

ANNOUNCEMENTS: HAVE A WONDERFUL WEEK!!

1. Ariana will be celebrating her First Communion this Sunday September 25, 2016. There will be a reception to follow. Ariana is the six-year-old sitting in the second row beside August, another first communion candidate. Ariana will be seven this Sunday as well and wanted her First Communion on her birthday. Front row from left to right (Jacob, Amy, and Gisha) are altar servers and helping to train our two first communion candidates.



2. Father Scott will be in Dillingham for Mass this weekend, September 25. BJ Hill will have a communion service at Saint Theresa in Naknek/King Salmon.
3. Mission Talks in Bethesda, Maryland, Saint Bartholomew went well. Fr Mark the pastor, Fr Time the Parochial Vicar, Susan the Secretary and all the deacons and their seminarian all made me feel very welcome. My goal was to raise 16 thousand dollars for the Cherokee Warrior two budget. After three of the seven masses I preached at the donations were about \$7 thousand dollars. They should have the total of all the masses this week.
4. The geese are flying in Clarks Point and Mariano and I may set up a day and time to go get some. My father was a big hunter and taught me how to goose hunt.
5. I plan to fly to Igiugig again to work with a couple teenagers for confirmation. We are instituting a new internet program where all the confirmation students from all the villages and Anchorage can talk to each other and learn about our wonderful faith together.
6. Instead of the homily that follows, I will probably preach on the Body of Christ as Ariana will be getting her first communion.

HOMILY

26 Ord C 2016, After-life, Amos 6: 1 & 4-7; 1 Timothy 6:11-16; Luke 16: 19-31

BLACK HOLE

Some people believe that the way I live my life now has no effect after I die. At death, everyone goes back to Sheol, or Hades. Back in the days of Christ, many people had the belief that there is no after-life. To die was to go into a deep dark black hole.

TEACHINGS OF AFTER-LIFE

In AD 507, Pope Gregory the Great sent missionaries to England to convert the Angles and Saxons there. The missionaries taught about the hope of an after-life. They taught that there is a better life after death.

After hearing this gospel message from the missionaries, King Edwin of North Umbria got together all his noblemen and discussed after-life.

NOBLEMAN'S STORY OF BLACK HOLE

One nobleman said, "Our human life is like a banquet hall. You are sitting at table feasting, with the warm fire blazing in the hearth, while outside the wintry storm rages. A sparrow enters through a window, flies the length of the hall, enjoying the light and the warmth, and then flies out back into the cold wintry darkness from which it came. So with us, at birth we emerge from who knows where, and for a short time we live here on earth, with its light and comfort, but then we fly out back into the darkness. We know nothing of what went before and what comes after. If this new teaching about having a better life after death can lighten the darkness for us, let us follow it."

RICH MAN NO AFTER-LIFE

In the gospel the rich man had no interest in after-life. He lived for the moment. His motto was "eat, drink, and be merry." His philosophy was, "I want as much self-pleasure for myself now because when I'm dead, I'm dead."

RICH MAN AND MATERIALISM

This rich man fits right in our 21st century culture of materialism. Materialism defines people by how much they earn, or consume, or spend.

KNEW LAZARUS BUT IGNORED HIM

The rich man knew who Lazarus by name. But on earth, he simply does not care about him. He is totally caught up in his own pleasures. He does not harm Lazarus and is not violent or abusive to him. He simply ignores him.

MESSAGE

Here are the messages that Jesus wants us to hear: (1) Actions in this life have meaning, significance, and lasting consequences in the after-life.

BLACK HOLE IS DEAD END

To me, to reduce life to physical pleasure and consumerism is to live a life of poverty. To live only for self and purely for this life, is to cheapen what it means to be human. I committed to a vocation because I found myself living a single life only for myself. I made money and I spent it on myself. I made more money. What fun!

TRULY HUMAN, BELIEF IN AFTER-LIFE

Being truly human means living with a commitment to, and concern for, one's fellow human beings. The message from Jesus this Sunday reveals the true meaning of life: loving thy neighbor leads to a more satisfying experience of life in the here and now, as well as in the life to come (521 Words).

READINGS

Amos 6: 1 & 4-7

Woe to the complacent in Zion, to the overconfident on the mount of Samaria, Leaders of a nation favored from the first, to whom the people of Israel have recourse! Lying upon beds of ivory, stretched comfortably on their couches, They eat lambs taken from the flock, and calves from the stall! Improvising to the music of the harp, like David, they devise their own accompaniment. They drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the best oils; yet they are not made ill by the collapse of Joseph! Therefore, now they shall be the first to go into exile, and their wanton revelry shall be done away with.

1 Timothy 6:11-16

But you, man of God, avoid all this. Instead, pursue righteousness, devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness. Compete well for the faith. Lay hold of eternal life, to which you were called when you made the noble confession in the presence of many witnesses. I charge (you) before God, who gives life to all things, and before Christ Jesus, who gave testimony under Pontius Pilate for the noble confession, to keep the commandment without stain or reproach until the appearance of our Lord Jesus Christ that the blessed and only ruler will make manifest at the proper time, the King of kings and Lord of lords, who alone has immortality, who dwells in unapproachable light, and whom no human being has seen or can see. To him be honor and eternal power. Amen.

Luke 16: 19-31

"There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day. And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table. Dogs even used to come and lick his sores. When the poor man died, he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried, and from the netherworld, where he was in torment, he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off and

Lazarus at his side. And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me. Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am suffering torment in these flames.' Abraham replied, 'My child, remember that you received what was good during your lifetime while Lazarus likewise received what was bad; but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented. Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go from our side to yours or from your side to ours.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, so that he may warn them, lest they too come to this place of torment.' But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets. Let them listen to them.' He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'"

INTERCESSIONS

Intercessions: Twenty-Sixth Sunday Ordinary Time Year C

Celebrant

Let us bring our prayers to the Lord, who looks with love on all in need.

Deacon/Lector

For leaders in our society: that they will remember people who are poor and vulnerable in their decision-making and policies, we pray to the Lord.

For the Church: that God's people will promote justice and peace and challenge excessive wealth and selfishness, we pray to the Lord.

That young people living in this materialistic culture find spiritual fulfillment and true joy in Christ, we pray to the Lord.

For all who have died (especially): that they may enjoy the promise of Jesus' resurrection and that those who are grieving for them may be consoled, 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

Lord our God, you call us to let our lives reflect your great love. Hear the prayers we make in faith, through Christ our Lord.