

Journey OF Faith

January 24, 2010

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

In Word & Deed

At the local college, the students wait anxiously to find out if they made the team, were accepted into a club, will pledge in sorority or fraternity, passed a course, or received financial aid for the next term. Students do a lot of waiting and wondering to see if they are good enough, smart enough, talented enough or poor enough to be accepted. That kind of uncertainty can require a lot of antacid!

We are all members of the Body of Christ. Through Baptism, we are joined to Christ, and we are His forever. As members of the one Body, we do not need to wait and see if we are accepted, or wanted or good enough. God accepts us as His own; we belong to Him as His adopted children. Whatever our strength or weakness, our

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“THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD IS UPON ME”

~ LUKE 4:18-19

Obedience is a dance learned one step at a time, with faltering step perhaps. The pace may be halting; it is unfamiliar and we are clumsy. Our souls and hearts will be stretched. There will be pain – ask any dancer. But the stretching will leave our souls and hearts with a new breadth, and encompassed in the arms of our Lover God, we will know the freedom of the dance.

Cynthia Stebbins

Scripture Readings

Sunday January 24

Neh 8:2-4a, 5-6, 8-10/1 Cor 12:12-30 or
12:12-14, 27/Lk 1:1-4; 4:14-21

Monday January 25

Acts 22:3-16 or 9:1-22/Mk 16:15-18

Tuesday January 26

2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Mk 3:31-35

Wednesday January 27

2 Sm 7:4-17/Mk 4:1-20

Thursday January 28

2 Sm 7:18-19, 24-29/Mk 4:21-25

Friday January 29

2 Sm 11:1-4a, 5-10a, 13-17/Mk 4:26-34

Saturday January 30

2 Sm 12:1-7a, 10-17/Mk 4:35-41

Sunday January 31

Jer 1:4-5, 17-19/1 Cor 12:31—13:13 or 13:4-13
Lk 4:21-30

As a body is one though it has many parts, and all the parts of the body, though many, are one body, so also Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons, and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

~1 Corinthians 12:12-13



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FAMILY LIFE:

TO WALK AS ONE

At the parish school Mass, the younger kids were asked to name the most important part of a bike. They said the tires and then the question was asked, "What about the handle bars?" So, they named another part, and again the response was a question, "What about this other part?" Of course, no one part is most important. Without all the parts, the bike does not work as it should. Even the tiniest screw serves an important function that keeps things running smoothly. Each part is necessary and vital and they all belong to the bike.

The family is the one place we all belong where every member contributes something. In the family, we find our identity, our values, our

sense of pride, our self worth and our purpose.

The family has the extraordinary power to restore, heal, uplift, and give hope. It is the domestic church where the fundamentals of faith are lived, taught and caught!

Family is defined by love, not blood. Make room for others. Share a meal, offer a helping hand, or lend an ear. Invite those in need to share in the love and strength your family has to offer. You'll all be better for it.

~James Gaffney, © 2009 Karides Lic. to St. George Publishing
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Lord, send your light upon your family and help us to follow you with greater fidelity.
May we continue to enjoy your favor and devote ourselves to doing good.
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

~Prayer over the people, Roman Rite

In Word & Deed

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talents or interests, we have a place at the table. Through sin, we can choose to leave it, but by grace, we cannot lose it.

Our lives have a meaning and purpose that is rooted in faith. We strive to live the Gospel, putting into practice the Beatitudes and the Works of Mercy. At

times, it may not seem it, but our work really does make a difference at home, in school, at the job and in the church. Persevere in your mission. Be confident in your status. God will bring to fulfillment the good work He has begun in you.

~James Gaffney,