

# **EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY! FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:14 - 15

Israel feels rejected and lost because of her sufferings. But Isaiah reminds Israel that, as a mother loves her infant, the Lord loves His people. He will not •forget us in our time of trial.

# SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 4:1 - 5

We are administrators of the mysteries of Christ. As such, we should do everything in our power to prove worthy of this great trust. We should not be passing judgment on others, for this is the Lord's right. Rather, we should joyfully •await his return, when all shall be brought into the light.

# GOSPEL READING: Matthew 6:24 - 34

No one can serve two masters. Therefore, we must choose either to live for the world or to live for Christ. We should not be concerned about what we are •to eat or wear, for the Lord provides all these things to his people. Instead, we •must seek first His Kingdom.

The reassuring message of our sacred scriptures today is that God will not forget us. We can trust in our loving God who cares for us more than for any •other creature. We can rest in God alone and set aside our concerns about the •future. As we take in this message today, let us look for places in our own lives where we can learn to trust God more.

# MASS INTENTIONS

## **Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):**

6:00 PM: Birthday blessings for Joel Clement Gifft rb The family.

Birthday blessings for Richey Placid rb His father, Matthew Placid.

## **Sunday Masses:**

7:30 AM: God's guidance, health and protection for Victoria Matthew rb Victoria Matthew.

10:00 AM: Birthday blessings for Gerad Bellot rb His father.

6:00 PM: God's continued blessings for the Haitian Community.

# **Daily Masses:**

Mon. Feb. 27, 6:00 PM: St. Gabriel Possenti Birthday blessings for Maria Placid rb Her father, Matthew Placid.

- Tues. Feb. 28, 7:00 AM: Sts. Romanus & Lupicinus In honor of the Holy Face of Jesus rb Carolyn Peternel.
- Wed. Mar. 01, 7:00 AM: St. David of Wales ASH WEDNESDAY John Anthony (d) rb The Rouse family.

7:00 P.M.: The deceased members of Holy Family Church.

Thurs. Mar. 02, 7:00 AM: Blessed Agnes of Bohemia Eugene Farro (d) rb Estelle Farro.

Fri. Mar. 03, 7:00 PM: St. Katharine Drexel Alicia Thomas (d) rb Alma Wells.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards Catholic *Education.* Next week's second collection will go towards *Bishop's Appeal.* As always we thank you for your generosity.

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for God's deliverance for Nicholas Jn Charles, requested by his mother. You can request Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

**PARISH REGISTRATION:** Parishioners who have not or are not registered with Holy Family Church as a parishioner are kindly asked to be registered. Registration forms can be found at the entrance of the church. Thank you for your kind cooperation in this matter.

FOOD FOR THE POOR: This weekend we will collect non-perishable items for our less fortunate brothers and sisters within our community. As always, we thank you for your generosity, and may God continue to bless you and your family abundantly.

*LENT*: Lent begins with <u>Ash Wednesday, March 01, 2017</u>. Now is the time to plan spiritual and corporal works of mercy for Lent. There will be two masses on Ash Wednesday: 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Please be guided accordingly.

## **LENT**: *During Lent*:

- 1. Holy Hour and Stations of the Cross are on Fridays at 6:00 p.m.
- 2. Those 18 to 59 years of age are to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. 3. Those 14 years and older are to abstain from eating meat on Ash Wednesday and all Fridays in Lent
- 4. Pray for peace in the world and in our families.
- 5. Pray for God's blessings and protection against the attacks of evil spirits for our parish and our diocese.
- 6. We are encouraged to attend the Jesus Explosion with our entire family.
- 7. There will be NO altar flowers, NO Gloria and NO Alleluia, NO recessional hvmn.
- 8. We are encouraged to make a good Confession.
- 9. Give generously to the Bishop's Appeal.
- 10. Pray the novena of Our Lady the Undoer of Knots that Our Lady will undo the knots of Holy Family Parish, family and ourselves.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2017: The World Day of Prayer will take place on Friday, March 3, 2017, at the Lutheran Church of the Reformation located at Anna's Retreat. Praise and worship begins at 6:45 p.m. and the service begins at 7:00 p.m. The country of recognition this year is the Philippines. As many Catholics as possible are asked to attend to represent our Church. Ladies are asked to wear white with a yellow scarf, yellow stole or ribbon. Your presence will be greatly appreciated.

FOOD SALE: St. Joseph Workers of Holy Family Church will host a food sale on Saturday, March 4, 2017, at Holy Family parking lot from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. MEATS: Roast Pork, Baked Chicken, Barbecued Chicken, Pigtail Souse and Fish. STARCHES: Peas & Rice, Macaroni & Cheese, Potato Stuffing and Potato Salad. VEGGIES: Tossed Salad and Hot Vegetables. Drinks will be on sale. Price \$12.00 and Fish Plate - \$15.00.

ANNUAL YOUTH LENTEN RETREAT: Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church is hosting a youth retreat to take place on <u>Saturday, March 11, 2017</u>, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church from 8:00 am to 3:00 p.m. The guest speaker is Fr. James Holland from Transfiguration Roman Catholic Church. This retreat is for students from 6th to 12th grade. Lunch will be provided. Parents are welcome to join. There will also be an OLPH Lenten Mission on Monday, March 13th and *Tuesday, March 14th* from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. with Fr. James Holland.

### Choice:

'No one can serve two masters" (Mt 6:24). The two masters presented in the Gospel today are God and money. The world today is becoming more and more irreligious devoid of God. The values that various religions promote are considered impractical by many people today. On the other hand, in today's world, money is terribly inducing because it can buy pleasure, prestige and possession; money is considered to be power because it can easily free a culprit and can punish an innocent person; it can make the truth appear false and what is false can be made to appear as the truth.

The Gospel reading of today invites us to make a choice between God and money, between good and evil, between truth and falsehood, between life and death. In fact, each new day invites us to make a choice; every opportunity and every challenge that we experience confronts us with a choice. We have the freedom of choice, not freedom from choice. Our choice determines whether we will be happy or unhappy in life. Hence choose the one who leads us to life – God. Having made the primary choice for God, on a daily basis, choose to love rather than hate; choose to build rather than destroy; choose to smile rather than frown; choose to heal rather than hurt; choose to give rather than grasp; choose to praise rather than gossip. Do it here and now because the place to be happy is here and the time to be happy is now.

# Setting priorities:

The second theme that is presented through the Word of God is to set our priorities right. Usually priorities are set based either on 'immediate satisfaction' or on 'ultimate fulfilment'. Those who set their priority based on 'immediate satisfaction' are many. Jesus warns them against this tendency saying that life is more important than perishable things (food and clothing). On the contrary, Jesus exhorts all today to set their priorities based on ultimate fulfilment realized through recognizing our dependence on God and by dedicating ourselves to fulfil God's plan for us. St Paul, as portrayed in the second reading, reveals himself as one who fulfils God's plan for him.

# LITURGY AND WORD

### **STEWARDSHIP OF TREASURE**

Every week the report on stewardship will include our gifts of time, talent, and treasure. In gratitude to God, we give of our first fruits to help fulfill God's mission of love here on earth.

Attendance: Last Weekend: 520

Last Weekend's collections FIRST COLLECTION: \$6,227.00

SECOND COLLECTION: Black & Indian Mission: \$1,130.25

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS.**

## LITURGY AND WORD CONT'D

### Love and providence of God:

The theme that is recurrent in the Word proclaimed today is that of Divine love and providence. The first reading compares the love of a mother and love of God. The love of a mother for her child is unparalleled; a mother cannot stop loving her child even though the child is gone astray and is a nuisance in the family and in society. Even if a mother forgets her child, God will never forget his children. God's love for humanity is unconditional, incomparable and unsurpassed. God, in his great love, provides us, protects us and guides us. God's protection extends to all creation: birds in the sky, the flowers in the fields, etc. If God takes care of them, how much more will he protect, provide and guide us whom he created as 'crown' of creation? Hence, let us remind ourselves of God's providence, and then surrender ourselves to him so that without worries we will set our hearts on the Kingdom of God.

