

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 6, 2008

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”

—Matthew 11:28

A HUMBLE KING

Like a tonal center in music, the note to which we keep returning in today’s readings is humility. We wait in joyful expectation for the coming of our Lord as King. But what we are told to expect and rejoice over is a meek and humble king, riding on an ass. Not horses or chariots of the great and mighty, but a humble beast carries the Ruler whose dominion stretches “from the River to the ends of the earth” (Zechariah 9:10). This King comes to banish the tools of the warrior and bring peace. No wonder that a weary world rejoices and gives thanks to God!

RELIGION AND POLITICS, 2008

On Thursday, July 31st, the **Most Reverend George Niederauer, Archbishop of San Francisco** will be here at St. Matthew’s to discuss the various questions which arise regarding religion and politics. Using the Bishops’ document *“Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility,”* the Archbishop will explore what the church should and should not do in the political arena and under what circumstances a Catholic may, in good conscience vote for candidates who hold views contrary to Catholic teaching. We begin at 7p.m. in church.

Please plan to come and invite your friends!

If you want peace,
work for justice.
—Pope Paul VI

...REFLECTIONS...

The readings for next Sunday, *The Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*, are listed below along with questions to prompt you to relate the Word of God to your life.

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-10

SECOND READING: Romans 8:9, 11-13

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:25-30

What or who are the rocky ground, thin soil, or thorns in my life? How can I better prepare “my soil” to really hear and act upon God’s holy word? (Remember our 5 quiet minutes a day to “be” in God’s presence_.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

It is Independence Day weekend and worth noting the link between the Declaration of Independence and the language of liturgy. One of the signers of the Declaration on that July 4 long ago was Charles Carroll, probably the wealthiest man in the colonies and one of the few Catholics on the political scene. As a flourish to his signature, he sought to distinguish himself from other prominent citizens bearing the same name by penning “Charles Carroll of Carrolltown”—a defiant “come and get me if you dare” postscript aimed at the British.

Carroll’s brother John was a priest and patriot who in 1789 was given the task of organizing the Catholic Church in this country. By 1791 he had assembled a synod, or assembly of delegates, to launch that task formally. Archbishop Carroll wanted to gain acceptance of our faith by American people who mistrusted our customs and could not comprehend our liturgy. He made the amazing proposal to Rome that our liturgy should be prayed not in Latin, but in the vernacular, English. His wish was denied, but one hundred sixty years later, his deep desire helped the American bishops and scholars at the Second Vatican Council to win the vote in favor of the vernacular not just for the United States, but for the Church throughout the world.

HELLO YOUNG ADULTS

If you are a young adult, married, single, dating between the ages of 18-39 you are invited to join us for the 7th annual summer speaker series, Theology-on-Tap! Come meet other young adults for fun, networking, and opportunities to discuss the learn about current issues of faith.

When: Tuesdays, July 29, August 5, August 12 August 19

Where: St. Dominic Savio Church—Parish Hall, 13400 Bellflower Blvd., in Bellflower.

Time: 7-9:15p.m. (doors open at 6:30p.m.)

For more information or if you would like to be part of the San Pedro Regional Theology-on-Tap Team, please contact Bettyrae Reyes at 562. 233.8955 / bettyraereyes@yahoo.com or Joseph Hall at 562. 235.6397 / joesstuff77@gmail.com. You can also check out our Myspace Page: <http://www.myspace.com/youngadultministryinla>.

SAVE THE DATE SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

for our farewell liturgy and reception for Sr. Dolores Barling. Our celebration of her tenure here will begin at our 10:30a.m. and continue with a reception in the parish hall immediately following.