REFLECTIONS ON THE READINGS FOR
THE 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

The mystery of the Incarnation is seen in today’s liturgy. The belief that God became man in Jesus is the crux of Christianity. In this mystery, the Word of God is revealed by Jesus who is, Himself, the Word incarnate. It is through Christ that God reveals Himself in a most unique way. It is this revelation that is the seed of God’s redemptive plan for man. From the very beginning, God promises the fruitfulness of this great gift that He has in store for His creation. It is through the Word that all who accept Him will be rewarded and united, once again, to God. It is the Father reuniting His divided family.

(Deacon Rob’s Reflections continue on the next page)

PANDEMIC PRAYER
Heavenly Father, You hear the cry of the poor.
The voices of the faithful join the chorus from around the world, imploring Your divine assistance in this difficult season. We entrust our families, schools and parishes to Your loving mercy.
Heal the sick: console the anxious;
Be our guide in every decision—big and small,
so that we may give glory to Your name at all times.
Grant us a spirit of tenderness and patience,
that we may become witnesses to Your great love in this valley of tears.
Increase in us a hunger for Your Son’s Real Presence as we strive to be truly present to one another.
Raise up men and women of courage who will serve as instruments of Your mercy.
Let us not be overwhelmed by fear or sorrow, but rather overcome by hope in Your divine majesty.
You are Lord over all!
Your ways are mysterious and marvelous!
Your plans are beyond our understanding, but You hold us in the palm of Your hand.
Awaken in us a deep trust in Your divine providence, so that we may move forward in confidence and serenity.
We turn to Mary, our loving Mother, whose own heart has been pierced by our lament.
May we find comfort and protection in her Immaculate Heart, and may she lead us to Jesus, in whose friendship we find our everlasting home.
Amen.

St. Roch, patron saint of plagues, pray for us.
In today’s reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, this promise is reflected. Here, Isaiah, prognosticates the coming of the Messiah. This Messiah will be more than a ruler of a great people. He will be a teacher of unity with God. The prophet, using imagery found in nature, predicts that God’s Word will be sent to reclaim all that has fallen and return it to Him. Isaiah’s use of rain and snow falling from the Heavens and fertilizing the Earth is intended to show the inevitability of Divine Restitution after the Fall of Adam. God’s victory and harvest is inevitable. The realization of the Word taking human form in Christ marks the return of all to the Divine Father. Our liturgy, today, could not begin without such a wondrous prognostication – a prediction of love fulfilled by a loving Father.

In Saint Paul’s Letter to the Romans, this inevitable triumph of God’s Word is brought to light. Paul explains to the Romans that sufferings endured for the sake of the Word are nothing in comparison to the rewards that will be garnered. Paul addresses the corruption of the times explaining that all will be justified through the Word when God’s promise comes to fulfillment. The loving Father, revealed in Christ, will extend His love to all and give birth to a New Creation where love and justice are paramount. Currently, Paul teaches, the world is going through labor pains and those who accept the Word await the fruits of their adoption into this Divine Family through the redemption found in Christ. The prophecies of Isaiah are recognized as fulfilled by Paul, but it is up to man to accept the Divine Word even if he has to suffer in this world. Like birth, the temporary labor will yield a miraculous result.

Finally, in today’s Gospel by Matthew, the Divine Redemptive Plan is addressed by Christ, Himself. Jesus, the Word Incarnate, is depicted preaching from a boat to a multitude on land. Once again, using natural features, the message is layered in the interpretations of parables. The setting, itself, reveals much in its symbolism. Here, Jesus is isolated in the midst of the sea, representing the nations of the world. God teaches His family who has lined up on the shore to hear the Divine Good News. Christ describes how his teachings will be received by various people of the world with various backgrounds. Employing parables, Jesus makes sure that the Divine message is not obscured. Using agrarian images, Christ explains various scenarios of how God’s message of love will be received. Using a sower and his seed, Jesus describes the various fates of seeds depending upon where it lands. The Lord knows that worldly conditions often affect the final outcome. His Word, the seed, can grow and give life or be rejected and reap death. Sometimes, Christ claims, seeds fall and are totally swept away; however, other times they begin to grow but are overwhelmed by the elements due to lack of roots. Then, there are times that the seedlings are choked by weeds and die due to lack of nourishment. Then, again, some seedlings fall on fertile soil and produce much fruit. The result will be the same with the Word. Jesus uses this imagery to tell the multitude that the Word will be given to all the nations but that worldly conditions and events will affect its acceptance. It will be up to the individual to accept or reject God’s offer of reconciliation. It is up to man, himself, to rejoin the Divine Family in love and to accept the corresponding responsibilities and graces.

This second point of today’s passage dealing with acceptance and reconciliation comes when the disciples ask Jesus why he teaches in parables. In response, Jesus employs Sacred Scripture found in Isaiah. Using Isaiah’s prophecy, Christ explains how God’s plan can be heard but, also, can be misunderstood or totally ignored due to the obstinacy of people’s hearts. Repeatedly mankind has rejected Divine help. From Adam to the present, the various covenants with God had been broken by mankind due to man’s belief that he has the answers to his problems. The refusal to put God first and trust in Him has brought about his constant separation. Mankind’s hubris and selfishness has caused him to turn his back upon God. As a result, he has lost his way. However, Christ affirms that despite this stubbornness and rejection, there will be those whose eyes and ears are open. These people will flourish and bring about the completion of God’s Plan. In the end, Good will triumph over Evil and God will separate the two for eternity. His Divine Family will be brought back together and reside in the Mystery of God – The Trinity.

Today’s liturgy is designed for us to analyze ourselves. What type of soil are we? Can the Word develop? Has the world and its ways overpowered the Word within us? Have we tended the Word we have received with the tools Christ has left us – the Sacraments? We are called to realign ourselves with the Savior and our Divine Family in order that He can reveal Himself to our world, today. Only through careful care can we assist God in His Redemptive Plan. Holy Mother the Church asks us to respond with vim, vigor and vitality to God’s call. As the world broadcasts its goals and desires, the Church summons us to action. Action that reveals the only type of love that counts – agape love. The agape love, as exemplified by Christ, is the world’s only hope for salvation and happiness. For it is God, Himself, in action. The action of a Divine Father who wants His Family to be one in love.

Deacon Rob

The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest.
Psalm 65
**THIS WEEK’S MASS SCHEDULE**

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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>10:00 am</td>
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<td>7/15</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/16</td>
<td>Thursday</td>
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**REMINDER:** All Masses & Adoration will be live-streamed via the parish’s Facebook page.

**RECUERDE:** Todas las misas y adoraciones se transmitirán en vivo a través de la página de Facebook de la parroquia.

**ADORATION THIS WEEK**

- **Tuesday / Martes**
  7:00—8:00 pm
- **Wednesday / Miercoles**
  5:30—6:30 pm
- **Friday / Viernes**
  10:30 am—9:00 pm

**ADORATION sign-up (per hour)**

*by contacting Gloria Cisneros (503-551-2767)*

**CONFESSIONS**

- **Saturday / Sabado**
  3:30—4:30 pm

*Also available by individual appointment // Por cita individual con el Padre Kiko*

**COLLECTION FOR June 27—28, 2020**

- **Envelopes:** $2,515.00
- **Loose:** $153.00
- **TOTAL GIVING:** $2,668.00

**REMINDER:** If you are donating to the parish via automatic payments, remember to renew yearly!

**RECORCEMENTO:** Si está donando a la parroquia mediante pagos automáticos, ¡recuerde renovar anualmente!

**PRAYER REQUESTS:**

- Please pray for Jerry & Barb’s son’s mother-in-law, Arlene, who is dealing with dementia and will be moving in with him and his family.
- For the repose of the soul of Marilee Desmarteau, wife of John.
- For the repose of the soul of Angie Amos’ sister, Nevada.

Prayer requests can be submitted through the parish website (www.stpatrickindependence.org) or by calling Chris Block at 503-623-2864.

**SHARED LEADERSHIP MEETING**

Representatives of the various ministries & groups in our parish met on Wednesday, July 8, via Zoom. Updates were given or discussed on the following items:

- Expansion project update
- Need for parish photographer (volunteer)
- Nametags for members of parish groups
- Covid-19 Update
- Mass sign-ups
- Parish Calendar for 2020—2021
- Free food boxes giveaway
- Job posting for office manager

Committee Discussion Topics were:

- How to invite Catholics back to Mass
- Review Mission Statement, Council Goal
- Volunteer Appreciation Sunday
- Ministry Fair
- Faith Formation with safety protocols

**REUNIÓN DE LIDERAZGO COMPARTIDO**

Representantes de varios ministerios y grupos en nuestra parroquia se reunieron el miércoles 8 de julio a través de Zoom. Se dieron o discutieron actualizaciones sobre los siguientes elementos:

- Actualización del proyecto de expansión
- Necesidad de fotógrafo parroquial (voluntario)
- Etiquetas de nombre para miembros de grupos parroquiales
- Actualización Covid-19
- Registros masivos
- Calendario parroquial para 2020—2021
- Regalo de cajas de comida gratis
- Publicación de empleo para gerente de oficina

Los temas de discusión del comité fueron:

- Cómo invitar a los católicos a volver a misa
- Revisión de la declaración de misión, objetivo del consejo
- Domingo de agradecimiento a los voluntarios
- Feria del ministerio
- Formación de fe con protocolos de seguridad
PHASE 2 PROCEDURES
FOR MASSES & ADORATION:
  • **MASKS ARE NOW REQUIRED**
  at all Masses and Adoration
  (Masks are optional for children 2—12 years old)
  • **MAXIMUM CAPACITY** for MASS & ADORATION is 50,
  and 6-foot social distancing will be followed.
  • **SEATING for MASS or ADORATION** will be assigned
  when you sign-up with Maria or Gloria.
**NEW:** When you arrive at Church, please check-in to find your numbered space.

PROCEDIMIENTOS DE PHASE 2
POR LAS MISAS Y ADORACION:
  • **AHORA SE REQUIEREN MÁSCARAS**
  en todas las misas y adoracion
  (Las máscaras son opcionales para niños de 2 a 12 años)
  • La **CAPACIDAD MÁXIMA** para MASS es de 50,
  siempre que se siga el distanciamiento social de 6 pies.
  • **ASIENTOS para MASS o ADORACION** serán asignados
  cuando se registre con Maria o Gloria.
**NUEVO:** Cuando llegue a la Iglesia, registrese para encontrar su espacio numerado.

MASS SIGN-UP IS REQUIRED For ALL Masses
PLEASE SIT IN ASSIGNED SEATS
  • For Saturday & Sunday Mass (in English) in the Church
  and for Daily Masses: Call Maria Addessi (503-991-2516)
  • For Saturday Mass (in English) in the St.Juan Diego Modular: Call Sue Salvo (503-409-3909)

REGISTRARSE REQUERIDAS
Para TODAS las misas
Por Favor Siéntese en
Los Asientos Asignados
• Para las misas de los sábados y domingos,
  **llame al Gloria Ahumada (503-991-3910)**
• Para la misa diaria
  **llame a Maria Addessi (503-991-2516)**

MEETINGS WITH RESTRICTIONS
Parish groups can now meet at the Church IF
they follow the instructions set by the Parish Council (Masks, social distancing, registration
and health questionnaire) . For the official
instructions and required forms, please go to the parish
website or contact the parish office.

REUNIONES CON RESTRICCIONES
Los grupos parroquiales ahora pueden reunirse en la
Iglesia SI siguen las instrucciones establecidas por el
Consejo Parroquial (Máscaras, distanciamiento social,
registro y cuestionario de salud). Para obtener las
instrucciones oficiales y los formularios requeridos, visite
el sitio web de la parroquia o comuníquese con la oficina de
la parroquia.

The rule for wearing masks at meetings will be enforced:
You will receive 1 warning for not wearing a mask. On
the second time, you will be prohibited from attending
meetings until there is a vaccine.

Se aplicará la regla para usar máscaras en las reuniones:
Recibirá 1 advertencia por no usar una máscara. La
segunda vez, se le prohibirá asistir a las reuniones hasta
que haya una vacuna.

BULLETIN DELIVERY OPTIONS
If you know someone who is unable to come
to church but would like a copy of the
bulletin, just send your request to:
info4parish@gmail.com.
Include the person’s name & email address or street address.

¡FELICIDADES a todos los jóvenes
feligreses que recientemente recibieron
su Primera Comunión!

CONGRATULATIONS to all the young
parishioners who recently received their
First Holy Communion!
FREE BOXES OF FOOD
Through a program with the archdiocese, we have been able to pass out 25-pound food boxes—free of charge—to local residents in need. When available, the boxes arrive one day per week. Notices of the arrival date & times are sent to all parish leaders and are posted on Facebook. Please contact Darin for more information (503-508-6285)

CAJAS DE COMIDA GRATIS
A través de un programa con la arquidiócesis, hemos podido distribuir cajas de alimentos de 25 libras, sin cargo, a los residentes locales que lo necesitan. Cuando estén disponibles, las cajas llegan un día por semana. Se envían avisos de la fecha y hora de llegada a todos los líderes de la parroquia y se publican en Facebook. Póngase en contacto con Darin para obtener más información (503-508-6285)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO FOLLOW THE MASS WHILE YOU ARE AT HOME?
Subscriptions to “The Word Among Us” are available at www.wau.org. The booklet includes the Mass liturgy, the daily and weekend Mass readings as well as daily reflections. They are delivered monthly. Available in English & Spanish. $24-34/month or free on-line.

“Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.” The Lord’s goodness dwells in our marriage. Open up the secret of His goodness on an upcoming Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend on October 9-11, Salem, Oregon. To apply for YOUR WWME Weekend or search other dates go to rediscoverthespark.org. For information about WWME call 503-853-2758 or by email reservations@rediscoverthespark.org

DON’T FORGET TO GIVE TO THE CHURCH
Your collection envelopes and donations can be placed securely in the drop box at the back of church. Contributions can also be made on-line through the St. Patrick Church website: www.stpatrickindependence.org/contributions

Please be generous!

NO OLVIDES DAR A LA IGLESIA
Los sobres y las donaciones de su colección se pueden colocar de forma segura en el buzón en la parte posterior de la iglesia.

Las contribuciones también se pueden hacer en línea a través del sitio web de St. Patrick Church: www.stpatrickindependence.org/contributions ¡Por favor sé generoso!

SAINTS OF THE WEEK:
July 12: Veronica
July 13: Francis Solano
July 14: Kateri Tekakwitha
July 15: Bonaventure
July 16: Athenogenes
July 17: Marcellina
June 18: Camillus de Lellis

All ye saints, pray for us.

Bonaventure was born in Italy, in 1221 and given the name, John. He was renamed “Bonaventure” after St. Francis of Assisi prayed for his recovery from a serious childhood illness, foresaw John’s future greatness and exclaimed. “O Buona Ventura” (O Good Fortune). At 22, he became a Franciscan and was sent to Paris. There he studied with and became good friends with St. Thomas Aquinas. Together, they received their doctorates. At 35, he became the General of the Franciscan Order and restored peace within the Order. Pope Clement IV asked him to become an archbishop but he declined the honor. Later, Pope Gregory X appointed him as Cardinal of Albano, one of the Holy Roman Sees. He died in 1274 while assisting at the 2nd Council of Lyons.

ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION
My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually in my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

UN ACTO DE COMUNIÓN ESPIRITUAL
Mi amado Jesús, creo que Tú estás presente en el Santísimo Sacramento. Te amo sobre todas las cosas, y deseo recibirte en mi alma. Ya que no puedo, en esta momento, recibirte sacramentalmente, ven, al menos, espiritualmente a mi corazón. Te abrazo como si Tú estuvieras ya ahi y me uno a me mismo completamente al Ti. Nunce me permtas estar esparado de Ti. Amen.