

First Reading: Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel and told them if it did not please them to serve God, then they must decide who they would serve. The people claimed that God had brought them out of slavery and protected them on their journey. Therefore, they would serve, the Lord their God, and no one else.

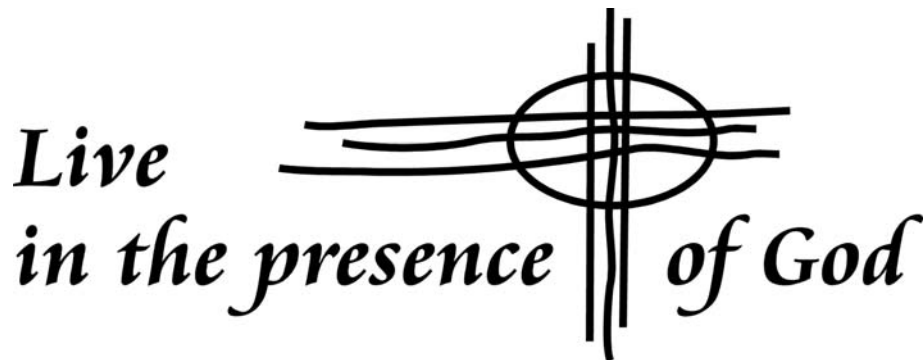
Second Reading: Ephesians 5:21-32

Husbands and wives should love one another as Christ loved the Church. They should nourish and care for each other as Christ cared for the church. Through the union between the two, they become one.

Gospel: John 6:60-69

Many of Jesus' followers were still disturbed by his teaching of the living bread, which they could not yet fully understand. Jesus explained that the Spirit gives life, and flesh is unimportant. Some of the disciples decided to leave. Jesus asked if the Twelve also wanted to leave. Although they do not completely understand yet, they have enough faith in Jesus to stay because they believe he is God's holy one.

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**A FRESH PERSPECTIVE ON THE SUNDAY READINGS****HIS WORD TODAY** *by Rev. William J. Reilly*

“When they stood in ranks before God, Joshua addressed all the people: ‘If it does not please you to serve the LORD, decide today whom you will serve... As for me and my household, we will serve the LORD. ‘As a result of this, many of his disciples returned to their former way of life and no longer accompanied him. Jesus then said to the Twelve, ‘Do you also want to leave? Simon Peter answered him, ‘Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.”

Life is filled with decisions. Many offer opportunities for growth and advancement, as education or a new job. Sometimes they are short term, as which route to take, or of greater length, as starting a business or career. Whatever the choice, great or small, it should be approached with care and wisdom.

Our lives as followers of Jesus Christ are no different. We make the choice to follow the Lord through baptism. We make other decisions as members of the church, celebrating sacred events as marriage and religious consecration. Sometimes the short term ones are offering service to the church as a catechism teacher or liturgical minister. The common thread, they are choices for good.

Joshua provides the example of a radical decision for himself and his family. Jesus asks us once again if and how we are going to follow Him. Peter once again speaks for me, indicating there is no other way than the Way, for through Him we receive the gift of grace, eternal life.

As we make decisions this week, great or small, may the moment of reflection remind us of Joshua's decision, or Peter's response. May we approach God and our choices with the same care and wisdom. May our yes be yes.

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

Our office opens up this week and will remain open Monday-Thursday 10am-5pm, until classes begin on September 14th. Letters regarding your child's class placement and other important information will be mailed home immediately prior to Labor Day. Late registration will take place this Wednesday, August 26th, 10am-1pm and 5-7pm in the Faith Formation Center (white building). New families should bring their children's Baptismal Certificates and proof of prior faith formation where applicable. Our program begins in first grade.

Sixteen catechists are still needed for the following grades and times:

Monday	4:30-6pm	4th
Monday	7-8:30pm	7th & 8th
Tuesday	5-6:30pm	3rd, 5th, 6th, & 8th
Wednesday	2:30-4pm	8th
Wednesday	4:30-6pm	1st, 3rd, 4th & 5th
Wednesday	6:30-8pm	5th
Thursday	5-6:30pm	1st

Please, please help our parish's children grow in their faith. Lots of support is given. Your parish and your God will thank you! Make a "commitment-free" inquiry now by calling Mrs. Mary Biasotti, Director of Faith Formation, 227-1710 x3 ASAP.

CELEBRATE MARRIAGE

In today's busy world, married couples face challenges that may pull them in many different directions. Take time to "Celebrate Marriage" on Saturday, September 26th at Blessed Kateri Parish from 10am to 4:30pm. This day of enrichment, hosted by the Family Life/Respect Life Office, is specifically designed to give married couples an opportunity to focus on their life-long love and commitment and rekindle the joy. For information and reservations, contact Nancy Rizzi at (212) 371-1000 x3190 or nancy.rizzi@archny.org.

MUSIC MINISTRY NEWS

The Blessed Kateri Adult Choir will begin rehearsals for our new season on Wednesday, September 16th at 7:30pm in the church. Teens and adults are invited to join! A love of praising God in song and a musical voice are the only requirements. Our Youth Choir rehearsals begin on Wednesday, September 23rd from 6pm to 7pm in the church. Students in grade two through eight are invited to join! For more information please contact Nina Ricci at BKMUSICMINISTRY@gmail.com.

BLOOD DRIVE

Please help us help others and possibly even save lives by participating in the Knights of Columbus Blood Drive, to be held on Tuesday, September 15th, from 3pm to 8:30pm in the Knights of Columbus Council Hall located at 1385 Noxon Road (across from the baseball fields) **You can sign-up after all Masses the weekends of September 5th and 12th.**

R.C.I.A.

Our R.C.I.A. process is designed to initiate non-baptized people into our faith, bring Christians of other denominations into full communion with the Church, and provide adult training for Catholics who never received Communion or Confirmation; it is also a means of adult education for all in the faith. If anybody wishes to enter this process, they should contact Msgr. Desmond immediately at 227-1710. We will begin our formal training sessions in September.

HIGH SCHOOL TEEN RCIA PROGRAM

We have had an increasing number of high school students coming to us to learn about our faith who have no, or limited, prior religious education. We will be starting a two-year program to give ninth, tenth or eleventh graders a background in the faith and the opportunity to receive sacraments they may have missed. If you are, or know of, such a student, please contact Mary Biasotti or Msgr. Desmond at 227-1710. We have had a wonderful response to our request for catechists for our teen RCIA program and, therefore, we can now move forward to ensure our young people receive a foundation in the faith.

BE INFORMED: STEM CELL RESEARCH

The Church of St. Denis in Hopewell Junction has arranged for Father Thomas Berg (formerly of St. Columba) to make a presentation on the Catholic Church's position on the various types of stem cell research. Please join Fr. Tom for this one hour presentation followed by a question and answer session on Tuesday, September 15th at 7:30pm at the St. Denis Parish Center.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION

If you've ever felt confused by the Bible, wanted to know more, or had a question, then join us on September 10th and September 17th from 7:30-9pm for a two-part program that will help you get more out of Scripture. These introductory classes, being held in the Faith Formation St. Patrick's Room, will lead to a weekly Bible study program to begin in October. For additional information, call Julie Borges at 223-3658 or juliamajor1@gmail.com.

ORGAN CONCERT

On Sunday, September 27th at 2:30pm Blessed Kateri Parish will host an organ concert featuring works by Couperin, Bach, Franck, Saint-Saëns, Vienne and arrangements of Gershwin and Rodgers played by Robert Fertitta. There will be a \$10.00 freewill offering and a reception after the concert.

Marriage Banns

II	Joan Murray & Jonathan Orgen
II	Jessica Manfredi & Salvatore Pontillo

ST. DENIS /ST. COLUMBA SCHOOL OPENING

St. Denis/St. Columba School will open for the 2009-2010 school year on Wednesday, September 9th. Students are to report to school in complete summer uniform. You may wear the summer uniform until informed otherwise. New students entering first grade are asked to wear name tags indicating the student's name, school district and bus number. All returning second graders should wear these name tags also. September 9th, 10th, and 11th will be full days of school; there is no early dismissal on these days. **Students will need to bring their lunch from home until further notice.**

BLESSED KATERI PRAYER NETWORK

If you have intentions or requests that you would like our Prayer Network to pray for, please call Nancy Vaughn at 226-4053 or Betty Paraggio at 223-5674.

PASTORAL CARE FOR THE SICK

If you are sick, homebound, or in the hospital and would like to receive Holy Communion or would like a pastoral visit, please contact Deacon John by leaving a detailed message at 223-8410 or calling the rectory at 227-1710. If you prefer, you may e-mail Deacon John at JBarone49@gmail.com.

Please pray for those who are ill

Jackie and Joe DePalma--Billy Jacobs- Victor Thomas
Deneé DeVizio -Caitlin Ann Martin-Rick Cole-Maria Sorrentino
Marcia Sabol-Marie Gauci-Richard DeLeo, Sr.-Ann Leonard
Johnny Romano-Amanda Jones- Fred Matthews
Wendy Sullivan--Frank Flora--Michael Amadeo
Raymond Trangalli-Susan Lancelli-Concetta Liccione
Mary Griego-Bob Wilson-Joseph Liccione- Carmel Adams
William Grafer-Mark Kearney- Frank Fetzer-Marie Fetzer
Michael Besko-Suzanne Power-Marilyn Kurz
Michael Murphy-Walter Shapiro-Nathaniel Hutnik
Baby Joseph Speziale

PARISH INCOME REPORT

Last Week's Collection: \$8,580

Last Year's Collection: \$7,118

PETITION OF THE WEEK

Let us pray for all our students going off to college. May they always remember that they are followers of Christ and, by their actions, bring Jesus' presence to others.

We pray to the Lord...

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Monday	August 24	
9:00am		For All Parishioners
Tuesday	August 25	
9:00am		Peggy Rayll by Brian and Eleanor Rokes
Wednesday	August 26	
9:00am		James Daley by Deacon Bob and Judy Horton
Thursday	August 27	
9:00am		Luz Rojas by her family
Friday	August 28	
9:00am		Bill Boers by Brian and Eleanor Rokes
Saturday	August 29	
9:00am		Mary Elizabeth Smith by St. Vincent de Paul Society
		Margaret Karolski by Debbie and John Kissam
		August 30
Sunday		John Sanseverino by his family
9:00am		Candelora Paolercio by the DePalma & Van Hoesen families
		10:30am John Lee by Nancy Detz
		12:15pm For All Parishioners
		5:30pm

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

This week the items needed by the SVDP food pantry are toothbrushes, cookies, hair conditioner and paper towels. Please leave your items in the church narthex. For those in need of assistance, the SVDP hotline number is 227-7863.

Liturgical Ministers for August 30th, 2009

	Lector	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Servers
5:00pm Sat Fr. Perez	Mary Ellen Coleman	John Crowe, Rose Morse, Marie Smith	Katherine, Hannah and Richard Coffin
9:00am Fr. Perez	Ed Leahy	Pat Lyons, Diana Schopen, Margaret and Stephen Ren, John McCormack	Tabitha Akins, Christian Murphy, Carolyn Newhard
10:30am Fr. Perez	Joe Mackey	Maryanne Johnson, Pat Mackey, Virginia Fisher, Shirley Sullivan, Judy Van De Ven	Victoria Scalise, Brad Fisher, Ryan Quinn
12:15 pm Fr. Perez	Mary Biasotti	Christine Mikulka, Beverly Austin, Margaret De Sa	Brittany and Brandon Tobin, Jacqueline Rooney
5:30pm Sun Fr. Perez		Rosanne Desjardins, Tara Izzo, Thomas Paulmann	Julianne and Timmy Desjardins, Brian Kusior