

**For The Bulletin Of
June 10, 2018**



**THE TENTH SUNDAY IN
SUMMER'S ORDINARY TIME**

From Father Robert

Today we have a story about Jesus' family. In between this story there is another about scribes from Jerusalem attributing Jesus' power to Beelzebul, a name for the devil. Mark often uses this literary device of "sandwiching" one story within another. The gospel begins with a snippet that is unique to Mark: Jesus' relatives come to get Him, saying "He is out of His mind." This is hardly the image we have of Jesus' own family. But, we are reminded that in Mark, the first canonical gospel that was written, there is no infancy narrative, no annunciation to Mary or Joseph's dream that he should take Mary as his wife. If we had only Mark's gospel, our image of the Holy Family would be quite different. For this story begins with the claim that Jesus is out of His mind, and concludes with Jesus' semi-rebuke to His family: "Here are my mother and my brothers./For whoever does the will of God/is my brother and sister and mother."

This gospel passage tells us something about the persecuted Markan Christian community of the late first century. For

that community especially, bonds of faith in Jesus were stronger than blood relationships. Many of the early Christians left family to join this band of believers. Remaining family members may have looked down on Christians almost as we regard cult members today. The early Christians were misunderstood by society, persecuted, and even killed. They found consolation with other Christians and their common faith in Jesus. Non-believing family members thought this new religion was strange. Jesus is the prime example of one misunderstood by His family, who thinks He is out of His mind. They come to bring Him home, perhaps believing He is an embarrassment. Rather than acquiesce to their demands, He demonstrates that His believers have a bond stronger than blood.

Wrapped in this story about Jesus' family is another about scribes from Jerusalem who attribute His power to the devil. Not surprisingly, Jesus disputes that. He has been engaged in a battle with evil since the beginning of His ministry. He is not fighting on behalf of evil. A house divided against itself cannot stand. To attribute Jesus' activity to the devil is a sin against the Holy Spirit that will not be forgiven.

The stakes are high. Jesus seems to be getting it from all sides. His family, who raised Him, and the scribes, who are experts in the law, do not understand Him. He is thought to be out of His mind by some and by others to be possessed by a demon. Neither is very flattering! But Jesus stays true to Who He is and counters each assault. The community He is forming is something new, based not on familial relations, but stronger than family.

Living The Paschal Mystery

Today's passage gives us a rather unique perspective on the identity of Jesus vis-à-vis His contemporaries. Often we are so imbued with stories from other gospels and preaching from years of attending Eucharist, that it can be challenging to hear a gospel story on its own terms, un-encumbered by other material. But today's gospel reminds us that Jesus did not have it easy. Are we expecting the same? Today self-righteous Christians may think they are persecuted for their faith when in fact they might simply be obnoxious. Jesus was misunderstood not because of obnoxious behavior, aloofness, or one-upmanship, but because He enjoyed the company of "sinners." He ate with those who were considered of ill repute. He engaged those who were said to be with demons. He did not fast but enjoyed great dinner parties. His behavior embarrassed His family and those who preferred cultural norms that kept certain people on the margins. It's one thing to admire Jesus. It's quite another to act as he did. Many of us are admirers of Jesus. But do I act as He did? Am I willing to face embarrassment to do what He did?

As we enter Summer's Ordinary Time once again, what questions does this gospel present to you as we move into the "long green season?"

- When have you experienced your family, community, our parish, putting aside individual interests for the sake of the common good?
- What is the "craziest" thing that Jesus says in the gospels?

- When have you lost hope in the possibility of forgiveness, of mercy, of justice?
- Have you ever faced the sudden realization (as Adam and Eve do in the first reading) that you have done something wrong – that you were suddenly "naked?"



About Liturgy: A House Divided

Some people think that when you work for the Catholic Church, everything is harmonious and pleasant and everyone gets along. But just like any human organization, there can be problems and challenges. Just talk about liturgy and your preferences about it with other liturgically-minded Catholics, and soon enough, a debate will break out, and once in a while, that debate gets nasty.

All of us have our preferences when it comes to what we think makes liturgy meaningful and prayerful. We each have a liturgical sensibility an style that works for us and helps us enter more deeply into prayer. But our preferences and sensibilities have to find their appropriate place within the challenging, but often rewarding, task of discerning what is best for the assembly. The United States bishops said it well in their 1972 document on music in the liturgy (which today is replaced by a newer document, "Sing To The

Lord,” whose arrival also came with some debate as well). They said “Each Christian must keep in mind that to live and worship in community often demands a personal sacrifice. All must be willing to share likes and dislikes with others whose ideas and experiences may be quite unlike their own” (Music In Catholic Worship, #17).

We can plan liturgy well and authentically for an assembly only when we collaborate with others who have responsibility for various aspects of the liturgy. That collaboration will surely raise disagreements at times. Those moments are opportunities for each of us to embrace sacrifice and to remind one another of our common goal: the praise of God and the sanctification of humanity through the full, conscious and active participation of all the faithful. Let us remember that we’re all on the same team when it comes to doing the holy work of communal prayer. We do not need to be a house divided against itself if we can treat one another with compassion and remind ourselves that “in my Father’s house there are many dwelling places” (John 14:2).



About Initiation: Other Christians Becoming Catholic

For some of our Christian sisters and brothers, the decision to become Catholic is relatively easy and they find much support from family and friends. Perhaps they have been married to a Catholic for many years, raised their children Catholic, and been attending Liturgy and participating in the parish throughout. However, for some others, the decision to leave the denomination of their childhood is filled with grief and anguish. Some may have family members who believe they are out of their minds, as Jesus’ own relatives thought of Him in today’s gospel. Some may have even been estranged from loved ones because of their decision.

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults reminds us that for Christians choosing to become Catholic, “no greater burden than necessary is required for the establishment of communion and unity” (RCIA #473). This, however, does not always relieve the pain that some will experience. Let us honor each person’s unique path and discernment and give each of them the support they need to find peace within their chosen and given families.

25th Anniversary Congratulations

Today we join the family members of **Dave and Maria Sparling** in celebrating and honoring their 25th Anniversary of Marriage. They will receive the Anniversary Blessing at the conclusion of the 10:00 a.m. Eucharist today. Congratulations and may God bless you with the

deepening of your love for one another, the best of health, and much happiness for all the years yet to be.

My 90th Birthday Celebration

I wish to thank everyone for all the outpouring of love, prayers, hugs and kisses, cards and gifts expressing your wishes for my 90th Birthday. It was certainly a day I shall never forget.

Thank you Father Robert for making my day so special. My love to you all.

Dorothy Lamendola



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You are invited to join me in participating in our Pittsburg/Antioch Ceasefire Movement which is starting up once again. For the past several months, I have been a member of the CeaseFire Task Force that has been meeting each week with Sgt. Cassie Wilkerson from Pittsburg PD and Sgt. Matt Summers from Antioch PD to re-establish the CeaseFire Movement in East County. The first Community Forum and Nightwalk Against Violence will take place beginning at 6 p.m. on Thursday, June 14th at Christ Is The Answer Church, 405 School Street, Pittsburg. The event will conclude at 8 p.m. Please see the flyer in today's bulletin for detailed information.



You are invited to join the family of **Mary Kendrick** in thanking God for the Gift of Her Life this coming Friday, June 15th at 10:30 a.m. followed by a Luncheon Reception in our parish hall under the direction of our St. Martha's Guild. Mary was a parishioner for a number of years and also served as a Eucharistic Minister before developing cancer and moving to Colorado to be near her son during the final months of her life. She loved our parish and, until her health failed, walked to daily liturgy from her home off of Putnam. She also was lovingly cared for by Lorraine Lohmeier after one of her surgeries and we are deeply grateful to Lorraine for caring for and loving Mary. I hope you will join us.

YLI Pasta Dinner 2018

Sunday, April 29th the Parish Hall was transformed into an Italian Restaurant. Red & white checkered table covers, wine bottles and grapes decorated the tables. The smell of pasta sauce was warming in the kitchen, garlic bread and salad was being prepared along with appetizers as we prepared to receive over 230 guests. Ten beautifully wrapped baskets filled with goodies were sitting on the raffle table. Cakes and Ice Creams awaited the dessert table.

To the **Knights of Columbus #12587**, we want to express our gratitude and appreciation for all their hard work

extended to us for our Pasta Dinner. Your group set up tables & chairs, cooked pasta to perfection, washed pots and took care of the garbage detail along with bar detail. They stayed to the end taking down tables and chairs, sweeping and mopping the floors and cleaned the kitchen along with our members. To **Steve Rojek** for printing our dinner tickets at no cost to our Institute, thank you. We also want to recognize the **Confirmation class** of St. Ignatius of Antioch that signed up to help serve the dinners to our guests. Many compliments were heard for their service to this event. Great job!

We had a troop of **YLI members and non-members** who helped make this a spectacular day. From selling tickets after mass to working in the kitchen it all worked like a fine-tuned watch. If you attended you know how delicious the dinner was, if you were unable to attend we hope to see you at our next year's event.

It was with pride from our YLI officers and members that we raised \$2,000 for St. Ignatius of Antioch as well as \$2,000 for Most Holy Rosary. Thank you for allowing us the use of St. Ignatius of Antioch Parish Hall.

Pasta Committee Chairperson,
Jeannine Ford, Antioch YLI #101

The 39th Anniversary Luau

A big MAHALO to the 40th Planning Committee, the Social Events Committee and the Knights of Columbus who sponsored our 39th Anniversary Luau on June 2nd. It was a wonderful evening that took everyone who attended on a little "vacation" to Hawaii!

Thank you to **Samantha Peralto** and her dance troupe who entertained us with beautiful Hawaiian dances. Also thank you to Samantha for the delicious appetizers and salads. A special thank you to **Vicki and Brian McCoy** who prepared our delicious desert of pineapple upside down cake! Thank you to our wonderful donors of silent auction items: **Ed and Sandy Stokes; Reggia Desmond; Rich and Pam Confetti; Chip and Jane Sharpe; Bob and Marla Plurkowski; Clem Bushman and Rachelle Martin**. Thank you to all those who helped in decorating, set up, clean up and serving that evening. Thank you to **Clem Bushman, Jose Palamino, Rich Confetti, Don Benson, Steve Rojek, MaryAnne Douville, Mary Ewing, Sharon Cissell, Lorraine Lohmeier, Susan Batterton, Emily Douville, Theresa Nelms, Will Avitable, Catherine Vidaurri, Judi Heckendorn, Pat Kramer, Jane & Chip Sharpe, Brian & Vicki McCoy, Rachelle Martin and Carole Miller**.

A special thank you to **Jeff Boatright** and our Confirmation students: **Jeffrey Boatright, Jr., Angelica Boatright, Jason Madrigal, Isabella Necor, Alessandra Necor and William Necor**.

And a special thank you to Father Robert also, and all those who supported this wonderful kickoff event for our 40th Anniversary!!



...to our amazing Art & Environment Committee who did a wonderful job transforming the church back to Summer's Ordinary Time: **Rich Confetti, Don Benson, Jose Palomino, Tony and Claudia Gumina, Harlan Young, Dorothy O'Connor, Norma Villegas, Pat Kramer, Tom and Stevie Catchings, Vangie Parrilla, Carole Miller, Lorraine Lohmeier and Janice Kegler.**

...to our wonderful volunteer parishioners who do such a great job of caring for and cleaning the church each Saturday morning: **Emilia Freking, Rose Salamanca, Carole Miller, Angela Bueno, Heather Hatteroth, Mercy Osborne, Alfred Madoshi, Al Cosce, Jun Bajet, and Steve Rojek.**

...to our wonderful volunteer parishioners who clean and maintain the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall each week: **Robert Goncalves, Virginia Noack, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, and Harlan Young.**

...to **Mary Anne Douville** and **Faultless Cleaners** for all the dry cleaning, sewing and miscellaneous other tasks that are completed by her for the parish.

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week:

Peter Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan

Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.

...to **our counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week:

Sharon Cissell, Harlan Young, Alicia Perez, Yvette Young, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Frank Zamora and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Carole Miller, Vangie Parrilla, Sherry Webb, Kathy Augusta and Vince Augusta.**

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during the weekend liturgies: **Don Benson and Steve Rojek.**



Thank You

On behalf of all of us, I wish to thank the **YLI** for their very generous gift to the parish as a result of their recent Pasta Dinner in the amount of \$2,000.00 which will be contributed to the Expansion Fund for the remodeling of the parish hall and building of our new kitchen. We are deeply grateful for all the wonderful charitable work these dedicated women do to support both our parish and Holy Rosary.

I also wish to thank and recognize our **Knights of Columbus** who also recently made a very generous contribution to the parish in the amount of \$10,000 as a result of their Lenten Fish Fry dinners. What would we do without our Knights who are involved in the life of the parish on a daily basis in so many ministries and outreaches? Thank you, as well, from all of us, for all you do to help our parish in the wonderful, amazing community of faith that it is. You are deeply appreciated.



Dear St. Ignatius of Antioch Parishioners,

On Saturday, May 26, 2018 our St. Ignatius of Antioch Relay for Life Team held its annual family pasta dinner.

Our dedicated team of volunteers worked to make the evening enjoyable for all. The evening began with tasty appetizers that included jalapeno poppers, pinwheel petite sandwiches and pizza bites. Our 50 guests and volunteers then feasted on French bread, a garden salad and penne pasta with meat marinara sauce. Dessert consisted of vanilla ice-cream with fresh strawberries and blueberries.

There were fourteen raffle prizes given away and the evening included great music by **Jim Peddicord** and the **Nite Notes**, with a special guest singer **Alicia**

Perez. Thank you to Jim and his wonderful jazz band for the great music that added to the fun evening.

Thank you to the following Relay team members for their time and effort in making our event so much fun and successful; **Rich Confetti** our resident chef; Rich's kitchen staff, **Carol Miller, Don Benson** (donated the French bread), **Brian and Vicki McCoy** (donated the salad and all the fixins') **Pam Confetti, Lorraine Lohmeier, Emily Douville, David and Sharon Simpson and June Stuhlreyer** (donated the pinwheel sandwiches).

Thank you to **Pat Kramer and Bev Iacona** for collecting our door tickets and selling raffle tickets. Thank you to **Jose Perez and Jose Palomino** for tending bar. Thank you to the following for raffle prize donations: **Bob and Marla Plurkowski, Emily Douville, Perez Family, Pam Confetti, Harlan Young, Dave Costanza, Steve and Frances Rojek, El Campanil Theater, Julie Huff, and Danielle's Jewelry**. Thank you to the **YLI and Jeannine Ford** for donating the marinara sauce and five bottles of wine.

Thank you to **Maryann Peddicord** for her dedication in helping with the raffle prizes and overseeing the evening's success, as well as **Mike and Caitlin Pineda** for their help in the clean-up afterward.

We made \$615 in ticket sales, \$345 in donations, \$160 in raffle prizes sales, \$71 in beverage sales and \$13 in Luminara donations for a total of \$1204 raised! Awesome!!

We would especially like to thank our parishioners who generously made monetary donations: **YLI \$100, Dave and Meloye Costanza \$100, Jeanne Reilly \$100, Dorothy O'Connor \$25 and Ed and Sandy Stokes \$50.**

God bless all who have donated previously as well. Our team is so grateful for the continued support of our parish. I might add that we are the only church from Antioch that has a team supporting Relay for Life of the Delta and I couldn't be more proud of the generosity our parish has shown.

Please think about donating time to walking with us On June 23rd and 24th at Los Medanos College in memory or in honor of someone who has been touched by cancer. You do not have to be on our team to join us - just come and be inspired by those who walk, hold hands, support one another and know the meaning of true strength in numbers. We are dedicated to carrying our book of names around the track for the 24 hours we are there. Please write the names of your loved ones in our book.

Don't forget we are still accepting canned goods and cases of water. Just leave them near the Faith Formation window in the narthex and we will take them to the kitchen.

Love and prayers to all who have ever been touched by cancer.

Maryann Peddicord and Alicia Perez 
Team Captains



Parish To Initiate The Sheepdog Program

At one of our Deanery meetings recently, a presentation was made by the Chaplain of the Brentwood Police Department regarding the "Sheepdog Program." The program consists of off-duty police officers, sheriff's deputies, and California Highway Patrol officers who are members of the parish and provide security during liturgies in the event of an active shooter. I have asked retired Pittsburg Police Officer Kirby McNesby to coordinate the program in our parish and am requesting that all those in Law Enforcement to please contact me with your names and phone numbers to create a list of available officers to participate in the program. Once the list is compiled, we would like to have a meeting of all participants in early August to put the program in place. Thank you for offering yourselves in service to our community in this important way.