

SCRIPTURE READINGS

It is possible to say one thing and yet to do another concerning some aspects of the Christian life, but it is not possible to do so concerning giving.

"Our conscience testifies that we have conducted ourselves in the world, and especially in our relations with you, in the holiness and sincerity that are from God" (2 Cor. 1:12).

FIRST READING

Joshua 24:1-2a,14-18

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: "Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God."

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 34:15-22

The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, *
and his ears are open to their cry.
The face of the Lord is against those who do evil, *
to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.
The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them *
and delivers them from all their troubles.
The Lord is near to the brokenhearted *
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.
Many are the troubles of the righteous, *
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.
He will keep safe all his bones; *
not one of them shall be broken.
Evil shall slay the wicked, *
and those who hate the righteous will be punished.
The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, *
and none will be punished who trust in him.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 6:10-20

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As

shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:56-69

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?" Simon Peter answered him, "Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God."

**WE REMEMBER BEFORE GOD ALL PEOPLE
THROUGHOUT THE WORLD WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN
DISRUPTED BY VIOLENCE OR WAR.**

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WORK FOR PEACE
AND FOR NEW BEGINNINGS.**

✕ As we pray, let us remember Nathan & family; Kay, Cristina, Kevin, JeNiene; Shelley & Eric; Kelsey; the Wheat family; Michael & his family; Michael; Mike & Debbie; Martha; Karl; Brody; Colissa; Samantha & Tommy; Dan; Don; Shoney; HT; John; Robert; Lori; Keira .

Our altar flowers are given
In remembrance of Ken Phillips' birthday.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HELPING CHILDREN IN HAITI If you signed up to help Stacy Milhoan's ministry to children in Haiti, don't forget that next Sunday (September 2) is the deadline to bring in your donations. Thank you!

NEWS FROM ST. JOHN'S THRIFT STORE This week Friday and Saturday, all items will be 25 % off. We are still receiving new items daily. Remember that we will be closed Labor Day weekend, August 31-September 1st. We have some exciting events coming up this Fall! Stop into the Thrift Store on Fridays and Saturdays to keep up. Follow us on Facebook and Twitter to see what's new also. As always we thank you for donating, working and shopping at our Thrift Store. You are responsible for our success.

SEPTEMBER IS DESIGNATED AS OUR DIOCESAN PRISON AWARENESS MONTH. Several events are scheduled in the West Valley to help raise awareness about the issues facing those affected by incarceration. The month will kick off with an art exhibit opening on September 1st at All Saints from 4 to 6 PM featuring new artwork by the women of Perryville prison. St. Peter's is hosting a screening of the Oscar-nominated documentary, Knife Skills (focusing on re-entry into society upon release), on Wednesday, September 12th from 2 to 4 PM. Arizona is hosting a series of Town Halls on Criminal Justice throughout the state to obtain feedback from concerned citizens about the criminal justice process and what should be done to improve it. The West Valley Town Hall is on Friday, September 21st from 8:30 to Noon at the Estrella Conference Center located at 3000 N. Dysart R., Avondale. In addition, members of our St. John's community have an opportunity to assist recent releasees by responding to a request from Along Side Ministries to provide much needed supplies or volunteer for a literacy program to help teach reading and writing to those who have not had the opportunity to acquire these skills. Flyers for these events are in your bulletins or available on the tables in the Parish Hall. If you would like to become more involved in the prison ministry at St. John's or even become a pen-pal for someone at the Perryville Women's Prison, please contact Renee DuCharme or Rev. Kim Crecca.

PLEASE JOIN THE ALL SAINTS PRISON MINISTRY TEAM ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, FROM 4 TO 6 PM, FOR THE OPENING OF THEIR EXHIBIT FEATURING ARTWORK FROM THE WOMEN OF PERRYVILLE PRISON. This exhibit will include additional pieces that were not on display at the recent St. John's showing. Sue Ellen Allen (author-activist-and former inmate) will be the guest speaker at the reception. The art will be on display at All Saints Episcopal Church (6300 N. Central Avenue in Phoenix) through the month of September.

IF YOU NEED PRAYER FOR YOURSELF OR SOMEONE ELSE, a member of the Pastoral Care Ministry can be found in our Library during Communion at both services, for 10 minutes before & after the first service, and for 10 minutes after the second service.

FOOD PANTRY

Spam, peanut butter, grape jelly,
pancake mix, syrup

BLESSING BAGS

Snack size or individually wrapped please

granola bars, Oreos,
peanut butter crackers, cheese crackers

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	<i>Holy Eucharist Rite I</i>	8 AM
	DOK meeting (CH 4 & 5)	9 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	<i>Holy Baptism & Eucharist Rite II</i>	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM
Tue.	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 PM
	Joyful Noise practice	7 PM
Wed.	<i>Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>	6:30 PM
Thu.	Women's Bible Study (MR)	6 PM
Fri.	Thrift Shop (CH7)	8 AM—12 PM
Sat.	Men's Fellowship, Breakfast & Study	8 AM
	Women Unlimited (CH 4 & 5)	9 AM
	Thrift Shop (CH7)	8 AM—12 Noon
Sun.	<i>Healing Litany / Holy Eucharist Rite I</i>	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (2)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	<i>Holy Baptism / Holy Eucharist Rite II</i>	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM