

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – July 22, 2018

The Therapy of Silence

This Sunday the Gospel describes "the vicissitudes" of some Apostles so pressured by the urgency of the mission that "they did not have time to rest or eat." **Christ, the good shepherd, leads his sheep to restful places.** When he sees them worn out by apostolic work, he takes them in the boat to a peaceful and secluded place to rest for a while.

1. One of the greatest victories for the evil one is trapping us in a world of noise and uncertainties and distractions that pervade everything. We live in an age of rush, rush, rush. The noise pollution of cities reaches our ears at the highest decibels. The sickness of activism leads us to individualism, intolerance, anxiety and impatience. Today, no one wants to be alone, yet at times it is necessary to stop, retreat, and be by yourself. Teens raised on technology admit they are lonely, isolated, and not happy.

2. In "medical terms," the sickness of time is called "cronopathy". Not having a moment's rest or a minute of silence or meditation has created a truly physical and spiritual pathology. Medicine ascribes this occupational dizziness and hustle and bustle to a wide range of organic disorders and neuroses; theology sees in it the root of paganism, religious indifference and man-centeredness. Mankind in total is looking for happiness--but in all the wrong places. Or even low places.

3. The writer Cervantes wrote, "He who retreats does not flee." Solitude with God is a most fruitful experience; it is the solitude of two in company with each other. Silence is necessary for God to speak. We must not ever fear retreating once in a while in order to take stock of our spiritual life. Silence is the place where great things are forged. This can be daily for a few minutes or certainly each year for several days.

I was struck like many at the bravery and humility of the young Thai soccer team rescued from their cave adventure and long entrapment due to rising waters and rains. What is their response to their rescue and 2nd chance at life as teen boys? They are taking a week at a Buddhist monastery, to do what we call "penance" or sacrifice of prayer. Buddhists do not believe in a personal God, yet these young boys will shave their heads be "ordained" for prayer and spend a week offering praise and intercession for a worldwide family of strangers that prayed for them. Would we, do we, have we ever done the same?

This Summer---Let us stop and smell the roses. We need that rest which will help free us from tension, wear and tear, and the fatigue accumulated over time. This retreat to restful places will be the best therapy. But more important than all this is the fact that God continues to wait for us in the desert to reveal himself to us and tell us what our mission in life is. He will keep your minds in perfect peace---IF your minds are staid on Him.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor



True Devotion (Consecration) to Mary at Nativity!

"This devotion was a turning point in my life. - Pope St. John Paul 2nd.

The parish will begin a 33 day journey for the faithful to entrust themselves to Mary by the Solemnity of the Assumption or the days following. Those already consecrated to Mary can always repeat the exercise and consecration, many do it yearly or twice per year. We will meet on Sunday, July 22nd. immediately after the 10:00 am mass.



Rest in Peace

Fr. Hilarius Tran-Khac-Hy, 91. Died on Saturday, July 14th. Born and ordained in Vietnam, came to the US where he was incardinated as a priest of the ADW in 1977. He served the Vietnamese catholic community in DC, Arlington, Richmond and Maryland.

Eternal Rest Grant Unto him, oh Lord!

New Pastoral Council: not required by Church Law, a Pastoral Council is "encouraged" for parishes to help the pastor with needs, changes, challenges in the community. ALL members should be active and registered parishioners, confirmed, age 16 and up. Employees may attend PC meetings & are encouraged to do so. Meetings should be brief informative and courteous and be interested in the needs of evangelization and pastoral care of the people of the region. The Pastor will approve/appoint 10 members who MUST represent the profile/diversity of the parish. 2 other members may be appointed liberally, 2 others may be voted in by the parishioners as members at large and can include senior parishioners or young adults who are new to the parish. The PC has not authority over the parish nor its Finances. "The temporal and spiritual authority over any parish is the Pastor. (Church Law)." The Vice Chair of the Finance Council may attend PC meetings, as can the Accountant, the director of Music and the Dir. of Religious Education by the commissioning of their own offices. Meetings will not be burdensome nor too frequent but for planning purposes. More details in August.

Mass Intentions for the Week

July 21 – 28, 2018

Sat. 7/21	8:00am	Ramon Dominguez, Sr. (healing)
	5:30pm	+Willie Poole, Jr
Sun. 7/22	8:00am	Paula Constantine
	10:00am	People of the Parish
	1:00 pm	Rohini Perera
*Mon. 7/23	No mass	+Cardinal William Baum / +Cardinal James Hickey
*Tue. 7/24	No mass	Sick homebound parishioners
*Wed. 7/25	No mass	All youth/Rel. Education Volunteer
Thu. 7/26	Noon	+Morris T. Carter, Sr.
*Fri. 7/27	No mass	Jean Martin
Sat. 7/28	No mass	The Church worldwide
	5:30pm	People of the Parish

***Masses marked (*) will be celebrated out of campus. No masses at Nativity on those days.**

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *Jeff Corry, *Maria Cruz, *Maurice & Flora Detiege, *Kevin Fagan, *Isel Fitzgerald, *Dion A. Fortune, *Linda Foster, *Charlie Gick, *John Green, Sr., *Janet Henery, *Blanca Hernandez, *Lawrence C. Hill, *Lee Hobbs, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Geraldine Jones, *Odile Kalla, *Michael Kelly, *Busara Keneddy, *Claude Kolthoff, *Betty Lawton, *Yavonna Lewis, *Sandra Lucas, *Eric Malcolm, *Edwin & Regina Mbanude, *Theresa McNair, *Edith Mebane, *Maria Magdalena Medrano, *Agnese Moore, *Gina Myers, *Maria Myers, *Patrick Myers, *Robert Myers, *Tom Myers, *Iris Newman, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Margaret Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Father Vince Rigon, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Bonafacio Selayo, *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Alice Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta



The Social Outreach Committee will be collecting school supplies (notebooks, backpacks, pencils, paper, folders etc.) for children in the Parish beginning Saturday July 14th until Sunday August 19th and distributing them on Sunday, August 19th, 2018 in

the Church Lounge after the 10:30 am mass 11:30 am until 1:00 pm. Those in need of school supplies should fill out one of these forms. Please drop the bottom part in the collection basket at Mass before August 19th. You do not need to put your name on the form.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

7/15/18

Attendance: 445 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$5,588

Spanish Mass: \$475

Utility fund: \$827

**SAINT
JOHN PAUL II
NATIONAL SHRINE**
3900 Harewood Rd., NE. Washington, DC 20017

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

Visit the official World Youth Day Pilgrim Cross and Icon. Saturday, August 25. Join us for a special visit of the World Youth Day Pilgrim Cross and Icon as they make their way to Panama for the 2019 World Youth Day in January.

Stronger – A Men’s Retreat. Saturday, September 22. A retreat focused on strengthening Christian leadership in men so that each man can learn to be the great leader that God calls him to be.

Visit jp2shrine.org for more information and other programs.



Fiat Camp
for high school girls.
July 27 – 29.

"Fiat" is Latin for "Let it be done."

This was Mary’s response to the angel Gabriel when she was asked to become the mother of Jesus. Mary was called to live courageously and to give her whole life, and because of her response, she changed the world. At Fiat Camp, young women will be challenged to become fully who they are – to embrace the unique gifts given to them by God and to discover the great dignity of their vocation as a woman. For this year's camp for young women who are rising 9th -12th graders, the Archdiocese of Washington is partnering with the Archdiocese of Baltimore. The camp will be held from July 27-29 at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, and it includes prayer, talks, discussions with religious sisters, games, and sports. Fee is \$150 (sibling discounts & scholarships available). Details and registration at www.quovadisfiat.org.