

# Bulletin 14 Ord A 2017

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Archbishop will be arriving in Bristol Bay August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

If you would like to start and lead a Saint Vincent De Paul program in Dillingham or King Salmon/Naknek, please let me know.

Baptism of Mattilynn June coming up around the 12<sup>th</sup> of July in Ekuk.

## **HOMILY**

### **ARE WE IN DEBT TO GOD**

From Romans, Paul explains, "Consequently, brothers, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh." This verse from Romans made me ask the question, "If not in debt to the flesh, are we in debt to God?"

### **SPIRITUAL DEBTORS**

Spiritual debtors are the poor of spirit, the humble, and the meek. The poor cannot own, rule, or conquer. The poor are truly deep in debt to God for everything.

### **ME IN FINANCIAL DEBT**

Before becoming a priest I was always in financial debt. Debt dictated my life and stressed me out. I was worried about paying it back. We deal with debt every day.

### **SPIRITUAL DEBT, MAY HELP US**

Thinking of debt in terms of our spirituality may help us in our daily lives to be better Christians.. I would like to compare and contrast financial debt with spiritual debt.

### **DEFINE FINANCIAL DEBT**

Financial debt is defined as an amount of money borrowed by one party from another. We owe another person money.

## DEFINE SPIRITUAL DEBT

My definition of Spiritual debt is something we owe to God for creating us and taking care of us.

## SIMILARITIES

Similarities between financial and spiritual debt:

Both motivate us to change something or do something different.

In both we owe something to someone

Both take sacrifice, suffering, and work

You receive something first, then pay for it later

## DIFFERENCES:

1. We choose to be in financial debt. Everyone starts out in spiritual debt to God.
2. Legally we must pay back financial debt. We do not have to pay back spiritual debt if we choose not to.
3. Paying back financial debt is a burden. Paying back spiritual debt makes us feel good about ourselves.
4. In deep financial debt we focus more on money. The deeper in spiritual debt we go, the more we focus on God
5. Financial debt imprisons us. Spiritual debt frees us.
6. Our reward for paying back financial debt is a paper receipt. Our reward for paying spiritual debt is hope for eternal life.

## OUR PAYMENT PLAN

How do you know if God is happy with your payment plan? You will know by the amount of peace you feel right now. The more you pay back to God, the less burden you will have, the more peace you will have

## GOOD WAY TO PAY GOD BACK

The greatest way to payback our debt to God is to strive and pray for peace and harmony among fellow Christians. Work toward being united with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

## **CONCERN: THOSE WITHOUT SPIRITUAL DEBT**

In the gospel Jesus is talking to those who choose not to payback spiritual debt: the arrogant, those burdened with financial debt; the unkind; the judgmental. He tells us, "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened and you will find rest." Choose to payback spiritual debt. You will actually become less burdened and happier. Jesus tells us, "For my yolk is easy and MY burden is light" (462 Words).

## **INTERCESSIONS**

**PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:** Fourteenth Sunday Ordinary Year A

### **Celebrant**

The Spirit of Jesus brings us life. We praise God and give thanks for this great gift.

### **Deacon/Lector**

We pray for our Pope: that he may continue to lead the world through his example of humility, simplicity and love, we pray to the Lord.

We pray that world leaders may be sensitive and responsive to the needs of those who are poor, we pray to the Lord

We pray that the Holy Spirit of love and of peace will give life to those who feel overburdened and who struggle against poverty and despair, we pray to the Lord.

We pray that children will know the love and respect they need to grow into happy, confident and faith-filled adult, we pray to the Lord.

We pray for those of our community who have died (especially .....): and for those who mourn the loss of a loved one, that they will be comforted, we pray to the Lord.

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

### **Celebrant**

Lord, knowing that you hear our deepest longings, we offer you our prayers, which we make through Christ our Lord.

### READINGS

Zechariah 9:9-10

Rejoice heartily, O daughter Zion, shout for joy, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, Meek, and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass. He shall banish the chariot from Ephraim, and the horse from Jerusalem; The warrior's bow shall be banished, and he shall proclaim peace to the nations. His dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

Romans 8:9, 11-13

But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary, you are in the spirit, if only the Spirit of God dwells in you. Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, the one who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also, through his Spirit that dwells in you. Consequently, brothers, we are not debtors to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. For if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

Matthew 11:25-30

At that time Jesus said in reply, "I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been

your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him. "Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."