

JUNE

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Friday, June 1, 2018
(Lec. 351)
1) 1 Peter 4:7-13
2) Mark 11:11-26

EIGHTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
OBL. MEM.
Saint Justin, Martyr)

FOCUS: Be stewards of God's varied graces, and be ready to give witness to your faith.

We do not know the hour when Christ will return in glory. But we live in hope, and in the faith and knowledge of God's mercy and presence in our lives. As believers, we are called to trust and to be ready to share that mercy and presence with others.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Saint Peter reminds the early Church that until Christ returns in glory they must be his presence in the world. In the Gospel, Jesus demonstrates his authority through the cursing of the fig tree and cleansing of the Temple, and reminds us that whatever we ask for in prayer will be ours.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With confidence and trust, let us bring our prayers and petitions before our merciful Father.

- 1) For Church leaders, may they continue to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit as they guide and lead their flock, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For civic leaders, may they work tirelessly to ensure that all people can worship God in peace and freedom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who are persecuted for their faith in Christ, may God's Holy Spirit uphold and strengthen them and assure them of the prayers and support of their Christian brothers and sisters, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the sick and all who suffer, may God's Holy Spirit restore them to the fullness of life and health and liberate them from all afflictions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they receive the reward of a life well spent and come to share in the fullness of Christ's glory, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty and eternal God, our salvation comes from you alone. As you watch over the lives of your people, let us once again experience the transforming and strengthening power of your Holy Spirit. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, June 2, 2018
(Lec. 352)

- 1) Jude 17, 20b-25
- 2) Mark 11:27-33

SATURDAY OF
EIGHTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.

Saints Marcellinus and Peter, Martyrs;
Saturday in honor of BVM)

FOCUS: *Build yourselves up in your most holy faith.*

Jude warns against falling under the spell of false prophets and encourages us to stay strong in faith. We, too, must be watchful for those things which can separate us from God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Today's epistle from Jude is an exhortation on staying strong in faith and the love of God. In the Gospel, Jesus answers his opponents' challenge to his authority by saying, *neither shall I tell you by what authority I do these things.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, we ask with humble hearts that you grant our petitions according to your will and instill in us gratitude for your many gifts, especially the gift of the Holy Spirit.

- 1) For all members of the Church, may the light of Christ help us to dispel the earth's darkness by our witness to the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those who feel alienated or disconnected from the Church, may God lead them back to his loving and merciful presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who go to bed hungry in all corners of the world, may they be fed, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may we draw strength from the Eucharist and from our daily prayer to be Jesus' hands and feet in the world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they praise God forever in the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of power and might, we believe all things are possible through you. Hear and grant our petitions according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 3, 2018

(Lec. 168)

- 1) Exodus 24:3-8
- 2) Hebrews 9:11-15
- 3) Mark 14:12-16, 22-26

**THE MOST HOLY
BODY AND BLOOD
OF CHRIST
(Corpus Christi)
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: We cannot afford to take the gift of Eucharist for granted.

There are many reasons people give for no longer going to church. There is one great reason to attend. It is here as a community of believers we receive the most precious and sacred of all gifts from our God this side of heaven. It is here we receive the most sacred gift of Jesus in the Eucharist.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In our reading from Exodus, Moses and the people commit to the Lord and his covenant. In Hebrews, the author uses the image of a mediator in describing Jesus' role in the new covenant we have with the Father. The Gospel recalls the first Eucharistic meal.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we prepare to receive the Lord in Eucharist, let us bring our needs before our heavenly Father.

- 1) That Pope Francis and all the clergy, by the gift of God's grace, may lead us to a greater reverence for the Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That missionaries sent to spread the Good News throughout the world may be graced with the gifts of wisdom and fortitude, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That any family members who are alienated from one another may experience reconciliation through the mercy and favor of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That parents and catechists in this faith community may instill in our children the awe and wonder of God by their own example of living a faith-filled life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died may enjoy the fulfillment of the promises of God in eternal life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious Father, we ask you to grant the things we need and help us always to live by faith. We ask this through your son, Christ our Lord.

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Monday, June 4, 2018
(Lec. 353)
1) 2 Peter 1:2-7
2) Mark 12:1-12

MONDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: God's gifts supplement our faith and are used to build his kingdom.

Today we reflect on the gifts God has given us: how those gifts can strengthen our faith, and how we might use those gifts to "bear fruit" for God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter exhorts believers to supplement their faith with virtue, knowledge, self-control, endurance and devotion. In the Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the owner of a vineyard, whose tenants beat and kill his servants, even his beloved Son. The owner will put the wicked servants to death and give the vineyard to others.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we seek to be faithful stewards of God's gifts, let us offer our prayers to our Father in heaven.

- 1) For the leaders of the Church, that through their example of service, they may lead God's people to holiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our national and local leaders, may they always be attentive to the needs of the vulnerable, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick, especially those struggling with chronic illness, may God bring them healing of mind and body, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our local community, may we affirm the dignity of every person in our care for the unborn, the elderly, the immigrant and the imprisoned, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all those who have died, may they be welcomed into the heavenly kingdom by the Communion of Saints, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we entrust our prayers to you in the holy name of your son, Jesus Christ.

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Tuesday, June 5, 2018
(Lec. 354)
1) 2 Peter 3:12-15a, 17-18
2) Mark 12:13-17

TUESDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Boniface, Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: Let us be courageous witnesses to God's truth and presence in our lives.

Jesus *amazes* his followers in today's Gospel because of his wise answer to a question about paying taxes. As Jesus' disciples, let us seek the wisdom of the Holy Spirit each day in order to be courageous witnesses of Christ's truth and his presence in our lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter warns his readers to stay true to the Lord's teaching in preparing for life eternal. In the Gospel, Pharisees and Herodians try to trap Jesus about paying taxes to Rome, and he says: *Repay to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.*

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the Lord's promise to hear every prayer, we present our requests and petitions in faith.

- 1) For the Church, may the love and witness of those who shepherd her bring more vocations to the priesthood and religious life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the hostilities that plague our world, may God's grace bring them to an end so that all people, especially children, may know the quietness of God's peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the homeless and the helpless, may they be helped and encouraged by all who have a chance to do so, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our local faith community, as people of faith may we continually set good examples for those around us by our speech and actions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our departed friends and family members, may they enjoy the company of the Lord and all his saints in Paradise, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father of all creation, we pray these prayers with confidence, in your son Jesus' name.

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Wednesday, June 6, 2018
(Lec. 355)
1) 2 Timothy 1:1-3, 6-12
2) Mark 12:18-27

WEDNESDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Norbert, Bishop)

FOCUS: Our strength comes from God.

We are reminded today that all of our strength, all of our power, comes from God. As followers of Jesus, we are asked to use this gift of strength for the good of others – to share the Gospel and to give others the sense of hope that comes from knowing that God is all good and all powerful.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Paul encourages Timothy to make good use of the gifts of God that he received to spread the Gospel and build up the Church. In the Gospel, Jesus responds to the Sadducees' question about resurrection, designed to trick him, pointing out their error and affirming that God *is not God of the dead but of the living*.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Our all-powerful and all-loving God knows our needs before we do, so with courage we bring before him the concerns of our world.

- 1) For those who shepherd our Church, may their lives imitate the life of Jesus and so nourish the members of the body of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For missionaries throughout the world, may they receive the strength they need to bear hardship for the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who have been harmed by others, may they experience God's healing presence in their lives and may they be restored to wholeness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For families in our faith community, may they receive the support they need to flourish and contribute to society, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our deceased brothers and sisters, may they rejoice with the God of the living for all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of all compassion, hear the prayers we place before you in deep trust. This we ask through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 7, 2018
(Lec. 356)
1) 2 Timothy 2:8-15
2) Mark 12:28-34

THURSDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: We preach Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, for the salvation of every person.

We want to do our best to be good and faithful Catholics. Sometimes it seems easy, other times we may doubt our own beliefs or struggle with contrary outside influences. Since we cannot rely only on ourselves to live a vibrant Christian life, we must allow God's grace to form us into his disciples and to preach Jesus Christ raised from the dead.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In our first reading, Saint Paul addresses Timothy with words of encouragement and endearment. He speaks of the hardship which results from preaching the Gospel, as well as the power of the unchained word of God. In the Gospel, Jesus answers the question from the scribe concerning the greatest of all the commandments.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us gather our prayers for all those in need and offer them to our merciful God.

- 1) For the Church, may she remain a beacon of light to offset the darkness in our world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may God grant them wisdom in their decisions which affect the lives of their people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For human life, may the Lord inspire us to work to protect all stages of life from conception until natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the poor and oppressed, may God's grace guide us to aid all who are in need of the basic necessities of life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed, may their fidelity to Christ be rewarded with the crown of eternal life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Compassionate God, you know our innermost needs before we offer them to you. Pour out your mercy on us and fill us with your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Friday, June 8, 2018

(Lec. 171)

- 1) Hosea 11:1, 3-4, 8c-9
- 2) Ephesians 3:8-12, 14-19
- 3) John 19:31-37

**THE MOST
SACRED HEART
OF JESUS
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: The Sacred Heart of Jesus embodies the extravagant love Jesus has for us.

The Sacred Heart of Jesus embodies the extravagant love Jesus has for us. Today's solemnity, honoring the Sacred Heart, provides a special time to focus on what this love has done for us and how we might best respond to it. Let us search our own hearts today and see how well Jesus' love is reflected there.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In poetic, metaphoric language, today's first reading tells of God's personal and tender love for his people. In the second reading, the author explains that his calling is to help the Gentiles know the love God has for them. In the Gospel, we hear that the soldiers do not break Jesus' legs, but do pierce his side – both of which occur so that the Scriptures may be fulfilled.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Confident that the Father hears and answers our prayers, let us bring our petitions to him.

- 1) For those preparing for the priesthood and religious life, may the Sacred Heart of Jesus endow them with unending love for the Lord and his ministry, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all who have authority in policy decisions, may they respect the dignity of human life from conception through natural death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who suffer from severe or chronic illness, may the love and healing presence of Jesus provide them a source of strength, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the people of this parish, that through devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus we may receive the graces necessary to always love generously, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they know the Sacred Heart of Jesus in a new and intimate way as they join the angels and saints in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, whose love knows no bounds, hear these prayers and grant what will bring us closer to you. We ask these and all things through your son, Jesus Christ.

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Saturday, June 9, 2018
(Lec. 358)
1) 2 Timothy 4:1-8
(Lec. 573)
2) Luke 2:41-51

SATURDAY OF
NINTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
The Immaculate Heart
of the Blessed Virgin Mary)

FOCUS: *Proclaim the word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient.*

In today's reading, we are called to *proclaim the word* and be persistent about it. Being a disciple and reaching out to others to share our faith is not easy. But because we are guided by the Word of God and the Holy Spirit, we are able to persevere.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Timothy charges the community members to proclaim the word and fulfill their ministry, as he himself is close to fulfilling his. In the Gospel, Jesus remains behind in the Temple doing the work of his father, but no one else understands that yet.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Placing our trust in God, we bring him our prayers and petitions.

- 1) That the leaders of our Church may, under the favor of God, serve the faithful in tireless and persistent proclamation of the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That the leaders of the world may hear the cries of those who suffer and respond with compassion, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those who experience the pain of separation in their families may know the healing love of the Father and overcome resentment and fear, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That members of this faith community may grow in holiness as we prayerfully support those discerning a vocation to the priesthood or religious life, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That all who have died may find true peace in the heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, hear these prayers and grant them according to your will. We ask in the name of Jesus, your son, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 2018

(Lec. 89)

- 1) Genesis 3:9-15
- 2) 2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1
- 3) Mark 3:20-35

TENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Jesus, our path to salvation, calls us *brother and sister* and commands that we do the will of God.

From the beginning, God has promised his people redemption. His love is stronger than sin and prevails over evil. Jesus comes to us to embody that love and set an example for us to follow. In doing God's will, he shows us the way to the Father and calls us to do the same on our journey to eternal life.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Genesis, sin enters the world as Adam and Eve yield to the serpent's temptation. Paul's Letter to the Corinthians urges believers not to be discouraged: our earthly dwelling fades, but life in the Lord is eternal. Mark's Gospel shows Jesus being described by the scribes as "possessed." Jesus responds with a promise that doing the will of God makes us his brothers and sisters.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Following the will of the Father, let us join our voices in prayer as we present our petitions to God.

- 1) For the leaders of the Church, may they continue to embrace their mission with the love and passion of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For those in positions of power, may they turn away from their own desires and truly serve the needs of the people in their care, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For refugees and those who live in war zones, may their needs be met as they seek peace in their world, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the sick and the dying in our local community and for those who care for them, may they find the strength necessary to ease suffering and be comforted, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they rejoice in the promise of redemption fulfilled, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, accept our petitions on behalf of your children and in your infinite mercy, grant them as you will. We offer these in the name of your son, Jesus Christ.

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Monday, June 11, 2018
(Lec. 580)
1) Acts 11:21b-26, 13:1-3
(Lec. 359)
2) Matthew 5:1-12

MONDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Barnabas, Apostle)

FOCUS: Let us use our gifts for God's glory.

Barnabas, whose name means "son of encouragement," used his spiritual gifts for God's glory. Just as Barnabas used his gift to bless the whole Church, let us strive to use the gifts God has given us each day to love one another and follow in Jesus' footsteps.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Barnabas is sent to help the Church in Antioch; he convinces Saul to join him in the mission. Today's Gospel presents the Sermon on the Mount in which Jesus teaches a new way of living based on the Beatitudes.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we strive to live our lives in accordance with God's will, let us offer him our prayers.

- 1) For God's pilgrim Church on earth, may we, like Barnabas, respond willingly to the Holy Spirit and be witnesses for Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For peacemakers throughout the world, may their work foster justice and promote the dignity of all people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who mourn, grieving the loss of a loved one, may they be comforted, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish, may we hunger and thirst for righteousness as we support each other on our journey of faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they experience eternal happiness with the Father in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, June 12, 2018
(Lec. 360)
1) 1 Kings 17:7-16
2) Matthew 5:13-16

TUESDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Trust God and step out in faith.

In God, there is hope and as faithful followers of Christ, we need to be his light to the world. How can we shine God's light in a world filled with darkness? By spreading hope and charity to all whom we meet.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the widow is too poor to feed Elijah, but through God's intercession she is able to feed her son and herself for a year. In the Gospel, we hear that we are the salt and light of the earth, and that we must share the Word of God with others.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we gather together to be fed and forgiven, let us bring our prayers and concerns to our heavenly Father.

- 1) For those who shepherd our Church, may their light shine before others and lead them to experience Christ's peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For leaders in war-torn areas of the world, may they be inspired to seek peace and reconciliation with neighboring nations, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For loved ones who have fallen away from the practice of the faith, may they know that Jesus is constant in his love for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For families vacationing this summer, may God bless their travels and may their time together strengthen their bonds to one another, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they know the everlasting joy of heaven with all the saints and angels, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty Father, we thank you for your unending love and ask that you look kindly upon these petitions brought to you today, in the name of your son, Jesus Christ.

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Wednesday, June 13, 2018
(Lec. 361)
1) 1 Kings 18:20-39
2) Matthew 5:17-19

WEDNESDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Anthony of Padua,
Priest and Doctor of the Church)

FOCUS: Jesus is the fulfillment of the law.

Anyone can blindly follow rules, or live by the law. Living by the law of love is more challenging. This is the life that Jesus embodied, and commands us to follow. If someone were to look at our lives and listen to the way we talk, would they be convinced that God is at our center?

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In today's first reading, the prophet Elijah challenges the prophets of Baal to call on their gods to start the sacrificial fire. When they could not, Elijah called on the one true God and *the Lord's fire came down*. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that he has come not to abolish the law, but to fulfill it.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Loving God, we humbly stand before you and express our needs.

- 1) For all leaders in the Church, may they, through the intercession of Christ, reveal the sacred love-relationship between God and his people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all those elected to public office, may the Spirit open their hearts to see the most pressing needs of those in their care, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who proclaim God's Word by living it with their lives, may they be strengthened at the Eucharistic table, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this Eucharistic community, may we be fully open to the Lord working in our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may God, who is their hope, give them fullness of joy in his presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: O just God, you sent us your Son to teach us to live the spirit of your law. Rain down your grace upon us and lead us in your ways. Through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 14, 2018
(Lec. 362)
1) 1 Kings 18:41-46
2) Matthew 5:20-26

THURSDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Let us strive to enter the kingdom of God.

We are given the keys to the kingdom in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and the fulfillment of God's promises. Let us heed the instructions he gives us on what we need to do to enter the kingdom.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elijah awaits the rain before he and Ahab head to Jezreel. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus restates an old commandment and explains the way in which it must be obeyed so as to enter the kingdom of God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Father in heaven, we thank you for the gift of your Son, and we come to you knowing of your great love for us. Hear the prayers we bring before you this day.

- 1) For Pope Francis and all who minister in the Church, may they, in God's kindness, draw others into Christ's Church, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For government leaders, may they be inspired to give selflessly of themselves for the people whom they serve, and always seek the common good, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick and the poor, may they be healed in mind, body and spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here today, may we, through the strength of the Holy Spirit, lead lives of courageous discipleship, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they be welcomed into God's kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we trust in your ways. Hear and answer these and all of our prayers according to your time and will. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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Friday, June 15, 2018

(Lec. 363)

1) 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-16

2) Matthew 5:27-32

FRIDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Be attentive to the many ways God is present in our lives each day.

We have many opportunities to be aware of the presence of God in our daily lives. Let us pause throughout the day to give thanks to God: for life, food, family, nature and the many other ways that God offers us his gifts.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, the Word of the Lord came to the prophet Elijah in a *tiny whispering sound*. Jesus instructs his disciples to look beyond the letter of the law to its greater meaning, citing the examples of adultery and divorce.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust and confidence in God, the Author of Life, we offer our prayers this day.

- 1) For the Church, may God guide her ministers to be attentive to his presence in their lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the world, may God inspire leaders of nations and government officials to serve their people with integrity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who feel isolated or unwanted, may they open themselves to the unifying love offered through the Blessed Trinity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For peace, may God bring us to reconcile differences with others and extend forgiveness to those who have offended us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they share in the splendor of the risen Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, we offer you these prayers and those we hold in the silence of our hearts. We pray in the name of Jesus, your son.

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Saturday, June 16, 2018
(Lec. 364)

- 1) 1 Kings 19:19-21
- 2) Matthew 5:33-37

SATURDAY OF
TENTH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saturday in honor
of BVM)

FOCUS: The Lord calls his disciples to follow him in a way that sets them apart to live by a higher standard.

God called Elisha to a life of service through Elijah, and Elisha responded radically. Jesus continues calling us to holiness, setting a higher standard than the old Mosaic law. Both require a wholehearted “yes” to God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elijah follows the Lord’s instructions to find Elisha and throws his cloak over him, signifying that Elisha is to serve him. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his disciples to a higher standard.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Trusting in the infinite love and mercy of our God who calls us by name, we bring our prayers to him.

- 1) For the Church, may all the faithful live a continual “yes” to God’s call to holiness, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For the leaders of nations, may God grant them wisdom to enact policies that promote peace and justice, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those touched by poverty, may God ensure that others see their need and reach out to them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all gathered here, may we bring the Gospel into the community and effectively open hearts and minds to Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For the faithful departed and for all souls in Purgatory, may they find eternal rest in the kingdom of heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Merciful Father, look kindly upon the prayers of your people gathered in worship. We ask this through your son, Jesus Christ.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018

(Lec. 92)

- 1) Ezekiel 17:22-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 5:6-10
- 3) Mark 4:26-34

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Even small works can bear fruit in growing the kingdom of God.

The psalmist urges us to give thanks to the Lord and to sing of his kindness and faithfulness. For his loving presence is like a great cedar tree giving shade to those in need and fruit to those who hunger.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In Ezekiel, God uses the image of a tender shoot that becomes a majestic cedar and bears much fruit as a way of promising his care for the people of Israel. Paul challenges all believers to please the Lord. Jesus uses the parables of the sower and the seed, and the mustard seed, to explain the kingdom of God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: We walk with faith and not by sight. In faith, let us bring our prayers and petitions to God our Father.

- 1) For the Church, as disciples of Christ may our lives show forth his steadfast love for the poor, the vulnerable and those on the margins of society, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For vocations to the priesthood, religious life and lay ecclesial ministry, may there be a generous response to God's call to service in his Church, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who struggle with addictions, may they experience God's healing, and be comforted and consoled by those who love and support them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For Christians who are hesitant in sharing the Gospel message with others, may they be strengthened and emboldened to proclaim with love Christ's message of liberation from sin and death, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they come to share in the inheritance of the kingdom and the fullness of joy in God's presence, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God our Father, through Jesus Christ you invite us to share in the eternal life of your kingdom. By your grace and holiness, may our efforts and witness bring others to share in that life. We ask this through your son, Christ our Lord.

Monday, June 18, 2018
(Lec. 365)
1) 1 Kings 21:1-16
2) Matthew 5:38-42

MONDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Righteousness is obtained through grace, prayer and service to others

Throughout Scripture, we are given examples of justice and injustice. We see how individuals and communities react, and how God intervenes. The law was the basis for obtaining justice, and Jesus – as the fulfillment of the law – taught us how we are to embody righteousness. This can be very challenging at times, but can be realized through grace, much prayer, and possessing a mindset of serving others, rather than ourselves.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the First Book of Kings, Ahab's deceitful wife, Jezebel, acted in his name and devised false accusations against Naboth and ordered him to be stoned to death. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches non-retaliation in the face of conflict, rather than the infliction of further harm.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: God watches over us, pouring out his grace and mercy upon us. Let us turn to him now and offer these petitions.

- 1) For all those in priesthood and religious life, may God fill their daily responsibilities with joy and allow them to be cheerful witnesses to the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For areas throughout the world facing drought or food shortages, may they be blessed with life-giving rain and plentiful harvests, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are facing physical or mental challenges, may they be strengthened by the Holy Eucharist, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish community, may it flourish under God's protection, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may eternal rest be theirs, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, as we turn to you in prayer, putting forth our immediate needs, we ask that you hear and answer them according to your will. Through Christ our Lord.

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Tuesday, June 19, 2018
(Lec. 366)
1) 1 Kings 21:17-29
2) Matthew 5:43-48

TUESDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Romuald, Abbot)

FOCUS: We love our enemies best when we pray for them.

God's love for us is unconditional, and he challenges us to fulfill his will for us by loving all others as he does, even our enemies. Love, in this respect, is not concerned with affectionate feelings but with outward actions such as repentance and prayer.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

When the prophet Elijah confronts Ahab and warns him of the consequences of his wicked behavior, Ahab repents. God responds to Ahab's remorse with mercy. In the Gospel, Jesus calls his followers, as children of God, to go beyond accepted cultural norms and to reflect God's unconditional love by praying for and loving even their enemies.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Entrusting ourselves to our heavenly Father, who makes the sun shine and rain fall on good and bad alike, let us pray for our needs and the needs of the whole world.

- 1) That all members of the Church, as we fulfill God's purpose for us, may be renewed by God's unconditional love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That leaders of nations may recognize the importance of diplomatic relations to resolve conflicts for the good of all, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those suffering from sickness in mind or body may find the healing grace of Christ showered upon them through the care of compassionate people, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those seeking a spiritual home may find a warm welcome and loving acceptance within this family of faith, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died, especially the recently deceased, may be experiencing the warmth of God's unconditional love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, your loving mercy goes beyond anything we can understand. Hear the prayers we place before you and grant us these requests in accordance with your will. Through your son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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Wednesday, June 20, 2018

(Lec. 367)

1) 2 Kings 2:1, 6-14

2) Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

WEDNESDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: We are given our share of the gifts of the Spirit, depending on what God calls us to do.

Today we see some remarkable miracles. The Spirit enables both Elijah and Elisha to create dry land through the river, and Elijah leaves earth on a flaming chariot. But Jesus calls us to a quieter approach: performing prayer, fasting and works of charity in private.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Elisha takes on the mantle – the prophetic role – of Elijah after Elijah is taken from this earth. Elisha receives his share of the gifts of the Spirit as he follows in Elijah's footsteps. In the Gospel, Jesus instructs his disciples how to fast, pray and give alms quietly, focusing on pleasing God rather than others.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Impelled by the Spirit who intercedes for us, we bring these petitions before God.

- 1) For all who are called to the priesthood or religious life, may the Holy Spirit give them the grace to respond generously and discern wisely, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For scientists and engineers, may God bless their work and enrich the gift of their knowledge as they work to better the lives of people everywhere, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For all who struggle with unemployment, under-employment, or unjust wages, may they find fulfilling work that meets the needs of their families, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this faith community, may we grow as an image of Christ through sincere worship, faith formation and works of charity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they experience eternal life in the heavenly kingdom, through the mercy of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of mercy, your Spirit intercedes for us and for the world. Hear our prayer as we lift up those in need, and bring your strength to those who need it most. Through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 21, 2018
(Lec. 368)
1) Sirach 48:1-14
2) Matthew 6:7-15

THURSDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, Religious)

FOCUS: Our Father knows what we need before we ask.

The pagans worshipped many gods and so recited long lists of divine names, hoping one of them would be listening. As Christians, we do not need to babble in such a way, for the one true God knows what we need before we even ask. Jesus taught us the Lord's Prayer, and the words of that simple prayer contain the summary of the whole Gospel (CCC 2761).

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The wondrous deeds of Elijah are proclaimed as well as his destiny to put an end to wrath before the final day of the Lord. The fearlessness and marvels of Elisha are also extolled. In the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that their Father knows what they need before they ask, and instructs them to pray in the words of the Lord's Prayer.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With confidence, we approach the Lord of Hosts with our prayers and concerns.

- 1) For all who lead our Church, may they be filled with the discipline and courage to model the Christian life in deed as well as in word, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For vacationers, travelers and pilgrims, may they be granted safety and rest, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For young people, may their patron saint, Saint Aloysius Gonzaga, whom we celebrate today, intercede for them in their needs, and inspire them to service of God and others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For this Eucharistic assembly, may we truly forgive those who trespass against us as we ourselves beg forgiveness from the Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all the faithful departed, may they be led into the eternal joy of God's heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of mercy, you know what we need even before we do. Forgive us our trespasses and deliver us from evil, we implore you. We ask this through your son, our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Friday, June 22, 2018

(Lec. 369)

1) 2 Kings 11:1-4, 9-18, 20

2) Matthew 6:19-23

FRIDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

(Opt. Mem.
Saint Paulinus of Nola, Bishop;
Saints John Fisher, Bishop,
and Thomas More,
Martyrs)

FOCUS: God has never forsaken us, and awaits us with heavenly treasures far greater than any earthly ones.

God is near to us each waking moment of our day, and he has never forsaken his covenant with us. He empowers us with his grace and through him, we can be a light in the darkness and build his kingdom. The heavenly treasures we obtain will be far greater than any fragile earthly ones we may desire.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In our first reading, Athaliah's lust for power leads to the deaths of all heirs, but one, to the throne. In the Gospel, Jesus challenges his disciples to think about earthly goods versus eternal treasure with God.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: As we stand in the shadow of the cross, the symbol of God's love for us, let us petition our God for what we truly need.

- 1) For the Church, may she listen attentively to God's voice, and respond with courage and inspiration, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For missionaries throughout the world, may their loving actions help to banish darkness from our world and lead many to the light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the oppressed, may God help us to extend our hearts and hands to them in their time of distress and need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parishes, may they always be safe harbors for the weary and for those most in need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they find peace in the arms of our loving and merciful Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Gracious God, help us to walk humbly before you as great witnesses of your love to every person we encounter this day. We pray through Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, June 23, 2018

(Lec. 370)

- 1) 2 Chronicles 24:17-25
- 2) Matthew 6:24-34

SATURDAY OF
11TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Saturday in honor
of BVM)

FOCUS: Resolve not to worry and put your cares in God's hands.

We have a choice about where we place our trust. When we trust tangible but limited resources, we are vulnerable to anxiety because people and things can let us down. God's love has no limits. When we trust him, place our cares in his hands and follow his plan for us, we have no need for worry.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, King Joash refuses to trust in God, instead transgressing his commands and killing Zechariah. God punishes him with defeat and strips him of his burial rights. In the Gospel, Jesus reminds us that the Father knows our every need.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With trust in our heavenly Father, we ask him to provide for us as we pray for our needs and the needs of the world.

- 1) That God's Holy Spirit may strengthen and comfort those who shepherd our Church as they work to further his kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) That government leaders may be inspired to respect the dignity of all life as they work to meet the needs of those they govern, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) That those in need of food, shelter or clothing, and those in need of kindness, comfort or care, may have their needs met by followers of a loving God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) That those of us gathered here today, in gratitude for the blessings God has provided, may reach out to share these blessings with others, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) That those who have died, especially the recently deceased, may be experiencing the blessings of God's heavenly kingdom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Loving Father, you generously provide us with everything we need, according to your will. We ask that you hear these prayers, through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JUNE 24, 2018

(Lec. 587)

- 1) Isaiah 49:1-6
- 2) Acts 13:22-26
- 3) Luke 1:57-66, 80

**THE NATIVITY
OF SAINT JOHN
THE BAPTIST
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and his ministry.

God's plan for salvation, coming to be through his chosen people who freely say "yes," includes John the Baptist who prepares the way for Jesus and his ministry.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, we hear that God calls and forms his servants from the womb. The reading from Acts speaks of those whom God raised up to do his work, including John the Baptist. In Luke's Gospel, Elizabeth gives birth and proclaims that the boy's name will be John.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Grateful for your plan of salvation and seeking to do your will, we bring before you, Lord, these and all of our prayers this day.

- 1) For all members of the Church, that in gratitude for God's presence we may embrace the sacraments, especially the holy Eucharist and confession, in order to receive the grace God offers us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For elected officials, may they work for the good of the people they represent, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick, may they trust in God's plan and experience his mercy through those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here, may we recognize our unique role in God's plan, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they experience the fullness of God's light and love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Father, we ask that you hear and answer these prayers and all of the prayers we hold in the silence of our hearts. We ask this through your son, our Lord, Jesus Christ.

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Monday, June 25, 2018

(Lec. 371)

- 1) 2 Kings 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18
- 2) Matthew 7:1-5

MONDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: Stop judging, that you may not be judged.

Only God has the right to judge. Jesus tells us that the measure with which we measure will be measured out to us. Our growth in patience and compassion for the sins of others will be reflected back in God's mercy for us.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, we hear of the fall of the northern kingdom of Israel due to their idol worship and rejection of God's law. In the Gospel, Jesus warns his disciples not to judge one another and fall into hypocrisy.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Grateful for God's mercy, we offer our prayers to the Lord.

- 1) For the Church, may she always welcome sinners with mercy, patience and compassion, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For our elected officials, may they reject polarization and work toward compromise and cooperation in solving our nation's difficulties, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who have fallen away from the practice of the faith, may they know they are loved and are welcome to return, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those who mourn the loss of a loved one, may they experience the comfort of Christ through this Eucharistic community, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died today, may they enter into the fullness of God's mercy and love, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God of mercy and compassion, hear our prayers and open our hearts to your saving grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord and the work of the Holy Spirit.

Tuesday, June 26, 2018

(Lec. 372)

- 1) 2 Kings 19:9b-11,
14-21, 31-35a, 36
- 2) Matthew 7:6, 12-14

TUESDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME

FOCUS: The path that leads to eternal life is available to those who follow God's way.

We must not presume that we will float our way into heaven by way of a wide path. Although God's mercy is generous toward all who seek him, we know that God's way is not an easy road by which to travel in this life.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the Second Book of Kings, God saved his people from the violence planned by the King of Assyria. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus teaches about staying true to the mission and treating others justly, warning of the difficulty of following his way.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us pray to the Father for the needs of the Church, and for all those concerns we hold in our hearts.

- 1) For those who work tirelessly in the missions around the world, may the fruits of their labor continue to grow and blossom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For judges and magistrates, may they be guided by the Holy Spirit to rule with justice, tempered with compassion, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For migrant workers and their families in our communities, may they be treated with the dignity they deserve as children of God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For the children in our community, may they be raised in homes of peace and love, and fortified in their faith by families and friends, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have passed into eternal life, may they find peace in the arms of our loving and merciful Father, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty God, renew our faith and strengthen our resolve so that we may live in you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Wednesday, June 27, 2018
(Lec. 373)
1) 2 Kings 22:8-13; 23:1-3
2) Matthew 7:15-20

WEDNESDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.
Saint Cyril of Alexandria,
Bishop and Doctor of the Church)

FOCUS: Christ's disciples are known by the way they live their lives.

Realizing our broken humanity, we also realize our need for God's healing and mercy. By presenting the ancient covenant law to the people, King Josiah invites them to renew their trust in the Lord. Jesus, the new and eternal covenant, invites us to renew our trust in him and empowers us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

King Josiah invited the people to hear once again the law of the Lord and to recommit themselves to abiding by it. In the Gospel, Jesus warns his followers to be on guard against false prophets and to bear the fruit of the kingdom.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With confidence and trust, let us bring our prayers and petitions before the eternal Father.

- 1) For our bishops, successors to the Apostles, may the Spirit continue to guide and inspire them and keep them faithful to the law of the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For all civic leaders, may they have the gift of fortitude to ensure that all peoples can worship God in peace and freedom, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For the sick, may God's Holy Spirit restore them to the fullness of life and health and liberate them from all afflictions, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all who seek the way of the Lord, may our community of faith be prepared to assist and embrace them in their search, and may we witness to them through our commitment, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they receive the reward of a life well spent and come to share in the fullness of Christ's glory, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Almighty and eternal God, our salvation comes from you alone. As you watch over the lives of your people, let us once again experience the transforming and strengthening power of your Holy Spirit. We make our prayer through Christ our Lord.

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Thursday, June 28, 2018
(Lec. 374)
1) 2 Kings 24:8-17
2) Matthew 7:21-29

THURSDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(OBL MEM
Saint Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr)

FOCUS: Faithfulness and following God's will give us a rock-solid foundation for our lives.

Jehoiachin's propensity to do evil in the sight of the Lord was his downfall. As it would be anyone's. God does not desire our downfall, though, and so he gives us the grace and means for remaining faithful to him. Jesus is that grace and means, and his teachings and example provide us with a solid foundation for our lives, and for life in the kingdom of God.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The first reading tells the story of the siege of Jerusalem (597 B.C.) and the defeat of the unfaithful king Jehoiachin. All the inhabitants of Jerusalem, except the poor, were led into captivity in Babylon. In the Gospel, Jesus says that not everyone will enter the kingdom of heaven – only those who do the will of the Father, and listen to Jesus' words.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us humbly place our needs, and the needs of the world, before the Father.

- 1) For the faithful, may we rely on the solid foundation of the Church and her teachings to guide our lives, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For journalists and other media leaders, may they always strive to let the light of truth shine through their work, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are homeless or displaced, may they obtain the secure shelter they need to live in safety and dignity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here, may we continue to build our lives on the foundation of the teachings and example of Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they join with the triumphant in heaven giving praise continually to God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Good and gracious God, hear the prayers we bring to you, and in your mercy provide for all that we need. We pray through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Friday, June 29, 2018

(Lec. 591)

- 1) Acts 12:1-11
- 2) 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18
- 3) Matthew 16:13-19

**SAINTS PETER
AND PAUL,
APOSTLES
- SOLEMNITY**

FOCUS: God will provide a way for us to complete our mission for the glory of the kingdom of heaven.

Peter is freed from Herod's jail to complete his ministry. We, too, have a mission that God has planned for us. We must focus on the Lord and trust that he will help us along our journey, as he did for Peter and Paul.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading, Peter is freed from jail by an angel. In Second Timothy, with his martyrdom near, Paul trusts that God will rescue him from evil and bring him to heaven. In the Gospel, Jesus tells Peter that he is the rock upon which he will build his Church.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: With confidence and trust, let us come together and ask our heavenly Father to hear our prayers.

- 1) For all of us, the living stones that make up Christ's Church on earth, may the Holy Spirit continue to be our strength and our foundation as we stand in witness to the Gospel, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For world leaders, may they listen to the voices of their people who long for peace and security, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are sick and those who care for them, may they be strengthened and uplifted by the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For our parish community, may we, through the sacrament of reconciliation, find hope and peace in God's mercy, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For those who have died, may they behold God face to face in heaven, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: Heavenly Father, hear and answer the prayers of your faithful gathered here. Through your son Christ our Lord.

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Saturday, June 30, 2018
(Lec. 376)

- 1) Lamentations 2:2,
10-14, 18-19
- 2) Matthew 8:5-17

SATURDAY OF
12TH WEEK
IN ORDINARY TIME
(Opt. Mem.

The First Martyrs
of the Holy Roman Church;
Saturday in honor
of BVM)

FOCUS: Even in lament, we praise God. Let us never refuse to cry out for his mercy and goodness.

While we go through this life it is certain that we will encounter storms, trials, and difficult times – but we never go through them alone. The God who created and loves us is there, waiting for us to ask for his help, and is moved by our faith in him.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

The reading from Lamentations is an act of faith and a poetic cry to God for mercy. In the Gospel, Jesus is amazed at the faith of the centurion, who is a Gentile, and cures his servant. He goes on to perform other miracles.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Let us turn to our heavenly Father with our prayers and petitions.

- 1) For the Church, may she always be a refuge for those in need in times of trouble and heartache, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For governments throughout the world, may they work together to provide safe havens for all those in need, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who have lost hope, may they come to know Jesus' intimate and life-giving presence with them, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For all of us gathered here today, may we be open to experience the transforming and strengthening power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For all who have died, may they abide in the safe harbor of heaven for all eternity, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: All-good and all-powerful Father, please hear and answer these prayers and petitions, for we ask them through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

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SUNDAY, JULY 1, 2018

(Lec. 98)

- 1) Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24
- 2) 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9,13-15
- 3) Mark 5:21-43 or 5:21-24; 35b-43

**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

FOCUS: Approaching Jesus with great faith allows him to be at work in our lives.

Today we hear of the woman who had such faith that she wanted only to touch Jesus' cloak. Because of her faith, her brief encounter with Jesus was transformative in her life. It is her faith, and his divine power, that allowed her to be healed and changed. Jesus wants us to be healed as well – let us approach him with great confidence and faith, knowing that he can transform our lives.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

In the first reading from the Book of Wisdom, we hear that God does not delight in death, but rather loves creation, and made us in his image. In Saint Paul's Letter to the Corinthians, Paul makes clear that we glorify God through our generosity. In Mark's Gospel, we hear about Jesus' encounter with a suffering sick woman who simply wants to touch his cloak. Jesus affirms the woman not only by healing her, but also by telling her that it was indeed her faith that saved her.

UNIVERSAL PRAYER

PRIEST: Father in heaven, you ask us for generosity and faith. We bring our prayers before you with confidence that you hear and answer them.

- 1) For Pope Francis and all the clergy, may they grow in faith, hope and love and lead the faithful closer to God, let us pray to the Lord.
- 2) For peace in our hearts and in our world, may we be free of turmoil as we open ourselves more fully to God's mercy and grace, let us pray to the Lord.
- 3) For those who are sick, may their encounter with Jesus heal their hearts, minds, souls and bodies, let us pray to the Lord.
- 4) For those gathered here and for all we love, may we approach the Lord with confidence and allow him to meet us in our brokenness and heal us, let us pray to the Lord.
- 5) For our beloved dead, may they enjoy the eternal reward of encountering the Lord forever, let us pray to the Lord.
- 6) (Special petition/s)

PRIEST: God our Father, we bring all of our intentions to you this day, trusting that you hear and answer us, through your son, Christ our Lord.

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