

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE LORD KEEPS FAITH FOREVER, SECURES JUSTICE FOR THE OPPRESSED,
GIVES FOOD TO THE HUNGRY. —PSALM 146:7

NOVEMBER 8, 2009

~ Parish Life and Activities... ~

<p>THE CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP</p>	<p>THE CORE VOCATION IN THE GOSPEL OF MARK IS THE VOCATION, or call, to discipleship. Today's Gospel passage provides us with one last example of what the vocation to discipleship means, and one example of what it doesn't mean. A destitute widow shows us that discipleship means following Jesus' way of service, even if it requires giving one's livelihood (or life). The scribes show us by their bad example that discipleship should entail a vocation to extend God's care to those who are most in need. In our reading from the book of Kings another widow and her son are close to death. They, too, give what little they have, but they are rewarded by Elijah with food enough for a year. And the reading from the Letter to the Hebrews reminds us that Jesus sacrificed his life "to bring salvation to those who eagerly await him" (Hebrews 9:28).</p>
<p>CONCERN AMERICA HERE ON SUNDAY</p>	<p>BEAUTIFUL HANDMADE CRAFT ITEMS from El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico, Honduras, Ecuador and Bangladesh are for sale after all the Sunday Masses this weekend. By your purchase of these gift items, you support the work of Concern America and help to provide a fair and just wage for many poor families. We invite you to think about honoring your family and friends in a very special way by choosing gifts with meaning and purpose.</p>
<p>HEALTH CARE REFORM INFORMATION</p>	<p>OUR NATION IS AT A CROSSROADS. The U.S. Bishops' conference has concluded that all committee approved bills are seriously deficient on the issues of abortion and conscience and do not provide adequate access to health care for immigrants and the poor. None of the bills retain longstanding current policies against abortion funding or abortion coverage mandates, and none fully protects conscience rights in health care. As the U.S. Bishops' letter of Oct. 8th states: "<i>No one should be required to pay for or participate in abortion. It is essential that the legislation clearly apply to this new program longstanding and widely supported federal restrictions on abortion funding and mandates, and protections for rights of conscience. No current bill meets this test.... If acceptable language in these areas cannot be found, we will have to oppose the health care bill vigorously.</i>" Please go to www.usccb.org/action to send a prewritten, instant email to Congress. Call the U.S. Capitol switchboard at 202.224.3121 or contact your Member's local office. Contact info can be found at www.house.gov & www.senate.gov.</p>
<p>YOUR HEALTH IS IMPORTANT TO US</p>	<p>ST. MARY'S MEDICAL CENTER AND OUR PARISH NURSING MINISTRY are conducting glucose screenings today (Sunday) between 8:00a.m. and 3:00p.m. in conjunction with diabetes month. Blood pressure evaluations are available as well as mammograms and PAP smear sign ups.</p>
<p>ATTENTION LITURGICAL MINISTERS</p>	<p>YOUR NON-AVAILABILITY DATES for the months of December January and February are due by Monday, November 23rd. Also, lector workbooks are now available in the Rectory. We are asking a donation of \$10.00 to help defray the cost.</p>
<p>BLANKET AND COAT DRIVE</p>	<p>NEXT WEEKEND OUR SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL will be collecting <i>gently used blankets, jackets and coats</i> to be distributed to the homeless of Long Beach. You may deposit your clean, warm, items in the marked box that will be located outside the church next weekend.</p>
<p>ST. ANTHONY HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE</p>	<p>NEXT SUNDAY, November 15 at 1p.m., St. Anthony H.S. will be hosting an Open House. All prospective students and parents are welcome to attend. Tour our newly renovated campus, meet our teachers, meet college counselors and coaches and get admissions info. To learn more, please call 562.434.1217 or visit www.LongBeachSaints.org</p>
<p>NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS</p>	<p>THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME 1st READING: Daniel 12:1-3 2nd READING: Hebrews 10:11-14, 18 GOSPEL: Mark 13:24-32 REFLECTION... <i>How can I learn to lean on the goodness of God?</i> <i>I do not know the day or hour of my own end...what preparations can I make by healing old wounds, mending broken relationships, letting loved ones know my wishes?</i></p>