

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 11, 2021

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Alleluia! Alleluia! Psalm #118:24 says; “This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad.” Usually, we read this psalm in some capacity during the Easter season in the Catholic Church. Just like the “alleluia”, it is a manifestation of the highest form of praise as we recognize the omnipotence of our God. On this Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time cycle (b), we have another reason to gather and give God praise!

Every Sunday is called a “little Easter” as we make present the Lamb, the sacrifice, and the Victory! It is very appropriate that we cry out in jubilation, Alleluia! Victory is ours witnessed by the community and our Faith-family gathered for the holy sacrifice of the Mass. Finally, we joyfully reenter the physical building of the Church of the Transfiguration.

Last week, Deacon Mark Race exercised one of his many gifts given by ordination to the diaconate. He preached. In Deacon Race’s sermon he asked the question; “What do you expect to see?” Many last week, I am sure had many different expectations since it was the Fourth of July. There were some fireworks immediately following the 10am Mass. (all the tributes & farewells) Deacon Mark and his family felt very good about the Liturgy and the accolades that he received. I was extremely happy and proud of the love shown him by our Faith-family.

Fourth of July/Independence Day is a difficult holiday for some in the era of “wokeness”, especially in the African-American community. Someone recently tried to explain to me that we should not commemorate that day. If this is correct, we shouldn’t have a long weekend, not eat bbq, not attend legal fireworks displays, etc. Losing the opportunity to participate in all the fun stuff. Yes, when the Declaration of Independence was signed it did state in the second paragraph of the lengthy document; “...that all men are created equal.” Black men were considered three-fifths of a white man. Most of the Africans on the continent were slaves. The document was seen to be a lie and those who say they follow it are at best hypocritical. Many think that Africans - in America, should not celebrate the Fourth, because we did not receive our independence. Free Black men were a part of the war effort. In March of 1770, Crispus Attucks, a catholic African in America became the first to die for colonies independence. Mr. Attucks and others Africans that fought in the revolutionary war should be honored. We honor them as we celebrate independence.

Following the logic of not celebrating the Fourth because, our people were still enslaved then we should not celebrate the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, Juneteenth, etc. Many feel we are still not fully free today. It is right and just that we celebrate “the Fourth” and all emancipation remembrances. They remind us that America’s declaration (“all men [& women] are created equal...”) is not fully realized, but we can celebrate the promise that our great nation has potential and continues to evolve!

Today is another resurrection day as we triumphantly march back into the physical Church! God has blessed us as we continue to move through the latest obstacles that the devil places before us. I answer the question that Deacon Race gave us last week easily. When we come on the mountain top of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, we can expect to see a blessing! Praise God, we will never be disappointed!

Shalom,

Fr. Anthony Bozeman, SSSJ

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Kathleen Charles, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Edward Cousin, Cynthia Cyrus, Juanita Davis, Carolyn Didney, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Cynthia Fortier, Michael Frierson, Sherie Frierson-Chenier, Brenda Garibaldi, Avis Gibbs, Barbara Harris, Darren Harris, Jennifer Hallman, Marjorie Jones, Briana Katz, Barbara Lagarde, Irwin Lagarde, Mercedes LeBlanc, Jo Ann Levi, Vylfred Manor, Cheryl Santa Marina, Dorothy Okoye, Tyrone Pitts, Sally Price, Wiley Pugh, Andrea Raggette, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Mike Simon, Joan Spencer, Annie Starks, Leila Thomas, Iris Turner, Mabel Walton, William Warrior, Alice Williams, Peggy Wilson and Mechele Yerima.

Weekly Offering for July 4, 2021

\$9,039.00 Tithe and Offering



Stewardship

"He instructed them to take nothing for the journey but a walking stick – no food, no sack, no money in their belts."
MARK 6:8

Imagine taking nothing but a stick when you go on a trip. The Apostles must have really trusted in God's providential care. Think of all the material things "we can't live without" in today's world. We make our life's journey more difficult because of all the material baggage that we drag along. Putting God first in everything and putting our money and possessions second gives us freedom because we don't become "slaves" to wanting to acquire more things.

Bar B Que!!!

The Knights of Peter Claver, Council 220 will have a Bar B Que on Saturday, July 31, 2021 from 12:30PM to 5:30PM. It will take place under the Hall Patio. Proceeds will help the Maurice E. Simon Scholarship Fund. Dinners are \$12.00 (1 meat) and \$15.00 combinations (2 meats) with 2 sides, potato salad and baked beans. The Ladies Auxiliary also will provide their delicious desserts.



Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	Am 7:12-15, Ps 85:9-14, Mk 6:7-13
Monday	Ex 1:8-22, Mt 10:13-11:1
Tuesday	Ex 2:1-15a, Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday	Ex 3:1-12, Mt 11:25-27
Thursday	Ex 3:13-20, Mt 11:28-30
Friday	Ex 11:10-12:14, Mt 12:1-8
Saturday	Ex 12:37-42, Mt 12:14-21
Sunday	Jer 23:1-6, Ps 23:1-6, Mk 6:30-34

Did you know?

Another reason not to leave children in the car.

Parents know the dangers of hot cars and leaving children unattended. Experts say there's another reason to never leave children alone, in a running vehicle, even for just a few moments — carjackers. A car thief may see a running car as an easy target, but if he/she doesn't know there is a child inside, the car thief becomes an unintentional abductor. In these cases, car thieves may panic, leaving the child in an increasingly dangerous situation. Take extra precautions to make sure your children are not left alone in a car. It is well worth the extra steps of getting them in and out of car seats and safety belts and taking them with you. For more information, visit <https://www.missingkids.org/content/ncmec/en/blog/2021/theyre-stealing-more-cars-with-kids-left-in-them.html>

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by Tiffany Williams in loving memory of her father **Randall Williams**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.