

**LET US STRIVE TO LIVE ACCORDING TO THE SPIRIT,  
NOT THE FLESH.**

Have you ever noticed what occupies our minds and what guides our life? Perhaps it is the latest commercial for a new car. Perhaps it is the quest for the latest technological gadget. Perhaps our moods are affected by the wins and losses of our favorite team. We can be so easily swayed by a powerful speaker, a recent social movement or by what's trending on social media.

Rarely will find fulfillment in any of these. The tech gadget will become obsolete, the fashions will change, the news will be forgotten, the great athlete will age and the topic of the hour will fade into history.

In what, then, should we place our trust and our energy? Saint Paul reminds us not to live according the flesh, but according to the Spirit. And where does that Spirit always lead us? To Christ. And where does Christ always lead us? To the Father.

What occupied Christ's life? Did He come into this world seeking fame and authority? No. Zechariah noted that this great king would be meek, entering His reign on a simple donkey. This kind would banish the sword and the chariot and proclaim peace to the nations; as a result, His dominion would be from sea to sea...to the ends of the earth. Christ came to bring peace. He came to proclaim the message of God's love and mercy. He sought to challenge the ideals of the Pharisees, to reach out to sinners and to love the outcast. Such attributes can only find their fulfillment in a heart that is humble.

What occupied Christ's prayer? First and foremost, He gave praise to the Lord of heaven and earth. He acknowledged all that God had done, and His authority over all His creation. This was sincere, vocal prayer – a model for all His disciples to follow.

What occupied Christ's message? Even in his term of address, Christ made clear that He was a son to His Father - obedient to the Father's will and caretaker of His message, forgiveness and love.

So, what then, should occupy our life, our prayer and our own life's message? How will we be remembered by our family and friends? How will be judged by our God? Are our days spent preoccupied with the minutiae of life, or are they occupied with seeking peace and showing mercy? Is our prayer dominated by words of praise or petitions for favors? Do our words echo the Gospel message or do we abandon that Gospel in our speech and actions?

If, in all meekness and humility, we place our trust in the Lord, then truly we will find that His yoke is easy and his burden is light. In Him, we will find peace.

<b>READINGS FOR THE WEEK</b>		
<b>Mon Jul 10</b>	Gn 28:10-22a, Mt 9:18-26	
<b>Tues Jul 11</b>	Gn 32:23-33, Mt 9:32-38, Mt 19:27-29	
<b>Wed Jul 12</b>	Gn 41:55-57, 42:5-7a, 17-24a, Mt 10:1-7	
<b>Thur Jul 13</b>	Gn 44:18-21, 23b-29; 45:1-5, Mt 10:7-15	
<b>Fri Jul 14</b>	Gn 46:1-7, 28-30, Mt 10:16-23	
<b>Sat Jul 15</b>	Gn 49:29-32; 50:15-26a, Mt 10:24-33, Mt 23:8-12	
<b>Sun Jul 16</b>	Is 55:10-11, Rom 8:18-23, Mt 13:1-23	



<b><u>YOUR SUNDAY TITHING AND CONTRIBUTIONS</u></b>		
Regular Collections	\$	14,866.42
Nativity Maintenance	\$	535.00
Nativity Elem.	\$	45.00
Capital Improvement	\$	456.00
<b>TOTAL COLLECTION</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>15,902.42</b>
<b>CASH NEEDED</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>14,400.00</b>

**WELCOME FATHER COLTEN SYMMES!**

We wish to welcome Father Colten Symmes to Nativity Cathedral. Father Colten officially begins his position as our Parochial Vicar this week. We are so grateful to have you, Father Colten!

**RCIA.**

The Rite of Christian Initiation is an invitation for adults to explore their interests, or to enhance their knowledge, in the Roman Catholic Church. The R.C.I.A. lays out a process in which men and women are guided and cared for as they awaken in faith and are gradually introduced to the Catholic way of life. The Nativity Parish will begin R.C.I.A. classes again in the Fall. Participants will meet weekly for nine months in the Sacred Heart Center. If you are interested, please contact Greg or Penny Payne at 228-365-6348.

**NEW WINE DEADLINES EXTENDED:**

Those interested in being part of our New Wine group that begins in the fall of 2017 have new extended deadlines: Deadline for submitting names and email addresses: Monday, July 17, 2017. Deadline for submitting completed applications: Monday, July 31, 2017. If you have any questions about the program, or if you need an application, please all Leo Trahan at the Office of Religious Education at 228-702-2131.

**COMMUNION VISITATION**

Jesus says of you and me, "You are the salt of the earth". No one should be deprived of the Most Holy Eucharist because they are homebound, elderly, have no means of getting to Mass and/or sick in their home. Sister Jackie Tarrant, RSM will gladly bring the Eucharist to you in your home. Together we can be "salt of the earth". Sister can be reached at 228-223-8129 or the rectory at 228-374-1717.

<b>EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS</b>	<b>LECTORS</b>	<b>ALTAR SERVERS</b>
<b>Jul 15 4:00 pm</b> <b>1. Jim Coskey</b> 2. Kathleen Coskey 3. Helen Languirand 4. Liz Joachim 5. Kalin Lloyd	<b>Jul 15 4:00 pm</b> Michael Bruffey	<b>Jul 15 4:00 pm</b> McKinzy Mathis Sam Burke
<b>Jul 16 7:00 am</b> <b>1. Marcia Mayfield</b> 2. Colleen Kavanagh 3. Danny Kavanagh	<b>Jul 16 7:00 am</b> Sr. Mary Jo Mike	<b>Jul 16 7:00 am</b> Wyeth Stewart Alec Ryan
<b>9:00 am</b> <b>1. Barbara Ziz</b> 2. Jim Compton 3. Linda Bourgeois 4. Judy Trahan 5. Bobby Weaver	<b>9:00 am</b> Steve Theobald.	<b>9:00 am</b> Justin Useforge Jamey Useforge Terrene McDonnell Cameron McDonnell
<b>11:00 am</b> <b>1. Deacon Ben</b> 2. Vicki Howard 3. Susan Toche 4. Judy Steckler 5. Sandy Steckler	<b>11:00 am</b> Michael Kessler	<b>11:00 am</b> Aidan Tarrant Clayton Stoddard Ava M Stoddard
<b>5:30 pm</b> <b>1. Roland Creel</b> 2. Tricia Creel 3. Kristy Arguelles	<b>5:30 pm</b> Janice Field	<b>5:30 pm</b> Jacob Arguelles Nicholas Arguelles Sydni Wells
	<b>CANTORS</b>	
	<b>Jul 15 4:00 pm</b> William Endicott	
	<b>Jul 16 9:00 am</b> John Welter	
	<b>11:00 am</b> Rocky Greathouse	

## MASS INTENTIONS

		<b>6:30 a.m.</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b>
Mon	Jul 10	Gabe/Doris Kasovich	Juilana Skelton
Tue	Jul 11	Ray Yenewine	Sonny/Helen Ross
Wed	Jul 12	Joshua Bozeman	Jean Kridle
Thur	Jul 13	Shirley LeBlanc	Dan Williams
Fri	Jul 14	Glenn/Joyce Pisarich	Collins-Sims Fly.
Sat	Jul 15	<u>8</u> Patsy Smolcich	<u>4</u> Laura Marie
Sun	Jul 16	<u>7</u> -Mary Collins Wilson	<u>9</u> - F. T. P.
		<b>11</b> - Kathleen Hebert	<b>5:30</b> Mary Travers Mulvey

## PLEASE KEEP OUR SICK IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Laura Weiher, Candy Widener, Tiffany Whitehead, Lena Marchioni, Kay Lawson, Jeanie Harbison, Holly Hill, Georgia Bellais Dominick, Maxine Kiddinger, Marie Manning, Lisa Walker Kirkman, Raymond Egers, Betty Hilton, Walter Blessey, Mary Lancaster, Danny Boney, Sr., Mickey Bradley, Cheryl Terry, Gwen Gollotte, Greg Hotaling, Richard "Red" White, Jack Joachim, Jr., Eugene LaCaze, Don Viator, Mabel Viator, George Krebs, Marian Semski and Michael Zorich.

## THE SANCTUARY LAMP

The Sanctuary Lamp is lit this week to lift up to our Lord those in our Parish suffering with depression and anxiety. For them to feel the comfort and peace of the Holy Spirit.

## BISHOP KIHNEMAN'S HOMILIES

*Bishop Kihneman's homilies will be available each week in audio form on Nativity BVM Cathedral's website. To access these homilies, visit [nativitybvm.podbean.com](http://nativitybvm.podbean.com)*

## NATIVITY BVM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

\*Final Registration for families who will have children attending Nativity School will be held on Thursday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00 p.m., Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00-2:00 and Friday, July 28<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-2:00.

\*Do you like to fix things? Interested in some yard work? DO WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR YOU! Nativity School's annual BYT (Bring Your Toolkit Day) will be held on Saturday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 a.m. – Noon. All sorts of jobs will be available JUST FOR YOU! Come and enjoy the fun!

\*Tickets are now on sale for the Nativity School \$3,000 raffle. Each \$100 ticket entitles the purchaser to 10 chances to win \$3,000. The drawings are held on the first Thursday of the month from September through June. Tickets may be purchased from any Nativity School parent or through the school office. Maybe you will be the first winner!

## PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

When planning a baptism, marriage, or for subsidized tuition rates for our Catholic Schools, you must demonstrate that you are a practicing Catholic and that you attend Mass. Using envelopes helps maintain a record of Mass attendance. The parish registration form can be found online at [www.nativitybvmcathedral.org.](http://www.nativitybvmcathedral.org.), or at the entrance of the Cathedral in the vestibule.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

July 11 -Men of St. Joseph, 7:00 a.m. – SHC  
 Bingo Mania 5:30 p.m.

July 12 -**Cleaning Team "C"**

- Mass at Seashore Retirement Home, 3:00 p.m.

July 13 Mass at Greenbriar Nursing Home, 10:00 a.m.

Holy Hour, 6:00 p.m., Chapel

## HOLY HOUR

With our Chapel renovations completed, we are anxious to resume Holy Hour. We will have Holy Hour on July 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m., in the Marion Chapel. Please consider coming and spending an hour with our Lord.

## BINGO MANIA

Doors open at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday. The following families are scheduled for July 11<sup>th</sup>. Robertson (Shawn & Mirna), Ross (Thomas & Julie), Tarrant (Gerald & Alicia), Wooden (Graham & Bianca), Burke (Sam & Sarah), Canon (Ryan & Summer) and Dagenais (Amanda). **REMEMBER! If you are unable to attend, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement.**

## PRAYER FOR PROTECTION FROM HURRICANES

Father, may all the elements of nature obey Your command. Calm the storms that threaten us and turn our fear of Your power into praise of Your goodness. Grant this, through Our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit. Amen.