



14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 4, 2021

St. Mary's Catholic church

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We gather together today before the Lord and beside each other to listen to God's word and to share in this Eucharistic meal. In remembrance of Jesus' wonderful gift of his very self, we join in communion with the Church around the world. This weekend, we come together on the anniversary of our country's founding, appreciative of our freedom to worship as we desire, while continually aspiring to build a more perfect union. In places of worship across this country, we gather to give praise to God.

Cycle B -- Reflections on the Readings

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 2:2-5; Psalm 123; 2 Corinthians 12:7-10; Mark 6:1-6

Theme: **Listen to the prophetic voice**

We all admire strength. The discovery that even our role models have weaknesses throws us for a loss. We value strength so greatly that we cope very poorly with weakness. Today's readings present three individuals who experienced significant weakness in the exercise of their mission. Ironically their achievements become a basis for hope. In weakness there can be strength.

The Call of Ezekiel

The first reading is part of Ezekiel's vocation scene. In the year 593 B.C. God appeared to this priest and called him to be a prophet in Babylon, the land of the Israelite's exile. Ezekiel felt the Lord's power but was also keenly aware of the hardheartedness of those around him. Nevertheless, he accepted. Ezekiel was often distraught, but he was also resilient -- weak yet strong.

Paul acknowledges his weakness and strength.

Paul says he was given "a messenger of Satan to torment me," to keep him from getting proud (2 Corinthians 12:7). Paul asks God to remove the affliction, "but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me" (2 Corinthians 12:9). This experience helped Paul recognize the inter-relatedness of weakness and strength. The weaker the person, the greater the display of God's power.

We are basically people with limitation, our knowledge is limited, our abilities are limited, our virtues are limited. Our nature is touched by sin and therefore, we all have defects; we all fall short in one way or another. Yet sometimes we forget our limitations and vulnerability and begin to behave and boast about ourselves. Our weaknesses, our limitations do not call for despair, but faith in the power and grace of Christ. Jesus will give us a strength that is greater than problems we face. Let us remember that Paul's insufficiency was filled with Jesus' sufficiency.

We are told in the Gospel that, when Jesus returns to his hometown, the people reject him. They sense a glaring discrepancy between his family tree and his teaching and miracles. Jesus reacts with discouragement and astonishment. Apart from curing a few sick he works no miracles since the lack of faith is too distressing.

God can use our faults as well as our virtues. Weakness need not be the final word.

Using our prophetic voice

One of the gifts we need to appreciate and respect in our brothers and sisters is the prophetic gift. A prophet is not necessarily one who foretells the future. He or she is the one who speaks for God, and speaks to us the truth, about ourselves, about the situation in our present society and about the changes we need to make in order that all may live in peace and harmony. "You are too selfish; You are arrogant; You are greedy; You are dishonest; Your following of Christ is mere lip-service". If someone were to say one or more of these things to us, how would we react? The fact is that none of us have any particular appetite for truth and hence, we tend to reject our own prophets and the truth they pass on to us in the name of God.

I pray that, the sufficiency of Jesus may fill our insufficiency; for when you are weak, then you are strong. Remain Blessed!



If A Dog Were Your Teacher Author Unknown

If a dog were your teacher

These are some of the lessons you might learn...

When loved ones come home, always run to
greet them

Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joyride
Allow the experience of fresh air and the wind in your face
to be pure ecstasy.

When it's in your best interest practice obedience
Let others know when they've invaded your territory
Take naps and stretch before rising
Run romp and play daily

Thrive on attention and let people touch you
Avoid biting, when a simple growl will do
On warm days stop to lie on your back on the grass
On hot days drink lots of water and lay under a shady tree
When you're happy dance around and wag your entire body

No matter how often you're scolded
don't buy into the guilt thing and pout run right back and make friends

Delight in the simple joy of a long walk
Eat with gusto and enthusiasm
Stop when you have had enough
Be loyal

Never pretend to be something you're not

If what you want lies buried
dig until you find it
When someone is having a bad day
be silent
...sit close by.

...and cuddle them gently.

Appreciation

I wish to register my sincerest thanks and appreciation to all and sundry for your kindness and generosity. As I leave this week to my new place of assignment, please keep me in your prayers as I do for you.

My cell number remains the same. New address is:

Church:

St. Theresa Parish
1230 Merle Hay Road
Des Moines, IA 50311

Residence:

6001 University Ave.
Des Moines, IA 50311



Happy birthday
Fr. Raphael

Below is a pic of the card that the children made for Fr.—A Bouquet of well wishes, prayers and love!





BIG BIRTHDAY!!

Our Dear Friend Martin will
celebrate 103 years of life on
July 15th!

Please shower him with cards!

Martin Goracke
c/o Morton Place
1500 14th Ave.
Nebraska City, NE. 68410...

Readings for the week of 7-4-21

Sunday: Ez 2:2-5/Ps 123:1-2, 2, 3-4 [2cd]/2 Cor 12:7-10/Mk 6:1-6a

Monday: Gn 28:10-22a/Ps 91:1-2, 3-4, 14-15 ab [cf. 2b]/Mt 9:18-26

Tuesday: Gn 32:23-33/Ps 17:1b, 2-3, 6-7ab, 8b and 15 [15a]/Mt 9:32-38

Wednesday: Gn 41:55-57; 42:5-7a, 17-24a/Ps 33:2-3, 10-11, 18-19 [22]/Mt 10:1-7

Thursday: Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21 [5a]/Mt 10:7-15

Friday: Gn 46:1-7, 28-30/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40 [39a]/Mt 10:16-23

Saturday: Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7 [cf. Ps 69:33]/Mt 10:24-33

Next Sunday: Am 7:12-15/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/Eph 1:3-14 or 1:3-10/Mk

LOURDES CENTRAL CATHOLIC IS HIRING AN EXTENDED CARE PROGRAM COORDINATOR FOR THE 2021-2022 SCHOOL YEAR.

Providing before school and after school care for LCC families with students in grades Preschool-Five was identified through our Strategic Planning process and we are looking for the right candidate to implement this new program! Extended Care will potentially be provided from 6:00 a.m.-7:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m.-6:00 p.m. each day school is in session.

Please visit our school website for a job description and more information,
www.lourdescentralcatholic.org

ST. MARYS HAPPENINGS

PRAY FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

CHRIS HINES

JOSH SIMMONS

JACOB ANDERSON

DERRICK HUBARD

STEVEN ANDERSON

COLBY MCGINLEY



7-7—Vince Hilton

7-7---Greg Phillips

7-8—Lisa Welch

7-10—Cassie Goodman

7-10—Jake Smith

7-15—Martin Goracke

7-16—Jayde Mitchell



Greg Andersen
Grady Secht
Reese Kemp
LeRoy Herscheid
Mary Lou Miller
Dottie Dankof
Isacc Durr
Todd Quick
Verona Mitchell
Joel Loggins
Kenneth Russell
Bill Long
Henry Johnsen
Lawrence DuBois
Pat Sheldon
Joe Kirk
Tim Konecny
Esther McCowan
Shawn Collins
Drake Travis
Martha Gude
Bill & Gloria Green
Larry Dalton
Zayne Osborn
Cathy Mason
Anna Weber
Alan Briggs
Dee Ann Crews
Robert Haughton
Maurie Maher
Janet Rummel
Jennifer McAllister
Dave Zavadil

Your Contributions *June 26, 2021*

Tithes—\$1237.00

Thank You!!

ADA update
Our goal this year
is \$18,910.00.

To date, we have received
\$15,025.00
with 36 parishioners
contributing.
Thank you!



7-3—Dave & Kate Roberts

7-12—Tim & Donna Whelan

7-18—Randy & Wendy Duncan

7-26—Joe & Robbie Travis

2021	July 4 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30	July 11 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30	July 18 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30	July 25 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30	August 1 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time 8:30
Lector	Linda Dewhirst	Kathleen Lorimor	Rick Jamison	Joe Travis	Teresa Jamison
Mass Setup	Joe	Rosie	Joe	Rosie	Joe
Cantor	Cora/Cora/Amelia	Beth	Beth /Anna	Kate	Kate/Margaret
Accompanist	Kate	Donna	Guitars	Nancy	Kate
Server	Max Mount	Alyssa Dowling	Mia Foster	Brady Hutt	Evan Laumann
Usher and Greeter	Henry & Helen Martin	Vince & Susan Hilton	Jim & Ruth Folkes	Tim & Donna Whelan	Cheryl & Jim Owen
Coffee & donuts	Dan & Lori Goodman	N/A	Joe & Robbi Travis	Dave & Kim Dowling	Vince & Susan Hilton
PASTOR		PASTORAL ASSISTANT		BOOKKEEPER	
Fr. Raphael Assamah 712-246-1718 Shen(office) 712-246-8876 (c) e-mail max.assamah@yahoo.com		Cheryl Phillips 712.382.2668 (h) 712-350-0169 (c) cherylphil@gmail.com		Anne Hendrickson Bookkeeper 712.382.2432 (h) 712.350.0368 (c)	

*Please notice that we are scheduling duties again—if you are **NOT** able to be there on the date that you are scheduled for, **PLEASE** find a replacement or switch weeks with someone.*

We appreciate and need your help at our masses!

