

# FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

JULY 13, 2008

*You have crowned the year with your bounty, and your paths overflow with a rich harvest.*

—Psalm 65:12

## FRUIT OF THE WORD

The seed is the word of God. The agricultural metaphors in all of today's readings give richness to the message that the word of God, cultivated in our hearts, bears much fruit in our lives. Creation itself awaits the redemption of all, even as our bodies await the resurrection. Just as we will rejoice in the fulfillment of God's word, so will all of creation sing for joy in the Reign of God. The word of God is effective and holy; it brings about exactly what it says. It is not futile or empty, but rich in meaning for those who hear and are healed. Those who hear the word of God and keep it will, with all creation, bear much fruit and sing for joy. Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

## 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!

## 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.

## ...REFLECTIONS...

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

**FIRST READING:** Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

**SECOND READING:** Romans 8:26-27

**GOSPEL:** Matthew 13:24-43

*Jesus tells us we are the "good seed, the citizens of the kingdom" How do I nurture this precious gift of faith and share it with others? How does my daily life reflect this treasure of the kingdom that I've been given in my baptism?*

## THE CENTER FOR RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY AT LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

is offering lectures in various parishes this summer. Each talk is free and open to the public on selected Sunday evenings, and continues with a full course (with tuition) through LMU Extension on the Loyola Marymount University campus after the first night. The free lectures at parishes include:

### *"Thomas Merton: Autobiographer, Contemplative and Prophet of Peace"*

Sunday, July 13, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., at American Martyrs Parish, 1701 Laurel Ave., Manhattan Beach, with Donald Grayston, Ph.D. Study the faces of Trappist monk and writer Thomas Merton, one of the most creative Christian spiritual writers of recent times.

### *"Peace Be With You, My Peace I Give"*

Sunday, July 20, 7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m., at St. Agatha Parish, 2646 S. Mansfield Ave., Los Angeles, with Megan McKenna, Ph.D. She will explore the peace of: those who cry for justice, the poor, the Native Peoples, and the earth.

### *"Spirituality for the Long Haul"*

Sunday, July 27, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., at St. Monica Parish, 725 California Ave., Santa Monica, with Wilkie Au, Ph.D. This lecture will focus on spiritual and psychological attitudes and practices that can help those in their middle years to live "with soul." For more information on any of these lectures, please call (310) 338-2799 For more information on any of these lectures, you may access <http://extension.lmu.edu/crs>

## 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 .

## SHOP TIL YOU DROP

**BUNGALOW MARCASSO** home furnishings store at **2720 E. Broadway** will be donating a portion of their sales on **SUNDAY, JULY 20th** to Comunidad. Stop in between 12:00-2:00p.m. that day for some refreshments to go along with your shopping.