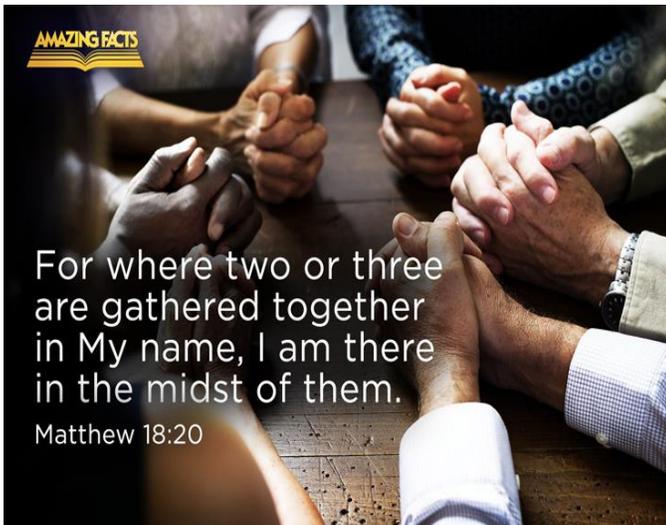


WORD FOR THOUGHT

The ever-popular Peanuts cartoon features Charlie Brown with his dog named Snoopy. The dog inspired creator Charles Schultz to design a poster of Snoopy as “The Perfect Friend.” The poster shows a line pointing to Snoopy’s head with the caption, “Full of great advice.” The line pointing to his eyes says, “Always happy to see you.” Another line points to his mouth, “Loves to share a smile.” The shoulders are captioned, “Available to lean on.” His chest is labeled, “Warm spot here for you,” His paw says, “Good for holding and helping.” And, the final one to his feet reads, “For standing by your side.”

Today’s Gospel tells us: “For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them” We are invited to pray publicly with each other. Jesus is there in our midst. He is a great friend and comfort. Beyond all that Snoopy could ever be, Jesus is the most perfect friend.



RESPECT LIFE CORNER

“I have appointed (you) as watchman.” In Ezekiel, 33:7, God appointed Ezekiel to watch over the house of Israel, so has he appointed us as watch over our faith. To encourage others and to warn against sin so that we can all live as children of God in a pleasing way to the Lord. This call isn’t limited to just going to church on Sundays, it is a call to an examination of conscience. A call to look out for one another.

LEARN, ACT, CONNECT AND PRAY: With an open heart and an open mind, we can accomplish many things to build up the kingdom of God in the Diocese of Belleville! Through kind words, helpfulness, and intercessory prayers we can make a difference in our community. Pray for our community, “Lord, help me to watch over member of our community at large...I trust in your protection.

WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT STEWARDSHIP

The Catechism of the Catholic Church quotes from the book of Genesis saying that in God’s plan man and woman have the vocation of “subduing” the earth as stewards of God (Gen 1:28). This does not mean an arbitrary or destructive domination. God calls man and woman, made in his image, to share in his providence toward other creatures. They are, therefore, responsible for the world God has entrusted to them (CCC 373). God gave clear directions to the Israelites: “Set apart a tithe of all the yield of your seed that is brought in yearly from the field...so that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work that you undertake.” (Dt. 14:22-29). St. Paul speaks directly to this issue “there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good” (1 Cor. 12:4-7).

GIBAULT HIGH SCHOOL

Top Golf Outing...Enjoy an afternoon of golf while supporting Gibault. On Sunday, September 20th, we’re hosting a new fundraiser at Top golf in Chesterfield, MO. Bring your family and friends, fill a bag, and have fun. Bags hold up to 6 people, and each ticket includes 3 hours of unlimited Top golf, a fantastic BBQ lunch with fried chicken, brisket, and more, plus bottomless non-alcoholic drinks. Tickets and sponsorships are available at www.GibaultTopgolf.givesmart.com.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST FUNDRAISER

Mums for sale. Cost \$7.50. Delivery date is the week of September 21st. See a SJB student to order your mum.

ST. JOHN’S PSR

Classes will begin this Wednesday, Sept. 9th at 6:45PM. Doors open at 6:30PM. Students will be checked in when they come by having their temperature taken, sanitizing their hands and then proceeding to their classroom. No parents, grandparents etc. will be allowed to come into the school. Dismissal at 8PM. It will be done by class, beginning with the first grade. Brothers and Sisters will come out together.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Marriage on Tap virtual session September 15, 2020, 7-8 p.m. An evening of marriage enrichment rooted in the Catholic faith; open to all married couples. No cost; RSVP’s are required: marriageontapstl@gmail.com.

Project Rachel Free confidential counseling for healing after abortion from Project Rachel of Diocese of Belleville. Confidential help line: 618-722-5068. diobelle.org/respectlife projectrachel@diobelle.org

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading

EZ 33:7-9

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, “O wicked one, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

Responsorial Psalm

PS 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation. Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us. For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert, where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works.”

R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Second Reading

ROM 13:8-10

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

Gospel Acclamation

2 COR 5:19

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

MT 18:15-20

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”