

JULY 22 & 23, 2023
16TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse that we began reading last Sunday.

All three parables use commonplace experiences to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable is longer and more detailed than the next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realized until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples caution, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward.

The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed—the smallest of all seeds—will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom.

Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others. To judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven.

ATTENTION

**THERE WILL BE
NO WEEKDAY MASS
FROM JULY 24TH – JULY 28TH.
FATHER PACHECO WILL BE AWAY.**



According to those traditions, Joachim was a very wealthy and generous man. He and his wife, Anne, however, were childless until they were advanced in years. One day, before Anne conceived the Blessed Virgin Mary, Joachim arrived at the Temple to make an offering. It was rejected by a man named Rubim, most likely a Levitical priest, because Joachim was childless. *"It is not right for you first to bring your offerings, because you have not made seed in Israel."* Children were exceedingly important at that time; to be childless was understood as disfavor from God.

Distressed, Joachim left the Temple and studied the Scriptures to see if he could find anyone of importance who, like he and Anne, were childless. When he came upon Abraham, he recalled that Abraham was only given a child in his old age. Rather than returning home to Anne, Joachim embarked on a forty-day period of fasting and praying in the desert, beseeching God for a child.

Anne, for her part, also went to pray, asking God for a child. As she prayed, an angel appeared to her and said, *"Anne, Anne, the Lord has heard your prayer, and you shall conceive, and shall bring forth; and your seed shall be spoken of in all the world."* An angel also appeared to Joachim and said, *"Joachim, Joachim, the Lord God has heard your prayer. Go down hence; for, behold, your wife Anne shall conceive."* Nine months later, Anne bore a daughter, and the couple named her Mary. Because of a vow they had made, when Mary was only three, Joachim and Anne brought her to the Temple where she took up residence until it was time for her to be married. She was educated by the priests and holy women and spent her days in prayer and union with God.

Though the story of the Blessed Virgin Mary's birth and presentation in the Temple comes from apocryphal sources, the Presentation of Mary in the Temple is a liturgical feast first celebrated in the Eastern Church as early as the sixth century and the Western Church in the eleventh century, giving credence to a lived faith and liturgical acceptance of her presentation by her parents. Interestingly, in the old city of Jerusalem, there is an ancient church that still stands next to the Temple Mount in which it is believed that the Blessed Virgin Mary was born and might have lived during her early days after being presented in the Temple.

Though not much more is known about Saints Joachim and Anne, devotion to them, especially to Saint Anne, began to grow as early as the sixth century. Churches were built in her honor, prayers were offered for her intercession, devotions were formulated, and patronages were attributed to her. It wasn't until the sixteenth century that devotion to Saint Joachim began to grow when his feast day was placed on the General Roman Calendar.

Regardless of the authenticity of the legends about Saints Joachim and Anne, we know for certain that the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Immaculate Conception, had parents. They loved her, raised her, and offered her to God. Today they are saints under the names of Joachim and Anne, and the faithful continue to seek their intercession. They are especially called upon for their intercession for grandparents. In fact, on a spiritual level, just as the Blessed Virgin Mary can be seen as our spiritual mother, so also Saint Joachim and Anne can be seen as our spiritual grandparents in the order of grace.

Pray to this holy couple today, especially asking their intercession for your grandparents or your grandchildren. Ponder what it would have been like to give birth to the Mother of the Son of God. Prayerfully imagine what it would have been like to watch their daughter, who was "full of grace," grow and mature into adulthood. Though these holy parents might not have understood all of the mysteries that surrounded their daughter, they would have known, by a grace of spiritual intuition, that their daughter was chosen by God and given a singular grace that budded forth in an abundance of virtue for all to see, especially for her parents to see.



68TH ANNUAL PARISH BBQ

Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church
 Corner of Harold & Maple Sts. Fort Bragg, CA
 Sunday, Aug. 6th!

11AM – 6PM

Delicious BBQ Chicken (1/2 chicken!), Green Salad, Mexican Beans, Rice, Garlic Bread,
 Dessert, Punch & Coffee!

Full Order - \$30
 1/2 Order \$25

Wine Wheel, Beer, Wine & Margaritas
 Games for All Ages - Silent Auction
 GREAT FAMILY FUN!!!



REGISTRATION FOR CATECHISM CLASSES 2023-2024 OF OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL CHURCH

ENROLLMENT DATES:

FRIDAY, JULY 28TH @ 5:30pm - 7:00pm
 SUNDAY, JULY 30TH 11:30am - 1:00pm
 FRIDAY, AUGUST 18TH @ 5:30pm - 7:00pm

IF IT'S THE FIRST TIME REGISTERING YOUR CHILD FOR **FIRST COMMUNION**,
 YOU WILL NEED TO BRING A COPY OF THE BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE.

CONFIRMATION:

YOU WILL NEED TO BRING
 COPIES OF BAPTISMAL AND FIRST COMMUNION CERTIFICATES.

APPLICATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED ONLY
 THE DAY OF REGISTRATION.
 (COMPLETED AND WITH PAYMENT)

\$75/CHILD AND \$65 /SECOND CHILD

FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH FROM 5:30PM – 6:30PM.

FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT VERONICA RENTERIA:
 707-357-2890 OR THE PARISH OFFICE: 707-964-0229.



Free Summer Sewing Classes for OLCG Youth

Space is still available.

Sign up now for free summer sewing classes! All ages of youth and
 children welcome.

Two dates are available for you to choose from.
 July 25-28 or August 1-4
 Time: 9:00am - 11:00am

Place: OLCG School, Classroom #4
 Please contact Kathleen Kasperson at 707-513-5672
 as soon as possible to reserve a spot for your child.

MASS INTENTIONS JULY 22 - 28, 2023

Saturday (22)	5:00pm	Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba † Antonio Furtado †
	6:30pm	Mauricio Escobedo † Rubén Salazar Sr. † Victor Martin & Raquel Dzul † Gerardo Escobedo (healing)
Sunday (23)	8:00am	Bill Mertle †
	10:00am	Missa pro populo
Monday (24)	—	NO MASS
Tuesday (25)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Wednesday (26)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Thursday (27)	12:05pm	NO MASS
Friday (28)	12:05pm	NO MASS

WEEKLY COLLECTION

JULY 15 & 16, 2023...\$
 PETER'S PENCE...\$

THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL (AMA)
 OUR GOAL IS **\$11,002**. SO FAR, OUR PLEDGES ARE **\$9,676**.
 WE ARE ONLY **\$1,326** TO REACH OUR GOAL.
 HELP US TO REACH IT PLEASE!

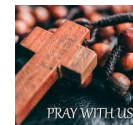
NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL'S MINISTRY

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

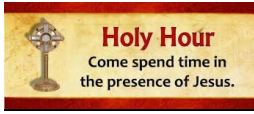
When a parishioner is homebound or hospitalized and would like
 Father Pacheco to pay them a visit to receive Holy Communion and/or
 Anointing of the Sick, please call the Parish Office at 707-964-0229
 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.



JOIN US IN PRAYING THE ROSARY
 FROM SUNDAY – FRIDAY AT 5PM IN THE CHURCH.

*“Every family, every faithful, every religions community,
 all united spiritually...I will accompany you from here.”*

POPE FRANCIS



EVERY THURSDAY @ 11:00AM, WE HAVE THE EXPOSITION AND BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT FOLLOWED BY MASS AT 12:05PM.

LET'S PRAY FOR ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IN THE MILITARY

Jovany Baez, Justin Mertle, María de la Luz Ramírez, Rebeca Sánchez, José Araiza, Jr., Marina González, Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Gina Pivrotto, Ma. de Jesús Mendoza, Antonia Rentería, Angie Gómez, Judy Halren, Rose Cortez, Fidela Jara, Felix Santillán, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret Milliken, Gina Pivrotto, Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.



We need your generous financial help so Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides "ParishSOFT Giving," an online giving software! This is a convenient and secure way to make your one-time or recurring donations.

Thanking and blessing you for your kindness.

To get started, you can visit our Parish's new giving page at olgcinfb.org.

From this link you will be allowed to manage your own account online, set up gifts on a schedule that you choose, and can be set up with a credit card, debit card, checking or savings account!

If you have any questions, please, contact the Parish Office at 964-0229.



IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH, ON THE SOUTHERN WALL IS A BEAUTIFUL MEMORIAL TREE.

ITS BRIGHT LEAVES REPRESENT PERMANENT MEMORIALS

TO THE DEPARTED OF OUR PARISH.

FOR THE SUM OF \$200.00, YOU CAN GIVE TO THE PARISH SECRETARY, THE CORRECT SPELLING AND DATES OF THE DEPARTED AND IN DUE TIME THE LEAF IS PRINTED AND ATTACHED TO THE TREE, AS A PERMANENT REMINDER OF A LOVED ONE WHO IS GONE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE.



Fundraiser

OUR 68TH ANNUAL PARISH CHICKEN BBQ

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH, 2023
FROM 11AM – 5PM OR ULTIUL SOLD OUT

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!!
YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR CHURCH BY:**

- SIGN-UP FOR 2 HOURS VOLUNTEER HELP. (SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN THE VESTIBULE OF THE CHURCH OR LET THE PARISH OFFICE KNOW AT 707-964-0229).
- TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS: BUY TICKETS TO DONATE TO LARGER FAMILIES; BUY KID'S GAME TICKETS AND/OR CASH/CHECK DONATIONS TO OFF-SET COSTS OF FOOD AND ENTERTAINMENT.
- FOR SET-UP CREW ON SATURDAY, 8/5 (9AM - 1PM) ~ WE'LL FEED YOU!
- CLEAN-UP CREWS: SUNDAY, 8/6 (6PM – 9PM) AND MONDAY, 8/7 (5PM).
THE MORE HANDS, THE EASIER THE WORK.
- NICE ITEMS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION: PATIO FURNITURE;
- FRAMED ARTWORK; NEW SMALL APPLIANCES; GIFT BASKETS; GIFT CERTIFICATES: "WHAT YOU CAN THINK OF THAT FOLKS WILL BID MONEY ON?" PLEASE CONTACT ANGELENE LEIST TO DONATE 707-513-5579 OR 707-964-3775.
- CANS OF SODA & 2 LITER SODAS AND/OR CASES OR BOTTLES OF WINE FOR WINE WHEEL.
- HOMEMADE DESSERTS FOR DESSERT TABLE. PLEASE BRING TO THE HALL BEFORE 11AM ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 6TH.

PLEASE MAKE DONATION CHECKS TO: **OLGC BBQ 2023.**

~ALL DONATIONS CAN BE LEFT AT THE RECTORY~

THANK YOU