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Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 20, 2019

Nations shall behold your vindication, and all the kings your glory.— *Isaiah 62:2*

A VISIBLE GOD

We find it difficult to convey ideas to people unless we can actually show them something, demonstrate what we mean. God, who is invisible and truly beyond human understanding, apparently faces the same difficulty. People want to *see*, not just listen to an idea. So God gave us Jesus Christ, God made visible in the world.

During these past weeks we have seen how Jesus was revealed as an infant to the shepherds and the magi, and then began his adult “public life” at his baptism by John. Today’s Gospel reading tells us of his “first sign,” providing wine for the wedding guests at Cana.

Of course, even Jesus, God made visible, was not always easily understood in his own day, nor is he even now. So we have to ponder what we see: the poverty and simplicity of his birth, his humility and openness before John the Baptist, his kindness and compassion toward people in their ordinary problems, such as running short of wine at a wedding. Yet it is in coming to know Jesus that we come to know God.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

The cause of church unity is commended to Christians for prayer and action every year around this time. This week is not so much to focus on the many divisions within the Christian family, but on bonds of faith and mission. Even though Christians have always shown an inclination to fracture, spin off, and mutate into new expressions, recent history shows some new points of convergence and agreement. Catholics are more firmly rooted in the word of God, for example, and many Protestants are more likely to celebrate Communion than in years past. Some denominations are merging and pooling resources, and people from various traditions are collaborating on projects.

The call of this week is to be mindful of the diversity of our traditions and customs while treasuring what we hold in common. The old advice to “lighten up” is good medicine, because sometimes our differences are delightful and amusing. If someone says, “Let us pray,” a Catholic might close the eyes, bow the head and fold hands; a Protestant reach out and clasp hands with the person in the next chair; and someone belonging to an Orthodox tradition might stand up with eyes wide open. Each has taken a different path, but the goal is always the same. This is a week not for focusing on the well-worn paths of divergence, but for mutual delight in a common goal.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — As a bridegroom rejoices in his bride, so God rejoices in the chosen ones (Isaiah 62:1-5).

Psalm — Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the nations (Psalm 96).

Second Reading — All the varied gifts in the Christian community are from one Spirit (1 Corinthians 12:4-11).

Gospel — Rejoicing at a wedding celebration in Cana, Jesus replenishes the wine supply (John 2:1-11).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

- Monday: Heb 5:1-10; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 2:18-22
 Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20; Ps 111:1-2, 4-5, 9, 10c;
 Mk 2:23-28, or any of a number of readings for the Day of Prayer
 Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17; Ps 110:1-4; Mk 3:1-6
 Thursday: Heb 7:25 — 8:6; Ps 40:7-10, 17; Mk 3:7-12
 Friday: Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Ps 117:1bc, 2; Mk 16:15-18
 Saturday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 47:2-3, 6-9 or Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10; Mk 3:20-21
 Sunday: Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; Ps 19:8-10, 15; 1 Cor 12:12-30 [12-14, 27]; Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Marriage and Life After Death

Father Anthony Onyekwe will start classes on Thursday, January 31st, at 6:00 pm.

There are still a few books left if you would like to purchase one for \$25.00.

There is a second collection January 27th for the Church in Latin America



SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Monday: St. Agnes; Martin Luther King Jr. Day
 Tuesday: Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children; World Youth Day
 Wednesday: St. Vincent; St. Marianne Cope
 Thursday: St. Francis de Sales
 Friday: The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle; Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends;
 Saturday: Ss. Timothy and Titus

Church council meeting will be Wednesday Feb. 6th after Mass.

The office will be closed on Jan 21st in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King day

LOOKING GOOD

The best mirror is a friend’s eyes.

Jan.27th

Bill

EUCCHARISTIC MINSTER

Jim/Tom

USHERS

Michael/Jesus

SERVERS

Francisco

OFFERTORY

1/13/2019
 BUDGET \$1249.00
 ACTUAL \$1220.00
 -\$29.00

St. Regina’s Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Choir Director: Susan Slattery

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Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Connie Galvan,
 Fr Robert Ponticello , Don Reed ,
 Emanel Milligan, Charley Therrell,
 Leonard Humble , Louis Humble Sr.
 ,Dolores Mullins , Martha Jo Neuenschwander,
 Paul Jelonek ,David Korabek