

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

INTRODUCTION TO THE LITURGY OF THE DAY! FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1 - 2, 6 - 8

Moses urged the Israelites to be faithful to the commands of the Lord. They were not to change them in any way but to follow them wisely.

SECOND READING: James 1:17 - 18, 21b - 22, 27

In order for God's word to take root, believers must do more than merely listen to it. They must act upon it.

GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1 - 8, 14 - 15, 21 - 23

Jesus said that nothing coming from outside can make a person impure. Rather, it is the evil coming from within that constitutes impurity. Do we take God's word to heart and act upon it? Moses - about to reveal the commandments - calls on the people to observe God's word carefully and faithfully. In his letter, James asks us to welcome God's word and put it into action. In the Gospel, Jesus warns the scribes and Pharisees that they confuse human tradition with God's commands. Listening to God's word, let us consider how it guides our actions.

MASS INTENTIONS Saturday Mass (Sunday Observance):

5:00 PM: Diana Herman (deceased) rb The Children of Mary.

Sunday Masses:

7:30 AM: Rudy Blanchard (*deceased*) rb the Children of Mary.

10:00 AM: Richard and Rose Cook (*deceased*) rb Estelle Farro.

5:00 PM: God's continued blessings for the Haitian Community.

Daily Masses:

Mon. Aug. 30, 7:00 AM: St. Fiacre God's healing for Ophelia Bannis under St. Rapheal's guidance rb Ophelia Bannis.

Tues. Aug. 31, 7:00 AM: St. Aidan of Lindisfarne

Wed. Sept. 1, 7:00 AM: St. Giles Dawn Sweeney (*deceased*) rb The Children of Mary.

Thurs. Sept. 2, 7:00 AM: St. Blessed John DuLau & the Martyrs Renee Doute (*deceased*) rb Her mother, Alicia Doute & family.

Fri. Sept. 3, 5:00 PM: St. Gregory the Great

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ETERNAL CANDLE: This week the Eternal Candle is burning for God's continued blessings for Lucy JnBaptiste and family, requested by Beverly **McClendon.** Please contact the church office to request the Eternal Candle for your loved ones' birthdays or any special occasions.

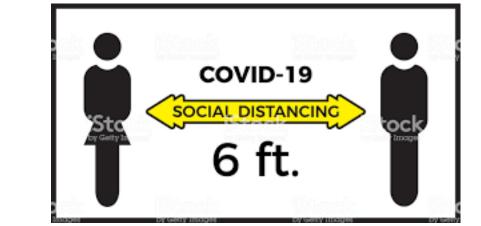
SECOND COLLECTION: This week's second collection goes towards the Music *Ministry*. Next week's second collection will go towards the *Renovation Fund*. As always we thank you for your generosity.

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, the deacon, and priests we extend sincere sympathy to Marie Joseph and family on the passing of her brother, William Thomas, who died on Wednesday, August 18, 2021. The funeral service of the late William Thomas will take place on Friday, September 3, 2021 at Holy Family Church, at 10:00 a.m. May his soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

SYMPATHY: On behalf of Holy Family parishioners, the deacon, and priests we extend sincere sympathy to Alicia Doute and family on the passing of her aunt, Constance Connie Graham, who died on Monday, August 16, 2021. May her soul and the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace. Amen.

Due to COVID and the Department of Health guidelines, attendance at the funeral service is limited to immediate family members only. Thhis service will be live streamed. Please be guided accordingly.

COVID- DELTA PROTOCOL: Following the recent press release of the Governor of the US Virgin Islands concerning houses of worship Covid-19 protocols, please take note of the recommendations that all protocols on restrictions must be observed, to ensure that sanitization, face covering, monitoring of body temperature and social distancing are strictly implemented in all the facilities and all the churches of the diocese.



PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

The Diocese of St. Thomas in the Virgin Islands is committed to protecting children from all harm. If you have knowledge of any member of the clergy or other church worker who may have abused a minor, please contact the diocesan child protection coordinator, Callista Julien at 340-772-4214.

He summoned the crowd again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand. Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person; but the things that come out from within are what defile." Mark 7:14–15

Jesus speaks this passage after calling the Pharisees "hypocrites." He rebukes them for being obsessively concerned about the externals and failing to be attentive to the internals. Jesus makes it clear that evil comes from within and that the heart should be our true concern.

The thing that sparked Jesus' strong rebuke of the Pharisees was the fact LITURGY AND WORD CONT'D that they criticized the disciples for not washing their hands and, thus, they Reflect, today, upon that which is ate their meal with "unclean hands." within. Know that any sin in your heart What's sad is that the Pharisees seem to must be acknowledged, confessed and make a huge deal about this fact. What purged. Only when that is done can you this reveals is that the Pharisees seemed meet God who dwells within. Only then to think that holiness is something can you allow God to transform your that you obtain by scrupulous external exterior from His presence in your soul. observance of the laws and customs of the times. But they failed to see the Lord, please do come into my heart. importance of what was within.

St. Teresa of Ávila has a couple of beautiful quotes that speak of the importance of that which is within. "Within you dwells your God. Enter within, look at Him, talk to Him, listen to Him and stay with Him in your heart." And, "Indeed, we have heaven within ourselves for the Lord of Heaven is there."

Jesus also points out the types of evil that come from within. "From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts, unchastity, theft, murder, adultery, greed, malice, deceit, licentiousness, envy, blasphemy, arrogance, folly. All these evils come from within and they defile" Mark 7: 21-23.

So what's in your heart? When you spend time alone and quietly look at your life, what do you see? What is it that makes up your interior life?

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: 192 Last Weekend's collections FIRST COLLECTION: \$3,095.75 Catholic Education: **\$531.00**

Our Bishop's Appeal contribution amount*ed to* \$9,415.00, 9% *of the diocese's goal.* As always we thank you for your continuous contribution.

Set my heart on fire with love for You. Purge my heart of all sin and allow Your divine presence to shine forth for all to see. Jesus, I trust in You.

