

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA IN ROME

The Lord of hosts is with us; our stronghold is the God of Jacob.

NOVEMBER 9, 2008

—Psalm 46:8

HOLY PLACES, HOLY LIVES

Roman Catholics in the United States at the beginning of the twenty-first century have had more than their share of experiences of unholy things going on in holy places. And, in light of the extreme reaction that Jesus has to this phenomenon at the Temple in today's Gospel, it may seem unusual to be celebrating what, on the surface, seems to be a feast of a building: the pope's cathedral church for his role as the bishop of Rome, the cathedral of St. John (the Baptist) Lateran. Throughout time, human beings have come to discern, through the Spirit, various physical locations for the work and activity of God: creation, the Ark of the Covenant, the Jerusalem temples, the womb of a Galilean girl, a cross and tomb, an upper room. All these physical places have the potential to be sources of holy things, of God's ongoing grace in the world. As we hear in today's Gospel, we must always look to Christ, the one, eternal, always-holy dwelling place of God. Then we who are baptized must pray that we always be guided to lead holy lives in holy places, in all places, at all times.

Copyright, J.S. Paluch Co.

FLOWERS ARE NEEDED

We are in need of long stemmed Birds of Paradise flowers and leaves to decorate our church for the Feast of Christ the King and Thanksgiving. **Please deliver them to the parish office on November 19th or 20th. Thank you!!**

LECTORS

Lector workbooks are available at the parish office for the upcoming liturgical year (year B starts Nov. 30th.) The suggested donation of \$10.00 is requested in order to defray costs.

ADULT PRACTICING CATHOLICS

who wish to receive the sacrament of Confirmation may call Sister Sharon for information about preparation. 562-439-0931, ext. 5.

TAKE TIME TO REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD

The readings for next Sunday, *Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time* are listed below along with questions for your quiet reflection throughout the coming week.

FIRST READING: Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

What are some of the obstacles that keep me from giving fully of my time and talent? What will I do to overcome these obstacles?

FLU SHOTS AVAILABLE...

Our loving Parish Nursing ministry, along with St. Mary's Hospital and the Long Beach Health Department is providing flu shots free of charge today, Nov. 9th from 9:00a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in classroom #2. If you have not already reserved a shot for yourself, you might want to stop by to see if there are extras available.

THANKSGIVING AND ADVENT PROJECTS OFFERED TO YOU BY OUR PEACE AND JUSTICE MINISTRY

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 22/23

How about a yummy loaf of bread for your Thanksgiving Day breakfast or to give as a hostess gift? This year we will offer banana-nut, lemon, cranberry-walnut and the always popular pumpkin loaves at \$4.00 each or 2 for \$7.00. Buy one to eat and one to freeze!

WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 29/30

We will have a large collection bin stationed outside the church for you to donate men's and women's new hygiene items, under garments and socks.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

We will have a prayer service at 6:00 p.m. in the parish hall followed by a potluck dinner. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy this Advent gathering. If your last name begins with letter A-H please bring a salad, I-R please bring a hot main dish; S-Z please bring a dessert.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION...it's the best!

St. Anthony High School, the only Catholic, co-educational, college preparatory high school in Long Beach will hold open houses on Sunday, Nov. 23 and Sunday, January 11 at 1:00 or 2:30p.m.

St. Anthony High School offers small class sizes, an intensive college counseling program, a Marine Science Academy, many financial aid opportunities, bus transportation, and a wide variety of AP and Honors classes. For more information please visit www.longbeachsaints.org or call 562.435.4496.

LONG BEACH COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

Basic assistance with food, shelter, utilities, clothing and transportation; case management, housing and employment assistance, information and linkages to community resources.

123 E. 14th St., Long Beach, CA 90813 — 591.1351.