

**SUNDAY GOSPEL
BIBLE SHARING**



Wednesday Oct 30 for the 31st Sunday in Ordinary Time

OPENING PRAYER: Loving and providing God, we give you thanks for harvest blessings. You give us food to nourish our bodies and give us your Word to nourish our souls. Open our minds and hearts so we can hear your word for us today. Teach us how to walk the path of love.

- In the words of Saint Benedict, “Listen with the ears of your heart.”
- Please note a word, phrase, or verse that seemed to really catch your notice.
- A volunteer slowly read aloud today’s passage Afterwards, we have a few minutes of silent reflection.

**READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL ACCORDING TO Mark
Mk 12:28b-34**

The Greatest Commandment.*

28 One of the scribes,ⁱ when he came forward and heard them disputing and saw how well he had answered them, asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?”

29 Jesus replied, “The first is this: ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone!

30 You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ⁱ

31 The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”^k

32 The scribe said to him, “Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, ‘He is One and there is no other than he.’

33 And ‘to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself’ is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.”^l

34 And when Jesus saw that [he] answered with understanding, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And no one dared to ask him any more questions.^m

Notes See note on Mt 22:34–40.

34ⁱ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together,

35 and one of them [a scholar of the law]^{*} tested him by asking,

36 “Teacher,^{*} which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

37ⁱ He said to him,^{*} “You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.

38 This is the greatest and the first commandment.

39^k The second is like it:^{*} You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

40^{*l} The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

1. “Love is a many splendored thing,” as the song goes. What criteria would you use to judge: • a person’s love for God? • a person’s love for others?
2. What does “to love God with one’s whole being” mean to you? Name one thing that hinders you from loving God with your whole mind and heart?
3. What hinders you from loving your neighbor?
4. What is true love of self? How is it different from selfish love of self?
5. Name one thing today’s Gospel says to us that we disciples of Jesus need to heed/act on.

Commentary

Jesus is asked which of the commandments is the greatest. His response links two Old Testament texts: Deuteronomy 6:5 and Leviticus 19:18. Both texts joined together are a summary of the whole law. Our response to a God who loves us unconditionally must be total. Linking love of God to love of neighbor is distinctively Christian. In his first letter, John says to us: “If anyone says ‘I love God’ but hates his brother, he is a liar ... This is the commandment we have from him: ‘Whoever loves God must also love his brother’” (4:20-21).

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord’s Prayer

Bible Sharing Parish Hall and Zoom
Wednesday, Oct 30 6:30 – 7:30pm
Weekly on Wednesday
Zoom Meeting

Description: Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting
Time: Oct 30, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/tZolduisqDosE923wHRoszXqNBSkCL57ORPg/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGhpjorHtKTthCORpx5Goj4d-jwpiFdj_oPzwjNMS9AeDvnGMBxOZFTRY

Blessed Sacrament is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85136740699?pwd=Q2pXLzdzZFdNNU1NajVpeEtKUohJQTo9>

Meeting ID: 811 6265 5618
Passcode: 280607