

# ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

## JUNE 17, 2018



"This is how it is with the kingdom of God." What is a kingdom? Is it the brick and mortar that build up the castle? Is it the expanse of

land a king can reasonably defend? Our notions of kingdoms may be romanticized in the modern era, but for the Israelites, a kingdom held deep historical meaning. Thousands of years before the birth of Christ, the Israelites had asked God for a king. After the reigns of David and Solomon, the United Kingdom dissolved into factions, and the land was conquered by the Assyrians, Babylonians, and, finally, Romans. For the Israelites, a kingdom was something to build, both structurally and civilly. While this had ended in ruin for their ancestors, many of Jesus' contemporaries longed for the restoration of an earthly kingdom.

Jesus' words in today's Gospel are a radical departure from this perspective. He compares the Kingdom of God to a field, but it appears that the farmer has little to do with its progress. "The seed would sprout and grow, he knows not how. Of its own accord, the land yields fruit." Jesus introduces his followers to a new sort of kingdom, a kingdom where God provides the growth.

There is work to be done, of course. "When the grain is ripe, he wields the sickle at once, for the harvest has come." But for the Kingdom of God to flourish, there are certain things that are outside of our control. We sow seeds of kindness, justice, and integrity ... and then we must be patient. As shoots of faith appear, we nurture the growth with encouragement. As Christians, our task is not to build the Kingdom of God under our power alone, but to trust in the life-giving movement of God.

### PRAY FOR THE SICK

Please Pray For: Terri Beaudoin, Patsy R. Coleman, Reginald Douglas, Sonya Douglas, Sophia Eaglin, Debra Evans, Rosalind Gardner, Thelma Gardner, Herman Gary, Janet Gary, Mary Gilliard, Elizabeth Harris, Kandace Hebert, Florence Johnson, Jeanette Jones, Charles Julian, Mary Jane Julian, Robert Kirkland, Hazel McClinton, Verbal Martin, Michael Mitchell, Thomas E. Malone, Montreal Moore, Johnnie Owens, Hazel Rem, Carolyn Softly, Harriett Thomas, Urabell Thomas, Leroy Thornton, Jacob Viser, Mary Ann Willis, Kyle Wright, Bessie Young and Donald L. Young.

### MINISTERS FOR JUNE 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018

#### LECTORS

5:00PM Tracey Johnson, Heartha Boudreaux, Umaja Savoy

8:30AM Tony Brown, Erica Johnson, Ronald Enard

11:00AM Erie Calloway, Johnnie Mae Roy, Mary C. Hamilton

#### EUCHARIST MINISTERS

5:00PM Janiece Jefferson, Shameika Jefferson, Carmen Lockett

8:30AM Carla Joseph, Mary Julian, Dorothy Lewis, Cathy Paul-Steward, Mary Ann Willis

11:00AM Laura Allen, Cheryl Cash, William Cash, Erika Edmond May Walker, Sylvester Whitmire

#### ALTAR SERVERS

5:00PM Janiece Jefferson, Brandon Jefferson, Aida Andha

8:30AM Carson Brown, Mason Brown, Vincent Doucet

11:00AM

### LIVING FAITH:

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY

**Monday:** 1 Kgs 21:1-16 \* Ps 5:2-7 \* Mt 5:38-42

...O Lord, at dawn you hear my voice; at dawn I bring my plea expectantly before you.

**Tuesday:** 1 Kgs 21:17-29 \* Ps 51:3-6, 11, 16 \* Mt 5:43-48

But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you...

**Wednesday:** 2 Kgs 2:1, 6-14 \* Ps 31:20-21, 24 \* Mt 6:1-6, 16-18

And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you.

**Thursday:** Sir 48:1-14 \* Ps 97:1-7 \* Mt 6:7-15

In praying, do not babble like the pagans, who think that they will be heard because of their many words.

**Friday:** 2 Kgs 11:1-4, 9-18, 20 \* Ps 132:11-14, 17-18 \* Mt 6:19-23

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal.

**Saturday:** 2 Chr 24:17-25 \* Ps 89:4-5, 29-34 \* Mt 6:24-34

So do not worry and say, "What are we to eat?" or "What are we to drink?" or "What are we to wear?" ... Your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the Kingdom of God and his righteousness.

**Sunday:** Is 49:1-6 \* Ps 139:1-3, 13-15 \* Acts 13:22-26 \* Lk 1:57-66, 80

Behold, one is coming after me; I am not worthy to unfasten the sandals of his feet.

### ACTIVITIES FOR THE WEEK

<b>Mon.</b>	6:30 PM	Rosary Group
	7:00 PM	Saturday Choir Practice
<b>Tues.</b>	6:30 PM	Pastoral Council Mtg.
	7:00 PM	8:30AM Choir Practice
<b>Thurs</b>	7:00PM	11:00AM Choir Practice
<b>Sat.</b>	10:00 AM	SVDP Meeting - Rm 100
<b>Sun.</b>		FAMILY DAY

### PRAYING THE ROSARY

Kindly, Join us for the Rosary thirty minutes before each Mass.

## Offering for June 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Regular Offering-Corpus Christi	\$11,332.35
Mailed in	\$ 3,585.00
Online Giving	\$ 1,237.03
<b>Total Offering</b>	<b>\$16,154.38</b>
Capital Improvement	\$ 140.00

*Thank you much for your generosity!*

### ONLINE GIVING

[www.stmaryshouston.net](http://www.stmaryshouston.net)

(click on online giving)

### DIOCESAN SERVICES FUND (DSF)

*As of 06 - 14 - 2018*

Parish Goal	\$ 64,000.00
Total Pledged	\$ 28,510.00
Total Paid	\$ 19,715.83
Total Number of Participants	123
Total Number of Households	1080
Paid over (under) Goal	(\$44,554.17)
Pledged over (under) Goal	(\$35,490.00)
Percent Paid	30.81%

Thank you so much for answering the call to express God's Mercy and compassion through your commitment to this Year's DSF. Catholics throughout our arch diocesan community are uniting in faith, sharing their blessings, and giving gifts in Christ's name.

If you have heard Christ's call and have not yet responded, please consider offering your commitment today. With every parishioner's meaningful commitment, we will succeed in reaching our Parish Goal of \$64,000.00 and provide hope and help for those among us who are most in need. You may use the pledge card that are at the entrance of the Sanctuary and drop in the collection basket or do it online @ [www.archgh.org.dsf](http://www.archgh.org.dsf).

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Sat. 5:00 PM</b>	For our Parishioners
<b>Sun. 8:30 AM</b>	+Samuel Mouton by Jolivet Family +Elizabeth Thornton by Thornton Family +Bennie Morton by Mrs. Bennie Morton & Family +Lenis Mercier by Emma Morton & Family Youth of the Parish
<b>Sun. 11:00 AM</b>	+Clayton Tolliver by Sandria Tolliver & Family
<b>Thurs. 7:00 AM</b>	Educational Endeavor of our Children & Youth

### FAMILY DAY

Our Family Day will be Next Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup>. We would like all our parishioners, along with family and friends to come and celebrate our Family Day.

**Please Note:** There will be Just **ONE MASS** on Sunday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at **10:00 A.M.** There will no Mass at 8:30 or 11:00am Mass.

### FARWELL TO FR. OLI

Fr. Oli has been appointed as an Associate Pastor at Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish, in Lafayette, LA. He will leave us on Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup>. We will give him a farewell next Sunday during our Family Day celebration. Please do come and show your appreciation and love to Fr. Oli.

### BAZAAR NEWS

This year, our annual Gumbo Festival will be on October 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup>.

St. Mary's Bazaar Committee will begin meeting on Thursday, June 28, 2018, to begin plans for our 2018 Bazaar and Gumbo Festival. We are in need Good Stewards willing to give of their time and talents in helping make this year's Festival a success. The meeting begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Cottage each Thursday.

### WEDDING ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE MASS

The 2018 Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass honoring couples celebrating their Silver (25<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary of marriage in the Catholic Church will be held on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 3 pm. Whether or not a couple attends the ceremony, they are eligible to receive a special recognition.

The 2018 Wedding Anniversary Jubilee Mass honoring couples celebrating their Golden (50<sup>th</sup>) Anniversary of marriage in The Catholic Church will be held on Sunday, October 21<sup>th</sup>, at the Co-Cathedral of the Sacred Heart at 3 pm.

### THANK YOU!

A big "Thank You" to those who donated at our June 10<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive. You are truly "Someone's HERO"! You donated a total of 34 units which will save 102 Lives! If you did not make it Sunday, you can still donate in the month of June at a blood center near your home or work location using Sponsor Code P930 and St Mary's will receive the credit!

### SUMMER BIBLE STUDY

A Glance through the Gospel of Mark  
**When:** on Wednesdays @ 1pm & 6:30pm  
July 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, & August 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Where:** Room 100  
**Presenter:** Ms. Daphne Sands  
*No Cost! No Registration!*

## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

A very sincere thanks and appreciation to all our Dads for being an inspiration and Role Model, for your Sacrifice, Support, Guidance and teaching.

**THANK YOU, DADS!**

**It's our prayer that;**

May God bless you and keep you!

May He guide you to be loving and good role models!

May He help you to be a father like He is!

May He keep you happy & healthy!

*Amen*