



ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

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ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

OFFICE HOURS ~ HORAS DE OFICINA

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SUNDAY MASS~ DOMINGO MISA

9:30 AM English 11:30 AM Español



3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets. Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him. - Mk 1:19-20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

GOSPEL MEDITATION

We start telling lies around the age of three, the experts tell us. It's understandable. Lying is a god-like power. Whatever I want, I need only say it, and the world rearranges itself accordingly. It's amazing at first. But soon reality snaps back and I'm faced with a dilemma. If I remain committed to my lie I start to fracture into pieces. My words and reality drift apart, and I find myself lost in a lonely world of further falsehoods and fear of being found out.

How marvelous, then, that Jesus begins his ministry by proclaiming: "**Repent!**" We tend to think it means "stop doing bad things" but it doesn't. It literally means "go beyond the mind you have." Think in a new way. It's painful to admit, but some portion of my mind is addicted to lie-telling, usually to protect my ego or make life easier. To repent means to admit this tendency, to say "I'm done lying", and to move beyond my split mind into a complete commitment to the truth. Perhaps that's why at Mass we together proclaim, "I have sinned in my *thoughts*, and in my *words*..." Repentance and truth-telling work together.

Those who know the twelve-step process of addiction recovery know this process well. The fourth step requires radical truth-telling: listing our moral defects. This isn't being scrupulous. Rather it is freedom from falsehood, and entrance into the real world. This week, I invite you to join me in this practice. Get your phone or piece of paper. Answer the question: what are your true moral defects? Write them down. Remember, the Lord knows them already and loves you. We have a sacrament where this truth-telling is celebrated: Confession. Perhaps it is finally time to go beyond our childish lies.

--Father John Muir

EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

One of the characteristics of Everyday Stewardship is to be committed — to persevere daily in a way of life acknowledging that everything belongs to God. I know. Easier said than done.

Just ask Zebedee. It's quite an image we get from the Gospel, after all. "So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him."

There was Zebedee, about his business, mending nets with his two sons, who were undoubtedly his best workers — they had to have been more dedicated than the hired men, who worked for wages rather than for family. And in an instant off they go, following this strange man.

I don't know about you, but if my kids left me on a hot summer day to finish the lawn by myself, I wouldn't be too happy.

But Zebedee must have been someone quite special. Perhaps he realized that his sons didn't belong to him — not really. They belonged to God, and from the beginning of time, it had been appointed that they would be among the first disciples of Christ. He passed, he called, they followed, and Zebedee obliged. He simply went back to mending his nets, I imagine.

Zebedee already understood what St. Teresa of Calcutta would say millennia later: "Give until it hurts."

"You're wasting my time." "I've done so much for her; she owes me this." How often do we think things, and even people and relationships, belong to us? The truth is none of them do. We must be ready, as Zebedee was, to surrender them to God when He comes walking past.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi

REFLECTION

By Deacon Larry Carmony

This prayer written by St. Ignatius of Loyola carries a profound message about wholeheartedly giving everything we have and are to God.

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,
My memory, my understanding,
And my entire will,
All I have and call my own.
You have given all to me.
To you Lord, I return it.
Everything is yours; do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
That is enough for me.

This short, but powerful prayer reminds us of what we need to do to love God.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR HEALING

Maria Orfelina Graciano, Richard Ignacio Dominguez, Lauren Baca, Katy Montano, Benito Espinosa, Elizabeth Espinosa, David Sanchez, Henry Espinosa, Eddie Garcia, Leticia Sanchez, Paul Visarraga, Hope Romero, Ruby O'Neill & Jose Martinez

MASS INTENTIONS - INTENCIONES DE MISA

Sunday, January 21, 2024

9:30 AM

† Rito Jr & Ruben Placencio (by Angie & Jessica)

† Louise Chavez (by Andy Chavez)

Linda & Lauren Baca (by Katy Montano)

11:30 AM

† Jesus y Jorge Escobedo (de familia)

Socorro Serna Cumpleanos (de su hija)

Por la salud de Maria Orfelina Graciano (by SFX staff)

Monday, January 22

† Glen Carmony Anniv (by family)

Tuesday, January 23

† Leo Vigil Anniv (by Rosemary)

Wednesday, January 24

† Andre B & Family (by Gaston)

Thursday, January 25

† Sr. Mary Alexis (by Gaston)

Friday, January 26

For the health of Annie Bijoy (by SFX Staff)

JANUARY WEEKLY READINGS

Sun. 21st 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jon 3:1-5, 10; Ps 25:4-9; 1 Cor 7:29-31;

Mk 1:14-20

Mon. 22nd: Weekday

2 Sm 5:1-7, 10; Ps 89:20-22, 25-25;

Mk 3:22-30

Tues. 23rd: St. Vincent, Deacon, Martyr;

St. Marianne Cope, Virgin

2 Sm 6:12b-15, 17-19; Ps 24:7-10;

Mk 3:31-35

Wed. 24th: St. Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church

2 Sm 7:4-17; Ps 89:4-5, 27-30; Mk 4:1-20

Thur. 25th The Conversion of St. Paul the Apostle

Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22; Ps 117:1-2;

Mk 16:15-18

Fri. 26th: Sts. Timothy & Titus, Bishops

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5; Ps 96:1-3, 7-8a, 10;

Mk 4:26-34

Sat. 27th: St. Angela Merici, Virgin; BVM

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17; Ps 51:12-17;

Mk 4:35-41

ORGANIZATIONS/MEETINGS

- ♦ English Bible Study - Hospitality Room
Mondays 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
- ♦ Grupo de Oracion - Parish Hall
Tuesdays at 6:30 PM
- ♦ Religious Education Class
Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
- ♦ RCIA - School Building
Tuesdays 6:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Hospitality Room
- ♦ St. Vincent de Paul Meeting
Every 2nd Thursday of the month at 6 PM
Hospitality Room