

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

JUNE 27, 2021

SCRIPTURE REFLECTIONS for July 4th 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ezekiel 2:2-5

To whom do you need to offer a word of correction or criticism?

Pray for the courage to correct with love, whether accepted or rejected.

2 Corinthians 12:7-10

What is your weakness, your "thorn in the flesh?"

Pray that Christ be your strength in this area of weakness.

Mark 6:1-6

Is there anyone from your town whose "wonderful deeds" you cannot accept?

If Jesus were in your home today, would he be able to work a miracle?

WEEKDAY MASSES June 29 – July 2

Tues: 5:00 pm Living & Deceased Robert & Betty Bata Family

Wed: 8:40 am +Elaine Machacek

Thurs: 5:00 pm +Dennis Lyons

Fri: 10:30 am **Maple Manor** +Ralph & Antoinette Marcotte **(No Public is Allowed)**

WEEKEND MASSES July 3 - 4

Sat: 5:00 pm St. Edward's - Nekoma +Cindy Roberts

7:30 pm St. Alphonsus People of the Parishes

Reader: Nancy Kram

EMHC: Carol Hoffarth

Sun: 8:30 am St. Alphonsus +Philip & Agnes Waslaski

Reader: Greg Fetsch

EMHC: Daryl Kempel

Musicians: Bob & Cantor

St. Michael's – Wales **NO MASS AT WALES TODAY**

10:30 am St. Alphonsus +Sally Stremick

Reader: Jenny Chaput

EMHC: Bev Otto

Musicians: Bob & Cantor

Fellowship Hall Host: Wil & Sue Schill

Fr. Michael Hickin's cell phone: 701-891-1238

Website for St. Alphonsus Parish – <http://www.stalphonsuslangdon.com/>

**Confessions: Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays after Mass or
by appointment**

Weekly Reflection for June 20, 2021: This week's reflection of the parishioner's relationship with God and with the parish

Adult Envelopes	\$2,479.00
Intentional Givers	\$510.00
Plate	\$226.00
Children	\$39.00
Total	\$3,254.00

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

In today's second reading, St. Paul is very concerned about striking a balance, urging the Corinthian Christians to get things in order, so that they look after those in need but meet their own needs as well. "Remember how generous the Lord Jesus was," he reminds them. God's generosity is vast, as the reading from Wisdom points out: God created everything, it tells us. And that huge embrace for the world is evident in God's Son too. Mark's Gospel recounts Jesus being pressed on all sides. People want his attention and his healing. He attends to Jairus whose daughter is sick; we can imagine how desperate the father must be. The crowd keeps pressing and in the middle of it, as Jesus is probably struggling to keep his footing when he is jostled while following Jairus to his home, there's someone else in need. A woman who is bleeding touches his garment. And then, hearing that Jairus' daughter is dead, Jesus doesn't hold back. He visits her, regardless.

For people of Jesus' time, this was remarkable behavior. They had a horror of blood and a woman with a hemorrhage like this would have been seen as ritually unclean. Touching a dead body would also have been seen as unacceptable: Jesus would have contaminated himself. But instead he responds to these people, just as he would to anyone else, recognizing the person in need. Healing the woman with the hemorrhage and bringing Jairus' daughter back to life would have been extraordinary moments. Mark tells us that the people who witnessed the little girl coming back to life were overcome with astonishment. We can imagine how Jesus' actions were so shocking to people for whom death was something that took people so rapidly in an age with little medical knowledge. The reading from the book of Wisdom stresses that death is not God's doing. Now Jesus is overcoming it.

The incarnation of Jesus was, above all else, a physical thing, and this Gospel is full of the physical. There are the crowds of people, pushing and shoving. There is the woman with the hemorrhage. There is the tenderness of Jesus taking the hand of the little girl. And then he overcomes death, the end of the physical body, and restores her to life. God is not some ethereal being here: God is among us, part of our lives. Indeed, Jesus is so practical about the material world that he urges Jairus and the others to give the restored little girl something to eat.

Taken from The Living Word

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

"...as a matter of equality your abundance at the present time should supply their want, so that their abundance may supply your want, that there may be equality." - 2

CORINTHIANS 8:14

One of the tenants of living a grateful and generous lifestyle is giving without expecting anything in return. It is important that we not only grow, nurture and share our gifts; but that we also teach our children and encourage others to do the same. This is the communal aspect of our Catholic faith. We are the "Body of Christ". We are called to be dependent on each other and not live in isolation.

WORK AROUND THE HOUSE - Over the winter and into this summer, we've been working on a number of projects while we also gradually pave the way for the larger work on the interior of the church.

Earlier:

- 1) Trio Environmental Consulting, Inc. did a survey for asbestos
- 2) Plummer Construction poured concrete under the winter chapel and laid drain tile in the church basement
- 3) Cory Hoffarth and Corey Johnson worked on the Fellowship Hall ceiling.

So far this summer:

- 4) Marcotte laid new carpet in school
- 5) Dennis Schill is stripping and refinishing the hardwood floors, 2nd and 3rd fl of the school
- 6) Lundquist of Grafton is putting a fresh roof on the east wing of the school
- 7) Kendall Gemmill sprayed the lawn of the church, school, & park
- 8) Your pastor has had some fun playing with rocks.

Catholic Daughters are accepting religious articles (statues, pictures, rosaries, pray books and etc.) to send them to Universal Living Rosary Association in Texas. You can leave them at the back of the church or call Linda Kempel 256-2493

PARISH NEWS AND EVENTS

OFFICE HOURS: The week starting June 28th Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 8:00am – 12:00pm

Parish Council meets on Thursday, July 8 at 7:00pm in the fellowship hall

WELCOME HOME! This past week, I've been away in Minneapolis for a national priest assembly. I'm writing this the week before I even leave. As I prepare for the journey, I'm already anticipating getting back. I've got a bunch of plants that'll be awaiting some TLC, a projects-list to tackle, and the little fact that's been sneaking up on me, Cavalier County has become *home*.

It takes a while, but it's happened. Wish I could tell you how many zip codes I've claimed as home. 'Home' brings with it a certain sense of security, happiness, and so many other values we rarely pause to think about. It's a great feeling to call a place *home*. I thank all of you whose kindness and hospitality help that happen.

Before taking a peek at the Gospel, here's a homeward-bound-story that borders on the morbid but with a wink of playfulness.

In 1841, Charles Coughlin was born on Prince Edward Island. He became an internationally acclaimed Shakespearian actor, kicking off his career in London at age 19, although St. Ed Island always remained home in his heart. There he'd come and rest now and again during his vast travels.

At age 58, while appearing in Galveston, TX, he fell sick, died, and there was buried. The following year, 1900, the greatest natural disaster of our Nation's history struck that city. A hurricane devastated the Gulf Coast, claiming some 8,000 victims. A flood surge of 8-12 ft of water destroyed several streets and the cemetery where Coughlin was buried. The bodies of the long dead mingled with the freshly dead. A horrific scene.

After the hurricane subsided, a huge backwash carried many coffins into the Gulf of Mexico, among them that of Charles Coughlin. Weeks later, the West Indian Gulf Stream whisked it around the tip of Florida where the pace of its northern flow picks up and can travel some 70 miles a day.

Perhaps a gale blew the coffin out of this current, God only knows. But after years adrift at sea, at the mercy of winds and waves, encrusted with mollusks and barnacles, some fisherman in October of 1908, towed the bobbing spectacle to the beach.

Beneath the thick crust of shells, they uncovered a silver plate with the name *Charles Coughlin*. It was a name the sailors knew well, their hometown hero. Charles' coffin had made it down the St. Lawrence Seaway to the shores of Prince Edward Island only a few miles away from where the actor was raised.

Simon and Garfunkel sing the popular tune:

*I'm sittin' in the railway station / Got a ticket for my destination
On a tour of one night stands / My suitcase and guitar in hand
And every stop is neatly planned / For a poet and a one man band
Homeward bound / I wish I was / Homeward bound
Home, where my thoughts are 'scaping / Home, where my music's playing
Home, where my love lies waiting / Silently for me*

Our longing for home is powerful. Its pull on our souls is a force so strong we don't know how to register it.

Capitalizing on our love of home, our First Reading reminds us that God did not make death. We're made to live—not just in this world, but forever. But where?

The Gospel gives us a glimpse of that life as a power that comes from the person of Jesus. From the tassel of his cloak a powerful jolt of healing reinvigorates a long-suffering woman. At his word, a little girl, thought dead, arises to life.

They say, *home is where the heart is*. The shore towards which we drift, the place where our "Love lies waiting," is a *home* we call Heaven.

Jesus and Jesus alone has the power to cross this threshold. That's why faith in him sets our hearts *homeward bound*.

PRAYING FOR RAIN - Saints Isidore and Maria, tillers of the Earth and lovers of the Lord, teach us how to accept each day as it comes. May the thirsty ground cause the wellspring of the Spirit within each of us to gush and beg for all we need.

In the name of Jesus, whose precious pierced Body released a flood of Water and Blood, we ask for blessed rain. Amen.