



Weekly Bulletin

July 24 to July 31, 2010

Negotiating with God

In today's first reading from Genesis, Abraham seems to bargain with God and ends up striking a pretty good deal. At first glance, it is tempting to imitate this in our relationship with God. God expresses a particular intention and then we try to counter with a position that is more favorable to our own desires. Maybe we can compromise and both be satisfied? Or maybe we can even "sweet-talk" God into seeing it our way! Not exactly the lesson that the Sacred Scriptures mean to teach us!

God did not change His mind because Abraham was insistent or persuasive. Rather God's point all along was to draw out a greater generosity of love from Abraham. God who is Merciful Love intended Abraham to discover and manifest mercy in his own heart by praying for the salvation of the people of Sodom and Gomorrah. Abraham's prayer was answered not simply because he persevered but because his praying was how God was shaping his heart to ask according to God's Will. God wanted both to show forth His Merciful Love and to direct Abraham to love in the same way.

We are supposed to learn perseverance in prayer but not opposition to the Will of God. Perseverance is not the same as stubbornness and all prayer has to include the caveat that Jesus taught in the perfect prayer: "Thy Will be done!" If we trust God to intend what is best for us then we don't need to bargain with Him!

Father Joseph

*St. Vincent de Paul
Catholic Church*

651 Virginia St.
St. Paul, MN 55103
Ph: 651-488-6737
www.svdpcchurch.org

CLERGY

- † Fr. Joseph Johnson, Pastor
- † Fr. John Meyer,
Associate Pastor
- † Fr. Andrew Cozzens,
Associate Pastor
- † Dc. Nao Kao Yang

SCHEDULES

Masses:

Saturday 5:00 PM
Sunday 9:00 AM

Confession:

Sunday 8:00AM-8:45AM

Eucharistic Adoration:

Friday 7:00PM-8:00PM

Religious Education:

Sunday 10:30AM-12:00PM

1st Sat. of Month:

- Mass at 8:30AM
- Altar & Rosary Society Meeting

To know, love and serve Jesus Christ

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday 7/24
5:00 PM Bishop Lee Piché

Sunday 7/25
9:00 AM People of the Parish

Saturday 7/31
5:00 PM Father Joseph Johnson

Sunday 8/1
9:00 AM People of the Parish

GOSPEL READING AT MASS

Saturday 7/24(Vigil)
Luke 11: 1-13

Sunday 7/25
Luke 11: 1-13

Monday 7/26
Matthew 13: 31-35

Tuesday 7/27
Matthew 13: 36-43

Wednesday 7/28
Matthew 13: 44-46

Thursday 7/29
Luke 10: 38-42

Friday 7/30
Matthew 13: 54-58

Saturday 7/31(AM)
Matthew 14: 1-12é

Saturday Confession 1
Saturday Confession will be at the
Cathedral of Saint Paul from
3:30PM-5:00PM

Lus ceeb toom

Vim tsis muaj tus teb xov tooj hauv
peb lub Tsev teev Ntuj lawm, mas
yog nej hu tuaj, tus yuav teb xov
tooj yog tus khiav hauj lwm nyob
pem lub niam Tsev teev Ntuj
Cathedral). Tso nej npe thiab xov
tooj, Txiv Plig mam li hu rov rau
nej.

**St. Vincent de Paul
Pray for us!**

Financial Aid for Catholic Schools

Saint Vincent de Paul received a special grant a couple of years ago for the sole purpose of assisting students from our parish to attend Catholic schools. Several students have benefited from this fund over the past four years. The remaining funds are available to parishioners who would like to enroll their children in Catholic schools and can demonstrate financial need. Assistance for the coming year is available in the amount of \$500 for grade school tuition and \$1,000 for high school tuition. Requests should be submitted in writing to Fr. Johnson by September 1st.

Papal Prayer Intentions For July

Christians in the Middle East - That Christians in the Middle East may live their faith in complete freedom and become instruments of reconciliation and peace.

Humanity Reconciled - Through the witness of the faithful, may the Church be the seed and soil of a humanity reconciled to be God's one true family on earth.