

# THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 10, 2006

DID NOT GOD CHOOSE THOSE WHO ARE POOR IN THE WORLD TO  
BE RICH IN FAITH AND HEIRS TO THE KINGDOM?

—James 2:5

## “BE OPENED”

The miracle that Jesus performs in today’s Gospel is intimately linked with the proclamation of the first reading from Isaiah. The prophetic signs of God’s coming to save the people include the rejoicing of all nature: its dry places become gardens and its deserts pools of water. Those who are deaf will hear and the mute will sing God’s praises. For Isaiah these are messianic signs, signs that God has come among us.

Jesus heals the deaf man and enables him to hear and speak. This is not just an individual healing, but a prophetic sign that God has come to save us. The Hebrew version of Jesus’ name is Yeshua, “God saves.” He comes not only to heal physical ailments, but to open the ears of those who cannot or will not hear the saving word of God. He comes to open our eyes to the saving action of God and to open our lips to proclaim praise.

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## ST. MATTHEW’S FEAST DAY CELEBRATION

St. Matthew’s feast day is Thursday, September 21st, a day that most people will be working. We will celebrate St. Matthew’s feast day the following weekend, **Sept. 23 and 24th**. **On the 24th**, we will have a **family social** gathering from **1:00-6:00p.m.** which will include food, refreshments, and entertainment for all ages.

**Please come and enjoy yourselves!!**

## RITE OF WELCOMING

Next Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at the 10:30am Mass we will have a *Rite of Welcoming* for Catechemen, **Brandon Fuller**, and two candidates, **Walter Murdock** and **Armando Garcia**. Please keep them and our new inquirers in your prayers as they continue their spiritual journey to full membership in the Catholic Church.

**PARISH LIBRARY**—Before and after the Sunday 10:30a.m. Mass. Pick up a book to feed your soul and inspire you in your daily living.

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Doris Felton, Zina Richards, Lena Hawley,  
Betty Campos, Gabriela Simancas,  
Paul Crawford, Ignacio Ruiz, John Cattigan*

## REFLECTING ON NEXT SUNDAY’S GOSPEL

In the coming months you will be hearing more about the spiritual journey all parishioners are being invited to take. It is very simple. Each week you are invited to open your bible and reflect on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. To find the correct Gospel, you may see this week’s bulletin. You will also find a question of the week to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life. Try it; you’ll like it!

After reading the Gospel for September 17th, consider the following questions...

- 1) *What does it mean to me that Jesus is the Messiah, the Savior, and to follow in His footsteps?*
- 2) *What is the cross I carry today? How can I help someone else carry his cross?*

## SEPTEMBER 17 - 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**First Reading:** Isaiah 50:5-9a

**Second Reading:** James 2:14-18

**Gospel:** Mark 8:27-35

## SPIRITUAL GROWTH OPPORTUNITY

**Lector Enrichment - September 16, 9am – 2pm**

Rev. J. Patrick Mullen will present sessions providing scriptural based spirituality and formation for those who proclaim the Word. This takes place at the Cathedral (Ballroom at the Center at Cathedral Plaza. For more information please call 213-637-7262.

## FATHER VIVIAN JOINS US ON

**WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 20TH - 7PM**

All who have heard Father Vivian ben Lima speak have been filled with enthusiasm! We have another opportunity to learn about the foundations of our faith when Father presents **The Development of Doctrine in the Early Church**. We hope you will plan to attend this scholarly lecture and invite your friends to join us. All are welcome.

## RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE

will be closed until September 16. Classes will begin for the children on September 23.

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING

We will have Blood Pressure Screening available in classroom #2 after the 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses today. All are welcome!!