



Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.

— *Romans 12:2*

THE CROSS OF JESUS

The perception of a cross changed dramatically after Jesus' crucifixion. Before that event, death on a cross was not only horrible, it was degrading. It was a penalty reserved only for the most wretched of criminals. The word "glory" would not have found its way into the same sentence containing the word "cross." But all that changed with Jesus. Over time, believers began to venerate and honor the cross. They painted, sculpted, and carved images of it. Many lost their own lives for their association with it. Today our reverence for and relationship with the cross recalls little of the contempt originally associated with it. As it has been through the ages, it is our perception of the cross that determines how we follow Jesus.

WEEKLY OFFERING

Aug 23rd

BUDGET \$1351.00

\$452.00

B&M

\$410.00

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — The name of the LORD has become like fire burning in Jeremiah's heart (Jeremiah 20:7-9).

Psalm — My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God (Psalm 63).

Second Reading — Be transformed; renew your mind; discern what is good (Romans 12:1-2).

Gospel — Those who lose their lives for Jesus' sake will find them (Matthew 16:21-27).

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We know for certain that the sacrament of penance was a fairly rare event in the life of a Christian in the early centuries, but that everyone had a duty to admit their sins and ask forgiveness before giving thanks in the Sunday Eucharist and receiving Christ's Body and Blood at the table. Everyone today is familiar with this same ancient pattern. We also know about Lent and its journey of renewal, and even those who are returning from summer vacations may speak of a fresh perspective on life and a resolve to do better. Saint Augustine spoke of a third kind of penance, beyond the turning of the catechumens to a different life, beyond the normal everyday fresh starts, to a form that is severe and serious. Certain sins broke faith with the community: the sinners were obliged to give their names to the bishop and were barred from participation in the Eucharist. Augustine mentioned sacrilege, adultery, and murder as the culprits, great wounds for the perpetrator, wounds that were serious, deadly, mortal. Penance was such a frightening prospect that many people delayed their baptism for fear that they would sin, a practice with which Augustine was well acquainted. Pastoral need would eventually call the church to reconsider its practice.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Tuesday: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation

Thursday: St. Gregory the Great

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: First Saturday; Blessed Virgin Mary

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Cor 2:1-5; Ps 119:97-102; Lk 4:16-30
 Tuesday: 1 Cor 2:10b-16; Ps 145:8-14; Lk 4:31-37
 Wednesday: 1 Cor 3:1-9; Ps 33:12-15, 20-21; Lk 4:38-44
 Thursday: 1 Cor 3:18-23; Ps 24:1 bc-4ab, 5-6; Lk 5:1-11
 Friday: 1 Cor 4:1-5; Ps 37:3-6, 27-28, 39-40; Lk 5:33-39
 Saturday: 1 Cor 4:6b-15; Ps 145:17-21; Lk 6:1-5
 Sunday: Ez 33:7-9; Ps 95:1-2, 6-9; Rom 13:8-10; Mt 18:15-20

SEPT. 6th 2020

LECTOR Peggy

Special Collection

Catholic University of America

September 6th

Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
 Emanel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
 Martha Jo Neuenschwander , Judy Hendricks
 James and Ann Ferebee , Bill Milligan

St. Regina's Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

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