

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Amen I say to you,
until heaven and
earth pass away,
not the smallest
letter or the
smallest part of
a letter will pass
from the law.
Matthew 5:18



FEBRUARY 12, 2017

CHOICE

"If you choose you can keep the commandments," Sirach tells us. God "has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand" (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of

course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

In today's reading from Matthew's Gospel, Jesus reminds us of our freedom and our responsibility for our lives. He calls us to look beyond the words of the commandments, all the way to their meaning. Look beyond the adultery to the selfishness that poisons our love. Look beyond the murder to the anger that eats away at our compassion. Look beyond the perjured testimony to the lies and deception that drive our behavior.

Our vocation is to choose life for ourselves, and to choose a path through our part of the world that helps make life possible and more abundant for others as well.

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-21; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-26
Thursday: Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mk 8:27-33
Friday: Gn 11:1-9; Ps 33:10-15; Mk 8:34 — 9:1
Saturday: Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Mk 9:2-13
Sunday: Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time;
World Marriage Day

SANCTUARY LIGHT

FEBRUARY 11TH - 17TH

The Sanctuary Light at St. John will burn
In memory of **Shirley Hunt**.

The Sanctuary Light in the Adoration Chapel
Will burn in memory of **Luke Everett Fontenot**.

The Sanctuary Light at Our Lady will burn
in memory of **Roberta Rouchon**.

With Heartfelt
Sympathy

Our Communities
of Faith extend our
sympathy and prayerful

support for the families of **Ada Marcantel**, parishioner of SJB and mother of Sandra Webster; and **Pat Millican**, parishioner of SJB and wife of Frank. May the Lord grant comfort and peace to these families and may they and all who sleep in Christ, find in His presence light, happiness and peace.

Reflection

**God does not issue
a license to sin.**

The first reading from Sirach reminds us that any time we choose between life and death, good and evil, it is our free choice and our responsibility. God may allow us to make bad choices, but God never commands anyone to sin.

Jesus goes even deeper than Sirach. The people of Sirach's time had followed the laws and commandments that governed external actions. But Jesus taught that thoughts and desires that lead to sin can also be freely chosen or rejected. In the Gospel he gives us some examples.

The first is about killing. Jesus says that anyone who gets angry enough to kill or who looks down on his neighbor as not deserving to live has committed murder in his heart. Because the Eucharist is our sacrament of unity, we should take care to be reconciled with others before coming to the altar.

The next warnings are about adultery and divorce, breaches that also begin with interior feelings. Jesus exaggerates when he tells us to cut off a hand or tear out an eye, because he knew how easily we rationalize our feelings and pretend they are harmless. Jesus takes marriage seriously and expects his disciples to do the same.

His final example concerns taking oaths. Jesus gets to the point and says that we wouldn't need oaths if we always told the truth and kept our promises. Our faith is based on the knowledge that God keeps promises. Shouldn't we do the same?

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Centennial of St. Agnes Parish

Everyone is invited to a special Mass celebrated by Bishop Muench on Sunday, February 26 at 11:00AM and a reception following in the gym. If you attended St. Agnes School, please call them at 383-4127.

An ounce of practice is worth a pound of preaching.

--John Ray

Pray for our Military and their families

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Marvin Ashford, Jr., Army | Aaron Barr, USAF |
| James A. Benning, USMC | Matthew Boyd, Army |
| Cody Castello, USMC | Eugene Cazedessus, USMC |
| LeLand Crochet, III, USMC | Matthew Charlet Dart, USN |
| Chandler Derouen, Army | Patrick Deslatte, USN |
| Jacqueline Deslatte, USN | Stephen DiLorenzo, Army |
| Adam Foster, USN | Thomas Foster, USN |
| Christian Fuller, USAF | Brad Gautreaux, USMC |
| J. Michael Head, USMC | Joseph N. Jones, Jr., Army |
| Sabrina Jones, LaNG | Markus Kippers, USN |
| Dustin Knight, USN | Joseph L. LeBlanc Jr., Army |
| Stanley Mays, USAF | Andrew Metcalf, Army |
| Ben Gordon Morseth, USCG | Gordon Newman, Army |
| Robert Brett Parker, LaNG | Brian Plauche, USAF |
| Andrea Byrd Prosser, USCG | Mike Prosser, USCG |
| Jesse B. Richard, Army | Nicholas Richards, USN |
| Michael Roberts, USCG | James Rouchon, USMC |

Baptismal Seminar

OUTWARD SIGN



Saturday, February 18th
9:30AM –11:00AM
Parish Hall
No need to register.

24 Hour Adoration

Begins Monday, February 20th
at 8:00AM
Contact the Religious Ed Office to
reserve your spot.



WEEKLY COLLECTIONS 02/05/2017

St. John the Baptist

| | | |
|---|-----------|---------------------|
| Identified Contributions (182 Families) | \$ | 9,023.50 |
| Unidentified Contributions | \$ | 964.00 |
| Regular / ONLINE Contributions (35) | \$ | 2,221.00 |
| Building Maintenance (21) | \$ | 1,035.00 |
| Building Maintenance / ONLINE (8) | \$ | 240.00 |
| Youth Ministry (9) | \$ | 140.00 |
| Legacy of Faith / Capital Camp (92) | \$ | 13,234.21 |
| Legacy of Faith / Brick Paver (57) | \$ | 14,250.00 |
| Legacy of Faith / Kids Kount (1) | \$ | 36.60 |
| Legacy of Faith / OLA Parishioner(1) | \$ | 100.00 |
| Legacy of Faith / ONLINE (32) | \$ | 2,940.00 |
| CAMPAIGN TOTAL | \$ | 6,322,844.24 |

Our Lady of Assumption

| | | |
|--|----|----------|
| Identified Contributions (49 Families) | \$ | 3,421.20 |
| Unidentified Contributions | \$ | 473.00 |
| Regular / ONLINE Contributions (6) | \$ | 800.00 |
| Building Maintenance (5) | \$ | 210.00 |
| Youth Ministry (3) | \$ | 145.00 |

NEXT WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, February 12th

Sixty Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 6:30 am: Knights of Columbus Rosary
- 7:00 am: Mass / Coffee & Pastries
- 8:00 am: Knights of Columbus Meeting
- 10:00 am: Rosary / Divine Mercy
- 11:00 am: Mass / Children's Liturgy
- 5:00 pm: Lifeteen

-OLA

- 9:00 am: Mass

Monday, February 13th

- 6:30 pm: Charismatic Prayer Group
- 6:30 pm: Scouts
- 7:00 pm: N.A. Meeting

Tuesday, February 14th

- 4:00 pm: Homeless Shelter
- 5:00 pm: Children Choir
- 5:30pm : Youth Choir
- 6:00pm Adult Choir

-OLA

- 6:30 pm: Mass
- 7:00 pm: Altar Society of OLA

Wednesday, February 15th

- 7:00 am: Mass
- 5:30 pm: Sr. Youth Night

Thursday, February 16th

- 7:30 am: Mass
- 6:00 pm: Catholicism Series by Handmaids of the Lord
- 7 pm: R.C.I.A.

Friday, February 17th

- 7:30 am: Mass / Divine Mercy / Coffee & Biscuits

Saturday, February 18th

- 9:30 am: Baptismal Seminar
- 3:00 pm: Confessions
- 4:00 pm: Mass

Sunday, February 19th

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 am: Mass / Coffee & Pastries
- 9:15 am: K-5th Religious Ed Class
- 10:00 am: Rosary / Divine Mercy
- 11:00 am: Mass
- 5:00 pm: Edge

-OLA

- 9:00 am: Mass



St. John the Baptist
7:00 AM
12 Noon

Our Lady of the Assumption
6:30 PM
*(NO Mass at OLA on
Tuesday, February 28th)*