



The Pastor's Corner – September 8, 2019 – 23rd Sunday of the Year

Stewardship of Our Faith

Dear Folks,

The reading from the Wisdom this week invites us to trust in the “*counsel*” of the Lord. For, “*For the corruptible body burdens the soul and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind that has many concerns. And scarce do we guess the things on earth, and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty;*”. The challenges of life often exceed our human ability to understand or control. We need not only a higher power. We need a higher wisdom.

In the Gospel, Jesus invites us to respond to the “unconditional love” of God by making an “unconditional commitment” to God. He encourages us to carry our “*own cross and come after*” Him. St. Paul becomes the radical example of one who dramatically changes his life and “unconditionally follows” Jesus. Consequently, St. Paul found the inner peace and joy that his hearts desired.

Today, as we are confounded by the difficulties of life, are we ready to make a similar unconditional commitment to the “*counsel*” of the Lord? The inner peace and joy of faith awaits our commitment.

Fr. Steve

Goings On

The Senior Mass and Breakfast on Friday will begin with Mass at 8 am, a half hour earlier than usual. I have a mid-morning meeting to attend.



***“Stewardship is a spiritual way of life that defines who we are in relationship to God
And everyone and everything we ever encounter”.***

Stewardship – September 8, 2019 – 23rd Sunday of the Year

At the conclusion of today’s Gospel, we hear Jesus tell a “great crowd” that “...anyone of you who does not renounce all his possessions cannot be my disciple.” A few of Jesus’ immediate disciples, such as Peter, John and James, did just that: They responded to Jesus’ call, renouncing everything to follow him. How do modern disciples of Jesus respond when confronted with this apparently harsh command of Jesus? Surely the renunciation of possessions need not mean literally giving all one’s possessions away, does it? Questions we might ponder this week though: Do our possessions keep us from encountering Christ at Mass? Do they distract us from our parish family? Do our possessions interfere with our relationships? Do they make us insensitive to those less fortunate?

“Our inherited Catholic Legacy is what our Catholic forebears have done for us.

Our stewardship is the means by which we will hand on our Catholic Legacy to those who will follow after us.”