

January 22, 2023
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 8: 23-9:3

Psalm 27

1 Corinthians 1:10-13, 17

Matthew 4: 12-23

The Response Is Immediately Enthusiastic.

As one reads today's Gospel passage there is something that jumps off the page. The people who are called respond "at once" and "immediately". There is enthusiasm. They have been provided something solid in Jesus Christ. They grab it.

The gospel is written sometime after the Lord walked on the earth. It offers a reflective look back at the events of Jesus' ministry and the effect his work had. Note the Gospel passage reflects the first reading from Isaiah. Enthusiasm to God's call may happen in every generation in every person.

God's mercy as it is displayed through all of Salvation History and finally in Jesus is attractive. The reign of God builds from the recognition of His power. The presence of His powerful love causes an absence of hunger, violence, sickness, and death. There is a wholeness and fulfillment of life. It seems this is the result of God's presence. There is enthusiasm. People respond. The Isaiah passage illustrates this.

The passage from Isaiah shows there is joy among all the people. Whereas in the past humankind sought direction and liberty through its own volition now the Spirit of God is most visible in the people of the Kingdom of God. Not only do people find direction in God's law but by God's presence through the Holy Spirit. Such was made obvious through Christ's action while he was on Earth. And now the "yoke, pole and rod" have been lifted.

The Good News of God ought to bring us together and bind us together. In the second reading we see Saint Paul's concern for unity. He does not mean to accuse anyone of evil. Rather, he wants to correct the people and teach them. It is somewhat expected without authoritative teaching and leadership people may go in a wrong direction. Paul provides the teaching and leadership. Then it is hoped people will enthusiastically join the Church.

People, how enthusiastic are you?

I thought to myself, am I just as enthusiastic about preaching the Word as the first day I received God's call? Was I even enthusiastic then?

Enthusiasm may ebb and flow throughout life. Such is normal. You can see how in Corinth (second reading) people were becoming divided. They were enthusiastic

about their own choice of a leader. They did not unite behind Jesus Christ. Paul worked to get everyone back together again.

As your pastor I urge you to persevere in faith and the practice of the faith. As you do you will have moments when you are inspired and respond to God's call even immediately and enthusiastically.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS
4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Zep2:3;3:12-13; 1Cor1:26-31; Mt5:1-12a

STEWARDSHIP
Time, Talent, Tithing
It is our way of showing gratitude to God for life itself.
It is also your way of being part of the mission and participating in the challenge of spreading the Good News of Love.

Attendance last week:	291
Tithes Collected:	\$4,489.00
Online Giving:	\$687.00
Total:	\$5,176.00
Per Capita:	\$15.43

Thank You!

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship is the care we take of the gifts we have been given. The primary gifts are those of Time, Talent and Treasure. Within these are found all the other attributes you may find in yourself.

Stewardship Days begin January TODAY! Everyone will have the chance to contribute his and her Time, Talent and Treasure.

Soon, if not already, you will receive letters in the mail from two sources. One will be from the Archbishop's office or ABCD development office. That is for what goes beyond the parish to help other programs of the Universal Church.

The other is very important. It is from this parish, our parish. It will address our spiritual and moral components of our lives. It also addresses our financial support of our parish which is very important to our ability to spread the Good News of God.

Let us join together and make the Lord appear in our world by supporting this parish and beyond!

Will you respond to God's gracious call to you with enthusiasm?

Archbishop's Charities and Development Drive

The majority of you will have already received the ABCD letter and pledge form from the Archbishop in the snail mail. Be sure to fill in all the information. Be sure your pledge represents 2% of your income.

Also, look at the form. Make sure your form specifically states Blessed Sacrament Parish at the top! We must be sure our parish is credited with your pledge. We need the credit for the parish.

Regardless of you making a pledge or not and regardless of you making a just pledge our parish is responsible for the entire goal. The goal amount will have to be paid from our tithes if it is not paid from our pledges to the ABCD.

The Miami Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women Invites You To

The 24th Annual Scholarship Fund Luncheon and Auction

2023 Honoree, Ana Rodriguez-Soto, Editor, Florida Catholic Miami Edition

Saturday, February 25, 2023, at 11:30 AM

EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL, 1100 SE 17 Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316

Scholarships are for 8th Grade Girls who want to attend a Catholic High School

Donation: \$50.00 / person by February 10th, 2023, \$55 After February 10th

For Reservation Information: Suzanne (Kitten) Auer at Keyskitten@aol.com or 305-4513021

2023 Retreat schedule

Now is the perfect time to give yourself or your loved one the gift of a spiritual retreat at Our Lady of Florida Spiritual Center. The 2023 theme is "Whatever you ask in my name" (John 14:13)

Women's Retreat February 24-26, 2023	Men's Retreat March 3-5, 2023
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Reserve your space for only \$50.00. The balance of \$190 is due at the retreat

Register via the website: www.ourladyofflorida.org or call 561-626-1300

Optional information

Things to Know

- All rooms are private bedrooms with a full size bed, in roommate style accommodations (shared bathroom per two rooms)

- Check in time is from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm on Friday with dinner from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
- Retreat talks usually begin Friday at 7:00 pm and end on Sunday by Noon, casual clothes recommended

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK: Joe Alfaro, Jordan Almendral, JoAnn Anderson, Angiolina Armenti, Michael Beard, Karen Becker, Mary Benivegna, Margarita Bogle, Tom Carver, Sean Chin, Robert Clark, Mary Collis, John Cooper, Logan Costante, Gregoria Daen, Sam DeMarco, Ines DeSalle, Roseanne DeSimone, Lisa DeStasio, Joseph Devlin, John Dooney, Nelson Douaihi, Peggy Duff, Susan Fabbri, Lisa Findlay, Megan Forrester, Joshua Freeman, Richard Gossett, Ana Gilajota, Stephen Goch, Kerri Greenan, Richard & Cathy Harper, Tyler Harrison, Dil Hatchett, Cindy Hogman, Tiffany Kentosh, Butch Klinger, Judith Kolo, Arnold Lakso, John LaNeve, Tamika Lee, Bernie Liggett, Gail Martin, Sean Martin, Mary McKelvey, Clare McMahan, Frank McNeil, Rylee Mertz, Dan Murphy, Teresita Nazareno, Lauren Nicole, Thomas O'Brien, Barbara Perry, Della Mae Reblin, Lucy Reitano, Coleen Riley, Paul Riley, Dee Ripple, Jackson Ripple, Matilda Rivier, Charles Rousseau, Anthony Ruggiero, Theresa Schluter, Brad Schroder, Ellen Seaman, Roger Sherman, Jim Smullen, Vivian Spasiano, Rick Steffan, M. Stoufer, Richard Taylor, Antoinette Teresi, Constantino Thomas, Renette Valcourt, Sr. Frances Vass, OSC, Margarita Verano, Peggy Weiss, Ed Wrisley, Nancy Zakem, Marie & Jeff, Lucas Zaky

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday, January 21

4:00 p.m. Josefina Duque by Selma Cardona

† Kevin Daugherty by Rosemary, daughter

Sunday, January 22

9:00 a.m. † Dn. Michael Leon by Jordan Family

10:45 a.m. † Manuel Coelho Rodrigues by Fernando Rodrigues

† Chad Gant by Vinny & Greg

Monday, January 23

8:00 a.m. NO MASS/OFFICE CLOSED

Tuesday, January 24

8:00 a.m. † Bernard & Eileen Flood by Flood Family

Wednesday, January 25

8:00 a.m. † Pope Benedict XVI by Parish

Thursday, January 26

8:00 a.m. † Fr. Tom Honold by Parish

Friday, January 27

8:00 a.m. † Cardinal Pell by Parish

Saturday, January 28

4:00 p.m. † Eleanore Goater by Paul & Marylou

† James Cowden by Dennis Kucharewski

Sunday, January 29

9:00 a.m. Blessed Sacrament Parish

10:45 a.m. † Alan Worrall by Carla Worrall