

Twenty-Fourth In Ordinary Time
September 17, 2017



Masses For The Week

Forgiveness can be an uncomfortable challenge. Sirach bids us renounce vengeance and “set enmity aside” (28:6). Of the unforgiving servant’s punishment Jesus declares, “So will my heavenly Father do to you, unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart” (Matthew 18:35). However, both scripture and Catholic social teaching distinguish between revenge and justice. Forgiving others means neither denying their wrongdoing nor absolving them of responsibility. Rather, this Sunday’s challenge to forgiveness complements last Sunday’s call to reconciliation. Reconciliation, like the tango, takes two and may even require the community’s intervention. Forgiveness, on the other hand, takes only one: me.

In the case Peter presents to Jesus, the object of his forgiveness is not global but personal: “If my brother sins against me” (Matthew 18:21). Thus Sirach, in a diabolical reversal of the liturgical kiss of peace, pictures the unforgiving person embracing not a fellow sinner but “wrath and anger” – “hateful things” – and “hug [ging] them tight” (Sirach 27:30). In an equally diabolical short-circuiting of the full and unconditional mercy he himself had just received from his master, the Gospel’s unforgiving servant, metes out not patient mercy but swift justice to his fellow servant, whose debt paled in comparison to his own. Rather than expanding the ripple of forgiveness that had cleansed his sin, the unforgiving servant triggers a tsunami of merciless cruelty whose first victim after his fellow servant is, ironically, himself, “handed . . . over to the tortures” (Matthew 18:34).

Jesus tells this story after Peter proposes as an extravagant limit of forgiveness, the biblical number of perfection, “seven times.” But Jesus recalculates, changing seven to seventy-seven (in older translations, seventy times seven), indicating infinity and challenging us to surpass even “perfection” with a forgiveness as wildly boundless as God’s forgiveness toward us. As Peter would learn later in tears after his own denial, we can only dare to cease forgiving others when we no longer need forgiveness ourselves.

Question of the Week

Who needs my forgiveness: How might I start a “ripple of forgiveness” that could expand to a global tidal wave of unending forgiveness?

Saturday, September 16, 2017

Vigil of the Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Ellsworth McKendall – Cornnie Singletary – George Marcell – Benny & Peggy Hill – Leonard Belton – Bruce Gabriel – Intentions of John Guillory – Monica Lodge – James Young

Sunday, September 17, 2017

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time

8:30a.m. Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Earthy B. Lazard – Annette Bastic McHenry – Calvin Tate – Walter Banks III – Lawrence Miller, Jr. – Corinne Singletary – Mary Patnett – Bruce Gabriel – Viola Malveaux Catalon – Martin & Jessica Doherty – Melvina Kepp – James St. Charles – Nathaniel Wilson, Sr. – Intentions of Lena Carlos – Paris Lily Carlos – Guillermo Carlos – Lily & Leon Arboliras – Ouirino Lizardo – McKinney Family

10:30a.m. Lamar & Shirley Smith – Fred & Dorothy Johnson – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Albert R. Pierre – Glenn Gilyot – Charles Breaud, Sr. – Frank Richard, Jr. – Virgie Short – Rita Washington – Intentions of Iris Pierre – Donya Ralph – Margie Valteau & Family

12:00p.m. For the Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish – Intentions of Odeline Gutierrez – Gyna Joseph

Monday, September 18, 2017

8:30a.m. Mr. & Mrs Ernest Jacobs, Sr. – Gregory Jacobs – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Rita Washington – Ellsworth McKendall – Lois Leblanc – Intentions of Tyrone and Donya Ralph – James Young

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Rita Washington – Virgie Short – Carolyn Morgan – Intentions of Donya Ralph – Diondra and Angela Pierre – Kristy, Krissy and Alana Thomas – Nicolas Lomba – Miriam Page

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Cong Cao – Peter & Mary Kham Nguyen – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Rita Washington – Intentions of Miriam Page – Donya Ralph

Thursday, September 21, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Virgie Short – Rita Washington – Intentions of James Young – Miriam Page – Donya Ralph – Faye Clary – Iris Pierre

Friday, September 22, 2017

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Francis Hai Cao – Harold Broussard, Sr. – Rita Washington – Intentions of Denise Cousin & Family – Tyrone and Donya Ralph – Gyna Geffard Joseph – Odeline Gutierrez

Saturday, September 23, 2017

8:30a.m. Virgie Short – Intentions of James Young – Miriam Page – The Living and Deceased Benefactor of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

Announcements

“Lord, you will show me the path of life and fill me with joy in your presence.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday thru Friday 9:00a.m. until 12:00 noon and Saturdays 12:00 noon till 3:00p.m.

Bible Study

The Bible Study theme for the **Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time** is: **Forgive! Don't Hold Back! Are you vengeful? How does holding a grudge erode your character as a Christian? What does the church teach about reprisals?** This Bible Study is based on the readings for the **Twenty-Fourth Sunday In Ordinary Time Year A**. **Reading I: Sirach 27:30-28:7; Responsorial Psalm: 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12; Reading II: Romans 14:7-9; Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35.** This Bible Study can be found on the parish website at www.smgcola.com/BibleStudy, and it can be downloaded for your personal use. **Join us in the Center Monday, September 18, at 7:00p.m.**

Don't Forget The Picnic!



We are looking forward to seeing EVERYONE at our parish picnic Sunday, October 8, 2017 from 1:00p.m. till 5:00p.m. There will be plate dinners, hamburgers, hot dogs, snowballs, popcorn, soft drinks, beer, and lots of fun. Just bring yourself and your family to Msgr. Gauthreaux Center for a good time.



Thursdays, 8:00p.m. in the Center where you might win and have some fun with friends & family.

RCIA

The St. Maria Goretti RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will continue our journey to Faith beginning September 17, 2017. Registration forms can be found in the rear of the Church. Please remember the newly Baptized and Confirmed in your prayers as they continue their Journey of Faith and welcome them to parish events and ministries. For more information please contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard, Harold Broussard, Sheila Thompson, Byron Martin, Dianne Wiltz-Huntley or any member of the RCIA Team at (504) 242-7554, or by email at tbroussard@smgcola.com, or visit the website at <http://www.smgcola.com>.



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in thanksgiving to St. Jude and St. Anthony. The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Virgie Short and Frank Richard, Jr.

In Our Parish 

Monday, September 18, 2017

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

Tuesday, September 19, 2017

6:30p.m. Edgelake HOA – Rm. 7
6:30p.m. N. Kenilworth HOA – Rm. 9
6:30p.m. Villa Sites – Rm. 8
7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center
7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance Practice – Center
7:00p.m. Catholic Men's Fellowship - Library

Thursday, September 21, 2017

6:00p.m. Bingo

Friday, September 22, 2017

7:00p.m. Filipino Celebration Set-up – Center

Saturday, September 23, 2017

10:00a.m. Star Class – Rm. 10
5:30p.m. Filipino Mass in the Church
7:00p.m. Filipino (San Lorinzo) Celebration – Center

Prayer for Hurricane Season

O God, Master of this passing world, hear the humble voices of your children. The Sea of Galilee obeyed your order and returned to its former quietude. You are still the Master of the land and sea. We live in the shadow of a danger over which we have no control: the Gulf, like a provoked and angry giant, can awake from its seeming lethargy, overstep its conventional boundaries, invade the land and spread chaos and disaster.

During this hurricane season we turn to you, O Loving Father. Spare us from past tragedies whose wounds seem to refuse to heal with passing of time. O Virgin, Star of the Sea, Our Beloved Mother, we ask you to plead with your son in our behalf, so that spared from the calamities common to this area and animated with a true spirit of gratitude, we will walk in the footsteps of your Divine Son to reach heavenly Jerusalem where a stormless eternity awaits us. Amen

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+Maurice Schexnayder
Bishop Of Lafayette in

LA Diocese of Lafayette 2006

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church

Let us all pray for the people affected by storms and hurricanes.