

Bulletin: 7th Ord Sunday, Year A, February 19, 2017

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Prayers: Please keep Maryann Dickie and The Chaney family in your prayers.
2. Ash Wednesday: Ash Wednesday is March 1, 2017. I will distribute ashes as follows:

Holy Rosary Dillingham: Feb 26, 2017 at our 10am Sunday mass.

Clarks Point: March 1, 2017, at 11:30, community center.

Saint Theresa King Salmon/Naknec: March 5, 2017 at our 10am Sunday mass.

HOMILY

SLAP ON RIGHT CHEEK

“When someone strikes you on your right cheek turn the other one to him as well.” If I were to be slapped on the right cheek, a person would have to use the left hand. In many cultures the left hand is considered dirty, because of how it was used to clean the body. It was a sign of disrespect to be slapped with the dirty left hand.

DEFIANCE: TURN THE OTHER CHEEK

If I then turned the other cheek, the person would be forced to use the “non-dirty” right hand. It is an act of defiance. I refuse to let you rob me of my God-given dignity. Turning the other cheek is how Christians fight back.

MY DIGNITY DEFINITION

Here is my definition of dignity: Take a \$20 bill and crumple it up. It is still worth \$20. No matter how bad things get in our lives or how many sins we commit, our value to God never changes. God always values us.

ACKNOWLEDGE DIGNITY

Here is how we acknowledge we have Christian dignity.

First, do as Saint Paul says, “Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: humble yourselves and become a servant to all.

Second, Leviticus tells us to “love your neighbor as yourself.” Also, love your enemies.

Third, be open to God’s grace.

Fourth realize how much God loves and values you. Acknowledging that our dignity enables us to hold our heads high even when people humiliate us.

ENEMIES

Love your enemies. An enemy could be someone who does not like you at work, a relative you cannot forgive, or a friend who betrayed you. An annoying next door neighbor. Pray for your enemies.

AL WAS MY ENEMY

When I added Al to my prayer list it was freeing. I overheard him gossiping about me with our boss. I prayed that our relationship would get better. Through prayer the Holy Spirit led me to confront him and we worked through our problems.

MAINTAIN DIGNITY

To maintain our dignity we must know, without doubt, that God values us. When people cut us down, gossip about us, and hurt us in any way, I think one thing, “I only have to please God, not man.”

INCORPORATE DIGNITY

The best way to incorporate Christian dignity into our lives is “self-respect in conduct.” Behave in a way that reflects that great value that God has for you. It will force you to examine your actions. Ask yourself “What would I do if I knew others were watching? Would they see my actions as admirable?”

CONCLUSION

We are all created in the image and likeness of God. We all deserve to be treated like God’s Children. If someone treats you differently, fight back!! No one has the right to slap us on the right cheek with their left dirty hand. We have the right to defend ourselves. When we stick up for our Christian beliefs, we become martyrs. Turning the other cheek says I dare you to try and take away my God-given dignity (483 Words).

READINGS

Leviticus 19:1-2&17-18

The LORD said to Moses, "Speak to the whole Israelite community and tell them: Be holy, for I, the LORD your God, am holy. "You shall not bear hatred for your brother in your heart. Though you may have to reprove your fellow man, do not incur sin because of him. Take no revenge and cherish no grudge against your fellow countrymen. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. I am the LORD.

1 Corinthians 3:16-23

Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for the temple of God, which you are, is holy. Let no one deceive himself. If any one among you considers himself wise in this age, let him become a fool so as to become wise. For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in the eyes of God, for it is written: "He catches the wise in their own ruses," and again: "The Lord knows the thoughts of the wise, that they are vain." So let no one boast about human beings, for everything belongs to you, Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or the present or the future: all belong to you, and you to Christ, and Christ to God.

Matthew 5:38-48

You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on (your) right cheek, turn the other one to him as well. If anyone wants to go to law with you over your tunic, hand him your cloak as well. Should anyone press you into service for one mile, go with him for two miles. Give to the one who asks of you, and do not turn your back on one who wants to borrow. "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. For if you love those who love you, what recompense will you have? Do not the tax collectors do the same? And if you greet your brothers only, what is unusual about that? Do not the pagans do the same? So be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant

God has sent his Spirit to dwell in us, as in a holy temple. Let us pray with the help of that same Spirit.

Deacon/Lector

For the Church, the body of Christ, that all may know unity in Christ Jesus, let us pray to the Lord.

For peace among nations and for the leaders of government, that all may work for universal peace and prosperity, we pray to the Lord.

For addicts and those who love them, that they find God, healing, and freedom in the midst of powerlessness, let us pray to the Lord.

For our community, that God's Spirit dwell in our hearts, we pray to the Lord.

For those who have died (especially.....Joe Shaney....): that their sins may be forgiven and that they may know the joys that the Lord has prepared for those who love him, we pray to the Lord.

In Silence let us now add our own intentions for our community and for the world.....We pray to the Lord.

Celebrant

Heavenly Father, help us in our weakness and hear our prayers, we ask this through Christ our Lord.