

JUNE 28, 2020
**THIRTEENTH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME**

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Whoever takes up his cross daily will be rewarded with true life.

One word seems to connect all of our readings today ☞ reward. From the first reading from second Kings to the words of Jesus in the Gospel.

Our reading from Kings opens with the prophet Elisha rewarding the woman of Shunem with her heart's deepest desire and delight ☞ a child. From what we know, this woman was generous in receiving the prophet. She even went so far as to provide permanent accommodation whenever he came to town. Yet there was equally emptiness in her life, for she and her husband were without children. What a great joy the promise of the prophet, whom she recognized as a holy man, must have meant to her! The promise of a child was the reward for her generosity.

Paul takes this reward to a new and deeper spiritual meaning by reminding us that it is in Christ and the Resurrection that we find the greatest of all rewards ☞ a share in the newness of life. For Paul, the whole of the Gospel is built on the promise of the Resurrection. It is the Resurrection that defines the very heart of the believer. Writing to the Romans at a time of great persecution and martyrdom for the early Christian church, Paul reminds them that whatever may befall them, they will always have the promise of this great reward. Consequently, he challenges them and us to live in the hope of this great reward ☞ to consider ourselves as dead to sin, and to live in Christ and the promise of new life.

This promise, too, is at the heart of today's Gospel. Matthew shares with us some of Jesus' teaching on the challenges of discipleship. But we also hear that for the one who is faithful to his or her vocation of disciple, there is the reward of new life. In many ways, discipleship becomes the lens through which all of life is viewed and understood.

Jesus knew that some of his disciples found it difficult to be faithful; they often misunderstood what it meant to be his follower, or indeed what it meant for him to be the Messiah. Knowing what would befall him, Jesus uses the symbol of the cross to describe true discipleship. It is not a one-time challenge, but a daily one: the faithful disciple must be ready to let go of all, to lose all so that he or she might receive all. Living out this discipleship on a daily basis calls for us to be generous even in the least of things, like the woman of Shunem welcoming the prophet.



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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

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	June 27
9:30—11 AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Intentions of Mary Joseph on the occasion of her 90th Birthday

Sunday	June 28
8:00 AM	Mass: People of the Parish
9:30 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: David Cherry, Sr. (RIP)

Monday	June 29
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:

Wednesday	July 1
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Margaret J. Forrest, Charles T. Forrest, & Robert A. Nadeau, Sr. (RIP)

Friday	July 3
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
9:30—10:30 AM	Adoration of Blessed Sacrament

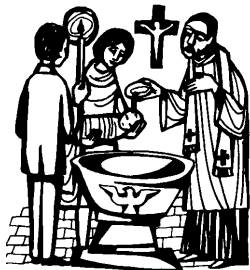
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM	Mass: Rita Palombo (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Sacrament of Baptism

Please welcome into the family of God's People, **Leonardo Carchia**, who was baptized Saturday afternoon. He is the newest member of Christ's Body—the Church.



Please pray that he and his family be strengthened by the Holy Spirit's gifts of faith, hope and love.

Help with Altar Flowers & Garden

We are in need of a few people to help with altar flowers, not only for the special occasions but during ordinary time as well. A small commitment once/twice a month would be helpful. We are also looking for help weeding around the prayer garden and along the walkways. An hour or two a week would be all that is needed. Thank you!

Thank You Knights of Columbus

Thank you to the KofC Council 95 for paying for the annual Parish Calendar and for covering the quarterly service charge for the Church Alarm System.

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish to meet its financial obligations through the summer months, and to give us a strong start to the new fiscal year, we ask that you remain committed to the weekly offertory through the summer.

Please consider using the parish envelopes and mailing your weekly/monthly offertory contribution while you are away, before or after your vacation. Or consider the convenient option of setting up an automatic contribution online. Details below:

Support St. Paul's

Set up a reoccurring donation (or make a gift at anytime) using our secure, online giving tool by ParishSOFT.

Visit our website at stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button.

The Christmas Bazaar Raffle

The Christmas Bazaar Committee will be discussing options for the Annual Bazaar in December. Ultimately no matter what is decided, we would like to have the Main Raffle. Prizes will be listed soon. Thus, as in years past, we are asking for 40 parishioners who are willing to donate \$25. If you would be able to donate please contact the office or sign up on the bulletin board.

Thank you for your support!

Prayer for Healing, Justice, Peace and Mutual Respect

Bishop Tobin is inviting all Catholics in Rhode Island to spend some time in personal prayer and reflection for justice, peace and mutual respect for all during the upcoming Independence Day weekend. He wrote:

In recent weeks we have been reminded, very powerfully, that the promise of a nation of peace and justice has not yet been perfectly realized, particularly for African Americans and other minorities," said Bishop Tobin. "Members of the Black community, even now, often experience unjust discrimination, exclusion and unwarranted violence. For them, the American dream is a work in progress; it remains a "task for today and a promise for tomorrow."

Mindful of that reality, I wish to invite all members of the Catholic Church in the Diocese of Providence to spend some time during the weekend of July 3rd to 5th in personal and communal reflection and prayer for the promotion of justice and peace and mutual respect for all the people of our nation.

Following the guidance of Bishop Tobin to offer additional prayer opportunities, **this Sunday after the 10:00 Mass, we will have Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with prayer for physical and spiritual healing.**

Let's Stay Connected

We've been emailing a weekly parish update to help us stay informed and to share resources. Please add your name and email to the list via our website:

www.stpaulsfoster.org

Your information is never shared with anyone else and is only used to communicate with you about the parish.

Reopening Guidelines

We are reopening church for public worship based on guidelines from the Diocese, developed in collaboration with public health officials. For details, visit stpaulsfoster.org.

Stay home if need be

The elderly and those with weakened health conditions are encouraged to stay home. If you are ill or are just not feeling well, you must stay home.

Livestreamed Mass

The 10:00 AM Sunday Mass will be livestreamed on Facebook at facebook.com/foster.catholic

Limited inside seating

Seating at each Mass will be limited to 43 people, which is 25% of our fire code capacity.

Listen from your car

We will broadcast the Mass on 107.90 FM on car radios. Those who participate from the outside will be brought Communion if they choose to receive.

Wear a face mask

A face mask helps limit the potential spread of infection and provides fellow parishioners with a sign of assurance, we care for each other.

Maintain social distance

Keep a distance at least 6-feet from one another unless you are with members of your household.

Holy Communion

Father and Deacon will sanitize their hands before distributing Holy Communion.

Ushers will guide the procession lines to and from the two Communion stations at the side aisles.

Coming forward with your face mask on, when presented with the Body of Christ, respond "Amen."

Remove your face mask; receive and consume the Host; and replace your face mask.

You may choose to not receive Holy Communion and make an act of spiritual communion instead.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - June 20/21
\$2,103.50

Thank you for your support!