

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

LET THE CHILDREN COME TO ME; DO NOT PREVENT THEM,
FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE.

— Mark 10:14

OCTOBER 4, 2009

~ Parish Life and Activities... ~

RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY

AS WE ONCE AGAIN CELEBRATE RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY, let us call to mind the words of Pope John Paul II in his farewell talk to America after his 1987 visit. *“The best traditions of your land presume respect for those who cannot defend themselves. If you want equal justice for all and true freedom and lasting peace, then, America,, **DEFEND LIFE!** All the great causes that are yours today will have meaning only to the extent that you guarantee the right to life and protect the human person. All this will succeed only if respect for life and its protection by the law is granted to every human from conception to natural death.”*

As in past years, we will highlight Respect Life Month with an on-going “baby shower” to benefit the moms and babies at the Precious Life Shelter, a facility which provides quality care and a safe living environment for homeless pregnant women 18 years and older. Throughout October you may donate items such as receiving blankets, diapers, baby wipes, nightgowns, sleepers, booties, etc. by placing them in the bassinet located in front of the Sacred Heart Altar. Monetary donations may be placed in an envelope marked “Precious Life Shelter” and dropped in the collection basket.

CELEBRATING SISTER SHARON AND SISTER DOLORES

Today at our 10:30 Mass, in the company of Sr. Dolores Barling and Sr. Sharon Francis, we shall celebrate the Golden Jubilee of their Religious Professions as Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary Community.

We all remember how busy we kept Sister Dolores during the 8 years that she was a part of our parish. She skillfully served as Liturgy and RCIA Director while also keeping parishioners enlightened, stimulated and renewed with a variety of speakers and worships at our Adult Education gatherings. Sister Dolores trained lay ministers to visit and share Eucharist with the residents of twelve local convalescent homes and numerous patients at Long Beach Community Hospital. On Sunday mornings the congregation was welcomed by Sister Dolores’ beautiful piano music at our 7:00a.m. liturgy.

Last year Sr. Sharon came to our parish, ready and willing to journey with adults entering into the Rite of Christian Initiation. Through her thoughtful dialogue, reflection and teaching, Sister finds ways to bring the messages of Christ to those who are looking for a mature faith.

Our parish is truly blessed to have these wonderful women teach all of us how to recognize the hand of God at work in our lives.

Have a beautiful day Sister Dolores and Sister Sharon! We love you and we thank you!

REMINDER... REMINDER... REMINDER... REMINDER...

CROP Walk will be held on October 18th. Members of Peace and Justice will be outside the church after all the Masses to recruit walkers, accept donations and answer questions.

MANNA MEALS helpers will meet in the Hall on Friday, Oct. 16 at 8:45a.m. Please take part!

LITURGY COMMITTEE MEETING will take place on Monday, Oct. 12 at 7p.m. in the Rectory. We will discuss our Thanksgiving and Advent liturgies.

ST. ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL Important information about the annual *“Saint for a Day”* program for 8th graders happening on Oct. 15th and Admissions Info nights Oct 15th, 28th, Nov.12— visit: www.longbeachsaints.org or call 562.435.4496 x 1217.

COMUNIDAD NEWS

Comunidad will hold it’s annual retreat for Gay/Lesbian Catholics on October 16-18 at the Center for Spiritual Development in Orange. For more info please go to www.ComunidadLB.org.

The next Comunidad meeting will be held Tuesday, October 6th at 7p.m. Learn about the St. Mary CARE Program and Clinics which provide services to persons affected by HIV-AIDS. Carlos Ruiz, MA, MPH will describe what services are available and how to access them.

NEXT SUNDAY’S READINGS

TWENTY– EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

1st READING: Wisdom 7:7-11; **2nd READING:** Hebrews 4:12-13 **GOSPEL:** Mark 10:17-30[17-27])

REFLECTION... *How do my possessions and/or relationships hold me back from making a whole-hearted commitment to Christ? Can I do some “housecleaning” and sort out things that are no longer used or needed?*