

WORD FOR THOUGHT

With today's gospel we enter the last week of Jesus' earthly life as he speaks with his disciples, preaches to the crowds, and spars with the chief priests and elders. These events take place in Jerusalem and the surrounding area just before and during the feast of Passover. Today Jesus confronts the chief priests and elders about their inability to change their position even after hearing the preaching of John the Baptist. By remaining entrenched in their own way of doing things they are missing the work of God in their midst. It seems there is good news in today's parable as well, however; even if one originally refused the request of God there is still time to turn to him and do what is just.



RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“Son, go out and work in the vineyard today,” In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus uses a parable of the two sons who are asked to work in the vineyard. As you recall, the first son flatly says he will not go, but later changes his mind and works. The second son tells his father that he will go, but never does. This Gospel challenges us to look at our relationship with God and the integrity of our words and actions in our “vineyard.”. We are called to love and care for those in our midst, as each one of us is made in the image of God and require care and nurturing.

LEARN, ACT, CONNECT AND PRAY: In the Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching, we learn more about honoring the life and dignity of the human person. It is important that in examining these teachings that we look at how the poor and vulnerable are treated in our community. We are reminded that we are to embrace a call for solidarity as we are all one human family, brothers and sisters in Our Lord's kingdom.

THEMES FROM CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

With the Presidential election coming soon, how informed are we on the candidates' positions on various Social teachings? Enclosed with the bulletin this weekend is a listing of the themes from Catholic Social Teachings.

GOD MAKES HIS MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS GROW AMONG THE DRIEST STONES. Pope Francis

NOT FAIR!

Children think they are wronged when another gets a bigger cookie, a desired seat, or favored praise. Adults can be no better, if truth be told. Today's readings are about attitude and about other ways of being fair. Prophet Ezekiel addresses individual responsibility for actions. St. Matthew has two points: one must do more than just sound obedient and, by actual obedience, even perceived outsiders can get into the kingdom of God. St. Paul sings of the humble obedience of Christ Jesus—emptying of self. The demands of Christian living are not easy. But we look to Jesus for guidance, for encouragement and for example.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST FUNDRAISERS

4 person golf tournament, Monday, October 12th starting at 8AM at the North County Country Club. Entry fee is \$250 per team that includes golf cart, meal and drink tickets. Contact Chris Shield at 618-317-5397 with questions.

GIBAULT HIGH SCHOOL

You're invited to Learn a “Latte” about Gibault. September 19: 9am-11am at Bean Tree Café and October 1: 9am-11am at Café on the Abbey. Stop by for a cup of coffee and meet Gibault Catholic High School Principal, Steve Kidd, and Director of Enrollment, Kelly Day. You have questions, they have answers. RSVP at <http://bit.ly/GCHSCoffee>.

Save the date for Gibault's Roaring 2020's Virtual Oktoberfest on October 24th! Event information available at www.GCHSOkttoberfest.givesmart.com.

WHY DO CATHOLICS SIT, STAND AND KNEEL DURING THE MASS?

We adopt different postures throughout the Mass to help us focus, and each posture means something different.

We sit during the homily and the readings to help us listen. We stand during the Gospel, and when the priest enters and leaves, to show him honor and respect when he represents Christ.

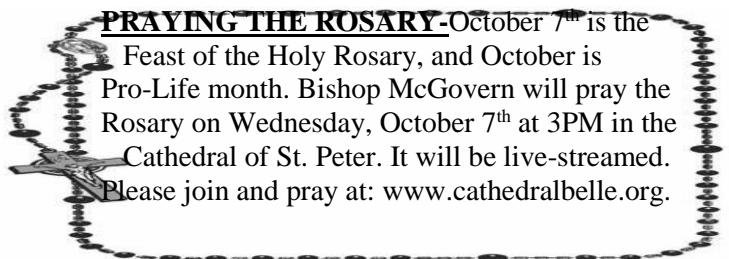
Finally, we kneel at the Consecration in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, because Christ, himself, is present. These actions are intended to engage both our bodies and our minds in prayer.

PROJECT RACHEL

Confidential help line: 618-722-5068.
diobelle.org/respectlife projectrachel@diobelle.org.

PRAYING THE ROSARY-October 7th is the

Feast of the Holy Rosary, and October is Pro-Life month. Bishop McGovern will pray the Rosary on Wednesday, October 7th at 3PM in the Cathedral of St. Peter. It will be live-streamed. Please join and pray at: www.cathedralbelle.org.



Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

EZ 18:25-28

A Reading the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the LORD: You say, "The LORD's way is not fair!" Hear now, house of Israel: Is it my way that is unfair, or rather, are not your ways unfair? When someone virtuous turns away from virtue to commit iniquity, and dies, it is because of the iniquity he committed that he must die. But if he turns from the wickedness he has committed, he does what is right and just, he shall preserve his life; since he has turned away from all the sins that he has committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me; teach me your paths, guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my savior.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD, and your love are from of old. The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not; in your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O LORD.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Good and upright is the LORD; thus he shows sinners the way. He guides the humble to justice, and teaches the humble his way.

R. Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Second Reading

PHIL 2:1-11 OR 2:1-5

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters: If there is any encouragement in Christ, any solace in love, any participation in the Spirit, any compassion and mercy, complete my joy by being of the same mind, with the same love, united in heart, thinking one thing. Do nothing out of selfishness or out of vainglory; rather, humbly regard others as more important than yourselves, each looking out not for his own interests, but also for those of others.

Have in you the same attitude that is also in Christ Jesus, Who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, coming in human likeness; and found human in appearance, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Because of this, God greatly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Gospel Acclamation

JN 10:27

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord; I know them, and they follow me.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

MT 21:28-32

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "What is your opinion? A man had two sons. He came to the first and said, 'Son, go out and work in the vineyard today.' He said in reply, 'I will not, ' but afterwards changed his mind and went. The man came to the other son and gave the same order. He said in reply, 'Yes, sir, 'but did not go. Which of the two did his father's will?" They answered, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Amen, I say to you, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came to you in the way of righteousness, you did not believe him; but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you did not later change your minds and believe him."