

Thirty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 31, 2021

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YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD
WITH ALL YOUR HEART,
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND,
AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH.

Mark 12:30

THE CORE OF GOD'S COVENANT

In today's First Reading, from Deuteronomy, we hear the great summary of the very core of God's covenant with Israel, its title taken from its opening word, the *Shema* ("Hear!"). The *Shema* is at once a doctrinal summary of Israel's faith and the personal/corporate prayer of Israel's sons and daughters. To this day, devout Jews inscribe the *Shema* on parchment and enclose it in the *mezuzah* that adorns the doorways of so many Jewish homes. The residents kiss the *mezuzah*, and thus the Word of God, upon entering their homes and when going forth from them into a world that often acknowledges neither God nor the covenant. Recited several times daily, Deuteronomy's "formula" comes alive as a vivid reminder to devout Jews that their personal relationship with God is both source and safeguard of their public identity as members of God's chosen people.

EDITING THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

Today's Gospel shows Jesus as fully part of Israel's covenant tradition: he responds to the scribe's question by proclaiming Deuteronomy's *Shema* which both of them would have revered and recited since childhood: "Hear, O Israel! The Lord is our God, the Lord alone! Therefore you shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:4-5). But note the "editorial changes" both Jesus and the scribe make to the *Shema*. To Deuteronomy's heart, the Biblical seat of the will and affections, and soul, the deepest part of the human person, and strength, encompassing both physical ability and material treasure, Jesus adds "with all your mind," a phrase the scribe changes to "with all your understanding" (Mark 12:30, 33). Perhaps Mark, the author of today's Gospel, wanted to consecrate to the kingdom's service the philosophical reflection and intellectual exploration so valued by the Greco-Roman world—and our world—in which the Gospel would be preached.

KNOWING AND DOING

Jesus makes a further change to Israel's *Shema*: to the Deuteronomy text Jesus adds Leviticus 19:18: "you shall love your neighbor as yourself." For Jesus, these commandments cannot be separated. The scribe, delighted at Jesus' answer, goes on to indicate that he has grasped one of the central tenets of Jesus' kingdom: ritual worship and practical charity toward one's neighbor are twin expressions of love for God. This insight places the scribe "not far from the kingdom of God," says Jesus (Mark 12:34). But is "not far" close enough? For the scribe, as for the rich would-be disciple from a few Sundays ago, as for each of us, it is one thing to know what we ought to do and quite another actually to do it. So, then: what about us? How do we live out, in daily practice, the covenant whose words we know so well, but whose deeds we so often find a challenge?

TODAY'S READINGS

Deuteronomy 6:2-6 31:7-9
Psalm 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51
Hebrews 7:23-28
Mark 12:28b-34



Sacred Heart Mission Catholic Church

205 James Canyon Hwy
Cloudcroft, NM 88317
www.sacredheartcatholiccloudcroft.org

Office hours: Monday-Wednesday
(at Immaculate Conception Church)
(575) 437-3291

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (closed 12-1:00 p.m.)
Thursday and Friday 9:00-12:00 p.m.

Pastor: Very Rev. Martin Cornejo
Vicar: Fr. Emmanuel Stephen
Deacon: Gary Perkins

Sunday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Confessions prior to Mass

Wednesday Mass: 9:30 a.m.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
and Rosary: Wednesday 9:00 a.m.
Anointing of the sick: On the
First Wednesday of the month

31st. SUNDAY

IN ORDINARY TIME

OCTOBER 31, 2021

Intentions of the Holy Father for November:

People Who Suffer from Depression.

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Sunday Oct. 31, †Bryan Banks

by Joe & Mary Lou Barcevac

Wed. Nov. 3, All our faithful Departed

Church Committee Members

Chair - Joe Barcevac
Vice-Chair - Bob Balog
Secretary - Mira Pepper
Finance - Steve Pepper
Social Coordinator - Lourdes Blette

Altar Servers (John Conner 687-2144)

Oct. 31, Marisa & Dominic

EMOHC (Teresa Stevenson (281) 772-7450)

Oct. 31, Diane Szelazkiewicz

Reader (Teresa Stevenson (281) 772-7450)

Oct. 31, Ken Szelazkiewicz

Ushers (John Conner 687-2144)

Oct. 31, Phil & Mike

Please remember to notify Teresa Stevenson or John Conner if you are unable to serve as Scheduled, even if you have arranged for someone to take your place.

St. Charles Borromeo

Feast Day November 4



Be sure that you first preach by the way you live. If you do not, people will notice that you say one thing, but live otherwise, and your words will bring only cynical laughter and a derisive shake of the head.

- Charles Borromeo

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot now 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. Amen.



our parish
mission
statement

We are a community that comes together to model Jesus to all peoples by addressing physical concerns and spiritual matters, and to do as Jesus did, giving everything to bring people into a closer relationship with God, in celebration.

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: 31st. Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday: All Saints

Tuesday: Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls' Day)

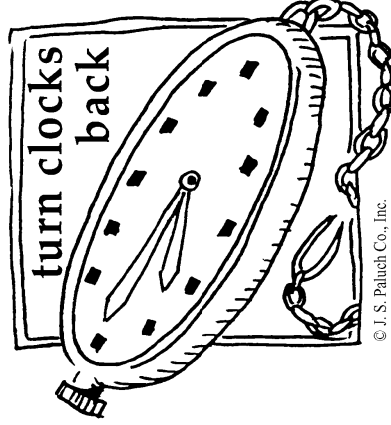
Wednesday: St. Martin de Porres

Thursday: St. Charles Borromeo

Friday: First Friday

Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary

LOVE with all your heart,
with all your soul,
THE LORD YOUR GOD with all your mind,
and love your neighbor as yourself.
MATT. 22:37-39



**Daylight saving time
ends Sunday November 7**

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PLEASE PRAY for

Jennifer Madl, Velia Perea,
Ceci Borunda, Susan Walen
Leonor Rubalcava, Manry Family,
Phyllis Madin, Helen Rigger,
Yvett Tomeo, Joe Rogers, John Phillips,
Margaret Bevins, Ann Blanchard,
Dieter deBeyer, Bob Weiss,
Mike & Lourdes Blette,
Brendan Cronander-Ford, Bill Crouch.

SUGGESTION

We have a suggestion box for any new ideas or questions you may have for our church. The box is located on the table next to the kitchen.

Collections

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October 24,

General Collection

\$1,070.00

World Mission Sunday

\$ 433.00

Today's second collection goes to

Building Fund

Next week's second collection goes to

Pastoral Solidarity Fund for

Church in Africa

To report abuse in New Mexico:

If you suspect a child is in imminent danger from abuse, please call 911 immediately.

To report known or suspected child abuse, contact:

Dial #SAFE (#7233) from a cell phone Or 1-855-333-SAFE (7233)

Elder Abuse Hotline: 1-866-654-3219 National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-7233

Roman Catholic Diocese of Las Cruces Victims Assistance Coordinator (575)523-7577

Or Maria D Martin Safe Environment Clerk (575) 523-7577 mmartin@rcdlc.org