



**12th Sunday in Ordinary Time
June 21, 2020**

Sing to the LORD,
praise the LORD,
for he has rescued
the life of the poor.

— Jeremiah 20:13

ENTHUSIASM AND GRAMMAR

There is a good reason that the writings of St. Paul don't show up as examples in grammar textbooks. Today's reading is a case in point. It begins with one of those long Pauline run on sentences that leave lectors gasping for breath. So what? Take a closer look at how Paul's fervor for his subject matter derails the grammar. There is something admirable about being so caught up in his convictions that the words cannot come fast enough to express them, much less in an orderly fashion. Scripture scholars usually take this grammatical ineptness as a sign of a passage's early importance in the Christian community, something they were so ardent about that their language never got refined.

What leaves us in this condition? Re-telling the plot line of an action movie or the play-by-play of a sporting event? When was the last time any of us was so excited by our faith in Christ that we were left grasping for words, stumbling over our own errors in speech? It may be bad grammar, but it is an excellent way to inspire others with the message of Christ!
--J. S. Paluch Co.

**SAINT JOHN FISHER (1469-1535) AND
SAINT THOMAS MORE (1477-1535) June 22**

From Robert Bolt's classic *A Man for All Seasons* to *Showtime's* edgy *The Tudors*, Thomas More endears himself still: lawyer-statesman of impeccable integrity, remarried widower and affectionate father delighting in a lively household—four children, a pet monkey, even a paid jester! And challenges still: humanist-reformer, yet champion of Catholic faith and papal primacy. John Paul II named him Patron of Statesmen and Politicians, citing More's generous work, both as a lawyer and in government service, on behalf of the poorest and most marginalized people of his time, as well as his promotion of education for all sectors of society. More's decision for principle over politics, conscience over convenience prompted his final words: "I die the king's good servant, but God's first." Alone among England's bishops, John Fisher dared challenge Henry VIII's divorce and repudiation of the papacy. When the Pope named the imprisoned Fisher a cardinal, Henry thundered: "Don't bother sending Fisher's red hat here; I'll send Fisher's head to Rome!" Whose "good servants" are we first? Isn't a right conscience worth the pain of standing alone?
--Peter Scagnelli, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a, 18; Ps 60:3-5, 12-13; Mt 7:1-5
 Tuesday: 2 Kgs 19:9-14-21, 31-36; Ps 48:2-4, 10-11; Mt 7:6, 12-14
 Wednesday: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139:1-3, 13-15; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80
 Thursday: 2 Kgs 24:8-17; Ps 79:1b-5, 8-9; Mt 7:21-29
 Friday: 2 Kgs 25:1-12; Ps 137:1-6; Mt 8:1-4
 Saturday: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19; Ps 74:1b-7, 20-21; Mt 8:5-17
 Sunday: 2 Kgs 4:8-16a; Ps 89:2-19; Rom 6:3-4, 8-11; Mt 10:37-42

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time; **Father's Day**
 Monday: St. Paulinus of Nola;
 Ss. John Fisher and Thomas More
 Wednesday: The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
 Saturday: St. Cyril of Alexandria; Blessed Virgin Mary

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!



For the month of **June** offerings:

PLEASE mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish,
P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website
www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. *Include your offering envelope # with your donation.*

**In June [as of 6/10]: 1st Collections: \$2045.
Add'l Oper.: \$540. Rural Food: \$870.**

6/21: Operating Expenses. 6/28: Rural Food.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA Zoom
Finance Council [FC]: TBA Zoom
Liturgy Committee: TBA Zoom

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: cancelled for now
Coffee & Goodies: cancelled for now
Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon: cancelled for now

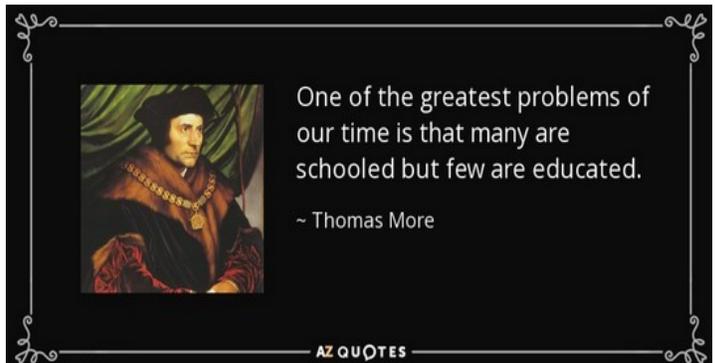


✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Fr. Bala is more than willing to fulfill Mass Intentions in his daily Private Mass celebration. (There is a customary \$10 stipend for any Mass Intention.) But it is left to the wish of those who have already submitted (or have yet to submit) to the office their Intentions, as to choice of a private or public Mass. Email to philip.teresa@yahoo.com Or leave a message at the alternate office number: 707-408-2650.

Prayer Requests: Leave a message at 707-408-2650 to add, edit, or delete names.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James, Pat P.





<http://www.mariansisters.com/request-a-prayer.html>

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE: JUNE 2020.

Eighty-six local families, including 33 children and 33 seniors received nutritional support on June 9. Recipient families were very appreciative of the fresh produce, dairy products and other much needed food which filled their vehicles as they made their way through our drive through distribution. Families who requested them also received protective masks. We will maintain our use of



social distancing, hand sanitizer, gloves and masks as indicated for the next few months. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations and awesome volunteers. **Thank you for your donations of time, talent, and treasure as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.**

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in Parish

Hall: Saturday, July 11, 9:00-10:00am for repackaging.

Monday, July 13, 10:00am – 12:00pm to set up.

Tuesday, July 14, 8:30 – 11:00am distribution of food to clients.

The pause that can refresh

I correspond with a distant cousin often. Our connection goes back to 1956 when I first met her family in Baltimore. I especially remember her kissing me goodbye – unexpectedly – as I boarded a train to return to Washington. I wasn't used to kisses at that time. It made a lasting impression – indeed she is 78 years old this year – which is why I say a *lasting* impression.

We talk about old times, people grown old, others passed away. She is in the restaurant business – hurting a lot right now – but still at it. She is by circumstance (I mean where she lives) and by business concerns a Republican. Lately she writes of losing touch with old friends and even close relations with her sisters – along political lines. She and her older sister are not on speaking terms. Like so many people today the climate of pandemic and protests and the seeming disarray of leadership at all levels of society are undercutting her once peace of mind.

What bothers me is her *extreme unsettledness* over these issues – without drawing upon the deeper resources of her nature. For I know her to be a principled, caring human being who nevertheless is susceptible to the stimulus of – for instance - the increasingly intense and mutually accusatory friction within modern media.

Of late I finally wrote her what I have found to be helpful after a long life on this planet. I said:

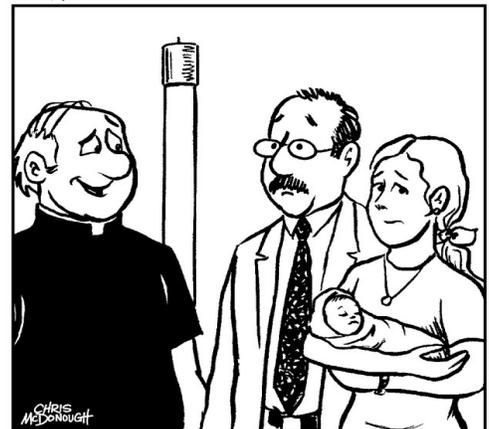
I spend my time reading some deep philosophers and of course great or even simple literature - both biblical and secular – because such resources try to get to the bottom of things, beneath the chatter and clamor of public life – which often aggravate rather than resolve our issues.

I try to ask myself: what is it we all, be it earth or sky, grass or robins, planets or rabbits or we humans ourselves, have in common? We all share the words "to be". We are! We exist! And when we all realize that we are that fundamentally related - we may begin to admire each other and stop messing with nature itself since we are intimately natural ourselves. I mean that we are all so profoundly related is the fundamental political fact we need to recover – before it is too late - again!

Nor is this philosophical truth that far removed from the parables of Jesus. Don't they also direct us from our superficial, often toxic environment toward the truer, hidden regions of our hearts and minds and understanding – the things we almost instinctually know to be true? That there is a yeast within us that can turn us into palatable human beings; that there is a pearl hardly visible amid the junk jewelry we have collected over a lifetime; that the buried treasure by which we can enrich our lives waits to be discovered? A treasure residing in a conviction, in a faith that we are one with the whole of this universe, microscopic and magnificent, racial and ethnic! Even now! Only waiting for the noise to stop, a pause – that will let us BE what we really are.

--Geoff Wood, 6/21/2020

Pastor Al™



"Sorry, but even if you do own a car wash, it just wouldn't be proper to hold a drive-through baptism."