

COLLECT: Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **AMEN**

THE GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 7:

Then the Pharisees and some of the scribes came together to Him, having come from Jerusalem. ² Now when they saw some of His disciples eat bread with defiled, that is, with unwashed hands, they found fault. ³ For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands in a special way, holding the tradition of the elders. ⁴ When they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other things which they have received and hold, like the washing of cups, pitchers, copper vessels, and couches. ⁵ Then the Pharisees and scribes asked Him, "Why do Your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat bread with unwashed hands?" ⁶ He answered and said to them, "**Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written: 'This people honors Me with their lips, But their heart is far from Me. ⁷ And in vain they worship Me, Teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.'** ⁸ For laying aside the commandment of God, you hold the tradition of men—the washing of pitchers and cups, and many other such things you do." ¹⁴ When He had called all the multitude to Himself, He said to them, "**Hear Me, everyone, and understand: ¹⁵ There is nothing that enters a man from outside which can defile him; but the things which come out of him, those are the things that defile a man. ¹⁶ If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!" ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, ²² thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lewdness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within and defile a man."**



St. Paul's CEC
charismatic evangelical sacramental together



Sunday September 2nd, 2012 - Kingdomtide

Wednesday nights we will continue our study on the subject of the manifestation of the kingdom of God. Included will be instruction in living in the fullness of the kingdom as citizens and ambassadors who are enabled to go into the world and be effective bearers of light and new life for all. Come and participate.

Growing Kids God's Way first class last Sunday afternoon was a huge success. We have received calls from others wishing to join. It is not too late, you can still enroll for the next class and the entire course. See Robyn if you are interested.

Confidential and secure merchant service: SquareUp (www.squareup.com) has provided a way for us to receive credit cards for donations, tithes, and offerings. If you wish to use this service on any Sunday, please see Nick Palsgrove after the service. All information is confidential and secure.

The Clergy Retreat is coming in September. It is an honor and privilege to host this semi-annual event. Please plan on joining us for the service on Saturday September 29th at 9:00 AM, which is open to the public.

Order of St. Luke backyard BBQ to contribute to Mike Endicott's November visit (Mike is a world renowned faith healer) this Friday September 7th at 6:30 PM at St. Thomas Catholic Church. See Fr. David for details or call 631-5433

FIRST READING Deuteronomy 4:1-9

Now, Israel, hear the decrees and laws I am about to teach you. Follow them so that you may live and may go in and take possession of the land the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ² Do not add to what I command you and do not subtract from it, but keep the commands of the LORD your God that I give you. ³ You saw with your own eyes what the LORD did at Baal Peor. The LORD your God destroyed from among you everyone who followed the Baal of Peor, ⁴ but all of you who held fast to the LORD your God are still alive today. ⁵ See, I have taught you decrees and laws as the LORD my God commanded me, so that you may follow them in the land you are entering to take possession of it. ⁶ Observe them carefully, for this will show your wisdom and understanding to the nations, who will hear about all these decrees and say, "Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people." ⁷ What other nation is so great as to have their gods near them the way the LORD our God is near us whenever we pray to him? ⁸ And what other nation is so great as to have such righteous decrees and laws as this body of laws I am setting before you today? ⁹ Only be careful, and watch yourselves closely so that you do not forget the things your eyes have seen or let them fade from your heart as long as you live. Teach them to your children and to their children after them.

THE PSALM: Psalm 15

LORD, who may dwell in your sacred tent?

***Who may live on your holy mountain?**

The one whose walk is blameless, who does what is righteous,

***who speaks the truth from their heart;**

whose tongue utters no slander,

*** who does no wrong to a neighbor, and casts no slur on others;**

who despises a vile person but honors those who fear the LORD;

***who keeps an oath even when it hurts, and does not change their mind;**

who lends money to the poor without interest;

***who does not accept a bribe against the innocent.**

(All) Whoever does these things will never be shaken.

SECOND READING Ephesians 6:10-20 (NIV)

¹⁰ Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. ¹¹ Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. ¹² For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. ¹³ Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. ¹⁴ Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, ¹⁵ and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. ¹⁶ In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

¹⁸ And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I speak, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.