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"Renunciation & Stewardship"

28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 13th OCTOBER, 2024 - B

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MONTH OF THE ROSARY



THE PRAYERS OF THE ROSARY

On Sunday 27th October, we will celebrate our Independence Mass for Antigua & Barbuda. There will only be one Mass in the Parish at **9:00 am** at Holy Family Cathedral. We are all asked to wear our National attire and make the celebration colourful.

October is the Month of the Rosary

All are welcome to join the Legion of Mary group to recite the Rosary every **Wednesday in October at 5:15pm** at the Lady of Fatima Shrine.

Christ the King High School will be hosting a Gala Dinner on **November 23, 2024** to close off the celebrations marking its **90th foundation anniversary**. The Gala will be held at the Sandals Grande Resort and Spa, Antigua. The ticket cost ECD \$270.00.

Renunciation and Stewardship - A song from the musical Godspell has these lines concerning Jesus of Nazareth: **"See him more clearly, love him more dearly, follow him more nearly."** Millions have done so over the centuries and countless others are still doing so today; and all have found the key to a meaningful life. In the Catholic tradition we know of two life-styles in which Christians search for meaning and happiness. One of them is marriage, which is the life-style of most people. Facing life together, they try to see the Lord Jesus more clearly, love him more dearly, and follow him more nearly through the good stewardship of all the beauty and goodness of life that God has bestowed upon them. The other life-style, for those who are called to it, is "celibacy for the sake of the kingdom." It is a life of renunciation not as an end in itself but for a life of discipleship. If they are well understood, both life-styles should witness to the same Christian mystery, namely, God's kingdom of justice, love and peace as already initiated in human history. Today's Scripture readings deal with the issue of life-style.

CATECHETICAL NOTICES

FESTIVAL OF THE ROSARY & THE SAINTS: All are invited to this celebration on **Thursday, 31 October at 6:30 p.m.** in the Cathedral. We will end the Month of the Holy Rosary and usher in the Feast of All Saints.

FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING: We end the Liturgical Year on this significant Feast Day. It is also the date promulgated by the Holy Father for World Youth Day to be celebrated locally and worldwide. This year's theme is **"Those who hope in the Lord will run and not be weary"** Is. 40:31. There will be activities for all youth, young adults, and the young at heart. T-shirts will be on sale to be worn on this day. More information in the following weeks.

P R E - C O N F I R M A T I O N
REGISTRATION for young people born in **2012**. Parents, this is now a pre-requisite for young people to register for this programme before entering the Confirmation programme. Classes will be held on Sundays after the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Registration is now open until October 25th. Please call the Parish Office to register.

HOLY FAMILY CATHEDRAL YOUTH MINISTRY announces the re-introduction of **Friday Youth Nights** every 1st and 3rd Friday of the Month from **6:30 to 8:30 p.m.** at St. Lwanga Youth Centre. The first session will be on **Friday 15th November** - for young people 13 to 18 years. Parents are encouraged to bring/send their young people to become active in youth ministry.



The Prayer of the Synod Adsumus Sancte Spiritus

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK & SHUT-INS:

Dear Jesus, Divine Physician and Healer of the sick, we turn to you in this time of illness. O dearest comforter of the troubled, alleviate our worry and sorrow with your gentle love, and grant us the grace and strength to accept this burden. Dear God, we place our worries in your hands. **We place our sick under your care and humbly ask that you restore your servant to health again.** Amen.

Gillian Howie, Catherine Durand, Georgina-Glave-Toussaint, Catherine DeTouche, Edward Lewis, Gweneth Bryan, Shanla Carr, Arnold Gomes, Jean James, Conrad Looby, Cecelia John, Justin Joseph, Carmen Ambrose, Tyler Lockhart, Joan Underwood, Cosmas Rowe, Andrea Brown, Rose Margetson, Niethia Dyier, Victor Charles, Junie Browne, Cheralyn Beazer, Jean Mathurin.

The 6th Mission Congress of the Americas (CAM6) - Puerto Rico

***Dates:** November 19-24, 2024.

***Theme:** *"America, with the power of the Spirit, witnesses for Christ!"*

***Venue:** Catholic Pontifical University of Puerto Rico in the city of Ponce.

***Board, lodging, and congress fee:** USD \$150 per congress participant; all-inclusive.

Please see the Diocese's website for further information – diocesesjb.org.

Next weekend, we celebrate World Mission Sunday, a powerful reminder of our call to be missionary disciples. This year's theme, "Go and invite everyone to the banquet," emphasizes our common call to bring God's love and message to the ends of the earth. On this day we reflect on and support the Church's missionary efforts while also recommitting ourselves to the same mission. The contributions given for the World Mission Sunday collection are crucial for sustaining the Church's work in over 1,150 territories. Let us prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate together.

Mission Month Activities

-Study Sessions-Formation and Deepening of Insight on Evangelization and Mission – Thursday October 17, 24 & 31, 2024 at 7 p.m. each night.

-Zoom Meeting ID: 848 1157 1177
Pass code 907102

-Reactivation of the Pontifical Missionary Childhood Association (MCA)

-On October 25, 2024 - Day of Prayer for the Priests and Religious of our Diocese. Show appreciation for the missionaries who minister in our Diocese.

MISSION Month CAN FOOD DRIVE: "Go and invite everyone to the Banquet" is this year's theme for Mission Sunday. Join us as we help the vulnerable families in our community share in the Banquet. Donate canned and non perishable food items at the Pastoral Centre or after Mass in the Box provided. This is a Pontifical Mission Society (PMS), Youth and Catechetical Ministry Outreach Programme.

BAZAAR - Our Lady of Perpetual Help Annual Harvest Bazaar will be held on Sunday 17th November, 2024 from 1:00pm to 8:00pm. **Please Save the Date.** Tickets for this Fundraiser cost \$30.00 and can be purchased at HFC Pastoral Centre or any Bazaar committee members.

Lectio Divina

READ: Jesus was on his journey. A man ran up, asking Jesus about the things to be done to have eternal life. Jesus enumerated the commandments. The man said that he already obeyed all the commandments. Jesus looked at the man with love. He told the man the one thing the man still lacked. He challenged the man to go, sell his belongings, give the money to the poor and then come back in order to follow Jesus. The man went away sorrowful because of his great wealth. Then Jesus taught his disciples that it is hard for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God. It would be easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God. The disciples were astonished. Jesus further taught them that all things are possible with God. Peter answered that they left everything to follow Jesus. Jesus gave them the assurance of a hundredfold blessing and of eternal life.

REFLECT: Our commitment to follow Jesus is a commitment to a life of freedom. We are challenged to exercise the spirituality of detachment from enslaving material possessions. Wealth in itself is not bad but if wealth takes possession of us then it becomes a stumbling block that hinder us from following Jesus. Letting go is tantamount to letting God be God that he may set us free.

PRAY: Let us pray for God to set us free from our enslavement to material possessions.

ACT: Let us give away the things we do not use to those for whom they might be useful.

LECTIO DIVINA



This Sunday's Readings

First Reading: *Wisdom 7: 7-11*

Responsorial Psalm: *90: 12-17*

Second Reading: *Hebrews 4: 12-13*

Gospel: *Mark 10: 17-30*



Readings for Monday to Saturday

Monday 14th October

Galatians 4: 22-24, 26-27, 31-5: 1

Psalm 113: 1-7

Luke 11: 29-32

St. Callistus I, pope & martyr

Tuesday 15th October

Galatians 5: 1- 6

Psalm 119: 41, 43-45, 47-48

Luke 11: 37-41

St. Teresa of Avila, virgin & doctor

Wednesday 16th October

Galatians 5: 18-25

Psalm 1: 1-4, & 6

Luke 11: 42 - 46

St. Hedwig, religious, St. Margaret Mary

Alacoque, virgin

Thursday 17th October

Ephesians 1: 1-10

Psalm 98: 1- 6

Luke 11: 47-54

St. Ignatius of Antioch, bishop & martyr

Friday 18th October

2 Timothy 4: 10-17

Psalm 145: 10-13, 17,18

Luke 10: 1-9

Feast of St. Luke, Evangelist

Saturday 19th October

Ephesians 1: 15-23

Psalm 8: 2-7

Luke 12: 8-12

Blessed Virgin Mary / St. John de Brebeuf, St. Isaac Jogues, priests, & companions, Martyrs/St. Paul of the Cross, priest

WHAT THE FIRST READING SAYS TO ME

Figuratively, the author puts these words into the mouth of King Solomon. The king had asked for wisdom, which in Biblical language is not only learning but practical skill and insight as well. Actually, such wisdom stands for a good philosophy of life, which is worth more than health or comeliness, if one does not know how to live with either one prudently. The rich young man of the Gospel narrative did not understand this.

Wisdom is a gift of God for which we should pray: "Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain wisdom of heart"

WHAT THE SECOND READING SAYS TO ME

God's word to us insists on a decision. By their life-styles Christians should witness to real values that lead to happiness in Biblical terms, values that witness to the kingdom of God as initiated already here on earth.

Whether married or celibate for the sake of God's kingdom, our way of life should be marked by that all-penetrating word of God. Someday we must render an account!

WHAT THE GOSPEL SAYS TO ME

Apparently, the rich young man of this reading was searching for something. Jesus challenges him to a life of total renunciation, which he cannot accept. Peter and the Apostles have accepted it and Jesus gives his vision of this kind of life.

And what about those who are wealthy and do not feel able to live a life of renunciation? Can they be saved? It is difficult, because of the innumerable pitfalls. But "all things are possible for God." They should keep the commandments, in other words, exercise good stewardship.

Saint Luke's Story

Luke wrote one of the major portions of the New Testament, a two-volume work comprising the third Gospel and Acts of the Apostles. In the two books he shows the parallel between the life of Christ and that of the Church. He is the only Gentile Christian among the Gospel writers. Tradition holds him to be a native of Antioch, and Paul calls him "our beloved physician." His Gospel was probably written between 70 and 85 A.D.

Luke appears in Acts during Paul's second journey, remains at Philippi for several years until Paul returns from his third journey, accompanies Paul to Jerusalem, and remains near him when he is imprisoned in Caesarea. During these two years, Luke had time to seek information and interview persons who had known Jesus. He accompanied Paul on the dangerous journey to Rome where he was a faithful companion.

Luke's unique character may best be seen by the emphases of his Gospel, which has been given a number of subtitles:

- 1) The Gospel of Mercy
- 2) The Gospel of Universal Salvation
- 3) The Gospel of the Poor
- 4) The Gospel of Absolute Renunciation
- 5) The Gospel of Prayer and the Holy Spirit
- 6) The Gospel of Joy

Reflection

Luke wrote as a Gentile for Gentile Christians. His Gospel and Acts of the Apostles reveal his expertise in classic Greek style as well as his knowledge of Jewish sources. There is a warmth to Luke's writing that sets it apart from that of the other synoptic Gospels, and yet it beautifully complements those works. The treasure of the Scriptures is a true gift of the Holy Spirit to the Church.

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