

Dear Friends,

In today's Gospel account we find the Sadducees confronting Jesus with their ridiculous story of a woman who had married and then lost seven husbands. They did not start with the real issue, namely belief in life after death and the consequences of our daily decisions in determining how we would live in that life after death. No. Instead they started with the question of who the woman would belong to in the next life. It is important to know that the Sadducees were the aristocracy, the ruling class of the Jewish society during the time of Jesus. Obviously, they did not believe in life after death, or, as our Gospel reading puts it today, they did not believe in the resurrection. They rather believe that once a person died, that was the end of him or her. They simply ceased to exist.

The above assertion sometimes causes people to be distressed because they think that once they die, they lose touch with those they have loved in this life. The truth is that, we will still be in touch with those we love and have been close to in this life. Why should we be separated from those who have supported us and helped us to attain eternal life? One of the common experiences of those who have been clinically dead and who have returned to this life; is that most often the first person they meet in their "near death" experience are parents, grandparents, relatives, loved ones and friends. These are true life experiences that cannot be denied.

Believe in life after death is common to many religions. It is central to Christianity. St. Paul, in particular, insisted on it. He said, in 1 Corinthians 15:16-17: "For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins." That explains why belief in life after death is an article of the Christian Creed. We say that we believe "in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting".

I find it a consoling thought that death will not put a permanent end to our existence or separate us from our loved ones. Perhaps, the most important message the gospel gives us today is to assure us that God has created us for eternal life, a life much more wonderful than anything we can imagine. Remember St. Paul's statement: "eye has not seen nor ear heard nor has it entered into our hearts what God has prepared for those who love him." So in bad times, we must remember there are better times ahead. In good times, we cannot forget about the even greater happiness God has prepared for those who love him and are faithful to him.

Have a blessed weekend.

Fr. Jude Uche, MSP

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

The first reading today is the moving story of Jewish martyrs willing to die for their faith rather than break the dietary laws of their faith. What are we willing to sacrifice for others? The principles of Catholic Social Teaching cover everything from human life to the environment. They teach us about care for the poor and vulnerable, the importance of family; the importance of solidarity. Are we willing to give of ourselves, to understand these principles until they shape our lives and are as important to us as the law of Moses was to those in the first reading?

32do Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

La primera lectura de hoy es una historia conmovedora sobre los Judíos mártires dispuestos a morir antes que romper la dieta impuesta por las leyes de su fe. ¿Qué estamos dispuestos a sacrificar por otros? Los principios de la Enseñanza Social Católica cubren todo, desde la vida humana hasta el medio ambiente. Ellos nos enseñan sobre cuidar a los pobres y vulnerables, la importancia de la familia; la importancia de la solidaridad ¿Estamos dispuestos a darnos a nosotros mismos, a entender estos principios hasta que moldeen nuestras vidas y sean tan importantes para nosotros como la ley de Moisés fue para aquellos de la primera lectura?

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 6
 1-3 Confirmation Meeting

MONDAY NOVEMBER 7
 10 am SSWS Meeting—OLG Room

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 8
 8 am Fellowship of Catholic Men
 6 pm TNMC

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 9
 5:30-8 pm Faith Formation Classes
 6:45 pm Spanish Women's Group
 7:00 pm Adoration Church

THURSDAY NOVEMBER 10
 6 pm RCIA—St. Stephen Rm

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 11
 7 pm Grupo de Oración

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 12
 Turkey Bingo Prep

Monetary Stewardship

Collection Last Week:

Regular: \$ 3289.00
Online: \$ 375.86
Total \$ 3664.86

Catholic Service Appeal
 November 5-6

... remembering the words of the Lord who said, It is more blessed to give than to receive (Acts 20:35).

Mass Intentions

Sat.	Nov 5	5:30 pm	Jerry Soto Jr. +
Sun.	Nov 6	9:00 am	Orlando Lopez
		11:00 am	Nacario & Manuela Chavez +
Mon.	Nov 7		No Mass
Tues.	Nov 8	6:00 pm	Irma Ortiz (Birthday)
Wed.	Nov 9	8:30 am	Wayne Miller +
Thurs	Nov 10	8:30 am	Poor Souls
Fri	Nov 11	12:00 pm	For All Veterans
Sat	Nov 12	5:30 pm	Clarence Emtrop +
Sun	Nov 13	9:00 am	Janice Piatek +
		11:00 am	For the Parishioners

Ministry Schedule for November 12-13, 2016

Mass	Lector	Altar Servers	Ushers / Greeters	Ministers of Eucharist
5:30 PM	P Watson E Cerda	J Young JC McGregor C Carlson	J Morin J Morin J LaCanne	Deacon Ernie T Alcozer N Handfort
9:00 AM	H Cruz C Hudgens	C Brown S Green E Collazo D Arias	E McBryde N McBryde	Deacon Ernie D Alvarez A Krause A Mazoch E Mazoch
11:00 AM	J Villarreal J Rocha	S Arias I Ramirez A Ortiz L Peralta M Baltazar N Baltazar	D Cortez C Urquiza E Loma	J Villarreal L Loma M Esteves E de la Hoya B Jaramillo

**Building for Our Lord Campaign
 Construyendo Para Nuestro Senor**

Total Pledge To Date:
\$1,421,876.00

Amount Collected To Date:
\$781,084.05

Pledges to be Redeemed:
\$644,174.95

Paid Diocese Month of September
\$15,000.00

Loan Balance to Date:
\$618,000.00

Original Loan Total
\$800,000.00

NEW PARISHIONERS

With a deep sense of joy we Welcome *James & Patricia Gonzalez* into our parish; we pray this community becomes your spiritual home for years to come. We are blessed to have you in our Parish.

Altar Flowers
 this week are in
 loving memory of
LEONARD LAZARTE

SAVE THE DATE • 2016

2016

Parish Mission

December 4-5, 2016
 Spanish Mission
 with Fr. Uche Andeh

December 6-7, 2016
 English Mission
 with Fr. James Misko

CONFIRMATION MEETING

Sunday, November 6
 1-3 PM

There will be a Confirmation Meeting for ALL parents and students preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation this year on Sunday, November 6 from 1-3 PM in the Parish Hall.

*Confirmation will be on Sunday, February 12, 2017
 9:00 AM Mass*

TURKEY BINGO
 FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY
 Sunday, November 13th
 at 2 PM
 Doors Open at 1:30
 Food by SSMen's
 WIN A TURKEY OR CHICKEN DOOR PRIZES
 Sponsored by St. Stephen Women's Society



Faith Formation

Primary	preK-4th grade	5:30-6:30 pm
Fellowship Dinner	ALL	6:30-6:45 pm
Intermediate	5th & 6th Grade	6:45-7:45 pm
Junior High	7th & 8th Grade	6:45-7:45 pm
High School	9,10,11 & 12th Grade	6:30-8:00 pm