

God's Word is a two-edged sword!

The Word of God, whether Scripture or the Word Himself, is a two-edged sword that cuts both ways. Like a sword that separates flesh from bone Christ forces people to choose, the Father's way or their own way. It is the fire of love which Jesus casts on the earth. Love is not wishy-washy, allowing everything for the sake of false peace. No, it causes us to choose God over others, to choose the salvation of others over other considerations. When we do this we will have enemies, even within our own families.

So, Jesus desires all men to choose Him, the true Way to the Father, but some will not do so, dividing themselves from those who do. This division is necessary, for those who will follow only themselves cannot enter the Kingdom.

The above summarizes today's Gospel reading. If today's verses (v49-53) spell out the negative consequences of Christ's coming, verses 54-59 are a challenge to us to respond decisively to the signs of the times as we should to His coming. Verses 54-57 call upon men to think clearly and independently, and to act decisively

(1a) There is a polarization which is described, so that it is not "one against one" but "two against three" and "three against two." Those who have come to faith in Christ will join together, while those who have rejected Christ will also find a new bondage, a new basis of unity, in opposition to Christ. This is how the Pharisees (the right wing conservatives of that day) and the Sadducees (the liberals) could join together in rejecting Christ and in opposing Him, and apparently orchestrating His death. God has ultimate authority in the family.

(2a) Were Israel's leaders guilty? They certainly were, but this did not let the masses off the hook. They should have seen the obvious and come to the right conclusion about Jesus, even if their leaders did not.

(3a) Jesus' rebuke to the masses seems to be that they did not think clearly, nor did they think independently of their leaders. They were guilty of letting their leaders think for them. Listen to our Lord's words: "And why do you not even on your own initiative judge what is right?" (v.57)

Reading the signs of our time it is clear to me that we have two very poor choices in the upcoming elections. The one elected will determine the liberal or conservative slant of the Supreme Court for years to come.

Holy Land DVD shown in the RCIA class room today after 9am Mass!

Come and let's walk where He walked!

MASS INTENTIONS:

Sat. 5:30pm for the repose of the soul of Dan Melton at request of Lyle and Sandra Kelliher. **Sun 9:00am** for all St. Anna's parish family **Sun 12:00pm**

For the sick and homebound of our parish family.

Monday Aug. 15th is not a Holy Day of Obligation

TREASURE STEWARDSHIP:

Offertory: \$ 11,225.50

Our Weekly Average Operational Expense is \$9,000

FAITH FORMATION NEWS

REGISTRATION FOR SCHOOL OF RELIGION

classes continues this week. Completed registrations forms may be dropped off or mailed to the church, and can also be placed in the basket in the Narthex where you will also find additional registration forms, if you did not receive one in the mail. Registrations will also be accepted after all the Masses the weekend of August 27th and 28th. Please register your children before August 28th.

ATTENTION PARENTS OF 1st GRADERS! *First grade Religious Education is required before a child can enter the 2nd grade Sacramental year. If you have a child in 1st grade this year, please be sure to register him/her for School of Religion class.*

WHAT IS A CATECHIST?

A catechist is faith, hope & love attached to arms & legs, aches & pains, family duties & not enough time.

A catechist is an ordinary person who is extraordinary because he or she teaches as Jesus did.

A catechist is faithful to the past, open to the future, but especially dedicated to deepening the faith of the present generation.

Personal traits of a catechist: *Sense of humor & flexibility is a must. Active faith life. Interest & concern about people's growth in faith. Ability to relate well with others. Willingness to be of service to the church*



Compensation: PRICELESS

Contact Mrs. Deb to volunteer or for more information. (770-267-7637 or dfarabaugh@st-annas.com.

New Archdiocesan policy for protection of children, calls for ALL adults over the age of 18 that have any contact with children to attend the new **VIRTUS Protecting God's Children** workshop. This will be held on Wed., August 31st from 6-9pm in the Parish Hall. You must register for this class online at www.virtus.org. Contact Mrs. Deb at 770-267-7637, if you have any questions.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS

The High School **TORCH RETREAT** is this weekend. Please keep our youth attending the retreat and those facilitating the retreat in your prayers as they grow in their love of the Lord and understanding of our Catholic faith.

The next **WYN (Wednesday Youth Night)** is August 24th beginning at 6 pm with Mass in the chapel.

WELCOME

We're Glad You're Here



ONLY ONE MORE WEEK before the **WOMEN'S CRHP RETREAT!**

Register **TODAY** by picking up a brochure in the Narthex or online at

www.st-annas.com/crhp. Renew your spirit, grow in your faith & make new friends at the CRHP retreat!

RCIA CLASSES will begin on **TUESDAY**, Sept. 13th! Yes, **RCIA** is returning to Tuesday evenings. If you are interested in just learning more about your faith or would like to become Catholic, RCIA is for you. Please contact Mrs. Deb (dfarabaugh@st-annas.com or 770-267-7637) or Don Nye (donaldcny@yahoo.com or 770-605-9439)

Save the date - September 18, 2016
Evening for Life - Pregnancy Aid Clinic
Annual Fundraising Gala Egyptian
Ballroom, Fox Theatre Atlanta GA.
For more information contact Cory:
cbrown@pregnancyaidclinic.org



Fr. Greg Boyle, author of *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, is speaking at Our Lady of the Assumption, 1350 Hearst Dr., Atlanta, GA 30319 on **Thursday, August 18th from 7pm-8:30pm**. Hear about his decades of experience and work as the founder of Homeboy Industries, the largest, most successful gang intervention, rehabilitation, and re-entry program in the world! \$10 donation sug-



Making gifts of Real Estate: Did you know you can donate the property to The Catholic Foundation and receive a nice tax deduction? We sell the property and **give the proceeds to your parish endowment fund or ministry of your choice**. For more information, please contact Juliet Greco at The Catholic Foundation: 404-497-9440 or jgreco@cfnga.org



December 27th to January 6th

WALKING WHERE JESUS WALKED
HOLYLAND

9:00 Mass
August 14 - Volunteer Needed
August 21 - Volunteer Needed
12:00 Mass
August 14 - Meagan Xydias
August 21 - Joyce Stodghill



Ultreya is next
Thurs., Aug 25 at 6:30 pm
at the home of
Mary Lynn Reinagle

A Special Ladies Tea & Luncheon

Sun., Sept. 18th at 1:30

Tickets on sale 8/27

\$10 Ladies/\$5 girls

(10 & under)

Proceeds go to the
Kitchen & Parish Hall



Claim your lost items from
the basket in the Narthex

For those **Celebrating 50th & 60th Anniversary in 2016**, an **Anniversary Mass** will be Sat., Oct. 1st at Noon at Saint Brigid Catholic Church. RSVP to <http://tiny.cc.anniversarymass>

Calling all Kroger shoppers to shop for St. Anna's

Each person is required to re-enroll their Kroger Plus Card annually to continue the Kroger donations to our church.

Re-enrollment is NOW-August 30.

How to **RE-ENROLL** to Help St.

Anna's? **GO TO:**

www.krogercommunityrewards.com

For detailed information visit

<http://www.st-annas.com/kroger.html#renew>



#52276

Meeting times for the week:

OLPH - Every Mon. @ 4:30pm (Conf)

Centering Prayer - Every Mon. @ 7pm (Chpl)

Women's CHRP - Every Tues. @ 6:30pm (6/MR)

Men's CHRP - Every Tues. @ 7pm (7GR)

Adoration - Every Fri. @ 6am-12pm (Chpl)

Parish Council - Wed. 8/17 @ 7pm (8GR)

Women's Bible Study - returns - Wed, Sept. 7th

ACES - returns - Fri., Sept 16th



Weekly Readings

August 14 - August 20

Saturday: Confessions begin at 4 PM

Sunday: Jer.38:4-6.8-10/Ps40(39):2.3.4.18/Heb. 12:1-4/Lk 12:49-53.

Monday: Revel. 11:19a.12:1-6a.10ab. / Ps 45(44):10bc.11.12ab.16. / 1 Cor. 15:20-27. / Lk 1:39-56.

Tuesday: Ezek28:1-10/Deut 32:26-28.30.35cd-36ab/Mt19:23-30.

Wednesday: Ezek. 34:1-11. / Ps 23(22):1-3a.3b-4.5.6. / Mt 20:1-

16a. **Thursday:** Ezek. 36:23-28/Ps 51(50):12-13.14-15.18-19/Mt 22:1-14.