

## Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 1, 2019

At first glance, the lessons of this passage seem **simple** and **straightforward**; at **second** glance, they are **shocking**. On the surface, they advocate **humility** and **generosity**: don't assume your importance by sitting in the seat of honor on your own initiative; don't give your hospitality just to people who can pay you back.

Certainly, Jesus intends to teach **these lessons**, and certainly the pompous and vain Pharisees needed to **learn** them, just as **we** need to learn them, but there's **more** going on here. Isn't it interesting that Jesus **doesn't** say?

- "You should not want to be honored at **all**,"
- and "You should seek **no** reward for your good deeds"?

That is what the modern secular voice would tell us: true Christian virtue, so they say, means **absolute selflessness**, even to the point of killing the desire for happiness and fulfillment. In fact, some philosophers have even found fault with Christians because they try to do what is **right and good**, since doing what is right and good makes us **happy**. But those critics are way **off base**. We **cannot** kill our desire for fulfillment. It is **built-in** - God put it there, like a **homing device** that constantly leads us towards him.

And so, Christ doesn't **condemn** the natural desire for honor and reward; he **elevates** it. We should seek the **true** reward of **lasting happiness** that comes from **living in friendship with God**. That means practicing the virtue of **humility**, since only the humble can have **authentic friendships**. And we should put ourselves in "**the lowest place**" now, serving others while we can, so that we can be lifted higher **later**. Christ is the ultimate **realist**; he **knows** the human heart (after all, he made it), and doesn't want to **stifle** it - he wants to **set it free**.

**Fr. Blake Evans, Pastor**



**Bible Study:** "Calling All Angels". 3 Weeks only. The Mystery and Truth of the Angels and Archangels in time and space and the life of the Faithful Believers. **September 9, 14 & 23** at 5:45 pm in the Music Room Bring your Bible and the Catechism. In the Music Room. Free.



**September 15<sup>th</sup>.** Please register your children before the first day of Religious Ed. We are asking for \$50 per child. 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!

**Sick Calls/Hospital calls:** Please be sure to leave a NAME and number of **next of kin** if you call the Parish to request a **visit to the sick**. We receive many requests without family contacts. Thank you!

**Question of the week:** Am I invited to receive Jesus in the Eucharist, though I admit, "Lord, I am not worthy." Whom can I invite into my life, though they may be unworthy?

**Congratulations Nativity!** We were able to provide backpacks filled with school supplies to 31 families. This campaign was quite a success and the Social Outreach Committee would like to thank all that donated to this campaign.

# Mass Intentions

**August 31 – September 7, 2019**

Sat. 8/31	8:00 am	Sick & homebound parishioners
	5:30 pm	People of the parish
Sun. 9/1	8:00am	Emily Hickey (healing)
	10:00am	Thelma Brown (healing)
	1:00pm	Jose Guadalupe Bonilla (healing)
Mon. 9/2	10:00am	USA
Tue. 9/3	12:00	+Cynthia Peters
Wed. 9/4	11:00	+Howard Noack (Funeral)
Thu. 9/5	12:00	No mass
Fri. 9/6	12:00	+Howard Noack
Sat. 9/7	8:00 am	+Guillerma Hernandez
	5:30 pm	+Winslow Vickerie

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

\*Alice R. Allen, \*Amina Anderson-Pringle, \*Catherine Baum, \*Jose Guadalupe Bonilla, \*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, \*Busara Kennedy, \*Claude Kolthoff, \*Betty Lawton, \*Yavonna Lewis, \*Sandra Lucas, \*Eric Malcolm, \*Edwin & Regina Mbanude, \*Theresa McNair, \*Maria Magdalena Medrano, \*Agnes Moore, \*Larry Morris, \*Iris Newman, \*Fr. Everett Pearson, \*Michelle Perez, \*James Pope, \*Dorothy Richburg, \*Fr. Vince Rigdon, \*Rosa Maria Santos, \*Robert Schaeffer, \*Andre Sims, \*Bonafacio Selayo, \*Delores Sloan, \*Adrian Smith, \*Theresa Smith, \*Suzie Thompson, \*Auristela Toro, \*Dominic Valentine, \*Dorothy Waring, \*Paul Williams.

**Weekly Report**

**8/25/19**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>403 souls</b>
Offerings & Tithes:	\$6,039
Spanish Mass:	\$528
Utility fund:	\$158
Maintenance fund:	\$20

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 strong. Your ADW taxes help support the St. Anthony school in NE Washington



*Rest in peace*

**D. Cynthia Peters**, died on August 21. Long time parishioner, a member of Catholic Daughters and Sodality.

**Guillerma Hernandez**, 91, died on Sunday, August 29. Faithful parishioner

**Howard Noack**, 88, died on August 28. long time parishioner. Funeral at Nativity. Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>. mass at 11:00am

**Edith Mebane**, died on August 30. Long time parishioner. Funeral at Nativity on a later date, as arrangements are being made.

**Joseph Castelano** died on August 29<sup>th</sup>, twin brother of Steven Castelano, ADW Seminarian.

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto them, Oh Lord**



The Rectory offices will be closed on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Join us for Mass at 10 AM!**



**Youth Faith and Fun day. September 14, 2019**

**9am – 2pm**

For young people starting at 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to Senior in High School

- ✓ fun, games, lessons, lunch, daily mass, mentor help from young peers

At Nativity Church with volunteers from Our Lady of Bethesda Center 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers. Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5.00 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses). Donations are welcome!