

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
JULY 26, 2020

Readings

First Reading 1 Kings 3:5, 7 - 12

Second Reading Romans 8: 28 - 30

Gospel Matthew 13:44 - 52

Reflection

The kingdom of heaven is like a merchant searching for fine pearls. (Matthew 13:45)

What are you looking for in life? Everybody is searching for something. Children long for a special toy or game. Teenagers look for a boyfriend or girlfriend or success at school. Working people might be seeking out the next big career opportunity. People of any age could be wanting financial security or peace of mind.

Today's Gospel introduces us to someone who is also a seeker: a merchant on a quest for fine pearls. Like many of us, this merchant is searching for something specific. And in the midst of his search, he finds something far more wonderful than what he expected: one single pearl of surpassing value, a "pearl of great price" (Matthew 13:46). Seeing it, he gives up the search for those "fine pearls." He commits himself fully to obtaining that one beautiful pearl—so much so that he sells everything else so that he can buy it.

Surely the merchant wasn't able to sell everything all at once. There were probably times when he doubted himself. But he kept at it, day after day, item after item, until he finally had it—the pearl of his dreams. At last he was content!

Jesus says this merchant shows us what the kingdom of heaven is like. It is made up of people like us, searching for happiness. In some ways, the things we seek can make us happy. But finding Jesus and being part of his kingdom far surpasses the happiness that anything else can give. In him we find the answer to our deepest longings for love and reconciliation. For security and fulfillment. For purpose and meaning.

Make no mistake: things we long for can often be good things. But remember the merchant. There was nothing wrong with the pearls he was trading in. Yet he sold all of them for that one pearl of great price.

"Lord, help me to see you as a priceless pearl worth everything in my life." (The Word Among Us)

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF JULY 26, 2020

Sunday, July 26

- 8:30am @ **St. Theresa**: Intention of Celebrant
- 9am: Parishioners of St. Anthony, St. Theresa & Our Lady of the Valley
- 10:30am: ✚Marlene Sanders by St. Anthony Parish
- 11am @ **Our Lady of the Valley**: ✚Gary Troxel by The Dickerman Family
- 5pm: ✚Coulter Hnatt by St. Anthony Parish

Monday, July 27

- 8:30am: ✚Ross Lanchbury by Family

Tuesday, July 28

- 8:30am: Familia Nunez Lomeli by Alejandra Nunez Lomeli
- 12:15pm: ✚Joan Colvin by Bob & Ann Zatkos

Wednesday, July 29

- 8:30am: ✚Don Carpenter by Jerry & Donna Carpenter
- 12:15pm: ✚Jack Thiel by Family

Thursday, July 30

- 8:30am: Dulce Maria Beaz by Familia Nunez Lomeli
- 12:15pm: ✚Stuart Allen Hauer by Richard Ranc

Friday, July 31

- 8:30am: Chris & Trish Maslak by The Sitz Family
- 12:15pm: ✚Anita Comstock by Sally Wyllie

Saturday, August 1

- 8:30am: Shaunna Bowler by Pat Thiel
- 5pm: Living & Deceased Members of Hartwig & Lenzner Families
- 5pm @ **Our Lady of the Valley**: Intention of Celebrant

Masses: Please note that we no longer have a noon Sunday Mass. Also, Masses do NOT require reservations nor knowing the alphabet! We ARE requiring face masks, wash/sanitize hands often and that the Body of Christ be received in the hand. Since all missals have been removed from the Church, please feel free to follow along with the readings by using an app on your smartphone. (Laudate is one example.) The Word Among Us & USCCB websites- among others- have the daily readings plus the prayers used at Mass. The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains dispensed. The Live Stream Mass continues to be available for the 9am Sunday Mass. The link is:

https://www.facebook.com/SaintAnthonysLiveStreamMass/?tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARA_xlmuSAcwtXM_PjSvvTW_KcymYTi1HDRxXV9kxaZAhNa9iZxp2ULMzrFj3ItMk63HZRrxGE_ohGma The link may also be found on our website, stanthonycody.org.



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

“We must always have courage, and if some spiritual languor comes upon us, let us run to the feet of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, and let us place ourselves in the midst of the heavenly perfumes, and we will undoubtedly regain our strength.” (St. Padre Pio)

There are several Holy Hours that are open. Please prayerfully consider accepting one or signing up to be a substitute. Open times are: Mondays @ 11am; Tuesdays @ 5pm & 6pm; Wednesdays @ 10am; Thursdays @ 1pm & 2pm; Fridays @ 10am.

Please call the Office for additional information, 587-3388.



PLEASE remember to pray for our church family members that are living in the Long Term Care Center and Brookdale: Mary Ann Metzger, Sylvia Gates, Marilyn Meyer, Mike Becker, Jeanne Pomajzl, Stacy Jourdan, Donna Brown, Nellie Grosz and John Case. “Honor your father and your mother, that you may have a long life in the land the Lord your God is giving you.” Exodus 20:12 **Let’s** also keep their families who miss them ever so much in our prayers as well.

This summer, Fr. Rick Malloy, S.J., will offer talks on Thursday nights on movies and songs that elucidate the themes of the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius. 7:00 PM in the church on July 23, 30 and August 6. Each talk will be 30-40 mins followed by Q&A. Zoom access will be available for those who cannot attend in person. See how we can search for and find God in all things. Grace can be discerned and learned in experiences of movies like *Gran Torino*, *Places in the Heart*, and *It's a Wonderful Life*, and in songs like "The Sounds of Silence," "Christmas in the Trenches," and "What a Wonderful World."

Thank you for your generous support of gifts to **Living and Giving in Christ: Unity in Diocesan Ministries 2020** appeal! As of July 13, 2020, St. Anthony is at 53% of our goal of \$76,669; St. Theresa is at 67% of their goal of \$2,766; Our Lady of the Valley is at 84% of their goal of \$4,396. For those who have not yet pledged, please consider doing so. You may donate online at www.livingandgivinginchrist.org. Please be mindful that to meet our goals, our shortfalls are taken from our reserves.

Offering to the Lord, July 12, 2020

Cody	\$4,664.00
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Online Family Fund	\$ 50.00

Offering to the Lord, July 19, 2020

Cody	\$7,797.83
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Family Fund	\$ 941.00
Online	\$ 875.00
Online Family Fund	\$ 70.00

“All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one’s need.” Acts 2:44-45

Thank you to all those who contributed. Your generosity is humbling. If you are interested in online giving, please visit our parish website, stanthonycody.org for the link.

Sacraments are available by calling the Office, 587-3388. Also, please call if you’d like to make an appointment for Reconciliation.



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