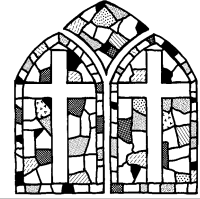


September 4, 2005

Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

*If two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray,
it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father.*

—Matthew 18:19



ST. MATTHEW FEAST DAY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH

Only 2 weeks away!!

On September 18th at the 10:30 a.m. Mass we will celebrate our patron, the Apostle St. Matthew. At this Mass, as well as at the 5:30 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. Masses that weekend, we will have a **Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers and Members of Parish Groups**. All will receive St. Matthew cards and will recite the Mission Statement for our Parish. We hope all parishioners will be present.

In addition to our Liturgical Celebration of St. Matthew's Feast Day, parishioners are encouraged to participate in the afternoon mini-fiesta from 2-7:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 18th. Delicious food will be served (better come early!) and if you have purchased raffle tickets (\$3.00 each) you will have a chance to win a laptop computer, iPod, digital camera or \$400.00 in cash! All proceeds will go towards the support of ministries here at St. Matthew's.

WELCOMING THOSE WHO WANT TO BE BAPTIZED

This is a good time for those who are not Catholic to learn more about the Catholic church and to begin preparing for the sacraments. If you or someone you know is interested in becoming Catholic (or if you are baptized Catholic but have not received First Holy Communion) please call Sister Dolores 562.439.0931 x 5. **Now is a good time** to talk to your friends and family about joining our Church community. So start looking around for those folks you think might be interested in participating in the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. They might be waiting for someone to ask them if they have 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!

ADULT EDUCATION BOARD MEETING

Will be held on Monday evening, September 26th at 7:00 p.m. in the Rectory. All members are encouraged to bring ideas for future events, especially for parish renewal in the Spring.

PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED

Jose Reyes

NATIONAL COLLECTION FOR HURRICANE RELIEF

*The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has established a **National Hurricane Relief Fund**. Millions of people are in need of assistance and Catholic Charities will be among the primary responders. Catholic Charities USA, working with the local diocesan Catholic Charities, has a professional and well developed system of reviewing the needs and providing help where it can accomplish the most good. The media coverage has made it abundantly clear that the needs will be great, and long lasting. At this time there is the possibility of more hurricanes coming in the next several weeks. **Please contribute generously to help victims of the hurricanes of this season. A collection box has been placed in front of the Sacred Heart altar for your donations.** If you prefer, you may send a check directly to:*

**National Collection for Hurricane Relief
Archdiocese of Los Angeles
3424 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, California 90010**

JOURNEY TO JOY

COMUNIDAD MEEING

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 7:00 P.M.

FR. GERALD MEISEL PARISH HALL

Come hear the faith-filled story of Joe Naylor's "*Journey to Joy*" - a 120 mile pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela, Spain. All are welcome to attend.

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Will meet today after the 10:30 a.m. Mass in Room #1 of the Education building. Join us!

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING NEXT WEEK

We will have Blood Pressure Screening available to all parishioners after the 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses.

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Sirach 27:30—28:7

Second Reading: Romans 14:7-9

Gospel: Matthew 18:21-35