Tithing Contributions for this past week (includes contributions during the week &/or ACH contributions, etc.): $26,811.86

MENTIONS, MEETINGS, EVENTS & REMINDERS

Masses: Just a reminder to call ahead (Monday through Thursday) if you plan to attend Mass this coming weekend, space is limited due to social distancing requirements. Please contact us in one of the two ways, by calling 859-336-3569 or by email at stdom@bellsouth.net. Please state your mass preference, along with the names of the people in your household that will be attending. Seating charts are finalized on Thursday afternoons. Peace to you all!

2020 Peter’s Pence Collection: This weekend, we will take up the Peter’s Pence Collection, which provides Pope Francis with the funds he needs to carry out his charitable works around the world. The proceeds benefit our brothers and sisters on the margins of society, including victims of war, oppression, and natural disasters. Take this opportunity to join with Pope Francis and be a witness of charity to our suffering brothers and sisters. For more information, visit www.usccb.org/peters-pence. Contributions can be dropped in the collection basket in the back of church this weekend & next weekend. An envelope for this collection can be found in parishioner’s tithing packets.

St. Dominic Parishioners………Interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister for St. Dominic Church? Fr. David will be offering a 1-day (2-hour) Communion Minister Formation Training (for St. D Parishioners only), on Mon., Aug. 17th at 6:00 p.m., for those desiring to serve as Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, as well as those who are presently serving in this role that may need a mandate renewal. The program will include the Theology of the Eucharist, Liturgical Ministry and the Practical Aspects of the Role of the Communion Minister. If you are a St. D parishioner and wish to attend &/or needing to know if your 5-year mandate has expired, please sign-up by contacting Sonya @ the St. D Parish Office @ 336-3569/ stdom@bellsouth.net.
Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss. Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.
Psalm 85:11-12

FREE TO CHOOSE

Our readings today drench us in God’s kindness. The Old Testament reading, Paul’s letter, and the Gospel demonstrate God’s creative and personalized outreach to us. In each case, we see a different reaction to God’s gestures. Elijah drinks in his consolation, recognizing God in gentle silence and going out to meet God. The Israelites, according to Saint Paul, though encountering God in a variety of ways through the centuries, ultimately reject the Messiah whom God sends to them. Peter thinks he recognizes the Lord coming to him on the water, but demands proof and grows frightened. At all times and in all places, God longs for us to believe and goes to great lengths to strengthen our faith. Ultimately, God never compels belief, but leaves us free to choose. Today’s scriptures challenge us to consider our own response to God’s constant work in our lives.

EMBRACING DIVERSITY

Today’s readings console and challenge us, reminding us just how hard God works for us so we might have faith. God’s labors are infinitely diverse, too, always tailored to fit our particular situations, personalities, and needs. In Elijah’s case, he is hiding in a cave on the very same mountain where Moses once encountered God in the burning bush. Hunted by the pagan Queen Jezebel, Elijah is running for his life. While Moses experienced God in fire on this mountain, Elijah requires a gentler touch. God comes to him not in awesome displays of power, but in a “tiny whispering sound.” God provides exactly the tranquility Elijah needs before sending him off on a new mission.

God’s creative care for us does not always lead to faith, however. In a strikingly tender passage, Saint Paul shares his heartbreak that God’s chosen people could reject Jesus, even after all God has done to prepare them for the Messiah. God has accompanied the chosen people through adoption, miracles, covenants, commandments, prophets, and kings. Despite ages of dedicated and inventive caregiving, God’s people do not unite in worship of the true Messiah. The proper response to this lack of faith is sorrow, and Saint Paul pours out the “constant anguish” in his heart.

In yet another astonishingly creative gesture, God visits people in need of faith by defying the laws of nature. Matthew’s Gospel describes Jesus actually walking on water to comfort his disciples during a storm at sea. After their terror subsides and the winds grow calm, faith floods the disciples’ hearts. They worship Jesus, proclaiming, “Truly, you are the Son of God.”

TO THE LIMIT

Sometimes God’s creative overtures are almost too much to handle. In a daring effort to trust, Peter challenges Jesus to share miraculous power with him. Jesus obliges, and Peter walks on water. Peter enjoys his miracle until his natural limitations spoil his faith. Just imagine what barriers we can shatter if only we believe.

TODAY’S READINGS

1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a
Psalm 85:9-14
Romans 9:1-5
Matthew 14:22-33
SUNDAY, AUGUST 9, 2020
19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE PRESENCE OF GOD: After the miracle of Jesus walking on water, the disciples exclaimed, “Truly, you are the Son of God” (Matthew 14:33). Most Christians will probably never experience such a dramatic miracle. Like Elijah, we await the manifestation of God in other moments. Perhaps the biggest challenge for the believer is to be constantly attuned to the possible presence of God in the everyday events of life. This is a stance that takes some people years to develop. Others seem to find the Lord easily in the simple things. As the week unfolds, let us look for the presence of God in the little things around us. Perhaps, like Elijah, we will be surprised at what we find. And, like the disciples, we can add our voice to the confession, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

WEEKEND LITURGY

First Reading: The LORD said to Elijah: “Stand on the mountain; the LORD will be passing by” (1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a).

Psalm: Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading: To the Israelites belong the covenants, the law, and the patriarchs; and from them comes the Christ (Romans 9:1-5).

Gospel: As Jesus walked on the sea, the disciples were terrified (Matthew 14:22-33). The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.

READINGS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday: 2 Cor 9:6-10; Ps 112:1-2, 5-9; Jn 12:24-26

Tuesday: Ez 2:8 — 3:4; Ps 119:14, 24, 72, 103, 111, 131; Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14
**Wednesday:** Ez 9:1-7; 10:18-22; Ps 113:1-6; Mt 18:15-20

**Thursday:** Ez 12:1-12; Ps 78:56-59, 61-62; Mt 18:21 — 19:1

**Friday:** Ez 16:1-15, 60, 63 [59-63]; Is 12:2-3, 4bcd-6; Mt 19:3-12

**Saturday:** Vigil: 1 Chr 15:3-4, 15-16; 16:1-2; Ps 132:6-7, 9-10, 13-14; 1 Cor 15:54b-57; Lk 11:27-28 Day: Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Ps 45:10-12, 16; 1 Cor 15:20-27; Lk 1:39-56

**Sunday:** Is 56:1, 6-7; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Rom 11:13-15, 29-32; Mt 15:21-28

**MASS SCHEDULE & INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK (Aug. 10-16)**

- **Monday 8:30 AM:** Peggy Noel
- **Tuesday 5:30 PM:** Paul K. Mudd
- **Wednesday:** NO MASS
- **Thursday 5:30 PM:** Joann Cambron
- **Friday 8:30 AM:** Jim & Fanny Rudd
- **Saturday 8:30 AM:** George & Mary Larue Haydon
  - 4:30 PM: Maurice Begley
- **Sunday 8:30 AM:** For the Parish
  - 10:30 AM: Carrico & Leachman Families
  - 2:00 PM (Spanish Mass): Presider’s Intention

**LITURGICAL ROLES**

- **Weekday Lectors:** (Mon.) Belle Sutton, (Tues.) Katie Simms, (Wed.) NO MASS, (Thurs.) Hamilton Simms, (Fri.) Perry Carrico, (Sat.) Rita Rust.

**Weekend Liturgical Roles** for August have been sent via email.

**ST. D PRAYER LIST:**