

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

IF WE HAVE DIED WITH CHRIST JESUS, WE SHALL ALSO LIVE WITH HIM;

IF WE PERSEVERE WE SHALL ALSO REIGN WITH HIM.

OCTOBER 14, 2007

— 2 Timothy 2:11-12a

OCTOBER — RESPECT LIFE MONTH

PRAYER AND SACRIFICE ARE ESSENTIAL TO ALL OUR EFFORTS TO RESTORE A GENUINE RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE IN SOCIETY. WITHOUT GOD'S MERCIFUL ASSISTANCE, WE LABOR IN VAIN.

As in the past, to highlight **Respect Life Month**, we at St. Matthew's are conducting an on-going "baby shower" to benefit the moms and babies at the Precious Life Shelter, a facility which provides quality care and a safe living environment for homeless pregnant women 18 years and older. Throughout October you have the opportunity to donate items to the shelter by placing them in the bassinet which is in front of the Sacred Heart Altar. Suggested items that are always needed by the shelter are: receiving blankets, diapers, baby wipes, nightgowns, sleepers, booties and socks, onesies, shirts, baby powder, shampoo, lotion. Monetary donations may be placed in an envelope marked "**Precious Life Shelter**" and dropped in the collection basket.

HAVE YOU REGISTERED FOR THE MINISTRY ENRICHMENT DAY??

All parish ministers are encouraged to register for our **Ministry Enrichment Day** which will be held on **Saturday, November 10 at the Mary and Joseph Retreat Center** in Palos Verdes. This is your opportunity to hear our pastor, Fr. Guillermo Rodriguez articulate his vision for St. Matthew Parish, to be inspired by Paulist Father Joe Scott as he speaks about "*Being a Disciple of Jesus Christ*" and to open our minds to "*The Gift of Cultural Diversity*" presented by Rev. Jake Pomeroy of the United Church of Christ. **RSVP to Sister Dolores by Friday, October 19 via 562.439.0931 x 5 or barling@stmatthewlb.org or fax: 562.434.7621.**

WALK THE WALK...

You may put on your walking shoes to walk or simply sponsor a walker from St. Matthew's again this year. What for? The annual **Church World Services/Crop Walk** taking place on October 21. Local groups that will benefit are *Catholic Charities, Centro Shalom, Christian Outreach in Action, St. Francis Center, Su Casa Family Crisis and Support Center and We Care of Los Alamitos.* **The Peace and Justice organization will be outside the church after the Masses today to sign you up to walk or sponsor a walker.** Thank you for your generosity!

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Ann Waldmann, Ida Banes

WELCOME FR. CHRISTOPHER SMITH

Fr. Chris is visiting us today to talk to us about the Concern America Programs. Concern America functions like a Lay Mission Helpers program, that is, training local people in countries such as Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador and Mexico, so that the locals themselves will be able to carry on, benefiting the whole community. Enjoy Fr. Chris today as he shares his first hand knowledge of how God's Word always contains "*good news for the poor.*"

MANY THANKS

Thank you for your prayers and good wishes. I am recuperating from an allergic reaction to medication. I am grateful for your continuing prayers that I avoid such incidents in the future. *Sr. Dolores*

MAKE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!!

On Sunday November 11, flu immunizations will be available at no cost to parishioners over 18 years of age. **Sign-ups for guaranteed appointments will take place in classroom #2 today after 10:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Masses.**

ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS

Please call in your non-availability dates for the months of November and December by October 22. Please email your dates to csaiza@stmatthewlb.org or call 562.491.1217 and leave a message.

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING

There will be a Liturgy Committee meeting on Monday, October 22 at 7:00p.m. in the Rectory. We will begin making plans for the season of Advent. All members please try to attend.

Take time to open your bible to read and reflect on next Sunday's gospel reading. The readings are listed below along with a question to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

— THE 29TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME —

FIRST READING: Exodus 17:8-13

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:2

GOSPEL: Luke 18:1-8

How can I use the wisdom of Scriptures to increase my faith? Is Bible reading just for Sundays?

The woman in the Bible pestered the Judge and finally got what she wanted. God invites us to be just like her. Why does God want us to call out for help day and night?