



Bringing Home the Word

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)
August 16, 2020

A Chosen People, a Common Ancestry

By Fr. Mark Haydu, LC

Today's readings have a common theme: how Jesus' words to his Jewish brothers and sisters influence our faith.

The Catholic Church's relationship with our Jewish brothers and sisters has been strengthened dramatically over the last years. This is thanks in large part to Vatican II's Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions (*Nostra Aetate*), particularly Judaism.

Our deep connection with Judaism is rooted in the fact that God offered the Old Covenant to these Chosen People.

We are also indebted to them because their history and culture formed the lives of the people of God and the Holy Family, from which the early Church sprung.

Christianity's firm belief that Jesus was the long-awaited Messiah is the reason our Church is like a shoot sprung from the root of Jesse. This difference was something Paul's Letter to the Romans dealt with directly—the need for all, both Jews and Gentiles, to accept Jesus.

The key element to this acceptance is the faith shown in the Gospels. Jesus reaches out to his fellow members of the house of Judah yet also recognizes that a Canaanite (Gentile) woman has faith that leads to salvation. This has key implications for both insiders and outsiders: One can no longer claim salvation by a bloodline or nationality but only by one's acceptance of Jesus as the Son of God and active participation in his body, the Church. Jesus broadens the welcome and opens God's house to all people. +

St. Paul states the need for all—Jews and Gentiles—to accept Jesus.

Sunday Readings

Isaiah 56:1, 6–7

Them I will bring to my holy mountain / and make them joyful in my house of prayer.

Romans 11:13–15, 29–32

For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.

Matthew 15:21–28

[Jesus] said..., "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel."

A Word from Pope Francis

Jesus shows a particular predilection for those who are wounded in body and in spirit: the poor, the sinners, the possessed, the sick, the marginalized. Thus, he reveals himself as a doctor both of souls and of bodies, the good Samaritan of man. He is the true Savior: Jesus saves, Jesus cures, Jesus heals.

Angelus, February 8, 2015



REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- How can you become more united with your ancestors in faith?
- How can you strengthen ties with your Christ family?

The Seventh Commandment and Hidden Forms of Theft

By Kathy Coffey

"You shall not steal."
Exodus 20:15

We might think, "Whew! Got off easy on that one!" We law-abiding sorts don't pilfer office supplies, skim from the collection plate, shoplift, or rob banks. At last, this is one commandment we're handily observing, right?

Right—if we stick to the letter of the law. But the commandments are demanding, calling us beyond superficial observance. There are more forms of stealing than we might recognize. Let's look first at homegrown forms, then at the larger picture of social justice.

For example, we rob our families of hours together when we work overtime at jobs to buy more than necessities.

The Church has long taught that people created by God are too precious to be merely a means of profit. Our birthright gifts as God's children include dignity, security, the divine, transcendent love. So why do we hoard lesser things?

We steal a person's enthusiasm with negative comments. We quash plans that sound naïve to us, quell a child's creativity, stifle the initiative of a new employee. Unfounded fears can block imaginative solutions and worse—the inspiration of the Spirit.



Two forms of theft steal from the present: anxiety over the future or mulling about the past. Both rob the current moment of grace and potential.

It's Not Just About Us

The items in closets that don't fit or aren't worn—these too are stolen from those who could be using them, who might

actually be thrilled to have them. As St. Basil reminds us: "The coat in your closet belongs to the naked. The shoes rotting in your basement belong to the barefoot."

Our property and talents belong to us but were given by God for the benefit of others. Here again, our model is Christ, who "became poor although he was rich, so that by his poverty you might become rich" (2 Corinthians 8:9).

A look through the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* reveals social dimensions of this commandment, condemning: the payment of unjust wages, bribes to legislators, breaking a contract, and "work poorly done." Plus, discrimination against minorities, women, and immigrants—denying them job access—violates the Seventh Commandment.

How Las Vegas must tremble to hear the words, "The passion for gambling risks becoming an enslavement" (CCC 2413). We may cringe at the busloads of people pumping their savings into slot machines.

So, too, people who lavish more money and attention on pets than some children receive aren't exercising proper stewardship: "One can love animals; one should not direct to them the affection due only to persons" (CCC 2418).

On a global scale, the arms race plunders the planet's resources, substituting weapons for basic needs. President Dwight D. Eisenhower prophetically warned in his 1961 farewell address that the military-industrial complex could sap our country's riches.

Paying Back

To conclude on a bright note, many people are making efforts at reparation. Corporate pollution may steal clean water and air, but it's heartening to think of the youth group at St. Edward the Confessor Parish in Richmond, VA. The kids sponsored a fast from every liquid but tap water and donated the money they would've spent to a project providing clean water in Nicaragua.

As Helen Keller said, "The world is full of suffering. It is full also of the overcoming of it." Those who repay the thefts occurring in homes and society honor the Seventh Commandment brilliantly. +

PRAYER

Lord, you offered the healing love and compassion of God to the sick and poor. Help me be an instrument of God's love and compassion to all people.

—From *Faithful Meditations for Every Day in Ordinary Time*, Rev. Warren J. Savage and Mary Ann McSweeney

WEEKDAY READINGS

August 17–22

Monday, Weekday:

Ez 24:15–24 / Mt 19:16–22

Tuesday, Weekday:

Ez 28:1–10 / Mt 19:23–30

Wednesday, Weekday:

Ez 34:1–11 / Mt 20:1–16

Thursday, St. Bernard:

Ez 36:23–28 / Mt 22:1–14

Friday, St. Pius X:

Ez 37:1–14 / Mt 22:34–40

Saturday, Queenship of Blessed Virgin Mary:

Ez 43:1–7ab / Mt 23:1–12

Bringing Home the Word 

August 16, 2020

© 2020 Liguori Publications, a ministry of the Redemptorists. One Liguori Drive, Liguori, MO 63057. Scripture quotations in this publication are from the *New American Bible*, revised edition, © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Washington, DC. The Pope Francis quotation is used with permission and copyright © 2020 *Libreria Editrice Vaticana*. All rights reserved. 1-800-325-9521. Liguori.org.



ENDOWING OUR FUTURE WITH HOPE

ARCHDIOCESE OF MOBILE

Generations of Faith — Endowing Our Future with Hope aims to raise a minimum of \$30 Million to strengthen our local parishes and to create three endowment funds to ensure the Archdiocese of Mobile has the resources to continue building a vibrant future for all who encounter the archdiocese. The campaign supports four key elements:

1. **Seminarian Formation Endowment** — By the grace of God, many men are answering the call to discern the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Mobile. The Office of Vocations received 9 applications in August and the archdiocese has 21 men in formation. We have an opportunity to set ourselves up for a continually growing source of seminarian income, but it will require initial investment to make this exciting future a reality.
2. **Priests' Retirement Endowment** — The men who are ordained to the priesthood for our Archdiocese give their lives in service to our community. Even when their years of active ministry end, they never retire from their vocation to the priesthood but continue to serve us through prayer. This endowment fund will help address the escalating future retirement needs of our priests.
3. **Youth Ministry Endowment** — A strong Church tomorrow requires today's youth to remain active and engaged members of the Church in their adulthood. The Youth Ministry Endowment will serve as an aid to initiate or enhance youth ministry in parishes and parish missions throughout the archdiocese.
4. **Strengthening Parishes** — This campaign will have a significant impact on parishes, with 20% of funds raised up to goal remaining in parishes and parish missions to address local needs.

CAMPAIGN PROGRESS AT OUR LADY OF LOURDES

With God's blessing and guidance, we have raised more than \$195,300 to date!

Parish Goal:	\$ 340,000
Families Pledging to Date:	29
Total Pledged to Date:	\$195,300 (57%)

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

Next weekend every parishioner will have the opportunity in Mass to participate in the *Generations of Faith — Endowing Our Future with Hope* campaign. Over this week please pray about what you and your family can do to help our parish and archdiocese succeed in this historic initiative.

Total Pledge	Five Annual Payments	Twenty Quarterly Payments	Sixty Monthly Payments
\$12,000	\$2,400	\$600	\$200
\$9,000	\$1,800	\$450	\$150
\$6,000	\$1,200	\$300	\$100
\$3,600	\$720	\$180	\$60
\$1,800	\$360	\$90	\$30

CAMPAIGN.MOBARCH.ORG

Entrance: Holy! Holy! Holy!

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, Holy, Holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three Persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, Holy, Holy! All the saints adore thee, Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea. Cherubim and Seraphim falling down before thee, God everlasting through eternity.



Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
We give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
You take away the sins of the world,
Have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world,
Receive our prayer;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father,
Have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
With the Holy Spirit,
In the glory of God the Father, Amen.
Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-7

Thus says the LORD:
Observe what is right, do what is just;
for my salvation is about to come,
my justice, about to be revealed.

The foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
ministering to him,
loving the name of the LORD,
and becoming his servants—
all who keep the sabbath free from profanation
and hold to my covenant,
them I will bring to my holy mountain
and make joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and sacrifices
will be acceptable on my altar,
for my house shall be called
a house of prayer for all peoples.



Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 67:2-3, 5,6,8

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May God have pity on us and bless us;
may he let his face shine upon us.
So may your way be known upon earth;
among all nations, your salvation.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the nations be glad and exult
because you rule the peoples in equity;
the nations on the earth you guide.

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

May the peoples praise you, O God;
may all the peoples praise you!
May God bless us,
and may all the ends of the earth fear him!

R. O God, let all the nations praise you!

Second Reading: Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32

Brothers and sisters:
I am speaking to you Gentiles.
Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles,
I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous
and thus save some of them.
For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world,
what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?
For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable.
Just as you once disobeyed God
but have now received mercy because of their
disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that,
by virtue of the mercy shown to you,
they too may now receive mercy.
For God delivered all to disobedience,
that he might have mercy upon all.

Alleluiah Matthew 4:23

R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**
Jesus proclaimed the Gospel of the kingdom
and cured every disease among the people.
R. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.
And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out,
“Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David!
My daughter is tormented by a demon.”
But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her.
Jesus’ disciples came and asked him,
“Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us.”
He said in reply,
“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”
But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying,
“Lord, help me.”
He said in reply,
“It is not right to take the food of the children
and throw it to the dogs.”
She said, “Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps
that fall from the table of their masters.”
Then Jesus said to her in reply,
“O woman, great is your faith!
Let it be done for you as you wish.”
And the woman’s daughter was healed from that hour.



Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
The Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
Of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
The Only Begotten Son of God,
Born of the Father before all ages.
God from God,
Light from Light,
True God from True God,
Begotten, not made,
Consubstantial with the Father,
Through Him all things were made,
For us men and for our salvation
He came down from heaven,
And by the Holy Spirit
Was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
And became man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
He suffered death and was buried,
And rose again on the third day
In accordance with the scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated
At the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
To judge the living and the dead
And His kingdom will have no end.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
The giver life, who proceeds from
The Father and the Son,
Who with the Father and the Son
Is adored and glorified,
Who has spoken through the prophets.
I believe in one, holy, catholic
And apostolic Church.
I confess one baptism
For the forgiveness of sins
And I look forward to the resurrection
Of the dead
And the life of the world to come.
Amen.

Presentation Hymn: Loving and Forgiving

Refrain
Loving and forgiving are You, O Lord; slow to anger, rich in kindness, loving and forgiving are You.

All my being, bless the Lord, bless the holy name of God.
All my being, bless the Lord, remembering the goodness of God.

Refrain

God forgives us all our sins, healing those who live in pain,
Saving us from final death. God fills us with goodness and love.

Refrain

Good and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger, rich in love.
God remembers not our sins; forgiving and loving is God.
Refrain

As heaven soars above the earth, so great the love of God for us. As far as east is from the west, the Lord takes our sins from us.

Refrain

Communion Hymn: Now We Remain

Refrain
We hold the death of the Lord deep in our hearts. Living, now we remain with Jesus the Christ.

Once we were people afraid, lost in the night.
Then by your cross we were saved; dead became living, life from your giving.

Refrain

Something which we have known, something we’ve touched,
what we have seen with our eyes:
this we have heard; lifegiving Word.

Refrain

He chose to give of himself, became our bread.
Broken that we might live. Love beyond love,
pain for our pain.

Refrain

We are the presence of God; this is our call.
Now to become bread and wine: food for the Hungry,
life for the weary, for to live with the Lord,
we must die with the Lord.

Refrain

Sending Forth: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav’n to earth come down!
Fix in us your humble dwelling; all your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, source of all compassion, love unbounded, love all pure;
visit us with your salvation, let your love in us endure.

Come, almighty to deliver; let us all your life receive;
suddenly return and never, never more your temples leave.
Lord, we would be always blessing, serve you as your hosts above,
pray, and praise you without ceasing, glory in your precious love.



OUR LADY OF LOURDES
CATHOLIC PARISH

Almighty and Everlasting God, the eternal salvation of those who believe in You, hear us on behalf of Your servants who are sick, for whom we humbly beg the help of your mercy, so that, being restored to health, they may render thanks to you in your Church. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

Prayer List

Anita Barclay, Campbell Berger, Katherine Berger, Bethany Ann Boltz, Eddie Booth Sr., Logan Bowers, Clement Boney, Patrick Webb Brownlie-Carey, Noli Causay, Teresa Coleman, Lee Cooley, Peter Cooley, Anita Cowart, Lemuel Dickinson, Daniel Dorriety, Marquitta Dukes, John Dumas, Teresa Dumas, Johnny Finch, Shelby Fletcher, Raymond Floyes, Louise Frontz, Tim Frontz, Janet Gafford, Tony Golemon, Ginny Johnston, Billy Kenny, MaryAnn Keith, Liz Kilborn, Steven Kuszynski, Shirley Lacy, Michael Langan, Alfred Leonard, Margie Lord, Rodney Lundy, Mary McKeough, Patricia McRoy, Craig Miley, Archie Moore, Elaine Moore, Wally Neese, Tiffany Neese, Darlene O'Rourke, Alex Paneda, Lita Paneda, Scott Peck, Glenda Pose, Glenda Pouyadou, Ursula Quintana, Kaitlyn Reynolds, Dorothy Sanchez, Simon Schum, Cindy Snow, Larry Snow, Tootie Spikes, Curtis Steiner, Rita Steiner, Todd Stringfellow, Barbara Thomas, Max Edward Thomas, Katelyn Tillman, Tyler Upton, Norma Villanueva, Anna Visperas, Rudy Visperas, Ida Vrazel, Albert Washington, Darlene Watson, Brad Wells, Bubba Williams, Agnes Worley, Dee Dee Unger, Bobby Zarate.