OCTOBER 3, 2010

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME
Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4; 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14;
Luke 17:5-10[#141C]

"Beloved: I remind you to stir into flame the gift of
God that you have through the imposition of my
hands. For God did not give us a spirit of cowardice
but rather of power and love and self-control... Take
as your norm the sound words that you have heard
from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.
Guard this rich trust with the help of the Holy Spirit
that dwells within us."... "The apostles said to the
Lord, 'Increase our faith.'""

The late celebrated spiritual writer Henri Nouwen is
remembered for his beautiful work "With Open Hands;"
a photo essay that allows us to catch a glimpse of the
difference between open hands and a clenched fist.

As Paul addresses his disciple Timothy, he reminds him
of the potential which came from the imposition
of hands. The celebration of the sacraments of our church
includes the laying on of hands at priestly ordination
and confirmation. The gesture calls for the Holy Spirit to
come and fill the life of the one celebrating the
sacrament.

On the day of your baptism, as you were marked with
the cross of Christ and anointed with the sacred chrism,
you were set apart and the spirit of power and love and
self control were requested for you. It is that treasure or
trust which Paul looks to today as he speaks to Timothy
and you.

I ask, how can I ‘stir into flame’ that gift which was
conferred upon me. As a spark can start a blaze, we ask
that the same spirit may mark our lives.

HIS WORD TODAY by Rev. William J. Reilly

Dearest Fr. John.

At the end of my stay with you, the other Dominican
confreres, and with the people from the parish of St.
Joseph’s Church, I would like to express to each one my
deep and sincere thanks for your fraternal hospitality.
Since my arrival last February, for my sabbatical, I have
had a wonderful time with you! The proof is that as I
leave at the end of September it seems to me that I
arrived among you only just last week, I think that this is
the best sign of just how happy I was with you.

First of all, my thanks go to you and the other
members of the Dominican Community. With you I have
shared time in prayer, ministry and fraternity. Your sense
of hospitality with the many guests who were at St.
Joseph’s House during these months, your ministries and
preaching to the university students at NYU, in the Parish
and through the mass media are examples to our Order
and as how your charisma can bear fruit. At the same
time, my thanks go to Mrs. Joanna and Mrs. Georgina;
Mr. Ben (the best cook in NY!!), Charlie, Jurek, Michael,
Hector, John Paul, Tom, Carlos, and Alfonso, each one of
them was very kind to me and was always available in
every situation: I felt right at home thanks to them.

In addition, my thanks go to the parishioners and the
other people I met during these months at St. Joseph’s
Church, especially during the daily and Sunday Masses.
Among them, a very special thank you to Michael, Sr.
Alice who was very helpful to me in improving my
English, and above all to Mrs. Yolanda for her time and
generosity in all these months.

Last, but not least, my most sincere thanks go to the
faithful who have assisted my Eucharistic celebrations
(especially Sr. Rita, Mrs. Máire, Mrs. Rhe, and Mrs. Sirikit,
Mr. Michael, George, Paul Carlos, Andy, and James).
Thanks to your patience and virtue shown in listening to
my poor English (I will repeat everywhere that the pews
of St. Joseph’s Church are full of heroes and martyrs!!),
and for your fraternal support and friendship!

During these months I walked almost every day along
the Hudson River. At a certain point on the promenade
there is a little square with a monument with this
inscription: "I can sail without wind, I can row
without oars, but I cannot part from my friend
without tears." Beyond all the possible words (especially
in English for me!), this sentence reflects my feelings at
this moment, and I am certain of its understanding on
your behalf. Pray for me and I assure you that I will keep
you in mine.

Yours, in St. Dominic Our Father,

Fr. Bruno, O.P

The collection for September 26 was $6,385. We
appreciate your generosity.
We encourage you to enroll via the ParishPay website
https://www.parishpay.com/. Select the St Joseph West
Village link. Use the paperless way to help our ministry.