August 14, 2022 Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

The central theme of today's readings is that we should courageously live out our religious convictions and principles in our lives, as Jeremiah and Jesus did theirs, even if doing so should result in our martyrdom and turn society upside down. If no one is ever offended by the quality of our commitment to Christ, then perhaps we are practicing "inoffensive Christianity."

Jeremiah, in our First Reading, is presented as experiencing the consequences of the burning word of God within him. Jeremiah's preaching divided the city and incited such opposition that people sought his death. He showed the courage of his prophetic conviction by telling the king that he had to surrender to the mighty army of Babylonian empire to save Israel. The result was that Jeremiah was thrown into a deep, muddy cistern to die for his "treason."

Standing in this prophetic tradition, Paul in the second reading challenges the Judeo-Christians to stand firm in their faith in Jesus, ignoring the ostracism imposed on them by their own former Jewish community.

Jesus, too, in today's gospel, preaches the word of God which continues to divide families, a word which would lead ultimately to his death. The fire Jesus brings is the fire of love and the fire of hope. The disruption, division and revolution Jesus and his true followers cause in society by the fire of sacrificial love and the fire of justice is necessary to reset what's fractured, put right what's dislocated, cleanse what's infected. In other words, the curative pain caused by Jesus' ideas and ideals is necessary for the establishment of real shalom of God. Even though Jesus brings a sword and causes division, he is the bringer of true and lasting peace. In pursuing his mission, Jesus brings division because some follow him and others oppose him.

We must make a decision to follow him or not, to share his "baptism" or not. This choice can result in division, even within families. We should have fire in our hearts: On the day of our Baptism, we received the light of Christ and were instructed to keep that torch burning brightly until the return of Christ Jesus. In addition, the Holy Spirit was sent into our hearts at Confirmation to help set us on fire. "He who is on fire cannot sit on a chair." So, as Christians on fire, we have to inflame people to care, to serve, and to bless one another with all the gifts of faith. We should allow that fire to burn off the impurities in us and to bring out the purity of the gold and silver within us.



Rev. M. J. Bernard Doré, Pastor Deacon Fernando Botelho, Deacon Assistant 116A Danielson Pike • Foster, Rhode Island 02825 phone (401) 647-3664 Email: church@stpaulsfoster.org **StPaulsFoster.org**

OFFICE HOURS	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM (MON, WED, THU, FRI)
WEEKDAY MASSES	9:00 AM (MON, WED, FRI)
SATURDAY VIGIL MASS	5:00 PM
SUNDAY MASSES	8:00 AM 10:00 AM
HOLY DAY MASSES	9:00 AM 7:00 PM
CONFESSIONS	4:00-4:30 PM, SATURDAY OR BY APPOINTMENT

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	August 13
5:00 PM	Mass: Rick Boivin (RIP)
Sunday	August 14
8:00 AM	Mass: Deceased Members of Medeiros Family
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Clodomiro Gabrielle (RIP)
Monday	August 15
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Gilda Porier & Dante Gabriele (RIP)
Wednesday	August 17
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Mary Lou Guthrie & Kelly Guthrie (RIP)
Friday	August 19
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Mass: Bill Boivin (RIP)
8:00 AM	Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM	Mass: Elaine Graham (RIP)

Please consider commemorating a loved one at the Eucharist

Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary

Monday, August 15, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, who already shares the promised gift of resurrection in Christ. This year is not a Holy Day of Obligation but since it is the Solemnity we honor the Mother of the Lord at **9:00AM Mass**.

This weekend, after the 10AM Mass, In celebration of The Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary, we will have the Rosary followed by The Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacraments.

St. Paul's 50th Anniversary

Date: Sunday, Oct 2nd at 11:30am. Tickets are still available! \$15 adults, children under 12 FREE!

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

As part of our 50th Anniversary celebration, we will be honoring all couples of the parish who are celebrating a milestone anniversary this year. Please let the office know if you are observing your 10th, 20th, 25th, 40th, 50th and Over 50 years wedding anniversary in 2022!

Food Closet Ministry

This month we are in need of **Tuna, Peanut Butter & Jelly.** The Food Closet is open every other Saturday morning 9:30– 11 AM

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat 'Hope and Healing Support Group'

The Office of Life and Family Ministry of the Diocese of Providence is offering a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat Hope and Healing Support Group on Saturday, August 27 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. at St. Pius V Church, 240 Eaton St., Providence. This support group is specifically designed for women who have gone through a Rachel's Vineyard Retreat.

For more info contact Lisa Cooley at 401-278-2518

GIFTS RECEIVED
Offertory Collection – August 6/7 \$3,046.00
Peter's Pence – August 6/7 \$387.00
Thank you for your support!



Gospel of Luke 12: 49-53

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to set the earth on fire, and how I wish it were already blazing! There is a baptism with which I must be baptized, and how great is my anguish until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to establish peace on the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a household of five will be divided three against two and two against three; a father will be divided against his son and a son against his father, a mother against her daughter and a daughter against her mother, a mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and a daughterin-law against her mother-in-law."

Activities of the Week

Talk about the challenges which your family faces at this time? How can you work together to overcome those challenges?

Hold a family picnic this week as summer vacation draws to an end or as our society gets ready to return to the regular activities of early autumn. On the picnic, hold a race – like the one suggested in today's second reading. Afterward, talk together about what it means to keep one's eye on the goal in a race.

Name the people in your extended family who do not share your faith. Give them a phone call, not to recruit them but to let them know you care about them very much.

Questions of the Week

Children: What is one way you can be closer to Jesus today?

Youth: We are assured that God will be with us as we go through life, so what strategy do you use to keep God in mind as you deal with the ups and downs of life as a young adult?

Adults: Share about a time when life's struggles were so difficult for you that you nearly "threw in the towel." What signs did you see then that God remained with you?



My Dear Parishioners,

As we are celebrating The National Eucharistic Revival, let us reflect upon The Teachings of The Church to receive The Holy Eucharist:

1. For correct participation in the Mass, please come on time and prepare yourself in silence and prayer. At the end of The Mass, please spend some time in prayer adoring and thanking The Eucharistic Lord and praying for all your needs.

2. To receive The Holy Eucharist worthily, you must be in the state of grace meaning without mortal sins. If you have sins in your soul, please go to confession and receive The Lord's Forgiveness and mercy. The Lord is always ready and willing to forgive our sins and give his graces abundantly.

3. You should be a Baptized Catholic to receive The Holy Eucharist. If you are not a Catholic and if you want to become a Catholic, you should undergo RCIA Program and be received into The Catholic Church liturgically. Please let us know and we are happy to help you.

4. You should have been married in the Catholic Church to receive The Holy Eucharist. If you are not married in the Catholic Church, please let us know and we are happy to help you.

Let us thank The Lord for the greatest gift of The Holy Eucharist and make the best use of The Eucharistic Revival to grow in a great love and devotion to The Holy Eucharist.

With my love, prayers and blessings always,

Fr. M. J. Bernard Doré

Lord, come to my aid! Psalm 40