

REFLECTION for the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Fr. Don

The stark realities arising from having been told that I had only 2 months to live is part of my legacy. In humble submission to the will of God, I remind myself, and you, that this happened over 15 years ago.

By the will of God, I am moved to share my gift of extended life, and its effects, with others, with you.

I recall that immediately after the devastating news, the words of the song *What's It All About, Alfie* began to sound in my consciousness- don't that seem so strange? The end of life was seemingly near and I was faced with evaluating my life thus far; trying to make sense of it by pondering retrospectively-what's it all about. The song, by the way, clearly states that *It*, my life and your life, is all about LOVE in all its glory. LOVE is about relationships; love is never about oneself. LOVE is only truly LOVE when it is shared.

Yes, the scriptures are spot-on, they are true to a fault. Jesus indeed speaks and teaches the truth. When all is said and done, LOVE is the answer. Vanity of vanities, it's not about me, it's about my relationships. Proper relationship with God and proper relationship with others makes life worthwhile. And as an added bonus, living life in proper relationship leads to the probable attainment of eternal life.

In a recent Gospel reading we were told by Jesus that Mary chose the better part. She had recognized the divine presence (Jesus) and had an awareness of, and a hunger for, the gifts and fruits that flow from acknowledgment of this presence. As a true disciple, she was oblivious to worldly allurements (which appear to have attached themselves to Martha), and she joyously basked in the splendor of being in the divine presence of Jesus. Is not this what we too crave? If so, how do we get to such a state of being?

Well, this week we delve into finding out exactly just what is this better part. Too much of our time is spent on things that really don't matter. The Latin saying CARPE DIEM (Seize The Day) comes to my mind.

Our readings are reminding us that life is precious, our time here on earth is limited, and we have to seize the moment. Not seize the moment to make ourselves look better in the eyes of others, not seize the moment to acquire more worldly goods, not seize the moment to lord it over others, but rather seize the moment to practice and to grow in LOVE- give it and receive it. And to accomplish this noble task we must fix our gaze upon Jesus and follow His Way. No human knows more about LOVE than LOVE Himself.

Greed is the greatest stumbling block to LOVE. Greed is self-centering, self-deceiving, and distances us from loving the other-loving our neighbor. It drives us to love ourselves and that can be our downfall.

Greed is the 'Pitcher Plant' of relationships. It deceptively attracts its victims, lures them into false promises and expectations of love and hospitality, but then it traps them, sucks the life from them, and eventually kills them. Its primary goal is self-preservation. Such is the nature of greed in relationships. My experience is that regret and sorrow wells up in the heart and soul of those who in retrospect are given the opportunity to look back upon their lives and ask-what would I have done differently. Now you know and now you have been warned. Qoheleth did so, Jesus did so, now His servant has done so too.

So LOVE each and every day as gift and exhibit LOVE in each and every situation life brings to you.

Sacred Heart Parish

A Stewardship Parish In Love With Christ

Parish Information

Parish Administrator: Fr. Don Leonard
Office Hours: Tuesday to Friday 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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Liturgical Celebrations

Weekend Masses:
Saturday - 4:30 pm
Sunday - 11:00 am

Masses in Week Days:
Wed, Thurs 7:00pm
Fri 2pm at Lohnes

Holy Hour of Adoration:
Third Sunday of the Month,
at 2 pm

Reconciliation
Wed after Mass,
or by request

Marriages:
Six months' notice is required.
A year's notice is recommended.

Baptisms:
Celebrated at Weekend Mass
after preparation session.

July 31, 2016

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

RECEIVED WITH THANKS	July 23, 24
Collection	\$1,378.45
Building Fund	10.00
Mass Stipends	20.00
Votive Candles	36.00
Garden Party Coll.	95.00
Cemetery Mass Coll.	203.55

MASS INTENTIONS

Aug 1	No Mass
Aug 2	No Mass
Aug 3	Brian Griffin
Aug 4	Kathleen Power
Aug 5 Intention	Rita Hall/ John Mendes
Aug 6	Leo & Mary Wheeler
Aug 7	Parish Community

MINISTERS (Aug 6, 7)

	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Communion</u>
Sat.	Basil English Gen Quigley	Frank Lewis Art Hall Joe Byrne
Sun.	Calvin Gillis M. George	Margaret Dalley Wayne Dicks Amelia Dicks

** J & M Byrne- Communion Minister to Sick

PARISH COUNCIL NEWS

Soon it will be August. We remind you that Elections will take place in September to fill three positions. Please give serious thought to joining Parish Council to do your part in keeping Sacred Heart a vibrant and healthy parish. Next week we will place nomination forms at the back for this purpose. Please return them to the Parish Office.

REPLACING WINDOWS- YOU CAN HELP

Some of our upper large windows in the church leak and so heat is lost/cold comes in during the

winter months (the windows are 35 years old). They need replacing. We have a quote from a company who will replace them for us at a cost of \$1000.00 per window. We are asking that families consider donating the cost of one window. A plaque will be put on the window indicating in whose memory the donation was given. If you wish to participate in this venture, please contact Fr. Don or the parish office.

ST. ALPHONSUS LIGUORI- Monday Aug. 1

This 18th century Italian saint is a Doctor of the church. He founded the Redemptorist Order. Pope John Paul 11 said: *'He was a close friend of the people ... a missionary who went in search of the most abandoned souls ... a founder who wanted a group which would make a radical option in favor of the lowly ... a Bishop whose house was open to all ... a writer who focused on what would be of benefit to people.'*

ST. JEAN VIANNEY- Thursday Aug. 4

This 19th century French saint is the patron saint of parish priests. He is called the 'Cure of Ars.' He worked tirelessly for his people, encouraging them in their faith. He was a great confessor; often spending 18 hours per day hearing confessions. It is said that he would refuse absolution to those who went dancing. How times have changed!

FAMILY CATECHESIS- IT IS NEW

In September, a new sacramental preparation program will be offered and will be done at home. This is NEW. It will be challenging for parents; we want to be of assistance. Please discuss this with your children. We should be ordering texts now but honestly we have no idea as to the numbers we will need. Spread the word about this everyone.

FOOD BANK MESSAGE

" As you know, we just had our Christmas in June Food Drive. Our shelves are now stocked for the summer months. Thanks!

THANK YOU

We extend thanks to all who helped with the Cemetery Mass and the celebration of St. Anne with the Qalipu Band. It is heartening to know that your assistance is always there for the asking. Many hands make light work!!

T'IS SUMMER-- MINISTRY SCHEDULE

The new July-Oct schedule is now available at the back. This is also a reminder to our Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers. If you are going to be away, please try to arrange for another minister to cover for you. It will make our job easier. Thanks.

SUMMER STUDENT

Matthew has completed an accurate record of the layout of all the gravesites. Also he is now doing work to digitalize our archive material collected last year and digitalizing all our sacramental records. We need pictures of several priests. How about pictures of events associated with the Sacred Heart Social Club, the Msgr. Stoyles K of C, the re-opening of the church after the two fires, or any other past parish event.

TYPES OF PRAYER

From the Catechism #2644- 2649

*The Holy Spirit who teaches the Church and recalls to her all that Jesus said also instructs her in the life of prayer, inspiring new expressions of the same basic forms of prayer: **blissing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise.***
-Because God blesses the human heart, it can in

return bless Him who is the source of every blessing.

-Forgiveness, the quest for the Kingdom, and every true need, these are objects of the prayer of petition.

-Prayer of intercession consists in asking on behalf of another. It knows no boundaries and extends to one's enemies.

-Every joy and suffering, every event and need can become the matter for thanksgiving which, sharing in that of Christ, should fill one's whole life: "Give thanks in all circumstances".

-Prayer of praise is entirely unbiased and rises to God, lauds Him, and gives Him glory for His own sake, quite beyond what He has done, but simply because HE IS.

MARY'S KITCHEN: Will be continuing to operate throughout the Summer months but will be changing its time starting Friday, July 15th, to 12 noon till 1:30 PM. Mary's Kitchen offers a free meal to anyone in need of food or some company. It is located in the basement of Most Holy Redeemer Cathedral.

FIRST AID COURSES:

These are being offered at the Cathedral on July 28th / 29th and August 2nd / 8th / 9th / 24th / 25th / 29th / 30th. Courses offered are Basic CPR Level C, Emergency First Aid (one- day course) and Standard First Aid (two- day course). Each first aid participant will receive a manual, a participant kit and a 3- year certification card. To register for a course or for any further information please call Janette at 660-0488 or email at janettefoote@gmail.com

MERCY PRAYER

LORD JESUS CHRIST SON OF THE LIVING GOD,
HAVE MERCY ON ME, A SINNER.