

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – August 4, 2019

Today's readings invite us to consider what "retirement plan" should be our priority in life: whatever gets us to Heaven.

In today's First Reading Ecclesiastes, who is doing an extended philosophical reflection on what things are truly worthwhile in life, laments the emptiness of working for something that you cannot take with you when you are gone.

- Our endeavors are profitable, but upon death, those profits may be given in inheritance to those who had nothing to do with them, who will eventually lose them too.
- Ecclesiastes wisely asks what is the point of striving for a profit that ends with our earthly life?
- We all catch ourselves from time to time worrying about things that are ultimately fleeting and secondary. What's the point about worrying about these things?

In today's Second Reading St. Paul teaches us what is truly worth worrying about: our heavenly inheritance.

- What we treasure impacts the focus of our concern and attention.
- St. Paul puts us on guard against fleeting treasures: putting other things in place of God, seeking pleasure at any cost, sowing division, etc.
- Through Baptism we've received the pledge of an eternal reward. The first payment has already been advanced to us: The Holy Spirit.
- Our lives, like a treasure, are now buried, safe and sound, in Christ.
- We always retain the option of digging up that treasure and squandering it for something earthly, but we'd be fools if we did.

Our Lord in today's Gospel, is teaching us to not rely on earthly, vain things. We don't even know how many years we'll have to enjoy them.

- Our Lord today almost answers Ecclesiastes' question as to the point of striving for vain things, and St. Paul learned the lesson.
- What is genuinely profitable for us and others is what the Lord considers treasure. He created all things and knows the worthwhile way to invest them.
- The rich retiree in today's parable did not use the goods the Lord had put into his path to accumulate true and lasting wealth in Heaven. He decided to accumulate his

- wealth and live off his earnings. We've all heard of early retirements.
- The flaw in his logic was thinking he'd have time. Ecclesiastes' question tragically played out as the wealthy man's riches are taken away from him in death, leaving them for someone else, and leaving him with nothing.
- The wealth that Our Lord offers us is non-transferable and never expires. Holiness and virtue are the investments that win us lasting wealth.

Fr. Blake Evans, Pastor.



Don't Delay! Many families have called our Priests to anoint sick family members 5, 6, even 10 years after their illnesses had begun. Brothers and sisters, the Sacraments save us! Please do not wait - "Call for the Priests of

the Church" - the letter of St. James teaches us. Others who have lost their mental faculties were not given communion on a regular basis because the family thought "they no longer understand." It does not matter--the Eucharist saves us and even a patient with dementia or mentally impaired if they are a baptized Catholic CAN be given communion.



Question of the week: Am I in control of my possessions or are they controlling me? What is the biggest obstacle that I need to overcome to become generous with all that I have?

Young Adult Group-Are you a child of God between the ages of 18-40? Are you looking for a sense of community in your walk with God? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please come out to the Nativity Young Adult Group! Our second meeting will be on **August 7, 2019 at 7pm in the Music Room.** There will be food, prayer, and wonderful discussions! We will also be collecting school supplies to donate to the parish, feel free to bring some. If interested, please text your name, cell phone number, and email address to Kayleen Mark at 202-817-8283. Be sure to invite a friend and we look forward to meeting you!!

Mass Intentions

August 3 – 10, 2019

Sat. 8/2	8:00 am	Holy Souls
	5:30 pm	People of the Parish
Sun. 8/4	8:00am	Nolan & Miller families
	10:00am	Howard Noack (healing)
	1:00pm	Castro-Aguilar wedding
Mon. 8/5	12:00	+Bishop William Curlin
Tue. 8/6	12:00	+Msgr. Maurice V. O'Connell
Wed. 8/7	12:00	+Fr. Donald C. Howard
Thu. 8/8	12:00	No mass
Fri. 8/9	12:00	+Morris T. Carter, Sr.
Sat. 8/10	8:00 am	Home bound parishioners
	5:30 pm	People of the Parish

Please pray for the sick and home-bound of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Catherine Baum, *Ann Butler, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Eileen Carroll-Doshier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Maria Cruz, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Linda Foster, *Fr. Ricky Gancayo, *Charlie Gick, *Fr. Paul Grauls, SDB, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, *Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *James Humphries, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Manuel Juarez, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Kennedy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Larry Morris, *Iris Newman, *Howard Noack, *Everett Pearson, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Fr. Vince Rigdon, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Robert Schaeffer, *Andre Sims, *Bonafacio Selayo, *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Suzie Thompson, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta.

Young Adult Bilingual Leadership Program: Apostles on Mission. Learn more about how to live out your Catholic faith in daily life. The Archdiocese of Washington invites you to apply for a Fall bilingual leadership program in evangelization. This 10-week course will help you to discern how God is calling you to use your gifts and talents to serve the Church. The program includes prayer, formation, and one on one mentoring. Sessions in English and Spanish are held on Monday evenings from September 16-December 2 at St. Michael the Archangel Parish in Silver Spring, MD (online participation available). Apply by August 15, 2019 at www.apostlesonmission.org.

Weekly Report

7/28/19

Attendance:	397 souls
Offerings & Tithes:	\$5,201
Spanish Mass:	\$195
Utility fund:	\$250
Maintenance fund:	\$10

For those who tithe and give regularly thank you! For those who do not, please prayerfully consider giving a sacrificial gift to keep your Nativity parish home strong and alive. Your ADW taxes help support the St. Anthony school in NE Washington and many other regional schools.



will begin again on **Sunday, September 15th** following the 10am Mass in the school. Please register your children before the first day of Religious Ed. We are asking for \$50 per child towards the costs of providing this education. We will take registrations after the 8am and 10am Masses. Please come to the area around the baptismal font to fill out the registrations. Thank you for not waiting for classes to begin!



The Social Outreach Committee will be collecting school supplies (notebooks, backpacks, pencils, paper, folders etc.) for children in the Parish beginning the weekend of Sunday July 20th until Sunday August 25th, 2019 and distributing them on Sunday August 25th in the Church Lounge after the 10:00 am mass until 1:00 pm. Those in need of school supplies should fill out one of the supply request form -located on the table in the church vestibule as you enter the church- and drop the bottom part in the collection basket at Mass before August 25th, 2019. **You keep the top part of the form.** You do not need to put your name on the form.