

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020

30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

5:00PM Joseph Ferrara, Richard Linton,
Gerald Ross & Adrienne Webster
10:00AM Nichols Busanic
12:00PM Senko Skific
Scoccimarro & Cifarelli Families

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

11:00AM Ints. of Daniel Sango
Dinka & Lovro Picinic

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27

11:00AM Mary & John Wahrenberger
Ivan Picinic

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28

STS. SIMON & JUDE
11:00AM Antonio Morin
Nicola & Nicolina Pallotta

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29

11:00AM Geraldine Fox
Carmela Radelic

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30

11:00AM Madelyn & Anthony Celotto
Joseph Osso

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31

11:00AM Kathryn Flynn
Angelo Frezza
Benito Gomez
5:00PM Ints of Dina & Giovanni
Bussanich

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

10:00AM Dinko & Antonia Busanic
12:00PM Luigi Mancini
Carmella Maiorana

ALTAR BREAD & WINE

*In Memory of
David Mihalinec*

SANCTUARY LAMP

*In Memory of
Maria Esther Alleso*

PREPARING FOR MASS

The readings for this Sunday are:

Ex 22:20-26

Act with justice and compassion
towards others.

Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

I love you Lord, my strength.

1 Thess 1:5c-10

The Thessalonians receive the word of
God eagerly and totally.

Matt 22:34-40

"Teacher, which commandment of the
law is the greatest?"

GOD + NEIGHBOUR x LOVE = ?

In the Gospel Reading (Matthew 22:34-40) our Lord gave an evergreen teaching on love. The episode started like many others; the people wanted to catch him on something. For some time now, this has been the case. Last Sunday, it was about taxes to Caesar with the script sponsored by the Pharisees and the Herodians.

This Sunday, it is about the greatest commandment sponsored by a lawyer who asked: "which is the greatest of the commandment in the law?" We know that God gave Ten Commandments (Ex.20:1-17), and all of them are equal, having the same weight and value. The intention was for him to force our Lord Jesus Christ to make a preference in opposition to the rest.

The answer our Lord gave to the lawyer was surprising. He focused on two Old Testament passages that talk about God's absolute love (Deuteronomy 6:4) and the unquestionable love of one's neighbor (Leviticus 19:18).

We need to look deeply into our Lord's response to this vital question. In his response, our Lord (drawing from the passages above) said:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second commandment is like it; you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depends the law and the prophets.

Love is fundamentally difficult to define; try it! So, when our Lord talked about loving, he attempted to demonstrate how it can come about by indicating that one has to love with ALL of one's Heart, Soul, and Mind. These three represent the fundamental make-up of the human person: body, soul, and mind, which further points to the physical, spiritual, and mental aspects of each human person.

In essence, our Lord was saying that in loving, nothing is left behind; hence everything is given. To love God, thus, means giving ALL to God. For instance, you do not demonstrate your love for God by just being physically present in the Church; there is a need for a spiritual and mental connection. Loving God does not consist of saying it; it has to do with living it out in our lives, especially in our relationships.

One of the indications of our love for God shows in what our Lord called the second, which is like the first: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself". Loving our neighbor demonstrates our love for God. St. John's First Letter (1 John 4:20) said, "if anyone says he loves God but hates his neighbor he is a liar.

The message today challenges us to love without limits. We must ask ourselves if we truly love God with ALL our hearts, souls, and minds. We must also ask ourselves if we genuinely love our neighbor, not by saying it, not by writing it, not by singing it but by doing what love commands.

Love can only be love when it is tried and tested. Love cannot be real if there is no sacrifice. The lover gives without expectations of receiving. You love when you can give more than you can receive. A typical example is the death of our Lord Jesus Christ on the Cross for our sins. Assuredly, we cannot pay for that. He demonstrated his love for His father by what he did for us. God demonstrated His love for us by sacrificing His son (himself).

To love is not optional; it is instead a commandment. Our Lord made it clear in the gospel of John that he is giving us a new commandment that we should love one another as he loved us (John 13:34-35). Another reason why we must love is that God is love. St John captured this very well when he said: "whoever does not love does not know God for God is love." (1 John 4:8).

We shall end this reflection by attempting to solve the math that formed the theme of our reflection. The statement is:

$$\text{God} + \text{Neighbor} \times \text{Love. (G+N}\times\text{L)}$$

God is love (1 John 4:8). Therefore, there is a reformulation

$$\text{Love} + \text{Neighbor} \times \text{Love (L+N}\times\text{L)}$$

$$\text{Love} + \text{Neighbor} = \text{Love Neighbor (L+N=LN)}$$

$$\text{Love Neighbor} \times \text{Love} = \text{Love (LN} \times\text{L=L)}$$

The answer is Love because God is Love and Love conquers all things.

Have a wonderful Sunday and a great week ahead.

Fr. Bonnie

PARISH SUPPORT

Thank you for sharing the gift of your treasure so that we can continue to do God's work here.

October 18, 2020

Due to early submission of the bulletin, the collections will be reported in next week's bulletin.

"You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul and with all your mind." – Matthew 22:37

Do you put other "gods" before God? Is your love of money, power, status, comfort or some personal possession greater than your love for God? Do you really recognize that everything you have and that everything you are is a gift from God? The good news – it's not too late to put God first in all things in your life.

SPECIAL MASS FOR ALL SOULS

There will be a Special Mass on All Souls Day for all those who have died during this past year. It will be at 7:00PM on Monday, November 2nd.

SUNDAY MASSES

Sunday Masses will be at 5:00PM on Saturday and on Sunday at 10:00AM and 12 Noon. We can now accommodate up to 150 persons at each mass. When you attend mass, you must wear a mask before you enter the Church and leave it on for the whole mass. Also, please sanitize your hands when entering the Church with the hand sanitizers found at the elevator entrance. Please do not take off or lower your mask when you approach the priest for Holy Communion. Take the Communion in your hand and step aside and lift your mask as you return to your seat.

Once again, please consider whether you are “at risk” and make a good choice about whether or not to attend mass. I remind you that the Archbishop has indefinitely dispensed all Catholics from their “Sunday obligation” so do NOT feel compelled to attend mass out of fear. If any of you is feeling “under the weather” or running a fever, we ask you please DO NOT come to the church. You may be jeopardizing the life and health of others.

MARRIAGE MOMENTS

Often generosity toward our neighbor trumps even fairness. “Don’t oppress an alien...wrong a widow or orphan...” or be stingy with food or clothing for the poor. (Exodus 22:20-26) This week, discern together one act of kindness that you can do for someone who is hurting. Oh yes, and vote if you haven’t already.

PARENTING POINTERS

It’s that time of year again – Halloween and a full moon. So don’t lose too much time. Do something fun with your family this weekend beyond dressing up in costumes, even if it’s just staring at the full moon in wonder.

BERGEN CATHOLIC TOURS

Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, will hold special one-on-one tours for interested families from Monday-Friday. Registration is required on the website, and a maximum of 10 families will be permitted per day. For more information contact Matt Rosa at mrosa@bergenatholic.org, Director of Admissions or call 201-634-2205.

CORONA VIRUS PRAYER

St. Vincent de Paul, our father and model, throughout your life you wished to imitate Jesus, the missionary and servant. In your time you confronted the plague, the illness of the people. Intercede now with the Holy Trinity on behalf of all the nations on earth visited by this modern scourge. Help the bodies and hearts of all victims. Strengthen caregivers, be close to all neighbors, and enlighten researchers. Walk with those approaching the portals of death.

As you gave strong and ardent advice to struggle against evil, so now come to our aid! Teach us how to expose our lives for the weakest among us and strengthen us to help them better with fearless perseverance. With the sole desire of aiding them in their needs, open our spirits to God’s infinite providence.

Let us endow it with his total will for action. Inspire in us, also, obedience to our leaders, as we now place ourselves in your hands, confident and fortified with genuine feelings of dedication and zeal for our sisters and brothers. Amen.

ADVENT OF GIVING

Due to the Covid-19 Virus Pandemic, we have decided not to have the traditional Christmas Give-Away for needy families. Instead, we would appreciate Gift Cards to Walmart or Target, Visa, Master Card or American Express.

MISSALETTES FOR ADVENT-LENT

New Missalettes for Advent through Lent are on sale at the rectory for \$3.00 each. We will not be able to put the books into the pews during this pandemic. If you wish to have a book to follow along with the mass, please purchase your own. All books contain weekday and Sunday readings.

FOOD PANTRY

We are in need of food for our Community Food Pantry. Please bring food to the church from 10:00AM-12:00PM or bring it to the rectory vestibule. We are also available on Friday mornings from 10:00AM-12 Noon. **We especially need all non-perishable foods. Our supplies are low. We could use stuffing, cereals, peanut butter and jelly, tuna fish, rice, sauces, Chef Boyardee, canned vegetables and fruits, cake mixes, cake icing, coffee. Please do not bring any pasta at this time.** We appreciate all your help to feed our clients. May God bless you for your generosity.

OPEN HOUSE

Immaculate Heart Academy’s Fall Open Houses are Sunday, October 25th from 11:AM-2:00PM and Thursday, October 29th from 6:30-8:30PM. For more information, contact Ms. Alexis Fatigati ‘07, director of admissions, at 201-445-6800, ext. 112. You can also email afatgati@ihanj.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF THE PARISH

Ann Callagher, Caroline Craven, Felicia Martello, Arianna Cappola, Doris Levy, Cindy Simeone Reynolds, Baby Juliette Payne, Brian Hone, Cora Shaffer, Baby Michael, Cesar Valdecantos, Kay Tak, Michele Spino, Evelyn Rodriguez, Barbara Snow, Mary Iannaccone, Doris Portillo, Teresita Zafra-Santos, Ann Marie Applegate Tatiana Flores, Christopher Nash, Pat Romano, Donna Carrajat, Tony Martello, Little Gabriel, Rachel Rocks, Sean O’Connor, Vladimir Drobikov, Louanne Mitchell, Colleen Meyers, Domenick Deodino, Rosemarie Liversidge, Christine Caruso, Patrick Bove, Camille Moglia, John Keegan, Kay O’Connor, Anthony Martini, Pantaleon Domingo, Conrado Trinidad, Joanne Kaiser, Patricia Warren, Ramon Villavicencio, Danilo Bonifacio, Daniel Johnson, Ryan Cariddi, Laura Cipullo, Richard Allen, Anthony Martello, Jr., Miguel Madera, Joe Villani, Lisa Mutchler, Elizabeth Chan, Benjamin Yap, Henry Yap, Rose & Anthony McCluskey, Jane Kim Estantino, Mike Hromin, Nancy Manto, Roy Regaspi, Gloria Marquez, David Barmore, Drew Johnson, Kunaim Emelyanesko, Kathy Santiago, Vinny Franco, Baby Grayson DiNatale, Kathie Gumb, Michael O’Connor, Patrick Shanley, Perry Bonaguaro, Rev. John Renard, Louise O’Connor, Cathleen McLaughlin, Fran Barbato, Maria Mancini, Jared Lanzaloto, Joel Rivera.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE DECEASED OF THE PARISH

Msgr. Thomas Ivory.

**“THE PAST IS TO IMPROVE
YOURSELF AND THE FUTURE
IS TO PROVE YOURSELF”**

