

Spiritually Speaking

To endure whatever comes

By Fr. Thankachan Joseph

The first reading of the day tells of the call and appointment of little lad Jeremiah when he is being formed in his mother's womb. The Lord chooses him, commissioning him to the nations, where he is sometimes rejected. The Gospel reading tells of the rejection of Christ in His own native town. They can't take the truth He is telling them. None of us has any great desire to hear the truth when it exposes unpleasant things about ourselves. We, too, reject messengers God sends us.



Fr. Thankachan Joseph

The Prophet Jeremiah (1:4-5, 17-19) lived at a time when Israel was going through a difficult period; it was threatened from within by corruption and from without by a military superpower. The situation disturbed Jeremiah because he loved his country. Perhaps that is why he was called to be a prophet to his friends and neighbors. Jeremiah accepted God's call with great reluctance because he knew the difficulty of being a prophet in one's own country. When Jeremiah preached, he told the people bluntly that their only hope of survival was to reform their lives and turn to God for help. Like Jeremiah, every one of us is called to be a prophet, and often we are called to confront our very neighbors and friends when they go against God's commandments and compromise on the truth. It is very challenging and demanding, never easy to be prophetic in one's own neighborhood and one's own community. Yet we have to take a stand. Either we stand for God, or we are against him. God gives us the assurance that He will be with us.

The Gospel this week is a continuation of the passage at which we stopped last week. This Sunday we take the Gospel passage from Luke 4:21-30, the continuation of the preaching ministry of Christ in the temple. We see Him in His own hometown, Nazareth, teaching in the synagogue and preaching the good news. His reputation as a great teacher and preacher goes before Him and the initial reaction is one of acceptance and praise by everyone. They wonder at His gracious words, but when He announces that "today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing," they are taken aback. How could this young man whom they know so well presume to make such a statement? Is he not just the son of Joseph the carpenter? Who does he think he is? Jesus is well aware of the changing of the tide of public opinion against Him. After all, He knew the old proverb: No prophet is accepted in his own country. Jesus tries to broaden their understanding of His role. He quotes the story of his favorite prophets Elijah and Elisha having worked many miracles among some non-Jews and being more favorably received by them than by some Jews. The implication was that Jesus's mission cannot be limited to one people or one social or religious group; He had come for all men. Their prejudices and the narrow-mindedness prevented the Israelites from discovering the prophet in their midst. They refused to accept Jesus and His teaching; they thought they knew better; they interpreted the scriptures to suit their way of thinking. From these rejection perspectives, we can conclude three insights from today's scripture readings:

a) Rejection is part of the mission: Though Jeremiah was called and consecrated by God himself while he was in the mother's womb, God warns him that he may meet with rejection. This truth is emphasized by Jesus in today's Gospel: "No prophet is accepted in his own country." Rejection is part of the mission. The people of Nazareth rejected Jesus because they were familiar with His history. The Jewish Christians rejected Paul because they believed he was interfering in their religious life by relaxing the Law for the sake of the Gentiles. The Scribes and the Pharisees rejected Jesus for their own selfish motives.

b) The missionary can overcome the rejection: During his call, Jeremiah is also assured that no one will prevail over him because God will deliver him. It is because of his trust in God's assurance that Jeremiah could endure all the hardship during his mission. Jesus, too, overcomes His rejection by gently disappearing from the crowd. After experiencing tremendous rejection from the Jews, St Paul turns to the Gentiles and gives them the secret of overcoming rejection, namely, the secret of love.

c) Rejection can redirect mission: A true missionary does not give up. He consults God and redirects his mission. Jesus brings home this point by referring to the ministries of the prophets Elijah and Elisha, both rejected by their own people, but they catered to the needs of the Gentiles. By directing the mission to the Gentiles, God expects repentance on the part of the Jews, who, seeing how foreigners benefit from the divine power working in and through His prophets (and Jesus), may turn to Him and believe in Him. Prophets tell the bitter truth, and this is what gets them into trouble, but they are ready to endure whatever comes.

"Crimson Contagion" organized

To the editor:
In August of 2019 under the lead of Dr. Anthony Fauci, the CDC, HHS, National Security Council and multiple pharmaceutical and high level government executives organized an operation called "Crimson Contagion." The purpose of "Crimson Contagion" was to simulate "critical infrastructure protection, economic impact, social distancing, scarce resource allocation, prioritization of vaccines and other counter measures." (Crimson Contagion 2019 Functional Exercise After-Action Report, Dept. of H.H.S Ja. 2020) Two months later in Oct. 2019, under the leadership of Bill Gates "Event 201" the simulation of a worldwide coronavirus pandemic was fine tuned. In addition to the participants of "Crimson Contagion" the World Bank, World Economic Forum, Bloomberg/John's Hopkins University, Chinese Government, pharmaceutical companies, CIA and NSA and more attended in the event also called the "Great Reset." "At Gates direction the participants role-played members of a pandemic control council, war gaming a contagion that served as a pretext for an insurgency against American democracy. They drilled a retinue of psychological warfare techniques for controlling official narratives, silencing dissent, forcibly masking large populations and leveraging the pandemic to promote mass vaccinations." (Event 201 centerforhealthsecurity.org/event201. Pandemic Exercise Segment 4 Transcript.1)

Dr. Anthony Fauci and

HJSHS announces first semester top grades

The Heppner Junior/Senior High School has released the names of the students receiving the top grades for the first semester of the 2021-2022 school year. To be on the list, students must attain at least a 3.5 GPA.

Students with a 4.0 GPA: Seniors: Harley Anderson, Blake Carter, Julie Dyer, Hannah Finch, Cody Fletcher, Serena Humphreys, Blane Mahoney and Zabrena Masterson. Juniors: Tyler Boor, Samuel Finch, Paul Lindsay, Trevor Nichols, Madison Palmer, Daralynn Teeman, Brooklyn Wilson and Katherine Wilson. Sophomores: Thomas Bales, Morgan Cutsforth, Caden George, Irelynn Kollman, Cameron Proudfoot, Dailen Schultz and Arianna Worden. Freshmen: Hallee Hisler, John Lindsay, Mason Orem and Katie Spivey. Eighth grade: Elizabeth Finch, Lilyanna Nichols, Rylee Palmer, Delilah Saucedo

Bill Gates, through control of the CDC, NIH, NIAID, WHO, HHS, big pharma, the national media/news institutions and the American government have teamed up to essentially control funding for global biomedical research, pharmaceutical and vaccine patents, as well as funding for American research, hospitals, medical universities, medical clinics and even private practices. (Biomedical Research, gao.gov/products/GA-0-21-52) The power of control of billions of dollars of funding allows Dr. Fauci "to craft and perpetuate the reigning global narrative and can fortify the canon that he himself is science incarnate." (Daniel Payne, John Soloman, Fauci Files: Celebrated doc's career dotted with ethics, safety controversies inside the NIH. July 23, 2020) Doctors, hospitals, news media, government officials, etc., either sing the Fauci song or lose their funding. I do not judge these American citizens, however their silence in the face of this tyranny is causing many to be confused and/or deceived.

The truth of Dr. Fauci's reign as director of the National Institution of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) since 1984 and now his reign as America's doctor must be scrutinized. This man is more powerful than any President or Communist Dictator yet as an unelected technocrat, Fauci controls the fate of billions of citizens of planet earth through draconian diktats imposed without legislative approval or judicial review. "Under Fauci's leadership, the allergic,

autoimmune and chronic illness, which Congress specifically charged his NIAID to investigate and prevent has mushroomed to afflict 57 percent of children, up from 12.8 percent when Dr. Fauci took over the NIAID in 1984." (Childrenshealthdefense.org/news, April 18,18) Children born after Fauci's elevation to lead NIAID are the sickest generation in American history. Why? Fauci's control through funding of the CDC, NHI, big pharma, vaccine patents, and all regulatory institutions "has left our children drowning in a toxic soup of pesticide residues, high fructose corn syrup, aspartame, and processed foods, plus 69 mandated vaccinations." (cdc.gov/vaccines/schedules 2021). How has America fared during the world Covid 19 pandemic under America's doctor Fauci? As of Sept. 30, 21 America's death rate from Covid 19 was 2,107 per 1 million, the worst rate in the world. Germany's rate was half at 1,126. India was 327. Hong Kong was 139. Under America's doctor Fauci there has been an unprecedented decline in life expectancy of two years, roughly 8.5 times higher than any other comparable western nation.

I exhort all Americans that love our country, that love our God blessed liberty and way of life, unparalleled in the world today, to purchase and study Robert Kennedy Jr's "The Real Anthony Fauci." The hour of America's greatest peril has arrived. This Covid pandemic has been orchestrated to destroy the

liberty of the remaining free citizens of the world. Those citizens that refuse to yield to this tyranny, especially Christian's that will bow only to the Lord Jesus Christ, are the only threshold left to thwart this 'beast' system that is taking over the world according to prophecy in the Bible. On January 12 the Washington State board of Health will make a determination to apply current infectious disease WAC codes to include all Washington citizens. That means "Allowing local health officers to use law enforcement (WAC 246-100-070) to force an emergency order to involuntary detain a person or group of persons (families) to be isolated in a quarantine facility (WAC 246-100-045) following refusal to voluntarily comply with requests for medical examination, testing, treatment, counseling, vaccination (WAC 246-100-040)." (WAC website) Oregon will be next.

The German people supported the oppression of the Jews. They had been deceived to believe they would be protected. The same oppression is happening to those that refuse to be vaccinated with the government controlled, unlabeled, uninsurable and ineffective Covid vaccinations. When the Gestapo came for those that agreed with blaming the Jews (unvaccinated), there was no one left to protect them. Those that refuse to yield to the lie of the Covid 19 vaccine are not the enemy, they are the watchmen on the wall, the standard bearers of liberty and truth.

Stuart Dick, Irrigon

Go to story time, get free book

Flood Town Books and Morrow County 4-H are collaborating for a three-part story time series over the next several months. This Saturday at 11 a.m., families who join Andrea at Flood Town Books for story time will be given a copy of the book, "Up in

the Garden, Down in the Dirt" and will work with 4-H ambassadors to learn about composting.

This will be a fun and interactive opportunity for all ages. For additional information, contact Flood Town Books at floodtownbooks@gmail.com.

BMCC releases fall term honor roll

Blue Mountain Community College fall term 2021-2022 honor roll recognition went to the following full-time students from Morrow and Gilliam Counties:

President's List (3.75 - 4.0 GPA): Gustavo Amaya, Aramis Corpus, Keith Fleming, Zoey Gilbert, Brady Harrington, Barrera Madrigal, Brian Mendoza, Carlos Meza, Katie Mosqueda, Jake O'Brien,

Belen Ponce, Jason Rea, Samantha Rea, Faith Rosen, Katelynn Sowa, Samuel Strong, Miranda Wasserman.

Vice President's List (3.5 to 3.74): Lesly Anzora, Yazeli Ayala, Abigail Bozarth, Kala Branson, Jessica Cain, Leonel Carrillo, Kassidee Cimmiyotti, Chad Doherty, Coady Hepton, Wyatt McNary, Ivonne Navarro, Renee Peterson, Noah Reaves, Alit Rosales.

Justice Court Report

Morrow County Justice of the Peace, Glen Diehl, has released the following Justice Court report:

-Michael D Lynch, 63, Heppner, was convicted of driving while suspended, fine \$440.

-Jered L. Wicklund, 45, Heppner, was convicted of dog as public nuisance, fine \$265.

-William R. Brannon, 55, Heppner, was convicted of violation of basic rule, fine \$265

-Rick W. Read, 78, Heppner, was convicted of careless driving, fine \$235.

-James P. Milligan II, 33, Bend, OR, was convicted of violation of basic rule, fine \$165.

and Loren Trujillo. Seventh grade: Lincoln Ellsworth, Claire Lindsay, Hailey McDaniel and Maya Payne.

Students with at least a 3.5 GPA: Seniors: Conor Brosnan, Hailey Cunningham, Aundrea Pirtle, Zander Fisher, Lillian Imes, Brock Hisler, Kason Cimmiyotti, Brian Lindsay, Jace Coe and Kegan Steagall. Juniors: Hailey Wenberg, Jacob Lentz, Kylie Holden, Camryn Scrivner, Dusty Robinson and Daemon Worden. Sophomores: Piper Kelton, Cade Cunningham, Landon Mitchell, Joseph Jensen, Nathan Ellsworth and Hadlie Nation. Freshmen: Jackson Coiner, Jaime Cavan-Harris and Makiyah Christian. Eighth grade: Caleb George, Landon McMahan, Augustus Cayce and Riley Archer. Seventh grade: Rebecca Ellsworth, Elijah Quilter, Healy Hisler, Caylan Proudfoot, Avree Lathrop, Mason Seitz and Natalie Piper.

Ione Community Church

470 E Main Street,

Ione, Oregon

Church School & Adult Study at 10:00 am

Worship at 11:00 AM



"You will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart."

-Jeremiah 29:13

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