

Twenty-first Sunday In Ordinary Time August 26, 2018

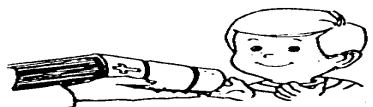
Loyalty and gratitude – these are the two virtues that come to the fore when the faithful Israelites pledge to serve the Lord. When Joshua asks them to commit to the god they will serve, the people immediately respond that they will not forsake the Lord. The Lord has led them out of slavery, preformed miracles, and protected them on their journey to the Promise Land. They are grateful for all the Lord has done for them and they remain loyal to the Lord while living in the land of other gods.

The second reading can be problematic, but it is important not to miss the analogy that Saint Paul is trying to make. Christ is to the church, he says, as husbands are to their wives. In other words Christ's love for his people is like the love of a married couple for each other. Both involve sacrifice. A husband is expected to sacrifice for his wife, willing to leave his own parents, for instance. Jesus provided a model of this sacrifice in becoming flesh to be born into this world, and then giving his life for the world.

All through August we have heard passages from the Gospel of John in which Jesus tells his disciples that he is the Bread of Life. They (and we) have heard him say that "I am the living bread that came down from heaven" and "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (John 6:51, 54). Not everyone is on board. "This saying is hard; who can accept it?" many said (John 6:60). "Many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him" (John 6:66). Jesus challenged his disciples and not all of them could accept it. Can we?

Question of the week

It is time to take a stand. Can I say, like Simon Peter, "I believe? Can I say, like Joshua, "I will serve the Lord? How can I show others where I stand?"



Religious Education

Registration for the St. Maria Goretti Parish School of Religion Program for Elementary, Middle and High School Students will take place on Sunday, August 26, 2018 from 9:30a.m. until 12:00 p.m. in Msgr.

Gauthreaux Center. The registration fee is \$25.00. There is an additional sacramental fee: \$15.00 for First Communion and \$20.00 for confirmation. All parish students, those attending catholic, public, private, and charter schools, at Sacramental grade levels (second and eleventh) must register for and attend classes in our religious education program as sacramental preparation is the responsibility of the parish.

Birth certificates and baptismal certificates are required at registration.



Mass Intentions

Saturday, August 25, 2018

Vigil of the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

4:00p.m. Darrell and Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Francis Hai Cao – Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Audrey Jefferson – Levi Boulogny – Melba Fletcher – Ellsworth McKendall – Tu Tran – Leonard Belton – Calvin Tate – Patty Smith – Bill Davis

Sunday, August 26, 2018

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30a.m. Darrell & Elodie Gabriel – Bruce Gabriel – Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – France Hai Cao – Earthy B. Lazard – Walter Banks, III – Lawrence Miller, Jr. – Melvina Kepp – Corrine Singletary – Nathaniel Wilson, Sr. – Maria Pham – Beverly Wilkerson – Dominique Bachemin – Calvin Tate – Tu Tran – Audrey Porter – Louis & Rosita Reddick – Antoine & Alvernia LaFrance – Eugene & Lovenia Barthelemy & O'Malley & Jane Garrison – Louis Jr. & Delorita Reddick

10:30a.m. Lamar & Shirley Smith – Lordeas Glapion Nix – Dominique Bachemin – Leontine Coleman – Tu Tran – In Thanksgiving for Deacon Poncho – Paul Beaulieu – Sylvia Green – Marion Uzee – Rita Washington

12:00p.m. Charles L. Patin – Melba Fletcher – Byron Brooks – Byron Brooks – Betty Faciane – Intentions of the Parishioners of St. Maria Goretti Parish – Elysian Fields St. Joseph Altar

Monday, August 27, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Charles Winchell, Jr. – Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Rita Washington – Joseph Cong Cao – Melba Fletcher – Sylvia Green – Deacon Poncho

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Deacon Poncho – Joseph Cong Cao – Melba Fletcher – Intentions of Stacey Martin

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao and Mary Pham – Joseph Cong Cao – Peter & Mary Kham Nguyen – Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Deacon Poncho – Sylvia Green – Melba Fletcher – Intentions of Stacey Martin

Thursday, August 30, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Sylvia Green – Deacon Poncho – Melba Fletcher

Friday, August 31, 2018

8:30a.m. Joseph Ngan Cao & Mary Pham – Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Shirley Thomas Boykin – Deacon Poncho – Joseph Cong Cao – Sylvia Green – Intentions of Stacey Martin

Saturday, September 1, 2018

8:30a.m. Maria Pham – Tu Tran – Sylvia Green – The Living and Deceased Benefactors of the Catholic Negro American Mission.

Announcements

Eucharistic Adoration Monday – Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 Noon and Saturdays, 12:00 noon – 3:00pm.

Bible Study

The Bible Study theme for **Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time** is: **Choose life in a culture of death!** Both the First Reading and the Gospel call upon us to decide whom we will serve. The decision is based on our knowledge and experience of what God has done for us, and our relationship with Jesus. The Bible Study is based on the readings for the **Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time year B. Reading I: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b; Responsorial Psalm: 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7; Reading II: Ephesians 5:21-32; Gospel: John 6:60-69** The Bible Study can be found on the parish website at: smgnola.com/BibleStudy, and it can be downloaded for your personal use. Bible Study is held every Monday, evening at 7:00p.m. in the Center



**Give Blood.
Give Life.**

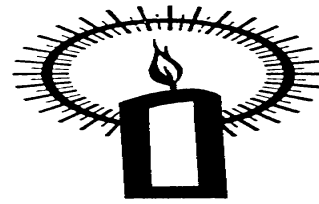
Sign up for the blood drive which will be held on Sunday, August 26th. Please bring a non-perishable food item to donate to our local food bank.



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

RCIA

During Ordinary Time, we live our great commission to bring others into God’s community of love called His Church. In gratitude for that great love, we embrace the need to renew and strengthen our faith in Jesus Christ. The St. Maria Goretti RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) continues to welcome all who wish to know more about the catholic faith. Registration forms can be found in the rear of the church or by contacting RCIA team members. **The RCIA will commence its summer schedule and will meet on August 21, 2018 at 7:00 in the Chapel** For more information contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard or any member of the RCIA Team or by email at tbroussard@smgnola.com, or visit the website at <http://www.smgnola.com>.



Sanctuary Lamp

The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn for the intentions of Leonard Gauthreaux. The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Sylvia Green and Paul Beaulieu.

In Our Parish 

Monday, August 27, 2018

6:00p.m. Zumba Exercise Class – Center

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

6:00p.m. Villa Sites HOA – Rms. 3 & 4

7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance – Center

7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm. 10

Wednesday, August 29, 2018

6:00p.m. Exercise Class – Center

6:00p.m. Edge Lake HOA – RM. 7

7:00p.m. Catholic Men’s Fellowship Meeting – Library

Thursday, August 30, 2018

6:00p.m. Bingo – Center

Friday, August 31, 2018

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.

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.

Go out and Bless someone.