



The Catholic Community of Divine Savior

Family Faith Focus

Volume 8, Issue 6

September 8, 2019

Dates to Remember

- September 9: Memorial of St. Peter Claver
- September 13: Memorial of St. John Chrysostom
- September 14: Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
- September 15: Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Food for Thought

"Prayer is the place of refuge for every worry, a foundation for cheerfulness, the source of constant happiness, a protection against sadness."

—St. John Chrysostom

St. John Chrysostom was born in 349 in Antioch. He was ordained a priest and later became bishop of Constantinople. He was known for his skills as a preacher; his name means "Golden-mouthed". His outspoken honesty and his integrity in preaching the Gospel made him an enemy of some in positions of power, leading to his exile. He died in exile in 407. St. John Chrysostom was named a Doctor of the Church in 1568. He is the patron saint of preachers, and his feast day is September 13.

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 14: 25-33

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Great crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and addressed them, "If anyone comes to me without hating his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple.

Whoever does not carry his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple.

Which of you wishing to construct a tower does not first sit down and calculate the cost to see if there is enough for its completion? Otherwise, after laying the foundation and finding himself unable to finish the work the onlookers should laugh at him and say, 'This one began to build but did not have the resources to finish.' Or what king marching into battle would not first sit down and decide whether with ten thousand troops he can successfully oppose another king advancing upon him with twenty thousand troops? But if not, while he is still far away, he will send a delegation to ask for peace terms.

In the same way, anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Spending Time with God

Some moments spent alone with God are necessary. Trust-filled prayer is a response of a heart open to encountering God face to face, where all is peaceful and the Lord's quiet voice can be heard in the midst of silence, where we can discern, in the light of the Spirit, the paths of holiness to which the Lord is calling us. For each disciple it is essential to spend time with the Master, to listen to his words and learn from him always. Unless we listen, all our words will be nothing but useless chatter. Unless you let him love you more and more with his love and tenderness, you will not catch fire. How will you then be able to set the hearts of others on fire by your words and witness?

—Pope Francis
Gaudete et Exsultate, #149-50

Sunday Gospel Connection: September 8, 2019

The Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Luke 14: 1, 25-33

Gospel Background: In chapter 14 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people gathered at the table about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him doing something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to be a disciple and enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many, even some of the guests at the table, reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. Jesus explains that, when



it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing can get in the way. When Jesus describes “hating” one's father and mother, he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew's version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to “hating” father or mother, but to *loving them more* than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one's own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don't start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else.

Family Connection: Provide your children with a list of things that they are responsible for interspersed with things that they like to do—for example, make their beds, take out the garbage, go to the park, do homework, watch television, have a snack, feed the cat. The list should reflect their responsibilities and favorite recreations. Tell them to pretend that company is coming and ask which of the things listed should be done first. Explain that this is called setting priorities.

Paraphrase the Gospel story for the children. Ask them what Jesus says is the most important thing for them to do. Jesus tells us that the number-one priority is to follow him. But just as it is not always easy to do the things we are supposed to do before doing the fun things, it is not always easy to be a follower of Jesus. Yet when we put Jesus first, we will be truly happy.

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For more information and Sunday Connection resources visit:

<https://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/sunday-connection>

Music is the only art sent from Heaven to Earth, and the only earthly art that is taken back to Heaven, its study is naturally conducive to better citizenship, happier home life, and higher general standards of thought.

<http://www.bluebookofpianos.com/musicfacts.html>

Calling all Cherubs!! Children's Choir is looking for you!

All children, grades 2-8 are invited to join the Cherub Chorus. Most rehearsals will be held the week before the FCFF Mass at 9:00am. There will be some Saturday morning rehearsals. Music packets will be available and recordings will be sent to FCFF families.

The Cherubs sing at the 8:00am FCFF Mass, as well as Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve and Easter. We may also have occasions to sing at local nursing homes with the adult choir.

Cherub Information

Child's Name		Grade	
Parent Contact		Phone Text (Y/N)	
Email address _____			
Best way to contact you (Phone, Text, Email)			
Are there younger siblings that would be interested in singing with the Cherubs? Parent accompaniment is requested. Names _____ Ages _____			

Please contact Mary Herman by phone or text at 847-722-8559,
or email mary.herman512@gmail.com with any questions.