

SUNDAY GOSPEL BIBLE SHARING



Wednesday June 28 for the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

OPENING PRAYER

Loving and caring God, you welcome us as we gather in your name to share life and your Word. Just as the woman in the first reading welcomed the prophet, may we always welcome your Word and allow it to be the light that guides our lives. Amen

INTRODUCTION TO THE GOSPEL THEME

The Gospel speaks clearly about the cost and the rewards of discipleship that all believers need to know and embrace.

READING OF THE ASSIGNED GOSPEL

- 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.

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his apostles: "Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. I'm Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me. Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward. And whoever gives only a cup of cold water to one of these little ones to drink because the little one is a disciple — amen, I say to you, he will surely not lose his reward."

— Mt 10:37-42

SILENT REFLECTION

GOSPEL BACKGROUND: Taken from Ascension Catholic Lectionary Commentary

This Gospel has two sections. The first contains a number of miscellaneous sayings by Jesus concerning the cost of discipleship. The second relates to the authority of the Apostles and the fate of those who welcome them.

In the first section, Jesus offers a number of what sometimes called 'hard sayings.

- He who loves another more than Jesus is not worthy to be his disciple.
- He who fails to embrace the Cross is not worthy to be his disciple.
- He who seeks self-fulfillment more than self-surrender to Christ is not worthy of him.

In these "hard sayings," Jesus is conveying to us that our commitment to him must supersede all other commitments and relationships, even those as binding and as precious as the relationship between a parent and a child. The Gospel does not advocate abandonment of familial ties and responsibilities but places the commitment to Christ above all. The reality is, of course, if one is truly a committed disciple of Christ, he/she becomes more capable of loving family members and all others with a selfless love. The third "hard saying" reminds us that if we are only out to satisfy ourselves, we will in the end be losers. On the other hand, if we seek to give of ourselves, we become our best selves and most pleasing to God.

The second part of today's Gospel calls us to be hospitable to those who carry the message of Christ to us. In welcoming the messengers of the Gospel, we are welcoming Christ himself. The gift of even a cup of water to little ones will not go unrewarded.

QUESTIONS FOR SHARING

What verse or image in the readings caught your attention or drew you in? Any idea why? Was there a verse or aspect of the readings that challenged you?

Additional Questions if time permits:

Dying to the false self is usually not easy. What can help us in this process?

Is there something concrete you or I might do in response to this gospel?

IS THERE A CAUSE FOR GRATITUDE THIS WEEK?

IS THERE A PRAYER REQUEST YOU HAVE?

CLOSING PRAYER - The Lord's Prayer

SUNDAY GOSPEL BIBLE SHARING



Bible Sharing Room 5 and Zoom

Starting June 28 from 6:30 – 7:30 pm EST Weekly on Wednesday
notes

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

Topic: Blessed Sacrament's Zoom Meeting

Time: Jun 28, 2023 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/tZlkd-qgrj8qG9Rt4LoXWaku9w9Mo6AzLDCs/ics?icsToken=98tyKuGupzspEtSRsBiHRpwAHYigb_zziClfjfpviEvJDBhkYwjjb_UbH70pMcL8

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86903804010?pwd=MGJydS9qSW9LSzNGblZSM2xZcWpGZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 0380 4010

Passcode: 086586

One tap mobile

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event

Organizer: Blessed Sacrament Parish

Blessed Sacrament Parish