

# Precious Blood Homily Themes

## 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT through 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in OT, cycle B

### June 22/23 12<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT

***“So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!” (2 Cor 5:17)***

One core CPPS value is conversion and renewal! Yes, all of us are a part of the new creation! All of us have a role to play in celebrating that new life in Christ! But in a broader sense, as we reflect on our role in promoting the integrity of creation, which is also a part of one of our core CPPS values, this scripture provides us an opportunity to preach on what we can do to be stewards of all creation and how perhaps, we can envision some sort of apostolate dealing with the environment, protection of wildlife and conservation areas, etc. Maybe a parish can be creative in responding to this core value!

### June 29/30 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT

***“Though he was rich, yet for your sakes, he became poor, so that by his poverty, you might become rich.” (2 Cor 8: 9b)***

Another core CPPS value is addressing social justice, and the immense poverty, not only in the world, but in our country as well. What can we do to address systemic poverty? What can we do to advocate for programs that assist people to find a way out of poverty? In what ways can our parishes assist in bringing good news to the poor? What can I do personally, as a witness to my community?

### July 6/7 14<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT

***“My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” (2 Cor 12: 9)***

One of the core CPPS values invites us to go “outside the gates.” It’s a call to rely, not on our power, position or authority, but to rely on the grace of God to meet people who are alienated, ostracized, or judged by society or the church and to make them feel loved and accepted. Such an outreach can be an effective witness to the gospel for our parishes.

### July 13/14 15<sup>th</sup> Sunday in OT

***“If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” (Mark 6:11)***

Another core CPPS value is that of hospitality. Welcoming the stranger. Giving respite to the traveller. Treating those with whom we live with dignity, love and respect. Engaging in friendly dialogue and activities that make the visitor feel welcomed. Not only can we do this in our CPPS houses, but also in our parish communities.

### **July 20/21 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“Now in Christ Jesus, you who once were far off, have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace....” (Ephesians 2: 13, 14a)***

Continuing to emphasize the core CPPS value of going outside the gates, the motivation for why we do so is expressed beautifully in Ephesians. We do so because the Blood of Christ compels and calls us to do so. That blood also challenges us to work for peace, another core value, not only among individuals, and societies, but in the world at large. A parish community can be introduced to the USC this week, as a way for them to participate more fully in the charism of our congregation.

### **July 27/28 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.” (Ephesians 3: 4-5)***

Another core CPPS value is to work with all those of other Christian denominations to witness to the values of the Gospel in our common effort to bring Christ’s saving love to all humankind. What are the needs of your local community that the people of your parish can address with other like-minded Christians? Empowering lay leaders is another core CPPS value. This weekend is a great time to invite parishes to plan a common effort with local Christian churches to show our unity in Christ.

### **August 3/ 4 Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” (John 6: 33)***

Our commitment to be Eucharistic people by making ourselves “Living Chalices” is another core CPPS value. “Just as the wine poured into the eucharistic chalice truly becomes the Blood of Christ, which in turn transforms the world, the new wine which we thirst for, drink in, and become has the power to transform our congregation.” For parishes, encouraging each person to become a living Chalice in the world is a way for them to participate more fully in our charism.

### **August 10/11 Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice and be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.” (Ephesians 4: 31-32)***

Another core CPPS value is the commitment to witness to a life of conversion and renewal that attracts others to our way of life. One way for this to happen is for all our members to practice kindness, tender-heartedness and forgiveness of one another and also to those to whom we minister. Parishioners can be encouraged to reconcile with someone with whom they been estranged and we can do the same.

## **August 15<sup>th</sup> Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary**

Happy Foundation Day! A DAY TO CELEBRATE ALL THE CORE CPPS VALUES WHICH CHARACTERIZE OUR WAY OF LIFE!

## **August 17/18 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit.” (Ephesians 5: 18)***

As leaders in the church, one core CPPS value encourages us to be Spirit-led. That means discerning gifts of others that can be brought forth for the glory of God. That means creating opportunities for others to utilize their talents for the benefit of our congregation and our church. It means allowing the Spirit of God to fill us each day as we engage in ministry and to be sensitive to what the Holy Spirit has to say to us. This same sort of discernment is great for PPCs and Finance Committees to do at their first meeting in the Fall.

## **August 25/25 Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you, there are some who do not believe.” (John 6: 63b-64a)***

Another core CPPS value is to commit to the growth of the church by addressing those who don't believe that the Gospel is relevant in today's world. It's our responsibility as church to address this criticism by our innovation in communications, mission and spirituality. Each parishioner can be challenged to bring someone who is skeptical to church to see what we have to offer.

## **September 1/ 2 Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

***“Be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.” (James 1: 22)***

Another core CPPS value is responding to the cry of the blood. That implies action. That implies reflection on the best way to address a pressing need. That implies that there are those motivated by the Blood of Christ to do what is required, even if it may cause suffering or sacrifices along the way. Our parishioner can be encouraged to volunteer for a ministry or mission of the parish and to use their talents to build up the Kingdom of God, another core value.