
TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

August 29, 2004

You have approached mount Zion and the city of the living God.— Hebrews 12:22a

HUMILITY—Today Jesus teaches us how to come to his heavenly wedding feast, not by crowding forward but by seeking a place after everyone else. Humility, the confidence to be oneself, is a lifetime's work. This strategy, if used, allows all to find their best place before God. Jesus himself did this at the Last Supper, doing the slaves' job of washing the apostle's feet. "The heart of a sensible person will reflect on parables, an attentive ear is the sage's dream." Are we, are you listening to the Lord today?

Philip J. Sandstrom, STD © 2000 Oregon Catholic Press

WELCOMING THOSE WHO WISH TO BE BAPTIZED—This is a good time for those who are not Catholic to learn more about the Catholic Church and to prepare for the sacraments. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic (or if you or someone you know is baptized but has not yet been confirmed or received First Holy Communion) please call Sister Dolores.

Now is a good time to talk to your friends and family about joining our Church community. So start looking around for those you think might be interested in participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA). They might be waiting for someone to ask them if they've considered joining the Catholic Church. A lot of people are searching for spirituality. You may help them find the answers they are looking for, and those answers may be right here at St. Matthew's. Call them today and find out!

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING—Monday, August 30th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory. We will plan for St. Matthew's Feast Day and other fall celebrations. It is hoped that all members will be able to attend.

COMUNIDAD MEETING—Tuesday, September 7 P.M. in the parish hall. It promises to be a very informative meeting about *Bienstar*, a preventative agency for persons affected/infected with HIV/AIDS. Margaret Babb, the educational co-ordinator, will present an overview of the agency and share the many resources available through *Bienstar*. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

NEW COORDINATOR FOR EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO THE SICK—We welcome **Sandi Balling** to this position and thank her for her concern for those who are unable to come to our celebration of the Eucharist here at church. At this time of transition, we have three requests for parishioners:

- WHEN YOU OR SOMEONE YOU LOVE IS SICK AND IN NEED OF SOMEONE TO BRING HOLY COMMUNION, PLEASE CALL SANDI AT 562.856.0806.
- WHEN A RELATIVE OR FRIEND IS FIRST ADMITTED TO A CONVALESCENT CENTER WITHIN OUR PARISH BOUNDARIES, PLEASE NOTIFY SANDI. SHE WILL SEND A MINISTER PROMPTLY.
- IF YOU WISH TO BE INVOLVED IN EUCHARISTIC MINISTRY TO THE SICK, PLEASE CALL SANDI.

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP: What does voting have to do with being Catholic? This year the Catholic Bishops of the United States issued a statement entitled "The Challenge of Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility." On Sunday, September 12, following the 10:30 a.m. Mass, Joyce Cottage, co-founder of *Partnership*, an organization dedicated to building mutually beneficial relationships locally and globally, will come to St. Matthew's to speak on faithful citizenship. Within the context of doing all for the love of God and following the lead of the bishops, Joyce will present responsible citizenship as a virtue and participation in the political process as a moral obligation. In addition, she will offer a process for how to talk about propositions on the ballot.

PRAY THE ROSARY

Saturday Mornings—8:30 A.M.
Join us as we pray for world peace.

23RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME — SEPT. 5

First Reading: Wisdom 9:13-18b

Second Reading: Philemon 9b-10, 12-17

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33