

Reflection of today Gospel

John 12:20-33

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If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit.

First Reading Jeremiah 31:31-34
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15
Second Reading Hebrews 5:7-9

Background on the Gospel Reading

Today's Gospel reading is taken from the Gospel of John. We are reading much further into John's Gospel than we have for the past two weeks. Chapter 12 of John's Gospel is a preparation for the beginning of the passion narrative to follow. Jesus has just raised Lazarus from the dead—an important sign in John's Gospel, which inspired many people to believe in Jesus. This event also marks the turning point in Jesus' conflict with the Jewish authorities.

John's Gospel tells us that the Sanhedrin met after this event and made plans to kill Jesus. In the 12th chapter of John's Gospel, Jesus is anointed at Bethany and enters Jerusalem in triumph. We again see evidence of the significance of the raising of Lazarus to this event; John reports that the crowds also gathered to see Lazarus.

Following his triumphant entry into Jerusalem, Jesus predicted his suffering, death, and Resurrection and prepared his disciples to believe in the salvation that his death would accomplish. Using the metaphor of the grain of wheat, Jesus presented the idea that his dying would be beneficial. He also taught that those who would be his disciples must follow his example of sacrifice. This theme will be repeated in John's account of the Last Supper, when Jesus washed the feet of his disciples as an example of how they must serve one another.

The final section of today's Gospel might be read as John's parallel to the agony in the garden. Unlike the Synoptic Gospels, the Gospel of John does not record Jesus' anguished prayer in the garden of Gethsemane before his arrest. Although comparable words are found in today's reading, Jesus gives a confident response to the question he raises when asking God to save him from his impending death. After announcing his conviction that it is for this purpose that he came, a voice from heaven speaks, as if in answer to Jesus' prayer. This voice, like the one heard at Jesus' baptism and at Jesus' Transfiguration—events reported in the Synoptic Gospels but not in John's Gospel—affirms that God welcomes the sacrifice that Jesus will make on behalf of others. In John's Gospel, Jesus teaches that this voice was sent for the sake of those who would believe in him.

In today's Gospel, we also hear Jesus speak about the cosmic framework against which we are to understand his passion, death, and Resurrection. Through his death and Resurrection, Jesus conquered Satan, the ruler of this world. In this way the world is judged, but the judgment is not condemnation. Instead, through Jesus' dying and rising, salvation is brought to the world.

www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/Sunday-connection/

Mass Intentions for the Week

"I'm going to prepare a place for you"
"For this momentary afflictions is causing an eternal weight of glory"

Sunday, March 17, 2024,

All members of Center of Jesus The Lord
Father Denzil Perera (66th year of Priesthood Blessing)
Trung Ngo (Loving Memory)

Tuesday, March 19, 2024

Aubert Family (Loving Memory)

Sanctuary Candle End to Abortion

To schedule Mass Intentions or Sanctuary Candle Memorials call the Center 529-1636

Pray to end all wars and persecutions of Christians...end to abortions...end to euthanasia...shelter for the homeless... compassion for the elders in hospice and assisted living...

Next Weeks Reading

Sunday, March 24, 2024

Palm Sunday

First Reading Isaiah 50:4-7
Responsorial Psalm Psalm 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24
Second Reading Philippians 2:6-11
Gospel Reading Mark 14:1—15:47

Message from Father Lance Campo:

Dear Parishioners:

Effective on July 1, Archbishop Aymond has assigned me as pastor of the newly merged parishes of St. John the Baptist in Paradis and St. Gertrude in Des Allemands. It will be a challenge to move to a new area and begin a new parish of the two communities of faith. Please pray for me, and the people, as we make that transition. We still have several months together before I will leave. We are waiting to hear about Timothy's future with the seminary. As of now, Fr. Anthony will remain in residence and can say Sunday mass if requested.

I will continue to pray for all of you as we face the sadness of changes at the Center. Jesus is with us on this journey, so let us ask him for strength, hope and generosity as we enter into a new stage in our spiritual life. We trust the Spirit is guiding the Archdiocese of New Orleans, as we all, as one church, face the challenges before us.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Fr. Lance Campo

Pastor

Center of Jesus Upcoming Events

Sunday, March 17

Father Perera 66th year Anniversary of Priesthood

Tuesday, March 19

St. Joseph's Day

Thursday, March 28

Holy Thursday Mass 7pm
Adoration after mass

Friday, March 29

Good Friday... Church will be open at 8am
"Living Stations" 12pm ...followed by veneration...Volunteers needed for the play and church please contact Helen or Darlene

Sunday, March 31

"Resurrection of the Lord"
Easter Mass 10:15am

Saturday, April 6,

Mass and Eucharistic Adoration 10am-12pm

Sunday, April 7

"Divine Mercy"

Saturday, April 13

"Healing Mass" w/Father Anthony, Father Mumphrey & Deacon Larry
Music: Jamie Diliberto & Tongues of Fire
10am-Praise & Worship 11am-Healing Mass and Healing service immediately following mass

Stations (Way) of the Cross after Tuesday 11:00am mass in OLG church follow by lunch during Lent (2/14-3/23/24)



St. Theresa Church after Friday 12:10 pm Mass (with Adoration) and 7:00pm (Spanish) during Lent

The Chrism Mass will be on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, at 10:00 AM at St. Louis Cathedral

Diocese Announcements:

Confessions will be available in all parishes from 5:00 p.m. — 6:30 p.m. on the following Wednesdays during Lent: March 6, 2024, March 13, 2024 and March 20, 2024.

Mass celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph will be held at 10:00 AM on March 19, 2024 at St. Joseph Church and Shrine, Gretna

The Silver Anniversary Celebration, honoring couples celebrating their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, will be held at 3:00 PM on Sunday, March 17, 2024, at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, New Orleans.

The Office of Marriage and Family Life is pleased to announce the annual Archdiocese of New Orleans **Golden Wedding Anniversary Celebration** will be held on Sunday, June 23, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. at St. Philip Neri Church, Metairie.

April 11 @ 7pm Women of Faith featuring Alexa Schexnaildre at St. Clement of Rome Church
“Finding Hope in Our Difficulties” Personal Testimony



*“There are no strangers here,
only friends we have not
yet MET”*



*Pray the Chaplet of
Divine Mercy with us
Sunday 9:45am*

The Unity Prayer

My Adorable Jesus,
MAY OUR FEET JOURNEY TOGETHER.
MAY OUR HANDS GATHER IN UNITY.
MAY OUR HEARTS BEAT IN UNISON.
MAY OUR SOULS BE IN HARMONY.
MAY OUR THOUGHTS BE AS ONE.
MAY OUR EARS LISTEN TO
THE SILENCE TOGETHER.
MAY OUR GLANCES
PROFOUNDLY
PENETRATE EACH OTHER.
MAY OUR LIPS PRAY TOGETHER TO
GAIN MERCY FROM THE ETERNAL FATHER.
AMEN

Center of Jesus the Lord at Our Lady of Good Counsel



March 17, 2024 Fifth Sunday of Lent

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CENTER STAFF

Director: Fr. Lance Campo

Administrative Assistant: Helen Owens

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Office Assistant: Timothy Ngo

MISSION STATEMENT

Center of Jesus the Lord at Our Lady of Good Counsel is a joy filled, loving Charismatic Catholic Community where all are WELCOME! We are active in service to others, living the GOOD NEWS of Jesus Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit.

THE CENTER'S WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY *Praise and Worship*: 10:00 AM; *Eucharistic Celebration* 10:15 AM;

Healing Prayer after Mass; *Fellowship* follows in dining hall

TUESDAY *Praise and Worship* 10:30 AM; *Eucharistic Celebration* 11:00 AM;

following Mass all are welcomed to join in lunch and fellowship (1307 Louisiana Avenue)

MONTHLY SATURDAY *Eucharistic Adoration* 10am with *Healing Prayer* at 11AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation before Sunday & Tuesday masses or call Center to schedule an appointment with Father Lance Campo or Father Anthony Inam



Second Collection On March 16 and 17:

the Archdiocese of New Orleans will host a very important second collection to raise funds to offset the costs of educating seminarians at Notre Dame Seminary and St. Joseph Seminary College. All funds collected will go directly to supporting the education and formation of the 22 men currently studying to be priests in the Archdiocese of New Orleans.

One seminarian costs roughly:
\$124 per day,
\$3,800 per month,
\$45,000 per year.

The Archdiocese currently sponsors 22 men, and your donations will help us to manage these costs effectively for the future.

The **National Eucharistic Pilgrimage** is scheduled to make its way through the Archdiocese of New Orleans **Friday, June 7 through Sunday, June 9, 2024.**

1. A Eucharistic procession and Holy Hour from Notre Dame Seminary to St. Rita, New Orleans Friday evening, June 7.
2. A Eucharistic procession from St. Louis Cathedral following the 9 AM Mass on Sunday, June 9.

PRAY THE ROSARY
OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL ROSARY GROUP
EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 6:00 PM IN THE CHURCH