

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 18, 2021

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Grace and peace be with you in this season that our God continues to do extraordinary things in ordinary time! “We have come into this House” took on a special meaning for us last week. This week and we find ourselves on the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time cycle (b). Last week we were “Marching into Victory” as we triumphantly strolled back into our physical edifice! This symbolic powerful action witnessed to the community “New Beginnings” on the corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd & Roxton Ave.

Our hearts filled with nervous but joyful expectation, we assembled in the patio section of our school (the site of the physical Church for over a year.) Nervous, because we wanted everything to be perfect. Also, we knew the hard work of the ministries like the Altar Society, Media ministry, Ushers, Sanitizers (seat wipers, area preparers), etc. did in the previous week, so that we can have the triumphant movement. We sang as we walked/processed. I had to harken back to the Old Testament (Genesis) jubilation of the Israelites return to Zion after being in exile. We have many issues to work on (the sound system, new ministers to fill needed positions to facilitate our worship, etc.), but the devil could not destroy the joy of the blessed moment! “Marching to Victory” was an appropriate theme for the Liturgies because that is what we did. Really, what we do every time “we come into this house and gather in His name...”

This Sunday, we continue our journey in “New Beginnings.” Every day we gather, it is a new beginning. It is a new opportunity to give God the glory, honor, & praise that He is so correctly worthy. Giving God His adds nothing to His greatness, but does profit us for salvation! “We know when the praises go up, the blessings comedown!”

Our “New Beginnings” will have many of our familiar issues, problems, etc. COVID-19 is a dangerous disease that with the new variants is now seriously affecting young people especially the unvaccinated. Many especially in the south and rural areas argue that their freedoms are being impeded by the government trying every tool to encourage that people keep themselves, family, and community safe by getting the vaccine. It makes no sense as we see infections rise amongst people that could easily be protected. This situation does not make sense, but Sin doesn’t make sense. Faith-family, we must continue to encourage our sisters and brothers to keep themselves, us, and the community at large safe. Get the vaccine. Wash your hands frequently. Going to any place where people gather wear your masks!

Racism is also reconstituting itself with the hate crimes still rising. Going beyond the perennial violence against African-Americans, but rising with our Asian-American, Native-American, Latin-x communities. Hate mongers have once again created news ways to spew their venom, by targeting voting rights, Jim Crow 2.0 under the lie of election integrity. Creating fear amongst people that schools by teaching the Truth about the abomination of chattel slavery in the United States will make white people look bad is detrimental to real healing and transformation. It further perpetuates myths, misinformation, and strengthens racial strife and division.

Church of the Transfiguration, our new beginnings call us to continue gathering, marching, praying, speaking, and moving until we can bring our “mountain top” experience to all so that after experiencing our light here on the corner of Hope and Transformation, our world will be lit with the Light of Christ and recognize our Universal Sisterhood and Brotherhood.

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 11, 2021

\$7,506.71 Tithe and Offering



Stewardship

"He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." MARK 6:31

Do you spend time, every day, alone and in silence listening to how God is calling you? If not, you are missing out on a wonderful opportunity to develop a more personal relationship with Him. Unless we talk and more importantly, listen to God every day, how else will we know how He is calling us? Consider making a retreat this year, spend some "alone" time with God.

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 S. 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	Jer 23:1-6, Ps 23:1-6, Mk 6:30-34
Monday	Ex 14:5-18, Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday	Ex 14:21-15:1, Mt 12:46-50
Wednesday	Ex 16:1-15, Mt 13:1-9
Thursday	Sgs 3:1-4b, Jn 20:1-18
Friday	Ex 20:1-17, Mt 13:18-23
Saturday	Ex 24:3-8, Mt 13:24-30
Sunday	2 Kgs 4:42-44, Ps 145:10-18, Jn 6:1-15

Did you know?

The impact of social distancing on children

The negative effects of the pandemic on children are just beginning to be seen, as children head back to schools and daycares, some for the first time in well over a year. Children may be struggling socially, academically, and developmentally, due to a year of social distancing and predominantly online interaction. Work with your children to discuss how they are feeling — check in often for any signs that they might be overwhelmed or struggling. For more information, read the article, "[The impact of social distancing on young children.](#)"

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by Joy Manning in loving memory of her husband *William Manning*. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.

Reopening Team

Thank you to those who went over and beyond to reopen the church this past weekend especially, Madge Alston, Jo Baker, Rosemary Campbell, Magna Gibbs, Carol James, Barbara Johnson, Angel Reyes, Yulianna Reyes, Cynthia Richardson, Cheyenne Wesley for cleaning the church; Mable Simon, Ida Wycliff for the Church Environment; Felecia Johns and Liz Quinn staff volunteers. Thank you again.