

12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A

Weekly Bulletin

Year 25, No. 10 SUNDAY, 21ST JUNE, 2020

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CHRIST THE KING CHURCH THEME FOR THE YEAR

LET US REJOICE, FOR NOW IS THE ACCEPTABLE YEAR OF THE LORD - cf Is 61.2

OFFICE HOURS

Weekdays

8:00am-5:00pm

Saturdays

8:00am-12:00pm

Sundays

8:00am-2:00pm

SUSPENSION OF USED CLOTHING RECEIPTS

The Parish has suspended receipt of used clothing as part of efforts to fight the spread of the Corona Virus. We will duly inform you appropriately when we commence again.
God bless you.

PRAYER FOR AN END TO CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

Almighty and merciful Father, who shows your love to all creation, we come before you asking for a quick control of the Coronavirus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world.

Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found.

We pray for the relevant Governments and Health Authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen



12TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME, YEAR A

COMMENTARY ON READINGS

First Reading: Jeremiah fearlessly condemned evil in society and his people continually persecuted him. He remained faithful to his difficult task as prophet, utterly convinced that God was with him. (**Jeremiah 20:10-13**)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 69)

“Lord, in your great love, answer me”

For Your sake I bear insult,
and shame covers my face.

I have become an outcast to my brothers,
a stranger to my children,

Because zeal for Your house consumes me,
and the insults of those who blaspheme You fall upon me. **Res**

I pray to you, O LORD,
for the time of Your favor, O God!

In your great kindness answer me
with your constant help.

Answer me, O LORD, for bounteous is your kindness;
in your great mercy turn toward me. **Res**

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad;
you who seek God, may your hearts revive!
For the LORD hears the poor,
and his own who are in bonds He spurns not.
Let the heavens and the earth praise Him,
the seas and whatever moves in them!" **Res**

Second Reading: St. Paul meditates on the evil of sin and death in the world. He draws the contrast between Christ and Adam, namely, that sin came into the world through Adam but abundant divine grace comes through Jesus Christ. (**Romans 5:12-15**)

Gospel : In the face of opposition by evil and sin in the world, Christ exhorts His disciples not to be afraid. Christians have Christ as their mighty protector and God the Father cares for them. (**Matthew 10:26-33**)

WEEKDAY READINGS & MEMORIALS 12TH WEEK IN ORDINARY, YEAR A

Monday	St. Paulinus / John Fisher & Thomas More 2 Kgs 17:5-8, 13-15a/Ps 60/Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday	St. Joseph Cafasso 2 Kgs 19:9b-11/Ps 48/Mt 7:6, 12-14
Wednesday	Nativity John the Baptist Is 49:1-6 /Ps 139/Acts 13:22-26/ Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday	St. William of Monte Vergine 2 Kgs 24:8-17/Ps 79/ Mt 7:21-29
Friday	St. Anthelm 2 Kgs 25:1-12/Ps 137/Mt 8:1-4
Saturday	St. Cyril of Alexandria 2 Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19/Ps 74/Mt 8:5-17

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

13TH SUNDAY IN ORD. TIME, YEAR A
2 Kgs 4:8-11, 14-16a/Ps 89/Rom 6:3-4, 8-11/
Mt 10:37-42

REFLECTION

We read today's Gospel in the context of last week's Gospel in which Jesus sent the twelve disciples to proclaim the kingdom of heaven. In between last week's reading and today's reading, Jesus has predicted that the disciples will face difficulties in their mission. Many people will not receive them well, even within the land of Israel. Even family members will turn away from the disciples because of the disciples' commitment to Jesus and the kingdom. Today's Gospel offers the disciples consolation against this difficult truth.

This section of Matthew's Gospel should be read in the context of Matthew's intended audience, a Jewish-Christian community. The Gospel alludes to the dangers and persecutions that this community has most likely already faced and will continue to face. To reassure this community, Matthew recalls for them the encouraging words of Jesus that we read today.

In this Gospel passage, Jesus might be understood as putting suffering in perspective. The disciples of Jesus are called upon to keep their focus on God. Those who can harm the body do not have ultimate power; God does. Still persecution and suffering can not be avoided or prevented. But Jesus reassures his disciples that God knows and cares about what happens to his children.

We might not face the same type of persecution, but we do experience difficulties as we endeavor to live a Christian life. Sometimes we let the opinions of others prevent us from doing what we know to be right. We need the reminder that what God thinks about us is more important. We are reassured by the promise that God cares for us and protects us.

FAMILY CONNECTION

It is not only individuals who need reassurance about God's love and protection. Communities need this reassurance as well, including the community of the family. Children rely on the confidence of their parents for this assurance. Parents can help the entire family's growth in trust and confidence in God by witnessing ways in which daily family needs are entrusted to God's care.

As the family gathers, distribute pieces of paper to each person. Tell them to write or draw ways in which they believe that God's help is needed for each person and for the family as a whole. Each slip of paper can then be collected in a basket.

Invite one member of the family to read aloud today's Gospel, Matthew 10:26-33. Recall together how well God knows your family and thank God for this wonderful grace. Conclude by praying together for each of the needs identified on the slips of paper. After each need is read, pray together, "God, we trust you because you know us so well." Conclude by praying the Glory Be to the Father.

This practice might become a regular part of your family's prayer. Set the basket in a place of prayer and encourage family members to add other needs throughout the week. Perhaps your family can pray for these things together during a family meal.

SAINT OF THE WEEK

Aloysius, the patron saint of young Catholics, was born on March 9, 1568 in Castiglione, Italy. Since he was so full of life, his father planned to make a great soldier out of him. When Aloysius was just five, his father took him to the army camp. There, little Aloysius marched in parade. He even managed to load and fire a gun one day while the army was resting. He learned rough language from the soldiers, too. But when he found out what the words meant, Aloysius felt very bad that he had used them.

As he grew, Aloysius was sent to the court of the duke of Mantua. Dishonesty, hatred, and impurity were common there. But the only effect it all had on Aloysius was to make him more careful to live as a good follower of Jesus. He became sick. That gave him an excuse to spend some time praying and reading good books. When Aloysius was sixteen, he decided to become a Jesuit priest. His father refused to allow it. However, after three years, he finally gave in. Once Aloysius had joined the order, he asked to do hard and humble tasks. He served in the kitchen and washed the dishes.

When a terrible sickness called the plague broke out in Rome, Aloysius asked to be allowed to care for the sick. The young man who had grown up with servants waiting on him now washed the sick and made their beds. He served them until he caught the sickness himself.



ST. ALOYSIUS GONZAGA

Aloysius was only twenty-three years old when he died. It was the night of June 20, 1591. He said simply, "I am going to heaven." The body of Aloysius Gonzaga is buried in the Church of St. Ignatius in Rome. He was proclaimed a saint by Pope Benedict XIII in 1726.

Peer pressure can sometimes make us say and do things that we shouldn't. Let's ask St. Aloysius for the courage to do what's right no matter what others are doing or what they think about us.

CORONAVIRUS PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES



WEAR A NOSE MASK

**NOSE MASK ON SALE
AT OLAFAS (HDR CONVENT)**

CALL: 020 244 6242

#STAY HOME | #STAY SAFE

TUESDAY TEACHING CORNER

YOUTH LEADERSHIP

HOW TO EXERCISE OUR LEADERSHIP SKILLS TO HELP US ATTAIN OUR ORGANISATIONAL GOALS

It is not just enough to possess the requisite character of a leader. We have to put these characteristics to practice so as to achieve our set goals. Adair, an expert on leadership issues noted the following points as very necessary for a leader to help attain his target goals.

Defining the Task - The first thing we are to do once we have a goal to achieve is to assign clear responsibilities to every member of the group. As youth leaders we should bear in mind that we are working with people of our age who may sometimes prove every difficult for us. But once we give the clear rules to operate and trust in their abilities they would surely operate and work out to the best of their abilities. Communication is thus very necessary here. We do not command our fellow youth once we are working with them like a military officer would command junior officers. Bearing in mind that they are our fellow youth we should speak to them with the greatest respect and convince them of the need to act so as to achieve the groups' objectives.

Controlling what Happens - Once we have clearly defined tasks for our fellow youth and communicated to each what he or she is supposed to do to achieve them we should just not leave them to execute the tasks as and when they want. We should be around to see to it that they are doing them as they are supposed to. We should thus encourage them when they are not on track so as to correct them and motivate them to do better.

Setting an Example - The popular adage goes actions speak louder than words and another leadership by example. Many leaders are able to move others to work by the example they themselves show. As I said earlier youth leadership is not like military leadership when all junior officers simply carry out orders issued by senior officers. As leaders of the youth group we are not to be influenced by commanding. The best way may be to

take the lead ourselves by doing what we may want others to do. By so doing we give them the best example to follow, they are not just motivated to work, but they also see how they should go about to do the work.

Tap Potentials - Each person in the group has something to bring to the fore to make the group's task a fruitful venture. As leaders we need to know the members in our group and their potentials and talents so that we can tap these potentials, assign the right task to the right person and achieve our goals. Failure to do this will go a long way to affect the progress of a group because we will end up as leaders putting square pegs in round holes.

DAVID, A MODEL FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Let us now turn our attention to the Holy Bible and learn from a youth who did not just lead his fellow youth but led a whole nation into great success. We can see his story from 1 Samuel 16 onwards.

David was chosen a King by God himself after Saul, the first King of Israel disobeyed God and God rejected him. First and foremost we have to know that God himself chose David because David found favour in his sight.

David, we can see was a very hardworking youth right from the time of his anointing. When the prophet came in search of the king whilst all the sons of Jesse were home David alone was in the fields tending the flock. This shows his love for work, dedication to service and his commitment to duty. This indeed is a mark of a good leader and no leader will be successful unless he or she is hardworking as a hall mark. Our hard work will surely motivate our fellow youth to also put in the best for the success of the group.

The story of David also makes us aware that we need the grace of God to be successful. We are told that right after David was anointed, the Spirit came upon him. It was the Spirit of God that led David to be a successful leader. The psalmist tells us in Psalm 127:1 that unless the Lord builds in vain so its builders labour. No matter how hard we work, if the Lord is not with us we would not succeed as leaders. God's spirit drives us on. And so let us not forget the Lord in our bid to lead a group. It is he who will lead us

and grant us all the wisdom we need to be successful.

A leader must be bold, a leader must be courageous, and a leader must be strong. All these can be inferred from David's encounter with Goliath and his defeat of him. Though a youth with no record of victory in wars, David led the Israelites to defeat the Philistines. As youth leaders we need to be strong, courageous and brave to be able to move on. Sometimes our own friends may make us lose heart and even dread being leaders. Unless we have a strong will and are very courageous we cannot make any head way and we would quit.

David teaches us to be optimistic. We should always see the positive side of things than look at the negative. Sometimes we become so focused on the difficulties and challenges on our way that we fail to see them as worth doing. Despite the strength of Goliath, David defeated him because he was very optimistic. This should however not make us set unachievable goals; rather we should set tasks that are feasible and strive to achieve them.

We can learn from Nelson Mandela's saying "It is impossible, unless it is done". It seemed impossible to kill Goliath until David killed him. It may seem impossible to achieve certain goals until we achieve them. Successful leaders see the opportunities in every difficulty rather than the difficulty in every opportunity.

We should learn to admit our mistakes. God was with David though he sinned against him because he admitted his faults, asked for God's forgiveness, and was ready to make amends and to progress in life. As leaders we should know that we are not perfect human beings and as such not perfect leaders. We may make mistakes and we need to be

very humble to admit these mistakes so that we can correct our mistakes and move on. Learning from our mistakes is a key factor to success and David shows us the way.

CONCLUSION

Leadership is indeed a task that we cannot run away from as youth. The earlier we accept the fact that we cannot run away from it the better for us. Because even if we run away from it, it will stare at us at some time in the future.

As we continue to develop as youth, let us take the opportunity to refine our abilities to deliver as youth leaders. The characteristics we have seen are things that are not beyond our reach. Some may be innate to us but others we can learn. But let us still bear in mind the characteristics themselves do not make us good leaders but we have to exercise them prudently to achieve our goals.

Let us not wait to be officially appointed before we act as leaders, no matter our position in the group, we may be the least in the group yet we have certain potentials of influence to exercise in order to achieve the group's goals. David is our model and with him as a model we shall surely succeed as youth leaders.

Let this quote be a guide to us as I end this "The strength of a group, lies in the strength of the leader".

PUBLICATION OF MARRIAGE BANN

1. Papa Kwaku O. Agyeman Osei & Beatrice B. Amakye Anim (2)
2. Michael Offei Thompson & Elain Korkor Ababio (1)
3. Festus Worlanyo Tepe-Mensah & Alice Anna A. Adjoumani (1)

On 1st June, 2020, he compounds of the Christ the King Church, Cantonments, Accra were successfully disinfected by **ZOOMLION GHANA LTD.**

The exercise successfully took place as part of measures to make the church premises safer in the fight against the Corona Virus Pandemic.

Attached are pictures showing the certificate of disinfection

