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Sunday, August 8, 2021 — Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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Rev. Wm. Tom Davis, O.S.A. **
Associate Pastor

Rev. Sarfraz Alam, O.S.A.Associate Pastor

Rev. James P. Retzner, O.S.A.
Rev. Michael McFadden, O.S.A.
In Residence

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WEEKLY AND WEKEND MASSES:

Monday—Saturday: Morning Prayer 7:30 AM. Monday—Saturday: Mass 8:00 AM (English)

Saturday: 5:30 PM (English)
Sunday: 7:30 AM, 9:30 AM &
11:30 AM (English)

1:30 PM (Spanish

Holy Days: The schedule will be announced

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:
Saturday, 4:30 PM

SACRAMENTS: Visit Our Website for information

Tuesdays, 5:00 - 6:00 PM: Prayer Hour for Peace.

First Fridays, 8:30-10:00 AM: Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour for Vocations, Benediction.

Fridays, 7:00-8:00 PM (Spanish): Exposition of the

Blessed Sacrament, Holy Hour, Benediction.

First Saturdays, 8:30-9:15 AM: Devotion to Our Lady of Fatima (Rosary and meditation on the mysteries).

Sundays, 12:30 PM: Flame of Love Rosary

Sunday, August 8, 2021 — Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time ~

I must admit that when I read the Gospels, and the Old Testament, there are many instances of where either people are not trusting in who God is, nor are they trusting in the prophets. This past week It was the high priest Arron who was having a hard time with Moses. I could understand that in the way that the Jewish people wandered in the desert for forty years following Moses. Many times they got angry with Moses and even some left nor that "raised up," or rioted in opposition. But Moses prevailed with the help of God.

Even in my own experiences at times I have doubted God. I've grumbled against Him, and in some instanced, have rebelled in my ignorance. In all my studies of theology and philosophy, I have come to the understanding in my life that I do not have the mind of God. I've also learned that that is Okay. I don't understand why it is that God does what God does. Maybe it's better that I don't understand. My family has this saying, "Not my circus, not my monkeys!" So I try to not engage my thoughts regarding my understanding of who God is, and just remember that much like in the Book of John, God is love. I was reading a book on how we perceive love. It said that Love can be expressed in many ways, rather than just saying that you love someone. It can be expressed in a statement such as, "How are you doing today?" or "Have a wonderful day! etc. etc. Love is a wonderful expression of how it is that we interact and care for another person. In the first reading we hear this.

Elijah has had enough of what life has to offer, so instead of sinning and taking his own life, he asks God to take his life. In a unique way, God does. He sends his angel down to give new life to Elijah. The angel is insistent that he eat and drink. The angel mentions twice to Elijah to get up and take nourishment. Why? Because the angel knows of God's plan for Elijah, in essence God was not finished with him. Hence, Elijah's journey was just beginning. He also trusted in what the angel had told him. Even in our own faith journeys, how do we see God and the interaction we have in this incredible relationship we share. Do we give up on our faith and just stop, or do we seek an alternative to try and be the loving people God creates us to be. In the second reading we are being given a new life with new perspectives, but we must change our old perspectives and ways and be open to new ones. I truly believe that what must be done is the truthful introspection we need to expose. We need to take an inner inventory of what and who we are.

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This takes time! but in this world on instant this or that, we fall into the trap of cutting ourselves short in how we see things. Do you see yourselves as God sees you? or are you caught up in the judging of yourselves and others. What we read, understand and are inspired to do is to make changes in our lives and how we interact with our God, with others and with ourselves. We hear that we need to change and be like Christ, get rid of things that hinder us in our journeys:

"All bitterness, fury, anger, shouting, and reviling must be removed from you, along with all malice. And be kind to one another, compassionate, forgiving one another as God has forgiven you in Christ. So be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love..." I truly believe that we are called to something greater as sisters and brothers in Christ than we are individually. In doing so, our perspectives in how we see need to change.

In the Gospel reading today we hear two differing perspectives. One is based on common logic and the other is based upon Jesus's perspectives. In the humanist sense, the Jews perceive Jesus as they saw him throughout his life, the offspring of Joseph and Mary, the carpenter's son. They do not see and perceive him as God's son. In their ignorance and past experiences, they have dealt with common men who were also prophets. Hence the understanding of who Jesus is in other Abrahamic faiths.

Jesus goes one step further in a theological perspective and challenges them to see him in a differing light, and in doing so, the Jews see him as a blasphemer, "making himself God." This is not the case. He refers to God as "the Father." That God, the Father, has sent him down to offer of Himself the bread that will bring redemption, but the most important part of that is that he places the task on them, the "unbelievers." He challenges them to believe the Father's words (Remember that Jesus is "The Word.") He also challenges their logical thinking in that he tells them that He has seen the Father.

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The only people to personally interact with God was Adam, Eve and Moses. It goes even deeper theologically that he offers himself as real flesh, the living bread come down from Heaven. This is so un-nerving for them that what Jesus is saying, that they take logically, He wants them to become cannibals. This goes against the Laws of Leviticus! But Jesus takes it one step further in that if they do eat his flesh it is for the life of the world! We are partakers of this great gift if we just believe and practice this incredible faith we all share. Amen!

Pipe Organ by Dan Keays

Playing music is hard. Whatever instrument one sets out to master there is a very long learning curve, and only the most preserving become musicians. Playing guitar, piano, or drums involves hard work and invested time, not always with the desired outcome. Frustration and termination are common. An instrument that demands even more dedication and exactitude is the pipe organ, one of the most ancient of musical instruments, and, arguably, among the most difficult.

Most instruments involve hitting the correct key, playing with the correct rhythm, and adding the appropriate expression. The pipe organ requires so much more. There is more than one keyboard, there are several stops that interact with them, and multiple pedals to direct just the right amount of air to the pipe that creates the correct note. Amazing in its complexity, the pipe organ is a marvel of musical artistry.

Pipe organs are, of course, hand crafted, and they must be precisely made. Each pipe must be constructed to the proper dimension to allow the right note and pitch. Some pipes are made of bronze, others tin. Each one must be exactly right from the beginning because you can't tune pipes like you do strings on a guitar. Pipe organs are a true piece of craftsmanship.

Saint Patrick's has an organ that is older than the church. Made in San Francisco in 1897 by an individual named "Mr. Fisher," the organ was thirty years old when the church was constructed. Father Daley somehow caught wind of the fact that the organ was to be replaced in its original installation, and he purchased it and had it shipped to San Diego to be installed in our church, piece by piece. It's the marvel of ascending pipes we see in the choir loft whenever we look up as we exit the church.

Music, praying, and worshiping go together. The word psalm comes from the word for song, and many can be traced to the time of King David, three thousand years ago. The Gospels tell us of the apostles singing psalms. Saint Ambrose, the mentor of Saint Augustine, wrote several beautiful hymns.

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St. Augustine remarked that only those who love can sing. Like human culture, music goes through phases and development. The oldest Catholic music is Gregorian Chant, named for Pope Gregory the First, who was pope from the year 590 to 604.

Gregory didn't write any music, but he was responsible for the creation of a standard Catholic liturgy, and the chant in his name uses only the words of the Mass and Benediction. Through the centuries Gregorian Chant was developed and made incredibly beautiful with harmonies and musicianship, and it became a staple of Catholic liturgy. It lost favor in recent years, but it persists. Whether we know it or not, we all sing Gregorian Chant sometimes at Mass. The priest begins it, usually at the beginning of the Offertory, and we all answer, somewhat harmoniously.

Through the years other types of music joined Gregorian Chant at liturgical celebrations. Latin hymns like Panis angelicus and Tantum ergo sacramentum, English hymns like Holy God We Praise thy Name and Come Holy Ghost, were all accompanied by pipe organ. Since the 1960s church music has incorporated several instruments, but the melodies and lyrics still inspire devotion, meditation, and joy, just like the early psalms.

St. Patrick's major organists had a very long tenure. Edna Keays (my mother) was the first, then Roma Frey. John Nelson began in 1968. Each lasted over 50 years. Edna was born in San Diego and first played at St. Anne's church in Logan Heights (now Barrio Loaan) at age twelve. Roma was born in rural Nevada in 1904 and was an early parishioner at St. Patrick's. Edna and Roma were close friends and neighbors, and each played piano in the ragtime and swing style at dances and other venues. John attended St. John of the Cross church in Spring Valley where he was taught piano by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. He attended St. Augustine High School, and began playing organ at age 17. He still plays at the 11:30 Mass. All were excellent musicians and dedicated to providing the most reverent of liturgical accompaniment. Those who followed them to help us celebrate our worship are just as dedicated and talented. St. Patrick's has been truly blessed to have had, and continue to have, such remarkable people.

Designated Donations

August 8 – Building Fund: Help us to maintain and beautify the Parish buildings.

August 15 - For the Poor: Support Catholic Non-Profits such as Fr. Joe's Village or grocery gift cards to aid our parishioners.

August 22 – Endowment: Support the future of the parish become more sustainable

August 29 – Building Fund: Help us to maintain and beautify the Parish buildings.

From Legion of Mary Desk:

Dear Beloved Parishioners, The month of August is dedicated to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary is at the very core of the Fatima message. The Blessed Mother presented it as the solution to the problems of the world and to save souls from going to Hell. The absence of any sin in a creature implies a most abundant help of grace, which would not be possible without the extraordinary help from God. This is why the Angel Gabriel greeted Mary as being "full of grace". Likewise, the absence of all sin implies a high degree of perfection and sanctity. Therefore, the Immaculate Heart of Mary symbolizes the hallowed purity and sanctity of Mary Most Holy and her complete fidelity to God. Our Blessed Mother is always there to help us. Say the "Hail Mary". Say the Rosary. Our Blessed Mother is there to help us from not going to hell and in our daily life. As a member of the Legion of Mary we pray the rosary daily. We also try to help our fellow Parishioners, neighbors, friends, family and strangers through the word of God. Right now we have been blessed to take the Pilgrim Virgin Mary to many of your homes. We would love to bless your home with her presence. Please contact the Parish Office if you are interested. Thank You. Gods Blessing to all, Mary

Mass Intentions for the Week: August 9—14

Mon. 8:00 AM Nicholas Bils †

John Nance †

Tues. 8:00 AM Shigley & Killoran Families L & +

Sarah Ranola

Ann Marie Murphy †

Wed. 8:00 AM Art & Dee Specht †

Robert Londo †

Thurs. 8:00 AM Fulham Family L & +

Ramona Rodriguez †

Fri. 8:00 AM Esperanza Chavez +

For more Lay Ministers to serve the Church

Sat. 8:00 AM Frank Leupp †

Peter & Delphine Barnes +

† Rest In Peace **HB** Happy Birthday **HA** Happy Anniversar

Readings for the Week: August 9 – 15 Sundays: Year B — Weekdays: Year III

Monday: Dt 10:12-22; Ps 147:12-13,14-15,19-20;

Mt 17:22-27

Tuesday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2,5-6,7-8,9;

Jn 12:24-26

Wednesday: Dt 34:1-12; Ps 66:1-3a,5&8,16-17;

Mt 18:15-20

Thursday: Jos 3:7-10a,11,13-17;

Ps 114:1-2,3-4,5-6; Mt 18:21—19:1

Friday: Jos 24:1-13;

Ps 136:1-3,16-18,21-22&24; Mt 19:3-12

Saturday: Jos 24:14-29; Ps 16:1-2a, & 5, 7-8, 11;

Mt 19:13-15

Sunday: Rv 11:19a;12:1-6a,10ab;

Ps 45:10,11,12,16; 1 Cor 15:20-27

Lk 1:39-56

Un camino largo

La primera lectura nos deja ver el espantoso desaliento que padece uno de los hombres más arandes del Antiauo Testamento. Se trata de Elías, el campeón de la fe, el gigante de la profecía, que abrumado por la soledad y las persecuciones se deja caer en el sueño de la depresión, no sin antes anunciar su absoluta amargura: "¡Basta, Señor! Quítame la vida, que no soy mejor que mis antepasados". Elías había dado lo que podía dar. Se ha agotado tratando de sostener en sí mismo y en los demás la fe verdadera, en tiempos en que todo parecía ser engullido por la religión cómoda, prometedora y libertina de Baal. El fruto de su predicación es inmenso, si pensamos en lo que logró y en los testimonios que leemos en la Biblia, pero el costo es muy alto en términos de soledad y de zozobra. Finalmente, el peso doblega a nuestro héroe, que se derrumba en silencio, en una caverna sin nombre. Allí envía Dios a su ángel, para que lo consuele y levante, pero sobre todo para darle pan y nuevas fuerzas.

La frase del ángel es fundamental: "el camino es largo... es superior a tus fuerzas". Necesitamos el pan de Dios para recorrer el camino de Dios. Uno puede "vivir" sin la fuerza que Dios da, pero no para recorrer el camino que Dios ofrece. Porque es cierto que el mundo da su propio pan, que sirve para hundirse en su jungla de engaños y placeres. Y el demonio da su pan de orgullo, que sirve para perderse en las sendas del odio y la locura. Y la carne da su pan sabroso de pecado, que sirve para acabar ahogándose en el vacío y en la nada. Pero para avanzar por el camino de Dios, que es el camino de la vida, se necesita el pan de Dios, el Dios de la vida.

Pan del Cielo

Del pan que sacia un día, Jesús pasa a revelarnos el pan que sacia para siempre. Del pan preparado en nuestros hornos, pasa a revelarnos el Pan que viene del cielo. Del pan hecho con nuestro trigo, al Pan que es Él mismo. De esta manera, el pan mismo se convierte en una inmensa parábola que habla del hambre humana y de la providencia divina, de nuestra indigencia y de su largueza, de su vida que sostiene y de la muerte que nos acecha, de nuestra necesidad de permanecer y de su gracia, que nos hace perdurar y ser fecundos. Estas verdades sobre el pan de la vida se cumplen en todo lo que tiene que ver con Jesucristo: creer en él alimenta; leer su Palabra alimenta; adorarle alimenta; practicar sus enseñanzas, servirle en sus hermanos pobres, invocarle con fe... todo esto es alimento y vida del alma humana. Mas nunca es tan claro el mensaje del Pan de Vida como ante el misterio eucarístico. En la sencillez de la hostia y en aquellas palabras que escuchamos al comulgar está todo: "El Cuerpo de Cristo... Amén".

Fr Nelson Medina, OP

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