

August 21, 2022
From Father Rudy

Gospel: Luke: 12: Luke 13: 22-30
Narrow Gate.

What does it mean to be in a relationship? At first glance, you might think only of the romantic kind, yet its more accurate meaning is any association or connection between people—whether it is intimate, platonic, positive or negative. In a secular sense, there are many types of relationships, such as with family, friends, acquaintances, teacher/student, work, or other variations. Also, how deep your relationship is with another person is connected to your level of involvement and commitment. As humans, our connections to other people are critical to our happiness and often define the trajectory of our lives.

As important as our human relationships are, our relationship with our Lord surpasses all of them, yet often we put God on the back burner and go through the motions of our faith. For example, because we are busy pursuing other relationships or are engrossed in other pursuits, we might concentrate on our faith for just an hour or so each week to fulfill our Sunday obligation. Imagine spending so few dedicated moments when we truly desire something or someone in our lives and then refer to this yearning as an obligation!

It is the Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time, and in today's Gospel, Jesus, when questioned, describes a "narrow door" for gaining entrance into Heaven. Jesus' message in this Gospel is surprising, since many of us believe that all paths lead to heaven if we have faith, are good people, go to church, and follow the rules. Jesus tells us, however, that it takes thought, discipline, and effort to go through this "door," and we must have depth and breadth in a rooted relationship with Him. St Gregory Nazianzus has said "It is more important that we should remember God than that we should breathe..." and for many of us, what we perceive as our best efforts may indeed be insufficient.

According to Pope Benedict XVI, "True friendship with Jesus is expressed in the way of life: it is expressed with goodness of heart, with humility, meekness and mercy, love for justice and truth, a sincere and honest commitment to peace and reconciliation. This, we might say, is the "identity card" that qualifies us as 'true friends'—it is the true passport that will let us enter eternal life."

You can **read the Sunday bulletin** at: www.saint-leo.org/Publications/StLeoSundayBulletin

You can **read Fr. Rudy's letter** at:
www.saint-leo.org/Publications/FromthePastor'sDesk

Join us on Sunday August 28th at 2:00 p.m. in St. Leo's undercroft. We will be holding a special session of formation and training for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Please use the registration forms in church if you are interested.

Mass and Healing Service- You're invited on Wednesday September 7th at 7:30 p.m. at St. Ignatius Church located at 5222 North Bend Road. To Receive Jesus in the Eucharist, adore him in Eucharistic Exposition, and experience the Lord's love through individual personal prayer for healing of any concerns you may have.

If you are having items shipped to Saint Leo's please have them shipped to Saint Boniface. We are having a lot of issues at Saint Leo's with deliveries. Please send any deliveries to:
St. Boniface - Attn: Saint Leo -1750 Chase Avenue-Cincinnati, OH 45223



SafeParish Update- With Summer activities in full swing, we would like to remind all parish/school employees and volunteers of the requirements of the Decree on Child Protection. All employees and volunteers are required to have completed The Archdiocese of Cincinnati SafeParish™: Protecting Children From Sexual Abuse - Arch. of Cincinnati Edition training or child protection training under the prior child protection platform (VIRTUS). Volunteers are required to complete an online background check prior to volunteering with youth. Employees and volunteers are required to stay current in completing SafeParish™ quarterly bulletins.

We have a family in need of a twin mattress. Don't forget the Food Pantry is in dire need of items we hope you can help! You can see our latest request on our [Amazon Wish List](#) Link:https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1Y6S276N39W08?ref_=wl_share. **Please call the office at 513-921-1044 if you have questions or would like to donate these items.**

Upcoming Dates to mark on your Calendar:

August 28th – Eucharist Minister Training at 2 p.m. Archdiocese of Cincinnati will lead this in Spanish and English.

September 17th and 18th – Sacrament sign-ups for all sacraments.

September 18th – After mass join St. Johns West Chester Knights of Columbus with their tool box project.

PARISH FAMILY NEWS: Mark your calendars now for Sunday, October 9th, for a get-acquainted party with other members of our parish family. Little Flower will be hosting us beginning at 1:00 p.m. We are asking people to bring a dish to share. Bring your own beverage. If the weather is nice, we will be outside on their beautiful grounds. There will be soccer and volleyball for the kids and adults. Or we can enjoy the opportunity to mingle and get to know each other. If the weather isn't nice, we will be in the parish undercroft.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR – Sept. 21st to Oct. 19th - 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Do you want to experience God's love, power and presence? The **Life in the Spirit Seminar** is a life-transforming experience where you will discover Christ's personal and unconditional love for YOU. Listen to dynamic teachings and experience the gifts of the Holy Spirit. This seminar will take place on 5 consecutive Wednesday evenings at St. Ignatius Parish in Loyola Hall, 5222 North Bend Rd., Cincinnati, Ohio 45247. **For more info or to register call Mary Ann at 513-378-4431, Lighthouse Renewal Center at 513-471-5483, or visit our website at www.LRC1.org.**