Bulletin Shorts for Year C – 2022

Sunday Prayer Shaping Life and Belief

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June and July in Ordinary Time

This Bulletin Shorts Series began in 2016 during the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy. Now, in this seventh year, it still aims to help the faithful and catechumens delve into the Sunday Scriptures and wrestle with Christian life. The hope is to rest more and more in God’s grace and act in more merciful ways. It is a life-long task.

Use these shorts with your diocese, parish, ministry, and friends. Put in the postal and electronic mail, post on the website, print in bulletin or newsletter, and share in other helpful ways. They are a gift. They are also posted on some diocesan worship office web pages. Here are two direct links

* Diocese of Springfield in Illinois: <http://www.dio.org/worship/liturgical-year.html>
* Diocese of Belleville: <https://dps.diobelle.org/dps/worship/seasonal-resources>

**This is my final year for writing these Bulletin Shorts. Seven Years (five in retirement) seem a good sacramental number. It has been a joy. If you or someone you know wants to take up this task, let me know and we can see what the next steps might be.**

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**Corporal Works of Mercy** ♦ Feed the hungry ♦ Give drink to the thirsty ♦ Shelter the homeless ♦ Clothe the naked ♦ Visit the sick ♦ Visit the prisoners ♦ Bury the dead ♦ Give alms to the poor ♦ Care of our Common Home ♦ **Spiritual Works of Mercy** ♦ Counseling the doubtful ♦ Instructing the ignorant ♦ Admonishing the sinner ♦ Comforting the sorrowful ♦ Forgiving injuries ♦ Bearing wrongs patiently ♦ Praying for the living and the dead ♦ Caring for our Common Home ♦

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| Bulletin Shorts for June and July in Ordinary Time in Year C – 2022 |

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity – 12 June 2022**

Proverbs 8:22-31. Psalm 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9. Romans 5:1-5. John 16:12-15.

**About the News Story.** Here is the gospel declaration, the Good News for today. Who? Father, Son, and Spirit – aka (1) the Trinity and (2) God. What? The love of God has already been poured into us. When? Before creation and throughout our salvation down to today. Why? Because we stand in God’s good grace by God’s loving design. How? Ah, that is mystery!

* What peace does the Father bring this day?
* What does Jesus have to tell me about affliction, endurance, character, hope, and love (see the Romans reading)?
* How will I let the Spirit guide me?

**Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) – 19 June 2022**

Genesis 14:18-20. Psalm 110:1, 2, 3, 4. 1 Corinthians 11:23-26. Sequence – Lauda Sion / Laud, O Zion. Luke 9:11b-17.

**About Dining in the Kingdom of God.** Luke’s gospel is filled with meal stories. Most of them point to the Eucharistic Meal, as does the one today. Four verbs stand out: take, bless, break, give. This is eucharistic language repeated at every Mass. It is Jesus who truly took and blessed his Body and Blood – broke it and poured it out for each and for all of us – and gives to us to eat and drink – so that we may be like him and act like him.

* Because of my sharing in the Eucharistic Feast, how will I be a blessing to family, colleagues, neighbors?
* Because of my sharing in the Eucharistic Feast, how will I break open my life for the benefit of another?
* Because of my sharing in the Eucharistic Feast, what will I give away? If stumped, think of the mercy works.

**The Nativity of St. John the Baptist, Solemnity – ~~24 June~~ Transferred to Thursday, 23 June 2022**

**At the Vigil Mass:** Jeremiah 1:4-10. Psalm 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15, 17. 1 Peter 1:8-12. Luke 1:5-17.

**At Mass During the Day:** Isaiah 49:1-6. Psalm 139:1-3, 13-14, 14-15. Acts 13:22-26. Luke 1:57-66, 80.

**About Preparation.** Saint John the Baptist is born first. He is six months older than his cousin Jesus. He spent his life preparing people for him, pointing to him, sending people to him.

* What will I say or do today to point others to Jesus?

**Friday after the Second Sunday after Pentecost**

**Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus – Friday, 24 Jun 2022**

Ezekiel 34:11-16. Psalm 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6. Romans 5:5b-11. Luke 15:3-7.

**About Sheep and Shepherd.** This Sacred Heart is filled with love. This Good Shepherd always seeks us out, keeps us safe. Reread Psalm 23 all day. Even put it to song with “My Shepherd Is the Lord” or “My Shepherd, You Supply My Need” or “The King of Love My Shepherd Is”.

* On what right path will the Shepherd lead me today? Will I follow?

**Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26 June 2022**

1 Kings 19:16b, 19-21. Psalm 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11. Galatians 5:1, 13-18. Luke 9:51-62.

**About Our Journey.** After his ministry in Galilee, Jesus sets his face for Jerusalem. Many disciples follow him to this destination, his destiny – as should we. For following Jesus is our call. It is our central task. It is our salvation. We do this not alone but with others.

* In following Jesus, what am I called to leave behind?
* In following Jesus, what must I pick up and take with me?
* In following Jesus, what salvation will this bring about?

**Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles, Solemnity – Wednesday, 29 June 2022**

**At the Vigil Mass:** Acts 3:1-10. Psalm 19: 2-3, 4-5. Galatians 1:11-20. John 21:15-19.

**At Mass during the Day:** Acts 12:1-11. Psalm 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9. 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18. Matthew 16:13-19.

**About Peter and Paul.** Here are two feisty men who fostered faith in Jesus to Jews and Gentiles. Their zeal for the Lord was emboldened by the Holy Spirit.

* Because of belief in Jesus, who am I emboldened to be and what am I emboldened to say or do?

**Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 03 July 2022**

Isaiah 66:10-14c. Psalm 66:1-3, 4-5, 6-7, 16, 20. Galatians 6:14-18. Luke 10:1-12, 17-20.

**About Being Disciples.** Jesus tells the chosen 72 where to go (ahead of him), what not to take (extra baggage), and how to behave (stay and accompany). Saint Paul carries this forward by stressing what is important for those who follow Jesus (boasting in the Cross of Christ).

* What does Jesus empower me to do and say today?
* How will I embrace the Cross of Christ this week?
* How will this discipleship enrich the Kingdom of God?

**Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 10 July 2022**

Deuteronomy 30:10-14. Psalm 69:14, 17, 30-31, 33-34, 36, 37. OR Psalm19:8, 9, 10, 11. Colossians 1:15-20. Luke 10:25-37.

**About Doing Likewise.** Question 1: What must I do to inherit eternal life? Question 2: What is written in the law? Answer 1: Love God, love neighbor, love self. Question 3: Who is my neighbor, then? Answer 2: The one who shows mercy (In this story, it is not the one who needs mercy – though likely a neighbor, too.). Point: Go and do the same!

* Who is a “neighbor” beyond my acquaintances, my tribe?
* What mercy work do I see being done?
* What will I likewise go and do?

**Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 17 July 2022**

Genesis 18:1-10a. Psalm 15:2-3, 3-4, 5. Colossians 1:24-28. Luke 10:38-42.

**About Worry and Anxiety.** Jesus is invited to a home. Martha bustles about. Mary sits and listens. We do not know that Lazarus does.

* What worries me, make me anxious?
* How does this rate in the scheme of Kingdom of God values?
* If I sit and listen to Jesus, what is he telling me?

**Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 24 July 2022**

Genesis 18:20-32. Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8. Colossians 2:12-14. Luke 11:1-13.

**About Praying.** Abraham is persistent in his pleading with the Lord. And the Lord listens and relents. A disciple asks Jesus, after seeing him pray, how to pray. Jesus gives a form that we use at every Mass and that we hand on to the elect each Lent. He then goes on about persistence in our praying.

* How does my prayer plead for the Kingdom of God to come?
* How does my prayer ask for what I need to do God’s mercy work?
* How does my prayer seek and offer forgiveness?

**Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 31 July 2022**

Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23. Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13. Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11. Luke 12:13-21.

**About Greed.** Family quarrels, regrettably, are often about inheritance, about possessions. That should be mine, we may say. I do not have enough, we may say. Jesus tells a story about how we are stewards only, and not owners of what we use; about how possessions can possess.

* How much is enough?
* What do I have that I can give away?
* With mercy works in mind, what will I do?