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ASCENSION CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If you pull up the weeds
you might uproot the
wheat along with them.
Let the weeds and the
wheat grow together
until harvest."

Matthew 13:29-30

July
19
2020

ASCENSION CATHOLIC SCHOOL

www.ascensioncatholicsch.org

U.S. Department of Education

School of Excellence

Pre-Kindergarten through Eighth Grade

FAITH FORMATION

Religious Education

Pre-K3- Gr. 3 Tuesdays, 2:00-3:30pm

Pre-K3- Gr. 6 Tuesdays, 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.

Pre-K3- Gr. 6 Wednesdays, 4:00 - 5:15 p.m.

Gr. 1-6 Wednesdays, 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Ascension Catholic Life Teen

Sundays 6:45-8:30pm

Edge (Grades 7&8) Wednesdays 6-7:30pm

Ascension Social Concerns: 259-5685

Religious Articles Gift Shop

Open after all weekend Masses

SCHEDULE OF MASSES

Saturday Vigil Mass

4:30 pm

Sunday Masses

7:30 am

9:30 a.m.

11:30 am

5:30 pm

(Contemporary Music)

Weekday Masses

Monday-Friday: 7:30 am

Sat. 9:00 am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:15-4:25

Wednesday: 5:00 pm

(or by appointment)



As a good steward of the Lord's blessings, please remember to consider
your Parish Family or School Endowment in your Last Will and Testament.



- ♦ **Parable of the wheat and weeds: Leaving it to God to judge who is good and who isn't**
- ♦ **An example of flawed goodness**
- ♦ **Three witnesses to goodness**
- ♦ **A prayer for a granddaughter**

In today's Gospel, we hear the story of another farmer who goes to sow good seed in his field. But at nighttime an enemy comes and sows bad seeds. The farmer orders his servants to pluck up the bad seeds or weeds, saying: *"Don't let us wait until harvest time to do the sorting out."*

Commentators tell us that this parable was directed at the Pharisees and all those (perhaps early Church leaders) who needed to separate the law abiders from the law breakers.

Jesus tells his audience that they are not to get into the business of judging who is good and who is bad. God, and God alone, can see into the hearts of people and judge who is and isn't good. Ironically enough, Jesus is considered a "weed" by many of the religious leaders of his day and, in time, they do, in fact, pluck him out because they judge him to be a bad weed in their midst.

In 1Cor 4:5, Paul says that there must be no passing of premature judgment. Leave that until the Lord comes. Paul knows quite well that we can get it terribly wrong about people. After all, he himself gets it terribly wrong about Jesus and his followers for many years. He is very convinced that they are weeds that need to be plucked up. During those years, we can say that Paul (then Saul) is a *weed* in God's eyes. But when God touches his life, he repents and becomes *wheat*. After Paul's conversion, his enemies regard him as weed.

A parable with a stern warning

The parable of the wheat and weeds has two warnings: (1) Those of us who are weeds had better change our

ways before the day of judgment or else we will find ourselves severely judged by God; (2) We should all refrain from judging who is *weed* and who is *wheat*. As the saying goes: *"There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, that it ill behooves any of us to judge the rest of us."* In other words, patches of weeds can be found in the best of gardens. Each of us should occupy ourselves by plucking the weeds out of our own garden that we would have no time to be concerned with the weeds in our neighbor's garden. Such message should be received as a "restraining order" on any of us who tend to be busy judging others.

In the world of American politics, Republicans tend to look upon Democrats as weeds—and vice versa. The truth, of course, is that in the context of Jesus' Gospel, the policies promoted by these political parties are either in harmony with or in conflict with Gospel values. In other words, *both* parties have their *wheat* and *weeds*.

We can apply today's parable to our own spiritual lives. All of us wish we only had flowers (virtues) growing in our garden. But the reality is that, we, like the world of politics and the Church, have weeds (i.e., sin, weakness and darkness) in our soul. The Lord exercises great patience with us hoping that we will get rid of our weeds before he comes to take us. In the meantime, we must learn to live with both wheat and weeds.

There is so much bad in the best of us, and so much good in the worst of us, that it ill behooves any of us to judge the rest of us.

Fr. Tom Green, S.J., in his book *Wheat Among the Weeds*, says that sometimes, God, in his mysterious ways, can use our weeds (vices) just as much, if not more, as our wheat (virtues) to draw us closer to him. I'm sure that many an alcoholic would testify to the truth of this statement. Recall St. Paul's famous "thorn in the flesh." Three times he asks the Lord to remove his "weed," but three times the Lord refuses. It must have been frustrating for the perfectionist Paul to learn to live with his particular weed. But along the way, he obviously sees the wisdom of God's way. In actual fact, he comes to a point where he rejoices in his weaknesses because it is the place where he, *most* of all, experiences God's grace and touch (2Cor 12). Amazing!

God in his amazing way uses our sin and weaknesses to draw us to himself. What a consoling thought. Nevertheless, in no way is this meant to justify an attitude of softness toward patterns of sin in our lives. It is comforting to know that God, in his infinite and mysterious way, can use our sins to draw us to himself and can use us to touch others despite our sins and weaknesses.

Two other parables

The other two parables in today's Gospel form a couplet in that both parables carry the same message. The contrast is between the small and promising beginnings of the Kingdom and its full, triumphant expansion. The tiny mustard seed gradually sprouts into a tree. The small amount of yeast makes the entire loaf rise. Jesus is an itinerant preacher and many scoffed at his efforts. In response, Jesus says: "Look at the mustard seed and the leaven. Just wait and be patient and you'll notice the growth of the Kingdom." Growth in ourselves and in our children is often like the mustard seed. It is slow and hardly noticeable, but it is happening. Small beginnings can produce results far beyond what is apparent. God is the yeast making growth happen slowly, gently and sometimes imperceptibly.

Flawed goodness - Oscar Schindler

Reflecting on today's Gospel, Fr. Flor McCarthy writes:

We have a tendency to divide people into two categories: saints and sinners. However, this division is quite unreal. People are not so easily categorized. Human beings are complex, and we find things that are at odds with one another coexisting in the same human being.

Many people were inspired by the story of Oskar Schindler, the German industrialist, who saved over a thousand Polish Jews from the concentration camps. One of the people he saved said of him, "He was our father, our mother, our only hope. He never let us down." Yet many who saw the film Schindler's List were surprised, if not quite put off, by his vices. He was a man endowed with all the human vices. Hence, he constitutes something of a moral puzzle.

Schindler certainly was no saint. In fact, he was riddled with contradictions. Unfaithful to his wife, he certainly knew how to enjoy the so-called good life—cigars, drink, women. ...He was a Catholic, but in name only. He was also a member of the Nazi party, and his avowed aim was to end the war with "two trunks full of money." He exploited the Jews as a source of cheap labour.

But there was another and better side to him, and in spite of his lapses, he always returned to that better side. There was basic goodness about him. As the war went on he became appalled at the horrors of 'the final solution.' At considerable personal risk (he was twice arrested by the Nazis), he protected his workers from the death camps, thereby showing that he was undoubtedly a courageous man.

But Schindler was no angel. He was a mere human being, an essentially good human being, even though his goodness was seriously flawed. We wonder what he might have achieved had he not been so divided. And the Nazis, for all the horrific things they did, weren't totally evil either. They were not devils incarnate. They too were human beings, though bad human beings.

Some people don't seem to have any understanding of the divided nature of each human being—of the coexistence in every person of good and evil, strength and weakness, loyalty and betrayal.... As soon as they discover a weakness in someone, they write the person off. Their hero must be perfect. As soon as a flaw or a crack appears, they lose faith in him.

But things are not that simple. Human beings are complex—and that includes each of us. We are an extraordinary mixture of good and bad. Moreover, the roots of good are so entwined with the roots of evil that one can't be pulled up without pulling up the other.

We must learn to be patient and lenient, towards ourselves in the first place. We must be hospitable towards all that we are. We must acknowledge the dark side of ourselves, without conceding victory to it. We must struggle on in spite of the weeds, confident that with God's help, the good will finally triumph. It is through struggle that we grow, provided we don't throw the towel in.

And we must then be lenient towards others. Even though we see only part of a person's life, we tend to rush to judgement. We are too quick to classify people, and once we have classified them as evil, for them there is no redemption. Only God has the right and the knowledge to judge, yet God is patient and tolerant.

By concentrating on people's vices, we become blind to their virtues. We are too eager to voice our criticisms, but reluctant to give a single word of encouragement, and in this way we bar every road to improvement. Therefore, let us not knock others. Let us seek the good in everyone, reveal it, bring it out.

A person will be judged, not by a single act or stage in his life, but by his whole life. That is why judgement can't come until the end. A man may make a great mistake, but by the grace of God redeem himself.

"Attempts to hide the streakiness of our holy people, though sometimes successful, are always dishonest" (Anthony de Mello).

[Permission was granted by Dominican Publications
www.dominicanpublications.com—New Sunday & Holy Day
Liturgies by Fr. Flor McCarthy.]

THREE CHRISTIAN WITNESSES

Pope Leo XIII - Pope (1810-1903)

On February 20, 1878, Vincenzo Pecci, the 68-year-old archbishop of Perugia, was elected to succeed the long-reigning Pope Pius IX. Pius had done more than any other pope in modern times to enhance the image and power of the papacy. But having defined the mission of the Church largely in terms of negative opposition to the modern age, he left little opening for constructive engagement with issues of the day. The new pope, who took the name Leo XIII, was keen to overcome this defensive posture.

Without doubt, Leo's most significant contribution was in his pronouncements in the social realm. With his encyclical *Rerum Novarum* (1891), he inaugurated the modern era of Catholic social teaching. Leo was the first pope to address the problems associated with the rise of industrial capitalism and to declare the sympathies of the Church with the working class.

While rejecting socialism, Leo's encyclical implied a strong critique of unbridled capitalism. Most of all, it declared the Church's vital interest in the social and material, as well as spiritual, welfare of human beings. It articulated a commitment to principles of social justice, the dignity of labor, and defense of the poor—a commitment that would undergo further elaboration in the subsequent century of Catholic social teaching.

Pope Leo died on *July 20, 1903*, at the age of 93.

"I want to see the church so far forward that my successor will not be able to turn back."

-Pope Leo XIII

[Robert Ellsberg, *Blessed Among Us: Day By Day with Saintly Witnesses, a Give Us This Day* book (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016), page 415. Used with permission.]

Lawrence Jenco - Priest (1934-1996)

In 1985, Fr. Lawrence Jenco, a Servite priest from Illinois and the director of Catholic Relief Services in Lebanon, was taken hostage in Beirut by a Shiite group called Islamic Holy War. He would spend 564 days in captivity before his release and return to the United States.

Days of unrelenting boredom—often blindfolded, locked in a closet, or handcuffed to a radiator—were interspersed with bursts of terror. During transport from one hiding place to another, he was bound in tape from head to toe or wrapped with explosives. He endured beatings and several times expected execution.

Nevertheless, he sustained himself with prayer, reciting a homemade rosary, or celebrating a clandestine Mass—sometimes in the company of fellow American hostages. The night before he was released, one of the guards asked him if he could forgive his captors. Jenco realized his faith was being put to the test. While he would not forget his treatment, he chose the way of forgiveness in place of vindictiveness.

After his release, Jenco remained remarkably free of bitterness, sharing a message of peace and reconciliation. (He was more disturbed to learn that his freedom had been purchased by the sale of arms to Iran.) He served as a campus minister at the University of Southern California and died of cancer on *July 19, 1996*.

"God, give me a new heart and a new spirit. You have asked me to love unconditionally. May I forgive as you have asked me to forgive, unconditionally. Then you will be my God and I will be your son."

-A prayer by Fr. Lawrence Jenco, composed the night of his release

[Robert Ellsberg, *Blessed Among Us: Day By Day with Saintly Witnesses, a Give Us This Day* book (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016), page 417. Used with permission.]

Albert Luthuli - Zulu Chief, Nobel Laureate (1898-1967)

Albert Luthuli, a member of the Zulu tribe, was raised in a Christian mission reserve in Natal, South Africa. Eventually, he was elected chief in the village of Groutville, an office that enabled him to promote the rights of his poor and oppressed people. To the white-minority government, chiefs were regarded as useful intermediaries in their management and control of the black masses. Luthuli, however, had come to believe the interests of his people could best be served by the overthrow of apartheid. After he joined the African National Congress, the government "dismissed" him as chief. This only freed him for a more active role in the antiapartheid struggle, and he became the national leader of the ANC.

As a result of his activities, he was repeatedly arrested, "banned," and confined to house arrest. In 1955 he was arrested, along with the ANC leadership, and charged with high treason. He was eventually freed and helped bring the case against apartheid to the world. In 1960 he was awarded the Nobel Peace prize.

Throughout his life, Luthuli held to a deep Christian faith. He disagreed with those activists who dismissed Christianity as the religion of the oppressor. But he challenged the Church to “be *with* the people *in* their lives.” Speaking for himself, he said, “I am in Congress precisely *because* I am a Christian.”

Albert Luthuli died on *July 21, 1967*.

“It is inevitable that in working for Freedom, some individuals and some families must take the lead and suffer: The Road to Freedom is via the CROSS.”

-Albert Luthuli

[Robert Ellsberg, *Blessed Among Us: Day By Day with Saintly Witnesses, a Give Us This Day* book (Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press, 2016), page 419. Used with permission.]

A Prayer for My Granddaughter

Aideen Madden shares a prayer for her grandchild. (The feast of Joachim and Anne, the parents of Mary, is celebrated on *July 25*.)

Hannah, you are as yet too young to read
and understand my prayer for you.
That day may sometime in the future come
when your mother, taking from some box
of souvenirs which she may own, my
prayer – may hand it as my gift to you.

I send you no beautiful card, Hannah,
but the message of a grandmother’s love
and care and prayers for you;
I send you words of thanks for your
trusting smiles;
I thank you for your Easter visit
so full of joy.

I have hopes and wishes for you, Hannah.
May you grow up to be a kind, generous
and loving person;
(I sense already that your presence
is making the world a better place.)
May you be ambitious for the higher gifts
for those that lie within;
May you dance and sing often,
dear granddaughter;
May you enjoy swimming and tennis;
May you read good literature;

May you see beautiful scenery,
art galleries, great cities;
May you have a happy home and remain
close to it in spirit wherever you go.

May you be a true friend, granddaughter;
May you be blessed with loyal
life-long friends;
May you endure suffering with
dignity and courage;
May you remember me with love.

I love you, Hannah Grace –
May God go with you on life’s journey;
May his mother wrap her mantle
around you.

(Copyright © 2018 “A Prayer for my Granddaughter” by Aideen Madden, The Sacred Heart Messenger Magazine, Messenger Publications, Dublin, Ireland, Used with permission. All rights reserved.)

P.S. If you think others may be blessed by reading any part of this column, I hope you will share it with them. Those of you who work might consider leaving the bulletin in a place that may lead to a faith conversion.

**Check out Vaticano on EWTN
Sundays at 1:30am**



Have a blessed week,

Le Saran

tobin2@live.com



Next Sunday's Readings July 26, 2020 A

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1Kings 3:5, 7-12

Psalms 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-130

Romans 8:28-30

Matthew 13:44-52

**What about you being described as the
"pearl of great price"?**

**What are the gifts that are uncovered
by being related to each other
as members of the same community?**

Summer 2020

LIFE TEEN

WE ARE A HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH MINISTRY THAT LEADS TEENAGERS INTO A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS AND HIS CHURCH

BEACH PARTY

JULY 15, 7-8:30 PM HIGH TOWER BEACH-SATELLITE BEACH. JOIN US FOR ICE CREAM & A SAND CASTLE BUILDING COMPETITION. BRING YOUR OWN SAND BUCKET (IF YOU HAVE ONE). SIGNED FORMS REQUIRED.

GIRLS/GUYS Groups

JOIN US SUNDAY EVENINGS @7:30 PM AS WE RENEW OURSELVES IN CHRIST WITHIN OUR DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS. AT THE MOMENT BOTH GROUPS ARE MEETING ON ZOOM BUT MAY BEGIN MEETING IN PERSON AFTER JULY 15TH PER DIOCESAN REGULATIONS.

SUMMIT

TUESDAY NIGHTS @7 TEENS GATHER TOGETHER TO READ SCRIPTURE AND DIVE INTO THEIR FAITH. IF YOU ARE WANTING TO BUILD COMMUNITY IN AN ENVIRONMENT MADE FOR YOU, JULY 22ND BACK IN YOUTH RM. NO MEETING JULY 14TH.



CARA GIULIANO & ANNA NAGY
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YOUTH MINISTRY



Ascension Catholic Life Teen

Life Teen and Edge

Our Life Teen and Edge programs have been meeting virtually for the past few months and will be ending for the summer.

Keep an eye on our Facebook/Instagram for additional information and special virtual events at Ascension Catholic Teens.

Life Teen-High School Teens

Summit Bible Study on Zoom every Tuesday at 7:00pm until we can meet again in person. All graduated 8th graders-graduated seniors are welcome!

Edge - 7th and 8th Grade Teens

Edge: Summit Bible Study coming soon for all those entering 7th & 8th grade!

Questions about Youth Ministry?
Contact Cara Giuliano, Director of Youth Ministry, or Anna Nagy, Associate Youth Minister, EDGE program at
ascensioncatholicteens@gmail.com

See Summer 2020 Information



Ascension Catholic School Mission Statement

Ascension Catholic School is committed to maintaining a Catholic Community of companions on the journey toward academic excellence, global service and lifelong learning. We live this out by showing respect to all people, by being responsible for our actions, by showing reverence, and by making right choices.

Pray The Rosary With Your Parish Family!



Join Father Eamon every Sunday night at 7:00 pm.

This Sunday we will pray the Sorrowful Mysteries for millions of people who are refugees.
We will gather virtually, quiet ourselves, and pray the rosary
to prepare for the busy-ness of the week ahead.

Join Father Eamon by phone, computer or tablet via our parish website:
<https://www.ascensioncatholic.net/>. Click on Ascension Catholic Media
or Parish Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ACCMelbourne>.
Together we will honor Jesus and Our Blessed Mother in prayer.

Come Zoom With Us!!!

Wednesday, July 22, at 7:00 pm

join us for a

Zoom Small Christian Community

- ◆ We will proclaim the Sunday readings,
- ◆ read Father Eamon's commentaries for understanding,
- ◆ and reflect on God's Word in our lives – in this moment.
- ◆ We will virtually break into small groups to discuss and share faith.

Already in an SCC? Invite your whole group!

Father Eamon will be our special guest visiting each group!

Call or email today for your password!

Contact ldodson@ascensioncatholic.org or 321-254-1595 ext.3067.

NEED HELP CONNECTING TO ZOOM?

We will be available to help from 6:30 to 7:00pm,

Call 321-626-1842 and we will assist.

Want to just see what it's like?

Join Father Eamon by phone, computer or tablet via our parish website:
<https://www.ascensioncatholic.net/>. Click on Ascension Catholic Media
or Parish Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ACCMelbourne>.



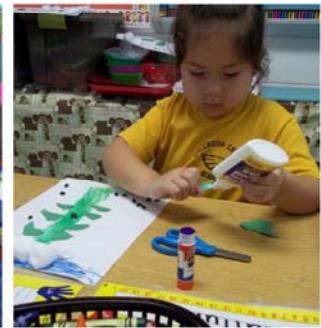
**Space is
limited!**



**ASCENSION CATHOLIC
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VPK Now Enrolling

**FOR THE 2020-2021
SCHOOL YEAR!**



Why Ascension VPK?

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

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† Degreed and certified teachers

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† Wrap around and extended care available



Ascension Catholic School

**3000 North Harbor City Blvd
Melbourne, Florida 32935**

**For more information contact
info@ascensioncatholicsch.org**

Serving students in PreK 3 - 8th Grade | Visit www.ascensioncatholicsch.org for more information



We hope you had fun with

Kevin & Natalie went through Bolt with their sister Sam & cousin Ansley! We had so much fun watching it!



We are enjoying VBS. This way is so fun and the whole family can be involved which is so nice.



**Due to popular request,
we'll keep the links up until July 24th!
Be sure to share pictures of your family's fun too!**

**www.ascensioncatholic.net >
Faith Formation > V.B.S.**



GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

My name is **Katherine Laird** and I am working towards earning my Girl Scout Gold Award!

I am creating a **Life Skills Learning Library** in the Ascension School Library encouraging students to master important life skills, including: civics, recycling, effective listening skills, healthy living, budgeting, time management, navigating without electronics, and basic first aid. I would love to include the parish family in this project!

If you have any books or resources that teach these subjects, are appropriate for grades K-8, and are 15 years old or newer, please contact me at:

katherine.laird@melbournecc.org

or at 321-200-3378. (If I do not answer, be sure to leave a message. I will return your call as soon as I can.)

Thank you for helping me to make this project a success!

Fair Trade Coffees, Teas, Olive Oil and a few Chocolate Bars!

If you are interested in purchasing these items, call Barb Warwick at 321-242-2036.

I can safely deliver them to your home. I am not sure if I will be able to order items at this time. Thank you for supporting Fair Trade farmers!



Ascension Prayer Shawl Ministry

It's easier to pray when
you are wrapped in Love!

While most of our parish ministries have been shut down during this pandemic, our **Prayer Shawl Ministry** members have continued to knit and crochet for those in need. We have prayer squares and prayer shawls available for anyone who would like one or knows someone who could benefit from one. Please call Carol at 330-806-8928 and we will get you what you need.

ROSARY-MAKING MINISTRY

We are unable to hold meetings right now due to the pandemic but we need to continue making rosaries and not get discouraged. I would like for all current members of the Rosary Ministry to continue making rosaries. When you have rosaries made, please contact me at (321) 537-9168 or michidavis@cfl.rr.com so we can arrange a time and place to meet to give me the rosaries. If any other parishioners want to find out more about this ministry, you are welcome to contact me, Michi Davis, at the above telephone number or email address.



Braver Angels: Reuniting America Documentary Screening

What: It all began in southwest Ohio, where Trump voters and Clinton voters gathered in our Red/Blue workshops in the weeks and months after the 2016 election. Now, the second workshop and its aftermath have been captured in *Braver Angels: Reuniting America*, a one-hour documentary film by Emmy-winning director Jim Brown and produced by Peter Yarrow of the legendary Peter, Paul, and Mary trio.

Braver Angels: Reuniting America shows 8 Democratic-leaning voters and 7 Republican-leaning voters moving through a Braver Angels signature Red/Blue workshop, from initial skepticism to more profound understanding and empathy. You'll get an inside look at how a Democratic voter went from threatening to cut off relationships with Trump voters to becoming dear friends with one—and how a Republican voter moved from disdaining progressives to taking co-leadership with one in a movement that now spans the country.

Who can participate? Anyone interested in learning more about Braver Angels and wishing to improve the level of conversations with those who hold opposing views.

When: Tuesday, July 28, 2020, 7:00–8:30 pm

Where: Grab your popcorn in the comfort of your own home and join us via Zoom Cloud Meetings

Interested? Register at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcuc-GtpzluEtY3yb2QWm7bre3_mCgrVxO0
or contact Paul Witte at pwitte@braverangels.org or 321-243-0161 for additional information.

About Braver Angels:

Launched in 2016, Braver Angels is a bipartisan citizen's movement to unify our divided nation. By bringing red and blue Americans together into a working alliance, we're building new ways to talk to one another, participate together in public life, and influence the direction of our nation.

We are not enemies, but friends. We must not be enemies. Though passion may have strained, it must not break our bonds of affection. The mystic chords of memory will swell when again touched, as surely they will be, by the better angels of our nature.

—Abraham Lincoln, 1861 - First Inaugural address

For more information about Braver Angels: www.braverangels.org



Thank You, Ascension

When I spoke at Mass 3 weeks ago, I received an overwhelming outpouring of support from our parishioners at Ascension. Thank you so much for your hospitality toward me and all missionaries. I am so blessed to call Ascension my home and to have this parish join me in this mission to bring Jesus Christ to the college campus. As First Communions continue to happen, I wanted to share this photo of me and Fr. Eamon at my First Communion in 2004! Ascension truly fostered my faith and growing up here allowed the Lord to shape my heart in a way that has led me to give my life fully to Him. Thank you again for all your prayers and support!

Carina Marchetti



Good Seeds

Today Jesus continues to speak to his followers using parables. What a rich treasure we are given today in three parables about the kingdom of heaven! The kingdom is likened to a man sowing good seed in his field, a mustard seed, and yeast mixed with flours. As they did last week, today the disciples press Jesus for an interpretation of one of the parables—the parable of the man sowing good seed. Let us think that these parables are simply amusing little anecdotes, Jesus' interpretation should be seen for what it is—a warning. Wailing and grinding of teeth in a fiery furnace await those who are children of the evil one. This parable points to the struggle for today's believer. Sometimes, through sin, we sow weeds and prevent the love of Christ from blossoming. Let today's Gospel help put us back on track. Let us recommit ourselves to preparing for the last days, the harvest, by blossoming as the good seeds we were created in love to be.





Wedding Anniversaries

Alfred & Cecilia Sanchez	62 years	July 19
Walter & Diana Bandish	58 years	July 21
John & Charlene Wood	56 years	July 18
Stan & Carolyn Schmelzer	56 years	July 25
Alfred & Iris Annas	54 years	July 23



Greg Grasso, Betty Elko, Claire Grasso, Mia Moore, Carmelia Navarretta, Peggy McKelvey, Cathi Hurd, Ted Stoner, Betsy Coradine, CVNS, Joan Barco, Rose Struzinski, Mary Laird, John Kelly, Jim Eisenmann, Laurie Chatman, Marge Pearsall, Terri Sills, K.J. Baker, Richard Furstenburg, Amanda Oudwa, Janice Roberson, Robert Hinnant, Mary Ellen Ritter, Maureen Kurtz, Theo Reaves, Leo Shumaker, Mary Ann Shumaker, Shirley Mattai, John DeStefon, Thomas Horan, Margie Boozer, Bill Porzio, Wayne Fogel, Anthony Tynes, John Hemel, John Thorstad, Joan Cantwell, Tim Durkin, Art Coridine, Steve Weinhold, Leslie Selage, Jonah Powers, Werner Schulz, Justine Miller, Cosanne Mistretta, Elizabeth Mengel, Patrick Kenny, AJ Johnson, Marion Sampieri, Ron St. Clair, Fr. Mike DiRenzo, Elisa Fernandez, Eric Farrell, Frank Cavaliere, Jim Thorstad, Traci Wood, Frances Moberly, Joey Tauper, James Shifflett, Sarah Morawa, James Price, John Brower, John Fox, John Loft, Susan Costner, Adrienne Matteucci, Nancy Grimaldi, Catherine DeLorenzo, Karen Papp, Jerry Golson, Eugene Parsons, Rewa Donley, Donna Dillard

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Pray for our Armed Forces Personnel here & overseas

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Mass Intentions For The Week



**Week beginning Monday, July 20, 2020
and ending Sunday, July 26, 2020**

Mon. 7:30 am	† Robert Gann
	† Mike Carney
Tues 7:30am	Birthday Intention for Marie Duong
Wed 7:30am	† John Heaphy
	† Beverly Morrif
Thur. 7:30am	† Donald & Lanora Penner
	† Elizabeth (Betty) Herrman
Fri. 7:30am	† Lenore Penner
	† Eleanor Amicucci
Sat. 9:00am	† Chuck Mathey
	† Cornelia Yorio
4:30pm	† Anthony Nguyen
	† Eleanor Amicucci
Sun. 7:30 am	† James Hayes
	† Daniel Murphy
9:30 am	People of the Parish
11:30 am	† Rosalie Colon
	† Gary Ford
5:30pm	† Leonor Acosta
	† Thomas Cook

WORDS AND WEEDS

**A man of words and not of deed
is like a garden full of weeds.**

-Anonymous nursery rhyme

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By the dawn of the fourteenth century, the sacrament of confirmation was ripe for a rescue, since vast numbers of the faithful never received it, and when it was celebrated, it was done so in isolation from baptism and Eucharist. A bishop named William Durandus set out to reclaim this liturgy, but he had a creative touch and added some things into the mix that had never been thought of before. One was a slap. Oddly, he replaced the kiss of peace at the end of confirmation with a slap on the cheek that endured to modern times. This “wake-up call” was related in his imagination to a custom in the military, wherein ceremonies of knighthood and investiture involved a symbolic wound as a sign of willingness to suffer.

Within every congregation today, there are people who have memories of fretting through their confirmation liturgies, anxious to know how enthusiastic a slap the bishop would bestow. Durandus loved symbolism and had a reason for every ritual and practice, but his creative spin on the celebration shows how sadly adrift confirmation was from its anchorage in baptism. How far off-course from its home port of the Eucharistic community.

- Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch

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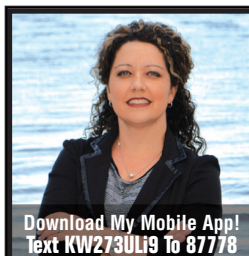
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