

Prayers for our Parishioners. The particular law of the Byzantine Ruthenian Metropolitan Church directs that the pastor is to celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the people of the parish entrusted to him on Sundays and days of precept [holydays of obligation]" (canon 294). This liturgy intention for all parishioners is "For the Intention of Parishioners." The faithful who attend the Divine Liturgy for the parishioners who participate, according to their state, in praying for that intention. We can continue this prayer for one another during the week by remembering several parishioners' families each week. Please pray for these parishioners: Andrea and Glenn Delaney & family, Frances DeLoatch, Gayle and Rolfe Dietrich, Lynn Doering, Gregg and Danielle Dojak, and from the Mission, Tonja Siemucha.

If a second Sunday Liturgy is offered, an intention can be accepted. Since we have had only one Sunday Divine Liturgy for fourteen Sundays, the Liturgy was for the Intention of our Parishioners. As a result, the intentions requested for the second Liturgy on Sundays have not been offered. The celebrant can pray for additional intentions during the Liturgy, for example, the priest is required to pray for the bishop who ordained him at every Liturgy he offers. The celebrant will pray for the intention parishioners have offered. Please note that this does not persolve the Liturgy intention requested. There is no previously scheduled liturgy intention for February 7th. Any Sunday liturgy intention previously scheduled will be rescheduled when a priest is assigned which would make two liturgies a possibility again.

Public Liturgies. The Commonwealth of Virginia began Phase Three July 1st. In his episcopal letter of May 13th, Bishop Kurt Burnette announced that churches may reopen for public worship according to the directives of the public health authorities and with the bishop's permission. For churches, Phase Three requirements are the same as Phase One requirements. This means that the Parish Strategic Plan and the Eparchial Checklist is still

applicable. This means churches may open at 50% of capacity provided health department requirements are met. It is important for public health not to slacken in observing the Strategic Plan. Bishop Kurt continues to dispense so those who are at risk or feel unsafe may remain at home. Please keep in mind that Divine Law still requires us to keep the Lord's Day holy by prayer and by refraining from unnecessary work. The bishop cannot dispense Divine Law. Further, the Bishop had encouraged all to make a good confession later in the year when it is safe.

Live Streaming. In response to the spiritual needs the Faithful of Epiphany, the Divine Liturgy of Meatfare Sunday today will be live streamed.

Praying at Home Together. If you are remaining safe at home, you may consider praying the Divine Liturgy in your homes so that we can be united in praying the same prayers. These are available on the web site of the Metropolitan Cantor Institute of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, <https://mci.archpitt.org>. The entire People's Molitvennik is available under Publications tab to use when participating in the live streaming Liturgy.

Messages from the Pastor. Father John has been sending email messages to the parishioners whose email addresses we have on our roster. If you have not been receiving these email messages, it might be because we do not have your email address, or you have changed it and we do not have it. We would like to have your email address to keep contact with you during this time when some parishioners are remaining safe at home. Simply email the parish [parish](mailto:parish@epiphany.org).

Friday Fast Resumes. Fridays resume as a Day of Penance.

Intentions to be Rescheduled. If you have offered a Divine Liturgy for an intention to be celebrated during the suspension, you will be contacted to reschedule. Jamie has begun rescheduling weekday liturgy requests according to the date of the request. If you have scheduled

a weekday liturgy, that liturgy will remain on the date requested. However, if you scheduled a liturgy on a Sunday, the intention will not be rescheduled until after the pandemic or until Bishop Kurt is able to assign a second priest to be able to celebrate two Sunday liturgies.

All Souls Saturdays. Each year there are five All Souls Saturdays when our deceased relatives are remembered by name. This list, the Hramoty or Dyptychs, is read during a Panachida which follows the Divine Liturgy for the repose of our departed family members. Please use the envelopes in your envelope sets to list your departed names. The Second All Souls Saturday is Saturday, February 27, 2021. The next four are February 27, March 6, March 13, and May 22.

Condolences. We offer condolences to Fr. John upon the death of his mother, +Elizabeth Basarab. Viewing will be Tuesday, February 9th, 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM followed by Parastas at 6:00 PM at Epiphany of our Lord. A Funeral Divine Liturgy will be offered Wednesday, February 10th at 10:00 AM at Epiphany of our Lord. Interment Thursday, February 11th at St. Nicholas of Myra Byzantine Catholic Cemetery, Roebing, New Jersey. May God His departed servant. +Elizabeth, peaceful repose. Vičnaja jej pamjat'.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

2021 Calendars. Parishioners, if you not able to pick up a 2021 liturgical calendar since Christmas and wish to request a calendar, please call the parish office at 703-573-3986. We will put one in the mail to you. We are asking that distribution be limited to one per family.

Offering Envelopes. Many parishioners have recently received their collection envelopes for this quarter. Parishioners who do not receive their envelopes by February 1, please call the office again, 703-573-3968.

On-line Giving Now Set Up. Bishop Kurt directed that all parishes have online giving service in place with www.tithe.ly.com by August

31, 2020. Both the parish and the mission now have online accounts with tithe.ly and these can be accessed at the church or mission web sites. To make an online contribution, go to the church web site. On the home page is a link that says [Epiphany of our Lord online donation](#). Click on that and you will be directed to Epiphany's tithe.ly account. Please note that where you see Offertory, that is a drop-down menu that allows the donor to specify what the donation is for: Sunday offertory, Building Fund, St. Nicholas Fund, or eparchial collections. Please show care in the category Recurring Giving. If it is not a donation to be given each week or month, please make that adjustment that this is a one-time donation.

EMC Bingo. Due to the Pandemic, Bingo has been suspended indefinitely. Observance of local, state, Catholic Mutual, and eparchial requirements for safe distancing and sanitizing does not make reopening Bingo economically feasible. We will continue to monitor health and scientific information as it becomes available to guide the determination of opening safely for our parishioners and Bingo patrons.

Parish Bulletin. The parish bulletin will continue to be posted weekly on the Epiphany website: www.eolbcc.org. It will also be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex and photograph of the bulletin can be taken.

Parish Office Schedule and Safety Protocols. In accordance with Bishop Kurt Burnette's and Governor Northam's most recent Orders, the office hours for Epiphany of our Lord continue to be amended to the following: Monday, Wednesday, Friday- 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. Jamie, the administrative assistant, will cover the office during those hours from home two days of the week. She will be teleworking Tuesday afternoon and all day Thursday. Given that response to this crisis is so fluid and schedules can change so quickly, please call the office phone number before venturing out. Parish staff has established safety and health protocols at the parish office. If you have business at the office, please follow

these protocols: 1. use the RING doorbell; Jamie is able to respond to the door from home as well. 3. wear a mask 4. sanitizer station when you come and leave; 5. observe social distancing. We are only able to accommodate three adults in the office at one time, including two staff members observing safe distancing.

Mission Update. Jack McLaurin has informed us that regarding the Soil and Erosion Plan the remaining issue is the easement around the new dry wells. The documents are being prepared. The revised Soil and Erosion plans were to be submitted last Tuesday. The Building Permits Zoning has approved. We are waiting for the responses from other agencies. The Water and Septic reviewer comments are that the septic fields will not be able to handle a five-bedroom house with public worship.

Book Store. The Bookstore is open by appointment only. Please contact a Bookstore manager and be prepared to wear a mask and not to use the rest rooms in the Social Hall.

Restroom Availability FYI. There are no campus restrooms open to the public, including our vendors. We have only two buildings being cleaned weekly, the church for our parishioners and the parish office for our office staff. The day care bathrooms are for the exclusive use of the day care children and staff and restricted for their safety.

EPARCHIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS & OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bishop's Appeal. The Bishop's Appeal 2020 began October 1st. Pledges and payments will be accepted through June 1, 2021. Any contributions received after December 31, 2020, must be attributed to the 2021 tax year. The goal for this year's campaign is the same as last year, \$19,800 for the church and \$6,000 for the mission. The parishioners at the church have pledged or given \$16,950. The parishioners at the

mission have pledged or given \$4,225. This is an incredible response in this difficult time. May God bless you for your sacrificial offerings to our eparchy and for our eparchy's donations to European eparchies. If we reach our goal, we will receive a 40% refund of the total received.

ByzanTEENS Night Out. The monthly virtual meetings of Byzantine Catholic teens continue this year with the general theme of "Roadmap to the Rally" at Mt. St. Mary, Emmitsburg, MD. The next meeting is Sunday, February 21st from 6:00-7:30PM. The teens are from New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia and Florida. Epiphany teens are participants. Each month there are new participants who join. Deacon Tom Schubeck, a deacon at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Rahway and a licensed psychologist and a professor at Seton Hall University, is one of the hosts. For information on the virtual Night Out, write to him at frdeacontom@gmail.com.

God With Us Online. The study series continues with the offering *Dying to Sin: The First Steps in Askesis*. The course answers Are we all called to asceticism or is it the work of a select few? The course is led by Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses and will be presented online for three Mondays, February 22, March 1 and 8 8:00 - 9:00PM. Go to www.GodWithUsOnline.org to register.

Catechetics Degree. Father Mark Morozowich, SEOD, dean of the School of Theology and Religious Studies of the Catholic University of America, Washington, DC, and a Ukrainian Catholic priest of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat of Parma, informed Bishop Kurt that CUA School of Theology and Religious Studies is offering an on-line Master of Catechetics degree, an interdisciplinary degree of theology, scripture, spirituality, liturgical catechesis, history and psychology, to prepare professionals to be missionary disciples of the New Evangelization in the field of catechetics for eparchies and dioceses. If you are interested, please contact Father Dr. Morozowich at 202-319-5684 or the Graduate Admissions Specialist, Dr. Elena Martin at martine@cua.edu or 202-319-5482.

Meatfare Sunday

COMING EVENTS

- Byzantine Spirituality
- Parish Office Safety Protocols
- ByzanTEEN Night Out
- 2021 Calendars
- All Souls Saturdays
- Mission Development
- On Line Contributions
- Bishop's Appeal

EMC BINGO

Bingo will be suspended for the foreseeable future.

<http://EMCBINGO.com>

TITHING & GIVING

Adults	\$ 3,225.00
Initial Offering	\$155.00
Building Fund	\$2,740.00
Holy Days	\$310.00
Candles	\$187.00
Christmas	\$50.00
School of Religion	\$22.00
ECL	\$12.00
St. Nicholas Fund	\$38.00
	\$ 6,739.00

Tithing & Giving. Above accounting represents weeks 1/17/21 and 1/24/21. The next report will cover weeks 1/31/21 and 2/7/21. "Online Donation" represents donations for Epiphany contributed by parishioners online and sent to Epiphany from our online giving account. Our online giving is operational and can be accessed through the parish or mission web sites. Thank you for continuing to use your giving envelopes.

"Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth." (Dt. 8:18)

LITURGY AND LIFE

Prayer Intentions. Please remember in prayer: Msgr. George Dobes, Michael Mikulak, David Sayen, Mary McDonnell, Justine Ferrari, Louis Shanks, Caroline Zurun, Mary Beth Vieira, Irene Markovich, Mary Gaydos, Betty Markovchick, John Vernoski, Marge Rusnak, Richard Wytko, Tim Ryan, Fr. Lee Gross, and Rand Bass. Please pray for these friends and relatives of parishioners: Shirley Anne Markham, Jeffrey Mikulak, Francine O'Leary, Russell Plasha, Patricia Delfine, Rev. Joseph Jugan, Steven Goula, Eileen Gray, James Seman, Mike Shuster, Greg Starr, Florence Kunder, Kelly Kunder, Jim Bacigalupi, Katherine Sikoryak, John Ryaby III, Guillermina Donalson, and Steve Smith.

February 7, 2021



EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD

Byzantine Catholic Church

3410 Woodburn Road, Annandale, VA 22003

Phone: 703-573-3986 --- Fax: 703-573-0344

Very Rev. John G. Basarab - Pastor

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Glory forever!

February 7, 2021

Slava Isusu Christu!
Slava na v'iki!

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY OF MEAT-FARE

Sun. Feb. 07 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

Cheese-fare Week

Tue. Feb. 09 6:00PM Parastas for +Elizabeth Basarab

Wed. Feb. 10 10:00AM Funeral Divine Liturgy for +Elizabeth Basarab

All Ascetical Fathers and Mothers

Sat. Feb. 13 10:00 AM +Ryan Jones by Trina and Ely Mouchouser

SUNDAY OF CHEESE-FARE

Sun. Feb. 14 10:30 AM Intention of Parishioners

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE – February 14, 2021

Sun. Feb. 14 One server will be assigned under Phase Three Reopening Plan.

USHER SCHEDULE – February 14, 2021

Sun. Feb. 14 Ushers check with Bob Wargo for assignments next Sunday.

All public services in church in Phase Three in Virginia can have 50% of capacity. People in attendance must wear masks and maintain social distancing.

EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD Byzantine Catholic Church

The Sacraments – Our Life in Christ

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation - (Baptism, Chrismation, Holy Eucharist). We follow the command of the Lord to baptize in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19). Chrismation (Confirmation) and Holy Eucharist (First Holy Communion) is imparted at the same time immediately following baptism

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Infants – is scheduled at the Divine Liturgy on Saturdays or Sundays during the year except certain fast periods. Sponsors must be Catholics in good standing and supply a sponsor card attesting to that from their parish. While two Catholics in good standing is usual, one baptized non-Catholic can function as a Christian Witness with the Catholic sponsor. Both must be at least sixteen years of age. Details are available at the parish office.

Mysteries (Sacraments) of Initiation of Adults – follows a period of catechumenate. This is a period of spiritual formation. Please see the priest or deacon.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Crowning in Marriage – According to the Pastoral Policy and Guidelines for Marriage Preparation for the Catholic Church in New Jersey, couples wishing to marry must inform the pastor one year before the date of the wedding and be free to marry in the Catholic Church. Couples will meet with the priest and deacon in four sessions – to begin the pre-nuptial investigation, to take FOCCUS, a communications, values and religious inventory approved for use in the Catholic dioceses/eparchies, to complete the pre-nuptial investigation and for a session on the theology of the mystery (sacrament). They are also required to attend Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounter.

Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance – The Mystery (Sacrament) of Repentance is regularly available each Saturday 11:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. In addition, confessions are heard during the Christmas Fast (Advent) and the Great Fast (Lent) at other scheduled times. Visiting confessors are also scheduled at special times during the Great Fast. Confessions are also heard on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Great and Holy Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life endangering medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves Week to prepare for the observance of the Lord's Resurrection.

Anointing of the Sick – Parishioners who are seriously ill and those with life-threatening medical conditions as well as those who are to undergo surgery should avail themselves of the sacrament of penance and anointing of the sick. If surgery is scheduled, please consider confession and anointing at the church before entering the hospital since there is more privacy for confession and less chance of interruption for confession and anointing. If you are unable to come to church, please call the rectory. Families of parishioners who have a medical emergency should contact the rectory office so one of the priests can go the hospital.

Holy Communion and Visitation of the Sick – Holy Communion is brought to our parishioners who are ill at the hospital or at home by the deacon on Sundays and at other times by arrangement. Please contact the deacon or the rectory office by Friday prior to the Sunday communion visitation.

Funeral Services – The Office of Christian Burial is offered in ways to accommodate the needs of the family. The Epiphany Ladies Guild as part of their charity offers a Mercy Meal for families at the Parish Center following the interment. Epiphany of our Lord cemetery is a portion of Fairfax Memorial Park. Parishioners who are interested in purchasing cemetery plots should see the deacon.

Byzantine Catholic Mission of Montgomery County - Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM; Religious Education & Social Hour 11:15-12:15: 20501 Goshen Road, Gaithersburg, MD; (301) 482-0282.

Parish Administration

"The Church is not an organization with sacraments but a sacrament with organization."

Parish Clergy

Very Rev. John G. Basarab, Pastor
Deacon Elmer Pekarik, Deacon Peter Turko

Parish Office Staff

Jamie Bacigalupi, Administrative Assistant
Lucie Cantsilieris, Financial Assistant

Parish Council of Administration

Emil Koval, Greg Puhak, Sally Green

Parish Office Hours: 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM Monday- Friday

9:30 AM - 12:30 PM Sunday

School of Religion - School of Religion classes meet on Sundays between Liturgies (9:20 AM - 10:20 AM) throughout the school year (September - June). Classes are offered for children grades Preschool & Kindergarten - High School

Announcements may be dropped off in the Parish Office, faxed to the office (703-573-1088) or email to epiphanyofourlord@verizon.net.

Registration - Individuals who wish to register in the Parish should stop by the Parish Office and complete a census form.

Epiphany of our Lord Church, Annandale, VA

<http://www.eolbcc.org>

Epiphany of our Lord does not conduct business on the website email.

PARISH USTAV

The Order for the Divine Liturgy
Sunday of Meat-fare

PLACE RIBBONS AT:

BLUE	p. 11	Mark and Follow Ordinary Parts of the Divine Liturgy
GREEN	p. 135	Resurrection Tone 3
RED	p. 217	Meat-fare Sunday

ALL MELODIES FOR THIS SUNDAY ARE: C

EXCEPT:

1. The Divine Liturgy begins on p. 11 BLUE
2. Sunday Antiphons
3. At the Troparia:
Troparion of the Resurrection Tone 3 p. 135 GREEN
Kontakion of Meat-fare Tone 1 p. 217 RED
4. Scripture readings:
Prokeimenon of Meat-fare Tone 3 p. 217 RED
Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8 – 9:2
Alleluia of Meat-fare Tone 8 p. 218 RED
Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

ONLY-BEGOTTEN SON – JEDINORODNYJ SYNE

Slava Otcu i Synu i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i 4n a4i, 4n a v'iki v'ikov. Amiň. Jedinorodnyj Syne,

i 4n a4 Božij, bezsmerten syj, i izvolivyj spasenija našeho radi voplotitisja ot svjatyja Bohorodicy i 4n a4i-d'ivy Mariji, nepreložno vočelov'ičivysja, raspnysja že, Christe Bože, smertiju smert' popravj, jedin syj Svjatyja Trojcy, sproslavl'ajemyj Otcu i Svjatomu Duchu, spasi nas.

SVJATYJ BOŽE – HOLY GOD

Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas. (3)
Slava Otču, i Synu, i Svjatomu Duchu, i nyňi i prisno, i vo v'iki v'ikov. Amin.
Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.
Svjatyj Bože, Svjatyj kr'ipkij, Svjatyj bezsmertnyj, pomiluj nas.

IŽE CHERUVIMY – LET US WHO MYSTICALLY

Iže Cheruvimy tajno obrazujušče, i životvorjassčej Trojc'i trisvjatuju p'isň prinosjasšče, vsjakuju nyňi zitejskoje otveržim pečal'.

Amiň. Jako da Carja vs'ich podimem, anhel'skimi nevidimo dorinosima činmi. Alliluia. Alliluia. Alliluia.

SVJAT, SVJAT, SVJAT – HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Svjat, svjat, svjat, Hospod' savaoth, ispolň nebo i zeml'a slavy Tvojeja: osanna vo vyšnich, blahosloven hrjadj vo imja Hospodne, osanna vo vyšnich.

TEBE POJEM – WE PRAISE YOU

Tebe pojem, Tebe blahoslovim, Teb'i blahodarim, Hospodi, i molimtisja Bože naš.

DOSTOJNO JEST' – IT IS TRULY PROPER

Dostojno jest' jako voistinnu blažiti t'a bohorodicu, prisnoblaženuju i preneporočnuju i Mater' Boha našeho. Česňijšuju Cheruvim i slavňišuju bez sravnenija Serafim, bez istl'inija Boha Slova roždšuju, suščuju Bohorodicu, t'a veličajem.

OTČE NAŠ – OUR FATHER

Otče naš, iže jesi na nebes'ich, da svjatitsja imja Tvoje. Da prijedet carstvije Tvoje, da budet vol'a Tvoja, jako na nebesi, i na zemli. Chl'ib naš nasuščnyj dažd nam dnes'. I ostavi nam dolhi naša, jakože i my ostavl'ajem dolžnikom našim. I ne vvedi nas vo iskušeniye, no izbavi nas ot lukavaho.

VID'ICHOM SVIT ISTINNYJ – WE HAVE SEEN THE TRUE LIGHT

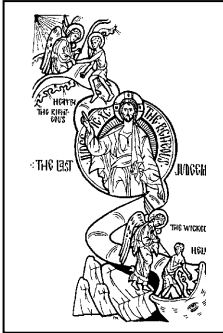
Vid'ichom svit istinnyj, i prijachom Ducha nebesnaho, obr'itochom v'iru istinnuju, nerazd'ilnij Svjat'ij Trojc'i poklanjajemsja, T'a bo nas spasla jest'.

DA ISPOLŇATSJA – MAY OUR MOUTH BE FILLED

Da ispolňatsja usta naša chvalenija tvojeho Hospodi, jako da pojem slavu tvoju, jako spodobil jesi nas pričastitsja svjatym tvojim, božestvennym, bezsmertnym, i životvor'ascim Tajnam; utverdi nas Bože vo Tvojej svjatyni vsja dni poučatisja pravd'i Tvojej. Alliluja.

Meditation on Today's Readings

From *Ignatius Study Bible: Matthew*, *The Navarre Bible: Matthew*, and *Fr. John S. Custer The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective*.



Meat Fare Sunday (Sunday of the Last Judgment)

“Whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Matthew 25:40

The past two Sundays, which are preparation days for the Great Fast, had gospel passages that were parables of God's mercy and patience. Jesus told these parables during the forty days between His transfiguration and His crucifixion. This Sunday the holy fathers have appointed the gospel about the Last Judgment that Jesus spoke during Great Week. This warning, that a day of judgment is coming, is, in fact, occurring daily as individuals make choices that bring them closer to God and the kingdom or harden themselves against Him. It is placed on this Sunday since the day before is the first All

Souls Saturday where we are invited to pray for those who have died and already received particular judgment and await the parousia and the Second Coming of Jesus and the general Judgment. They are also the least brethren who we must assist by our prayers.

As Jesus is sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the Temple on Great and Holy Wednesday, the men and women disciples with the Twelve come privately, that is, the crowds are not present, and ask Jesus, “Tell us, when will this happen [when Jesus will come a second time], and what sign will there be of your coming, and the end of the age?” (Matthew 24:3). In reply, Jesus tells two parables and then pronounces the prophecy of the Last Judgment.

Strictly speaking, this is not a parable, a story to make a point. It is a prophecy, a prediction of what will be. The only part that is a parable is the image of Jesus as a Shepherd who separates the saved and damned like sheep from goats. When the Shepherd sits on His throne and reveals Himself as the King of the Kingdom of God, it is no longer a parable.

There are several points Jesus makes that should be kept in mind. The first is that Jesus says there is a judgment. In this judgment there is a hell, but it was prepared for the fallen angels. People can go there by their acts. The second is that His Blessed “inherit” the kingdom. Children receive an inheritance from their parents. Inheritances are not earned; they are given because of the relationship. It is not what one does but who one is. That said, Jesus says *all* nations will be assembled before Him, and that would include those who have not ever heard the Gospel but have the Gospel “written in their hearts” (Epistle to the Romans 2:14 explains how Gentiles who have not heard the Gospel might be saved at the judgment because they act in accord with the gospel). Finally, Jesus says that the recipients of the acts of mercy are the least of His brothers, indicating first, those who are baptized and are adopted true sons and daughters of God, and secondly, all the poor, in need, and afflicted, since Jesus came among them and made a total identification with them and thus by extension they are His brothers and sisters.

All people are to be judged by the criterion of love toward God expressed as love of neighbor. Jesus only mentions the corporal works of mercy and not the spiritual works of mercy. He does not mention the acts of religious piety because *all* people are to be judged, those who lived before Abraham, before the coming of Jesus, before Pentecost, those who have lived where the Gospel was not preached as well as those who have heard the Gospel. However, the holy fathers are unanimous in their commentaries that those who have the responsibility of being Christians have the responsibility of understanding the charity mentioned by Jesus as both corporal and spiritual works of mercy. Christ's brothers and sisters must feed and clothe the poor and visit the sick and imprisoned. In addition, they must remember that in the Beatitudes, Jesus calls blessed those who hunger and thirst for righteousness (being made right with God, Matthew 5:6) and He offers His Body and Blood for that purpose. Members of His Church must labor to make His teaching known for those are His final words at His ascension (Matthew 28:19-20).

Thus through your knowledge, the weak person is brought to destruction, the brother for whom Christ died. When you sin in this way against your brothers and wound their consciences, weak as they are, you are sinning against Christ.
1 Corinthians 8:11-12

Throughout the Roman Empire, animals were sacrificed to pagan “gods” at feasts and public occasions. Part of the sacrifice was used in a ceremony and the remainder was sold in the public market. The dilemma for a Christian was that they knew that there was no such thing as an idol or a pagan god so the meat is neutral. However, other people may see them eating this meat and think that the gods do exist since Christians are buying and consuming the offering. Saint Paul deals with the immediate principle first. There is no objection to purchasing and eating this meat since idolatrous gods have no true existence. Then, Saint Paul articulates the principle that is the foundation for others. The highest rule is charity, that is, love of God and love of neighbor. With this principle they should not buy and eat the meat out of concern of their neighbor. The epistle appointed for this Sunday supports the gospel passage of the Last Judgment. Saint John Chrysostom said, “The source of all the Corinthians’ problems lay not in their lack of knowledge but in their lack of charity and concern for their neighbor.” We must have knowledge of the teachings of God and not ignore learning the precepts the Lord Jesus taught while always using charity as the means to apply the knowledge in our life in Christ.

From *Ignatius Study Bible: Matthew*, *The Navarre Bible: Matthew*, and *Fr. John S. Custer The Holy Gospel: A Byzantine Perspective*.

Children's Corner

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Use freedom carefully.

Think of 3-letter words that fit the clues.
Use the letters from column 3 and 4 to complete the warning.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
not no						
not thin						
not me						
male sheep						
steal from						
every bit						
glide over snow						
light brown						
not small						
disorderly crowd						
friend						
one plus one						
tic - ___ - toe						
printer's fluid						
not dry						
female sheep						
Noah's boat						
young goat						
fold-up bed						
not in						
puppy bite						
disobey God						
purring pet						
climbing vine						
has yolk and white						
cashew or pecan						
corn holder						
not begin						

Be careful that the exercise of your freedom does not become a _____ to anyone with a _____