

### St. Regina's Church Staff

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## Remember In Prayer

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# Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Times July 21, 2024

#### THE DAYS ARE COMING

Separation, isolation, and hostility are terrible things. We are, sadly, too familiar with all of them in our modern life, whether we look at world events or events in our own neighborhoods and families. All three readings today refer to these same sad human conditions.

The prophet Jeremiah describes world conditions as if the people of his time were sheep who had been scattered by poor leadership and corrupt shepherds. But "the days are coming," he assures us (Jeremiah 23:5), when a new shepherd, a just king, will come. We meet that king in the second reading and the Gospel. Paul reminds us in the Letter to the Ephesians that all divisions can now cease in Christ Jesus, who has brought us together through his blood. In Mark's Gospel we see Jesus himself, looking with pity on those searching for him as if they were sheep without a shepherd.

#### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

"Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while" must have been chosen for this summer season by a committee eager for a vacation. For the apostles, the promise of rest was foiled by the needs of the people who discovered their hideaway and pressed them into ministry. Some people do indeed use their vacation for ministry and mission, giving an intensity of service otherwise not possible. For most of us, vacation is a time when we can grow more aware of God's plan, and can renew the bonds of love with family and friends in times of play and leisure.

The disciples learn today that there is no place so out of the way that the life of worship and ministry is disengaged. Giving yourself to summer worship will enrich you, delight you, and give you a sense of the word of God's progress in your heart. In today's world, summer is the time when we are most acutely aware of the beauty of the world. Gratitude and wonder are fertile soils for God's word to take root and prosper. Welcome the visitor today, and resolve that when you travel, you will be faithful to Sunday worship.

#### **MISSION**

God has created me to do some definite service. God has committed some work to me which has not been committed to another. I have a mission.

#### **TODAY'S READINGS**

First Reading — I shall gather the remnant of my flock and bring them back to their meadow (Jeremiah 23:1-6).

**Psalm** — The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want (Psalm 23).

**Second Reading** — You who were once far off have become near by the blood of Christ (Ephesians 2:13-18).

**Gospel** — When Jesus saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he began to teach them many things (Mark 6:30-34).

#### FEAST OF FAITH

#### **The Prayer Over the Offerings**

In the liturgy of the 1570 Missal, this prayer was called the "secret" prayer. It was "secret" not because its content was mysterious, but because it was prayed in silence by the priest, who only recited the conclusion aloud: . . . per omnia saecula saeculorum. With the reforms of the Second Vatican Council, we again hear these rich prayers spoken aloud. They remind us to prepare ourselves for what is to happen in the Eucharistic Prayer, for it is not only the bread and wine that will be transformed.

The Prayer Over the Offerings is a prayer for transformation, an expression, in a few words, of all that we hope that the liturgy will accomplish in our lives. We ask God to accept the gifts we present, and to change us even as God hallows the bread and wine. As we listen carefully to the Prayer Over the Offerings, we are reminded of what it is that we seek in the Eucharist: to be made holy; to be drawn closer to God; to come to eternal joy, unity, peace, and salvation.

Monday: Ex 14:5-18; Ex 15:1bc-6; Mt 12:38-42

Tuesday: Ex 14:21 — 15:1; Ex 15:8-10, 12, 17;

Mt 12:46-50

Wednesday: Ex 16:1-5, 9-15; Ps 78:18-19, 23-28;

Mt 13:1-9

Thursday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17; Ps 63:2-6, 8-9;

Jn 20:1-2, 11-18

Friday: Ex 20:1-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 13:18-23

Saturday: Ex 24:3-8; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15;

Mt 13:24-30

Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:42-44; Ps 145:10-11, 15-18;

Eph 4:1-6 Jn 6:1-15

# JULY 2024

JULY 7TH

LECTOR MARY

SERVERS JESUS

COUNTER TOM & BEVERLY

JULY 14<sup>TH</sup>

LECTOR MARK

SERVER CARLOS & MAX

COUNTER MARY & ANN F

JULY 21ST

LECTOR PEGGY

SERVERS JESUS

COUNTER TOM & BEVERLY

JULY 28<sup>TH</sup>

LECTOR BEVERLY

SERVER CARLOS & MAX

COUNTER MARY & ANN

# SUNDAY COLLECTION 7-14-2024 \$686.00 B&M \$40.00

The time for the yard sale is fast approaching please bring your items to the church.

