

AUGUST 16, 2020  
TWENTIETH SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME

Reflection from Fr. Bernard Doré

The Lord hears all who call out to him with love and faith. Today we are all called to have a deep and strong faith in God. Since faith is the foundation of our Christian life, we are also called The Faithful.

The obvious point of similarity between the first and third readings in today's liturgy is that salvation is extended not only to Jews but to gentiles as well. In the prophet's vision of salvation, when God intervenes to save his people, the temple at Jerusalem will become a house of prayer for all peoples. Self-consciously Jesus proclaimed that his mission was to the house of Israel (cf. Matt 10:5-6). Nonetheless, he offers a sign of salvation to a woman who came from the area now known as Lebanon. She was a Gentile. That God's plan of salvation includes gentiles should prompt the entire church, few of whose members are Jews, to offer thanks. Had God not been generous in the offer of salvation, most of us would have been excluded.

Faith is God's gift to us. Faith gives a lot of confidence in our life but lack of confidence creates fear, anxiety, doubts and makes our life miserable. As we see in the story of Martha and Lazarus (Jn 11:21-27), faith gives hope. Jesus chooses the Canaanite woman to speak of faith here especially to prove that he has come to give life to the marginalized and the outcast. The healing act is witnessed by the so-called superior people in the society and they are very much disturbed and at the same time astonished to see the works done in faith. When one believes in something, one learns to wait and make the impossible to become possible.

Faith is the gift of God, therefore, we should pray for the gift of faith. Like the woman in the Gospel who humbly sought the help of Jesus to cure her daughter, we too should seek God's help always with faith, humility and perseverance.

O God,  
let all the nations  
praise you!  
Psalm 67



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**

<b>Saturday</b>	<b>August 15</b>
9:00 AM	Mass: Fr. Robert Perron (RIP)
9:30—11:00AM	Food Closet Open
5:00 PM	Mass: Healing of Paul Joseph
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>August 16</b>
8:00 AM	Mass: Intentions of the Walsh Family
9:30 AM	Rosary
10:00 AM	Mass
6:30 PM	Christmas Bazaar Meeting
<b>Monday</b>	<b>August 17</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>August 19</b>
8:35 AM	Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass:
<b>Friday</b>	<b>August 21</b>
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:
10:00 AM	Mass:

PLEASE CONSIDER COMMEMORATING  
A LOVED ONE AT THE EUCHARIST



### **Congratulations Raegan!**

Please join us in congratulating Raegan Jeffery who is receiving her First Holy Communion this weekend.

With her First Communion, Raegan joins us at the Lord's Table as a member of the Family of God.

There aren't enough words to explain what the Eucharist is all about. But, if we take Jesus at his word, then simply Communion is Jesus. "Take and eat; this is my body... Take and drink, this is the cup of my blood... Do this in memory of me." Back then, that was like saying today: "This is me. This is my life. Don't just not forget me but stay close to me always."

How the Bread and Cup we share "become" Jesus' very presence is beyond our comprehension. However, why Jesus shares himself in this mystery is something easier to understand: all of us, including Jesus, want to be together with the ones we love—to care for and help each other, to rejoice with and comfort each other That's what happens when we gather together at the Altar.

Please pray that she continues to grow as close to Christ Jesus as the Lord is to her. May God keep her safe, healthy, happy and holy.

### **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:

### **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

We will begin selling raffle tickets in September. We will be **meeting outside** this **Monday Aug 17 at 6:30PM.**

### **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!

### **Help the People of Beirut, Lebanon**

This weekend we are taking up a special collection to assist the victims of the explosion in Beirut, Lebanon. Our donations will be sent to Catholic Relief Services, the agency sponsored by the U.S. Conference Catholic Bishops to assist the poor and vulnerable on our behalf. It works with local, national, and international Catholic groups, as well as other organizations, to assist people on the basis of need, not creed, race or nationality. Here is the CRS message about this effort:

### **Explosion in Beirut, thousands injured—but you can help!**

Hosting over 1 million Syrian refugees while battling the COVID-19 pandemic, Lebanon is already suffering from an economic and a healthcare crisis.

On August 4, a massive explosion rocked the city, injuring more than 5,000 and killing more than 200. Officials are still evacuating residents, while trying to grasp the cost in human life and misery.

Along with Caritas Lebanon, CRS is distributing emergency supplies, clearing rubble, and preparing medical and mental health teams for dispatch.

When you give, you provide critical and immediate relief to the most vulnerable—hot meals, safe shelter, medication, hygiene kits and clean water.

Your gift also helps ensure that mobile medical units and trauma support are available for those who need it most.

Your prayers and support are urgently needed. Please give generously and donate to help families affected by the explosion in Beirut.

Learn more at [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.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](http://www.stpaulsfoster.org)**

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

### **GIFTS RECEIVED**

Offertory Collection - August 8/9  
**\$2,322.00**

Monthly 2nd Collection - August 8/9  
**\$709.00**

**Thank you for your support!**