



20th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter
was healed from that hour. - Mt 15:28

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

OUR MISSION

St. John the Baptist Roman Catholic Church is a family of believers in Christ. As sacramental people, filled with God's love, we strive to provide a welcoming community, supporting one another on our journey to salvation. We are committed to each other in a spirit of compassion and love while promoting hope, healing and evangelization in our midst.

SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH
945 Main Road, P.O. Box 3328
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508-636-2251

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WEBSITE: stjohnthebaptistwestport.org

Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil 4:30PM
Sunday 8:00 and 10:00AM

Sacrament of Baptism

1st Sunday of the Month, Please contact the Rectory to make arrangements.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturdays at 4:00 P.M. or by calling the Rectory for an appointment.

Sacrament of Marriage

Arrangements to be made at least six months in advance.

Holy Communion at Home

Notify us of any parishioner who is unable to attend Mass. Eucharistic Ministers are available to visit weekly.

Pastor: Rev. Leonard P. Hindsley

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Paula Brown

Music Director: Scott Simpkin



Saturday August 15, 2020
4:30 PM Kyle Pontes (Parents)
 Angie & Everett Margarida (Family)

Sunday August 16, 2020
8:00AM Joanne Branco (Husband)
 Roger Court (Colleen Polselli)
10:00AM Melania Kaharl (Family)
 Margaret Monteiro & John Kelly
 (Family)

Monday August 17, 2020
8:00 AM Alvin Almeida; 1st Anniversary

Tuesday August 18, 2020
8:00 AM John J. Buckley

Wednesday August 19, 2020
8:00 AM Fr. Bill Condon

Thursday August 20, 2020
 ~*St. Bernard*
8:00 AM Special Intentions of
 John & Maureen

Saturday August 22, 2020
4:30 PM Bob Condon
 (Paul & Eileen Desmarais)

Sunday August 23, 2020
8:00AM Daniel Sheehan (Wife; Marguerite)
10:00AM Ambrosia Vieira (Family)
 Joe Pimentel; 1st Anniversary
 (Wife; Maria)



May God Bless you for generosity, thank you for your continued support!!

Collection.....\$2,166.00
 Online.....\$885.73

8/9 Total.....\$3,051.73

Catholic Charities YTD.....\$32,830.00

An additional **collection next weekend 8/23 & 8/24** will be for Olancho Aid, please make checks payable to **St. John's Mission Team.**

Kindly take a moment to pray for the intentions, the welfare, the healing and salvation of...

Betty Zuber,
Barbara Fazzina, Michael Marchand, Shawny Smith, Linda, Richard, Ken, Thomas Marques, Ray Richard, Rachel S., Lisa D., Lori Araujo, Yanni Spanos, Sydney Neronha, Judith Fralic, Mary Alice Fast, Bob Da Silva, Bob Condon, Mike Coleman, Holly Rodrigues, Pat Beland, Bruce Reynolds, Janet Mohr, Deborah Silvia, Devyn Arruda, Brenna, Margaret Kelley, Marie Drago, John Massa, Susan Tremblay, Stacey, Katherine Buschman, Kerri Martel, Carlos Silveira, Miguel DeSouza, Floris, Claire Sennett, Kevin Kelly, John, Edward Polgar, Joseph F. Heitzler, Jennifer Lavoie, Jim O'Hearn, Patrick Masterson, Dennis Martel, Kathy, Jeff Noetzel, Muriel & Henry Navarette, Anne Sennett Bahm, Maureen Stewart, Paul Desmarais, Randy Carvalho, and Our Service Men and Women

**THE CANDLE
 At the Foot of Mary**

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For the People of the Parish

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Burns this week
For the People of the Parish

**THE CANDLE
 at the**

*Statue of The Sacred Heart
 is perpetually burning in memory of
 Sarah Valentine*

From the Pastor's Desk



Celebration Summary: Bryan M. Cones

Today's liturgy sounds a single keynote: The God who first chose the people of Israel now extends salvation to every nation. The prophet Isaiah imagines a day when "foreigners" will serve the God of Israel, when Jerusalem's temple "shall be called a house of prayer for all people" (first reading). The alternative opening prayer praises the God whose "care extends beyond the boundaries of race and nation," and so asks that the walls of prejudice may "crumble beneath the shadow" of God's arm. As Paul points out in his letter to the Romans, however, the people of the first covenant have not been abandoned, "for the gifts and call of God are irrevocable." Paul hopes for the day when the people of Israel and those saved in Christ may at last be one, that God "might have mercy upon all." Though we do not know the how or when of that unity, the teaching of the Second Vatican Council in *Nostra aetate* affirms God's enduring covenant with the Jewish people. A homilist might invite the assembly to consider our Jewish roots, as well as God's desire that all be saved. Jesus' encounter with the Canaanite woman, celebrates the faith of a person who is clearly outside the boundaries of the Jewish community. Can we not but do the same? As we imagine with Isaiah God's vision of the future, we get a foretaste of that day as we gather at the Eucharistic table where we ask God to "make us one with Christ" (prayer after Communion).

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom and cured every disease among the people.

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

GOSPEL MT 15:21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "*Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon.*" But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "*Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.*" He said in reply, "*I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*" But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "*Lord, help me.*" He said in reply, "*It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs.*" She said, "*Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters.*" Then Jesus said to her in reply, "*O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.*" And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

Gospel: Virginia Smith

Matthew 15:21-28

Tyre and Sidon, cities which still exist in the modern state of Lebanon, were located in Jesus' day north of Galilee in the Gentile nation of Phoenicia. Several issues stand out in this episode. First, Matthew's Gospel was written for a Jewish audience, making it understandable that Jesus would react so negatively to the Canaanite woman's request. However, one must wonder exactly who this woman was as she clearly sees Jesus as, "Lord, Son of David." A similar disapproving attitude is found in Matthew 10:5-15 when Jesus specifically orders his disciples no to visit pagan territory or a Samaritan town. The flip side of the coin, however, is diametrically opposed. As an infant, Jesus' visitors were the magi, Gentiles from the east, possibly Persia (today's Iran). Also, in Chapter 8, Jesus readily heals the servant of a Roman officer. Clearly, although Matthew focuses on depicting Jesus as the long-awaited Jew-

ish messiah and fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets, he is not limited to that. He has great care for all who come to him, Jew or Gentile. In today's reading and that involving the Roman officer, the faith of the suppliant seems to have been the determining factor. In the latter instance, Jesus remarks, "Truly, I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith." Today, we hear, "O woman, great is your faith." Apparently, it's not so much who we are that matters as the depth of our faith. When we petition Jesus to grant our requests, it's reasonable to ask ourselves whether he would compliment us on the intensity and strength of our faith. © 2003, OCP. All rights reserved.

A Little Levity

A Bible-believing Christian businesswoman was flying to a meeting. Flying made her nervous so she took out her Bible for some courage. The man next to her smirked and asked: "You don't really believe all that stuff in the Bible, do you?" She answered: "Of course I do! It is the Bible!" He asked further: "What about that guy who got swallowed by the whale?" She replied: "Oh, you mean Jonah. Yes, I believe that. It's in the Bible." The man sniggered and asked: "How do you suppose he survived all that time in the belly of the whale?" She responded: "I don't really know. I guess when I get to heaven I'll ask him." The man said sarcastically: "What if he's not in heaven?" She said without batting an eye: "Then you can ask him."



**PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN IN
YOUR LEES RECEIPTS.**

Lees has graciously donated over \$1000.00
to us this year so far!!

They donate 1% of the receipts to us, these proceeds help fund our
Religious Education Program.

HONDURAN MISSION TEAM

The Honduran Mission Team will once again be running a calendar raffle to support their work in Honduras.

In these unprecedented times, we are unable to sell tickets after Masses, we ask that you please contact Claire Sullivan at 508-636-8988 or via email at cmsullivan@charter.net for tickets.

The Raffle will run September through December.

The cost is \$5.00 per month or \$15.00 for all 4 months.

Checks should be made payable to
St. John's Mission Team.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT**

A PRAYER FOR PROTECTION IN TIME OF PANDEMIC

Knights of Columbus

Adapted from the prayer of Pope Francis

O Mary, you always brighten our path
as a sign of salvation and of hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at
the Cross, took part in Jesus' pain while remaining
steadfast in faith.

O loving Mother, you know what we need,
and we are confident you will provide for us
as at Cana in Galilee. Intercede for us with your Son
Jesus, the Divine Physician,
for those who have fallen ill, for those who are
vulnerable, and for those who have died.

Intercede also for those charged with
protecting the health and safety of others
and for those who are tending to the sick
and seeking a cure.

Help us, O Mother of Divine Love,
to conform to the will of the Father
and to do as we are told by Jesus,
who took upon himself our
sufferings and carried our sorrows,
so as to lead us, through the Cross,
to the glory of the Resurrection. Amen.

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