Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
February 3, 2019

The people of Nazareth were expecting a different kind of Messiah, someone who would overthrow the Roman authorities. But Jesus wants to make sure they understand that he was not sent just for his own people. The world is a lot larger than that. So he reminded them that Elijah brought God’s mercy to the poor pagan widow and Elisha called forth God’s healing power upon a foreigner. God’s love cannot be confined to one town or one people. Neither could God’s Son.

Corinth was something of a melting pot in the first century. A major seaport where East met West, its inhabitants were of varied social, economic and religious backgrounds. The early Christian community was actually several disparate communities, divided by religious heritage, wealth, and class, as well as by which disciple led them. This greatly troubled Paul, who continually preached unity. Two weeks ago we heard him argue that all spiritual gifts are unified by the same Spirit. Last week we heard him use the analogy of the body to teach them that though they had different roles they all had vital roles. Evidently he feels that these two arguments are not enough, for today we hear him start by saying, “I shall show a still more excellent way” (1 Corinthians 12:31). He is going to attack this disunity with everything he has. Now he has realized the best way.

Love. Love is the ultimate answer. Love is the greatest and longest lasting gift we have from God. It is the Father’s love for us that brought us Jesus, Christ’s love for us that won us salvation, their love for us that gave us the Spirit. So it is love that can conquer all.

Question of the Week
Can I see the face of Jesus in someone I disagree with? Can I respond with love? Can that love bear all things, believe all things, hope all things, endure all things?

Love always
If we do good to our neighbor, we do good to God; if we cause our neighbor to stumble, we sin against Christ.

Bible Study
The theme for Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time: Strength in the Face of Rejection! “We are all familiar with the power of words to shape our identity and way of life. Society offers conflicting messages that often pull us in many directions. Amid all these competing words, God’s word is the true source of our identity as Christian people.” Bible Study celebration will be based on the readings for the: Reading I: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; Responsorial Psalm: 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17; Reading II: 1 Corinthians 12:31 or 13:4-13; Gospel: Luke 4:21-30. Bible study is every Monday evening at 7:00p.m. in the center.

Sanctuary Lamp
The Sanctuary Lamp in the Church for this week will burn in memory of Ellsworth McKemdall
The Sanctuary Lamps in the chapel this week will burn in memory of Jasper Price, Jr. and Merial Stewart Bercy

This Week in our Parish

Monday, February 4, 2019
6:00p.m. Zumba Exercise Class – Center

Wednesday, February 6, 2019
9:00 a.m. UTNO – Center – Kitchen
6:00p.m. Zumba Exercise Class – Center
7:00p.m. Liturgical Dance Class – Center
7:00p.m. First Place Class – Rm 10
7:00p.m. KC Council 9415 – Rm 3 & 4

Thursday, February 7, 2019
6:00p.m. Bingo – Center

Friday, February 8, 2019
6:00p.m. AKA Cotillion Practice - Center

Saturday, February 9, 2019
8:00a.m. LTMTP – Rms. 3 – 4
9:00a.m. Star Project – Rm. 9
11:00a.m. Just Faith – Library
11:00a.m. Star Project – Rm. 10
12:00p.m. Haiti Partnership – Library
1:30p.m. CYO Officers Meeting – Rm. 11
5:30p.m. KC Lecture Series – Center

We welcome everyone into our parish. If you have not filled out a census card, the cards can be found on the table at the entrance of the church.

Announcement
“If we do good to our neighbor, we do good to God; if we cause our neighbor to stumble, we sin against Christ.” Eucharistic Adoration Monday thru Friday, 9:00a.m. – 12:00 noon and Saturdays, 12:00noon – 3:00p.m.

RCIA
As Jesus proclaimed glad tidings “in the power of the Spirit,” so must our proclamation of the Good News come from the Spirit who dwells within us. The details of our daily living must assure others that the words we proclaim are, indeed, from God. Are your children still Catholic? Do they practice their faith? Do you know enough about your faith to help them? Every Catholic has a role in welcoming those seeking to join the Catholic Church. God has touched them in a special way that leads them to us. Let us get out of the pews and into the community.

The RCIA is in its Evangelization and Precatechumenate Phase. Do you know someone who wants to be Catholic? This week we continue our focus on the Sacraments. The topic is: The Sacramental Way of Life. The Eucharist – “The Lamb’s Supper.”

For more information contact the RCIA Team: Deacon Terrel J. Broussard or any member of the RCIA Team or by email at thbroussard@smgnola.com, or visit the website at smgnola.com

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