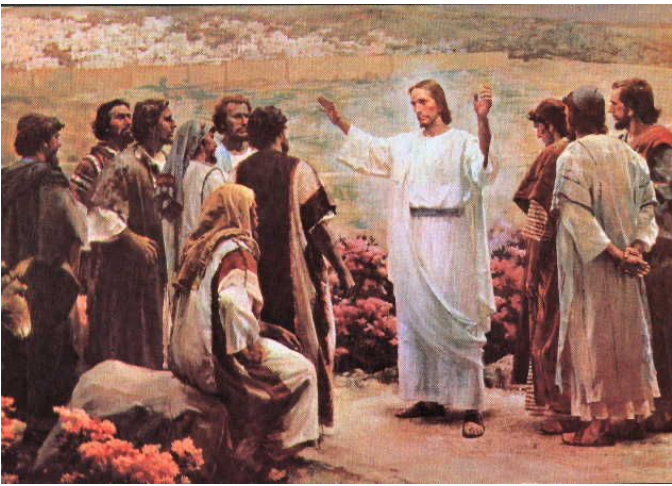


AUGUST 24 & 25, 2024

21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



By: The Word Among Us

To whom shall we go? (John 6: 68)

This was a decisive moment for Jesus' disciples. They had seen him perform miracles, bring people to conversion, and contend with suspicious Jewish leaders. It seemed as if he could do nothing wrong!

But now they had to make a hard decision: Would they keep following Jesus when he said something they didn't understand? How about when they didn't like what they heard? He had just told them that he had come down from heaven and that, like God, he had the authority to grant eternal life. Then, he said that anyone who wanted to follow him had to eat his body and drink his blood. It was all too much, and most of them "no longer accompanied him" (John 6: 66).

But Peter, speaking for himself and the rest of the Twelve, cut through the confusion with one simple question: "Master, to whom shall we go?" (John 6: 68). There was no one like Jesus. He truly was "the Holy One of God" (6: 69). Peter couldn't let his lack of understanding derail him. He trusted that if he stayed close to Jesus, asked questions, listened carefully, and kept an open heart, he would still stick with the One whose love and grace had changed his heart so dramatically.

Do some of Jesus' words confuse you to scandalized you? Don't let them cast a shadow over everything else you have heard. Certainly, don't let them cause you to doubt his love for you or for others! Instead, draw closer to him. Recall how patient he has been with you, and resolve to be just as patient in waiting for the answers you seek. And remember: you have the gift of faith for just this very purpose. Allow that supernatural grace to help you trust in the Lord even when you don't understand.

Jesus truly is the Holy One of God. There's nowhere else you can go to receive all that he has for you.

"Lord, help me to stay close to you, especially when I have questions."

Q & A

With Father John Plass

Promoter of Vocations (part 1 of 4)

By Christopher Lyford

CL: We're here with Father John Plass, Promoter Vocations of the Diocese of Santa Rosa. Thank you so much for being with us, Father.

FJP: You're welcome; thank you for the opportunity Chris!

CL: It is exiting to talk about your calling as a priest, but first, we're going to talk about your title as a Promoter of Vocations for the Diocese of Santa Rosa. Can you give us a broad view of what that means?

FJP: Yes, vocations are callings. Callings from someone. In this case, callings from God and his Church to serve as spiritual leaders. We all know that priests come from families, they come from schools, they come from parishes. They are young men, who are just going about their lives, and God moves them in some particular way. He touches them, and they experience an invitation to serve in a leadership capacity. To serve his Church as fathers, spiritual fathers. And, so my role as a Promoter of Vocations is to help establish fertile soil in the diocese where this kind of call can more readily be heard and responded to. Where people can know where to turn when they have that thought.

CL: I think there are so many of our diocesan faithful that really have been praying for vocations. Many parishes have a daily prayer during Mass, and some parishes even have vocations committees like the Serra Club. Can I ask you, Fr. Plass, how would young men growing up and attending their parish begin to know, first of all, what a vocation is in general, but also, in particular, the vocation to the priesthood? What's the point of contact?

FJP: The point of contact is their life. Specifically, the people in their lives: the pastor, their teacher, their parents, and the people are modeling what it means to live to respond to a Christian vocation. And so that's where it's incumbent upon us to model those vocations correctly and invitingly so our young people see that it can be done; then, this becomes an invitation in itself. They are drawn to live in that way and to witness. The value of a witness can't be overestimated or stressed enough.

CL: How might a young man, in particular, respond to the inklings of a vocation to the priesthood?

FJP: I think because the vocation to the priesthood is a vocation to spiritual leadership, there's an opportunity to try that out and to test the waters right away through the various ministries of the parish by serving as a reader or as a server at the Mass, and in that way coming closer to the experience of a priest. Learning how a priest serves the Church is much easier when you are able to help your parish priest in his ministry. There are many opportunities to help out around your church or school. Find a way to serve your parish. Don't just sit on the sidelines; get in the game.

CL: Who is asking those kids to get involved? Where, realistically, are they hearing it, and where should they be hearing this invitation?

FJP: They're hearing it from their catechists, from their pastors, and from their parents, but they should also be hearing it from their friends. It should be something held in honor and esteem. The opportunity to serve at Mass should be a privilege and an honor. So, we should be inviting young people, especially young men in whom we can see something of a vocation, inviting them forward to call that gift into action. To call them to share that gift.

CL: We all know young men who we see and think, "Wow, that's a lot of hope right there!" I like the idea of saying that everyone has license and permission to walk straight up to that young man, introduce yourself, and say, "I just want to encourage you to consider getting involved in the liturgical ministries at the church because I see leadership potential in you, and I just think it would be a good thing for you."

FJP: Absolutely, we need to ask them to serve! We need your help; will you please serve? Another tremendous way of serving is as a catechist. To actually have them start studying the catechism and being formally trained so they can learn to teach. Because young people often times are more open to the message of someone closer in years to them, you know, as a teacher. There's a relatability there, and it's a good witness for the catechism students to see young people responding to the call to serve.

CL: Thank you Fr. Plass. You've just described your role as promoter vocations. Remind me, please, what was it you said when we began to speak about this role you have?

FJP: Right, the truth is I can't do it alone; I need the help of everyone in the diocese to help me with this. My role is to remind everyone that we have a need for new priests because time marches on. We always need more help, and there will never be too many good priests! As the spiritual life increases in the parish, it actually creates more work for the clergy, so there will always be a greater need. We all share in this role; promoting vocations is not just on any one individual, it's on all of us!



PORTUGUESE HOLY GHOST SOCIETY

The Fort Bragg Holy Ghost Committee cordially invites the community to our annual **Festa de Espírito Santo**.

Rosary will be read at the Pentecost Hall starting at 7pm on Sunday, September 8th through Wednesday, September 11th. There will be a Mass on Thursday, September 12th at 7pm, followed by the blessing of the bread and meat.

Fish Dinner and Dance will be held on Friday, September 13th, dinner will be served from 5pm – 7pm. Tickets for the dinner are \$35 for adults; \$10 for children 6-12; kids under 5 and younger are no charge. Dinner includes: dover sole, potatoes, salad, beans, bread, wine and juice. Other drinks can be purchased in the bar.

Dinner & Dance with Manuel Silva & Queen Presentation, Saturday, September 14th, dinner will be served starting at 5pm.

Parade, Mass, Sopas, Auction & Dance: Sunday, September 15th, the parade will start forming at 10am at the Pentecost Hall and will leave for church at 10:30am. Following Mass, the parade will return to the hall for Sopas and Dancing. A live auction will take place outside of the Pentecost Hall starting at 2pm.

For more information, please contact Jose Ornelas: 707-964-0485.



KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS SEMI ANNUAL TRI-TIP ROAST SALE

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2024

PICK UP TIME: 12PM – 4PM
OLGC'S PARKING LOT

ROASTS ARE MARINATED, BBQ'D, AND READY TO EAT

ORDER BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2024
PRE-SALE ONLY

EACH ROAST \$35

**FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO PLACE ORDERS, PLEASE CALL OR
TEXT DAVE SWENSEN: 707-489-3028,**

**STEVE BEEMAN: 707-480-4614, OR THE PARISH OFFICE:
707-964-0229 EXT 1, OR BY EMAIL: olgcinfo@gmail.com**

SUPPORTS ON GOING EDUCATIONAL GRANT PROGRAM.

CATECHISM CLASSES 2024-2025

**FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION:
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2024 FROM 5:30PM – 6:45PM.**

DON BOSCO YOUTH GROUP

Youth Group at OLGC is starting back up!
Come join us Monday nights at 6:30-8:00pm
in Classroom #1.

Our first exciting opportunity is On Fire NorCal Jam at Six
Flags on September 14!
Donations welcome.

For more information contact Noemi Hernandez
707.972.6880

MASS INTENTIONS AUGUST 24 - 30, 2024

| | | |
|----------------|---------|---|
| Saturday (24) | 5:00pm | Fred & Clara White † Thomas Galemba † Ronnie Sousa † Jesús Pérez & Clementina Espinoza † |
| | 6:30pm | Francisco & Angelita Rentería † Victor Martin & Raquel Dzul † Maria Valdovinos (healing) |
| Sunday (25) | 8:00am | Ronnie Sousa † |
| | 10:00am | Missa pro populo |
| Monday (26) | 12:05pm | No Mass |
| Tuesday (27) | 5:30pm | Dick Benedetti † |
| Wednesday (28) | 12:05pm | Dick Benedetti † |
| Thursday (29) | 12:05pm | Dick Benedetti † |
| Friday (30) | 12:05pm | Dick Benedetti † |

WEEKLY COLLECTION

AUGUST 17 & 18, 2024...\$2,326.00
BLACK AND INDIAN MISSIONS...\$944.00

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

**NEXT WEEKEND OUR SECOND COLLECTION WILL BE FOR
LIABILITY INSURANCE**

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SUPPORT & CHRISTIAN GENEROSITY!!

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK PARISHIONERS

Matilde Puc, Gerardo Escobedo, Cuca Soto, Yolanda Soto,
Rosalío Martínez, Felix Santillán, Esperanza Barba, Bertha
Valenzuela, Gina Pivrotto, Angie Gómez, Rose Cortez, Fidela
Jara, Martha Sánchez, Gerardo Escobedo, Angie Freitas, Russel
Bryant, Derrick Heater, Ann Gallagher, Brianna Lopez, Margaret
Milliken, 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, Marina González, José Araiza, Jr.,
Alondra Jara, Sonia Jara, Matt Mills & Jared Schroeder.



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

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

Pope Francis



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 ext. 1 and after office hours, please call 707-813-4188.



WE WOULD LIKE TO REMIND YOU THAT:

**Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish now provides
“ParishSOFT Giving,” an online giving software!**

To get started, you can go to olgcinfb.org.

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

For questions, please contact the office at 964-0229 ext 1.

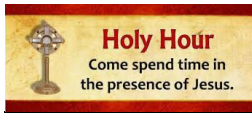


RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS RCIA

We would like to remind you that RCIA classes in Spanish will begin on Monday, September 9th from 6:30pm – 8pm in Classroom #2.

For more information, please contact

Rosa Hernández: 707-962-3774.



**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.