

Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 8, 2021

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Grace and peace be with you in this Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time cycle (b). We continue to celebrate the fact that Our God does extra ordinary things in what is entitled “ordinary time!” In my homily last Sunday; “Do It Till You Satisfied!” I said that, I felt like I was in the movie “Ground Hog Day.” Why, because, we seem to be reliving the same situations, we had the week before. It is not the same week now on this Sunday, but it seems like we still in the same issues.

Yes, we are still suffering with the same challenges (pandemics) that we have been fighting for the last almost 2 years for one. Another challenge (pandemic) we have been suffering for over 400 years. The twin pandemics affect us in every aspect of our lives.

COVID-19 has changed every aspect of our lives and is still destroying our way of life! Back in 2019, the warning signs were starting to show that trouble was common, if we didn't create a serious response there would be serious devastating consequences. Our national leaders' response instead was to look at trying to find a scapegoat and specifically point to one group/nation (China). Also politicians lied going against fact based science to downplay the severity of the disease and ability to reach the United States. The Obama administration had created a road map how to navigate through this type of epidemic, but the program was scuttled by the next administration. Probably, because it came from the Obama administration. One of the ridiculous examples of the other issue that we have been suffering from.

Racism, America's original sin that everyone tries to ignore. It is an ugly truth that effects every aspect of our lives. It has and will influence our past, present, and future! Even the COVID-19, preparation, response, and recovery are exasperated because of the Sin of Racism. Periodically, we hear that the sin has been eradicated. Remember with the election of President Obama, we were told that it was done. America was as of 2008 a “post racial society.” Then: People complained about his suits, his desire to speak to children, etc. They wanted to impeach him for calling an action of an at best overzealous policemen (the arrest of Prof Gates) “stupid.”

In our Church, we continue to see the incidents and effects of Racism. On Tuesday, five young priests all African-American and the pastor (the Old Head) celebrated a Mass for their ministry. One of the young priests in our time together was saying that he was, “racismed out!” and didn't want to discuss it anymore. Unfortunately, he has been inundated with all the overt and covert signs in our Church and society. Story after story of struggles from seminary to pastoring, they shared the trials and tribulations that arise from the sin. The Mass and gathering gave them an opportunity to relax and refortify for their various ministries.

Church, that's what this mountain top experience (the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass) will do for us. Jesus in this “Sacrifice” gives us His very self to strengthen us, so that we can P.U.S.H. (Pray Until Something Happens!) We continue to pray and actively work for the eradication of the twin pandemics that affect us. COVID virus will be destroyed, if we follow the Holy Spirit inspired science and common sense to stay safe. Racism will also eventually be defeated as we pray and actively work to bring all to the knowledge of “who we are and whose we are!” Jesus the Bread of Life will assist us while feeding us to “keep on keeping on.” Our P.U.S.H. and the Eucharistic meal will assist us to fortify, sanctify, and transform the world!

Shalom, Fr. Bozeman

Pray for the Sick

LaVerne Agnew, Brian Argusta, Vivian Burgess, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Kathleen Charles, Christopher Chestnut, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Rita Cook, 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, Barbara J. Jones, 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 August 1, 2021

\$7,388.00 Tithe and Offering

EXPENSES	July-21	June-21
Salaries and benefits	13,785	27,078
Insurance	11,206	10,822
Maintenance	2,740	2,565
Utility	2,519	6,484
Other operating	12,888	12,085
TOTAL expenses	43,138	59,034

Stewardship

"Get up and eat or the journey will be too much for you!"

1 KINGS 19:7

God knows that committing to a stewardship lifestyle is difficult. However, we were not designed to do it on our own, we need His help. Fortunately, God gave us the greatest gift of all, His son, Jesus. Through the gift of the Eucharist we join our sacrifice with the sacrifice of the Holy Mass and receive the strength and courage to be His joyful disciples.

Mission appeal next weekend

Next weekend, August 15 there will be a second offering for The Foundation for Children in Need. (FCN) is a Catholic lay organization based in Arlington Heights, Illinois. Their mission work is in the interior villages in the Southern part of India. FCN sponsors 2,500 children and 50 elderly persons. They have been responsible for building several schools, boarding homes, a community health center and a home for the elderly. They provide free medical check-ups and medicine to thousands of needy adults and children. 800 children born with Cleft Lip and Cleft Palate have been helped with free corrective surgeries in the past 5 years. We encourage you to support FCN's mission work generously. To know more about FCN's mission work, you are invited to visit their website: www.fcn-usa.org

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday	1 Kgs 19:4-8, Ps 34:2-9, Jn 6:41-51
Monday	Dt 10:12-22, Mt 17:22-27
Tuesday	2 Cor 9:6-10, Jn 12:24-26
Wednesday	Dt 34:1-12, Mt 18:15-20
Thursday	Jos 3:7-17, Mt 18:21-19:1
Friday	Jos 24:1-13, Mt 19:3-12
Saturday	Jos 24:14-29, Mt 19:13-15
Sunday	Rv 11:19a, 12:1-10, Ps 45:10-16, Lk 1:39-56

Did you know?

The importance of being a good example

Parents often have an easier time enforcing rules if they are setting good examples for their children. When it comes to drinking, drug use, and other risky behaviors, it is not always enough to tell your children these behaviors are forbidden. Parents should model the behavior they want to see. Drinking in moderation and abstaining from drug and nicotine teaches children about boundaries and responsible behaviors and reinforces the message that dangerous substances really are dangerous. For more information, request a copy of the VIRTUS article "Ten prevention practices you may not have considered," at <https://lacatholics.org/did-you-know/>.

Religious Education

For students from Kindergarten to High School will begin September 12, 2021. It will include: First Communion, Confirmation, the study of scripture, the study and celebration of Liturgy and the Liturgical seasons. Registration will take place every Sunday in August after the 8AM and 10AM Masses outside in the patio. More information will be given at registration.

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by *Cynthia Richardson* in loving memory of her mother **BARBARA KEYS**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.