

## THE TWELVTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Do not be afraid of those who kill the body ...  
be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna

June 19, 2005

Matthew 10:28

*Dear Parishioners,*

*I want to thank all of you more than I can express for all your support and cooperation in countless ways during all my years here. When I have felt discouraged or weary you have always provided a cheerful greeting, a word of encouragement, an example of faith, an offer of help or a willingness to give a little more.*

*I am happy to be able to stay here at St. Matthew's. Retirement will not mean the end of my priesthood or of my connection with you, who have in reality become my family.*

*We are blessed by the fact that Father Guillermo Rodriguez, who is already well-known and well-loved here, will be your new pastor. I could not ask for a better successor and I know you will support him as you have supported me.*

*I have always considered it an honor to be your pastor and I thank you for giving me reason that the way I have spent my life has been for your good and for the glory of God.*

*My official retirement Mass will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m. next Sunday, June 26. There will be a reception afterwards in the parish hall. I am delighted we will not have to say good-bye, so please stop by to say hello.*

*Yours in Christ,*

*Rev. Gerald Meisel*

### COMES THE TIME WE HAVE TO SAY *SO LONG...*

Just one short year ago we met **Fr. Vlatko Poljicak** as he came to St. Matthew's Parish to minister to our Spanish speaking community. Parishioners who were fortunate enough to be able to attend daily Mass had the pleasure of meeting Fr. Vlatko and hearing his thoughtful, down-to-earth homilies.

Fr. Vlatko will celebrate the 40th Anniversary of his ordination on the 29th of this month. His life is a wonderful example of devotion to God and service to others.

*We wish you all the best Fr. Vlatko as you leave us next Sunday to begin a new assignment at St. John the Baptist Church in Baldwin Park.  
Dovidenja! Sretan put!*

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES NEEDS YOUR HELP

Catholic Charities is in need of 20-25 matching *waiting room chairs* for clients who come for help. Tax deductible. Need chairs in good condition. Please call Anna Totta, Regional Director, at 562-591-1641 if your company has them to donate.

### SUPPORT AIDS WALK

Once again St. Matthew's will be sponsoring a walking team for the **Aids Walk Long Beach** to be held next Saturday, June 25. Members of Comunidad will be collecting donations to sponsor our walking team after all the Masses this weekend. Your generosity in the past has been greatly appreciated.

You are welcome to join the parish team by picking up walking papers after Mass and asking family, friends and co-workers to sponsor you.

*"My father gave me the greatest gift anyone could give another person, he believed in me."*

Jim Valvano

### PRAY FOR OUR DEAD...

*Bob Keast, Morris Yick, Inocencio Garcia*

### THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading:** 2 Kings 4:8-11, 14-16a

**Second Reading:** Romans 6:3-4, 8-11

**Gospel:** Matthew 10:37-42

### CLOUD

There is no profit in prophecy, in telling the truth about the real bond between God and his people, except before God. God guards and guides those who honestly follow the Messiah. With him there is no reason to give in to fear; we are worth more than hairs and sparrows. Through Jesus—the Christ and the new Adam—we receive divine grace. What more can we ask for or need? Sing to the Lord and praise him. Alleluia and Amen!

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