

OCTOBER 2, 2022
TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Faith is a gift, and God is the source and giver of that gift. To understand today's Gospel and what prompted the disciples to ask for an increase in faith, it is useful to go back to the previous couple of chapters where Saint Luke tells three parables: the prodigal son, the dishonest steward, and Lazarus and the rich man. Taken together, they remind us that God's ways are different from our ways, and that if we are to be faithful disciples, we must be guided not by the ways of this world but by the teachings of Christ.

Although we use the word "faith" in a variety of ways, when Jesus speaks here of faith and indeed when Paul speaks about the gift given through the laying on of hands, they are speaking about that inner grace-filled quality that binds us and empowers us to follow and live the Gospel. This is what the disciples sought: an increase in that most precious of all gifts – a strong and enduring relationship with Christ.

It is never easy to be a Christian. The early Christians had to deal with all sorts of threats and persecutions, which makes it easy to understand why this call to faith is at the heart of the Gospels. By asking for an increase in faith, the disciples are recognizing that Jesus is the source of this supernatural faith and that it is not the outcome of human strength or willpower, but a gift from God. Because it is a gift, it is not something we can boast of as an achievement. The end of the Gospel passage reminds us that we are servants of the word, and when we respond to it we are simply doing our duty.

It can be difficult to be a faithful disciple today because our world is increasingly secular in outlook. Some attempt to silence the Gospel message and relegate faith to the realm of the private, where it can have no impact on the public square.

In such a world our faith is of more and more importance. To be a faith-filled Christian is not simply about having an inner conviction, but also having the courage and strength to live our beliefs on a daily basis. Christ's word to us today is a word of encouragement that we need only a little trust – the size of the mustard seed – in his strength to carry us through in this life. It is the power of God living in and working through us that will ultimately allow us to be faith-filled as well as faithful.



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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	October 1
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Evelyn Cherry (RIP)
Sunday	October 2
8:00 AM	Mass: Living and Deceased Parishioners
9:15 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: 50th Anniversary Thanksgiving Mass
Monday	October 3
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:
Wednesday	October 5
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Grandchildren of Mary O'Reilly
Friday	October 7
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30—10:30 AM	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Mass: Mary W. Kayatta (RIP)
10:00 AM	Mass: Mary Fallon (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Blessings

COUNT THEM ONE BY ONE

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Tobin will be offering the **10AM Mass today Sunday, October 2** for couples celebrating milestone wedding anniversaries this year.

Herbert & Patricia Malo—62 years

Paul & Mary Lou Dutra—60 years

Ed & Jackie Haynes—50 years

Ed & Karen Zuromski—50 years

Daniel & Patricia Campbell—50 years

Albert & Lana Miller—50 years

Ernie & Carol Marquis—35 years

Kevin & Dawn Johnson—25 years

Richard & Dana Buckley—20 years

Blaise & Donna Boucher—20 years

Congratulations & Blessings!

October- Month of Holy Rosary

My Dear Parishioners, Greetings and prayers. The Month of October is devoted to The Holy Rosary very specially. At Fatima, Our Blessed Mother revealed herself as Our Lady of The Holy Rosary and asked all her children to pray The Holy Rosary daily for peace in the world. After the Holy Mass, The Holy Rosary is the most powerful and greatest prayer. Just see the world, increase in the Persecutions of Christians in different parts of the world, increase in the Natural Disasters like Hurricanes, Floods, Earth Quakes.

In this Month of October, let us renew our love and devotion to Our Blessed Mother Mary and go on our knees, by praying daily the Holy Rosary individually, as a Family and as a Parish, to stop all kinds and forms of violence and Natural Disasters and for peace in our hearts, Families, Parish, Community, Nation and the world and for The Triumph of Her Immaculate Heart soon.

With all my love, prayers and blessings always,

Yours lovingly in Jesus and Mary,
Fr. M.J. Bernard Doré

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection – Sept 24/25
\$2,940.00

Thank you for your support!



Lifelong Catechesis

Forming Catholic identity across generations

Gospel of Luke 16: 19-31

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you.

When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

Activity for the Week:

God gives us the gift of the Holy Spirit, who empowers us to live in the way of Jesus by faith. Have family members talk about their faith and how it grows. Talk about an instance in particular when your faith was tested. Who encourages us during those times? How can we encourage others when their faith is tested?

Together as a family make a sign that says Have Faith, and put it on the refrigerator. During the coming week when a hardship occurs in the family, have the involved family members look at the sign and recall how their faith will give them the courage to face the hardship.

Second Collection- October 8/9

Next weekend, the second collection will be used to help with **the cost of utilities.**

Second Collection- October 1/2

This weekend, the second collection is for the Seminarian Education Fund. This fund ensures the continued formation of our seminarians, so the Church can be served by faithful priests in the future

The Holy Eucharist Our All

We Need His Love

What, then, has induced our Blessed Saviour to love us unto death, yea, to the uttermost limits, to the end? What has urged Him to abase Himself so profoundly and to give Himself wholly, living and personally, in the lowly form of bread, "so that," as **St. John Chrysostom** says, "He has reserved nothing, literally nothing"? Only **our welfare, our happiness, our benefit!**

He knew that His love was necessary to us. He knew that only in His love could we find our happiness, our joy, our bliss. For this reason He suffered and died to obtain for us Redemption, reconciliation and eternal life. He knew that His personal presence was necessary for the people of all times and all places who should live after the thirty-three years of His mortal life. He knew that to many it would be truly the greatest benefit, the greatest delight, the greatest strength and comfort. He realized that without His continual presence, our faith would always linger in the past, while in the present it would be deprived of a living support and a solid foundation. He knew how necessary it was that the fruits of the Redemption should be applied to each person individually, and that through the renewal of the **Sacrifice of the Cross**, the avenging hand of His Father would be stayed.

He realized our weakness and helplessness. He knew we would languish and starve if He did not nourish us! He foresaw the happiness of faithful souls who would find their delight in His personal possession, in His embrace, in the reception of His Flesh and Blood. He saw that many would hunger after this Food, thirst for this Drink.

And would not many souls, in the possession of the living Fount of Love, be induced to respond to His love and thus find their salvation and happiness? Yes, Jesus understood that His continual personal presence would be to our utmost advantage, to our greatest profit. For this reason, He instituted the Blessed Sacrament. He gave us the sublime Mystery of His love!

Verily, with the Most Blessed Sacrament, **Heaven has come down to earth!** God dwells with His love in this vale of tears, he becomes our **Companion** in exile, our **Confidant** in suffering, our **Comforter** who refreshes with strong hope the heart that craves for happiness. He dwells among us, that our sojourn may not be unbearable and that we many not foolishly seek peace and joy on earth, where only disappointment and sorrow are to be found.

~ Fr. Lukas Etlin, O.S.B.