

AUGUST 19 & 20, 2023
20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Today we move ahead in our Reading of Matthew's Gospel. Last week, we read about Jesus walking on the water and the disciples' confession of faith that Jesus is the Son of God. If we were reading Matthew's entire Gospel, we would have read about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees about Jewish purity laws. Jesus argues that it is not what goes into us that makes us unclean; he is referring to the strict Jewish dietary rules. Instead our words and our actions—what comes out of us—make us unclean because they emerge from a heart that is unclean.

Knowing about Jesus' debate with the Pharisees helps us to understand today's Gospel. In fact, the story heightens the surprise and shock we feel as we hear Jesus' exchange with the Canaanite woman. The woman, who is not Jewish, approaches Jesus, requesting that he heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first Jesus ignores her; he says nothing. The disciples ask Jesus to send her away, and Jesus agrees, remarking that he was sent to minister to the Jews alone.

The woman persists, paying homage to Jesus, and yet Jesus denies her request again. He even insults her, using a Jewish word of derision for Gentiles, "dog." But the woman cleverly turns Jesus' insult into an affirmation of faith. Only then does Jesus grant her request and heal her daughter.

Jesus' unresponsiveness to this woman may strike us as uncharacteristic or shocking. Yet in Matthew's Gospel, Jesus' ministry is directed primarily to the people of Israel. At only a very few points, such as the one found in today's Gospel, do we find Jesus anticipating the later Christian ministry to the rest of the world.

Behind Matthew's text we can hear this early Christian community's struggle to understand how God's selection of Israel is consistent with two events: Israel's rejection of Jesus and the Gentiles' acceptance of Jesus. Just as Jesus was surprised by the faith expressed by the Canaanite woman, so too the first Christians were surprised that the Gentiles would receive the salvation God offered through Christ. In today's Second Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans, we hear the Apostle Paul considering this same concern.

The faith that the Canaanite woman expresses is an affirmation of and confidence in God's abundant mercy. Yes, salvation comes through Israel, but it overflows for the benefit of all.

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear parishioners,

A couple weeks have passed since our 68th Chicken Barbecue, and we finally have determined that the parish brought in a total of **\$49,014.00**. Once again this year, we can say with joy and gratitude that it was a tremendous financial success! My special thanks to our two co-chairs this year, Angelene Leist and Dave Swensen for taking on the responsibility of organizing this event. To all of our parishioners and members of the wider community who supported this year's barbecue by means of "hands-on" work or through your financial contributions: **Thank you!** To our cooks, servers, cleaners, game supervisors, donors, and patrons: May God reward you abundantly for your kindness and generosity.

Blessings,

Fr. Pacheco

Making Time for God

Dear friends, making time for God regularly is a fundamental element for spiritual growth. It will be the Lord himself who gives us the taste for his mysteries, his words, his presence and action, for feeling how beautiful it is when God speaks with us; he will enable us to understand more deeply what he expects of me. This, ultimately, is the very aim of meditation: to entrust ourselves increasingly to the hands of God, with trust and love, certain that in the end it is only by doing his will that we are truly happy.

Pope Benedict XVI

Prayer to Start a New School Year

Lord Jesus, I ask for Your help as
I begin this new school year.

Allow me to experience Your presence in the
many blessings You put before me.

Open my eyes to the new challenges and exciting
opportunities that this new school year brings.

Open my heart and mind to new friends and new teachers.

Give me a generous spirit to be enthusiastic with my
studies and courage to accept new opportunities.

Help me to be attentive to my teachers and let me
experience Your presence in my new friends.

Jesus, inspire me to do my best this year!

Amen.



**FIRST DAY OF CATECHISM INSTRUCTION:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH, 2023**

FROM 5:30PM – 6:30PM.

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



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.



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



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 AT 707-964-0229.



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.

**MASS INTENTIONS
AUGUST 19 - 25, 2023**

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|----------------|---------|--|
| Saturday (19) | 5:00pm | Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba † Antonio Furtado † Clementina Espinoza † |
| | 6:30pm | Oscar Tamayo † Mauricio Escobedo † María Bran Mandujano † Eleuterio Gaona † Francisco Sr., Angeles & Ignacio Rentería † Gerardo Escobedo (healing) |
| Sunday (20) | 8:00am | Pope Benedict XVI † |
| | 10:00am | Missa pro populo |
| Monday (21) | — | NO MASS |
| Tuesday (22) | 12:05pm | David Lotten (healing) |
| Wednesday (23) | 12:05pm | Mat Yager (healing) |
| Thursday (24) | 12:05pm | Deceased Members of the Schill Family |
| Friday (25) | 12:05pm | Marie Fernande † |

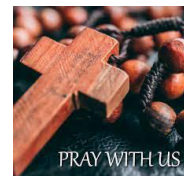
WEEKLY COLLECTION

AUGUST 12 & 13, 2023...\$2,263.00
MAINTENANCE FUND....\$811.00

**THIS WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR
BLACK & INDIAN MISSION**

**NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR
ANNUAL MINISTRY APPEAL (AMA)**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!



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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Gina Piviroto, 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 Piviroto,
Nick Quin, Mary Servis, Matty Walker, Ofelia Ybarra.

**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.