



## SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 23, 2017

### THE MERCY, POWER, AND LOVE OF GOD

*The first reading today, from the book of Wisdom, makes its point over and over, at least five times in five verses! God is mighty, but lenient to all. God's power is shown in kindness and clemency, not in harshness and condemnation, and those who govern God's people must govern in the same way, with kindness. This loving kindness and gentleness is not contrary to God's might, but is a direct result of God's primacy over all. Who are we, then, to judge what is in the hearts of our fellow Christians and all people, when God commands justice with love and clemency?*

*Likewise, the Holy Spirit makes up for our ignorance of what we need, speaking in a language we do not yet understand. But God knows our needs before we do, understands the intercessions of the Spirit, and helps us in our weakness. This is our hope: God's mercy, power, and love.*

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### TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

*For centuries, the only Eucharistic Prayer we heard as Western Catholics was the old Roman Canon, usually recited in a low voice by the priest, in Latin. By the 1940s, many Catholics were learning to follow along with the actions of the priest by means of a bilingual missal, with Latin on one side and English on the other. Drawings of the priest's position at the altar, moving from one side to the other, or bowing or standing with uplifted hands at the center, helped the readers stay on track.*

*The Roman Canon is a long prayer, and since it was done every day for every occasion, priests had a way of galloping through it. Even though long, its structure is fairly simple, with the consecration and sacrifice clearly marked out. Sadly, this surviving prayer had triumphed over many treasures of our tradition that emphasized other dimensions of Eucharist. The Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy in 1963 did not call directly for new Eucharistic Prayers, but that direction was inevitable. Discussion began almost immediately, and by 1967 the Vatican approved three new Eucharistic Prayers. In 1974, the Congregation for Worship unveiled the experiment of two Eucharistic Prayers for Masses of Reconciliation, and three for Masses with Children. At last, a period of creativity and enrichment had begun.*

—Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

### FORGIVENESS

*And is God not more ready to pardon than we to sin?*

—St. Catherine of Siena

### LOVING SOMEONE

*To love someone deeply gives you strength. Being loved by someone deeply gives you courage.*

—Lao Tzu





MAY 13, 2017

100TH  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
OUR  
LADY  
OF  
FATIMA'S  
FIRST  
APPARITION

COVA DA IRIA, PORTUGAL



JUNE 29, 2017

22ND  
ANNIVERSARY  
OF  
OUR  
LADY  
OF  
FATIMA  
PARISH  
ALTOONA  
PA

OUR LADY URGES US TO PRAY AND OFFER SACRIFICES  
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE!

## OUR LADY OF FATIMA PARISH

*is commemorating the*

*Centennial of the Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima  
by scheduling*

*Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction  
for two (2) hours  
on the following dates of the original Apparitions:*

Saturday, August 19th,  
Wednesday, September 13th, and  
Friday, October 13th.

Holy Hours are from 6 to 8 PM.

*Each holy hour will start with praying of the rosary for Peace in the World as Our Lady  
originally requested and the time in between will be spent in quiet meditation.  
All are Welcome!*

