

St. Aloysius, Gate of Heaven & Sacred Heart Church

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME AUGUST 18, 2019

Reflection on Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

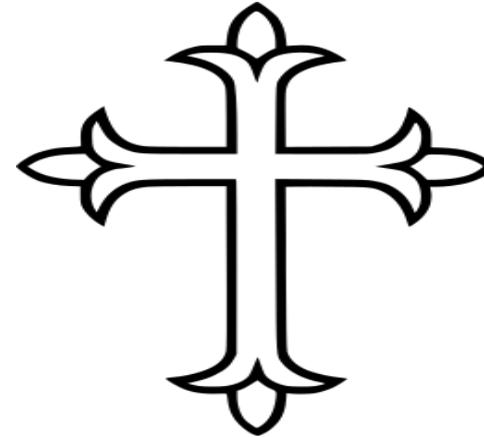
Jeremiah's call to be a prophet comes at a most unhappy time in the Israelite history. He receives his prophetic call in 626 BC during the reign of Josiah when he is merely 14 years old. The event described in today's reading takes place during the reign of Zedekiah, the last king of Judah. The Babylonian siege against Jerusalem is in progress. As the siege wears on, Jeremiah is cast into a slimy cistern, where he would have died had not Ebed-Melech, a courtier of the king, rescued him. Zedekiah himself loses the battle against the Babylonians and is taken captive there and has a miserable death. Jeremiah survives but is later taken to Egypt where he dies.

Second Reading:

Continuing on the theme of faith, the author calls Jesus as the pioneer and perfecter of our faith. This title recalls the close link between Christian endurance and faith. As Christians we must persevere in our faith amidst tribulations and persecutions. The connection expressed here between Jesus and faith is open to various interpretations. It is preferable to understand that, by his glorifying passion, Jesus establishes the foundation that allows believers to have access to "full assurance of faith" (Heb 10:22). From then on Jesus himself is that perfect foundation.

The Gospel Reading :

The gospel of today places before us some sayings of Jesus which are strong prophetic warnings. Two important words in these sayings are fire and baptism. Jesus has come to cast fire on earth and has a baptism to be baptized with. Fire is among the necessities of life. If used well it can give warmth and comfort. If used for wrong purposes, it can be dangerous, for example, in a war everything can be destroyed by fire. It can also be used as an instrument of torture. Fire is also a symbol of God's presence. God has appeared to Moses in the burning bush (Exod 3:2). In this passage of the Gospel "fire" refers to the judgement of God, because as Jesus continues to speak to the crowd he speaks of division and discord in families. After speaking about the "fire" Jesus speaks about peace and division. The effect of his mission, Jesus declares, is not the sort of peace by which domestic tranquillity is undisturbed. Indeed, the precise point of the prophetic mission is to challenge the people. Here the prophecy of Simeon finds its fulfilment: "This child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel" (Lk 2:34). Jesus divides households and creates a division in the people. The division is created by the diverse decisions made in response to Jesus and his message about the kingdom of God. In the context of the Jerusalem travel narrative, the fire and the baptism that have not yet been kindled or completed must relate closely to the rejection and the death that await Jesus in Jerusalem. Note that Jesus does not speak of the baptism of others but of a baptism that he himself must undergo. Baptism seems here to be a symbol of death. "Baptize" probably retains its original sense of dip, immerse, or plunge, and this is a life-threatening immersion in water or fire.



Parish Staff

Rev. Edward Bader, Administrator
Rev. Antony David MMI
Deacon Donald Prendergast
(845-239-0131)

Trustees

Ms. Jane Ryan
Mr. Andrew Carlson

Religious Education

Youth Activities
Mrs. Mary Davis

Parish Council Chairperson
Mr. Michael Park

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Mass Schedule

Saturday 4:00 PM St. Aloysius
Saturday 5.30 PM Sacred Heart Church
(**July 4th to Labor day**)
Sunday 9:00 AM St. Aloysius
11:00 AM Gate of Heaven

Weekday

M/T/F 8:15 AM St. Aloysius
Thursday 12:00 PM St. Aloysius
First Saturday 8.15 AM St. Aloysius

Adoration

M/T/F 7:30 to 8.15 AM
Friday 9.00 AM to 12.00 PM

Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Eve: 5:30 PM Gate of Heaven
Holy Day: 9:00 AM St. Aloysius
7:00 PM St. Aloysius

Sacraments

Confession: Before all masses.
Baptism: Call the rectory to make arrangements.
Marriage: Call the rectory to schedule your
Wedding and pre-Cana classes.

Pastoral Visitation

When confined at home, please call the rectory to arrange for a visit and Holy Communion. Please call the rectory if you are facing surgery or hospitalization and would like the Sacrament of the Sick.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

As a parish, we strive to bring our communities of Catholic Christians together, as we have for over 100 years, by loving and serving God and Each other through Worship, education and service.

MASS INTENTIONS: Aug 17- Aug 25 , 2019

Saturday, Aug 17

4.00 PM- Elizabeth & Alfred Canonico
5.30 PM- Richard Costello

Sunday, Aug 18

9:00 AM - Sophia Isaacs
11:00 AM - Barbara Templin

Mon, Aug 19

8:15 AM - Bill Guinan

Tues. Aug 20

8:15 AM - Bill Guinan

Thurs Aug 22

12. PM- Moureen Lee

Fri. Aug 23

8.15AM- All Widows

Saturday, Aug 24

4.00 PM- Rita Jeanne Schwarz
5.30 PM- Patricia Lavelle

Sunday, Aug 25

9:00 AM- Ellen Krajcovic
11.00.AM- Barbara Templin

NOTE: No Gift can replace offering a mass for departed soul or welfare of living. We have openings for weekdays and weekend masses. The mass stipend per mass is \$15.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK & DECEASED

For the Sick:Joni & Vinny Salvatore, Colleen & Jerrilynn O’Neil; Nora Fernandez,; Laurie & William McMichael, Carol Faughn, Christopher Merklin, Jack Tempel, Robert Ackerly, Sr. Grace, Maureen Connolly, Dave Tucker, Shannon Bruning, Patty Lewis, Lynne Hyzer, Beth Marie Martin, Kristi Romolo, Erma Carlson , Jim Wilbur, Dom Formato, Darren Steele, Jonell Dalton, Carrie Neer-Molinari, Mary Muhlig, Scott Branning, Easton Gorr.
Joe Salvia. Joe & Linda Mchugh, Jerry & Roe Mills, Ken, Arsenia Mchugh, Deniese Harting, John Augusta, Maureen Molloy.

For the Deceased:, Charles Irace, Ann M.Klein, Romina Migliorini, Mary Ann Regan, Sean A.Fredenbug, Rita Margaret Reda, Kristinezeh. Jon Joseph Tuso,Wanda L. McGovern,Gail J. Staudt, Rita Ann Evans, Nickolaus Bermel Jr, Bill Guinan.

COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

Is in need of spaghetti sauce, soup, tuna fish and jelly

Collection for last Week

First collection: \$ 2050
Thank you

Readings for Next Sunday

Isaiah 66:18-21.
Hebrews 12:5-7.
Luke 13:22-30.

BIBLE STUDY

Good Soil Bible Study Group will meet this week.
Tuesday 4.00 PM at Church basement.

2nd Annual Sullivan County Catholic Church

Luncheon Gathering

Sunday September 22nd, 2019 at 2PM

At the Rockland House

159 Rockland Road, Roscoe, NY

Cost \$30.00

Menu includes choice of: The Famous King Cut Prime Rib or chicken Marsala or salmon.
Beer and Soda included.

If you are interested in joining lunch with us, please collect the sheet found in the table at the back of the Church and submit to Fr. David before or on September 15, 2019.

Parish Council Meeting

We have parish council meeting on August 27 at 6.00 PM. everyone is welcome to the parish council meeting and contribute your ideas for the wellbeing of the parish. Works related maintenance, cemetery plot and various things will be discussed.

Religious Education Coordinator needed.

St. Aloysius has a great need for religious education coordinator. Volunteers who are interested, please call Fr.David @ 845-439-5625

Baby Bottle Fundraising

If you have any bottle with you, please return to the church. We thank you all those who contributed to this.

Learn to Fail Well

If you want to be a successful painter, you will at first fail on numerous canvases. And if you want to be a successful mathematician, you will at first fail in solving the equations. If you want to be a successful writer, your manuscripts will be rejected endlessly until one of them isn’t. But there will never come a point when you stop failing, because that’s what creativity is about. What works can only be known against the backdrop of what doesn’t—and if you’re too afraid to ever risk establishing that backdrop, personally and professionally, then you’ll never know what success is like. In the Hebrew Bible, we have the beautiful images in Jeremiah, for example, in the potter’s house where he comes to understand that even as Israel screws everything up over and over again, God—like a potter with clay in hand—is patient and allows the remodeling to take place, allows us to try again, to become the beautiful creation intended from the beginning. If we cannot live because we fear failure, then we cannot be good Christians because it is a faith predicated on being often diametrically opposed to worldly success. If you want to be successful, you need to learn to fail well.

