21, 2021 Zoom Meeting 7:00pm



240 Pages

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Please contact mnelsen@comcast.net to receive the necessary link or 847-722-2996.

Everyone most welcome to join in this discussion. Many selections regarding her life are also available.

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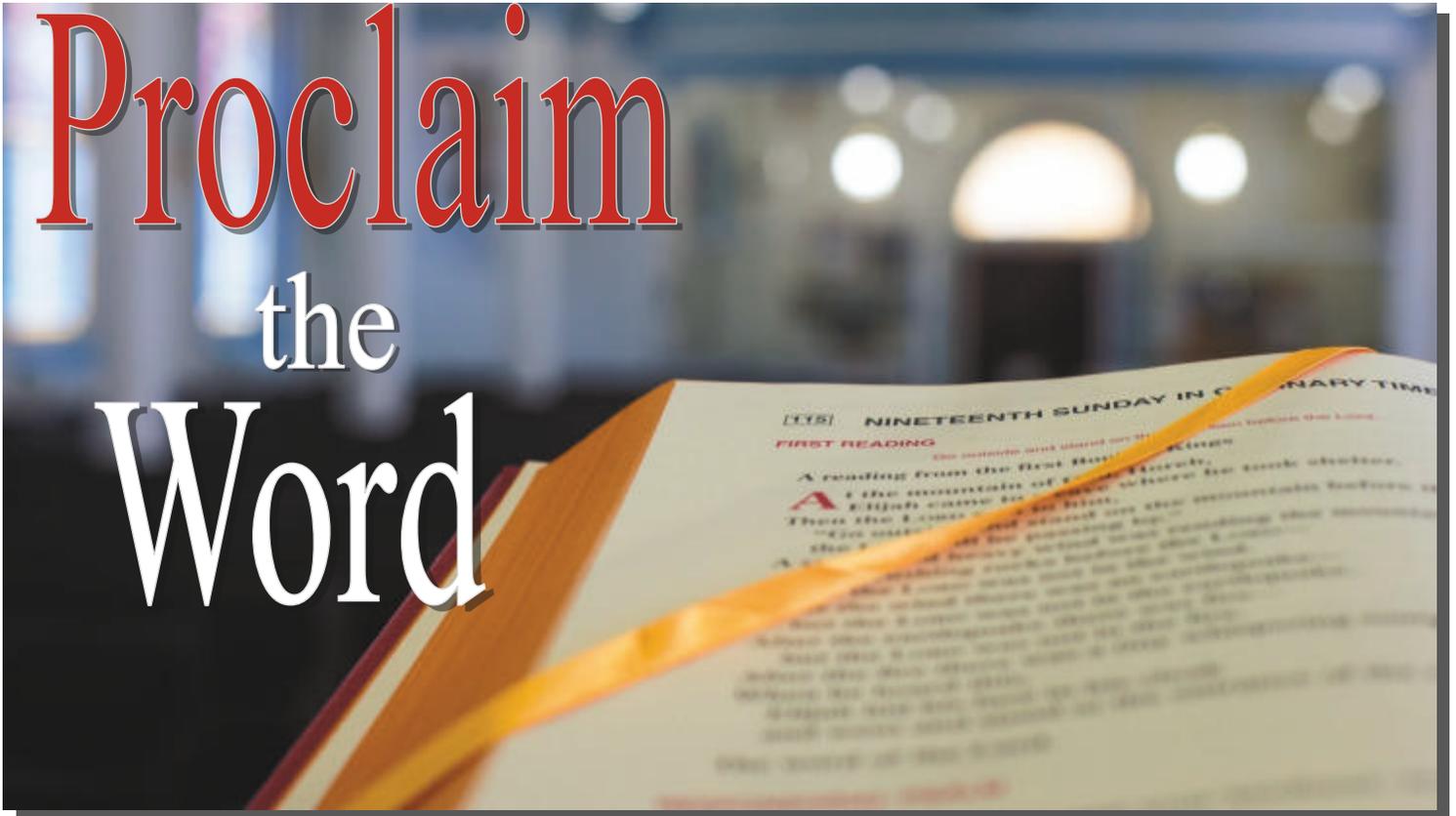
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“The Lord has given me a well-trained tongue,
That I might know how to answer the weary a word that will waken them.”

- Isaiah 50:4



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When: Saturday, February 13, 2021

Check-In, 8:45 a.m.;

Workshop, 9 a.m. to noon

Where: Zoom

Registration: www.vic1chicago.org

D. Todd Williamson is the Director of the Office for Divine Worship of the Archdiocese of Chicago. He is a speaker, author and liturgist whose ministerial experience includes teaching and parish pastoral ministry. His most recent publications, *Great is the Mystery*, *the Formational Power of Liturgy*, and *Guide for Celebrating the Rites of Christian Initiation with Adults*, are published by Liturgy Training Publications.



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A GIVING TREE THANK YOU

Dear Valued Donor,

As if 2020 hadn't been fraught with challenge upon challenge, we had to face a holiday season that was to be stripped of the unbridled joy that celebrating it with loved ones brings. For so many of you, that joy is often enhanced even further by the warmth and gratification that accompanies providing gifts for the children of Lake County's needy families. But there the planners sat back in August trying to put together an abbreviated program that could provide as much coverage as possible with severely limited resources. We have, for the past 30 years employed a process that allowed us to help as many as 13,000 of people per year. But that was with a seemingly unlimited supply of volunteers and donors, the preponderance of whom came from churches, high schools, and private donors. With church attendance dramatically down and pastors being justifiably protective of their flocks and with high schools being similarly protective of their students, where would our donors come from? Furthermore, with many of our long-time intrepid volunteers having slipped into the "most vulnerable" territory from a pandemic perspective, how would we accomplish all the administrative detail that our program requires?

Well, what we hadn't counted on was the degree to which our traditional donor participants rely on the Catholic Charities Christmas Gift Program as an essential part of their Christmas experience. With the aid of the admin offices in the parishes and high schools we were able to connect with their constituents through the publication of our donor form and instructions in bulletins, websites, Facebook, webinars etc., we were able to generate great donor support, skipping only the involvement in handling the gifts by the institutions. All gifts were delivered to our 3 drop-off sites around the county and transported to the warehouse by Catholic Charities volunteers. Gift recipients were given appointments and distribution was made using all the precautions we could devise to shield all parties from Covid.

It was extremely gratifying for those of us charged with the responsibility of making it work regardless of the obstacles, to observe the dedication of our smaller, but intrepid number of volunteers bravely accepting the small but still existent risk of infection to accomplish the mission. Similarly, the donors who put a good bit of their hearts on display with tenderly shopping for their assigned families, inspired those great volunteers to work harder to make it possible for children to feel the love of a community that cares.

Here is a quote that we have heard throughout the years from volunteers and donors. "I don't think I can imagine ever again experiencing Christmas without participating in this program." I know those words ring true for all of those who volunteered this year. Our prayer is that next year those who were forced to step back owing to physical vulnerabilities will try to join us and we can resurrect the process that has served us so well through the years. May God bless you and your family in the coming year. Feel comfort in knowing that you made Him smile, not to mention 5500 Lake County kids.

Warm Regards,

Barbara Campbell & Jim Wogan
Lake County Christmas Gift Program Coordinators
Lake County Administration
jwogan@catholiccharities.net

Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Chicago
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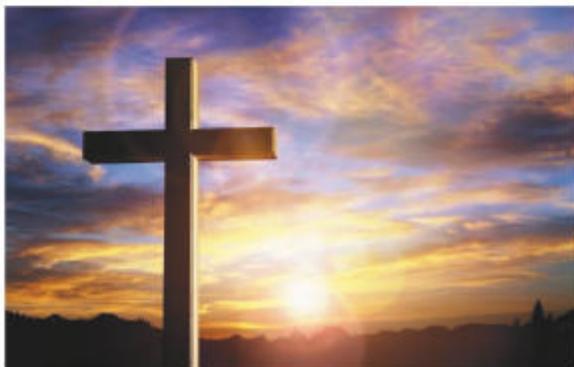
STEWARDSHIP SUMMARY:

FY20-21 July - December:	Actual	Budget	Variance
SUNDAY/HOLY DAYS	\$168,707.46	\$178,438.00	<\$9,730.54>

DECEMBER	\$25,252.48	\$27,452.00	<\$2,199.52>
CHRISTMAS	\$35,088.25	\$40,000.00	<\$4,911.75>

Join us in celebrating Catholic Schools Week!

On January 31st from 9-10 am there will be a Zoom meeting to honor Catholic Schools Week. Each student can invite 1 friend to join them for this virtual open house. *Students do not need to be Catholic to attend.*



If interested, parents must email the Director at PREPOffice@icparish.org to be able to get the Zoom invite for this class. Please come for this special time of faith and friendship.

This announcement was created by PREP 8th grader, Jackson Droll as part of his Confirmation service hours.



2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEEK

Jesus turned and saw them following him and said to them, "What are you looking for?" - Jn 1:38a

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

PREP

Dear PREP Parent,

Catholic Schools Week begins the end of January. As a way to celebrate what we do in Catholic education on the weekend, I'd like to have a virtual open house to showcase the wonderful lessons taking place within our religious education program. In doing such, you and your child have an opportunity to discuss the option of inviting a friend to class on Sunday 1/31/21.

Please know your child's guest does not have to be Catholic to attend. We are excited to welcome perspective and former students as well as students from other denominations to experience what their friend learns in class each Sunday. Students can even invite an age-appropriate cousin/ relative who doesn't live in the area. The students will introduce their guest and share something special about them and the guest will have the opportunity to do the same.

I told the students they are not required to invite a friend and to not feel bad if they invite someone who has to decline the offer due to other plans. The fact they were thought of will make their friend feel special!

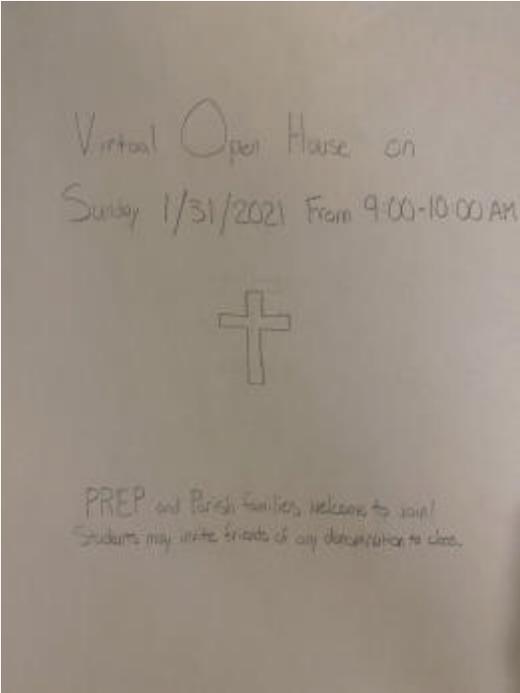
I need you to please let me know by the end of the day Wednesday 1/27 if your child will be inviting someone to class. I need time to get the various emails and information to the catechists so they have time to include guests in their email invite. The invite will come from your child's catechist.

On Sunday, I talked about this event among most of the classes so please discuss this with your child. Any questions, please let me know.

As a formality, I need for the information below (or attached) to be completed by the parent of your child's guest and returned to me via email by 1/27/21.

I am looking forward to visiting the classes during this special time of sharing, caring, and friendship.

God Bless,
Barb



A special thank you to Raenier Ampon, 8th grade PREP student, for drafting this announcement as part of his Confirmation Service Hours.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ZOOM OPEN HOUSE PERMISSION SLIP
January 31st 2021
Immaculate Conception Parish

_____ has my permission to attend a virtual Zoom Open House as the guest of _____, parent of _____ in Grade _____.

I understand my email address will be shared with the Catechist in order to receive the Zoom link for class on 1/31/2021.

Signature or email confirmation to DRE is acceptable

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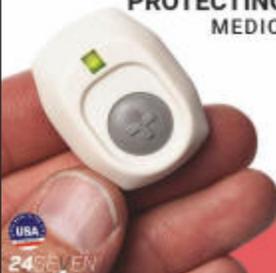
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NURTURING YOUR GRIEF DURING THE HOLIDAYS

C

- Center yourself on the new meaning of this holiday, socially and spiritually
- Change or alter traditions and the family rituals as needed
- Console one another in the grief and sadness produced by the holidays
- Cherish the new memories being made

O

- Own your feelings: sadness, guilt, anger, mixed with the ongoing love
- OKAY to feel any of the feelings mentioned above; okay to ask for help if needed
- Observe cherished traditions that relish sweet memories of your deceased beloved
- Opportunity to allow others to share in your grief by talking about it

P

- Plan how you are going to do what you want and need to do
- Patience with yourself if there comes a day when you do not feel any positivity
- Peaceful moments can be enlightened with prayer as you light a candle of hope
- Promote self-care in the midst of your grieving

E

- Explore new reasons to be grateful
- Embrace your new normal
- Encourage others to say your loved-one's name aloud, especially the children
- Empower yourself by learning from new skills as needed

“Great and Wonderful are your works, Lord” - Rev. 15: 1-4



Eva Bustamante, MS, CT, CG-C
Bereavement Coordinator
Archdiocese of Chicago
Catholic Cemeteries