

November 1st, 2020 – All Saint’s Day



Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,² for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus, they persecuted the prophets who were before you.
-[Matthew 5:10-12](#)

On the Feast of All Saints, we will hear Jesus proclaim “The Beatitudes.” This may lead us to his idea of a saint.

Let us look...

First, a “beatitude” is a spoken declaration of the blessedness of a person. Blessedness, in plain words, means to be given a spiritual benefit, as for instance, “May the Lord bless you with a safe journey.” Or, “Blessed are those who show mercy.” Often there is a condition involved: “The people who keep the law will be blessed” ([Proverbs 29:18](#)).

Jesus did not invent beatitudes: the First Testament has up to 50 examples of them. By Jesus’ day, people would have recognized one when it was spoken and would have been at home with it. Jesus gave nine of them in the Sermon on the Mount.

(a) The first four seem to name bad things and call them good. Blessed are the *poor*, the *mourners*, the *meek*, the *hungry* and *thirsty*. Jesus seems to be saying that “it is a blessing to be weak and unhappy.”

Why use the beatitude form in this way?

Because he is radically innovative. Radical [from the Latin *radix*, root] means that he is rooted deeply in God, who is the profound wellspring of life and love, not in some other place nearer the surface. These first four beatitudes are actually assurances to people who suffer—the displaced, the abandoned. Jesus is saying that they too are blessed and much loved by God.

(b) The next three more resemble the ancient form: Blessed are the merciful, the clean of heart, and the peacemakers. These three sound reasonable, if a bit bland. But actually, they are a spiritual step upwards from the first four. They are encouragements to people who want to take action in the world on behalf of the Kingdom. Their blessedness consists of being at work with Jesus as a companion.

(c) Then come the last two, which are stunning: “Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness.” And, “Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you. ...” These sound like curses, not blessings. Who could want them? Yet they too are an enhancement of what precedes them. They presume that you might actually want to participate in Jesus’ ultimate act of love, a love which cuts through false honor, wealth, and pride. Maybe you will be called to take up the cross with Jesus. Such radical love is blessed because it comes from being so close to God, whose very identity is love.

So, we find at least three stages of ascent in the following of Jesus: (1) suffering, (2) working for others, and (3) persecution endured as a result. The saints are examples in each of these areas because of their love for God and others. This is the very root of happiness, or “blessedness.”

The question for you and me is whether we even begin to be attracted in any way to such categories. We can take a review of our lives and get an idea. If we do not fit into them, we can meditate on this question: how strong is our desire for anything at all? Can we “desire to desire” regarding an openness to Jesus and to his Father? We do not have to want persecution yet, but *what do we want?* Maybe it is simple: the blessedness he speaks about. ---[John Foley, SJ](#)

Readings This Sunday

Reading I: Revelation 7:2-4, 9-14

Reading II: 1 John 3:1-3

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12a

Readings For Next Sunday

Reading I: Wisdom 6:12-16

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

Finance / Stewardship Collection: The plate last weekend was **\$1,000.**

RCIA

More good news: the last of our Elect received the sacraments of Initiation this week! We congratulate and celebrate the newest member of our faith community - **Eain Graham!** In the midst of hard times for our world, God is reminding us of His constant love and care; we are blessed!

Eureka Holy Mass Intentions

Saturday 31

4:00 pm SJ No Intention

Sunday 01 All Saints Day

7:30 am SJ Mass for the People

9:00 am SH Papstein Family

10:30 am SB Bertha Yost †

12:15 pm SH Francisco Vega † (Sp)

4:30 pm SH Linda Bareilles Int.

Monday 02 All Souls

12:15 pm SB No Intention

5:30 pm SH Hugo Papstein †

7:00 pm SH All Souls (Sp)

Tuesday 03

7:30 am SJ Hugo Pompati & Family †

5:30 pm SH No Intention

Wednesday 04

12:15 pm SB No Intention

6:00 pm SH Adoration

7:00 pm SH For the conversion and just punishment for the perpetrators & concealers of clergy sexual abuse. (Sp)

Thursday 05

7:30 am SJ Ben Benzonelli †

5:30 pm SH Fr. Rowell Int. HB

Friday 06

12:15 pm SB Fr. Rowell Int. HB

5:30 pm SB First Friday Devotion
1) Rosary) 2) Confession,
3) Mass, & 4) Holy Hour

Saturday 07

8:30 am SH 1st Sat. Marian Devotion
Stella Reyes Int.

4:00 pm SJ Deb Allen Int. HB

Sunday 08 All Saints Day

7:30 am SJ Kathryn Allen Int.

9:00 am SH Mass for the People

10:30 am SB Mr. & Mrs. Narciso Leija †

12:15 pm SH Francisco Vega † (Sp)

4:30 pm SH Carmen Salazar †

Please pray for : Marilyn Ziblich, Baby Olivia, Monika Rose Cleenewerck, Chad Kryla, Don DeHennis, Basil & Santos Mainus, Harold Giacomini, Chet Branum, Florence, Fran Hill, Isela Adams, Lindy Timmerman & Family, Mary James, Dave Silverbrand, John Bertain, Denise Sledge, James Iron Shell, James Lemon, Wm. Hahn Family, Rose Ann Hurst, Armado De Los Santos, Judy Mill, Julia Walters, Connie Mather, Steve Mill, Ryan Pepper, Fred Pepper, Paul Shabata & Family.

Dear Friends of the Bareilles Family... Thank you for the outpouring of love and concern and we humbly ask that no more food be delivered at this time and no visits or phone calls after the chemo starts. Cards and art are fine as well as Facebook and e-mail, which Linda now has both. For more information please contact Christy Bareilles at (707) 296-4096 e-mail is-- linda.kenbareilles@gmail.com --

Catholic Detention Ministries is requesting

donations of Christmas cards and small

individually wrapped candies. Please only *unused* Christmas cards with envelopes for the use of the inmates of the Humboldt County Correctional Facility. The facility requests that *candies remain in their unopened store packages* in which they are sold for safety reasons. **Yes! they are welcoming the cards and candies this year.**

This is a combined effort of the local Catholic churches to put together 300 packages, one for each inmate. This has been much appreciated by the inmates in the past. These people do not have a source of cards to send to their families, so these cards are very welcome. The candies provide a little something nice for these people who find little joy on Christmas. Please leave donations at the church or church office no later than Tuesday December 1st for pickup. For information or questions call Bob at 677-1952

Confirmation News... It's that time of year again for us to begin preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. If you or a loved one is between 7th grade and 17 years old, now is the perfect time to join us! Please leave a message with Dn. Dance @ (707) 442-2233 / email at dancefarrell@gmail.com, and clearly say that you are interested in Confirmation, leave your name, the name of your child, and your phone number. Deacon will contact you soon regarding classes! Deacon W. Dance Farrell, St. Bernard / St. Joseph's & Sacred Heart Parishes Director of Campus Ministry – St. Bernard Academy



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ALL SOULS DAY/ MONTH

INTENTIONS

There are All Souls Day envelopes on the table by the side entrance. If you would like to have loved ones remembered at the Holy Mass please fill out the All Souls Day envelopes with their names. If you wish please include a donation and place the envelope in the collection basket. They will be placed on the Altar during the month of November.

We Thank God For Fr. Rowell's Birth - Nov. 6th

Kindly greet Fr. Rowell individually after the masses on Nov. 7th and 8th. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 guidelines, we cannot have a social celebration, but can still express our love and appreciation for his service. Thank you and God bless.