

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 8, 2019

Count the Cost.

Readings: Wisdom 9:13–18; Psalm 90:3–6, 12–17; Philemon 1:9–10, 12–17; Luke 14:25–33

Like a king making ready for battle or a contractor about to build a tower, we have to count the cost as we set out to follow Jesus.

Our Lord today is telling us up front the sacrifice it will take. His words aren't addressed to His chosen few, the Twelve, but rather to the "great crowds"—to anyone, to whoever wishes to be His disciple.

That only makes His call all the more stark and uncompromising. We are to "hate" our old lives, to renounce all the earthly things we rely upon, to choose Him above every person and possession. Again He tells us that the things we have—even our family ties and obligations—can become an excuse, an obstacle that keeps us from giving ourselves completely to Him (see [Luke 9:23–26](#), [57–62](#)).

Jesus brings us the saving wisdom we are promised in today's First Reading. He is that saving Wisdom. Weighed down by many earthly concerns, the burdens of our body and its needs, we could never see beyond the things of this world; we could never detect God's heavenly design and intention. So, in His mercy He sent us His Spirit, His Wisdom from on high, to make straight our path to Him.

Jesus Himself paid the price to free us from the sentence imposed on Adam, which we recall in today's Psalm (see [Genesis 2:7](#); [2:19](#)). No more will the work of our hands be an affliction; no more are we destined to turn back to dust.

Like Onesimus in today's Epistle, we have been redeemed. We have been given a new family and a new inheritance, made children of the Father, brothers and sisters in the Lord.

We are free now to come after Him, to serve Him—no longer slaves to the ties of our past lives. In Christ, all our yesterdays have passed. We live in what the Psalm today beautifully describes as the daybreak, ready to be filled with His kindness. For He has given us wisdom of heart and taught us to number our days aright.

Fr. Blake Evans, Pastor



Bible Study: "Calling All Angels". 3 Weeks only. The Mystery and Truth of the Angels and Archangels in time and space and the life of the Faithful Believers. **September 9, 14 & 23** at 5:45 pm in the Music Room Bring your Bible and the Catechism. In the Music Room. Free.

Cancelled Masses - Fr. Evans apologizes for the recent cancelled daily masses. These were due to funerals here and elsewhere. Please note that the intentions are always offered.

WELCOME!

Father Thomas (to-MASS') Ededjo! We have a new guest Priest/Student on campus at the courtesy of our Archbishop. Father Thomas will reside here at Nativity while he studies Canon Law for his diocese in Nigeria. He has the faculties of the ADW now and is permitted to celebrate the Sacraments in Washington and our 5 Maryland counties. Please make him feel welcome!

Question of the week: How do I need to transform myself to be a true disciple? Who is part of my family?

Attention: Effective September 1, 2019 due to rising utilities all Ministries or groups meeting on campus at Nativity Catholic Church must pay a minimum fee of \$50 per meeting. The following Ministries and groups are excluded (Choir, El Shaddai and Salesian Cooperators). Ministry and group leads will be receiving an email in this matter. Thanks for your understanding. Jocelyn Daughtry, Vice Chair of the Pastoral Council and Evonne McDanniel, Vice Chair of the Finance Council.

Mass Intentions

September 7 - 14, 2019

Sat. 9/7	8:00 am	+Guillerma Hernandez
	5:30 pm	+Winslow Vickerie
Sun. 9/8	8:00am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	Religious Education Teachers
	1:00pm	Miguel A. Gonzalez (birthday)
Mon. 9/9	12:00	+Joseph Castelano
Tue. 9/10	11:00	+Walter K. Angevine (Funeral)
Wed. 9/11	11:00	+Edith Mebane (Funeral)
Thu. 9/12	12:00	No mass
Fri. 9/13	12:00	Souls in Purgatory
Sat. 9/14	8:00 am	+Rafaela Evans
	5:30 pm	People of the parish

Please pray for the sick and home-bound of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Catherine Baum, *Jose Guadalupe Bonilla, *Ann Butler, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Eileen Carroll-Doshier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Linda Foster, *Fr. Ricky Gancayo, *Charlie Gick, *Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, *Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *James Humphries, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Manuel Juarez, *Busara Kennedy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Larry Morris, *Iris Newman, *Fr. Everett Pearson, *Michelle Perez, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Fr. Vince Rigdon, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Robert Schaeffer, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo, *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Suzie Thompson, *Auristela Toro, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams.

Weekly Report

9/1/19

Attendance:	403 souls
Offerings & Tithes:	\$8,050
Spanish Mass:	\$346
Utility fund:	\$122

For those who tithe and give regularly thank you! For those who do not, please prayerfully consider giving a sacrificial gift to keep your Nativity parish strong. Your ADW taxes help support the St. Anthony school in NE Washington



Rest in peace

Edith Mebane, died on August 30. Funeral at Nativity on Wednesday, September 11.

Walter King Angevine, 85, died on August 31. Funeral at Nativity on Tuesday, September 10.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto them, Oh Lord



September 15th. Please register your children before the first day of Religious Ed. We are asking for \$50 per child. We will take registrations after the 8am and 10am Masses. Please come to the area around the baptismal font to fill out the registrations. Thank you!



Youth Faith and Fun day. September 14, 2019

9am – 2pm

For young people starting at 3rd grade to Senior in High School

- ✓ fun, games, lessons, lunch, daily mass, mentor help from young peers

At Nativity Church with volunteers from Our Lady of Bethesda Center 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers. Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5.00 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses). Donations are welcome!