

JULY 26, 2020
**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY
 IN ORDINARY TIME**

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Today's readings teach us that accepting Jesus as our God and Savior and sacrificing everything in life to do the will of God are equivalent to discovering and possessing the most valuable treasure or the pearl of great price. In other words, keeping a personal relationship with Christ and sharing his view of life are the most beautiful, the most precious things in the world.

The first reading tells us how the young King Solomon opted for the great treasure of accepting God to rule his life by doing God's will. That is why he asked God for "an understanding heart" to distinguish right from wrong, so that he might govern the people properly. God was pleased with his request and granted him a wise and discerning heart which enabled him to surpass everyone in wisdom.

In the second reading, Paul teaches that God is calling us through various stages of spiritual growth like predestination, call, justification and glorification. It is our duty to cooperate with God's grace, to grow in to personal relationship with Jesus, our greatest treasure. Paul assures Rome's Christian community that "all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to His purpose."

In the Gospel, Jesus teaches that God's Kingdom (the rule of God in us, accepting Jesus as our God and Savior and putting our Faith in him, doing his will), is something of extraordinary value, like a hidden treasure or costly pearl, and that its possession calls for total commitment. The Kingdom of God is God's reign in our hearts, in our lives, in our homes, in our society, and in our world. Only those who develop a discerning mind and are willing to give up everything for the great treasure of God's Kingdom will be rewarded. Through the first and second parables of the treasure and pearl Jesus teaches us that identifying God's will with his help and living according to the Gospel are the most precious and worthwhile things in life. Through Jesus and his Gospel we come to know and understand what the real meaning of life is and what the most important things in life are, which would secure our eternal salvation.

**Lord, I love
 your commands.
 Psalm 119**



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

ST. PAUL'S UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Saturday	July 25
10:00—11:30AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Jeanne McGrath (RIP)

Sunday	July 26
8:00 AM	Mass: Claire Sabourin (RIP)
9:30 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Jeanne McGrath (RIP)

Monday	July 27
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass

Wednesday	July 29
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Diane Clement (RIP)

Friday	July 31
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory

NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS

5:00 PM	Open for your Intentions
8:00 AM	Open for your Intentions
10:00 AM	Mass: Clodomiro Gabrielle (RIP)

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
 A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

The Christmas Bazaar

Given the uncertainty of the virus moving forward the Christmas Bazaar Committee has decided to cancel for this year. With that said we still plan to have the Main Raffle. Prizes include:

- \$1000 Gift Card Tree
- Stihl Farm Boss Chain Saw with Case, Gear Bag, and Gallon MotoMix
- Stihl Back Pack Blower
- Emeril LaGasse Pressure AirFryer

THANK YOU to the 40 parishioners who donated \$25 toward the \$1000 gift card prize for our Main Raffle.

Second Collection - August 2

The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide each year to support the most disadvantaged including victims of war, oppression, natural disaster and disease. Due to the restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic, those wishing to provide financial support for the Peter's Pence Collection may do so in alternative ways this year only. Parishioners may submit their contributions electronically www.peterspence.va, by means of the regular offertory envelopes to the parish during Mass or by sending contributions directly to the Diocesan Fiscal Office. Checks should be made payable to the Diocesan Service Corporation and be clearly marked "Peter's Pence Collection" on the notation line. The mailing address is:

Diocesan Service Corporation
Fiscal Office
1 Cathedral Square
Providence, RI 02903

Commitment to Sunday Offertory

To help the parish meet its financial obligations through the summer months, 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. 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.

Thank you!

Faith Formation Information

We hope everyone is well and healthy, and you are able to find new ways to enjoy your summer. We have been working on plans and schedules for Faith Formation classes this Fall. Information will be provided here, as well as mailed and emailed over the next few weeks. Please stay tuned.

Pope Francis' Prayers to End Virus

Pope Francis asked Catholics to make a special effort to pray the rosary, knowing that by doing so they will be united with believers around the world asking for Mary's intercession in stopping coronavirus pandemic:

"I keep all of you in my prayers, especially those suffering most greatly, and I ask you, please, to pray for me. I thank you, and with great affection I send you my blessing."

First Prayer to Our Lady

O Mary,
You shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick, who, at the foot of the cross, were united with Jesus' suffering, and persevered in your faith.

"Protectress of the Roman people", you know our needs, and we know that you will provide, so that, as at Cana in Galilee, joy and celebration may return after this time of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love, to conform ourselves to the will of the Father and do what Jesus tells us. For he took upon himself our suffering, and burdened himself with our sorrows to bring us, through the cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

- Pope Francis

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.

Grateful for God's Providence

As of July 2020, Our Parish has pledged a total of \$88,745 of our \$166,788 Parish Goal which puts us a 53% of our Goal. Pledge envelopes are available in the entrance of the church. Please consider making your pledge today!

Catholic Charity Appeal

Our gift to the annual Catholic Charity Appeal makes a real difference in the lives of so many Rhode Islanders. Thank you to those of you who have made a gift to the Catholic Charity Appeal. If you have not already contributed, please consider making your pledge today. We are at \$10,375 of our \$17,500 Goal.

Wedding Anniversary Celebration

Bishop Tobin and the Office of Marriage Preparation & Enrichment is sorry to announce that the Annual Wedding Anniversary Celebration will have to be cancelled. Every year the Mass draws a large number of couples and their families to the Cathedral for Holy Mass and a reception, but many of the attendees are advanced in age. The risks to the health of the participants would be significant. They certainly hope and expect that the Anniversary Mass will be scheduled again next year.

In the meantime, they would like to recognize those couples in the Diocese of Providence who are celebrating significant wedding anniversaries this year (e.g., 25, 40, 50, 60 years or more) if you are one of these couples, please send your name and anniversary date, and we will forward it along to the Office of the Bishop and they will send along a personal letter and signed certificate.

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my life. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally, come then spiritually into my heart. So that I may embrace you and unite myself completely to you. And never let me be separated from you.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - July 18/19
\$2,110.00

Thank you for your support!