



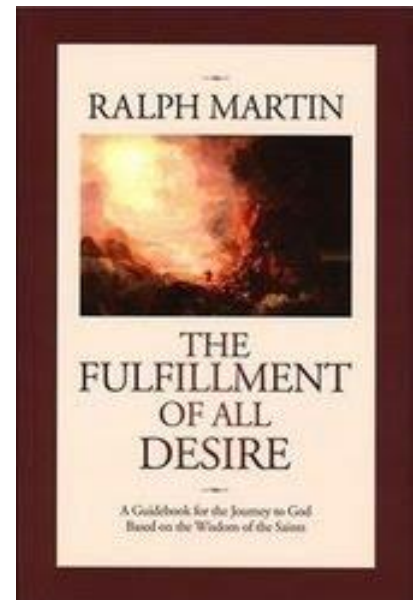
ALL SAINTS' CHURCH

THIS SUNDAY June 12 & BEYOND

Every day we come across any number of things that can leave us disappointed with the world around us. It could be news of an international conflict, the actions of a political leader or celebrity, a local hit-and-run or home invasion. Just as often it comes on a personal level, when we learn of (or experience firsthand) things that have been said or done by people we know. No matter the form, all of these things present the opportunity to say, "I may not be perfect, but I'm not that bad," an especially tempting thought for Christians or any other devout person committed to resisting those same inclinations.

Of course, this rush to judge others is nothing new and Jesus confronts it in Sunday's gospel lesson. He uses a story of 2 men who were forgiven debts to make a couple of important points. The first is that even though the debt of one man 10x greater than the other, they began and ended with the same status – neither of them could pay and both were forgiven completely. It was only the generosity and mercy of the creditor that made a difference in their circumstances, and so Jesus' other point is that our focus should not be on levels of justice, but relationship. We've all sinned and fallen short of the glory of God (Romans 3:23), and the greater our appreciation of that is, the deeper and more fulfilling our love for God will be.

When Jesus says that nothing is more important than loving God and those around us (cf. Mark 12:28-33; Matthew 22:36-40), he's telling us that holiness is about growing in our capacity for love. This means growing in our capacity for self-sacrifice, but also for joy and thanksgiving, no matter our circumstances. Navigating these so that our love can flourish instead of decaying is not easy or natural, and so our Christian formation will resume on Sunday (9:30-10:15, Fireside Room) with a study of a guidebook, *The Fulfillment of All Desire*, by Dr. Ralph Martin. (Copies will be available for purchase at the class, but it's also available on Amazon and through other large retailers.) Through the wisdom of the saints, Martin helps us to manage our ups and downs, so that even our failures can be used as rungs on the ladder to heaven."



Fr. McQueen

Readings for this Sunday:

2 Samuel 11:26-12:10, 13-15 Psalm 32:1-8 Galatians 2:11-21 Luke 7:36-50

SUNDAY: 8:00a Low Mass (Church)
9:30a Christian Formation (Fireside Room)
10:30a Solemn Mass (Church)

—The entrance to the church is on 6th Avenue—

Note: Child care is provided at the 8:00a, 10:30a Mass, Coffee Hour & Fellowship follow the Mass in the Parish Hall.

MONDAY 7:00p (AA) Doctors' Group (Fireside Room)

TUESDAY: Noon Mass (St. Mary's Chapel)

FRIDAY: 9:00a Morning Prayer (St. Mary's Chapel)
9:30a MASS (St. Mary's Chapel)

AA Meetings 6:30p Rainbow Bridge (Fireside Room)

8:00p Ladies' Group (Fireside Room)

8:15p Men's Group (Parish Hall)

SATURDAY 7:00pm – Concert — St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble

St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble

Masterpieces of Russian Choral Music

Saturday, June 18 at 7:00pm



Enjoy a concert of Russian choral masterpieces from baroque to classical as sung by the St. Petersburg Men's Ensemble on **Saturday, June 18th at 7:00pm.**

This evening concert will be a great opportunity to become acquainted with Russian spiritual music as well as the diversity of Russian secular music sung by Kirill Sokolov, Sergey Shapinskiy, Andrei Volikov, and Vadim Smantser.

Visit YouTube to listen to some of their previous programs. A great enticement to hear them live at All Saints'. Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZmfKpEEPZg>

Immediately following the concert there will be a reception on the church patio to meet the singers.

Suggested donation \$10.