

July 12, 2020

Ordinary Time

Fifteenth Sunday



The Word Takes Root

Jesus' parable of the sower, the seeds and the soil invites us to think more about what happens to us when we hear the Word of God. Give the proper welcome, the Word can take root, grow, flower and bear fruit. Isaiah tells us that the Word of God comes as an invitation to allow God to permeate our life as water saturates soil. If we allow the seed of the Word to grow in us the results will be incalculable. We will be able to speak the words that will effect hope and healing, forgiveness and peace in human hearts.

MASS INTENTIONS



Thursday, July 16

5:30 p.m. The Deceased of the Joseph & Mary Janecek Jasek Family

Sunday, July 19

9:00 a.m. Delphin Janecka Sr., Jim Schneider

Mass with a congregation this Sunday, July 12 will be at 9:00 a.m. under the pavilion at the Social Center in Moulton.

Mass on Sunday, July 12 will also be on demand for viewing on our Facebook Page: St Joseph's & St Mary's - Moulton/Praha, TX and on our website www.stmaryspraaha.org.

Full, Conscious and Active Participation in the Liturgy



Next weekend is *The Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. Prepare for the liturgy by reflecting on these passages from your bible.

First Reading: Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 86

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-27

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

2020 DIOCESAN SERVICES APPEAL

2020 Assessment	\$8,179.00
Contributions So Far	\$2,930.00
Amount Yet to be Contributed	\$5,249.00

Do please consider making a donation.

St. Mary's Restoration Endowment Fund Maintaining & Preserving Maticka Praha



We thank the following for their recent contributions:

Julianna & Dobie Garner - \$20

Marti & Randy Snittjer, Scottsdale, AZ - \$20

Connie & Randall Thomas, Harwood, TX - \$50

In Memory of Georgiann Barta

Denise Greive - \$25

ST. MARY'S MEMORIAL FUND

In Memory of Georgiann Barta

Georgia Cerny

In Memory of Nancy Petru

Leona Herzik

PRAHA PICNIC CANCELLED

The Praha Picnic, Pražská Pout has been cancelled this year due to the uptick in the Corona Virus. This is to protect the vulnerable in the Praha Community and in the Maticka Praha Family. We appreciate your participation and support in the past and we look forward to a bigger and safer family reunion celebration next year. To keep up the Home Place until next year's celebration, consider making a donation to St. Mary's Church.

**** *Several parishioners and friends of the parish have contacted the Parish Office inquiring how to make a donation to the Church. We will have something in the mail soon to help facilitate your contribution to St. Mary's Church.* ****



Rosary every Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. Come join a group of church ladies at the Zdravas Maria Plaza to pray.

Remember the sick in your prayers this week, especially Jenelle Cerny and all those in the community who are suffering from the Corona Virus.

The Sanctuary Light
will be lit this week
in memory of Joyce Janecka.



REFLECTION



Levels of Receptivity of the Word of God

The readings for this Sunday call us to a kind of self-examination. The Gospel describes various levels of receptivity. Today we are challenged to look into our own lives in order to discover how receptive we are.

Receptivity is the willingness to allow ourselves to receive from another, to be influenced by that other, perhaps to be transformed. Receptivity came very naturally to us when we were children. We instinctively knew we were needy. As we grew and matured, we became more and more independent and self-directed and less inclined to be influenced by others. This situation is natural, but it does have its drawbacks. The more independent we are, the less likely it is we will be open to others and, consequently, less receptive to their ideas.

By definition disciples are receptive to the one they are following. Because of the independence into which so many of us have grown we can experience a major problem here. To be a disciple of Jesus requires receptivity, so it is important that we scrutinize ourselves to discover the extent to which we are open.

At issue is not the character of the seed but the disposition of the soil. It makes little difference who sows the seed. God works through both the well-recognized and the most unlikely of sowers. Is our openness superficial, like the rocky ground? It is fickle, like the thorny ground? Or are we really receptive to the Word of God, like the ground that produces? And finally, are we as productive as we might be?

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!



July 13 – Allan Stryk
– Sarah Berckenhoff

VOTIVE CANDLE INTENTIONS

The Catholic custom of lighting candles is rooted in Church teaching that Christ is the Light of the World. Candles serve as an outward sign of the light of faith burning in our hearts. They are our silent sentinels lifting up our prayer intentions to the Lord.

Remember to pray for the following intentions:

For An End of Corona

In Memory of Joyce McDonoyl



LOOKING AHEAD

From the 15th to the 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

In the Gospel of Matthew, the “Discourse in Parables” constitutes a well-defined unit. “On that day, Jesus went out of the house and sat down by the sea. Such large crowds gathered around him that he got into the boat and sat down, and the whole crowd stood along the shore. And he spoke to them at length in parables.” Thus, begins chapter 13. And at the end, Jesus asks, “Do you understand all these things?” It is rare enough to find in biblical books a whole so clearly recognizable as a unit. This chapter is read in its entirety on the Fifteenth, Sixteenth and Seventeenth Sundays in Ordinary Time, Year A; therefore, we see an obvious sequence in this succession of Sunday liturgies.



Fifteenth Sunday:

1st Reading – Isaiah 55:10-11

My word will not return void

Psalm – Psalm 65:10-14

God has watered the land

2nd Reading – Romans 8:18-23

Creation awaits with eager expectation

Gospel – Matthew 13:1-23

A sower went out to sow

Sixteenth Sunday:

1st Reading – Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

God’s might is the source of justice

Psalm – Psalm 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Lord, you are good and forgiving

2nd Reading – Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit intercedes with us

Gospel – Matthew 13:24-43

Let them grow together

Seventeenth Sunday:

1st Reading – 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12

An understanding heart

Psalm – Psalm 119: 57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130

Lord, I love your law

2nd Reading – Romans 8:28-30

Conformed to the image of Jesus

Gospel – Matthew 13:44-52

Sell all for the kingdom

And we continue with the reading of the important chapter 8 of Paul’s Letter to the Romans.

In Memory of Gary Doherty ...

Healing For Lorraine Phelps ...

For Eamon McCusker & Mary Downey

For Virginia & Pamlea For Healing; James, David & Joey

Strength & Wisdom Raising Our Grandsons; Healing

Upon Our Daughter Who Suffers From Mental Illness & Addictions

– Votive Candle Intentions to be continued