

**A proud man is
one who waits for
a vacancy in the
Trinity**

- Mark Twain

BASILICA BULLETIN

A Weekly Publication of Our Lady of Penafrancia Basilica and National Shrine, Naga City, 4400 Philippines



July 8, 2012

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14th Sunday Ordinary Time

The Rejection of Jesus at Nazareth

Fr. Dioscoro Ibanita

Jesus, as we know, began His public ministry after thirty years of living in silence in Nazareth. Baptized by John the Baptist at the river Jordan in Judea, Jesus started to preach the Gospel in various towns of Galilee.

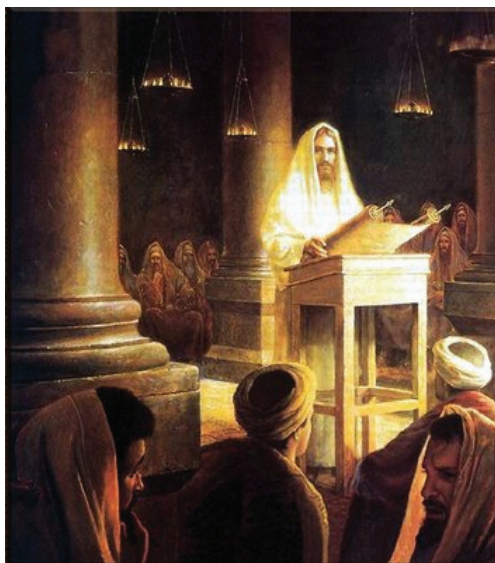
In today's Gospel, we see Jesus in Nazareth that He came not for a private visit but as a teacher or Rabbi, together with His disciples at the Synagogue, the Jew's official place of gathering. And so, His town mates had heard of the wondrous miracles He did in various towns and village of Galilee. They also learned how Jesus made the blind see, the deaf hear, the mute speak, the paralytic walk, the lepers being cleansed.

But, wonder of wonders, the people of Nazareth refused to believe Jesus. They even went up to the extent of trying to kill Him. He was really astounded at their unbelief (Mk. 6:6).

What could be the reason for their rejection and unbelief?

The powerful and learned people of Israel, namely the Pharisees

and Sadducees, considered themselves better than anyone else. For them the ordinary people were no better than sinners. Now, the reason for the rejection can be seen from their words in today's Gospel reading, "Who is He but the carpenter, the son



of Mary and the brother of James and Joseph, Judas and Simon? His sisters, too, are they not here among us? So they took offense at Him." (Mk. 6:3).

Now Jesus was a carpenter

and His foster father was also a carpenter, while Mary His mother was an ordinary woman of Nazareth. The Pharisees and Sadducees could not accept that Jesus, a mere carpenter, could be above them, and even claiming to be the Messiah, the savior and

son of God. Being a lowly carpenter, how could He be the Messiah?

The basic reason for the rejection of Jesus was pride. For they could not accept Jesus as the Messiah because for them He was a mere carpenter. They even accused Jesus to be an impostor.

Pride is so ingrained in human nature that many times we have already become proud, and yet we remain unaware of it. Like the Pharisees, we tend to consider ourselves the best as compared to others.

Let us remember that pride leads us to nowhere. Let us also remember what Jesus Himself told us, "Whoever makes himself out to be great will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be raised". (Lk. 18:14)

Daily Readings of the Week

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|--------------|--|
| Jul 8 Sun: | Ez 2:2-5/ 2 Cor 12:7-10/ Mk 6:1-6a |
| Jul 9 Mon: | Hos 2:16, 17b- 18, 21-22/ Mt 9:18-26 |
| Jul 10 Tues: | Hos 8:4-7, Mt 9:32-38 |
| Jul 11 Wed: | Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12/ Mt 10:1-7 |
| Jul 12 Thur: | Hos 11:1-4, 8-9/ Mt 10:7-15 |
| Jul 13 Fri: | Hos 14:2-10/ Mt 10:16-23 |
| Jul 14 Sat: | Is 6:1-8/ Mt 10:24-33 |

Sunday Gospel

Mk 6:1-6

Jesus departed from there and came to his native place, accompanied by his disciples. When the sabbath came he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astonished. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What kind of wisdom has been given him? What mighty deeds are wrought by his hands! Is he not the carpenter, the son of Mary, and the brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon?

And are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his native place and among his own kin and in his own house." So he was not able to perform any mighty deed there, apart from curing a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

"A prophet is not without honor except in his native place"



Henry II (6 May 972 – 13 July 1024), also referred to as Saint Henry, Obl.S.B., was the fifth and last Holy Roman Emperor of the Ottonian dynasty, from his coronation in Rome in 1014 until his death a decade later. He was crowned King of the Germans in 1002 and King of Italy in 1004. He is the only King of Germany to have ever been canonized.

He was the son of Henry II, Duke of Bavaria. As his father had rebelled against two previous emperors, he was often in exile. This led the younger Henry to turn to the Church at an early age, first finding refuge with the Bishop of Freising, and later being educated at the cathedral school of Hildesheim. He succeeded his father as Duke of Bavaria in 995 as Henry IV.

The Church Loves You

Excerpt of the Pastoral Letter

On those who cannot receive Holy Communion: Catholics who use contraceptives like condoms and pills; Catholics who are only civilly married; Catholics who are cohabiting; Catholics who are separated and remarried without proper dispensation from the Church; and Catholics who find themselves in other mortally sinful conditions or situations

My dear brothers and sisters, how can we assist you, the “suffering members” of our Church? I say – “suffering members of our Church” – because that is what you are in truth: members of our Church. You do not cease to be members of our Catholic Church even though you happen to be in a situation that does allow you to receive the Eucharist in communion. You are loved; you are not excluded from the membership in the Church. You are not outside even if you cannot receive absolution and the Eucharist. You must see that even in this way you are living fully in the Church.

What can you do? The most critical decision is to get out of the situation where you now find yourselves. Get in contact with a priest; preferably an expert in matter that needs to be resolved. Our Chancellor in the Curia, the Office of Family Life and Ministry, for example, are excellent position or office to help you. Contact with a priest is very important so that you can see that someone is there for you, helping you.

It is also important that, you sense that the Eucharist is real and participated in if you truly enter into communion with the Body of Christ. Even without the bodily reception of the Sacrament, you can be spiritually united to Christ in his Body. Making this understood is important so that you really discover the possibility of living a life of faith, with the Word of God, with communion of the Church. It is in this context that you will find value in the suffering you are experiencing by offering that suffering, that pain, for the Body of Christ, as your gift to the Church.

The principal objective is always to seek a change in the situation that prevents you from approaching the Eucharist. In the meantime, do continue to hear Mass on Sundays and days of obligation, as every Catholic is required. And do not hesitate to approach your parish priest, or any priest who will then direct you to the correct steps to undertake.

In the Catholic catechism, the seven catholic virtues refer to the combination of two lists of virtues, the 4 cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, temperance, and courage or fortitude, (from ancient Greek philosophy) and the 3 theological virtues of faith, hope, and love or charity (from the letters of Paul of Tarsus); these were adopted by the Church Fathers as the seven virtues.

A list that was developed later, sometimes called the seven heavenly virtues, was proposed by a Christian governor named Aurelius Prudentius who died around 410 AD, in his poem “Psychomachia” or “Battle/Contest of the Soul”. This poem proposed seven virtues to directly counteract the seven deadly sins. The virtues were **chastity, temperance, charity, diligence, patience, kindness, and humility**

The seven virtues were first penned by the Greek philosophers, Aristotle and Plato. However, when they first came into being, there were not seven of them as we know them now, but four. These four initial virtues – **temperance, wisdom, justice, and courage** – were seen as the main attributes for a person to have. It was not until the New Testament began to be more extensively studied that these first virtues are widely referred to as the four cardinal virtues while the latter three are referred to as the three Theological virtues.

Seven heavenly virtues

There is another list of the seven virtues to oppose the seven deadly sins. The seven deadly virtues were derived from the Psychomachia (“Contest of the Soul”), an epic poem written by Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (c. AD 410) entailing the battle of good virtues and evil vices. The intense popularity of this work in the Middle Ages helped to spread the concept of holy virtue throughout Europe. Practicing these virtues is considered to protect one against temptation from the seven deadly sins, with each one having its counterpart. Due to this they are sometimes referred to as the contrary virtues. Each of the seven heavenly virtues matches a corresponding deadly sin; Lust, gluttony, pride, greed, sloth, anger, envy.

Restraint is the keystone of the seven holy virtues. The other holy virtues are created through selfless pursuits: **Valour:** Pursuit of Knowledge; **Generosity:** Pursuit of Charity; **Liberality:** Pursuit of Will; **Diligence:** Pursuit of Ethics; **Patience:** Pursuit of Peace; **Kindness:** Pursuit of Love; **Humility:** Pursuit of Modesty



Vatican Condemns Kenyan Attacks

The director of the Vatican press office, Jesuit Father Federico Lombardi, has condemned Sunday's coordinated attacks against Christian churches in the northern Kenyan town of Garissa, in which at least 17 people were killed and more than 60 others injured.

Father Lombardi told Vatican Radio that the attacks were "horrible" and "deeply worrying," "Violence against innocent people gathered peacefully in prayer, is unspeakably vile," he declared. Father Lombardi also called for solidarity with the victims of these and all such attacks. "Beyond our closeness to the victims," he said, "it is necessary to reaffirm and steadfastly to defend the religious liberty of Christians, and to oppose irresponsible acts that feed hatred among different religions." The British government Minister for African affairs today in an interview with Vatican Radio also condemned as "completely and totally unacceptable" the attacks on two Christian churches.



New Prefect of the Doctrine of the Faith

Benedict XVI appointed Bishop Gerhard Ludwig Muller of Regensburg, Germany, as prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and as president of the Pontifical Commission Ecclesia Dei. The German prelate, who will also be elevated to the dignity of archbishop, will succeed Cardinal William Joseph Levada, whose resignation for reasons of age was accepted by the Holy Father.

Born in Mainz, Germany, Gerhard Müller has served in various dicasteries in the Vatican, including the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the Pontifical Council for Culture, the Congregation for Catholic Education, and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity.

Archbishop-elect Müller is also in charge of the publication of the "Opera Omnia", a collection of all the writings of Pope Benedict XVI. The 64-year-old prelate has also written hundreds of works on themes such as dogmatic theology, ecumenism, the priesthood and the diaconate.



Archdiocesan News

Theme of the Penafrancia Fiesta 2012

The Archbishop called for the second planning/meeting for the upcoming Penafrancia Fiesta. During which the theme for this year's fiesta was finalized. The general theme will be: **Thank God for Ina, I am a Catholic Now and for Always!**

The Archbishop emphasized the need to appreciate our Catholic faith with the devotion to INA. During the novenary of masses, the daily themes will be developed by the priests in their homilies. Likewise, catechetical instructions and formations will also focus on the theme.



The Penafrancia Committee Meeting with the Archbishop at his Office

Circular on the Bsp. Gainza Trade Fair

In our commitment to serve God's people, we are again organizing the Bishop Francisco Gainza Trade Fair (BFGTF). True to its objectives, we continue to revive and sustain the trade fair which Bishop Gainza pioneered as a feature of the Penafrancia festivities. The Fair serves as an avenue for poverty alleviation by promoting entrepreneurship in the region.

This year's Bishop Gainza Trade Fair will be held on September 6 to 16 at the vacant lot fronting the Veterans Bank in Elias Angeles Street, Naga City from 9:00AM to 9:00PM. We have invited a hundred micro, small and medium enterprises coming not only from the Bicol region but across the country. The exhibitors are expected to showcase the best of Philippine products ranging from fresh food to processed food, from furniture pieces to art pieces, from woven crafts to handicrafts and from tourism services to tourism facilities. There will also be side events, trainings and other marketing strategies in the entire fair duration.



BASILICA NEWS



Formation for the Voyadores

The Procession Committee, headed by Msgr Juan Celzo, announced the schedule of the Training and Formation of the Cofradia de San Jose in various vicariates of the Archdiocese.

Recollection/ Formation Seminar of Cofradia de San Jose Members

July 14 (Sat) at the Vicariate St. Paschal Baylon at Tinambac; **July 15** (Sun) – Vicariate of La Porteria at Calabanga; **July 21** (Sat) – Vicariate of St. Anne at Magarao; **July 22** (Sun) – Vicariate of St. John at Goa; **July 28** (Sat) – Vicariate of

St. Clare at Tigaon; **July 29** (Sun) – Vicariate of St. Anthony & St Francis at Iriga; **August 5** (Sun) – Vicariate of Holy Cross and Perpetual Help at Nabua; **August 11** (Sat) – Vicariate of ST. Bartholomew at Baao; **August 12** (Sun) – Vicariate of St. Raphael at Pili; **August 18** (Sat) – Vicariate of St John at Cathedral at Cathedral; **August 19** (Sun) – Vicariate of Penafrancia at Basilica; **August 26** (Sat) – Meeting of Vicarial Coordinators at Basilica; **Sept 1** (Sat) – Over Night Prayer Vigil at Basilica with confession.

Invitation for New Voyadores

The Cofradia de San Jose, the association of the voyadores will have its training and formation for the second batch of the new recruits on **July 16-17 at the Basilica Hall**.

The two day seminar is a Life in the Spirit Seminar which will be facilitated by Engr William Menes together with the Adonai's Love Community.

The seminar will be free registration. Those who are interested may register at the Basilica Office or call 4733644

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW DEACONS
Ordained Deacons by the Archbishop last July 7, 2012 at the

Basilica of Our Lady of Penafrancia

REV. ACE D. BARCENA of San Vicente, Baao;
REV. SHARSKY CAMA of Presentacion CS;
REV. RAYMUND A. CORTEZ of Paloyon, Nabua, CS;
REV. ARMAND CHRISTIAN ORTINERO of San Jose,
REV. EDWARD P. PLETADO, Palsong, Bula, CS;
REV. RAMEL L. PAJENAGO Buhi, CS;
REV. LEOVEGILDO C. SENTELICES Caramoan, CS;
REV. RONALD TUD Pili, CS;
REV. EMMANUEL D. QUIROS Siruma, CS;
REV. FERMIN P. VALIENTE JR. Nabua.

Let us help realize our gift to INA
MUSEO DE NTRA. SRA. DE PENAFRANCIA



Send your donations to the Basilica Office, Balatas Rd. Naga City Tel. 4733644

PUBLIC WARNING

The Basilica has not authorized anybody to solicit or collect any donation or mass offering. We are making this warning after the recent incident of fraudulent act committed by some individuals using the name of priests, religious or even parishes. Please make sure that you are giving your donations at the Basilica office.

Thank you



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| Benjie Sambo Equitan Old Bridge, New Jersey | Benj S. Santuyo Jr and Family |
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