

Reading II

Ephesians 5: 21-32

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

This is a great mystery; it applies to Christ and the Church.

Defer to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Wives should be submissive to their husbands as if to the Lord because the husband is head of his wife just as Christ is head of his body, the church, as well as its savior. As the church submits to Christ, so wives should submit to their husbands in everything.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church. He gave himself up for her to make her holy, purifying her in the bath of water by the power of the word, to present to himself a glorious church, holy and immaculate, without stain or wrinkle or anything of that sort. Husbands should love their wives as they do their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. Observe that no one ever hates his own flesh; no, he nourishes it and takes care of it as Christ cares for the church – for we are members of his body.

"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cling to his wife, and two shall be made into one." This is a great foreshadowing; I mean that it refers to Christ and the church.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Gospel

John 6: 60-69

A reading of the holy gospel according to St. John

Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of eternal life.

Many of the disciples of Jesus remarked, "This sort of talk is hard to endure! How can anyone take it seriously?" Jesus was fully aware that his disciples were murmuring in protest at what he had said. "Does it shake your faith?" he asked them.

"What, then, if you were to see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before...? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words I spoke to you are spirit and life. Yet among you there are some who do not believe." (Jesus knew from the start, of course, the ones who refused to believe, and the one who would hand him over.) He went on to say: *"This is why I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father."*

From this time on, many of his disciples broke away and would not remain in his company any longer. Jesus then said to the Twelve, "Do you want to leave me too?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom we shall go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe; we are convinced that you are God's holy one."

This is the gospel of the Lord.

Thoughts from the Pulpit:

[John 6: 60-69]

Words of Eternal Life

Jesus was sent as the bread from heaven for people of faith. The Bread from heaven was Jesus' Gospel; it was His Word of eternal life.

Here are some examples of His Word that He spoke to people:

"Go in peace, your sins are forgiven" – with these words He set sinners free. "Fear not, it is I" – with these words He calmed the fears of his apostles. "Anyone who drinks the water I can give will never get thirsty again." – the promise given to the woman at the well. "I am the bread of life. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever." – another beautiful promise. Who would not want to eat of this bread?

"I am the light of the world. Anyone who follows me will never walk in darkness, but will always have the light of life." – what a wonderful promise! "I am the good shepherd, I know my sheep and they follow me. I give them eternal life." – fulfilling the promise to those who follow Jesus.

To the grief-stricken Martha and Mary, Jesus said: "I am the resurrection and the life. Anyone who believes in me will never die (eternally)." "This day you will be with me in Paradise." – with these words He brought hope to a condemned man.

Jesus' Words are not only the promise of life forever; they have the power to change people, to create things, to change the course of history.

Each Sunday we are invited to listen to them, and by taking them as the food from heaven, be nourished for eternal life. Eternal life is not something that lies in the future. It has already begun in Baptism. Its full flowering is still to come. By accepting the Word that comes from Heaven, we make it possible for us to be alive for Heaven. Amen!

The Communion

Welcome to participation in the Holy Eucharist. By receiving Holy Communion, the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ, we fully participate in the celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

We are encouraged to receive Communion devoutly. In order to be properly disposed to receive Communion, participants should be baptized, should not be conscious of grave sin, and normally should fast for one to two hours. A person who is conscious of grave sin is not to receive Communion without prior Sacramental Confession.

We always welcome our fellow Christians to this celebration of the Holy Eucharist and Holy Communion. We pray that our common Baptism and the action of the Holy Spirit in this Eucharist will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions separating us.

Announcements for August 23, 2009

We wish a very happy birthday to Bob Kolonko, who celebrated on Friday, August 21. Our birthdays this week include Greg Fragola (August 25) and JJ Kolonko (August 28). STO LAT to all!!!

Upcoming events:

Parish Committee Meeting:	Sunday, August 30 following Holy Mass
Pierogi-making:	Sunday, September 6, following Holy Mass (lunch provided for volunteers)
Annual Track and Field Meet in Minooka:	September 5
Fall Picnic:	Sunday, September 13, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Each Sunday, our prayer list will specifically name those individuals in our lives who are in need of our prayers and support as they heal. If you have a name to add to our prayer list, please let Pat know by Thursday of each calendar week. Thank you.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, August 24	FEAST – BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE
Tuesday, August 25	Happy birthday to Greg Fragola! NO CHOIR PRACTICE THIS WEEK.
Wednesday, August 26	SOLEMNITY – OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA
Saturday, August 29	SOLEMNITY – BEHEADING OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
Sunday, August 30	22 nd Sunday of Ordinary Time Intention: +Russell Haberer Requested by Pat and Steve Zalewski
	11:00 am Holy Mass
	12:15 pm Parish Committee Meeting

Monthly Financial Summary

Week of	Weekly Income	Weekly Income Needed	Balance
August 2	\$560	\$642	-\$82
August 9	\$365	\$642	-\$277
August 16	\$477	\$642	-\$165
TOTAL	\$1402	\$1926	-\$524