



ASSUMPTION

CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL

July 12, 2020



15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“But the seed sown on rich soil is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields a hundred or sixty or thirtyfold.” - Mt 13:23

A WORD FROM OUR SHEPARD

Dearly Beloved in Christ:

It has been a source of great personal joy to see so many of you confidently approaching the Eucharistic throne of grace these past few weeks. We continue to take precautions to keep people safe. And while the obligation to come to the Eucharist has been temporarily dispensed, the Holy Mass is the source and summit of our Catholic faith. I encourage you to begin inviting fellow brothers and sisters in the Lord to return to the Eucharistic Sacrifice. For those gripped in fear, perhaps recommend a daily Mass where there are typically only about 15 people in attendance. They can sign up for Mass on our parish website.

The month of July is traditionally dedicated to the Precious Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Our first Pope, Saint Peter wrote in his Epistle: "*You know that you were redeemed from the vain manner of life handed down from your fathers, not with perishable things as silver or gold but with the Precious Blood of Christ as the Lamb without blemish and without spot*" (1 Peter 1: 18-19). The Precious Blood of Christ reveals how dear we are to the Eternal Father. Our Lady, the Immaculate Conception, gave Christ his all pure and undefiled body and blood. We were first marked with Precious Blood of the Lamb of God at our Baptism. Just as the Israelites anointed their door lintels in Egypt with the blood of the lamb to protect them from the angel of death, so too our souls were marked with the Blood of Jesus who delivers us from the power of the Evil One. Our lips are purpled with the Precious Blood of Christ in each Holy Communion. Even when we only receive the Host at Mass, we still receive the full Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ. For Christ cannot be divided. He is fully present under both species.

I want to share some thoughts from the great Jesuit, Father John Hardon on devotion to the Precious Blood of Christ:

Devotion to the Precious Blood is not a spiritual option, it is a spiritual obligation, and that not only for priests, but for every follower of Christ. I really believe, and I hesitate even saying this, but I really believe that one of the symptoms of modern society (and I would even include, sadly, modern Catholic society) one of the symptoms of a growing, gnawing secularism is the lessening and the weakening of devotion to the Precious Blood.

To understand the meaning of the Precious Blood we must (otherwise the mystery will be lost on us), we must get some comprehension of the gravity of sin, of the awfulness of offending God, because it required the Blood of the Son of God to forgive that sin. We are living in an age in which to sin has become fashionable. But we believe that we are here for only a very short time. We further believe that Christ when He told us the way that leads to damnation is broad and many there are who walk that way, that the way that leads to eternal life is narrow and there are few who walk that way. I am watching every syllable I am saying. The Church has never pronounced infallibly on the number lost and the number saved, but she has canonized St. John of the Cross and made him a Doctor of the Church. Says John of the Cross: "I believe that the majority of the human race will be lost."

This veneration of the Precious Blood, which is the first element in our devotion to the Precious Blood means that we have a deep sensitivity to the awfulness of sin. Sin must be terrible. It must be awful. It must be the most dreadful thing in the universe. Why? Because it cost the living God in human form the shedding of His Blood.

Devotion means imitation. In other words, if Christ showed His love for us by the shedding of His Blood, we are to show our love for Him - I mean everything I am saying - we are to show our love for Him by the shedding of our blood. That is what the Church means when she has us say that when Christ offers Himself daily on the altar in the Sacrifice of the Mass, we are told to identify that as our sacrifice - His and ours. He, the Head of the Mystical Body, can no longer suffer, but thank God, we can! This shedding of blood, I have not tired of repeating since my ordination, that we are living in the most heroic age of martyrs in the history of Christianity. I mean it. Countless millions of Christians who believe in the Precious Blood are proving their love for Him by their sufferings. Many by now in our century have shed and are shedding their blood physically. What a privilege! What a privilege if we were called to shed our blood physically in the Name of, and out of love for Christ!

And I don't hesitate recommending praying for the gift of martyrdom. But even if it is not God's Will that we shed our blood for Christ, to manifest our love for Him physically, let's make sure, absolutely sure, that we let no opportunity go by without shedding our blood spiritually. And that, my friends, no matter what our state of life, no matter what our vocation may be, if we are Christians we are meant to shed our blood!

The Litany of the Precious Blood offers some invocations that are powerful to meditate on during this month. I'll list just a few for your reflection: "*Blood of Christ, without which there is no forgiveness*" and "*Blood of Christ, stream of mercy*" and "*Blood of Christ, victor over demons*" and "*Blood of Christ, consolation of the dying.*" Blessings on your week!

Yours In Christ,
Father Nick

CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE FIRST COMMANDMENT

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself a graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them.³

It is written: "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."⁴

I. "YOU SHALL WORSHIP THE LORD YOUR GOD AND HIM ONLY SHALL YOU SERVE"

2084 God makes himself known by recalling his all-powerful loving, and liberating action in the history of the one he addresses: "I brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage." The first word contains the first commandment of the Law: "You shall fear the LORD your God; you shall serve him. . . . You shall not go after other gods."⁵ God's first call and just demand is that man accept him and worship him.

2085 The one and true God first reveals his glory to Israel.⁶ The revelation of the vocation and truth of man is linked to the revelation of God. Man's vocation is to make God manifest by acting in conformity with his creation "in the image and likeness of God": There will never be another God, Trypho, and there has been no other since the world began . . . than he who made and ordered the universe. We do not think that our God is different from yours. He is the same who brought your fathers out of Egypt "by his powerful hand and his outstretched arm." We do not place our hope in some other god, for there is none, but in the same God as you do: the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.⁷

2086 "The first commandment embraces faith, hope, and charity. When we say 'God' we confess a constant, unchangeable being, always the same, faithful and just, without any evil. It follows that we must necessarily accept his words and have complete faith in him and acknowledge his authority. He is almighty, merciful, and infinitely beneficent. Who could not place all hope in him? Who could not love him when contemplating the treasures of goodness and love he has poured out on us? Hence the formula God employs in the Scripture at the beginning and end of his commandments: 'I am the LORD.'⁸

Faith

2087 Our moral life has its source in faith in God who reveals his love to us. St. Paul speaks of the "obedience of faith"⁹ as our first obligation. He shows that "ignorance of God" is the principle and explanation of all moral deviations.¹⁰ Our duty toward God is to believe in him and to bear witness to him.

2088 The first commandment requires us to nourish and protect our faith with prudence and vigilance, and to reject everything that is opposed to it. There are various ways of sinning against faith:

Voluntary doubt about the faith disregards or refuses to hold as true what God has revealed and the Church proposes for belief. *Involuntary doubt* refers to hesitation in believing, difficulty in overcoming objections connected with the faith, or also anxiety aroused by its obscurity. If deliberately cultivated doubt can lead to spiritual blindness.

2089 *Incredulity* is the neglect of revealed truth or the willful refusal to assent to it. "*Heresy* is the obstinate post-baptismal denial of some truth which must be believed with divine and catholic faith, or it is likewise an obstinate doubt concerning the same; *apostasy* is the total repudiation of the Christian faith; *schism* is the refusal of submission to the Roman Pontiff or of communion with the members of the Church subject to him."¹¹

Hope

2090 When God reveals Himself and calls him, man cannot fully respond to the divine love by his own powers. He must hope that God will give him the capacity to love Him in return and to act in conformity with the commandments of charity. Hope is the confident expectation of divine blessing and the beatific vision of God; it is also the fear of offending God's love and of incurring punishment.

2091 The first commandment is also concerned with sins against hope, namely, despair and presumption:

By *despair*, man ceases to hope for his personal salvation from God, for help in attaining it or for the forgiveness of his sins. Despair is contrary to God's goodness, to his justice - for the Lord is faithful to his promises - and to his mercy.

2092 There are two kinds of *presumption*. Either man presumes upon his own capacities, (hoping to be able to save himself without help from on high), or he presumes upon God's almighty power or his mercy (hoping to obtain his forgiveness without conversion and glory without merit).

Charity

2093 Faith in God's love encompasses the call and the obligation to respond with sincere love to divine charity. The first commandment enjoins us to love God above everything and all creatures for him and because of him.¹²

2094 One can sin against God's love in various ways:

- *indifference* neglects or refuses to reflect on divine charity; it fails to consider its prevenient goodness and denies its power.
- *ingratitude* fails or refuses to acknowledge divine charity and to return him love for love.
- *lukewarmness* is hesitation or negligence in responding to divine love; it can imply refusal to give oneself over to the prompting of charity.
- *acedia* or spiritual sloth goes so far as to refuse the joy that comes from God and to be repelled by divine goodness.
- *hatred of God* comes from pride. It is contrary to love of God, whose goodness it denies, and whom it presumes to curse as the one who forbids sins and inflicts punishments.

Prayer Corner

Please pray for the sick and those in need of our prayers:

Frances Gallegos
 Flora Garcia
 Barb Gregerson
 Liz Gutierrez
 Bea Kendall
 Kathy Montoya
 Terry Morrow
 Cathy Pino
 Rosemary Rule
 Fran Sandoval
 Ed Starcher
 Eddie Vigil
 Chuck Wheatley

Names will stay on this list for a period of 2 weeks.

For the repose of the souls of the recently deceased:

Benny Molinaro

"At the end of our life we shall be judged by charity."

— St. Paul of the Cross

STEWARDSHIP OF TITHING

Week ending June 28th

Offertory	\$4,272.00
Capital Improvement, Outreach and School	\$2,110.00

STEWARDSHIP OF TITHING

Week ending July 5th

Offertory	\$3,499.00
Capital Improvement, Outreach and School	\$222.00

Assumption Parish

2361 E. 78th Ave, Denver CO
 Parish Office: 303.288.2442 x100
 School Office: 303.288.2159 x110
Sacramental Emergency:
720-437-9953
www.assumptiondenver.org

Mass Times:

Monday-Friday: 8:30am
 Saturday: 4:30pm
 Sunday: 8:30am & 10:30am

Parish Office Hours

Monday-Friday: 9am-3:30pm

Food Bank:

Wednesday: 8:30am-12pm

Reconciliation:

Tuesday: 9:00 - 10:00am
 Thursday: 6:00 - 7:00pm
 Saturday: 3:45 - 4:15pm

SACRIFICE OF THE MASS

Monday, July 13th	† Mike Puchino
Tuesday, July 14th	† Mary Jane Barrett
Wednesday, July 15th	† Margaret Kelly
Thursday, July 16th	† Frank & Betty Saccomanno
Friday, July 17th	† Deacon Anthony Dudzic
Saturday, July 18th	† Charles & Cathleen Young
Sunday, July 19th 8:30am 10:30am	† Sam & Jennie Domenico People of Assumption

CONTACT US

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UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

Date	Event	Time	Location
Tuesday, July 14th	33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph with Fr. Nick Larkin	7pm-8pm	Zoom Meeting Meeting ID: 852 7748 2078 Password: 339478
Tuesday, July 14th	Confessions	9am-10pm	Church
Wednesday, July 15th	Food Bank	8:30am-12pm	Parish Dining Room
Thursday, July 16th	Brown Scapular Enrollment	9am	Church
Thursday, July 16th	Holy Hour & Confessions	6pm-7pm	Church
Thursday, July 16th	Mystogogy	7pm-8:30pm	Holy Family Courtyard
Friday, July 17th	Bingo	12pm-2pm	Turn II Bingo Hall: 7139 N. Pecos St.
Saturday, July 18th	Confessions	3:45pm-4:15pm	Church

33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph with Fr. Nick Larkin

Every Tuesday, Jul 14 - Aug 11

The Aquinas Forum invites you to join Fr. Nick Larkin for a 5 week book study and 33 Day Consecration to St. Joseph! If you don't have a relationship (like most people) to St. Joseph, no need to fear. You can begin one with a seasoned guide through the teaching and inspiration of Fr. Nick Larkin, pastor of Assumption Parish in North Denver. Due to the generosity of the Aquinas Forum donors this call is free and open to the public. Please invite a friend, buy the book, and join us! We start July 14th.

Time: 7pm-8pm Mountain Time (**Tuesday evenings**) **Dates:** July 14th, 21st, 28th and August 4th and 11th

Zoom call. Meeting ID: 852 7748 2078 Password: 339478

Each hour-long call will be hosted by John O'Brien, Executive Director of the Aquinas Forum and Fr. Nick Larkin will present 20 minutes and respond to open Q and A by the participants. This call will go for 60 minutes.

Book information: Purchase here and have it with you **before the first call:** <https://www.amazon.com/Consecration-St-Joseph-Wonders-Spiritual/dp/1596144319>

Brown Scapular Enrollment on July 16th

After Holy Mass on Thursday, July 16th we will have the enrollment in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. Those who wish to be enrolled only need to bring a brown scapular that Father Nick will bless and enroll new members in. The scapular is a manifestation of devotion to Our Lady. She promised that those who devoutly wear Her scapular will be spared the fires of hell.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 12, 2020

Sunday	Is 55:10-11/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13, 14 [Lk 8:8]/Rom 8:18-23/Mt 13:1-23 or 13:1-9
Monday	Is 1:10-17/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23 [23b]/Mt 10:34-11:1
Tuesday	Is 7:1-9/Ps 48:2-3a, 3b-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 9d]/Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday	Is 10:5-7, 13b-16/Ps 94:5-6, 7-8, 9-10, 14-15 [14a]/Mt 11:25-27
Thursday	Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19/Ps 102:13-14ab and 15, 16-18, 19-21 [20b]/Mt 11:28-30
Friday	Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8/Is 38:10, 11, 12abcd, 16 [cf. 17b]/Mt 12:1-8
Saturday	Mi 2:1-5/Ps 10:1-2, 3-4, 7-8, 14 [12b]/Mt 12:14-21
Next Sunday	Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16 [5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30

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