

## Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 8, 2018

### The Prophet's Fortune

In every apostolic action we must be clear about two things: **That holiness comes from God; and that opposition to the Word may come from those closest to us**, as we can see in today's Gospel story. "A prophet is despised by his relatives, in his homeland, and in his home." Nevertheless, the fruits will always be greater than any human expectation.

**1. Through his life and words, a prophet always brings an air of novelty, a new plan**, which if taken seriously puts our old habits and false securities in crisis. That is why he makes many uncomfortable. Jesus arrives in Nazareth after a long journey of apostolic work and amazing miracles, but in his hometown he finds opposition from his relatives. They reject his message and the messenger. It's the carpenter's son! Where does he get these ideas from?

The position of a Nazarene is radical: You either accept him or not. That is why "they took offense at him;" they saw the signs of the Messiah and the sublimity of his teachings. "What man has ever spoken like this man?" they asked. But at the same time, they neither understood nor accepted that he could be one of them.

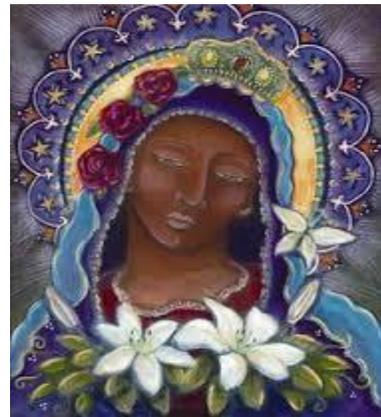
**2. The drama of mankind consists in not recognizing its Savior.** It looks for truth but at the same time is a victim of its prejudices. How often we see this scene repeated today! "I believe Christ was a great man, but not God," or "Yes to Christ, no to the Church." And thus, we accept only a small part of the mystery of his person and reject his divinity. Christ torn to pieces! Partial or total, rejection is always tragic.

**3. Today we need apostles that through their own lives are witnesses of Christ and with their teachings are our teachers.** Life's trials and the world's persecution are signs of purification and authenticity. Just as fire tests iron, so temptation tests the righteous man.

Saints bear their tribulations with serenity because they join them to the redemptive sufferings of Christ. Thomas de Kempis teaches us that "it is good that we sometimes suffer contradictions. This helps us to be humble and guards us from conceit." That is, "often we don't realize what we can do, but temptation uncovers what we are," as Saint Augustine tells us.

**Brothers and sisters: Christ is either all or nothing!** Christianity is the affirmation of Christ's divinity and Incarnation with all its doctrinal and practical consequences. Faith in Jesus Christ's divinity is the first step toward divine life: Believing that Jesus Christ is the Son of God is the first condition required in order to be counted among his sheep. Let us make Jesus' prayer our own: "May we believe in him whom God has sent." Amen.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor



**True Devotion (Consecration) to Mary at Nativity!**

*"This devotion was a turning point in my life. - Pope St. John Paul 2nd.*

Starting this July, the parish will begin a 33 day journey for the faithful to entrust themselves to Mary by the Solemnity of the Assumption or the days following. What is it? In the simplest of terms, by means of Marian consecration, we give ourselves to the Virgin Mary to be formed into the image of her Son, Jesus. Outlined by the great Saint Louis de Montfort (France) (1673-1716), author of the classic book on Marian consecration, *True Devotion to Mary*, described consecration to Jesus through Mary as "the surest, easiest, and most perfect means" to becoming a saint. An enthusiastic promoter for Marian consecration, American Fr. Michael Gaitley wrote a book of simple meditations called "33 Days to Morning Glory" in modern English and the 33-day regimen typically followed to prepare for such a blessing from Our Lady. Books will be available for purchase, sign up is required. 1st Intro Meeting Sunday, July 15th following the 10am Mass, at 1130am. Refreshments will be served the Intro will last 30 minutes. Those already consecrated to Mary can always repeat the exercise and consecration, many do it yearly or twice per year.



# Mass Intentions

## July 7 – 14, 2018

Sat. 7/7	8:00am	+Glyssa Diane Villacorta
	5:30pm	Legion of Mary Members
Sun. 7/8	8:00am	+La Presentacion Tañemor
	10:00am	People of the Parish
	1:00 pm	+Fr. Donald Howard
Mon. 7/9	11:00am	+Barbara Freeman (funeral)
Tue. 7/10	Noon	+Marilyn Panke
Wed. 7/11	Noon	+Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Steinberg
Thu. 7/12	Noon	+Frank Borris
Fri. 7/13	Noon	Dan & Jean Tan (anniversary)
Sat. 7/14	8:00am	Rohini Perera
	5:30pm	+Willie Poole, Jr

### Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

\*Alice R. Allen, \*Amina Anderson-Pringle, \*Ann Butler, \*William Cammack, \*Lukas Pastier, \*Carla Andrea Catacora, \*Shawn Coleman, \*William Corbel, \*Jeff Corry, \*Maria Cruz, \*Maurice & Flora Detiege \*Kevin Fagan, \*Isel Fitzgerald, \*Dion A. Fortune, \*Linda Foster, \*Charlie Gick, \*John Green, Sr., \*Janet Henery, \*Blanca Hernandez, \*Lawrence C. Hill, \*Lee Hobbs, \*Francis Howard, \*Elaine Hunt, \*Helen Hurd, \*Larry Ivy, \*Geraldine Jones, \*Odile Kalla, \*Michael Kelly, \*Busara Keneddy, \*Claude Kolthoff, \*Betty Lawton, \*Yavonna Lewis, \*Sandra Lucas, \*Eric Malcolm, \*Edwin & Regina Mbanude, \*Edith Mebane, \*Maria Magdalena Medrano, \*Agnes Moore, \*Gina Myers, \*Maria Myers, \*Patrick Myers, \*Robert Myers, \*Tom Myers, \*Iris Newman, \*D. Cynhia Peters, \*James Pope, \*Margaret Pope, \*Dorothy Richburg, \*Father Vince Rigon, \*Rosa Maria Santos, \*Bonafacio Selayo \*Delores Sloan, \*Adrian Smith, \*Alice Smith, \*Bernadette Smith, \*Theresa Smith, \*Louise Sweatt, \*Emily Towles, \*Dominic Valentine, \*Dorothy Waring, \*Paul Williams, \*Florentina Zoretta



### Rest in peace

**Barbara Freeman, 72.** Funeral at Nativity on Monday, July 9. Viewing at 10, Mass at 11 am.

**Juanita Miller, 76,** Died on June 29. Funeral at Nativity on Tuesday, July 17. Viewing at 10, Mass at 11 am.

**Eternal Rest Grant Unto them, oh Lord!**

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

7/1/18

**Attendance: 432 souls**

Offerings & Tithes: \$8,482

Spanish Mass: \$253

Utility fund: \$95

**Grant and Donations:** Nativity was notified by Msgr Antonicelli that Cardinal Wuerl has increased an ADW special donation from \$75,000 to \$125,000 for use over the next year for building repairs and capital improvements. Thank you, your Eminence! A parish thank you card is being created that we can all sign and mail to him. These funds will be held in a special account at ADW overseen by Terry Farrell and Msgr. Antonicelli and will be dispersed as projects are underway and or completed.

### Current Planned Parish Projects/Improvements:

- **Roofing repairs for school and new windows** for 4th floor \$175k and \$68k. These will be paid in part from the school repair fund
- **Parking lot repairs** of holes and cavities - to come
- **New Compressor A/C** for rear of the Church \$28k
- **Finalization of Youth Center Repairs and Rectory Roof damages** underway. These two items total \$52,000 and are covered by insurance.



### Youth Day/Teen Club - Ice Cream Social

**Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup>. from 1:00 to 3:00 pm** in the Youth Center. Fun, games and prizes too.

**Volunteers:** We need you! Buy goodies, set up, serve, clean and enjoy an afternoon with our young people. Don't be shy, call the rectory to sign up