

In the Wedding: Scott Hahn Reflects on the Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sunday Bible Reflections by Dr. Scott Hahn

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Isaiah 62:1-5; Psalm 96:1-3, 7-10; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; John 2:1-12 (see also "On the Hour")



Think of these first weeks after Christmas as a season of "epiphanies." The Liturgy is showing us Who Jesus is and what He has revealed about our relationship with God.

Last week and the week before, the imagery was royal and filial - Jesus is the newborn king of the Jews who makes us co-heirs of Israel's promise, beloved children of God. Last week in the Liturgy we went to a Baptism.

This week we're at a wedding.

We're being shown another dimension of our relationship with God. If we're sons and daughters of God, it's because we've married into the family.

Have you ever wondered why the Bible begins and ends with a wedding - Adam and Eve's in the garden and the marriage supper of the Lamb (compare Genesis 2:23-24 and Revelation 19:9; 21:9; 22:17)?

Throughout the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the covenant relationship God desires with His chosen people. He is the Groom, humanity His beloved and sought-after bride. We see this reflected beautifully in today's First Reading.

When Israel breaks the covenant she is compared to an unfaithful spouse (see Jeremiah 2:20-36; 3:1-13). But God promises to take her back, to "espouse" her to Him forever in an everlasting covenant (see Hosea 2:18-22).

That's why in today's Gospel, Jesus performs His first public "sign" at a wedding feast.

Jesus is the divine Bridegroom (see John 3:29), calling us to His royal wedding feast (see Matthew 22:1-14). By His New Covenant, He will become "one flesh" with all humanity in the Church (see Ephesians 5:21-33). By our Baptism, each of us has been betrothed to Christ as a bride to a Husband (see 2 Corinthians 11:2).

The new wine that Jesus pours out at today's feast is the gift of the Holy Spirit given to His bride and body, as today's Epistle says. This is the "salvation" announced to the "families of nations" in today's Psalm.

ANNOUNCED MASSES
January 16th – 24th, 2016

Sat. Jan. 16th 4:30 p.m.	Weekday Deceased and Living Members of the Family – by Leo and Lavinia
Sun. Jan. 17th 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Second Sunday in Ordinary Time Ofelia Roy – For a Safe Flight and Travel Feliks Rewers – RIP – by Wanda Rewers
Mon. Jan. 18th	NO MASS
Tues. Jan. 19th 7:00 p.m.	Weekday Denis Delany – RIP – by Jean Seffern
Wed. Jan. 20th 9:00 a.m.	Saint Fabian and Saint Sebastian Oscar Hollingsworth – For Healing – by the family
Thurs. Jan. 21st 9:00 a.m.	Saint Agnes For Souls in Purgatory
Fri. Jan. 22nd 9:00 a.m.	Saint Vincent Luis Ponte – Birthday Blessings – by the family
Sat. Jan. 23rd 4:30 p.m.	Weekday Paciencia Manzo Manzanal and Domenico Inga – RIP – by Jerry Roy
Sun. Jan. 24th 9:00 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Maria Espirito Santo Melo Ponte – RIP – by Kevin Smith Adrian de Souza – RIP – by the family

Collection: January 10, 2016 - **\$2,790.35**
...Thank you for your generosity.

New and Re-Elected Wardens

Congratulations and welcome to **Allan Distor** and **Maria E.S. Ponte**, our newly elected wardens. At the same time, we would like to extend our deep gratitude and appreciation to **Kevin Wong** and **Rose Mangahas**, for their services to the parish as former wardens.

The Pillars Trust Fund



*"As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord".
Joshua 24:15*

Thank you so much! For forty years, English-speaking Catholics have placed their 'TRUST' in the Pillars Trust fund to provide financial assistance for programs and services at the benefit for all. The 2015 Pillars Trust 'Newsletter' – which has been distributed in parishes and can be found at www.pillarstrust.org – gives you several examples as to just how important your donation to the Pillars Trust Fund can be. We invite you to continue to journey with us and make a big difference in your community. On behalf of the people who benefit from the support they receive from the Diocesan Priesthood Guild and Vocation Office; or the Newman Association and Youth Ministry projects; or the Adult Religious Education Services, just to name a few – kindly accept their deepest appreciation and gratitude for making these services; just to name a few – kindly accept their deepest appreciation and gratitude for making these services possible through your financial support of the Pillars Trust Fund. Please donate today, at www.pillarstrust.org.

Be My Disciples News

Be My Disciples classes have returned as of last Sunday, January 10th, 2016. Welcome back!

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Advent Christmas Tree campaign to benefit CHALICE and their many good works in various developing countries. Thanks to your great generosity and support. We collected \$400.00.

Parent Meeting will be on Sunday, February 7, 2016, immediately after the 9:00 a.m. Mass, in the Church Hall.
All parents must attend!

We wish everyone a very **Happy and Healthy NEW YEAR!**