



Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 16, 2020

What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard, and what has not entered the human heart, what God has prepared for those who love him, this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.

“If you choose you can keep the commandments,” Sirach tells us. God “has set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand” (Sirach 15:15, 16). This is a great mystery: God does not control us so completely that we cannot choose our own path. We have certain boundaries, of course, but no one but we can choose our way within those boundaries.

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

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

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

By the early 1950s some scholars were calling for the restoration of Communion of the faithful on Good Friday, since by then only a priest received, consuming the host from the Holy Thursday repository. In 1955 the new Good Friday liturgy was timed to begin at three o’clock everywhere, and included the option of Holy Communion, but without the Precious Blood that had originally been part of the liturgy. Today, there is increasing debate among theologians. Some feel that it would be better to fast from the Eucharist on Good Friday, focusing on the mystery of the cross and highlighting the Easter Communion. Others say that this Communion infuses the sadness of the day with awareness of Christ’s victory. It is not a day of mourning, of course, and the Passion according to John grounds the liturgy in a sense of Christ’s victory over death and the triumph of the cross. The tradition is rich and varied, and we are still in the early stages of recovering an ancient way of doing things.

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — God allows us to make choices, but we are not to choose injustice or sinfulness (Sirach 15:15-20).

Psalm — Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord! (Psalm 119).

Second Reading — God’s wisdom is mysterious and hidden (1 Corinthians 2:6-10).

Gospel — Jesus has come not to abolish but to fulfill the law and the prophets (Matthew 5:17-37 [20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37]).

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Sunday: Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
- Monday: The Seven Holy Founders of the Servite Order; Presidents’ Day
- Friday: St. Peter Damian
- Saturday: The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle; Washington’s Birthday

Special Collection Ash Wednesday
Church in Central & Eastern Europe
February 26h

This weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Annal Catholic Appeal. Our parish goal is \$5000.00. Please complete your pledge card, indicating your gift or pledge to our diocesan church. If you do not have a card, please fill out a commitment card located in the front of the church. It is important for all of us to participate in order to support our diocesan church.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

- Monday :Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13
- Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a; 14-15, 18; Mk 8:14-21
- Wednesday :Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-23
- Thursday :Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33
- Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34-36
- Saturday:1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-18
- Sunday Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

BAD COMPANY

People who live solely for themselves are eventually corrupted by their own company.

The monthly luncheon will be March 1st . Hosts will be Tom and Peggy Hauck and Pam Bowling

The office will be closed Monday Feb 17th for Presidents day

	Feb 23rd
Lector	Ann
E/M	Peggy/Jim
Usher	Diane/Sal
Server	Ty

Offertory 2/9/2020
BUDGET \$1351.00
ACTUAL \$
\$1584.00
+\$233.00

St. Regina’s Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

DRE: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager : Jim Molitor

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Remember In Prayer

Michaëlle Box, Fr Robert Ponticello ,
 Emanel Milligan, Leonard Humble ,
 Louis Humble Sr. , Joy Williams,
 Martha Jo Neuenschwander ,
 Mary Taylor