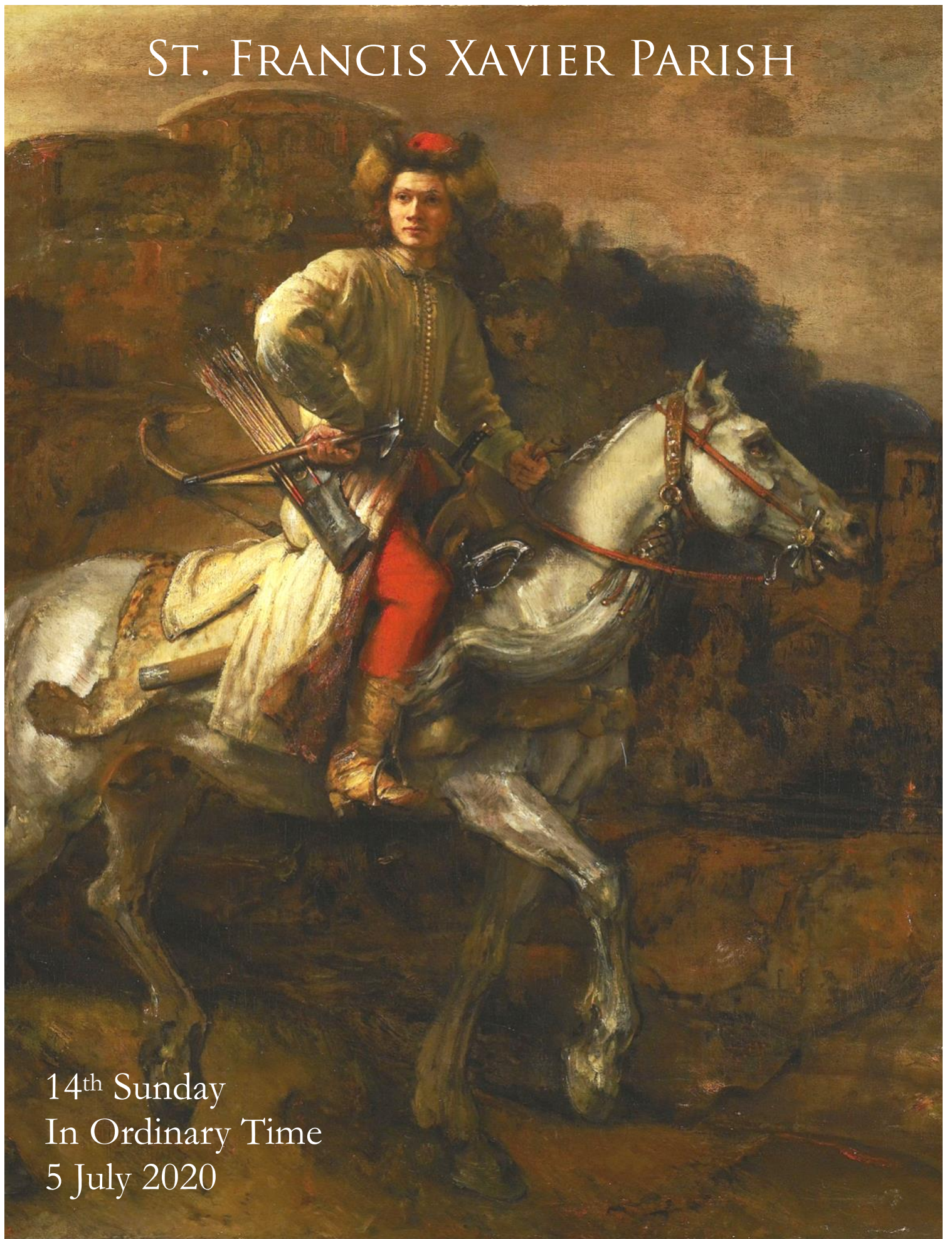


ST. FRANCIS XAVIER PARISH



14th Sunday
In Ordinary Time
5 July 2020

St. Francis Xavier, Acushnet – Diocese of Fall River

Mass Schedule

(July 4th - July 12th)

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|---|
| Sat. | July 04 | 14th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) |
| | 4:00 pm | Rita Leger |
| Sun. | July 05 | 14th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) |
| | 8:00am | <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| | 10:30am | Harry B. Booth |
| Mon. | July 06 | St. Maria Gorretti; Martyr (Rd) |
| | 9:00am | Ronald Trahan |
| Tues. | July 07 | Feria (Gr) |
| | 9:00am | Mildred & Michael Charros |
| Wed. | July 08 | Feria (Gr) |
| | 9:00am | Robert Lagasse |
| Thurs. | July 09 | St. Augustine Zhao Rong; Priest (Rd) |
| | 9:00am | William Duggan & John Joseph La Flamme |
| Fri. | July 10 | Feria (Gr) |
| | 9:00am | Domingos & Maria Gomes |
| Sat. | July 11 | St. Benedict; Abbot (Wh) |
| | 9:00am | Kara, Arlene & Joyce Poirier |
| Sat. | July 11 | 15th Sunday (Vigil) (Gr) |
| | 4:00 pm | <i>Pro Populo</i> |
| Sun. | July 12 | 15th Sunday In Ordinary Time (Gr) |
| | 8:00am | Joseph Mello |
| | 10:30am | <i>Month's Mind</i> |

Financial Report

Mail In/Drop Off Income:

Due to the early submission of this bulletin because of the July 4th holiday, we have no parish income to report this weekend. We will catch up next Sunday. Thank you.

Prayers Please

... for all the sick of our parish: those homebound, in the hospital, and nursing facilities; and for all the souls in purgatory.

Sanctuary Lamp

*During this time of our absence away from Eucharistic Adoration please pray at home for the following person/s for whose intention the Sanctuary Candle at the main altar still burns this week: **Eddie Tetreault***

CONFESSION

Monday: 5:30 to 6:30 pm
Saturday: 9:30 to 10:00am
Saturday: 3:00 to 3:45pm

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

A PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

Although the Fourth of July will be past by the time many of you read this, every day is a day to be grateful for our country, and accordingly to pray for her. No matter where each of us stands on the political spectrum, or what our personal opinions of the character of our elected officials is, as Christians we are bound to pray also for those in authority over us. Therefore, might I suggest that, sometime this week, each of us take the time to pray the following prayer, offered by the first Bishop in the United States, John Carroll, at the inauguration of George Washington as our first President?

WE PRAY YOU, O God of might, wisdom, and justice, through whom authority is rightly administered, laws are enacted, and judgment decreed, assist with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude the President of these United States, that his administration may be conducted in righteousness, and be eminently useful to your people, over whom he presides; by encouraging due respect for virtue and religion; by a faithful execution of the laws in justice and mercy; and by restraining vice and immorality.

Let the light of your divine wisdom direct the deliberations of Congress, and shine forth in all the proceedings and laws framed for our rule and government, so that they may tend to the preservation of peace, the promotion of national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety, and useful knowledge; and may perpetuate to us the blessing of equal liberty.

We pray for the governor of this state, for the members of the assembly, for all judges, magistrates, and other officers who are appointed to guard our political welfare, that they may be enabled, by your powerful protection, to discharge the duties of their respective stations with honesty and ability.

We recommend likewise, to your unbounded mercy, all our fellow citizens throughout the United States, that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the observance of your most holy law; that we may be preserved in union, and in that peace which the world cannot give; and after enjoying the blessings of this life, be admitted to those which are eternal. Grant this, we beseech you, O Lord of mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

PARISH INFORMATION

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri: 9:30am – 4:00pm

Please make an appointment to meet with

HELPFUL CONTACTS

Religious Education: 508-998-7445

School: 508-995-4313

School Fax: 508-995-0456

ACCESSIBILITY

- Open for Prayer Every Day
- Wheelchair Lift
- Cry-room

St. Francis Xavier Parish **125 Main Street** **Acushnet, MA 02743**

tel: (508)-995-7600 fax: (508) -995-1794

email: info@sfxparish.com

Fr. Riley J. Williams, Pastor

[rjw@sfxparish.com]

Deacon David Pepin

[dbp@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Janine Hammarquist, Rel. Ed. Coordinator

[jlh@sfxparish.com]

[ministry@sfxacushnet.com]

Mr. Steven Guillotte, Director of Pastoral Services

[sng@sfxparish.com]

Mrs. Michelle Russo, Parish School Principal

[mrusso@sfxacushnet.com]

Mrs. Anabela Shaughnessy, Asst. Principal

[ashaughnessy@sfxacushnet.com]

HOLY MASS

Sunday 8:00am & 10:30am

Saturday Vigil 4:00pm

Monday-Saturday 9:00am

First Friday 9:00am & 6:00pm

Latin/Extraordinary Form: As Announced

CONFESSIONS

Monday 5:30-6:30pm

Saturday 9:30-10:00am

Saturday 3:00-3:45pm

First Fridays 6:45-7:15pm

Any Time by Appointment

ADORATION

Monday 9:30am - 9:30pm

Wednesday 6:00pm-7:00pm

VESPERS & BENEDICTION

Monday & Wednesday: 6:30 pm

ON THE COVER

See, your king shall come to you... He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; the warrior's bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. (Zec 9:9-10)

It seems unlikely that we will be witness to any more Christian victories such as at Covadonga (722 AD), Tours (732), Lepanto (1571) and Vienna (1683). Christendom, or the concerted and united effort to maintain Catholic practice and civil concord on the earth, has past. Not only this but Western civilization has suffered a self-inflicted de-Christianization and a deconstruction of classical wisdom which causes its enemies to celebrate and see blood. Even today, with fiery impatience and vigor many of the so-called "peacemakers" hasten to topple all vestiges of the Christian acumen from the foundations of human culture.

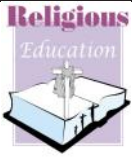
So how *does* one truly make peace? Peace will always be that tranquility gained through the establishment of a right and just order. Heavenly peace, an altogether different and more perfect affair, will come about only when Our Lord Jesus comes and rids the world of all instruments of unjust war. Yet even the removal of all weapons could never bring about peace if the heart of man was to still seek power and prosperity through violence and deceit. If you take away all the devices of war and leave alive the malice of man, there could be no peace.

Jesus Christ is the Prince of Peace. He will bring order and peace finally with the separation of the sheep from the goats (Mt 25:31-32); from those who advocate for authentic peace and those who advocate for cruel upheaval; for it is faith and reason immersed in the love of Christ that brings peace and all those who attempt peace with that other sort of love, earthly and emotional, without faith and reason, will only ever achieve pandemonium.

We place on our bulletin cover for this 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time a masterful work attributed to the Dutch artist **Rembrandt** entitled *The Polish Rider* (1655). We say "attributed" because no one knows for sure, although it is most likely the work of Rembrandt's brush and not that of one of his students as some have surmised.

This is an intriguing work for reasons more than the mystery of its origin. It is classical and Christian in temperament for depicting one so ready to do battle for the truth yet so restrained by the prospect of peace. The expression on the face of this rider is timeless for its vigilance and intrepidity. His posture on his horse accompanied by his forward perception indicate that he is riding side to side as a guardian and not forward as an aggressor. Even the way he holds his battle pick with his right hand settled on his hip indicates that he is willing to await an answer from his enemy. His horse is as stalwart as he, undisturbed by any threat, displaying symbolically the interior peace of his master. This young nobleman bears pick, bow, knife and sword and rides not humbly upon the colt of the Messiah (Mt 21:6-9) yet he would as soon lay down his arms for Christ since he knows well the words of the psalmist: "[God] takes no delight in the strength of horses, no pleasure in the runners stride. Rather the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his mercy" (Ps 147:10-11).

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 5, 2020



All students this week your parents will receive an updated email on class work. Please complete this work as soon as possible so you can enjoy the summer months. If you have not returned to Mass in the church at this time, please remember to keep Sunday holy by viewing the Mass on EWTN or your local station and making a spiritual communion.

There will be updates next week for those receiving the sacraments this year.

ATTENTION all Confirmation Candidates:

Confirmation Mass is scheduled for Sunday July 12th 5pm @ St. Francis Xavier Parish. Rehearsal, Prayer, Confessions, and Dinner will take place on Friday July 10th from 6pm to 8 pm @ St. Francis Xavier Parish with the Candidates and Sponsors.

"**Summer Religious Education Office hours** will be: Mon, Tues, Fri 9:30am-Noon. "

Stay Safe and Healthy

God Bless, Mrs. Hammarquist

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER
PRESCHOOL - GRADE 8



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
ACUSHNET, MASSACHUSETTS

Happy (Post) Independence Day! Seemingly at this time, more so than any other, our country and its people are in need of prayer and the blessings of Almighty God! Our current times are certainly turbulent and anxiety has a tendency to creep its way into our lives in times such as these. As a parish and school community, let us cling tightly to the message in the Gospel of Matthew shared with us just a few Sundays ago proclaiming the message, *"there is no need to be afraid"*. Let us continue to be steadfast in prayer and remain positive in spirit. Please continue to pray for our school community, as our administrative team has begun the careful planning and preparation for safely reopening in fall. Keep our mission in your prayers... and God Bless America!

Michelle Russo/Principal

UPCOMING SECOND & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

July 12th - Building Fund
July 26th - Diocesan Assessment



The Entry Into Jerusalem
Giotto (1305)

See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass. (Zec 9:9b)

OFFERING ENVELOPES: If you usually receive the parish envelopes in the mail, you should have received them by now for the **July/August** cycle. We had a problem last month with several parishioners not receiving their envelopes in the mail. If you have not received them by now, please contact Steve in the parish office so we can work on resolving this. It is important to let us know as soon as possible since if you do not receive your July envelopes you do not at the same time receive your August envelopes. Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS: Our Mass Book will open again on **Wednesday, 8 July** after the 9am Mass. At that time we will be taking intentions for the period of **January 1st to June 30th, 2020**. If you are unable to come to the parish that morning, please call the parish office on or after July 8th (but no earlier than 11 am) and we will assist you over the telephone; *we will not be recording intentions for this first half of 2021 prior to the 8th*. (Please note that we can also accommodate Masses offered in Rome for your loved ones during the rest of the year of 2020).

As in the past, there will be on July 8th the usual procedure of standing in line to reserve 3 Mass Intentions and returning to the back of the line (if one desires) for no more than 2 more Masses, bringing the **maximum to 5 Masses that can be scheduled that day**. This allows us to keep the line moving and provides fairness to all those seeking Mass intentions. Thank you for your cooperation.

Here lies a young woman of grace who was murdered, and who before dying forgave her assailant ...

MEMORIAL OF
ST. MARIA GORRETTI
6 JULY - 9 AM MASS

SFX WOMEN OF GRACE

READINGS FOR WEEK OF JULY 5, 2020

Sunday: Zec 9:9-10/Ps 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14 [cf. 1]/
Rom 8:9, 11-13/Mt 11:25-30
Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9
[8a]/Mt 9:18-26
Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13/Ps 115:3-4, 5-6, 7ab-8, 9-10
[9a]/Mt 9:32-38
Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/Ps 105:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [4b]/
Mt 10:1-7
Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16 [4b]/
Mt 10:7-15
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17
[17b]/Mt 10:16-23
Saturday: Is 6:1-8/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5 [1a]/Mt 10:24-33

Men ...Vespers is not just for ladies!

MONDAY & WEDNESDAY - 6:30 PM

ASSISTED SUICIDE UPDATE: About three weeks ago two Physician Assisted Suicide (PAS) Bills were considered “favorably” by the Massachusetts Joint Committee on Public Health. The Massachusetts Catholic Conference (of Bishops) sent out a memo alerting Catholics in our commonwealth that this is the first time such bills have received a favorable recommendation in committee. The two bills were merged into one, known now as “An Act Relative to End of Life Options” (S2745). This has now been assigned to the Health Care Finance Committee for its review. If this bill is passed by the Massachusetts legislature and signed by Governor Baker, assisted suicide would become law in Massachusetts.

The main Catholic argument against assisted-suicide is that it is just one more giant step in the careless march toward a culture of death which shows no regard for the natural death granted to us by God. Assisted suicide also shows a disregard for the honored role of the physician who in some way resembles Christ the healer and thus should not be participating in acts of killing or self-killing.

An article written by James F. Driscoll, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Catholic Conference, also points out other flaws in this bill: that *the 6 month or less to live prognosis is often wrong*; that the frail, elderly, and disabled may feel pressured to partake in PAS; that there is no requirement that a medical professional be present at the taking of the suicide drugs; and that there is no safeguard for unused drugs that would remain in the home.

As we have mentioned many times in this parish bulletin, Hospice Care is already the right and proper method in the medical approach to dying. In Hospice, patients are not left alone to die, are given pain medications and other comfort care measures, have medical oversight, and are honored as still part of human society - not sent home alone to die as if unimportant and forgotten.

To voice your opposition to this bill to your senator or representative, please visit the Massachusetts Catholic Conference (MCC) website at www.masscatholic.org.

THE BENEDICT OPTION: is a phrase first coined by Alasdair MacIntyre in his 1981 book, *After Virtue*, and carried forward by American writer and social commentator Rod Dreher. The phrase is used to describe the notion that it was St. Benedict and his Benedictines who, while Western civilization was collapsing after the fall of the Roman Empire, cultivated behind their monastery walls a new Christian society that emerged suddenly once the said collapse was complete. It was the Benedictines who maintained the Holy Liturgy and daily reflection upon sacred scripture, who kept up a sound educational system, who maintained peace and prosperity in their monastic lands, and who themselves drained much of regional and national swamplands transforming these into arable fields for the future agriculture success of Europe.

In this “option” it is now proposed that Christians in particular withdraw, hunker down by themselves, and create small communities that uphold and keep the traditions of faith and reason which we have inherited by our predecessors. The idea is that after our post-modern collapse these communities will emerge and lead a recovery and restoration of good society.

Even as parishes get fewer and smaller they may naturally become such communities of hope in our apparently declining world. We must keep the faith and knowledge given to us and be prepared to speak it actively to our wayward world.

Whether we ever come to fully exercise this “option” and deliberately become a remnant, let us in the meantime ask **St. Benedict at Holy Mass this coming Saturday at 9:00 am** to pray for us, that the precious wisdom and morality we have received will not be laid to waste.

14th Sunday in Ordinary Time - July 5, 2020

THE SACRED LITURGY FOR 14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, 5 JULY

Processional Hymn: Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone; Chosen of the Lord and precious, Binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion's help forever, And her confidence alone

1st Reading: Zec 9:9-10

Thus says the LORD: Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion, shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass. He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; the warrior's bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Responsorial Psalm: *I will praise your Name forever, my King and my God*

2nd Reading: Rom 8:9; 11-13

Brothers and sisters: You are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you. Consequently, brothers and sisters, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Gospel Reading: Mt 11:25-30

At that time Jesus exclaimed: "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to little ones. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him." "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

Offertory Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Holy, Holy, Holy

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn: Gift of Finest Wheat

Recessional Hymn: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of Glory, Lord of Love; Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, Op'ning to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; Drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day!