

# St. John Paul II Parish, Sellersburg IN

## The First Fifteen

Here at JP II, we like to begin all of our parish meetings with some faith sharing focused on one of the upcoming Sunday's readings. To begin, one person in the group proclaims the reading provided below. Then everyone is invited to reflect and share on the readings. The questions provided below are a guide to stimulate your discussion. You can use these or anything that strikes you about the Word of God. Conclude your prayer with "Come, Holy Spirit".

### Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

*Mk 12:28b-34*

*October 31, 2021*

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him,  
"Which is the first of all the commandments?"  
Jesus replied, "The first is this:  
Hear, O Israel!  
The Lord our God is Lord alone!  
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
with all your mind,  
and with all your strength.  
The second is this:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
There is no other commandment greater than these."  
The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher.  
You are right in saying,  
'He is One and there is no other than he.'  
And 'to love him with all your heart,  
with all your understanding,  
with all your strength,  
and to love your neighbor as yourself'  
is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."  
And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding,  
he said to him,  
"You are not far from the kingdom of God."  
And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

#### Thoughts to Ponder:

1. How well do you know your next-door neighbors?
2. Are you aware of the conditions of those in your community who don't live as close to your home?
3. Is hospitality one of your gifts? If not, how could you cultivate this skill?

*End with Come, Holy Spirit...*

Come, Holy Spirit  
Fill my heart.  
Enkindle in me  
the fire of your love.  
Send forth your Spirit,  
and I shall be created.  
And you shall renew the face of the earth.