

COMENATRY ON TODAY'S EPISTLE BY DOM GUERANGER

Reckon that ye are dead unto sin, but alive unto God, in Christ Jesus our Lord! The Apostle of the Gentiles enters today into the development of this leading formula of the Christian life. The Epistle of last Sunday aimed exclusively at putting it in language that could not be misunderstood; it showed us, that it expresses what is meant by that Baptism which, when we are immersed in the water, unites us to Christ.

There, as in a sepulcher, the death of Jesus becomes ours, and delivers us from sin. Sold under sin by our First Parents even before we had seen the day, and branded with its infamous stigma,—our whole life belonged to the cruel tyrant; he is a master who is never satisfied with our service; he is a merciless exactor; there is scarce an hour, that he does not make us feel his power over the members of our body; he does not allow us to forget that our body is his slave. But, if the life of a slave is under master's control, death comes at last and sets the soul free; and as to the body, the oppressor can claim nothing, once it is buried. Now, it was on the Cross of the Man-God, on the Cross of that Jesus who, as the Apostle so strongly expresses it, was made sin because of our sins,—it was on that Cross, that guilty human nature was considered, by God's merciful justice, to have become what its divine and innocent Head was. The old man, that was the issue of Adam the sinner, has been crucified; he has died in Christ; the slave by birth, enfranchised by this happy death, has had buried under the waters of Baptism the body of sin, which carried in its flesh the mark of its slavery.

The body of sin was indeed our flesh; not that innocent flesh which originally came all pure from its Creator's hands,—but the flesh, which, generation after generation, was defiled by the transmission of a disgraceful inheritance. In Baptism, which the Apostle calls the mysterious sepulcher, the sacred stream has not only washed away the defilement of this degraded body, but it has also set it free from those members of sin, which are the evil passions. These passions were powers of iniquity, that is, powers which deformed, and turned into uncleanness, those faculties and organs wherewith God had endowed us, that we might fulfill all justice, unto sanctification. At that moment of our Baptism, the strong-armed tyrant forfeited his possession of us; that Baptism was a death, which set his slave free. Sin being thus destroyed, the head of triple concupiscence has been severed, and the monster may writhe as he can; aided by grace, man thus liberated, may always prevent, if he wishes, the coils of the serpent from again being joined with their head.



SAINT JOSEPH ORATORY

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Sunday, July 16th, 2023

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Introit

All you peoples clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness.
For the Lord, the Most High, the Awesome, is the great King over all the earth.

Glory be to the Father . . .

All you peoples clap your hands. . .

Collect

O God, Whose providence never fails to set things in order, we humbly beseech Thee to remove from us whatever is harmful and grant whatever is for our benefit. Through our Lord . . .

Epistle

Romans 6:19-23

Brethren: I speak in a human way because of the weakness of your flesh; for as you yielded your members as slaves of uncleanness and iniquity unto iniquity, so now yield your members as slaves of justice unto sanctification. For when you were slaves of sin, you were free as regards justice. But what fruit had you then from those things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of these things is death. But now set free from sin and become slaves to God, you have your fruit unto sanctification, and as your end, life everlasting. For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is life everlasting in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Gradual & Alleluia

Come, children, harken me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord. Look to Him that you may be radiant with joy, and your faces may not blush with shame.

Alleluia, alleluia. All you peoples, clap your hands, shout to God with cries of gladness. Alleluia.

Gospel

Matthew 7:15-21

At that time, Jesus said to His disciples: Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly are ravenous wolves. By their fruits you will know them. Do men gather grapes from thorns, or figs from thistles? Even so, every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore, by their fruits you will know them. Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' shall enter the kingdom of heaven; but he who does the will of My Father in heaven shall enter the kingdom of heaven.

Offertory

As though it were holocausts of rams and bullocks, or thousands of fat lambs, so let our sacrifice be in Thy presence today, that it may please Thee; for those who trust in Thee cannot be put to shame, O Lord.
Through our Lord . . .

Secret

O God, Thou Who hast given us in one perfect sacrifice the fulfillment of the various sacrifices made under the Old Law, accept these sacrificial gifts offered by Thy devoted servants, and make them holy as Thou didst the gifts of Abel, so that what each one of us has offered in praise of Thy majesty may profit for the salvation of all. Through our Lord . . .

Communion

Incline Thy ear to me, make haste to deliver me.

Postcommunion

May Thy healing action, O Lord, mercifully rid us of our evil inclinations and lead us to do good. Through our Lord . . .



WISDOM FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES



"All the science of the Saints is included in these two things: To do, and to suffer. And whoever had done these two things best, has made himself most saintly."

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, July 23rd: Annual summer picnic. Following Holy Mass at St Michael's Byzantine Parish, 557 W 57th Ave, Merrillville, IN 46410. Please bring a dish to share. Burgers and hot dogs will be provided. \$20 suggested donation per family to cover expenses.

Friday, August 4th: First Friday of the Month. Devotions to the Sacred Heart and Benediction, 6.30 pm, followed by Holy Mass at 7 pm. St. Joseph's Church, Dyer.

BURSAR'S BOX

Sunday, July 2nd: \$ 5, 784.00

Sunday, July 9th: \$ 6, 711.00

Total for the Month : \$ 12, 495.00

Please make checks payable to "Institute of Christ the King" with *Oratory on the memo line.* All checks made out to "Our Lady of Czestochowa" are given to the Salvatorian Fathers. By order of the bishop, \$1000/week is given in rent to the Salvatorian Fathers.

Thank you for your generosity!

COLLECTION ENVELOPES 2024

FOR ST. JOSEPH ORATORY/MERRILLVILLE

Collection envelopes for the 2024 year to benefit St. Joseph Oratory of the Institute of Christ the King Sovereign Priest Apostolate will be available upon request. Please contact Mrs. Renata Neupauer at rneupauer@institute-christ-king.org to be added. Please indicate Collection Envelopes in the subject line. Deadline August 1, 2023.

If you have recently changed your phone number, email, or home address, please be sure to contact Mrs. Neupauer to update your information. This will be especially important when the end-of-year tax statements are sent out.