

May 27, 2018 – Trinity Sunday



MAY JESUS CHRIST BE PRAISED
NOW AND FOREVER!!!

SPIRITUAL PONDERINGS

Devil's Beatitude



"Let us ask the Lord for the grace to take these things seriously. He came to fight for our salvation. He won against the devil! Please, let us not do business with the devil! He seeks to return home, to take possession of us... Do not relativize; be vigilant! And always with Jesus!" – Pope Francis

Here are the last three of the Devil's Beatitudes.

10. Blessed are those who do not give their offering to carry on God's work - for they are my helpers.

Ann Bird, a Methodist minister is famous for saying: "The last part of a person to be converted is their wallet."

Dr. Gottmann, a relationship expert, in many of his books about marriage states the fact that money is the number one cause of divorce. Surprisingly, he adds that this is the same for couples without money (poor) and for couples with a surplus of wealth. He draws the conclusion that the reason why money is the number one cause of divorce is because money has become a symbol

for our dreams. Therefore, when a person is withholding money from their Church they are also withholding their dreams for God. They like Adam and Eve are basically proclaiming through their actions that they do not trust in God to provide and take care of them.

11. Blessed is he who professes to love God but hates his brother and sister - for he shall be with me forever.

"If anyone says, "I love God," but hates his brother, he is a liar; for whoever does not love a brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen (1John 4:20)".

From the mystics of the Middle Ages comes the story of a young man who was granted by God a glimpse of both heaven and hell. God decided that it would be best if he showed the young man hell first and so God and the young man descended into the netherworld. The man saw a group of people gathered in a magnificent dining hall. The table was prepared with the finest food and the delicious smell of the food filled the room. And at first the young man thought God must have mistakenly taken him to heaven first instead of hell but as he studied the faces of the people in the room he began to see that each person was filled with anger, sadness and disappointment. It became quite clear to the young man that the source of their discomfort and distress was that the all the forks and spoons in the room were too large for anyone to feed themselves with and so

while they were able to smell and look at the mouth-watering food they were perpetually prevented from eating any of it.

In a flash God then transported the young man to heaven and much to the young man's surprise he found himself in a room that was almost identical to the room that he had seen in hell. The decorations were the same, the food was the same and there was even the same type of silverware which was too large for anyone to use.

The difference was not in the surroundings or even in the meal the difference between heaven and hell was in the hearts of the individuals there because the people in heaven instead of focusing on feeding themselves and thus being perpetually frustrated took the time to care and to feed the person next to them and thus everyone was able to be filled not only with the food but more importantly with love.

12. Blessed are you who, when you read this think it is about other people and not yourself - I've got you too!

Fr. Martin S.J. points out an important part of Christian life with his version of the serenity prayer:

God, grant me the serenity to accept the people I cannot change, which is pretty much everyone, since I'm clearly not you, God. At least not the last time I checked. And while you're at it, God, please give me the courage to change what I need to change about myself, which is frankly a lot, since, once

again, I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect. It's better for me to focus on changing myself than to worry about changing other people, who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying, I can't change anyway. Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up whenever I

think that I'm clearly smarter than everyone else in the room, that no one knows what they're talking about except me, or that I alone have all the answers. Basically, God, grant me the wisdom to remember that I'm not you. Amen




BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

May 27, 2018 The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity Lectionary: 165 Gospel MT 28:16-20

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had ordered them. When they all saw him, they worshiped, but they doubted. Then Jesus approached and said to them, "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age."

Spiritual Reflection:

O Trinity, eternal Trinity! Fire, abyss of love... Was it necessary that you should give Even the Holy Trinity as food for souls?... You gave us not only your Word Through the Redemption and in the Eucharist, But you also gave yourself In the fullness of love for your creature. - St. Catherine of Siena

Spiritual Questions:

1. How does the idea of Trinity gel with the idea that God is love?
2. What does God being a Trinity mean to you?
3. What would happen if God was not a Trinity?
4. How are you going to let God love you this week?
5. How are you going to deepen your prayer life this week?




PRO-LIFE



May's Pro-Life Prayer: A PRAYER TO BE GENEROUS

Teach us, Lord Jesus, to be generous: to serve You as You deserve; to give, not counting the cost; to fight, not heeding the wounds; to toil, not asking for rest; to labor, not seeking any reward, save that of knowing that we do Your will. May the way we live our lives inspire everyone with a greater respect for all human life. Amen.



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

TRIVIA

This Week's Trivia

1. Pater Noster ____
2. Veni, Creator Spiritu ____
3. Tantum Ergo ____
4. Ave Maria ____

- A. Hail Mary
- B. Come Holy Spirit
- C. Down in Adoration Falling
- D. Our Father

Last Week's Answer

This Week's Questions: Which of the following statements are true?

1. The Vatican is the smallest sovereign state in the world. = True
2. The Catholic version of the Old Testament differs from the Protestant one in that the Catholic edition has seven more books than the Protestant Bible. These "extra" books were removed during the Protestant reformation by Martin Luther—the Catholic Church did not add them as is commonly believed. = True
3. The Catholic Church is the largest charitable organization in the U.S. = True



**May's Prayer For Fallen Away Catholics:
Turn The Hearts Of Our Loved Ones Back To You**

O Lord, take away anything that is turning the hearts of our love ones into hearts of stone, soften their hardened hearts, and grant to them new hearts filled with your love. Purify their hearts clean their hearts, dwell in their hearts. Guide their most intimate thoughts and seal them in holiness. In thy great mercy please bring them back to your holy. O God us all to share eternity with you. – Amen.



PRAYER(S) OF THE WEEK

PRAYER TO THE TRINITY

Thanks, be rendered to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for all the graces with which I have been laden in the past. Thanks, be rendered to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit for the graces with which I am laden now. Thanks, be rendered to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit for the graces with which the Supreme Goodness will crown me in the future. Amen.

MEMORIAL DAY PRAYER BY AUSTIN FLEMING

Hear Our Prayer This Day In the quiet sanctuaries of our own hearts, let each of us name and call on the One whose power over us is great and gentle, firm and forgiving, holy and healing ... You who created us, who sustain us, who call us to live in peace, hear our prayer this day. Hear our prayer for all who have died, whose hearts and hopes are known to you alone ... Hear our prayer for those who put the welfare of others ahead of their own and give us hearts as generous as theirs ... Hear our prayer for those who gave their lives in the service of others, and accept the gift of their sacrifice ... Help us to shape and make a world where we will lay down the arms of war and turn our swords into ploughshares for a harvest of justice and peace ... Comfort those who grieve the loss of their loved ones and let your healing be the hope in our hearts... Hear our prayer this day and in your mercy answer us in the name of all that is holy. The peace of God be with you.



Catholic Humor

Classical musicians make me laugh. Those are **symphony people**.

Social activists in Hell are pressuring Satan to resign, after he was accused of **Hades speech**.

The lack of any sort of animal census on the Ark led to complaints of **Noah count ability**.

In the postmodern Catholic Church, every assumption will be **deconstructed**.

Quotes of the Week

I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives. I like to see a man live so that his place will be proud of him. - Abraham Lincoln

Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official, save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him insofar as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the exact extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country. In either event, it is unpatriotic not to tell the truth, whether about the president or anyone else. - Theodore Roosevelt

America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand. - Harry S. Truman

The life of the nation is secure only while the nation is honest, truthful, and virtuous. - Frederick Douglass

Lethargy is the forerunner of death to the public liberty. - Thomas Jefferson

