



St. Joseph Catholic Church
POB 1010
Nome, AK 99762-1010
Pastor: Rev. Tom Kuffel
Email: stjoseph@cbna.org
Web: <http://walaskacatholic.org/>
Parish: 907-443-5527; Cell 907-434-6117
Twenty-Fifth Sunday Ordinary Time

Announcements

Parish Finances:

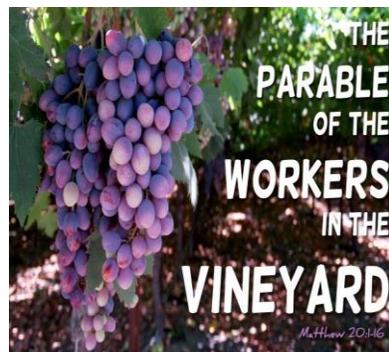
Several parishioners were generous and gave \$500.00. Thank you. Please remember to think about your stewardship to our parish.

Relig Ed We have classes every Sunday from 11:30 – 1:00 PM. Please bring your students to class and to Church so we can keep our Catholic Faith Alive!

Oct 1 Fr Ross will be here with a Nigerian priest for that weekend. Please welcome them.

St. Joseph			
9.10.2017			
.00			

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.



Stewardship!

Being a Faithful Steward means we don't waste our time. EVER!

The Parable of the Workers working in the vineyard shows that we are ever vigilant in doing what God calls us to do, at any stage in our life!

Good stewardship begins when we begin living for the Kingdom of Heaven – not just an earthly kingdom.

Today, most people work and live in the earthly kingdom and of course do not know how to live for the heavenly kingdom.

Good Stewardship uses our time, talents, and gifts for God's Kingdom.

We know that when we focus our work and labor, our duties and dues, our calling and vocation on what God calls us to do, the Kingdom of God will be given to us and God will supply the rest of our earthly needs.

However, when we place our earthly needs first and seek what we are to eat, drink, the cloths we are to wear, and the homes we are to have first, we cheat ourselves and become an earthly steward.

Most people do not seek the kingdom of heaven first. They are worried and anxious about so many other things first that they cannot see and hear the voice of Christ calling them to work in his vineyard.

Faithful stewardship begins with seeking the Kingdom of God first, at any age in our life! Do you seek the Kingdom of God First?

Why Be Catholic?

For to me life is Christ, and death is gain.

Death is a scary word. Most people fear death and avoid death at all costs. But St. Paul embraced his death, as did Jesus as do most who have experienced the glories of heaven.

Death is gain for those who have died to sin. For those who still live in the flesh; that is still live in the ways of the world – human thinking – then death is absurd.

Being Catholic gives meaning to death for it is the hope of every Christian. Christians don't live by the way of the flesh as St. Paul explains in his letter to the Romans.

Christians die to sin which is the cause of death and live for Christ which is the hope of a committed Christian.

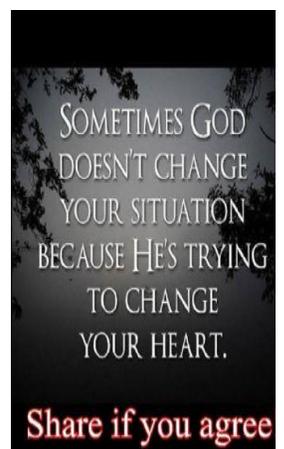
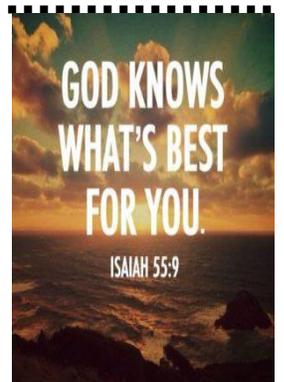
Death is gain for when we pass through the doors of death, we finally are re-born into what we have hoped for while living our faith: Eternal Life!

If we live for Christ, we embrace our death knowing that as He died; He rose again from the dead into eternal life.

If we die with Christ, as we do at our baptism; and if we live our baptismal promises being confirmed by the Spirit, we gain eternal life when our body dies and our soul moves on into eternity.

For non-believers and for weak believers, death is vain. Yet, for those who understand and entered into the mystery of faith – Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again – death is the fulfillment of our hope.

Every day we pray for a holy death for we know that when we persevere in faith through our death, we gain Christ, forever!

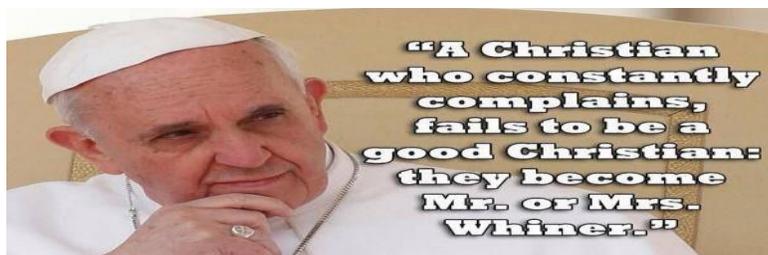


**Let Go!
Let God!**

Weekly Schedule:

Date	Mass Time	Place	Feast Day	Lector/Minister	Intention	Activity
Mon Sept 25	No Mass					
Tues Sept 26	No Mass					
Wed Sept 27	No Mass					
Thu Sept 28	No Mass					
Fri Sept 29	No Mass					
Sat Sept 30	5:30 PM	Nome	26 th Sunday			
Sun Oct 1	10:30 AM	Nome	26 th Sunday			

**Stop Complaining
And
Take Action
To change your life for the
better!**



The Wisdom of God's Ways!

Wisdom is not learned; it is lived. It is lived by doing what God calls us to do. This is the struggle between the human will – the way humans think – and God's will which is Divine Thinking.

God expressly states that His ways are not our ways: That his ways are as different as outer space is from the earthly realities. God's ways are not just foreign to us they are absolutely foolish to us for we compare and contrast; we examine and explore; we reason and sense. We live in world that controls us and we fight to control the world. This is human wisdom – control!

We struggle to find meaning and purpose in our world despite the absurdities and senselessness. We want to control our lives satisfying our wants and needs through our choices.

That is why so many today are wise in the ways of the world. They are wise in the ways of human and social development. We have human and social engineering to make our lives, families, societies, and world better.

We experience so much human wisdom but that wisdom although insightful and even helpful is not transcendent. Human wisdom is just that it is directed at the here and now. It is focused on the immediate and current. It is not concerned with the transcendent. It is not focused on the eternal, nor the moral. It is not in accord with the Kingdom of Heaven, but solely focused on the practical and logical. It focuses on control!

The workers in the vineyard reveal the thoughts of man. The laborers are merely concerned with their job and their pay. They want their money and want more money than what they deserved because they worked hard. They failed to see that they were not working for money; they were working for the kingdom of heaven. They were called early in their lives and spent their whole life fulfilling God's will – not their will. But they were unsatisfied.

Those who worked less; some much less wasted their lives, sometimes the whole of their lives until the very end and were blessed – not because they earned it but because God is generous.

Divine Wisdom expresses generosity. Divine wisdom offers blessings. Divine wisdom reveals beauty and unity (fullness). It embraces justice and truth. Divine Wisdom fills us their peace and holiness. Divine Wisdom heals the brokenness of humanity and offers mercy and forgiveness. Divine Wisdom is transcendent!

Beauty, unity, justice, truth, peace, and holiness are so foreign to our human mind's. Mercy and compassion are strange to human thinking, for humans think poverty sorrow, meekness, mercy, justice, purity, peace, and even persecution, for thinking as such, is a sign of weakness, even a sickness.

But God's ways are not our ways! It is our choice as for which kingdom we will live. Some work in their own vineyard. They labor and bear the heat and burdens of the day – of their lives – and receive a simple salary: the earthly rewards, benefits, insurance, and security of a job. These complain when they see the generosity of God showing mercy and compassion to those who wasted away their lives.

Those called later received the generosity of a merciful Father Who gives from his heart. They were blessed. But they too have to choose: Which Kingdom to live for?

In our wealthy world where we have never had such earthly opportunity and prosperity, we are asked today by Jesus: What Kingdom do you want to live in? The earthly kingdom that money buys: homes, cars, entertainment, travel, leisure, and luxury? Or do we embrace heat and the burdens of the days of our lives knowing that what I am doing will not necessarily be rewarded in this life, but in the life to come?

**Do I live for the here and now
or do I live for the there and eternal?
Your Choice!**

Comparing & Complaining



*Lessons learned from the parable of
workers in a vineyard.*

Don't be jealous with what God has
given to another person.

Be happy with what God has given
you - stop comparing yourself to
others.

The kingdom of heaven is not about
fairness but about God's grace.

Read
Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus Tells the Parable of the Vineyard Workers

To The Work

Parable of the Laborers in the Vineyard

Matthew 20:1-16

Definitions

Landowner - represents Christ
Vineyard - represents the Church
Laborers - represents Christians
End of day - represents judgment
Reward - Represents eternal salvation

*"When you come right down to it, most, if
not all, of sin is about worrying more
about ourselves and our relation to others
than keeping our souls and being focused
on God and the beautiful eternity He
lovingly, generously, and mercifully offers
us."
-Gabriel Garnica*