

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 11, 2005

*Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.*

—Sirach 28:2

MERCY

Resentment, anger and vengeance are all human feelings—and even understandable at times. But God calls us to look beyond our problems and to live for the Lord, to belong to the Lord. The prayer Jesus gave us teaches us to forgive those who trespass against us. We ask to be forgiven, and God's mercy extends when we have sinned. Learning to live with God's gracious mercy and being merciful to each other are the keys to a successful Christian life. Are you ready for mercy?

ST. MATTHEW'S FEAST DAY NEXT SUNDAY

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.

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.

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING TODAY

We will have Blood Pressure Screening available to all parishioners after the 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses in classroom #1. All are welcome!!

HAVE YOU REMEMBERED YOUR PARISH IN YOUR WILL OR TRUST

For further information please contact H. Richard Closson, Director, Trust and Estate Programs 213.637.7472

JOIN US TO PRAY THE ROSARY on Saturday mornings at 8:30a.m. in the church.

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 was one of 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.*

Please contribute generously to help the victims. You may drop you donation (clearly marked 'Hurricane Relief Fund') into the Sunday collection or send it directly to:

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

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!

ST. MATTHEW CRAFT GROUP

Meets every Monday morning. For more information contact Pat Mageean 562.439.8235

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27a

Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16a