GIVING OF ONESELF

Scientists have recently begun to discuss the idea that the primary force behind all life in the universe is self-gift. This is how everything from galaxies to human babies are born and sustained. If we read the opening of today’s passage from Isaiah correctly, we see that he anticipated twentieth-century scientists by over two thousand five hundred years. Using the self-giving example of the rain and snow clouds that water the earth that then yields fruit, which in turn is given over to nourish creatures, Isaiah leads us to understand that the primary force behind all life is the word of God. The ultimate giving of that word, we believe, was Jesus Christ, who, in the greatest revelation of divine love, gave of himself on the cross.

To what degree are we in touch with that self-giving God in whose image we are made? To what extent do we really follow the self-giving example of Christ into whose death and resurrection we were baptized, whose ultimate self gift we celebrate every week in the Eucharist? With God’s help, our lives can be like Isaiah’s rain and snow, and we will not return to heaven until we have done our part to make the earth fruitful.

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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary
Time July 13, 2014

You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest.

~ Psalm 65:12

TODAY’S READINGS

First Reading — My word will achieve the end for which it was sent (Isaiah 55:10-11).

Psalm — The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (Psalm 65).

Second Reading — We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:18-23).

Gospel — Some seed fell on rich soil and produced fruit (Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]).


TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

With the Reformation, some early Protestants, including the “Anabaptists,” rejected infant baptism in favor of “believer’s baptism.” Against Orthodox and Catholic practice, which favored baptism as soon as possible for a newborn, these movements desired that the candidate for baptism speak for him- or herself at a mature age, not through godparents as an infant. Today, it is clear that they were rejecting a very ancient practice (even as early as the second century) of baptizing children of all ages. Children came first in ancient baptismal ceremonies, and someone would speak for them. Gregory of Nazianzen wanted to delay the baptism of children to three years of age, since at that age they could retain at least some impression of the liturgy. He made an exception for the very ill, who were to be baptized ahead of the annual Easter baptism. That means that infants and children were normally baptized together with adults, and that everyone received confirmation and the Eucharist.

The tone of the early bishops’ writings is generous and compassionate, and seeks to build up the eucharistic assembly by widely celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit. If a priest celebrated baptism, then the gift of the Spirit was postponed for the bishop, but with no regard for the person’s age. So, until the fifth century, confirmation was for infants, too.

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY 2014

Sports. That sports may always be occasions of human fraternity and growth.

Lay Missionaries. That the Holy Spirit may support the work of the laity who proclaim the Gospel in the poorest countries.

GIFT SHOP HOURS

May 1st - Nov. 1st
Sat. 2:30 - 3:30
Sun. 8:00 - 12:45
RESURRECTION CALENDAR

ALL events take place in the Parish Center unless otherwise stated.

Adoration, First Fridays, 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
Bereavement & Beyond Ministry, 1st Mon. of June, July & Aug. 8:30am. Regular schedule resumes in Fall, Alouise 481-8168
Coffee & Donuts, Sundays after 10:30 Mass discontinued until Fall
Craft Club, Tuesdays, 8:30 - 10:30 a.m.
Men's Club, 2nd Monday of month, 7:30p.m., Sept. - May
Our Lady of Miraculous Medal Novena, Saturdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, church
Prayer for Priests, Thursdays after the 8:00a.m. Mass, chapel RCLA, Wednesdays, 7:00p.m., call 482-6883 for information
Rel. Ed., September - May
Resurrection for Life, 2nd Wednesday of Oct, Jan, Apr, 9 a.m
Resurrection Prayerline Ministry, call Deanna Latell 481-1170.
Rosary, before daily Masses and Tues. & Thurs., 1:30p.m., chapel
St. Vincent DePaul Board Meeting, 1st Tues. every month, 7:00 pm. For SVDP assistance call 239-600-6749
Teams of Our Lady, call Joann for more information, 482-7982
Women’s Guild, 3rd Wednesday every month, 8:30a.m.

MINISTRY OF THE SICK

The following hospitals are attended to by the parish in which they are located:

* Gulf Coast Hospital - visited daily by Blessed Pope John XXIII Parish, 561-2245
* Lee Memorial Hospital - visited daily by St. Francis Xavier Parish, 334-2161
* Lee Memorial and Hospice at Health Park - visited daily by St. Columbkille Parish, 489-3973

A priest is on call 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for the above hospitals at the above telephone numbers.

TO ALL PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS:

To protect your privacy hospitals do not give out information on patients without their permission. If you wish a visit from one of the Resurrection priests please notify the hospital as well as the parish office, 481-7171 as quickly as possible.

Resurrection priests visit the above hospitals daily upon request.

WEEKLY OFFERING

July 6, 2014
Reg. Offertory: $14,554.50
Education: $3,247.00
Latin Mass: $608.00
SVDP: $579.00

On-Line Giving, June 2014
Reg. Offertory: $8,024.00
Education: $255.00

SVDP Distributions, JUNE 2014
Rents: $2,500.00
Electric Utilities: $ 835.93
Clothing (shoes): $ 72.65

Twinning:
Saint Francis Xavier, SVDP Food Pantry: $2,000.00

“As long as you did it for one of the least of my brothers or sisters, you did it to Me”

Many thanks to Poor Box and other SVDP contributors.

Anyone interested in assisting SVDP Conference activities, please call or leave a message at 239 600 6749.
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reflecting on God’s Word

When we see the straight rows of crops growing tall and healthy at this time of year, we know that farmers plant very carefully to guarantee the highest yield. But that’s not the way the farmer in today’s parable plants. This farmer takes a big risk, it seems. Throwing seed around indiscriminately, some of it falls on the rocks, some on the road, some in the brambles, and, inevitably, some falls on good cultivated soil. Yet, even though many of the seeds die, this foolish farmer’s crop yields a hundred times what was to be expected.

This is how God sows the Word. Like the seed, the Word of God is to be scattered indiscriminately over the whole earth, without regard to where the good soil is that can receive and nurture it. Even though the Word does not take root everywhere, Isaiah tells us “it shall not return to me void, but shall do my will, achieving the end for which I sent it.” And Paul reminds us that the whole world will “share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.”

—Virginia Stillwell

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HAPPY 100th BIRTHDAY TO IDA HURT!!!!

Ida was born 7/9/1914.

She has 1 Son (Charles), 4 Grandchildren and 2 Great grandchildren

Ida has been a member of Resurrection parish since 2002.

May God Bless You, Ida!!!
"The People in darkness have seen a great light. The Lord of our longing has conquered the night. Let us build the City of God. May our tears be turned into dancing! For the Lord, our light and our love, has turned the night into day!" Dan Schutte, “City of God.”

Tracey Kinnunen is a young adult member of the music ministry here at Resurrection for the past 12 years. She shares her faith story. Since her Confirmation in 2002, she has encountered many challenges and difficult experiences including financial and personal struggles. She often wondered, “Why is this happening to me?” After moving out of her parents home, she drifted away from the church. It was inconvenient to maintain a relationship with God. Many of the people she associated with looked down on people who follow some sort of religion. Being a young adult can be a challenge! You are trying to figure out who you are, and you are accountable for your actions. This can be a really scary thing. After a time, she accepted her situation and started to take ownership for her choices. Her desire to realize and recognize her relationship with God made this possible. Her parents have continued to be supportive and the kindest least judgmental people she knows. Their ability to keep the light alive for her and their great example of faith-filled living showed her the light of Christ’s love.

“Faith is born of an encounter with the living God who calls us and reveals his love, a love which precedes us and upon which we can lean for security and for building our lives. Transformed by this love, we gain fresh vision, new eyes to see; we realize that it contains a great promise of fulfillment, and that a vision of the future opens up before us.” Lumen Fidei #4

Tracey encounters the Light of Christ in people she meets. She is a music therapist and works to help people with various health and cognitive issues. She discovers parents and caregivers of her patients to be some of the most positive and caring people. She sees the Light of Christ in their attitude towards life and the people they love.

Tracey begins her day in daily reflection (prayer). This helps her plan and keep things in perspective when dealing with difficult situations and people. Keeping in mind the times when she fails each day helps her to accept the people around her, who make mistakes. It especially helps when she understands because of her own experiences. She tries to keep an open accepting attitude about everyone she meets. Her life follows Jesus’ command to “Love one another, as I have loved you!” Her advice to the newly confirmed this year is: “STAY TRUE TO YOURSELF, EVEN WHEN YOU FEEL LIKE YOU ARE ALONE....REMEMBER! CHRIST IS WITH YOU.”

“Music acts like a magic key, to which the most tightly closed heart opens.” ~ Maria von Trapp

“The transmission of faith not only brings light to men and women in every place; it travels through time, passing from one generation to another. Because faith is an encounter which takes place in history and lights up our journey through time, it must be passed on in every age.” Lumen Fidei #38
PLEASE HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!

Your food donations will help St. Vincent DePaul, Catholic Charities, CCMI Soup Kitchen, South Ft. Myers Food Pantry. Drop food in boxes at vestibules in the church or Parish Center. The following is most needed: Canned fruit & vegetables (corn/peas/carrot/green beans), Canned meat (tuna/chicken/sausages/ham/Spam), Spaghetti noodles and Sauce, Ready Macaroni and Cheese, Maseca flour (small bags), Canned diced tomatoes, Tomato sauce, Cereal, Canned soups (prefer chicken), Baby Diapers, and Dry beans (pinto/red/kidney).

LIVE TODAY
Live today the way you will wish you had lived when you stand in judgment before God. —Anonymous

WEEKLY SANCTUARY CANDLE

An offering can now be made in memory of a deceased loved one.
Call or stop in the parish office for more details 239-481-7171.

This week’s Sanctuary Candle:

In loving memory of Walter Bjorseth
by loving Wife

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE ALTAR FLOWERS in celebration of someone’s anniversary/birthday as a memorial or in thanksgiving please call the Parish Office, 481-7172. Please make check payable to Church of the Resurrection. Bring to parish office or mail to us. The loved one’s name as well as the name of the donor (if wished) will be printed in the bulletin.

Altar Flowers This Week:

In loving memory of Richard Wilson
by Cathy Wilson

In loving memory of Kelly Huitema
by Friends at Resurrection

PREGNANT? NEED HELP? CALL 239-772-4673

RESURRECTION FOR LIFE

PLEASE JOIN US AT THE ABORTION CLINIC AT 3900 BROADWAY, FT. MYERS EVERY 2ND SATURDAY (after the 8:00 Mass) FOR THE ROSARY AND EVERY 2ND THURSDAY AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD, CORNER OF WINKLER & COLLEGE ANYTIME BETWEEN 9 AM AND NOON.

MEMORARE

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.

Amen

We are still in need of ushers. If you are able to volunteer please call John at 481-3456.
Interested in becoming Catholic?

If so, the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is for you!!!

If you or someone you know is questioning becoming Catholic please have them either call or e-mail me, Lea Pascotto @ 482-6883 or resurrectionre@gmail.com.

As people journey through life, sometimes they realize that they are wanting something more from life. Many times that something more is a faith community. If you are searching and want to inquire more about Catholicism, please do not hesitate to call—I would love to talk with you!

Please call me so we can meet each other prior to the inquiry sessions.

Sacramental Preparation
First Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation

Sacramental Preparation is a two year preparation period.
Faith Formation is a life-long journey; in order for a child to receive God’s graces through the sacraments he or she needs to be actively involved with Religious Education or Youth Ministry for at least two years.

♦ 1st Grade students need to be actively attending Religious Education to receive in the 2nd Grade.

♦ 9th Grade students need to be an active member of Resurrection Youth Ministry to be confirmed in 10th grade.

Registration for the 2014-15 Religious Education year is open

Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth Grade
Sundays from 11:45-1:00 or Wednesdays from 5:45-7:00

You may download forms from our web site: www.resurrectionch.org or fill one out in our office.

The cost is:
$60 thru July 31
$70 thru Aug 31
$80 after Aug 31
$15 for each additional Child and
$25 for Sacramental Prep

Did you know???
We have a Ministry for you!!

We are a faith filled community of Catholic Young Adults from area parishes who fellowship with each other and journey along side one another. We have a core group of Young Adults but want to extend an invitation for others to join us. If you are a Young Adult single or married, have kids or don’t, or know someone who may be interested contact Lea, Director of Religious Education at 482-6883 or email at lea@resurrectionch.org.

Register Now
RYM’s Annual School Supply Drive has begun!

WE ARE COLLECTING SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO FILL 45 BACKPACKS WITH ALL THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR OUR FRIENDS AT CATHOLIC CHARITIES!

Items that we will be filling the backpacks with are:
Pens, pencils, loose-leaf paper, spiral notebooks, binders, rulers, erasers, crayons, glue, colored pencils, markers, highlighters, scissors, pencil sharpeners, etc.

We are hoping to have all the supplies by August 1! If you are unable to pick up any supplies but would like to make a monetary donation, we’ll be happy to shop for you!

R.Y.M. ~Helping, mentoring, building community!

All donations can be dropped off in the Parish Center with Youth Ministry.

If you have any questions, call Vikki at 481-5144.

Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘worship the Lord your God, and serve only Him.’”
~ Luke 4:8
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