



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
– St. John Marie Vianney Sunday
August 2, 2015

Sunday Liturgy Guide for the Church of the Poor in the Spirit of the New Evangelization

The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, feeds on the Bread of Life by breaking the old life of corruption for a new life of solidarity, justice, truth.

Today we celebrate the Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Our theme for this Sunday is: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, feeds with the Bread of Life only by radically breaking from the old life of tyranny and corruption for a new life of solidarity, justice and holiness of truth. With this theme, let us reflect on “A Renewed Integral Evangelization” with PCP-II, when it says:

“PART III. A RENEWED INTEGRAL EVANGELIZATION

A. ANNOUNCING A MESSAGE OF SALVATION

(154) Pope Paul VI pointed out in his great apostolic exhortation, *Evangelii Nuntiandi*, that the Church is both the object and the subject of evangelization. “The Church is an evangelizer, but she begins by being evangelized herself ... she has a constant need of being evangelized, if she wishes to retain freshness, vigor and strength in order to proclaim the Gospel.

(155) These words point out a second agendum of envisioning. We have envisioned a renewed Church as a community of disciples missioned by the Lord to labor in our particular Filipino situation. We now have to envision how the mission of the community of disciples has to be renewed. How do we envision a renewed evangelization? What are the elements of renewed evangelization?

1. A Renewed Catechesis

(156) At the beginning of all renewed evangelization is conversion. Unless a person turns away from sin and turns to God, undergoes a change of mind and heart, and decides to follow Christ, no evangelization will bear fruit. But for persons who have been converted and now believe, catechesis follows. A renewed catechesis is thus the first element of a renewed evangelization. Yet not enough Filipinos are being catechized. Those who are catechized are not being catechized enough. Hence, the special relevance for the Philippines of the 1977 Synod of Bishops and Pope John Paul II’s insistence on the priority of catechesis.”

At this point, please, review how you understand evangelization. What is your understanding of conversion? What is the meaning of catechesis? How is evangelization distinct from catechesis? ■

Introductory Rites

Entrance Antiphon:(Ps 70 (69): 2, 6)

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And with your spirit.

Introduction and Welcome

P: Dear brothers and sisters: on this Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time, let us continue to ask God's special grace to be aware of our Christian and Catholic heritage as the prophetic conscience of our people. Today let us seek the grace of God to be like Jesus who dared to break the bonds of tyranny and corruption on behalf of solidarity, justice and holiness of truth. In a special way, let us pray for our diocesan clergy that, with the example and prayers of St. John Marie Vianney, they may continue to serve incorruptibly the Church, all people and, especially, the poor.

Penitential Act

P: Brethren (brothers and sisters), to prepare ourselves to celebrate worthily these sacred mysteries, let us now acknowledge our sins, and ask God for pardon and strength:

P: Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you in love, simplicity and solidarity with the poor and the little ones. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Christ Jesus, you have called us to break the bonds of tyranny, injustice and corruption for the kingdom

values of love, justice and holiness of truth. Christ, have mercy.

C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you have called us to repentance and conversion. Lord, have mercy.

C: Lord, have mercy.

P: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: Amen.

Gloria

Glory to God in the Highest!

And on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect

P: Let us pray: Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Ex 16:2-4, 12-15

L: A reading from the Book of Exodus

The whole Israelite community grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The Israelites said to them, “Would that we had died at the LORD’s hand in the land of Egypt, as we sat by our fleshpots and ate our fill of bread! But you had to lead us into this desert to make the whole community die of famine!”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I will now rain down bread from heaven for you. Each day the people are to go out and gather their daily portion; thus will I test them, to see whether they follow my instructions or not. “I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them: In the evening twilight you shall eat flesh, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread, so that you may know that I, the LORD, am your God.”

In the evening quail came up and covered the camp. In the morning a dew lay all about the camp, and when the dew evaporated, there on the surface of the desert were fine flakes like hoarfrost on the ground. On seeing it, the Israelites asked one another, “What is this?” for they did not know what it was. But Moses told them, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.”

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Commentary on Ex 16:2-4, 12-15:

When the Israelites grumble and protest against Moses, the liberator, they are actually indirectly addressing God through his mediator: Moses.

The presence of the bread and quails from heaven as God’s response to the need for food and energy to a hungry and tired people in the desert shows God’s compassionate and loving response to his people. He will never abandon them. The desert is a symbol of transition from the life of oppression in the past, to a new life of liberation in the future (the Promised Land). It is full of challenges: to choose to go back to the old ways, or to go on and try the untested aspirations of the new; to be tested and grow in faith, as an individual and together collectively as a people; to leave behind the capricious and whimsical rule of tyranny and to establish a new life of freedom, solidarity and justice that realizes the will of God. From slavery to freedom there is no other way but the desert.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 78:3-4, 23-24, 25, 54

R: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

What we have heard and know, and what our fathers have declared to us, We will declare to the generation to come the glorious deeds of the LORD and his strength and the wonders that he wrought.

R: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

He commanded the skies above and opened the doors of heaven; he rained manna upon them for food and gave them heavenly bread.

R: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Man ate the bread of angels, food he sent them in abundance. And he brought them to his holy land, to the mountains his right hand had won.

R: The Lord gave them bread from heaven.

Commentary on Psalm 78:

This psalm sings of the sacred history of Israel. It does so by reflecting on the mighty liberating deeds of God: he opened the gates of heaven to bring food to the people on earth; he gave the food of the angels to his people and made them free from Egypt and destined them for his holy land.

Second Reading: Eph 4:17, 20-24

L: A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters: I declare and testify in the Lord that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds; that is not how you learned Christ, assuming that you have heard of him and were taught in him, as truth is in Jesus, that you should put away the old self of your former way of life, corrupted through deceitful desires, and be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and put on the new self, created in God's way in righteousness and holiness of truth.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: *Thanks be to God.*

Commentary on Eph 4:17, 20-24

Consistent with the new life received in baptism, Paul now is asking the community to radically break from the old ways of life that did not know Christ and to be transformed according to their knowledge of Christ. The old self he characterized with corruption born out of selfish desires; the new self is created in God's way in justice and holiness of truth.

Alleluia Verse: Mt 4:4b

R: Alleluia, alleluia. One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Gospel: John 6:24-35

P: The Lord be with you.

C: *And with your spirit.*

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they themselves got into boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. And when they found him across the sea they said to him, "Rabbi, when did you get here?" Jesus answered them and said, "Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For on him the Father, God, has set his seal." So they said to him, "What can we do to accomplish the works of God?" Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in the one he sent." So they said to him, "What sign can you do, that we may see and believe in you? What can you do? Our ancestors ate manna in the desert, as it is written: He gave them bread from heaven to eat." So Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, it was not Moses who gave the bread from heaven; my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." So they said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; whoever comes to me will never hunger, and whoever believes in me will never thirst."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: *Praise be to you, O Lord Jesus Christ.*

Commentary on John 6:24-35

Jesus is the bread of life. He is received in faith. The people's desire rises, from meeting the human needs here on earth

which last only for a time, to realizing the deepest desires of the human heart: eternal life, with all that it entails, which only Jesus can give. This eternal life, with all that it entails, is God's deepest desire for all humanity and all creation, too.

Homily: The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, feeds on the Bread of Life by breaking the old life of corruption for a new life of solidarity, justice, truth.

| Summary of the Sunday Reading Message | Concrete description of the poor people and their situation | Reflection/ Points for reflection/ Call/ Challenge |
|--|--|---|
| The Church of the Poor, through the Basic Ecclesial Communities, feeds on the Bread of Life by breaking the old life of corruption for a new life of solidarity, justice, truth. | List down some characteristics of tyranny and corruption. In your experience with your BEC, parish community and society, who tend to be tyrannical and corrupt? Who are their usual victims? What changes do you want to effect in order to realize personal and social conversion? | “Unless a person turns away from sin and turns to God, undergoes a change of mind and heart, and decides to follow Christ, no evangelization will bear fruit.” God’s desire for us is also our deepest desire: eternal life - Jesus Christ! |

Profession of Faith

A: I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the

Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the Faithful:

P: Dear sisters and brothers, let us humbly and confidently raise our voices in prayer to our heavenly Father. For every prayer let our response be: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: Let us pray for the Church: that, being a Church of the Poor spread all over the world, she may continue to share the mission of Jesus through feeding us with the Bread of Life that radically breaks the old life of tyranny and corruption on behalf of a new life of solidarity, justice and holiness of truth. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: For our Holy Father, Pope Francis, for the bishops, priests, deacons, for those in consecrated life and for all those who are entrusted with the care and administration of the church as People of God: that they may continue to find their deserts of discernment to choose to go back to the old ways, or to go on and try the untested aspirations of the new; to be tested and grow in faith, as an individual and together collectively as a people; for our diocesan clergy that, with the example and prayers of St. John Marie Vianney, they may continue to serve incorruptibly the Church, all people, especially the poor. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: For world leaders and all those entrusted with governance and administration of the goods of the earth: that they make laws, policies and structures that promote genuine participation of peoples, especially the poor, in governance, foster leadership and social involvement among the children and youth and resist and prosecute the corrupt and exploiters of the poor and the vulnerable for the cause of justice. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: For all of us, inhabitants of the earth and citizens of heaven: that we may live our lives according to the values of the new life lived in common by standing up for the rights and welfare of the vulnerable, especially the children and the unborn, the women, the sick and the elderly, the orphan and

the strangers, the differently abled and the dying. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: For our beloved dead: that in the forgiveness of their sins, they may find eternal rest in the heart of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

L: For our special intentions, in the silence of our hearts. (*pause*)... Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, help us break corruption with love.

P: Lord, these are the prayers we present to you today. In this ordinary time, help us to love you and know you more, by encountering you alive in our lives and in creation, yesterday, today and tomorrow. Make us effective doers of evangelical discernment. Mold us to become the gentle but firm hearts of your heart in the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST Preparation of the Altar and the Gifts

P: Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation,

C: Blessed be God forever.

P: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

C: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

P: Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray, and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice,

make of us an eternal offering to you.
Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Prayer of the Eucharist

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right and just.

P: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord.

For out of compassion for the waywardness that is ours, he humbled himself and was born of the Virgin; by the passion of the Cross he freed us from unending death, and by rising from the dead he gave us life eternal.

And so, with Angels and Archangels, with Thrones and Dominions, and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven, we sing the hymn of your glory, as without end we acclaim:

A: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Acclamation

P: The mystery of faith.

Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection, you have set us free.

(Concluding the Eucharistic Prayer, the priest says:)

Through him, and with him, and in him, O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

Communion Rite

The Lord's Prayer

Doxology

C: For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever.

Sign of Peace

P: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles; Peace ... Who live and reign for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

Breaking of the Bread

A: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world ... grant us peace.

Communion

P: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

A: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. (Wis 16: 20)

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed with all delights and sweetness in every taste.

Prayer after Communion

P: Let us pray: Accompany with constant protection, O Lord, those you renew with these heavenly gifts and, in your never-failing care for them, make

them worthy of eternal redemption.
Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

Final Blessing

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with your spirit.

P: Bow down for the blessing: May the Lord bless you and keep you.

C: Amen.

P: May almighty God bless you in his kindness and pour out saving wisdom upon you.

C: Amen.

P: May he nourish you always with the teachings of the faith and make you persevere in holy deeds.

C: Amen.

P: May he turn your steps towards himself and show you the path of charity and peace.

C: Amen.

P: And may the blessings of almighty God, + the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, come down upon you and remain with you forever.

C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace glorifying the Lord by your life.

C: Thanks be to God. ■

Join Fr. Ben Alforque, MSC of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart in **GOPEL BREAK**, a short yet entertaining and insightful discussion of this Sunday's Gospel on YouTube.

Visit gospelbreak.wordpress.com. Or scan this QR code with your Smartphone or tablet.



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