

THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Think of yourselves as dead to sin and living for God in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:11

June 26, 2005

THANK YOU FATHER MEISEL

*"A leader is best when people barely know he exists,
not so good when people obey and acclaim him,
worse when they despise him.*

*But of a good leader
who talks little when his work is done,
his aim fulfilled,
they will say:*

"We did it ourselves."

Lao Tzu, Chinese Philosopher

Recently, Fr. Meisel sent parishioners a letter of thanks, expressing his gratefulness to all of us for our cheerful greetings, words of encouragement and our offers of help throughout his twenty-two years as Pastor. Today it is our turn to thank him and to celebrate his constant, dedicated presence in our parish community. Over the years, Father Meisel quietly observed and guided us as we strived for excellence in our liturgies, formation, music, cultural celebrations, outreach programs and education. Thanks to him, we continue to grow more caring and more faithful!

After our Sunday 10:30 a.m. Mass, please join Fr. Meisel in our newly-refurbished Parish Hall to enjoy light refreshments and to express best wishes to him for a

HEALTHY, HAPPY, TWO-THUMBS-UP
MOVIE-FILLED RETIREMENT!

"After all, tomorrow is another day..."

St. Matthew's Peace and Justice Committee's 20th Anniversary Celebration!!

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Items to be sold will be collected in classroom #2 before and after Masses on the weekends of July 2/3 and July 9/10. Please look in your cupboards, closets and garages for clean, NON-CLOTHING items in good repair to donate to the sale. Proceeds will benefit the Lesotho Mission of the Holy Names Sisters. No furniture please! If you have questions please call Linda at 562.493.9898.

PRAY FOR OUR DEAD...

Oscar Salomon, Felipa Lopez, Alicia Romero

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

When I returned from retreat last Sunday, I again became aware of three needs our parish has:

- 1) Drivers to take people to Mass or to doctor's appointments.
- 2) Jobs, jobs, jobs—household work, yard tasks, clerical help, etc.
- 3) Eucharistic Ministers to take communion to the sick.

I make a special appeal to those of you who perhaps have a little extra time and feel called to this ministry. Sometimes these needs are only occasional or if they are regular, you might be able to help out just one parishioner. Or perhaps you could team up with someone and take turns helping.

Sandi Balling (562.856.0806), Coordinator of Ministers to the Sick, currently needs more helpers. These other services do not currently exist but could if we have volunteers to help and coordinators to phone. How about you? Are you good on the phone? Could you volunteer for "ride connections" or "job connections?" If you feel the Holy Spirit nudging you to serve in any of these ways, please let me know; Sr. Dolores, 562.439.0931 x 5 or Barling@stmatthewlb.org. I leave you with this message from Albert Schweitzer:

*"One thing I know; the only ones among
you who will be really happy are those
who have sought and found how to serve."*

MEALS ON WHEELS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Can you give two hours a week to deliver meals to the home bound and the elderly in your community? Meals on wheels is available to anyone who is ill, disabled or elderly in the Long Beach area. Call Terry at 562.432.6215 (weekdays till noon).

We cannot help conforming ourselves
to what we love.

—St. Francis de Sales

PRAY FOR OUR SICK...

Eileen Thompson, Autumn Lenehan

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10

Second Reading: Romans 8:9, 11-13

Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30