

# 52 SUNDAYS

FEBRUARY 12, 2023

## EXPLORE THE SUNDAY GOSPEL

### Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sir 15:15-20

Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34

1 Cor 2:6-10

### Teaching About the Law, Anger, Adultery, Divorce, Oaths

Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37 (Long form posted here)

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets.

I have come not to abolish but to fulfill.

Amen, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away,

not the smallest letter or the smallest part of a letter

will pass from the law,

until all things have taken place.

Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments

and teaches others to do so

will be called least in the kingdom of heaven.

But whoever obeys and teaches these commandments

will be called greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses

that of the scribes and Pharisees,

you will not enter the kingdom of heaven.

“You have heard that it was said to your ancestors,

*You shall not kill; and whoever kills will be liable to judgment.*

But I say to you,

whoever is angry with his brother

will be liable to judgment;

and whoever says to his brother, ‘Raca,’

will be answerable to the Sanhedrin;

and whoever says, ‘You fool,’

will be liable to fiery Gehenna.

Therefore, if you bring your gift to the altar,  
and there recall that your brother  
has anything against you,  
leave your gift there at the altar,  
go first and be reconciled with your brother,  
and then come and offer your gift.  
Settle with your opponent quickly while on the way to court.  
Otherwise your opponent will hand you over to the judge,  
and the judge will hand you over to the guard,  
and you will be thrown into prison.  
Amen, I say to you,  
you will not be released until you have paid the last penny.

"You have heard that it was said,  
*You shall not commit adultery.*  
But I say to you,  
everyone who looks at a woman with lust  
has already committed adultery with her in his heart.  
If your right eye causes you to sin,  
tear it out and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body thrown into Gehenna.  
And if your right hand causes you to sin,  
cut it off and throw it away.  
It is better for you to lose one of your members  
than to have your whole body go into Gehenna.

"It was also said,  
*Whoever divorces his wife must give her a bill of divorce.*  
But I say to you,  
whoever divorces his wife - unless the marriage is unlawful -  
causes her to commit adultery,  
and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

"Again you have heard that it was said to your ancestors,  
*Do not take a false oath,*  
*but make good to the Lord all that you vow.*  
But I say to you, do not swear at all;  
not by heaven, for it is God's throne;  
nor by the earth, for it is his footstool;  
nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King.  
Do not swear by your head,

for you cannot make a single hair white or black.  
Let your 'Yes' mean 'Yes,' and your 'No' mean 'No.'  
Anything more is from the evil one."

## MEET OUR EXTENDED FAMILY

### **Blessed John of Fiesole (Feast Day February 18)**

1387 – February 18, 1455

This patron of Christian artists was born around 1400 in a village overlooking Florence, Italy. He took up painting as a young boy and studied under the watchful eye of a local painting master. He joined the Dominicans at about age 20, taking the name Fra Giovanni. He eventually came to be known as Fra Angelico. His most famous works include the Annunciation and Descent from the Cross and many frescoes in the monastery of San Marco in Florence. He also served in leadership positions within the Dominican Order. At one point, Pope Eugenius approached him about serving as archbishop of Florence. Fra Angelico declined, preferring a simpler life.

## TAKE TIME TO CHAT

- One of the teachings in today's Gospel has to do with anger. Jesus is not saying that the emotion of anger is sinful. He is saying that anger is dangerous and to be careful! Why do you think we need to be careful when we are angry? How could anger get us into trouble?
- Can anger ever be good?
- Today's Gospel also talks about swearing. Why is swearing bad?
- This week's featured saint was an artist. He used his artistic ability to glorify God. Have you ever created something that honored or glorified God (i.e., painting, drawing, poetry, music, craft, woodwork, cooking)? Share about what you created.

## FAMILY FUN

### **Art-Themed Activity**

- Plan a trip to a local art museum or a local art gallery. See if there are any pieces attributed to our featured saint of the week (Fra Angelico). Encourage the kids to bring their colored pencils and a sketch pad, and encourage them to try to sketch at least one piece of art.
- Get some families together and schedule a Family Painting with a Twist at a local paint venue or have your own family paint night at home using a YouTube video and your own art supplies.
- Search the Internet for an image of Fra Angelico's Annunciation. Enlarge the image so that everyone can see the details. Try to figure out the story that is being told in the painting.

## RECIPE OF THE WEEK

### **Roasted, Orange-Glazed Chicken**

*If we follow Jesus' teaching in today's Gospel, it will surely make us sweet! Try this sweet and tasty chicken recipe today!*

Whole Chicken, cleaned

½ jar orange marmalade

3 Tbsp butter

Spices for chicken: garlic salt, pepper, paprika, Italian seasoning, fresh rosemary, thyme, or other herbs. Wash chicken inside and out. Melt marmalade and butter together. Coat inside and outside of chicken with mixture. Sprinkle inside and outside of chicken with spices and herbs. Roast uncovered at 425 F until meat thermometer reads 165 F at thickest part of thigh. Baste every 15 minutes. Cover loosely with foil if chicken begins to burn. Serve with mashed potatoes. Yum!

## **FAMILY PRAYER**

### **Prayer for Help with Anger**

Heavenly Father, sometimes we are troubled by thoughts and feelings of anger. You know that sometimes we say and do mean things because we've been hurt by others. Lord, please heal our hearts and give us your peace so that we can live like Jesus is calling us to live. We ask all this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## **LITURGY LINK**

Find a piece of art in church and study it. It can be a painting, sculpture, or stained-glass window. What is the story that is being conveyed through this work of art?

## **FAMILY CHALLENGE**

Today's Gospel teaches us about anger. Challenge each family member to control anger or angry outbursts this week. Make an effort to talk about angry feelings and find peaceful solutions to problems.

## **FUN FACTS**

St. Valentine was a widely recognized third-century Roman saint, commemorated in Christianity on February 14. St. Valentine was a bishop who ministered to Christians who were persecuted. Since the High Middle Ages, his feast day has been associated with a tradition of courtly love.

<https://www.52sundays.com/sundays/february-12-2023>