

July 17, 2022 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

ST. PETER'S CHURCH

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LIVING OUR FAITH

Women hold an important role throughout St. Luke's gospel narrative. Beginning with Mary and Elizabeth, we see that women play an active role in salvation history. We also see St. Luke uphold the example of faithful women – for example the widow who shares her coin or the raising f Jairus' daughter or the curing of the hemorrhaging woman. Later it is women who remain with Jesus on the cross and it is women who first witness to Jesus' resurrection.

Today's account of Martha and Mary further illustrate the important role of women in discipleship. In fact, the kingdom of God is dependent on people like Martha and Mary who offer hospitality to visitors, listen intently, and ultimately boldly proclaim what they had seen and heard. What is important, however, is that St. Luke highlights these women as models of discipleship for all of us.

Sometimes discipleship requires meeting physical needs, like we see in Martha preparing food. But Jesus reminds us that discipleship is also about truly being resent with and for others. It is only we are attentive to those we encounter that we can fully respond. It is only when we are attentive to Jesus that we can hear his voice and follow his invitation and command. May we look to Martha and Mary and all the holy women throughout scripture, as examples of discipleship and life in Christ. If we focus on Christ everything else will fall in place. Questions for the week: How do you tend to show hospitality? What is the first thing you do when you know someone is coming to your home? What does "the ministry of presence" mean to you? How can you participate in this ministry?

CATHOLIC VOICES

Why I pledge to embrace Sabbath rest

Practicing the Sabbath more fully can offer a deeper way to root self-care in a spirituality of contemplation.

MEGHAN J. CLARK

I have a personal confession: I am terrible at resting. I am reasonably good at making time for friends and fun outings, but I often do it at the expense of sleep. Over the last few years, my sister and I have explored national parks as a way of forcing ourselves to disconnect from all work. But even then, hiking is recreation—not rest. So, this summer I find myself seeking to discover the practice of contemplation and even perhaps a spirituality of rest.

In the United States, economic culture focuses so much on productivity that even calls for greater work-life balance often seem to be framed in economic terms. Workers need time off to recharge so that they come back *fresh* on Monday morning. Treating people as if they are machine batteries, the idea of recharging keeps the focus on productivity, not people. Pop culture phrases such as "work-life balance" and "self-care" within this framing miss the mark. When everything is framed in such corporate economic terms, people remain trapped in a cycle of fighting to get enough time to survive. Yet genuine rest and human flourishing still elude us.

"Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay," says the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Most Americans would likely be shocked to find that rest and leisure are considered basic human rights. In 2021 the Economic Policy Institute noted that two thirds of low-wage workers did not have paid sick days (23 percent of workers overall lack paid sick days). Since the American system tends to frame paid sick and vacation days as earned through the years, it is complicated to determine access to paid vacation time. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that in 2021 one third of private-industry workers had between 10 and 14 paid vacation days after one year of service.

American workers both receive far less paid vacation time and are less likely to take it than our European counterparts. Workers are often pressured against taking what is already theirs. Structurally, we are not a society that exercises or encourages the habit of rest. Perhaps the practice of Sabbath and a spirituality of contemplation can offer an off-ramp. While "Keep holy the Sabbath" is often taken as a reminder to go to Sunday Mass, the Sabbath is much more. At the end of the creation story, God rests. In the letter to the Hebrews, we are called to embrace this same practice for a "sabbath rest still remains for the people of God" (4:9), who are called to strive for God's Sabbath. In the 2015 encyclical *Laudato Si*' (On Care for Our Common Home), Pope Francis reminds us that "rest opens our eyes to the larger picture and gives us renewed sensitivity to the rights of others. And so the day of rest, centered on the Eucharist, sheds [its] light on the whole week, and motivates us to greater concern for nature and the poor."

When we embrace Sabbath rest as God does, we are drawn into a spirituality of contemplation.

As we plan out summer holidays or staycations, perhaps practicing the Sabbath more fully can offer us a deeper way to root self-care in a spirituality of contemplation. "Without contemplation," Pope Francis explains, "it is easy to fall prey to an unbalanced and arrogant anthropocentrism, the 'I' at the center of everything, which overinflates our role as human beings, positioning us as absolute rulers of all other creatures."

Although I am terrible at resting, this summer I pledge to try embracing Sabbath rest. It is only in habituating Sabbath in its fullness, as a regular and not exceptional part of human life, that we can fully embrace the deeper spirituality of contemplation to which Pope Francis calls us.



Hymns for this Weekend – July 17th – 10:00AM Mass

#246 All Are Welcome #314 Just a Closer Walk with Thee #235 Gather Us In #338 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee *Readings for this Weekend – July 17* Genesis 18: 1-10a Colossians 1: 24-28 Luke 10: 38-42 *Readings for next Weekend – July 24* Genesis 18: 20-32 Colossians 2: 12-14 Luke 11: 1-13

Donations Weekly Offering for July 10th: \$1,963

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We continue to pray for peace in the troubled areas of our world, and in particular, we pray for the people of the Ukraine and all those affected by the recent violence in our schools and communities.

We join our Holy Father in his prayer intentions for July 2022 –

"Let us pray for the elderly, that they may become teachers of tenderness so that their experience and wisdom may help young people to look towards the future with hope and responsibility."

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND THOSE IN NEED

If you would like to add a name to our prayer list, contact the Parish office. We kindly ask that you do not request a name to be included without the express consent of the person for whom you are requesting prayer. While the request may be very well-intentioned, we want to respect people's right to privacy. We ask for prayer for Charles Thomas and his ministry, Betty and Robert Friedland, Kathryn Jones and her family, Brian and Maria Cosgrove, Richard Rakin, Andrew Mikulski, Rod Baumert

PRAYERS FOR THE DEARLY DEPARTED

We lovingly remember in prayer all our deceased family members, friends, and parishioners and in particular: *Bobby Smith, Anthony Lanza, Juliana Frangipane, Robert Dubas, Nestor Mir, Jarred Doughty, Donald Hendrickson, Adalberto Santiago, Carl Belfiore, Darlene Henry, Elenore Whitney Pirrota, Steve Nicoli, Nubia Quintero-Edwards, Stanley Jacobs, William Cardone, Vincenza Siciliano,* Louisa Butler, Judith King, Bernard Jones, Viola DiMarzio, Robert DeStefano, Jr., Raymond Collins, Lorraine Rakin, Wilson DeMyer, Peter Cosintino, Nadine Gallagher, Tim Rogers, Joan Davis, Debbie Huggler, Amara Campbell, Barbara Taylor, Thomas Hasbrouck, Francisco Dueno, Daniel Downes, Alberto Quirindongo, Patricia Mullen Smith, Edwin Fancher, Jr., Russell Jackson, Mary Stubits, Peter Gozza, Michael Stubits, Margaret Rapenske, Claire Delaney, Emilia Symanski, Christa Somers, Gerardo Contreras, Jesse Kinney

PARISH MINISTRIES

Just a reminder that our Clothes Closet, Food Pantry and Children's Shop are open each Wednesday and Saturday from 9:00am -12:00pm. All three ministries are located in the downstairs of the old St. Peter's School building. All are most welcome.

HELP FOR ADDICTION IS AVAILABLE!

Do you know someone who has a problem with drugs, and wants to stop using? The Corona Self-Help Center is available to offer help. For information, please call 845-482-2486 or visit www.daamerica.org.





OUR REGULAR WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday evenings at 7 PM: Mass in Spanish

Sunday mornings at 10 AM: Mass in English **

Sunday evenings at 5:30 PM: Mass in English

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8:30 AM (Mass in English)

**We will continue to livestream our Sunday morning Mass on Facebook.