

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time – September 2, 2018

Clean Hands

1. **The Pharisees of all times have always cared more about external gestures.** Not so with Christ. He says that what is clean or dirty in man doesn't have to do with his hands, but with his heart. And this goes for all of us: for Christians who walk around with their hands "Christianly clean," but with their heart "Christianly dirty." Christ did not say, "Blessed are those who wash their hands, because men shall thus see that they are clean." Christ said, "Blessed are the clean of heart, because they shall see God." He was going to be condemned by a man who took care that the nation saw him wash his hands well. **To wash one's hands is easy; what is difficult is to wash one's heart.**
2. **Man's life is surrounded by traditions.** They are like the environment in which a great part of our existence develops: Christmas Eve dinner, our children's baptism, First Holy Communion, the nation's patronal feast day. Some consider these relics from the past from which we must be freed, but they fall into other worse maladies: musical fads, drugs, sexual decadence. Just going through the motions and living by fads are a grave threat that weighs over man's Christian and human traditions. An external gesture can become just a senseless rite, but there is something that can make it come alive and make it life-giving: doing it with a supernatural spirit.
3. **Our words or acts are made great or petty by the intention behind them.** A man is worth what his heart is worth, that is, what he desires, seeks and loves from the bottom of his soul. It is in his heart that man welcomes or rejects God, where he directs his entire life. There is a clear sign that tells us what our heart loves and desires: the real life we lead. Holiness is not in things, but in the heart of men and in the moral behavior that springs from it.

Brothers and sisters let us not fall into this hypocrisy that Jesus has criticized so harshly. **Let us make an effort to participate in the Church's rites with purity of intention.** Let the Eucharistic bread and wine remind us that what has value is the lifestyle that Jesus lived faithfully up to death. Amen.

Father Blake Evans, Pastor



“Let the children come to me.”

Matthew 19:14

Religious Education begins on Sunday, September 16th. All young people must be in religious education for two years in a row before receiving a Sacrament. Registration is open after the 8am, 10am and 1pm Masses



Bro. Michael Solomon, O.P. is a Dominican here in DC. He will be with us every weekend during the academic year. Pray for him as he prepares for priesthood.

Welcome Brother Michael. God bless you!

Nativity Sodality will meet on Sunday, September 2nd. after the 8am Mass. All Sodalists are encouraged to arrive at 7:30am for the praying of the rosary. All are welcome. After the Mass, the Sodality will meet in the Lounge for the regular business meeting.



The Rectory offices will be closed on Monday, September 3rd.

Join us for Mass at 10 AM!

Mass Intentions for the Week

September 1 - 8, 2018

Sat. 9/1	8:00 am	+Cher Perera
	5:30pm	Rohini Perera
Sun. 9/2	8:00am	Nativity Sodality
	10:00am	People of the Parish
	1:00 pm	+Antonio Peires
Mon. 9/3	10:00	For USA
Tue. 9/4	12:00	+Aaron Goldstein
Wed. 9/5	12:00	David Goldstein & family
Thu. 9/6	12:00	Ann Butler
Fri. 9/7	12:00	No mass
Sat. 9/8	8:00 am	No mass
	5:30pm	+Winslow Vickerie

Please pray for the sick of our Parish:

*Alice R. Allen, *Amina Anderson-Pringle, *Ann Butler, *William Cammack, *Lukas Pastier, *Carmen Dolores Campos, *Carla Andrea Catacora, *Shawn Coleman, *William Corbel, *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, *Sydney Horge, *Francis Howard, *Elaine Hunt, *Helen Hurd, *Larry Ivy, *Geraldine Jones, *Charles Johnson, *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, *Agnes Moore, *Gina Myers, *Iris Newman, *Sheryl Newman, *D. Cynhia Peters, *James Pope, *Margaret Pope, *Dorothy Richburg, *Auristela Roman, *Rosa Maria Santos, *Bonafacio Selayo, *Delores Sloan, *Adrian Smith, *Alice Smith, *Bernadette Smith, *Theresa Smith, *Louise Sweatt, *Suzie Thompson, *Emily Towles, *Dominic Valentine, *Dorothy Waring, *Paul Williams, *Florentina Zoretta

NATIVITY IS OUR PARISH, BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

The life of our parish and all its ministries relies on each of our parishioners sharing their time and their talents. To help you make a prayerful and thoughtful decision about how you may be called to volunteer, here you will find a list of our needs

Religious Educations: Teachers, Monitors, Aids. *

Youth days: food servers, set up and cleaning, monitors Lectors, Ushers, Altar Servers, Sacristan

Financial. Finance Council Member; Money Counter

Facilities: Maintaining Church and Chapel clean.

Laundry: Purificators and other linens

*volunteers who will have substantial contact with children will require additional paperwork and training.

Call or email de rectory (nativity.juarez@gmail.com) for more information and/or to register. Volunteers need to be a register member in good standing of Nativity Church.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

8/26/18

Attendance: 523 souls

Offerings & Tithes: \$7,597

Spanish Mass: \$233

Utility fund: \$425

Assumption of Mary: \$597

Thank you to the Catholic Daughters for their \$1,350.00 donation and to the Salesian Cooperators for their donation to the Utility Fund.

Youth Faith & Fun day

September 16, 2018

9 am – 3 pm

For young people to Senior in High School

Sign up in advance!

- ✓ fun,
- ✓ games,
- ✓ lessons,
- ✓ lunch,
- ✓ daily mass,
- ✓ mentor help from young peers

Our Lady of Bethesda center will run the program - 1 Priest, 1 Brother, 1 Lay Youth Missionary; and 6 High School volunteers

Chaperones and other helpers are welcome. Cost \$5 per person (for food/drinks and material expenses)



The Social Outreach Committee

thanks Nativity Catholic for its generosity to the completed 2018 back-to-school program which benefited the children of Nativity. We filled nearly 50 back

packs with school supplies. May God bless all of you!

26th International Week of Prayer and Fasting coalition in collaboration with the Marians Fathers, Legion of Mary and Priests for Life, are asking for individuals, families, prayer groups and parishes to unite for 9 days (Sept 29 – Oct 7, 2018) of prayer and fasting for the following goals: Conversion of all Peoples and Nations, to Build a Culture of Life, to Defend the Sanctity of Marriage and Family Life, to Pray for Peace and to Implore God's Mercy. Opening day, Saturday, September 29th at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception from 9 am – 4:30 pm. Registration is FREE, but please register online at www.iwopf.org