

AUGUST 9, 2020
NINETEENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

Many times in life, we look for God's saving presence. We look for Jesus to be the great rescuer-someone who will immediately lift us up from our struggles. But we need to take the time to reflect how God is now, or has been, present to us. Let us live our daily lives filled with hope and total trust in God.

In the First Reading, wearied by confrontation in his homeland, Prophet Elijah flees to the land of Sinai, avoiding the death trap by his own people. Discouraged, he asks the Lord to take away his life. But the Lord has other plans and brings him back to the Mount Sinai, where God appeared to Moses. God's appearance to his prophets, and nowadays to his followers, is symbolized not in thunder and lightning or great fire, but His presence is hidden in a "tiny whispering sound". A gentle breeze! God shows him his mission and the way he should die. Elijah's experience is a rediscovery of his own faith, which enabled him to return to his land to complete the mission entrusted to him.

In the Second Reading, St. Paul speaks of the great love and loyalty he has for his own Jewish people, even though they have not accepted Christ as the Messiah.

Today's Gospel speaks about the faith one should have in Jesus. We learn from the reading that the disciples were not able to recognize their Master. But the courage of Peter to jump into the water, after having learnt that it was his Master is worth pondering about. In our daily lives when we have crosses and sufferings, many times we become very discouraged and disappointed. We try to question even His Existence. We fail to go to God to recognize His presence and receive His strength. God will not leave us alone. He will guide us and help us. Let us always approach Him with faith, trust, humility and perseverance.

Today let us pray for the grace to seek God's presence and strength and live always, as God's people filled with hope, joy and trust.

**Lord, let us see your kindness,
and grant us your salvation.**

Psalm 85



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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	August 8
10:00—11:30AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Intentions of Richard Douglas & Family
Sunday	August 9
8:00 AM	Mass: Dora Stewart & Claire Sabourin (RIP)
9:30 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass: Anthony Kachanis (RIP)
Monday	August 10
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory especially deceased members of Friends of Suffering Servants
7:00 PM	Knights of Columbus Meeting
Wednesday	August 12
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Wodziak & Tarsa Families
Friday	August 14
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass: Souls in Purgatory
NEXT WEEKEND'S MASS INTENTIONS	
5:00 PM	Mass: Healing of Paul Joseph
8:00 AM	Mass: Intentions of the Walsh Family
10:00 AM	Mass:

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Saturday, 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 **9:00 AM Mass**.

In our First Reading, The book of Revelation, we see a woman who gives birth to a son. The picture is applied to Mary, The Mother of Christ.

In The Second Reading, in his first letter to the Corinthians, St. Paul points out that Christ was the first to enjoy a risen life and that all who belong to him will share in its rewards. We can apply this reading most appropriately today to Mary.

In the Gospel Mary proclaims the greatness of her savior. Mary was, in many respects, like any and every one of us. She was basically an ordinary person. Her chief characteristic was her openness to God and to other people. Because she had this quality, she didn't take herself too seriously, she had no inordinately high opinion of herself, she thought of God and of others before she thought of herself.

The Immaculate and Ever Virgin Mother of God, preserved free from all stain of original sin, was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, when her earthly life was over, and exalted by the Lord as queen over all things.' Mary was close to Christ on earth, she is with him now, body and soul, in heaven. In the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray to her with new meaning. She found joy in God her savior. She was the lowly handmaid, who deeply worshipped God and was raised to the heights. From her position of strength, she helps the lowly and the poor find justice on earth, and challenges the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.

Mary's Assumption is the anticipation of our own Assumption. Today, let us pray to Mary with hope and confidence to follow her great example of obedience and doing God's will in our daily lives so that we too can participate in her Glory.

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 and 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.

In addition, Fr. Doré will be offering the 10AM Mass on Sunday, September 27 for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries this year. Please let us know if you will be able to join us for this celebration. A small reception will follow outside after Mass. Congratulations and Blessings!

"Virtual" Marriage Encounter

To support married couples during this time of social distancing, Worldwide Marriage Encounter is sponsoring a virtual marriage experience called Restore – Rekindle – Renew. via Zoom for seven sessions on Monday evenings Sept 14 to Oct 26 from 7-9:30 PM. Couples will explore their individual personality styles, improve listening and communication skills, understand God's plan for their marriage, and learn how to keep their relationship a priority. Registration is limited and a \$50 application fee is required. For more information or to apply, visit them at wvmema.org

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.

Sacrament of Baptism

Please welcome into the family of God's People, **Colton and Caylin Barrentine**, who were baptized Saturday morning. They are the newest members of Christ's Body—the Church.

Please pray that they and their family are strengthened by the Holy Spirit's gifts of faith, hope and love.

Knights of Columbus

Consider joining us this Monday, August 10 at 7PM for our next meeting.

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

Visit stpaulsfoster.org, and click the "Donate Now" button. Thank you!

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 **\$11,753** of our \$17,500 Goal.

Second Collection—August 8/9

This weekend's second collection will be used to help with the utility costs.

GIFTS RECEIVED

Offertory Collection - August 1/2
\$4,128.00

Thank you for your support!