

16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Grace and sin, belief and unbelief, good and evil all exist together. While we wrestle with these two dimensions of reality inwardly, they are also witnessed in the actions and words of others. Many, all too often, beat themselves up because of their sin. We are also all too quick to pass judgment on others whom we perceive to be in error and walking down a wrong path. God does not make rash judgments, nor should we. Patience is the order of the day as is an understanding that God is ultimately the caller of the shots.

Our faith tells us that while God allows the wheat and the weeds to coexist, the wheat will always triumph. As long as we can cultivate even a little faith and a small measure of desire for God, He can produce abundant blessings and good things. Even when the weeds seem to have triumphed, there still may be a small measure of faith remaining that can be cultivated and grown. It doesn't take much! Unless a person totally allows the weeds to reign, there is always to be found at least a small measure of faith, good, light, and love. With even this small portion, God can produce abundant growth.

Admittedly, it is easy to give into the weeds, and they grow very quickly. Any gardener knows this to be true. Sometimes, the weeds even seem more attractive and vibrant. Dealing with weeds can quickly become a losing battle, and they can look healthier and grow faster than the very plants we are trying to protect. It's easy to give into them and let them win. While God will deal with all things in due time, we are responsible for keeping things in check in the short term. It is our task to keep our eyes fixed on God's presence and mercy. We are asked to avoid judgment. And, it is not our responsibility to deal with the weeds in someone else's garden, only our own. One garden is enough responsibility for anyone.

Weeds have power. We have to realize this. While they can appear attractive and healthy, they can quickly choke us off from God's presence. Our task is one of maintenance and cultivating a desire for God. Even the smallest kernel of faith can grow into something wonderful. In God's time, the eternal harvest will come, and we will no longer have to worry about the weeds.

16º Domingo del Tiempo Ordinario

La escena tiene lugar en un campo donde el propietario siembra el grano, pero una noche llega el enemigo y siembra la cizaña, término que en hebreo deriva de la misma raíz que el nombre "Satanás" y reclama el concepto de división. Todos sabemos que el demonio es un cizañero, siempre intenta separar a las personas, las familias, las naciones y los pueblos. Los siervos querían quitar en seguida la hierba mala, pero el amo lo impide con esta motivación: "no, que, al arrancar la cizaña, podríais arrancar también el trigo". Porque todos sabemos que cuando la cizaña crece se parece mucho al grano bueno, y está el peligro de confundirlos. La enseñanza de la parábola es doble. En primer lugar, dice que el mal que hay en el mundo no proviene de Dios, sino de su enemigo, el Maligno. Es curioso, este va de noche a sembrar la cizaña, en la oscuridad, en la confusión, donde no hay luz, pero va él y siembra la cizaña. Este enemigo es astuto: ha sembrado el mal en medio del bien, así es imposible separar claramente a los hombres; pero Dios, al final, podrá hacerlo. (Papa Francisco, Rezo del Angelus 20/07/14).

Jesús, da a escoger entre trigo o cizaña, entre ser de su equipo o no ser. La enseñanza también lleva a reflexionar que buenos y malos crecen juntos. La oportunidad de salvación es para todos, los ejemplos de vida son motivo de cambios de corazón. Es por eso muy importante ser modelo para las generaciones futuras. Cada minuto de la vida se puede hacer el bien. ¡Aprovecha!

Readings for the week of July 19, 2020

Sunday: Wis 12:13, 16-19/Ps 86:5-6, 9-10, 15-16
[5a]/Rom 8:26-27/Mt 13:24-43 or 13:24-30
Monday: Mi 6:1-4, 6-8/Ps 50:5-6, 8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23
[23b]/Mt 12:38-42
Tuesday: Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 85:2-4, 5-6, 7-8 [8a]/Mt
12:46-50
Wednesday: Sg 3:1-4b or 2 Cor 5:14-17/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6,
8-9 [2]/Jn 20:1-2, 11-18
Thursday: Jer 2:1-3, 7-8, 12-13/Ps 36:6-7ab, 8-9, 10-11
[10a]/Mt 13:10-17
Friday: Jer 3:14-17/Jer 31:10, 11-12abcd, 13 [cf. 10d]/Mt
13:18-23
Saturday: 2 Cor 4:7-15/Ps 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6
[5]/Mt 20:20-28
Next Sunday: 1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12/Ps 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-
128, 129-130 [97a]/Rom 8:28-30/Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

A Message from Fr. Tom

Today Jesus gives us three parables: the weeds and the wheat, the mustard seed, and the parable of the yeast. These parables deepen our understanding of God's kingdom.

The first parable illustrates what should be obvious. In everyday life good and evil are found side by side—mixed together. Instead of engaging in the big question of why, it is enough for us to recall that the church community is not the community of the elect alone. As our Pope Francis likes to say, the church is not a hotel for saints but a field hospital for sinners. The second parable speaks about the remarkable growth God can affect with something very small and—to us seemingly insignificant—a mustard seed.

Lastly in the third parable, a very small matter—God's grace—is like yeast in a mass of dough. The small matter which God initiates can affect profound change within and around us. Unfortunately, human nature being what it is, we all too readily recognize this principle at work in the negative. One word or thoughtless action can do a lot of harm. As the saying goes, it takes a lifetime to build a reputation—and 15 minutes of loose talk to destroy it. Well—Jesus is reminding us that that principle also is at work with the good. This is the action of God's grace. Jesus offers us a power that is transformative—like yeast in dough or a small seed in good soil. We should recognize God's grace at work not only in concrete works of charity. God's grace is generative—it gets things going—makes things happen—it is at work in our conscience probing our minds and challenging us as the Word of God (the good seed) does its work once planted within us. Let us never lose hope that God can make the difficult circumstances of our lives and sinners like you and me change—new relationships are created—people are reconciled. As the Sacramental life returns to normal, let us stay focused particularly on the importance of the Eucharist and Penance as essential in living out the Christian life.

The message of today's Gospel encourages us to persevere despite our confusing times. Who can predict the power and consequence of small acts when undertaken with a good and generous heart? We need to do the good we are called to do in this life with both assurance and realism. The assurance is that God is working within us to bear abundant fruit. The realism is our recognition that this can happen even with the smallest and seemingly inconsequential events in daily life.

Please be Generous and Participate in our 2020 Annual Catholic Appeal

What is the Annual Catholic Appeal?—As you may know, the ACA is proposed annually to parishes typically during Lent. Obviously, that was not possible this year. It has as its purpose to assist the ongoing charitable activities of the diocese that cannot be funded by one special collection during the course of the year. These services include: (1) Religious Education; (2) Support of our seminary; (3) Aid to Catholic Charities; (4) Aid for migration services.

2020 Parish Goal:	\$42,432.00
Donors to Date:	48
Pledged:	\$17,736.00
Received	\$9,194.00

If you have not made a commitment to this appeal, I ask you to please do so. You will find a dedicated information table in each of our churches with commitment forms and progress reports.

Sacramental Guidelines Regarding Communion—A Reminder!!!

In order to receive the Body of Christ worthily each Sunday the faithful Catholic must:

1. Have received the Sacraments of Baptism and First Holy Communion;
2. Receive in good conscience. This means being free of any serious or mortal sin—this requires going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession regularly—every few months.
3. If you are in a civil marriage, common law marriage or cohabitating (sharing intimate relations on a permanent basis) this state blocks the reception of the Sacraments. Please speak to a priest to help you in this situation and to regularize your standing before Jesus and the church.
4. Fast one hour prior to the start of Mass.
5. The communicant must respond with a firm 'Amen' before placing the host in their mouth. Do not say 'thank you.' This is a gift from God—not the priest. Please say 'Amen.'
6. Please arrive early before the start of Mass to pray and recollect yourself for the gift you are about to receive.

Please stay to the end of Mass and remain a few minutes to recollect yourself and make a spiritual thanksgiving. No one should walk out of the church immediately after the reception of the Eucharist.

**St. Francis of Paola Church
Memorial Gifts – July 19, 2020**

BREAD & WINE

Marino Family by Annette Marino

ST. JOSEPH CANDLES

Anthony Marino by Bruno Family

Anthony Marino by Bruno Family

SANCTUARY LAMP

Anthony Marino by Frank Marino

ALTAR CANDLES

Anthony Marino by Bruno Family

Anthony Marino by Bruno Family

BLESSED MOTHER CANDLES

RoseMary Frlic by Annette & John D’Arienzo

RoseMary Frlic by Annette & John D’Arienzo

**Sign-up for “Give Central” from your
Mobile Phone**

Enrollment is safe and a contactless option for supporting our parish. We appreciate your continued support during this challenging time. From your mobile phone, text to our text-to-engage number: **718-841-0256**. You can text the word **SUNDAY** to make an offertory gift. You can text the word **QUICK** to sign up for email news, to join the parish, or make a prayer request. Or you can scan below QR codes with your phone’s camera to do the same:



Important Information/Links

- **For more information about our parish**—
check out our parish website:
www.divinemeracy-brooklyn.org

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Francis of Paola Church**

Saturday, July 18, 2020

5:00pm Noreen Vonzwehl by Danielle Minnella
& Abbey Vonzwehl

Sunday, July 19, 2020

8:00am Open Intention

11:30am For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Monday, July 20, 2020

7:45am Maria Minunno 2nd Anniversary in
Heaven

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

7:45am Open Intention

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

7:45am Carmela Vassalotti by Carlotta Giglio

Thursday, July 23, 2020

7:45am Joseph Di Giovanna by Daughter

Friday, July 24, 2020

7:45 am Christine Daniels by Carlotta Giglio

Saturday, July 25, 2020

7:45am Anna Scibilia by Dennis Torre and
Sonia Rivera

5:00pm Gennaro Adamo by Carlotta

Sunday, July 26, 2020

8:00am Open Intention

11:30am Aramenta Sealy Antoine & Family
Matilde Velasques by Granddaughter
Maria

Heroina Martinez by Wanda Marty

**2020 Mass Book
July through December is open.**

Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to receive you in my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you.

Never permit me to be separated from you.

JULY 19, 2020

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Nicholas Church**

Sunday, July 19, 2020

10:30am Jose Espinal
Janet Espinal
Jose Juriel Espinal

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

7:00pm Open Intention

Sunday, July 26, 2020

10:30am Jostin Espinal
Jaison Espinal

Pray for the Recently Deceased

Michael Summers, Irene Doxey, Josephine Viola,
Delores Mulcahey, Anna Scibilia, Valarie Bruno

Please pray for the sick

Patricia Baumbach, John Sierra, Jessica Sierra, Pamela
Stemberg, Dominick D'Amato

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We are glad to announce that the registrations for our Religious Education Program, for the year 2020-2021, **has OPENED.** The Faith Formation office hours are 8am to 3pm. An Online Registration is available on our parish website.

Given the uncertainty of the times, a **blended learning model for religious education** has been approved by the Diocese of Brooklyn and is the **recommended** format moving forward. This model allows religious education to be done in both an in-class and at-home setting depending on the circumstances. It also addresses the fact that the parent/guardian is the primary educator and formator of their children in the Faith.

For more information please contact Wanda Marty, Director of Faith Formation at 347-521-0068 or send us an email to faithformation@dmbk.org

**Bible Study with Fr. Tom/Wednesday
Evenings 7:30pm via Zoom**

We continue to offer our weekly Bible Study on Matthew's Gospel Via Zoom. We meet on Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Contact Fr. Tom at 'fathertom@dmbk.org' for more details if you wish to join in—it's easy and it's free!!

**Mass Intentions for the Week
St. Cecilia Church**

Sunday, July 19, 2020

9:30am Anthony L. Del Vicario Anniversary
7:00pm Open Intention

Monday, July 20, 2020

8:30am Anna Scibilia by James Glynn

Tuesday, July 21, 2020

8:30am Vito Brancato

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

8:30am Kole Moltisanti

Thursday, July 23, 2020

8:30am Anna Scibilia by Linda & Michael
Santoro

Friday, July 24, 2020

8:30am Open Intention

Saturday, July 25, 2020

8:30am Open Intention

Sunday, July 26, 2020

9:30am Mae Leavy
Dominick J. Brancato 70 Birthday in
Heaven
7:00pm For the People of Divine Mercy Parish

Parishesonline.com

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to "Parishesonline.com" to register. `

Church Cleanliness

The two spaces that are open daily are St. Francis of Paola Church and St. Cecilia Chapel. We are keeping to a regular schedule of sanitizing these spaces several times each day. I am asking parishioners not to touch any statues or other items that might potentially transmit the Corona Virus. Please be assured we continue a vigilant schedule of cleaning. Our full-time staff are now back in the rectory and we are marshalling our forces to keep the churches sanitized and safe for your worship.

END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN

CHURCH NAME: **Divine Mercy Parish**

CHURCH CITY: **Brooklyn, NY**

ROUTING CODE: **Y**

RUN NUMBER: **13**

FILENAME: **04-0284.53b**

PHONE NUMBER: **718-389-0010**

FAX NUMBER: **718-389-5090**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Maryann**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUE

Comments:

Lay Baptismal Ministry

We are looking for couples to begin a Lay Baptismal Ministry here in Divine Mercy. The couples will be trained to facilitate Pre Baptismal preparation and post baptismal encounters for families who are seeking the sacrament of baptism or have recently baptized in our parish Community. Please contact our parish office to register. The Pastor, Priests and Baptismal Ministry will work together as partners in this important endeavor.

Receive Our Parish Bulletin Electronically

Would you like to receive our parish bulletin electronically days before everyone else? Then log on to "Parishesonline.com" to register. In a few simple steps you can receive our parish bulletin and more easily stay on top of parish events and other important parish information.

Spiritual Communion Prayer

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