

ONE LORD,
ONE FAITH, ONE BAPTISM;
ONE GOD AND FATHER OF ALL.

Seventeenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time



San Ignacio de Loyola Parish

July 26, 2015

REFLECTION ON THE WORD

The multiplication of the loaves in today's Gospel points to a time of fulfillment when God's plan for redemption is finally realized. Even the context of the Gospel passage points to a time of fulfillment: it is



Passover—Israel's annual celebration of God's mighty deeds on their behalf. The wondrous and impressive sign that Jesus works on this occasion—

feeding five thousand with five loaves—points beyond taking care of the hunger of the "large crowd". Rather, Jesus' sign points to a time when God's mighty deeds come to fulfillment—a time when all people are abundantly filled and every need is met.

Jesus' unprecedented miracle of abundance doesn't warrant his being made an earthly king, in spite of the crowd's understandable enthusiasm; rather, "he withdrew...alone" so that the miracle of abundance points to the establishment of a new kingdom, a new Israel. Jesus supersedes both the apostles' and the crowd's expectations of God's reign: with little he feeds many and thus reveals that he is not an earthly king but an eschatological sign of abundance—of God's lavish Presence.

Words to reflect upon:

miracle of abundance

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people,
1 Timothy 2:1

Let us pray together today for the chronically ill:



Sylvia Tasner, Jerry and Albert Vega, Fr. Vega, Rudy & Sonia Méndez, Maggie and Don Maziarz and Peter and Leida Florito. **Let us offer today a special prayer of Thanksgiving to God for the priestly vocations of Fr. Vega and Fr. Lavergne. 50 years of Love and Service - "Amar y Servir"!**

Take, Lord, and receive all my liberty,



*my memory,
my understanding,
and my entire will,
all I have and call my own.*

*You have given all to me.
To you, Lord, I return it.*

*Everything is yours;
do with it what you will.
Give me only your love and your grace,
that is enough for me.*

— St. Ignatius of Loyola



Friday, July 31st, is the Feast of

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA,

founder of the Society of Jesus and patron saint of our parish.

Mass will be celebrated in the parish at 5:30 pm. followed by

a reception in the Colegio San Ignacio. We will celebrate **50 Years of Priesthood of**

Fr. Donald Vega, SJ and

Fr. Carlos Lavergne, SJ,

as well

as other anniversaries

of members of the

Society of Jesus. It

will be our pleasure to

welcome Fr. Flavio Bravo, SJ, new

superior of the Puerto Rico Community, and

Fr. Joseph Hill, SJ pastoral assistant to Fr. Larry.



Fr. Bravo



Fr. Hill

It is easy to forgive ourselves for doing nothing.

"I don't know anything about that", we say.

But Murray Cohen answers us back: "The ark was built by amateurs and the Titanic by experts.

Don't wait for the experts."

PRAISED BE ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

I. Pollution and Climate Change



(20) Some forms of pollution are part of people's daily experience. Exposure to atmospheric pollutants produces a broad spectrum of health hazards, especially for the poor, and causes millions of premature deaths. There is also pollution that affects everyone, caused by transport, industrial fumes, substances which contribute to the acidification of soil and water, fertilizers, insecticides, fungicides, herbicides and agrottoxins in general. Technology, which, linked to business interests, is presented as the only way of solving these problems, in fact proves incapable of seeing the mysterious network of relations between things and so sometimes solves one problem only to create others.

(22) These problems are closely linked to a throwaway culture which affects the excluded just as it quickly reduces things to rubbish. To cite one example, most of the paper we produce is thrown away and not recycled. It is hard for us to accept that the way natural ecosystems work is exemplary: plants synthesize nutrients which feed herbivores; these in turn become food for carnivores, which produce significant quantities of organic waste which give rise to new generations of plants. But our industrial system, at the end of its cycle of production and consumption, has not developed the capacity to absorb and reuse waste and by-products. We have not yet managed to adopt a circular model of production capable of preserving resources for present and future generations, while limiting as much as possible the use of

non-renewable resources, moderating their consumption, maximizing their efficient use, reusing and recycling them. A serious consideration of this issue would be one way of counteracting the throwaway culture which affects the entire planet, but it must be said that only limited progress has been made in this regard.

(23) The climate is a common good, belonging to all and meant for all.

(25) Climate change is a global problem with grave implications: environmental, social, economic, political and for the distribution of goods. It represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day. Its worst impact will probably be felt by developing countries in coming decades. Many of the poor live in areas particularly affected by phenomena related to warming, and their means of subsistence are largely dependent on natural reserves and ecosystemic services such as agriculture, fishing and forestry. They have no other financial activities or resources which can enable them to adapt to climate change or to face natural disasters, and their access to social services and protection is very limited.

...Sadly, there is widespread indifference to such suffering, which is even now taking place throughout our world. **Our lack of response to these tragedies involving our brothers and sisters points to the loss of that sense of responsibility for our fellow men and women upon which all civil society is founded.**

a simple message

Try saying this silently to everyone and everything you see for thirty days and see what happens to your own soul: "I wish you happiness now and whatever will bring happiness to you in the future." If we said it to the sky, we would have to stop polluting, if we said it to the ponds and lakes and streams, we would have to stop using them as garbage dumps and sewers; if we said it to small children we would have to stop abusing them, even in the name of training; if we said it to people, we would have to stop stoking the fires of enmity around us. Beauty and human warmth would take root in us like a clear, hot June day. We would change.

—*from A Monastery Almanac* by Joan Chittister (Benetvision)

"By making a moral choice to change we express God's grace."

— *President Barack Obama*

GRACE

Eulogy for Pastor Clementa C. Pickney President Barack Obama

"According to Christian tradition, grace is not earned. Grace is not merited. It's not something we deserve. Rather, Grace is the free and benevolent favor of God...manifested in the salvation of sinners and the bestowal of blessings."

"Our calling is not just within the walls of the congregation but within the life and community in which our congregation resides."

"Our Christian faith demands deeds and not just words. The sweet hour of prayer actually lasts the whole week long. To put our faith in action is more than just individual salvation, it's about our collective salvation. To feed the hungry, to clothe the naked and house the homeless is not just a call to isolated charity but the imperative of a just society."