

MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED

October 8th, 2017 – 27th Sunday Ordinary Time

Spirituality Ponderings

Images of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Let us continue to dive deeper into our faith by diving deeper into the Church's teaching on Mary.

St. John Vianney Quote

"I LOVE St. Joseph so much because he had the care of the Blessed Virgin."

Ina Poon Bato

There is a Philippine legend that accompanies this title of the Blessed Virgin Mary according to Ann Ball in her book: *The Other Faces of Mary: Stories, Devotions, and Pictures, of the Holy Virgin around the world*. One day an Aeta chieftain was returning home from an unsuccessful hunt when he heard a woman's voice calling to him. The voice, strangely was coming from a beautifully carved statue of a woman. The man picked up the statue and carried it home. When he arrived home with the statue and no food for his family, his angry wife took the statue and threw it into the fire. The fire flared up and the house burnt down. The statue remained unharmed. Many years later Catholic Missionaries were told about the statue and thinking it was a part of a pagan cult demanded to see it. Upon seeing it, they declared that the statue was not that of a pagan goddess but was instead the Blessed Virgin Mary. The

missionaries took it to be a sign that Mary had paved the way for their arrival.

The story of Ina Poon Bato teaches us that Mary is aiding and assisting the Church in the Church's mission to bring Christ to the world. The legend, like most legends, taught a powerful lesson and that was not that the Blessed Virgin Mary was vengeful but rather following the example of the Blessed Virgin Mary in following Christ was the right path to take.

MARY, OUR MODEL IN PRAYER

All praise and glory are Yours, almighty Father: You have given us Your Son Jesus to save us from sin. We praise You for choosing Mary to be His mother, for teaching her to believe Your message, for helping her to accept Your holy will. Strengthen us by Your Spirit to be like Mary: to ponder Your word in our hearts, to obey Your will, to love Your Son, to sing Your praises every day. Father, we praise You through Jesus Christ Your Son in the love of Your Spirit, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER TO MARY, HELP OF CHRISTIANS

Most Holy and Immaculate Virgin, Help of the Christians, we place ourselves under your motherly protection.

Throughout the Church's history you have helped Christians in times of



trial, temptation and danger. Time and time again, you have proven to be the Refuge of sinners, the Hope of the hopeless, the Consoler of the afflicted, and the Comforter of the Dying. We promise to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ, your Son, to proclaim His Good News of God's love for all people, and to work for peace and justice in our world. With faith in your intercession, we pray for the Church, for our family and friends, for the poor and abandoned, and all the dying. Grant, O Mary, Help of Christians, the graces of which we stand in need. [State your intention(s) here...] May we serve Jesus with fidelity and love until death. Help us and our loved ones to attain the boundless joy of being forever with our Father in heaven. Amen. Mary, Help of Christians, pray for us!

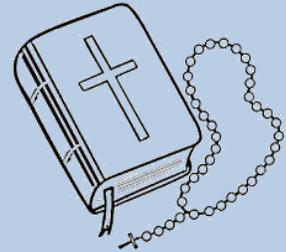
Breaking Open the Word

October 8, 2017 Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Lectionary: 139 Gospel MT 21:33-43

Spiritual Reflection: Abraham Lincoln: "My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right." The people in the parable seemed pretty convinced that they were in the right and that landowner was somewhat cheating them despite the fact that the opposite is true when one looks at it from an objective view. The landowner has gone above and beyond (he has done over 90% of the work). It seems that a lack of gratitude leads them to this horrible end.

Spiritual Questions

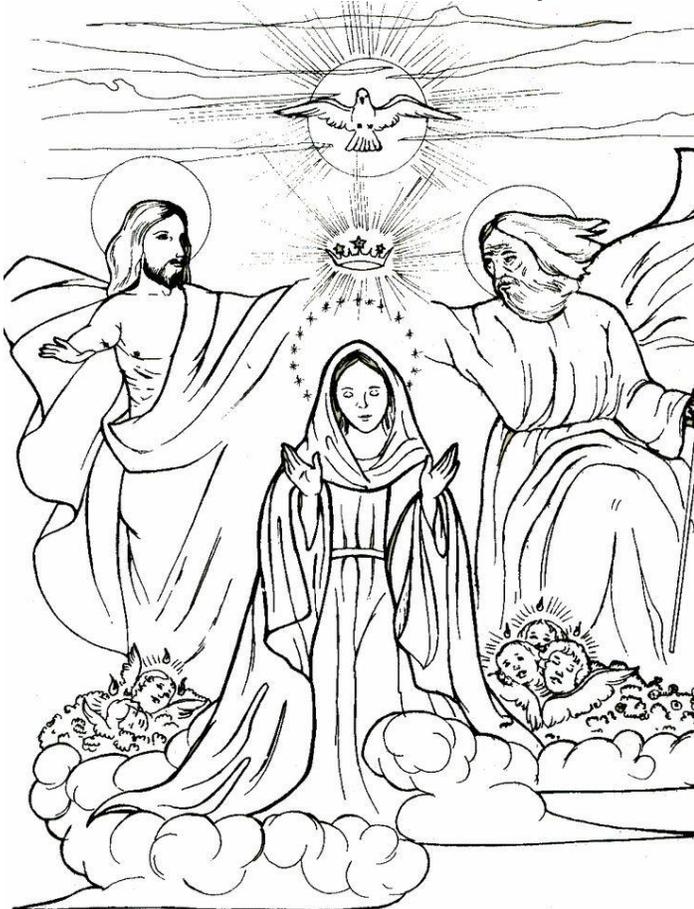
1. What is the first thing that comes to your mind when you have to make a decision?
2. List all the things the landowner does in the parable.
3. Lists all the things that God has done for you.
4. What role does gratitude play in your life?
5. How can you increase the virtue of aratitude in our life.



Prayers for the Week

A very unique prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary

The Crown of Twelve Stars Prayer



Let us offer praise and thanksgiving to the Most Holy Trinity, Who has shown us the Virgin Mary, clothed with the sun, the moon under her feet, and on her head a mystic crown of twelve stars. Forever and ever. Amen

Let us give praise and thanks to the Eternal Father, Who chose her for His daughter. Amen

Silently, pray the Our Father...

- 1 - Praised be the Eternal Father, Who predestined her to be the Mother of His Divine Son. Amen - Hail Mary...
 - 2 - Praised be the Eternal Father, Who preserved her from all stain of sin in her conception. Amen - Hail Mary...
 - 3 - Praised be the Eternal Father, Who adorned her at her birth with His most excellent gifts. Amen - Hail Mary...
 - 4 - Praised be the Eternal Father, Who gave her Saint Joseph to be her companion and most pure spouse. Amen. - Hail Mary...
- Glory Be To The Father...

V. Let us give praise and thanks to the Divine Son, Who chose her for His Mother. R. Amen.
Silently, pray the Our Father...

5 - Praised be the Divine Son, Who became incarnate in her womb and there abode for nine months. Amen. - Hail Mary...

6 - Praised be the Divine Son, Who was born of her and was nourished at her breast. Amen.- Hail Mary...

7 - Praised be the Divine Son, Who in His childhood willed to be taught by her. Amen. - Hail Mary...

8 - Praised be the Divine Son, Who revealed to her the mystery of the Redemption of the world. Amen. -

Hail Mary...

Glory Be To The Father...

V. Let us give praise and thanks to the Holy Spirit, Who took her for His spouse. R. Amen. *Silently, pray the Our Father...*

9 - Praised be the Holy Spirit, Who revealed first to her His Name of Holy Spirit. Amen - Hail Mary...

10 - Praised be the Holy Spirit, by Whose operation she was at once Virgin and Mother. Amen- Hail Mary...

11 - Praised be the Holy Spirit, by Whose power she was the living temple of the ever-blessed

Trinity. Amen - Hail Mary...

12 - Praised be the Holy Spirit, by Whom she was exalted in Heaven above every living creature. Amen

- Hail Mary...

Glory Be To The Father...

Let us praise Mary, who hath done so much for our good, and let us say to her: God hail thee, Mary, Mother of Clemency, Comfortress of the Afflicted, Redemptrix of Captives. Thou art the glory of Jerusalem, thou art the joy of Israel, thou art the honor of our people.

Let Us Pray

O God, Who by means of the Most Glorious Mother of Thy Divine Son, didst enrich the Church with a new religious family for the redemption of the faithful of Christ from pagan oppression, grant, we beseech Thee, that we may be freed from our sins and from the bondage of the devil by the merits and intercession of her whom we devoutly venerate as the foundress of so great a work. R. Amen Hail, Holy Queen...

Quotes of the Week – Quotes from Blessed Virgin Mary

Every man, for the sake of the great blessed Mother in Heaven, and for the love of his own little mother on earth, should handle all womankind gently, and hold them in all Honor. - Alfred Lord Tennyson

Seek refuge in Mary because she is the city of refuge. We know that Moses set up three cities of refuge for anyone who inadvertently killed his neighbor. Now the Lord has established a refuge of mercy, Mary, even for those who deliberately commit evil. Mary provides shelter and strength for the sinner. -Anthony of Padua

Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence. - Saint Francis de Sales

Mary seeks for those who approach her devoutly and with reverence, for such she loves, nourishes, and adopts as her children. - Bonaventure

No matter how sinful one may have been, if he has devotion to Mary, it is impossible that he be lost. - Hilary of Poitiers



Catholic Trivia



Last Week's Answers

Match the Occupation with the patron saint.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Accountants | A. St. Martha |
| 2. Astronomer | B. St. Matthew |
| 3. Boy Scouts | C. St. Benedict |
| 4. Cooks | D. St. George |

Answers:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Accountants | B. St. Matthew |
| 2. Astronomers | C. St. Benedict |
| 3. Boy Scouts | D. St. George |
| 4. Cooks | A. St. Martha |



This Week's Questions

Identify these Biblical Characters

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1.  | 2.  |
| 3.  | 4.  |
- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Accountants | A. St. Martha |
| 2. Astronomer | B. St. Matthew |
| 3. Boy Scouts | C. St. Benedict |
| 4. Cooks | D. St. George |

Catholic Humor

Some Funny Wedding Photos of Children



lisa evelyn
PHOTOGRAPHY

Saint Monica Society Prayer For October

O Jesus, Good Shepherd, You heal the sick and needy. I pray to You for all those people in my life who suffer from a lack of faith in You. You know what it is like to endure pain for them. Look kindly on them today and heal them. Restore them to your Church.

Give Your gift of wisdom to them so that they may come to know your divine truths. I pray that they may be guided by the Holy Spirit in all they do today even if they do not realize it. Bless them so that their hands will become Your hands even if they do not acknowledge You. Bless, in a special way those souls that are closest to death. O Jesus, grant us all Your healing grace of love and peace. Amen.

St. Monica Society

Please join us in praying a special prayer each month for Catholics who have fallen away from their faith.

Pro-Life Corner

Pro-Life Quote: "Saying that there are too many children is like saying there are too many flowers. — Mother Teresa

Pro-Life Prayer: **PRO-LIFE PRAYER FOR OUR PRESIDENT AND PUBLIC OFFICIALS. (Source EWTN)**

Lord God, Author of Life and Source of Eternal Life, Move the hearts of all our public officials and especially our President, to fulfill their responsibilities worthily and well to all those entrusted to their care. Help them in their special leadership roles, to extend the mantle of protection to the most vulnerable, especially the defenseless unborn, whose lives are threatened with extermination by an indifferent society. Guide all public officials by your wisdom and grace to cease supporting

any law that fails to protect the fundamental good that is human life itself, which is a gift from God and parents. You are the Protector and Defender of the lives of the innocent unborn. Change the hearts of those who compromise the call to protect and defend life. Bring our nation to the values that have made us a great nation, a society that upholds the values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all. Mary, the Mother of the living, help us to bear witness to the Gospel of Life with our lives and our laws, through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.