

July 23, 2017

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

From the Desk of Rev. Msgr. Hugh J. Corrigan:

I am reading Sunday's Gospel about weeds while suffering an ankle injury caused by weeding. Unlike the advice of Jesus to let the weeds grow alongside the flowers, I must pull up weeds. Otherwise the flowering plants will die. The problem is that we have too many weeds (they just love our fertile soil) and I can't resist pulling up a weed when I see one. As a result, my aging muscles get sore and I begin to limp. When I get people to do this job, they find it difficult to differentiate between a weed and a desirable flowering plant. Weeds are plants and they do have flowers. Our maintenance man started pulling up what looked like weeds to him but were actually yarrow and coreopsis. Part of the problem was my famous Japanese knotweed. It has encircled the good plants all the way up to its top. If I followed the advice in the Gospel I would have let the weeds grow. But if I did, the weeds would kill the good plants. My other problem with today's Gospel is the use of the mustard seed as an example of the spreading of the Kingdom of Heaven. The mustard seed is a terrible weed. Didn't Jesus know this? It may be the case that Jesus was not a farmer but a carpenter who saw this large plant on the side of the road and thought it would make a good illustration. At any rate you can tell I have become obsessed with weeds, as I lie here in bed waiting for my ankle to heal.

The point of the parable is to try to answer the problem of bad people not getting punished in this life. For many Jews there was no life after death. Those who are bad should be punished in this life. Those who are good should be rewarded in this life. After centuries of testing this theory, some Jews saw life does not work that way. They began to be open to the possibility of a life after death where the good were rewarded in heaven and the bad punished in hell. Jesus's parable tells us what he thought about the problem and its solution.

Collection : the collection for last Sunday, July 16, 2017 was \$3,306.00

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: For the past few Sundays we have heard Jesus defining discipleship for us. Today our attention is drawn to the focus of our work as disciples, the kingdom of heaven. For the next two Sundays we will hear parables about what the kingdom of heaven is like, but it will not always be easy for us to grasp the meaning of these parables. Perhaps our prayers today can be for clarity and understanding, so that we will be able to discern what God wants for us.

Pope Francis: "Europe has a unique patrimony of ideals and spiritual values, one that deserves to be proposed again with passion and renewed vigor!."

**Registration for 2017-2018:
Begins Monday, June 26, 2017 through Saturday, August 19, 2017
Monday's, Thursday's and Saturday's ONLY**

To register you must submit \$25.00 deposit per child this will be deducted from your

registration fee. If you are new to the program you need to submit a Birth Certificate along with a

Baptismal Certificate and a photo of your child.

Registration for one is \$95.00

Registration for two is \$160.00

Registration for three is \$195.00

Registration for four is \$185.00

If your child will be receiving Communion this year the fee for Holy Communion is \$75.00 per child.

If your child will be receiving Confirmation this year the fee for Confirmation is \$95.00 per child.

Classes will be held on Saturdays from 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Classes will start on September 9, 2017

Parish Membership: All adult Catholics should be registered. We want to know and serve you and hope that you will become an active member of our parish community. Please notify the rectory of any changes in address, or if you are leaving the Parish. It is necessary to be a registered member of our parish for a minimum of 3 months in order for us to testify to your ability to be a sponsor for Baptism/Confirmation, witness to a Catholic marriage, or provide recommendation for a position at work or character reference

Mass Schedule for the week of

July 23, 2017 to July 30, 2017

Mass are daily at 8:15 and 12:05 in English and in Spanish on Thursdays at 7:30pm

Below are the Special Intentions for this week

Sunday July 23, 2017:

7:30 for the Parishioners

9:00 Ana Delia Valencia & Mauro A Jimenez

11:00 Selma & Louise Peoples

Eva Valencia Cesar
Daughter

Wednesday July 26, 2017:

12:05 Michael & Ellen McNally

Carmel Mangan

Friday July 28, 2017:

12:05 Bonny Mathew (L)

Saturday July 29, 2017:

5:00 Rose Kunny

7:30 Mercedes Fernandez

Roseanne Jones
Maria Milerdo

Sunday July 30, 2017

7:30 for the Parishioners

9:00 Manuel De Jesus Disla Abreu

11:00 George Russ

Felica & Roberto Rodriguez & Family
Jenny Brown