

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE LORD LIFTS UP ALL WHO ARE FALLING AND RAISES UP ALL WHO ARE BOWED DOWN.

NOVEMBER 4, 2007

— Psalm 145:14

“BELIEVE WHAT YOU READ, TEACH WHAT YOU BELIEVE AND PRACTICE WHAT YOU TEACH.”

—Ordination Rite of the Deacon
upon receiving the Book of Gospels

Our parish is blessed with parishioner Angel Castro, who will be ordained a Deacon on November 17. Angel was only 14 years old when he, his mother and 8 sisters and brothers became parishioners of St. Matthew Church in 1993. After having been active in a variety of ministries in the Spanish speaking community, Angel entered St. John's seminary in 2000. Ordination into the diaconate is one of the final steps leading Angel to his ordination into the priesthood in the spring of 2008.

The word “deacon” comes from the Greek *diakonia*, which means “service.” A deacon is an ordained minister who takes the spirit and message of Jesus to the marketplace. He has been called to serve and gives generously of his time, energy and talents to others, especially the poor. The deacon's ministry is varied — he may be reaching out to the sick, those in prison, the homeless. A deacon proclaims the gospel and preaches. He also conducts liturgical services including Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

Please keep Angel in your prayers as he gives himself in service to people.

COMUNIDAD MEETING / PRAYER SERVICE

Tuesday, November 6th

Social time will start at 7:00p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel Parish Hall followed by a business meeting at 7:30pm. This will include the election of officers for 2008. At the conclusion of the meeting we will adjourn to the church for a prayer service, remembering those we hold close in our hearts. There will be a memorial table to display pictures of family and friends that have died. In addition, please bring a list of your deceased loved ones who you would like remembered in prayer.

FLU SHOTS AND BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS AVAILABLE NEXT WEEK

Our dedicated parish nursing ministry is offering a limited number of flu immunizations next Sunday after each of the Masses. These are available at no cost to parishioners over 18 years of age. You may stop by classroom #2 and talk with the nursing staff after Mass next Sunday.

CONCERN AMERICA FAIR TRADE CRAFTS AVAILABLE TODAY

We welcome Concern America's Marketplace of Fair Trade Crafts today. They have brought Fair Trade coffee and beautiful handmade craft items from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, Bangladesh and Ecuador. A great time to think about Christmas and birthday gifts. Beautiful gifts that will help families earn a just wage while keeping alive their cultural heritage. Concern America is an international development and refugee aid organization based in Santa Ana 714.953.8575. You may view a selection of their crafts on their website: www.concernamerica.org.

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

Our parish has been invited to assist two local meal programs that help feed the homeless and hungry in L.B. Project Achieve sponsored by Catholic Charities and Manna Meals sponsored by St. Luke's. **On Monday Nov. 5 at 7:00p.m. in the Parish Hall**, our meeting will include two guests who will describe the programs. Your involvement could range from bringing a jar of peanut butter to church, to baking a casserole, to serving the hungry, to making sandwiches and many other jobs as well. It takes a lot of man/woman power to sustain this effort. Please come to find out how you can help with this project.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please help decorate the church for Thanksgiving (November 22nd) If you have **Birds of Paradise** growing in your gardens, **bring your donation of flowers and leaves to the Rectory on November 19th and 20th**. Thank you!

THANK YOU!

Peace and Justice would like to thank the parishioners for their support of the **CROP** Hunger Walk. Thanks to your generosity, we raised over \$1,600.00! Thank you also to the walkers who participated this year. Good job!

QUESTIONS FOR NEXT WEEK'S GOSPEL

— THE 32ND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME —

FIRST READING: 2 Maccabees 7:1-2, 9-14

SECOND READING: 2 Thessalonians 2:16 — 3:5

GOSPEL: Luke 20:27-38

- What does living a life worthy of resurrection mean to me?
- How do I want others to remember me after my death? What am I doing now to make that happen?