

# EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

TEACH US TO NUMBER OUR DAYS ARIGHT, THAT WE MAY GAIN WISDOM OF HEART.

AUGUST 5, 2007

— Psalm 90:12

## HITTING IT BIG

It seems to be commonly accepted nowadays that everyone wants to win the lottery, hit the slots big at the casino, or be a millionaire. This attitude is akin to what the first hearers of the parable of the successful farmer would have thought: why, of course he'd want to find a way to preserve his good fortune for the future, to secure for himself a life of leisure, eating, drinking, and merriment. It's exactly the kind of life that the right ticket, hand of cards, or quiz show answer might bring us today. Being surrounded by this "common wisdom" makes the words of Qoheleth, the psalmist, Paul, and Jesus all that much harder to hear today. Perhaps good fortune will be ours, perhaps it will not be. But if we make that fortune or the quest for it the heart, the very center, of our lives, then we will live to regret it. We will not achieve the future security we pursue, and we will lose the present moment in the chase.

Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

## SCHOOLKIDS NEED YOUR HELP

### PEACE AND JUSTICE COLLECTING ITEMS

Please contribute *school supplies* for Catholic Charities to distribute to homeless and needy children. The following items are needed: #2 pencils, crayons, safe-round top scissors with plastic handles, glue sticks, rulers, colored pencils, washable markers in primary colors, and notebooks. **Our collection will take place today and next weekend.**

### ...ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ALSO HELPING

St. Vincent de Paul will be conducting a *backpack drive* on the weekend of August 25/26 to benefit homeless and needy school children. You may help by donating cash toward the purchase of backpacks or, you may donate the backpacks themselves. Collection will take place after the 5:30 p.m. Vigil Mass on Saturday, **August 25th** and after the 7, 10:30 and 12:30 p.m. Masses on Sunday the **26th**.

## BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENING AVAILABLE TODAY

In classroom #2 after 10:30 a.m. & 12:30 p.m. Masses

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK

*Theresa Fritz*

## COMUNIDAD MEETING

The next Comunidad meeting will be held on Tuesday, August 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel Parish Hall. Our speaker will be Gary Bowie, Executive Director of Long Beach AIDS Foundation. He will present an update on the educational, service and prevention programs supported by the Long Beach AIDS Foundation.

## REMEMBER TO...

open your bible this week to reflect on next Sunday's gospel reading. The readings for next week are listed below along with two questions to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

— THE 19TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME —

FIRST READING: Wisdom 18:6-9

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-48

*Our Lord advises us to always be prepared for return of the Son of Man. Is our Lord advising us to always be prepared for the Second Coming, or our own unexpected demise, or both?*

*Which sacraments prepare us for an end-time event, whether ours or the world's?*

## CONFIRMATION REGISTRATION 2007/08

Registration will take place **NEXT SUNDAY at 2:00p.m.**  
(one day only)

- The candidate must be a minimum of fourteen years of age, or must turn fourteen within the month of August.
- Family must be registered and active members of St. Matthew parish.
- Copies of certificates of Baptism, First Communion and birth must be turned in at registration.
- Parents must accompany the candidate to register.
- A fee of \$200.00 is due at registration (\$75 for registration and \$125 for mandatory retreat for all students)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR FR. JACK'S NEXT TALK

Having taken two significant trips this year, Fr. Jack Stoeger will speak about his travels in his presentation on **Monday, August 20th at 7 p.m.** in our parish hall. "*Jamaica and Vietnam: Different Perspectives on Life and the Church.*" We hope you will save this evening for an informative, inspirational presentation.