

A Word From Fr. Tom Niehaus

August 11, 2019



Be Ready

“Moved by love and wishing to reconcile the human race to yourself, you gave us your only-begotten Son. He became our mediator and our justice by taking on all our injustice and sin out of obedience to your will, eternal Father, just as you willed that He take on our human nature. What an immeasurably profound love! Your Son went down from the heights of His divinity to the depths of our humanity. Can anyone’s heart remain closed and hardened after this (St. Catherine of Siena).” Love is the motivating force behind God the Father’s action in this world. With a deep love for us Our Father in Heaven created each person and every creature and force that surrounds us. Each person reflects something of the Father though He is infinite and perfection Himself. Through the gift of faith we are able to see by way of the heart some aspects of the love of God and the impact that this love has on His people and the world. In each of the readings this weekend we encounter the gift of faith in God. The Letter to the Hebrews states, “Faith is the realization of what is hoped for and evidence of things not seen (Hebrews 11:1).” In the Book of Wisdom we find the truth that on the night of the Passover our Jewish ancestors put their faith in God and courageously set out from the slavery imposed upon them by the Egyptians. Psalm 33 declares the truth that people who have faith in God are the blessed ones who have been claimed by God as His own. Our Lord Jesus Christ in Luke 12 unfolds what faithfulness is and what it is not by utilizing the parables of the vigilant servants and the cruel servant. Faithfulness to God is likened to the prayerful person who by each prayer and time of prayer pours oil into the lamp of expectant love, basking in the light of meditation upon the mysteries of faith and preparing their soul for a most beautiful encounter with Lord on the day of death or at the end of time. No matter when the Lord calls us home, the Christian should be practicing their faith and living a life where prayer and service flowing from a love for God is a part of their everyday existence. We trust in the goodness of God the Father who has loved us into being and through the offering of His Son Jesus, has given us a pledge of salvation through His life, death and resurrection. Our entry into the family of Jesus Christ takes place at baptism and the gift of faith is sealed into our souls. What a marvelous treasure!

Throughout our lives each baptized Christian has opportunities to be nourished by the Sacraments and drawn deeper through prayer into the life of Christ. Take a moment of prayer today to thank the Lord for the gift of faith.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

August 15, 2019 is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. This day is a HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION. All Catholics should attend Mass on this special day dedicated to honoring the Assumption of Mary into heaven body and soul. Come on out to one of the celebrations of Holy Mass in our area to honor Our Lord and Our Lady. Mass times for this Solemnity are 5 pm August 14th at Most Holy Redeemer in Montgomery, **8:30 am August 15th at St. Patrick-Shieldsville** and 8:30 am August 15th at Most Holy Redeemer in Montgomery. “Be only all for Jesus, through Mary (Mother Teresa).”

United in the Love of the Hearts of Jesus and Mary,

Fr. Tom Niehaus