Fear the Enemy.

Thank you for your responses to last week's inquiry about one word being missing in the above sentence. I received a number of interesting and creative responses, including the answer I had in mind from a number of people.

I find it interesting that the recent daily Readings, and for the Readings for the next two weeks are from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans. What a great writing on Paul's part. He deals with justification, the Law, the prophets, the Old Testament, and the experience of the introduction of the Christian.

Paul asks. "What was the purpose of Christ coming into the world?" – he says all of us need to ask and answer that question for ourselves. He says the people of Israel believed observance of the Law of the Lord was the greatest thing and brought justification. Paul is clear that with the advent of Christ in our world, salvation does not come through our observance of the Law, but rather through faith in Jesus Christ. Paul invites us to break with fear and receive the gift that Jesus is offering us. This is the only way we can hope to live in Christ Jesus. In Romans chapter 7, Paul deals with the conflict going on within each one of us. The dichotomy in my person between the Spirit and the flesh.

"I know that good does not dwell in me, that is, in my flesh. The willing is ready at hand, but doing the good is not. For I do not do the good I want, but I do the evil I do not want." (Romans 7:18-19)

"What a wretched man I am," says Paul. "Who will rescue me from this body doomed to death?" (Romans 7:24)

Part of Paul's solution is we need to let go of Fear, and stake our claim with the Lord. Observing the Law does not get us there. Faith in Jesus Christ does. Paul indicates that observing the Law can sometimes be self-serving, yielding no growth/development in the human person, Rather, it makes them more critical and judgmental of others. Thus, a person in their selfserving actions can actually be deteriorating – going in the opposite direction. –Fr. Gerry

Here is how our friend C.S. Lewis presents it in Mere Christianity.



"One last point. Remember that, as I said, the right direction leads not only to peace but to knowledge. When a man is getting better he understands more and more clearly the evil that is still left in him. When a man is getting worse he understands his own badness less and less. A moderately bad man knows he is not very good: a thoroughly bad man thinks he is all right. This is common sense, really. You understand sleep when you are awake, not while you are sleeping. You can see mistakes in arithmetic when your mind is working properly: while you are making them you cannot see them.

You can understand the nature of drunkenness when you are sober, not when you are drunk. Good people know about both good and evil: bad people do not know about either."



October 29, 2017 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

<u>Mass Intentions — October 30th ~ November 5th</u> Monday @ 7:30 am — Norie Kent (RIP) Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Edna Mangialardi (RIP) *Wednesday @ 7:30 am — All Saints Day *Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — All Saints Day Thursday @ 7:30 am — Claude Tanner Jr (RIP) *Friday @ 10:00 am — Healing Mass Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Hehir & McNamara Families (RIP) Sunday @ 8:00 am — Ed Shaw (RIP) Sunday @ 10:30 am — Josie Hege (RIP)

Altar Flowers this week

In Memory of: Jeff Baker and the Baker Family Donated by: Marilyn Baker

Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Michael Roberts, son of Nath & Jim Roberts Vincent Muffuletto, brother of Ron Muffuletto Peggy Cothran, mother of Melinda Cannon Theresa Fluhr, niece of Maxine Miller

Repose of the Soul:

Pat Owen Patty Davis Steven Kaskie, brother of Fr. Brian Kaskie Florence Cerami, mother of Fred Cerami

<u>Altar Flowers this week</u>

In Memory of: Dorothy Galloway Donated by: Louise & Pat Pipitone

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament Monday – Friday, 8 am to 12 noon, in the Chapel Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday, 4:30 pm to 5:00 pm in the room next to the Chapel, or by appointment Religious Ed Sundays, 9:15-10:15 am & Wednesdays, 6-8:30 pm, in the Family Life Center RCIA/Discovering Christ Tuesdays, 6:30-9 pm in the Family Life Center

November Calendar of Events

Vocations Awareness Week - November 5-11 - go to www.usccb.org for prayers & information

1st - Solemnity of All Saints Holy Day Mass Schedule: 7:30am & 6:00pm

3rd — First Friday Healing Mass: 10:00am; Adoration 8:00 — 10:00am
— Memorial Service for Pat Owen: Visitation 1:00 – 2:00pm; Memorial Service 2:00pm

4/5th — Second Collection for Diocesan Missions

5th — First Reconciliation Family Retreat: Begins with 8:00am Mass, Retreat follows in FLC through 1:00pm

5th – Daylight Saving Time Ends: Set clocks back one hour so you will be on time for Mass!

10th - Memorial Service for Patty Davis: Visitation 9:00 - 10:00am; Memorial Service 10:00am

11th — Homebound Ministry Retreat: 10:00am — 12:00noon in the Chapel **11/12th — Craft Fair:** Saturday 10:00am — 7:00pm; Sunday 9:00am — 2:00pm in the Gym

14th — First Reconciliation for Students: 6:00pm in the Church

16th - Mass of Remembrance: 6:00pm all are welcome to remember our deceased loved ones (no Morning Mass)

19th — No Religious Ed Classes: Thanksgiving Holiday

22nd - No Youth Group: Thanksgiving Holiday

23rd - Thanksgiving Day Mass: 9:00am

26th - No Religious Ed Classes: Thanksgiving Holiday

see our Website for complete calendar & weekly announcements www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com 601-992-9547