



Twenty-First Sunday
in Ordinary Time
August 25, 2019

Dear Members and Friends of St. Mary's/
St. Patrick's, and St. Peter's Cathedral:

In a homily last weekend I mentioned a quip by an Evangelical pastor who had said that too many Christians envision a "cotton candy" Jesus – sweet, soft and undemanding. Today's Gospel sharply contradicts that notion, as do many other passages. We tend to avoid them and to see the Lord as a benign uncle who dismisses our sins with a knowing smile...that's cotton candy.

Today's Gospel reminds us that Jesus issues sharp warnings and places real demands upon those who would wish to follow him to the glory of his Father's Kingdom. He does not, strictly speaking, answer the disciples' question "will only a few be saved?" (Nor will he answer us when we speculate on the same question.) Rather, he uses the question as a teachable moment. He simply tells the disciples to strive to enter through the narrow gate. They are not to speculate on such matters but rather to follow him faithfully. When Jesus speaks of those who will hear the master of the house say "I do not know you," he does so to warn us not to presume on God's mercy.

Presumption is one of the great sins of our time. It is the grave sin that lies behind turning Jesus into a cotton candy Savior who makes no serious demands and calls for no serious change. But the call to

repentance permeates the Gospels. He warns his own people not to presume that their status as Jews frees them from judgment. In the same breath he reminds his Church of the same thing.

What then should we do? We should not take God for granted; nor should we take our salvation for granted. We should examine our lives and consciences to see where we could be more faithful, more prayerful, more generous, more courageous, and more loving. We should avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Confession. We should spend some time getting to know the faith better by reading the Catechism and the Scriptures. Reading and reflecting on the coming Sunday's scripture readings can be a good place to start. And of course the Church offers a vast array of devotional practices, starting with the rosary and Eucharistic adoration. If you have not adopted any such disciplines, give them serious thought. Beyond that there are many ways to assist the poor, the sick and the lonely.

But most of all remember that God's judgment is the fire of his love. He wants a holy people – for our own good and for the life of the world.

In Christ,

Fr. Klein

Pray for the Sick

Darlene Bargelski, Facenda Burton, Michael Dineen, Cal Fuhrmann, Jaxon Gardner, Valencia Giannantonio, Ann Hagan, Jane Hurlock, David Kidd, Kathy Kingsley, Fr. Leonard Klein, Rita Lynam, Bill Marshall, Francesca Olivere, Alice Goetz O'Neill, Teresa Rodriguez, Earlene Roles, Howard Scott and Cheryl Smith.

Thank You

Thank you to all who contributed to our special collection for the maintenance and preservation of the Cathedral. Your generosity is very much appreciated.

Altar Flowers

The beautiful flowers which adorn our sanctuary this weekend were provided by Joe Hannas in memory of Irene Hannas.

Masses/Services for the Week

Saturday, Aug. 24
4:00 PM Cornelius James Erickson

Sunday, Aug. 25
(**Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time**)
8:00 AM Frances Licki
11:00 AM Parishioners

Monday, Aug. 26
12:10 PM Joseph Walling

Tuesday, Aug. 27
(**M, Saint Monica**)
12:10 PM Lucille F. Duszak

Wednesday, Aug. 28
(**M, Saint Augustine, Bishop, Doctor of the Church**)
12:10 PM Diana Grant

Thursday, Aug. 29
(**M, The Passion of Saint John the Baptist**)
12:10 PM Lucille F. Duszak

Friday, Aug. 30
12:10 PM Charles Seitz

Saturday, Aug. 31
4:00 PM Arlene Virden

Sunday, Sept. 1
(**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time**)
8:00 AM Frances Licki
11:00 AM Parishioners

Birthday Wishes

Prayers and warm wishes for the following parishioners who have birthdays this week: **August 26:** Stephen Olivere; **August 27:** Jennie Miller

Pray the Rosary

The daily Mass attendees at the Cathedral will pray the Rosary on behalf of Fr. Klein's recovery at 11:30 AM on Wednesdays before the 12:10 PM Mass. All are welcome.

Vocation Reflection

"Some of these I will take as priests and Levites, says the Lord." Is God calling you to the priesthood? Call Fr. Norm Carroll at (302) 573-3113 or visit vocations@cdow.org.

A Holiday Novella

Jubal's Christmas Gift, authored by our parishioner, Dennis Skirvin, is now available on Amazon.com. Dennis has graciously earmarked all 2019 profits to go to St. Peter Cathedral School and All Saints Catholic School. This uplifting novella would make a perfect Christmas gift for someone on your list!

Book of Sacred Liturgy

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Readings/Responsorial Psalm Pg. 596

Alleluia Sing to Jesus #965

One Bread, One Body #1019

Word of Life

"Within the 'people of life and the people for life', the family has a decisive responsibility. This responsibility flows from its very nature as a community of life and love, founded upon marriage, and from its mission to 'guard, reveal and communicate love' (*The Gospel of Life*, no. 92).

—Citing John Paul II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation *Familiaris Consortio* (22 November 1981), 17: AAS 74 (1982), 100. Excerpt from *Evangelium vitae* ©1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

St. Monica Tear Drop Devotional Mass

All are invited to pray for families and friends on the Feast of St. Monica on Tuesday, August 27 at St. Joseph on the Brandywine Church. We will be praying to bring back all those who have fallen away from the Church. Holy Hour with Rosary will begin at 5 PM and Mass will begin at 6 PM. All are welcome; light refreshments will be served following Mass. For more information, email 12374columbiettes@gmail.com.

Calling All Runners, Walkers & Sleepers!

The Little Sisters of the Poor again invite you to enjoy one of the biggest and best 5k events in our area! Run or walk the 13th Annual Knights of Columbus Nun Run 5K, presented by DiSabatino Construction and Saul Ewing. This event will take place on Saturday, September 14 (registration opens at 8 AM) at 185 Salem Church Road, Newark, Delaware. The cost is \$25 (until September 13); \$30 (on-site registration). A family discount will be offered at \$20 each for 3 or more members. The goal is to raise \$60,000 for procurement of a 14-passenger transit bus/coach to accommodate our residents who need assistance with wheelchair accessibility. For more information, visit www.nunrun5k.org or call our Development Office at (302) 368-5886 for further information.

SCHOOL OPENS SEPTEMBER 3!

REGISTER NOW

St. Peter Cathedral School

PreK 3 to Grade 8

Before and After Care Available

310 West 6th Street, Wilmington DE 19801

www.stpetercathedralschool.org

For more information contact:

Sr. Donna Smith, Principal, 302-656-5234
or email sds@stpetercathedralschool.org