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St. Francis of Assisi Parish

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August 18th, 2019
Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time



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Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 38. 4-6, 8-10
Second Reading: Hebrews 12. 1-4
Gospel: Luke 12. 49-53

Our God is a consuming fire, the Scriptures tell us. And in this week's Gospel, Jesus uses the image of fire to describe the demands of discipleship.

The fire He has come to cast on the earth is the fire that He wants to blaze in each of our hearts. He made us from the dust of the earth and filled us with the fire of the Holy Spirit in Baptism.

We were baptized into His death. This is the baptism our Lord speaks of in the Gospel this week. The baptism with which He must be baptized is His passion and death, by which He accomplished our redemption and sent forth the fire of the Spirit on the earth.

The fire has been set, but it is not yet blazing. We are called to enter deeper into the consuming love of God. We must examine our consciences and our actions, submitting ourselves to the revealing fire of God's Word.

In our struggle against sin, we have not yet resisted to the point of shedding our own blood, Paul tells us in this week's Epistle. We have not undergone the suffering that Jeremiah suffers in the First Reading this week.

But this is what true discipleship requires. To be a disciple is to be inflamed with the love of the God. It is to have an unquenchable desire for holiness and zeal for the salvation of our brothers and sisters.

Being His disciple does not bring peace in the false way that the world proclaims peace. It means division and hardship. It may bring us to conflict with our own flesh and blood.

But Christ is our peace. By His Cross He has lifted us up from the mire of sin and death—as He will rescue the prophet Jeremiah.

And as we sing in the Psalm this week, we trust in our deliverer.

~Dr. Scott Hahn (www.stpaulcenter.com)

The Mass: Session Six - This Sunday

The final session of Bishop Barron's *The Mass* series will be this Sunday, Aug. 18th, after the 9am Mass. Everyone is encouraged to join us as Bishop Barron explains the special significance of the Eucharist and why Vatican II referred to it as "source and summit of the Christian life" Even if you haven't been able to attend any of the previous 5 sessions, please come! Coffee and snacks to be provided.

Card Basket for the Dansereau's

There will be a basket on the back table for cards and notes for Paul, Christina and their family at each weekend mass throughout August. Paul starts his two years of studies in Edmonton next month. Help yourselves to the note cards beside the basket if you have forgotten to bring one.

Apple Pie Sale - October 1 & 2, 2019

The apples and plates have already been ordered! The planning is underway. Mark your calendars!

Coffee After Mass - August 25th

Please join us after mass on Sunday, August 25 for coffee and desserts to bid farewell and good luck to the Dansereau family and to thank them for all they have done for our parish. We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Mass Times

Saturday 7pm
Sunday 9am

Thursday 9am
Friday 9am

Adoration

Friday following the 9am Mass until 10am