



The Catholic Community of Divine Savior

Family Faith Focus

Volume 10, Issue 49

June 26, 2022

Dates to Remember

- June 26: Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Divine Savior Legacy Mass & Celebration, 9:00 AM
- June 28: Memorial of St. Irenaeus
- June 29: Solemnity of Saints Peter & Paul
- July 3: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time — Divine Savior Mass at 9:00 AM
- July 4: Independence Day— 9:00 AM Mass at St. Eugene

Food for Thought

"The glory of God is the human person fully alive."

—St. Irenaeus

Saint Irenaeus, whose name means "peace", was born about AD 130 in Symrna, a port city in western Turkey. Ordained a priest in Lyons, France, he later became its bishop. His writing about the faith linked the church at the time of the first Apostles to the second century in which he lived. Irenaeus fought to preserve unity among the churches and was a strong witness to the teaching of the Church as it came from Peter and the other apostles. It is believed he was martyred about the year 200. His feast day is June 28.

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Luke 9: 51-62

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

When the days for Jesus' being taken up were fulfilled, he resolutely determined to journey to Jerusalem, and he sent messengers ahead of him.

On the way they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his reception there, but they would not welcome him because the destination of his journey was Jerusalem.

When the disciples James and John saw this they asked, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to consume them?" Jesus turned and rebuked them, and they journeyed to another village.

As they were proceeding on their journey someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

Jesus answered him,

"Foxes have dens and birds of the sky have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to rest his head."

And to another he said, "Follow me."

But he replied, "Lord, let me go first and bury my father."

But he answered him, "Let the dead bury their dead.

But you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."

And another said, "I will follow you, Lord,

but first let me say farewell to my family at home."

To him Jesus said, "No one who sets a hand to the plow

and looks to what was left behind is fit for the kingdom of God."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sunday Gospel Connection: June 26, 2022 The Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C Luke 9: 51-62

Gospel Background: Today's Gospel reading begins a long section unique to Luke's Gospel. Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem, which will end with his ministry in Jerusalem. We read that Jesus' days for being "taken up" were fulfilled. The Greek word that Luke uses for "taken up" is the same word he uses to describe the Ascension. We also read that Jesus is determined to journey to Jerusalem.

(Continued on pg . 2)

(Continued from pg. 1)

For Luke, Jesus' ministry begins in Galilee and then is one long journey to Jerusalem. In Jerusalem he will meet his death but also enter into his glory. Only in Luke does Jesus then spend 40 days in Jerusalem instructing his disciples. It is in Jerusalem that his disciples wait after his Ascension to be sent the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. And it is from Jerusalem, in Luke's second volume, the Acts of the Apostles, that the Good News is spread to Rome and the ends of the earth.

Immediately Jesus is met with rejection, as a Samaritan village will not receive him because he is going to Jerusalem. There was animosity between Samaritans who worshiped on Mount Gerazim and Jews who worshiped in Jerusalem. Jesus was also rejected as he began his ministry in Galilee in Chapter 4. And he will be rejected for the last time when he reaches Jerusalem. James and John want to call down fire from heaven to destroy the people in the village, but Jesus rebukes them and moves on. There is often the temptation to use violence to achieve right. Jesus has come to break this temptation. He is aware that he must undergo violence himself before he can enter his glory.



The rest of today's reading is about the radical demands of discipleship. The three people who volunteer to become disciples on this journey show that they do not understand the demands Jesus will make of them. Neither care of self, care for the dead, nor care of one's family (as required by the Fourth Commandment) can come before the demands of discipleship. Jesus reminds the first volunteer, who would go wherever Jesus goes, that animals in the wild have more security than do Jesus and his followers. The second, who wants to bury a parent, is reminded that the demands of proclaiming the Kingdom of God take precedence. And the third, who wants to say farewell to his family, is reminded that once you put your hand to the plow you cannot look back or the furrow will be crooked. Such a person is not ready for the Kingdom of God.

Jesus seems harsh here, but he is only asking of his disciples what he asks of himself. Jesus' unconditional commitment to God's saving work will demand of him his life. He knows this, but the disciples do not understand. Jesus does not want anyone to rush into discipleship, because the demands of discipleship require everyone considering it to be aware of the cost, make Jesus and his mission central to his life, and then go forward without looking back.

Family Connection: Parents are always striving to help their children to set priorities. Children need to learn to finish homework before watching TV or going out to play. They need to know that they have to finish their chores before they can go out with their friends. They need to know that paying attention to curfews for their safety is more important than being popular.

As a family, talk about these examples of setting priorities. Share examples of how you learned to prioritize as you were maturing. Explain that in this Sunday's Gospel reading, Jesus talks about the importance of making him the number-one priority in our lives.

Read aloud Luke 9:51-62. Talk about how going to Sunday Mass as a family is an important way of keeping God at the center of our lives. Talk about other ways that the family can make Jesus a priority.

For more information and Sunday Connection resources visit:

LOYOLA PRESS.
A JESUIT MINISTRY

<https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/sunday-connection/13th-sunday-in-ordinary-time-c-sunday-connection/>