



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Times

August 25, 2024

DECISIONS

There is an axiom that states, “Not to decide is to decide.” This saying was popular in the turbulent times of the Vietnam War. It urged us not to allow others to answer the moral questions raised by our nation’s involvement in that terrible conflict, but to decide for ourselves. Making such choices is never easy. Avoiding them is common. Jesus, for his part, was not only a gallant risk-taker, but a clear decision-maker. As he pursued the mission to which the Father called him, he continually decided for us and for the Father. He worked hard to lay out a scenario that would enable others to make similar choices. Never did he make decisions for others or force others into decisions, even decisions that had eternal ramifications. Jesus is inviting us to make such decisions today. We won’t be absolutely sure. What is sure, however, is the command that issues from God’s word: Take the risk. Decide!

FEAST OF FAITH

Come, Spirit!

The presider at the Eucharist can choose from among a number of different Eucharistic Prayers, all of which follow a similar pattern. Almost always, they begin with an *epiclesis*, a Greek word that means “invocation upon” or “calling over here.” At this moment in the prayer, the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts of bread and wine that we have brought to the altar: “Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son” (Eucharistic Prayer III). The words of the prayer are accompanied by the ritual gesture of the laying on of hands, the ancient sign of the gift of the Spirit, which is also used in most sacramental celebrations, from the rite of confirmation to the ordination of deacons, priests, and bishops. Liturgists sometimes call this first *epiclesis* the *epiclesis* of consecration. Later in the Eucharistic Prayer, there will be another *epiclesis*, the *epiclesis* of communion, as the priest asks that the Holy Spirit be sent upon us to transform us. “Grant that we, who are nourished by his body and blood, may be filled with his Holy Spirit, and become one body, one spirit in Christ” (Eucharistic Prayer III).

The reforms of the Second Vatican Council enriched our liturgy with additional Eucharistic Prayers, including both ancient texts (Eucharistic Prayer II is based on the most ancient of all existing Eucharistic Prayers) and new compositions.

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St. Regina’s Church Staff

Pastor: Fr. ANTHONY ONYEKWE

Secretary: Patricia Humble

Dre: Christina Hammond

Facilities Manager: Jim Molitor

Web Page: saintreginacatholicchurch.org

Remember In Prayer

Fr Robert Ponticello , Martha Jo ,
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TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

Psalm — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

Second Reading — Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).

Gospel — Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps 149:1b-6a, 9b;
 Mt 23:13-22

Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18;
 Jn 1:45-51

Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17;
 Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12;
 Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mt 25:14-30

Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8; Ps 15:2-5; Jas 1:17-18,
 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
 21b-22, 27; Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Get ready to charge your energy! CPR classes are coming to St Andrew. Sign –up sheet in the front

Parish Picnic will be September 7th, starting at 4:00, Mass at 4:30 and meal following. .Sunset Valley Farms 1190 TN 200 Huron Tn 38345

BLESSED

If you have sight, you are blessed. If you have insight, you are a thousand times blessed.

Sept 1st
 LECTOR Janet & Marina
 SERVERS Jesus
 Eucharistic Minister Ann C, Anita, Jim M
 COUNTER Tom & Beverly

Sept 8th
 LECTOR Mary
 SERVER Carlos & Max
 Eucharistic Minister Peggy, Tom, Beverly
 COUNTER Mary & Ann F

Sept 15th
 LECTOR P eggy
 SERVERS Jesus
 Eucharistic Minister Janet, Florencia, Ann F.
 COUNTER Tom &B
 Sept 22nd

LECTOR Beverly
 SERVER Carlos & Max
 Eucharistic Minister Jim, Florencia, Ann F
 COUNTER Mary & Ann

Sept 29th
 Lector Mark
 Server Jesus
 Eucharistic Minsters Ann C. Anita, Jim
 COUNTER Tom & Beverly

Spaghetti date will be soon Sept 20th . Volunteers will be needed to prepare the meal and bake cakes .The sign –up sheet will be put in the front next Sunday.

SUNDAY COLLECTION

8-18-2024
 \$1388.00