

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 30, 2018

To Belong to Christ - the Fulfillment of All Desire

Readings: Numbers 11:25–29; Psalm 19:8,10,12–14; James 5:1–6; Mark 9:38–48

Today's Gospel begins with a scene that recalls a similar moment in the history of Israel, the episode recalled in today's First Reading. The seventy elders who receive God's Spirit through Moses prefigure the ministry of the apostles.

Like Joshua in the First Reading, John makes the mistake of presuming that only a select few are inspired and entrusted to carry out God's plans. The Spirit blows where it wills (see John 3:8), and God desires to bestow His Spirit on all the people of God, in every nation under heaven (see Acts 2:5, 38).

God can and will work mighty deeds through the most unexpected and unlikely people. All of us are called to perform even our most humble tasks, such as giving a cup of water, for the sake of His name and the cause of His kingdom.

John believes he is protecting the purity of the Lord's name. But, really, he's only guarding his own privilege and status. It's telling that the Apostles want to shut down the ministry of an exorcist. Authority to drive out demons and unclean spirits was one of the specific powers entrusted to the Twelve (Mark 3:14–15; 6:7, 13) and continues in the Priesthood today, even parts of the Rite of Baptism are minor Rites of Exorcism.

Cleanse me from my unknown faults, we pray in today's Psalm. Often, like Joshua and John, perhaps without noticing it, we cloak our failings and fears under the guise of our desire to defend Christ or the Church. But as Jesus says today, instead of worrying about who is a real Christian and who is not, we should make sure that we ourselves are leading lives worthy of our calling as disciples (Ephesians 1:4).

Does the advice we give, or the example of our actions, give scandal—causing others to doubt or lose faith? Do we do what we do with mixed motives instead of seeking only the Father's will? Are we living, as this Sunday's Epistle warns, for our own luxury and pleasure, and neglecting our neighbors? We need to keep meditating on His Law, as we sing in today's Psalm. We need to pray for the grace to detect our failings and to overcome them and find our main fulfillment in Christ.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor

Latin for the Masses: At the request of many parishioners beginning this Fall, Nativity will celebrate one Sunday Mass in Latin on the 5th Sunday of only those months that have 5 Sundays. The Mass will be sung - the *Novus Ordo* the "new mass" you know, not the Tridentine or Extraordinary Form of the mass of the Council of Trent. Readings & Homilies and Intercessions will be in English. Hymns will be in English and/or Latin as appropriate. Mass parts will be sung in Latin. Singers/cantors familiar with the Mass parts are asked to volunteer to help Father lead the chants. "Latin remains the official language of The Church." - *Pope Francis*.

Sunday, September 30 at 8:00 am Mass



"Corinthians". Mondays at 5:45pm in the Music Room. Please bring your bible and CCC.

*Whatever you do, do it all to the glory of God. 1
Corinthians 10:13*

Youth and Vocations: Remember to daily pray for all Catholic School/College students and our seminarians. Pray that they will listen to God to guide their vocations and be people of Virtue who live in the power of the Holy Spirit.

26th International Week of Prayer and Fasting unites with the Marian Fathers, Legion of Mary and Priests for Life, Sept 29 – Oct 7, 2018. Opening day, Saturday, September 29th at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception from 9 am – 4:30 pm. Registration is FREE, but please register online at www.iwopf.org

ATTENDANCE REPORT

9/23/18

Attendance: 361 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$4,346

Spanish Mass: \$142

Utility fund: \$230

Please see Nativity's financial statements in the insert

Mass Intentions for the Week

September 29- October 6, 2018

Sat. 9/29	8:00 am	Hurricane Florence victims
	5:30pm	Amelie Ongbehala unborn child
Sun. 9/30	8:00am	People of the Parish
	10:00am	+Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Brogan, Jr.
	1:00 pm	Miguel Angel Gonzalez
Mon. 10/1	12:00	+William E. Matory, Sr.
Tue 10/2	12:00	+Rafaela Evans
Wed. 10/3	12:00	+Mr. Anthony McCarthy, Sr.
Thu. 10/4	12:00	+Rafaela C. Evans
Fri. 10/5	12:00	Damian Family
Sat. 10/6	8:00 am	+Deacon & Mrs. Marion Evans, I.
	5:30pm	+James Koon

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *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, *Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Irene Jimenez, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnes Moore, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Sheryl Newman, *Amelie Ongbehala, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Margaret Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Bonafacio Selayo *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Alice Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta

Question of the week: How do I put too much faith in those impermanent things that bring me wealth and comfort? How can I express the Spirit who I received in baptism to others?



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS®

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"LIVING WITH YOUR BAGS PACKED!" Another three-part education presentation on estate planning and administration. The second presentation: Estate Planning and Charitable Giving will be held **Tuesday, October 16th**. The final presentation, on Incapacity Planning, will be on **Tuesday, November 20th**. All presentations will begin at 7pm and be held in the Lounge. Refreshments will be served.



Fall dates

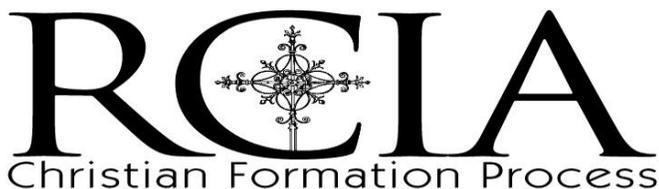
The Sacred Heart League will meet on Friday, October 5, after the noon mass in the music room.

Nativity Sodality will meet on Sunday Oct. 7, 2018 after the 8am Mass. Sodalists are encouraged to arrive at church by 7:30am to pray the Rosary. All parishioners are welcome. Sodalists, please wear your Nativity Sashes.

Youth Faith and Fun Day. Saturday, October 13, 9 am – 3 pm. For young people to Senior in High School.

Fr. Patrick Hake from Ft. Wayne (served us last year as a Deacon) will be the Celebrant and Homilist at the 10 am Mass & 1 pm Mass in Spanish **Oct 20th**. Please make him feel welcome!

Vigil Mass Falls back to 4:30 pm starting November 10th after the clocks "fall back."



Do you want to know more about becoming a Catholic? Contact the RCIA Ministry at (202)-341-2707 or at mvleakesr@outlook.com