



AUGUSTINIAN FRIARS

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In Residence

Fr. William Wallace, O.S.A.
In Residence

CATHOLIC FAITH
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MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil

7:00 p.m. **Spanish** (piano & cantor)

Sunday

8:00 a.m. **English** (organ & cantor)

9:30 a.m. **Spanish** (piano & choir/cantor)

11:30 a.m. **English** (organ & choir/cantor)

1:30 p.m. **Vietnamese** (keyboard & choir)

Weekdays

8:30 a.m. **Spanish** (Mon-Fri.)

12:00 p.m. **English** (Mon-Fri)

7:45 a.m. **Vietnamese** (Thu & Sat)

CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION

All those who are called to follow Jesus in the Catholic faith along with Catholics already baptized (adults, youth & children) who desire to celebrate the sacraments of First Confession, First Communion and Confirmation can make contact with the coordinator of this area for information about the various programs available. Registration for these programs are announced in the bulletin during various times of the year. Also appointments can be made in the parish office at anytime.

Parents wishing to baptize their children (ages 1-5) are invited to make an appointment in the parish office to speak with a staff member in order to make arrangements for participating in the Baptismal Program.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS)

At the parish office by appointment.

MARRIAGE

Couples planning to be married should call for an appointment six months in advance of the wedding.

VISITS TO THE SICK

In emergency, call the parish office at any hour. Please inform the office of sick or homebound who desire the sacraments.

NEW PARISHIONERS

Welcome to all parishioners.

We encourage all parishioners to register at our parish office. We invite new parishioners to make an appointment to meet a member of the parish staff.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. open

MONDAY - THURSDAY 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. open

SATURDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

SUNDAY 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE BARRIERS THAT SEPARATE US



We live in a society that has many technological avenues for stimulation and entertainment, one in which the urban population exceeds the non-urban. It is curious that loneliness is a prevalent malady. It is easy to reach out and touch someone, we are told. But—in truth—it is not all that easy, and statistics from the mental health field will reinforce that opinion. Today's readings are about the ways in which we can authentically reach out: God touches Adam to create a mate and end his solitude; God-in-Jesus takes on human flesh and death in order that we might come to glory; Jesus reaches out to the children whom the disciples had tried to keep away, showing us the manner in which we must approach the loving embrace that awaits us in heaven. Until that day, however, we must remember that ours is a sacramental church, a church of signs of the love of God. And so we are called to reach out continually to ease the loneliness and the barriers that separate us from one another and, therefore, from the love of

Christ.

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Our readings today point to God's deep commitment to human relationships. Our passage from Genesis begins with the declaration that God created human persons to be social beings, who can only thrive when they live in deep connection with each other and with God. The author of Hebrews teaches that the coming of Jesus as one of us shows God's radical commitment to human life. Jesus' teaching about divorce, described in today's Gospel, shows God's deep investment in marriage and, implicitly, all human relationships. When our personal relationships with others are distant or broken, God seeks to heal them. When social structures serve to maintain oppression, or to keep groups in ongoing conflict, God is working to overthrow them. Even when we give up on each other, God does not give up. God will work ceaselessly, in us and through us, within all the pain and joy of the human situation.

LIKE A CHILD

Today's passage from Mark's Gospel is in the context of Jesus' teaching about the kingdom, or reign, of God. A common understanding was that entering the kingdom was based on family origin, or achievement, or status in the community. Jesus pushes back on this, and presents a child as a model of receptivity and openness. This is not to suggest that adults must somehow reject the wisdom gained through adult experience and return to childhood. Adult maturity also includes the difficult journey, usually later in life, of letting go of illusions that we have built up about our own virtue, skills, and autonomy. Jesus' teaching pushes back against our culture, which honors energy and vigor, expertise and achievement. These valuable gifts can fail us if we cannot accept our dependence on God who provides and cultivates these gifts. We can accept God's graciousness in our life when we open our hearts as a child does.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The man said, "This one is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman' " (Genesis 2:18-24).

Psalm — May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives (Psalm 128).

Second Reading — He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated all have one origin (Hebrews 2:9-11).

Gospel — Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it (Mark 10:2-16 [2-12]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from the *Lectionary for Mass* © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

PROUD TO BE HUMAN

This is the first of seven consecutive Sundays that we will share passages from the Letter to the Hebrews. The letter is an extended sermon by an unknown author directed to a Christian community where likely many were converts from Judaism. The author attempts to link Jesus to the story of the people of Israel, building toward an image of Christ as God's perfect high priest. Christ the High Priest is described as the central link between humanity and God.

When we reflect upon the life and death of Jesus, we can more deeply accept that through Jesus, God knows what we humans experience. Jesus the High Priest embraces his humanity. In today's passage, the author claims that Jesus is proud to be human, proud to be our brother in the family of God. The letter to the Hebrews is not only a celebration of Christ, it is an affirmation of the dignity of our own human life.

The Way to the Kingdom

The disciples were trying to be helpful. In the Temple of Jerusalem, only priests could enter the Holy of Holies, the men could enter the sanctuary, while women and children only got into the vestibule. So the disciples knew that children never approached the Rabbis. To show their respect for Jesus, they tried to turn the children away. But Jesus saw this as a chance to teach the disciples about the kingdom.

As they tried to send the children back to their parents, Jesus changes the rules. He invites the kids to come to him and even makes an example of them: "accept the kingdom of God like children" or you won't get in at all. So what do we learn from this?

Children don't make themselves look important. They haven't learned to brag about their accomplishments, or how to offer a bribe to get what they want. They simply accept what is given to them. In a culture where we are expected to make a good impression, where we compete to get scholarships and jobs, we may be more like the disciples than we think. A young man falling in love may be tempted to show what a great athlete he is, or how he plans to get a high paying job after graduation. Yet all he really needs to do is tell the girl that he loves her. We cannot make ourselves look important to God; we can't bribe Him with good works or change His mind with promises to avoid sin. We can be sorry for our sins, and tell Him we love Him, and ask for help with our weaknesses.

Children also have great faith. Not the deep faith that comes with adult experience, but a faith that sees goodness in everyone. If we can keep that faith in God's goodness, while developing a deeper faith that is not discouraged by sin and evil, we are on the way to the Kingdom.

Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.

Visit the parish office for more information.

Confessions are by appointment only. Please call 718-295-6800 for an appointment time.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

OCTOBER 4, 2018

Monday:	Jon 1:1 — 2:2, 11; Jon 2:3-5, 8; Lk 10:25-37
Tuesday:	Jon 3:1-10; Ps 130:1b-4ab, 7-8; Lk 10:38-42
Wednesday:	Jon 4:1-11; Ps 86:3-6, 9-10; Lk 11:1-4
Thursday:	Mal 3:13-20b; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 11:5-13
Friday:	Jl 1:13-15; 2:1-2; Ps 9:2-3, 6, 16, 8-9; Lk 11:15-26
Saturday:	Jl 4:12-21; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Lk 11:27-28
Sunday:	Wis 7:7-11; Ps 90:12-17; Heb 4:12-13; Mk 10:17-30 [17-27]

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

OCTOBER 4, 2021

Monday 8:30am	Bienvenido Gonzalez, Teresa Chio, Santa Ortega, Rosa Minchala (D) Maria Ninh (D)
12:00pm Tuesday 8:30am	Acción de gracias al divino niño, Virgen de la Mercedes (D) Maria Ninh (D)
12:00pm Wednesday 8:30am	Ana Felicita Hernandez-conversión y liberación; Jesus de la Misericordia Peace (family)
12:00pm Thursday 8:30am	Angel Maldonado (D); San Miguel, San Antonio, Acción de gracias al gran poder de Dios Maria Ninh (D)
12:00pm Friday 8:30am	Lourdes Espinal (D)
12:00pm Saturday 7:45am	Ana Lao & Giuse Huê (D)
7:00pm Sunday 8:00am	Josefa Sandy & Miguel Jaquez (D)
9:30am	People of SNT Ana & Juan Garcia - aniversario (L); Minerva Lopez (D)
11:30am 1:30pm	Maria Ninh (D)

OFFERTORY COLLECTION

SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Tithing:	\$6,749.37
Children:	\$0.00
Total:	\$6,749.37

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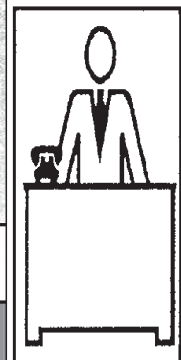
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