



God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. - Jn 3:16-17

The Most Holy Trinity/June 7, 2020

SUNDAY'S READINGS **First Reading:**

Thus the LORD passed before him and cried out: "The LORD, the LORD, a merciful and gracious God, slow to anger and rich in kindness and fidelity." (Ex 34:6)

Psalm:

Glory and praise for ever! (Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 (52b))

Second Reading:

Mend your ways,
encourage one another,
agree with one another, live in peace,
and the God of love and peace will be with you. (2 Cor 13:11b)

Gospel:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life. (Jn 3:16)

Readings for the week of June 7, 2020

Sunday: Ex 34:4b-6, 8-9/Dn 3:52, 53, 54, 55, 56 [52b]/2 Cor 13:11-13/Jn 3:16-18

Monday: 1 Kgs 17:1-6/Ps 121:1bc-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 [cf. 2]/Mt 5:1-12

Tuesday: 1 Kgs 17:7-16/Ps 4:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7a]/Mt 5:13-16

Wednesday: 1 Kgs 18:20-39/Ps 16:1b-2ab, 4, 5ab and 8, 11 [1b]/Mt 5:17-19

Thursday: Acts 11:21b-26; 13:1-3/Ps 65:10, 11, 12-13 [2a]/Mt 5:20-26

Friday: 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-16/Ps 27:7-8a, 8b-9abc, 13-14 [8b]/Mt 5:27-32

Saturday: 1 Kgs 19:19-21/Ps 16:1b-2a and 5, 7-8, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/Mt 5:33-37

Next Sunday: Dt 8:2-3, 14b-16a/Ps 147:12-13, 14-15, 19-20 [12]/1 Cor 10:16-17/Jn 6:51-58



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep in your prayers the sick and homebound of our parish and those who care for them:

Anonymous, Paul Amyot, Oksana Bajko, Joan Bellanger, Michael Birmingham, Sylvia Boulger, John Brady, Michael Burnett, Charlotte Chase, Eleanor Chase, Major Jeffrey Chase, Susan E. Cotsonas, Barbara Domigan, Michael Doyle, Beth Drzymala, Sammy Evans, Gianni Farinacci, Concetta Florientino, Michelle Foutch, Donald Gaylord, Charlene Genaway, Mary Ann Goodine, Lesha Hardgraves, Robert Havelka, Mary Hayes, Ed Helfer, William Hernandez, David Jaffarian, Craig Kingslely, Doug LaBudde, Jack Law Jr., Pinky Laviano, Kristen Law, Kevin M. Lynch, William Lindberg, Dominick Lizzi, Cindy Mahony, Erica Matthies, Kevin McCann, Gary McDonald, Edin Mercado, Marianne Martinez, Judy Martino, Kaylee Rose Meyer, Luba Mykytiw, Amelia Nabozny, Richard Norton, David Nichlos, Rita Paladino, Tommy Palmer, Elise Panico, Bonnie Pelizza, David Picchione, Pam Polashenski, Helen Rayve, Claire Renn, Tim Renn, William Robinson, Lisa Rossello, Dawn Ruchel, Rita Ryan, Alice Salvatore, Eileen Scott, Maddi Sidarous, Ralph Sitcer, Special Intentions, Bonnie Sperl, Sean Spicer, Kevin Sutton, Joan Torcello, Nancy Troutman, Matthew West, Edward Wheeler, Dan Wiltse, Marybeth Wiltse, Gary Wickes, Chrissy Wills, Carol Wisenhunt, Veronica Wistar, Robert Woodward, Erica Wordon

Faith Formation Resources for Families

~From Jared Dees, "[The Religion Teacher](#)": "The Gospel reading for this weekend's **Feast of the Most Holy Trinity** is very short and includes probably the most famous Bible verse of all time: John 3:16." Here are two activity pages for elementary/middle-schoolers to help [explore this verse's meaning](#) and get creative by [drawing a card from God](#).

~[Catechist](#) magazine offers a "[Five-Finger Glove Prayer Craft](#)" to help young children think about **who they'd like to pray for**. Instead of puffy paint, fabric markers could be used.

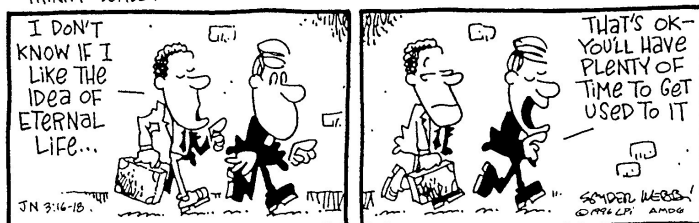
~Here are some [conversation starters and faith tips](#) that parents and sponsors can use with their **Confirmation candidates** as they anticipate receiving this sacrament.

~**A reminder to Confirmation candidates:** please fill out and turn in your "Confirmation Candidate Record and Sponsor Form." This page was sent to you via e-mail, but if you need another one, [click here](#) to e-mail Secondary Faith Formation.

Introducing Dan McHale

Seminarian **Dan McHale** will join our three parishes this summer to serve our tri-parish community. Born and raised in Stuyvesant, Dan knows the area well and will provide much-needed and appreciated assistance as we begin plans of reopening our worship sites in the near future. Dan was going to be serving as a deacon, but the ordination that was planned for May 16th has been rescheduled for Labor Day weekend. To read more about Dan, [click here](#) for his page on the Albany Vocations website.

TRINITY SUNDAY



Pastor's Blog,

Last weekend, I was ashamed of something that was really out of our control. We taped our Sunday liturgy early in the week to allow for video processing, so I was mortified that there was no mention of or prayers on behalf of George Floyd and the horrific aftermath that continues to unfold. I was overwhelmed by the desire to address this and worked on a video that we recently posted online. I realized, however, that I needed to reach out personally and sent an e-mail to Rev. Dr. Gloria Jimpson, pastor of Payne AME Church in Chatham, to express my support for her and the community. This was meant to be a personal message, but her powerful response encouraged us both to be public with our exchange as one way of demonstrating unity and to bring a sense of healing. Pastor Gloria and I work closely not only in our ecumenical Christian joint efforts but also as proud members of the interfaith community, which is part of the *Chatham Area Interfaith Council* (CAIC). This continues the tradition of the *Center for Faith Enrichment* (CFE). I spoke on behalf of the parishioners of St. James because our communities have worked and worshiped so closely together, but I know that I speak for the members of all our churches. God bless you all, and as you grapple with these issues, know that your pastors and faith leaders are as well. Together, in prayer and action, we can unite in God's justice, mercy, and love.

The response of two more pastors:

Pope Francis dedicated his Sunday homily to the tragic events occurring in the United States and throughout the world: <https://www.catholicworldreport.com/2020/06/03/pope-francis-prays-for-the-soul-of-george-floyd-and-for-peace-and-justice-in-us/>

Bishop Edward B. Scharfenberger has written a column addressing the killing of George Floyd, the subsequent violence in our country, and America's "original sin" of racism. The column is posted in its entirety on the website of *The Evangelist* and will be in print on Thursday as well.

Here are excerpts from the Bishop's column:

"Scratch the surface and we see that racism and its vestiges persist. America's "original sin," as it has been called, must be not only acknowledged but vigorously resisted and corrected. Yes, the use of excessive force by some police is intolerable and must be addressed, especially as, racially and ethnically, it is systemically applied differently

"... In the current crisis, however, the manner of response of public officials cannot be dismissed as an insignificant factor. Was there ever any doubt about what we all saw in that viral video? Then why did it take so long to remove the offending officers and finally place one under arrest? Recall that, before the violence escalated, protestors were simply demanding justice, for the most part, peacefully. Why did it take five days to respond? Why this and similar delays in other cases with apprehension of law officials acting violently against someone offering no resistance?

"... Justice delayed is justice denied. In this, everyone must play a part. If history teaches us anything, it is that the man with his head held to the ground could have been you or your brother. Where the police power of the State is not subject to restraint and the rule of equal treatment under the law, that man, black or white, could be you or me, Christian, Muslim or Jew. In pursuit of justice, all must ante up."

Dear Gloria,

The murder of George Floyd and the horrific aftermath has affected us all, and I want you to know that so many of the parishioners of St. James have immediately thought of the members of Payne AME and how difficult this must be, especially without the ability to come together in positive action, consolation, and prayer.

While trying to compose something the other night, I had a bit of a meltdown. I was overwhelmed by the images I saw as I tried to put into words the horror of the situation.

As pastor to your amazing congregation, I can't imagine what you are feeling or going through. I know you have the support of Iris and others, but this must be an exceptionally difficult time. Please know of my support and prayers personally and of our community.

Several people in our extended Interfaith community, led by Nick Biggs and others, have called for the showing of public support and would like to help in any way possible. In the future, perhaps we could continue a dialogue centered in prayer and respect. I think it's best for us not to move forward with an agenda but to hear from you and the community first and respond to your needs at this time.

Please forward my words to anyone else within the church. I really do want you to know that you are all in my thoughts and prayers.

In Christ's love, George



Dearest George (Father George),

First let me thank you on behalf of Payne and myself, for your heartfelt words of empathy. I say empathy because we truly believe in one faith, one Lord, covering all of us; God is in control. God's plan will eventually show up and show out for everyone's good. What the devil and the devil's minions mean for evil, God will turn into good. If we are to get through these difficult times, we will get through them together.

I won't lie, we are saddened at the State of our Nation. We are fortified by God and lean on God when the devil strikes. We know that no weapon formed against us will prosper. We truly have the kind of faith that will get us through.

At present your prayers and those of our interfaith colleagues are much appreciated. This is truly a time when we are prophetically being led to understand that when one of us is hurting, we all hurt. I know that when we, you and I, all of our interfaith partners, and respective congregations, are allowed to gather together safely again, a prayer vigil would be fervently appreciated by all.

I will share our communication with my beloved members. And I hope you do not hesitate to voice your sentiments about this malignant chaos we all are enduring with people in and about the vineyards you labor in. We all have much work to do. May God continue to bless you. Yet abiding with God,

Gloria

(Rev. Dr. Gloria Jimpson), Pastor