



EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AUGUST 3, 2008

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

—Isaiah 55:1a

THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Some of the most comforting words in scripture come to us today in these readings. The passage from Romans is particularly comforting when we are worried about our spiritual life and fretting about it. "What will separate us from the love of Christ?" (Romans 8:35) Of course, nothing can! Christ's love, manifested in his life, death, and resurrection, was wholly for God and us, and he will not permit anything, great or small, to separate us from him. Our longing, our hunger for him is sustained by the Eucharist, and even in the darkest of times, when God seems absent and it is difficult to pray, we know by faith that God is with us. God's fidelity to us is absolute, especially when we are in darkness and confusion. Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

HELP STOP AB2747-ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

Please contact State Senator Alan Lowenthal asking him to oppose this bill which has ethical and safety problems. It lowers medical standards by allowing nurse practitioners to determine if a patient has less than a year to live. It requires health care providers and unspecified others to discuss end of life options with terminal patients who so desire. Health & Safety Code Section 1749(9)(1) already makes state licensed end of life counseling available to these patients; and it requires certain lethal end of life options to be discussed that are relatively inexpensive compared to palliative care. It links cost considerations to life and death decisions. Phone, fax or email Sen. Lowenthal to oppose this bill. 562.495.4766 or fax 562.495.1876 or senator.lowenthal@sen.ca.gov.

VOTER REGISTRATION

Will be available here at St. Matthew's **after all the Masses this weekend and next weekend.** The federal law requires you to provide your California driver's license or California ID number or the last four digits of your social security number. Did you know that if you have moved, you need to update your registry? You may also register if you will turn 18 years of age on or before election day.

...REFLECTIONS...

The readings for next Sunday, *The Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time*, are listed below for your quiet reflection throughout the coming week.

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 19:9a, 11-13a

SECOND READING: Romans 9:1-5

GOSPEL: Matthew 14:22-33

How should we approach the Lord?
How do we find and enjoy heaven on earth?
Why do we sometimes begin a good work positively, but end up floundering?

CLASSIC CAR SHOW TODAY!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL BE USED TO ASSIST LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED.

Our parish **SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL** is sponsoring a *Classic Car Show* today, August 3 at **Frisco's Car Hop, 12050 Woodruff Avenue in Downey.** Bring the entire family for a day of fun, viewing these great cars from the past. There will be a 50/50 raffle with a chance to win some wonderful prizes donated by our sponsors, music by a local DJ, and the awarding of trophies to the best car from each decade.

REMINDER FOR LITURGY COMMITTEE

We will have a Liturgy meeting **this Monday, August 4** at 7:00p.m. in the Rectory to continue to making plans for St. Matthew's Feast day.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24—A SPECIAL DAY

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

COMUNIDAD NEWS

The next Comunidad meeting will be held Tuesday, August 5th at 7:00p.m. in the Fr. Gerald Meisel Parish Hall. The program will be a preview of the National Association of Catholic Diocesan Gay and Lesbian Ministries (NACDGLM) Conference. The conference will be held on the Queen Mary from September 18-21st. It is an opportunity to learn about what is happening on a national level with other gay and lesbian ministries. Light refreshments will be served. All are welcome.

THE BETHLEHEM CHRISTIAN FAMILIES

Next weekend Mr. Raji A. Saada will be here to sell hand carved religious articles made of olive wood. The sale of these precious articles will help to maintain the roots and the existence of the Christian Families who are struggling to remain in Bethlehem.

Pray for our deceased...

