

Our Parish COMMUNITY

June 28, 2020

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time (A)

2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a

Rom 6:3-4, 8-11

Mt 10:37-42

Dead and Buried —but Risen

"Dead and buried" is a familiar phrase. But add "risen"? That's something else. It may be that we have heard it so often we might miss how astounding it is. To say that we will die and be buried is one thing, but that we will rise, is extraordinary. However, this is really not what St. Paul tells us today. The focus here is Jesus' death, burial, and rising—not primarily ours. Paul says that we actually enter into Jesus' death, burial, and rising. Now, this is amazing! People have always wanted somehow to be divine.

That was the great temptation in the Garden ("...you will be like gods, who know good and evil." [Genesis 3:5]). Well, by baptism we are somehow divinized. Baptized into his death, we are buried with him and rise with him to "newness of life" (Romans 6:4).

Note the form of the verbs here. This death, burial, and rising do not occur in some future place at some

future time. It happens here and now. It all began at our baptism when we were joined to Jesus in his death, burial, and rising. It continues when we die to whatever holds us back from living as we know we should. It continues when, feeling like we are buried with the dead, we stand against injustice, dishonesty, and oppression of any kind. It continues whenever we rise to "newness of life."

How blessed we are to have died, been buried, and live here and now the risen life of Jesus.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA

FOR Reflection

- ★ *In what ways might you die to the standards and practices of society?*
- ★ *How might others experience the risen Jesus through you?*

You too must think of yourselves as [being] dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

ROMANS 6:11



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Dear Padre,

Why is a lighted candle always in front of the tabernacle in my church?

The *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* states that "a special lamp...should shine permanently to indicate the presence of Christ and honor it." In the past, this candle was to be made of fine-quality beeswax. Now it can be fueled by either wax or oil, with no specification of the kind or quality (*GIRM* 316).

This use of a candle or oil lamp is not new to Christianity. We see the use of lamps near the Holy of Holies, a room in the Temple of Jerusalem. The vision of the heavenly throne room, portrayed vividly in the Book of Daniel, describes the use of lamps in front of the divine throne. In our own day, a perpetual flame honors the dead at the graves of the Unknown Soldier and President John F. Kennedy.



Some pastors ask parishioners to help purchase these candles and lamps. In return, these lamps are lighted for the intentions of donors, making these candles also acts of petition before the reserved Eucharist.

From *The Eucharist: 50 Questions from the Pews*, © 2009 Liguori Publications



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

The word of Christ wants to reach all people...Every parish and every ecclesial reality may become a sanctuary for the one who seeks God and a welcoming home for the poor, the elderly, and those who find themselves in need....Go, welcome! Go, seek! Go, bring love, mercy, and tenderness.

—EUCCHARISTIC CONCELEBRATION, NAPLES, MARCH 21, 2015

Know Someone Overly Anxious about Sin?

For more than fifty years, Redemptorists have ministered compassionately with those struggling with scrupulosity. For more information and to sign up for our **free monthly newsletter**, visit: ScrupulousAnonymous.org.

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Calendar

Monday

JUNE 29

Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles
Acts 12:1-11
2 Tm 4:6-8, 17-18
Mt 16:13-19

Tuesday

JUNE 30

Weekday
Am 3:1-8; 4:11-12
Mt 8:23-27

Wednesday

JULY 1

Weekday
Am 5:14-15, 21-24
Mt 8:28-34

Thursday

JULY 2

Weekday
Am 7:10-17
Mt 9:1-8

Friday

JULY 3

St. Thomas, Apostle
Eph 2:19-22
Jn 20:24-29

Saturday

JULY 4

Weekday
Am 9:11-15
Mt 9:14-17

Sunday

JULY 5

Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zec 9:9-10
Rom 8:9, 11-13
Mt 11:25-30

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