

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 19, 2020

| Date | Intentions | Requested by |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Sun. 7/19 11:00 | Suzette Oleksyk | |
| Wed. 7/22 9:00 | Griffin Harper | Carmen Allen |
| Thurs. 7/23 12:10 | | |
| Fri.. 7/24 9:00 | | |
| Sat. 7/25 4:00 | Mark Bennett + | |

Stewardship Thought

“For everything is from you, and we only give you what we already have received from you.”
(1Chronicles 29:14-16)

GREAT NEWS

We have a website!

olmhighlands.com

Log on for the latest information
and announcements!

Scripture Readings

Sunday 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 12:13, 16-19; Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16;
Rom 8:26-27; Mt 13:24-43
Monday Saint Apollinaris, Martyr
Mi 6:1-4, 6-8; Ps50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21
and 23; Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday Saint Lawrence of Brindisi
Mi 7:14-15, 18-20; Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8;
Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday Saint Mary Magdalene
Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor :14-17; Ps 71:1-2,
3-4a, 5-6ab, 15 and 17, Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Thursday Saint Bridget, Religious
Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-
11; Mt 13:10-17
Friday Saint Sharbel Makhluf, Priest
Jer3:14-17; Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13;
Mt 13:18-23
Saturday Saint James, Apostle
2 Cor 4:7-15; Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5
6; Mt 20:20-28
Sunday 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
1Kgs 3:5, 7-12; Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-
128, 129-130; Rom 8:28-30; Mt 13:44-52

Saint of the Week

St. Apollinaris

.St. Apollinaris was one of the first great martyrs of the church. He was made Bishop of Ravenna by St. Peter. The miracles he conducted in Ravenna soon attracted official attention, for they and his preaching won many converts to the faith. However, at the same time, his words and works brought upon the fury of the pagan people who beat Apollinaris cruelly on several occasions.

During one beating, Apollinaris was cut with knives, and scalding hot water poured over his wounds, then put on a ship to be sent to Greece.

In Greece the same course of preachings, and miracles, and sufferings continued. In fact, after a cruel beating by Greek pagans, he was sent back to Italy.

When Emperor Vespasian issued a decree of banishment against the Christians, Apollinaris was kept hidden for some time, but as he was leaving, passing through the gates of the city, he was attacked and savagely beaten. He lived for seven days, foretelling that the persecutions would increase, but that the Church would ultimately triumph.



Father's Column

Defending the Catholic Faith

A major shift happened in the nineteenth century without anyone even noticing. Matters of holy religion were uprooted from the soil of truth to that of custom, culture, or preference. For this we have the brilliant literary critic Matthew Arnold to thank, who chose not to impune and mock religion like Voltaire, but rather make it less significant by reducing it to the level of art, architecture, and the like. The result of this shift was that people were hesitant ever to engage in dialogue or debate with those holding dissimilar religious views; for it would be like criticizing the way someone decorates their house.

The Lord Jesus, however, did not die to be considered a mere part of culture or preference. He came to proclaim the truth of His divinity and man's need for redemption. To reduce His mission and religion to preference is to say to Him of His crucifixion: "that's nice, but not necessary."

From the day of Pentecost, Christians boldly, yet charitably, proclaimed the necessity of accepting Christ. Water is wet. Fire is hot. Man needs Christ to be saved. This proclamation of Christ was not without prodding from the Apostles. St. Peter encouraged Christians in his first epistle: "Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you: (1Pet 3:5-16).

We too are encouraged to defend and explain our

Please pray for our parishioners and their relatives and friends:

Earl Goodrow, Ron Simmons, Griffin Harper, Suzette Oleksyk, Dr. Larry Barbles, Patricia Pittari, Adele Hopkins

Also for those in our book of prayer intentions, and those for whom there is no one to pray.

Please pray for all the men and women serving the United States in the military.
Please pray for the souls of our beloved deceased.

Catholic faith to those in the circumstances of our lives, be it family, friends, or co-workers. In my many years of dialoguing with non-Catholics about the Faith, I have found that the vast, vast majority of my time is spent correcting misconceptions. Archbishop Fulton Sheen was certainly right when he once said: "There are not one hundred people in the United States who hate The Catholic Church, but there are millions who hate what they wrongly perceive the Catholic Church to be. "

Out of zeal for souls, let us therefore prepare ourselves to defend and explain the Catholic faith in boldness, charity, and humility. To that end, I will begin a new apologetic series on our YouTube channel covering various issues with which non-Catholics have a difficulty understanding. Stay tuned!

Pastoral Council Meeting

Our next Pastoral Council Meeting will be on
Thursday, August 13th at 10:15 am.

DSA

Thank you for supporting the DSA and all the diocesan ministries. If you have not yet made a gift, please give prayerful consideration to how you can make a difference in the lives of thousands of people throughout our diocese. You can give online at: www.charlottediocese.org/dsa

Please Volunteer

We are in need of parishioners to lector and usher. If you can help please contact the office.

| Lector | Ushers |
|------------------|----------|
| 7.25 Open | Open (4) |
| 7.26 Jeff Knight | Open (4) |
| 8.01 Open | Open (4) |
| 8.02 Jeff Knight | Open (4) |