



St. John's Parish
Roman Catholic Church

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EXTEND HOSPITALITY TO JESUS

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - JULY 20, 2025

The Gospel of this Sunday's Liturgy presents us with a lively domestic scene with Martha and Mary, two sisters who extend their hospitality to Jesus in their home (cf. Lk 10:38-42). Martha immediately sets about welcoming the guests, whereas Mary sits at Jesus' feet to listen to him. Then Martha turns to the Master and asks him to tell Mary to help her. Martha's complaint does not seem out of place; indeed, we would tend to agree with her. Yet Jesus answers her: "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things; one thing is needful. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her" (Lk 10:41-42). This is a surprising answer. But Jesus overturns our way of thinking many times. Let us ask ourselves why the Lord, while appreciating Martha's generous attentiveness, says that Mary's attitude is to be preferred.

Martha's "philosophy" seems to be this: first duty, then pleasure. In effect, hospitality is not composed of fine words, but demands that you roll up your sleeves, that everything necessary is done so the guest feels welcome. Jesus is well aware of this. And indeed, he acknowledges Martha's effort. However, he wants to make her understand that there is a new order of priorities, different from the one she had followed until then. Mary had sensed that there is a "good portion" that must be accorded first place. Everything else comes after, like a stream flowing from the source. And so we wonder: what is this "good portion"? It is listening to Jesus' words. The Gospel says Mary "sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching" (v. 39). Note: she did not listen while standing, doing other things, but she sat at Jesus' feet. She understood that he is not like other guests. At first sight it seems that he has come to receive, because he needs food and lodging, but in reality, the Master came to give himself to us through his word.

The word of Jesus is not abstract; it is a teaching that touches and shapes our life, changes it, frees it from the opaqueness of evil, satisfies and infuses it with a joy that does not pass: Jesus' word is the good portion, that which Mary had chosen. Therefore, she gives it first place: she stops and listens. The rest will come after. This does not detract from the value of practical effort, but it must not precede, but rather flow from listening to the word of Jesus. It must be enlivened by his Spirit. Otherwise, it is reduced to fussing and fretting over many things, it is reduced to sterile activism.

Brothers and sisters, let us take advantage of this vacation time to stop and listen to Jesus. Nowadays it is increasingly difficult to find free time to meditate. For many people the rhythm of work is frenetic and wearisome. Summertime can be valuable also for opening the Gospel and reading it slowly, without haste, a passage each day, a short passage from the Gospel. And this lets us enter into this dynamic of Jesus. Let us allow ourselves to be challenged by those pages, asking ourselves how our life, my life, is going, if it is in line with what Jesus says, or not so much. In particular, let us ask ourselves: When I start my day, do I throw myself headlong into the things to be done, or do I first seek inspiration in the Word of God? At times we begin the day automatically, we start doing things ... like hens. No. We must start the day by first of all looking to the Lord, taking his Word, briefly, but allowing this to be the inspiration for the day. If we leave the house in the morning keeping a word of Jesus in mind, the day will surely acquire a tone marked by that word, which has the power to orient our actions according to the Lord's wishes.

May the Virgin Mary teach us to choose the good portion, which will never be taken from us.

**THE WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY
THIS YEAR WILL BE JULY 27, 2025**

The Pope challenges us: "Looking at the elderly in the spirit of this Jubilee, we are called to help them experience liberation, especially from loneliness and abandonment. This year is a fitting time to do so. God's fidelity to his promises teaches us that there is a blessedness in old age, an authentic evangelical joy inspiring us to break through the barriers of indifference in which the elderly often find themselves enclosed. Our societies, everywhere in the world, are growing all too accustomed to letting this significant and enriching part of their life be marginalized and forgotten." His [entire message can be found here](#).

"Blessed are those who have not lost hope" (cf. Sir 14:2)

ENGLISH MASS SCHEDULE

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 19 **5:00 PM**
+Deceased members of the Morabito Family

Sunday, July 20 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

Tuesday, July 22 **11:00 AM**

Wednesday, July 23 **11:00 AM**
+Ron & Pauline Craig

Thursday, July 24 **11:00 AM**

Friday, July 25 **11:00 AM**

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, July 26 **5:00 PM**

Sunday, July 27 **9:00 AM**
For All Parishioners Living & Deceased

MISAS EN ESPAÑOL

XVI Domingo Ordinario

Sabado 19 de Julio **7:00 PM**

Domingo 20 de Julio **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

Martes 22 de julio **12:00 PM**

Miercoles 23 de Julio **12:00 PM**
Salud Consuelo Paez

Jueves 24 de Julio **12:00 PM**

Viernes 25 de Julio **12:00 PM**

XVII Domingo Ordinario

Sabado 26 de Julio **7:00 PM**
+Flor del Carmen Alfaro

Domingo 27 de Julio **11:00 AM & 1:00 PM**
Por la Comunidad Parroquial

**EL DÍA MUNDIAL DE LOS ABUELOS Y DE LAS PERSONAS MAYOR
EESTE AÑO SERÁ EL 27 DE JULIO DE 2025**

El Papa nos desafía: "Mirando a los ancianos en el espíritu de este Jubileo, estamos llamados a ayudarles a experimentar la liberación, especialmente de la soledad y el abandono. Este año es un momento apropiado para hacerlo. La fidelidad de Dios a sus promesas nos enseña que hay una bendición en la vejez, una auténtica alegría evangélica que nos inspira a romper las barreras de la indiferencia en las que a menudo se encuentran encerrados los ancianos. Nuestras sociedades, en todas partes del mundo, se están acostumbrando demasiado a dejar que esta parte significativa y enriquecedora de su vida sea marginada y olvidada."

Su [mensaje completo se puede encontrar aquí](#).

"Feliz el que no ve desvanecerse su esperanza" (cf. Si 14,2)