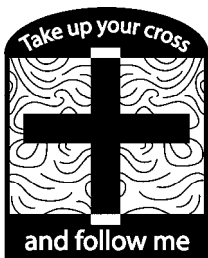


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24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 17, 2006

The Lord GOD is my help,
therefore I am not disgraced. — Isaiah 50:7



Upcoming Parish Events

Mon. Sept 18—
Bible Study & Prayer Group,
7:30 pm, Chapel

Tues. Sept 19—
Legion of Mary,
7pm Scanlan Hall

Fri. Sept 22—
Aacc Youth Grp,
6:30 pm, Scanlan Hall

Prince of Peace,
8:30 pm, Scanlan Hall

I trust in the Lord

By Fr. Labib Kobti

The text of the first reading: Isaiah 50: 4b-9a speaks about the suffering of a prophet. It is called the third Suffering Servant Song. He has people who beat him, who spit on him and put him to shame. But he puts his trust in the Lord: "See the Lord God is my help; who will prove me wrong?"

Psalm 116 is a Thanksgiving psalm that sings the interventions of the Lord when his servants are in despair and thank that Lord for his love: "I love the Lord because he has heard my voice in supplication, because he has inclined his ear to me the day I called".

The second reading from St. James 2: 14-18 tells us that faith is important, but faith should be active: "If somebody says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him?" Because the faith of Isaiah was active the Lord heard him and saved him. An active faith pays off. The just person is sustained in all his difficulties by his faith in God.

The Gospel of Mark 8: 27-35 shows us the faith of St. Peter "You are the Christ". But this faith is not yet as active as it should be. When Jesus "began to teach that the Son of Man must suffer greatly.....Peter took him aside and began to rebuke Jesus". For Peter Jesus should be a king and served by people. But Jesus I came to offer his life for the Salvation of the World.

Commenting on the above **one of the Fathers of the Church, Caesarius of Arles (c. 470-543)** writes: "When someone begins to follow Jesus' way of life and his commandments, that person will meet resistance on every side. He or she will be opposed, mocked, even persecuted, and not only by unbelievers but also by people who to all appearances belong to the to the body of Christ though they are really excluded from it by their wickedness; people who, being Christians only in name, never stop persecuting Christians". Sermon 159, 1.4-6).

Practical steps:

Ask yourself: What kind of person am I? Do I have an active faith? Do I live what I believe in? Are you a person who tells by your example what you believe in? Are there individuals who don't go to church because of your bad example?

Go to church and renew your faith with a truthful confession.
Change things that you are not proud of in your life.
Commit yourself to follow Christ's commandments.
Say a prayer for people you know who need your prayers.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK, SAINTS & SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday, Sept 17: Is 50:5-9a; Ps 116; Jas 2:14-18; Mk 8:27-35

Monday: 1 Cor 11:17-26, 33; Lk 7:1-10

Tuesday: **St. Januarius;** 1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a; Lk 7:11-17

Wednesday: **Ss. Andrew Kim Taegon and Paul Chong Hasang;** 1 Cor 12:31 -- 13:13; Lk 7:31-35

Thursday: **St. Matthew;** Eph 4:1-7, 11-13; Mt 9:9-13

Friday: **Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New Year 57671)** begins at sunset; Cor 15:12-20; Lk 8:1-3

Saturday: **Ramadan (the Muslim month of fasting)** begins this week; 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49; Lk 8:4-15

Sunday, Sept 24: Wis 2:12, 17-20; Ps 54; Jas 3:16 -- 4:3; Mk 9:30-37

Full Plate Program: Thanks for your support of this program. Pls. bring your donations of canned foods and dry goods & place them in the green bins at the church entrance. September menu items: 1 Box of cereal, 1 can of stew or chili, 1 can of tuna or chicken, 1 container of 100% juice. No glass items, please. Thanks.



***We started to Name A Way (Plaza/Court/Fountain):** Thanks to the Salah family, we have now started "name a way" for the month of October. We are auctioning five areas around the church, minimum bid is \$100. The highest bidder for an area gets to name that area for a month, first come first served: Since we are well into the month of September, this month will be free for the highest bidders for October.

***The Month of Remembrance of our Beloved Departed:** Look for envelopes in the vestibule of the church for names of beloved departed. As in the past, everyone is invited to draw up your list of beloved departed you wish us to pray for in the month of November. We will again compile everyone's list and keep the book at the altar. They will be collectively mentioned at each of our Masses in November. A donation in an amount of your choice will be much appreciated.

***Liturgical Ministry trainings:** For New Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: October 21, Saturday, 9:00-3:00 PM. For New Lectors: October 28, Saturday, 9:00-3:00 PM. Both trainings will be at Mater Dolorosa Church on 307 Willow Avenue, So. San Francisco. If interested, please talk to Father Rick or the Liturgical Minister in charge of the Mass that you normally attend, or call the office.

***Point 7 Now! Conference:** The Archbishop John R. Quinn Colloquium on Catholic Social Teaching has scheduled Point 7 Now! Conference on 10/27-28 at St. Mary's Cathedral. The Conference will launch a national mobilization to involve Catholics in action to focus on the eradication of global poverty. Cardinal Renato Martino, President of the Vatican's Office of Justice and Peace will be one of the speakers. A special parish rate of \$200 allows up to ten designated parishioners to attend. If interested, pls. call the office.



I have chosen to become a member of **St. Thomas More** and commit myself to building a community that seeks to act justly, love tenderly, and walk humbly with God. I will commit myself to this mission by my active and consistent presence at worship each week and will respond consistently by my financial giving even when I cannot be present.

(Please print)

Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City _____ Zip _____
 Phone(s) _____
 Email: _____

I want to receive the envelopes and commit myself to a weekly contribution.

Yes, pls _____ No, thanks _____

Subscribe to our mailing list by e-mailing us: stmchurch@aol.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sept 17—Sept 23, 2006

- 9/17 Sun 10:00 am People of STM
8:00pm Helen Pui Yue Lum†
- 9/18 Mon 8:30am Teresita Arguelles†
- 9/19 Tue 5:30pm Frances Rodriguez†
- 9/20 Wed 8:30am Vincent Duc Luu†
- 9/21 Thu 5:30pm Juanita Mendoza†
- 9/22 Fri 8:30am Erlinda Mendoza, Sp. Int.
- 9/23 Sat 8:30am Demetria Fernandez, Sp. Int.
5:00pm Edgar Braganza†

Please call the office to schedule. Participating in the Mass you offer is appreciated.



All the sick people in our parish especially Eddie Bernal, Zenaida Salamat, Herbert

Panaszewicz, Nahil Nazzal, John Silva, Rhona Palencia, Mary Lee Burke, Florentino Sotto, Jr., Rolando Pineda, George Crawford, Restituto de Guzman, Michael Karney, Majida Totah, William & Deena Tannous, Jamal Musallam, Nazzal Nazzal; and deceased Raymond Masaganda.

Thank you for your contributions. Please remember us in your prayers.

Your offerings for the weekend of **Sept 10th:**
\$3,228
2nd Collection: \$819

Thanks for your generosity.



Actual Construction & Repairs Money in Bank is: \$112,672

Please continue to support our Construction fund. We need to repair the Skylight, upgrade the lights in the church and upgrade Carroll Hall. **Thank you!**