

PARISH CALENDAR

Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 25, 2019

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me!

Saturday, Aug 24	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Sunday, Aug 25	..... 7:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 9:00 a.m.	Mass
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass
Monday, Aug 26	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Tuesday, Aug 27	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
Wednesday, Aug 28	..... 7:45 a.m.	Morning Prayer
	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Thursday, Aug 29	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 5:30 p.m.	Feeding Menu - Baked Beans and Hot Dogs
Friday, Aug 30	..... 8:00 a.m.	Communion Service
	..... 9:00-11:00 a.m.	Food Pantry Open
Saturday, Aug 31	..... 4:00-4:45 p.m.	Confession
	..... 5:00 p.m.	Mass

NEXT SUNDAY READINGS:

Isa:66:18-21: I gather the nations of every language.

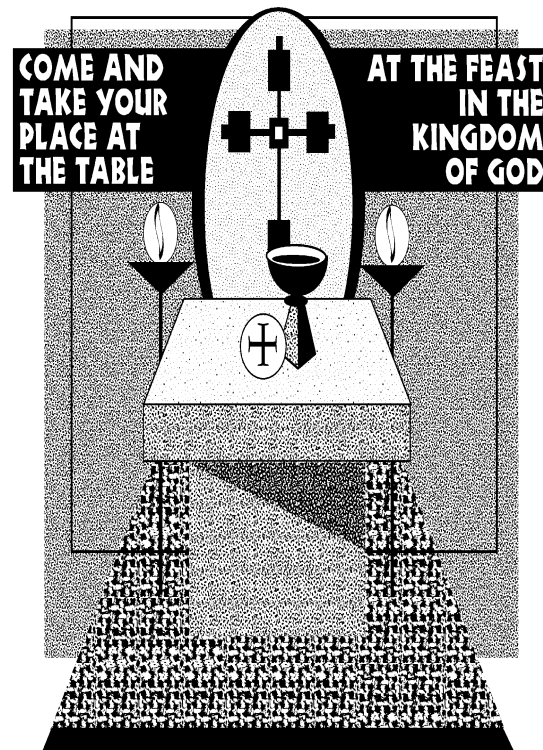
Heb:12:5-7, 11-13: The Lord disciplines those he loves.

Luke:13 :22-30: People will come from everywhere to sit at table in the kingdom of God

The first reading offers us a vision of universal salvation. This vision is as exotic as it is earthy. On the exotic side, we read place names that are old and obsolete. Some are so old there is no memory of them whatever, such as Mosoch and Javan. We do know that Tarshish is southern Spain, Put and Lud are in northern Africa, Tubal is near the Black Sea, and the somewhat familiar Ionian Islands refer to Greece. Next to the mention of the exotic places is the everyday, earthy list of conveyances. On foot and wheel and hoof the stream of people shall come. What a menagerie! What fun!

This amazing scene of abundant welcome contrasts sharply with the nervous counting found in the Gospel for the day. As has been the case for a number of Sundays, we are again reminded that Jesus is on the move. He passes through cities and towns making his way to Jerusalem. He seems to linger here and there, teaching as he goes and attracting a considerable amount of attention. People wonder who will be saved. They worry, "Only a few?" hoping to hear the opposite. One might guess that those who asked really voiced what was on the mind of many. Having heard what Jesus asked of his followers, they maybe wondered quietly how it the world they'd ever make it into the kingdom. Perchance there are loopholes? Side doors? Maybe there is an easy way?

Jesus doesn't seem to answer this question directly. But he assesses human nature accurately. When the latecomers find they are too late, the master, who has locked the door, will remind them that all their lives they have not known him. To whom might Jesus be referring here? We know that Jesus has a soft spot for sinners. There is ample evidence of this throughout the Gospels. So sinners aren't the problem. Who, then, is being told that it's too late? Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved



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REJOICE

in the LORD our GOD

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

R. C. I. A - Do you or someone you know want to become a Catholic? Do you or someone you know want to complete the Catholic Sacraments of Initiation (baptism, communion, confirmation)? Do you want to do your part fulfilling the Church's evangelization goals? The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (or RCIA for short) is the process the Catholic Church uses to achieve these goals for those who desire to participate and become candidates. Here's a few details of the program:

- 1) *St. Rita's RCIA program will begin **Sept 8, 2019.***
- 2) *RCIA candidates will meet roughly every other Sunday night at 7:00 pm in the St. Francis Trailer or church.*
- 3) *RCIA sessions will last for 1.5 hours. These sessions will be based on adult learning principles, with candidate participation a must. However, there will be no formal text or homework.*
- 4) *RCIA candidates will participate in some or all of the following ceremonies leading up to the Easter Vigil mass: a. Rite of Acceptance (beginning of Advent) b. Rite of Election (beginning of Lent) c. RCIA Scrutinies (during Lent) If you or someone you know is interested, please call our RCIA Director (Don Gerry, 489-9529)*

CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE: ("Off the Bench and into the Game") **Saturday, September 7th at Resurrection fo the Lord Catholic Church in Waipahu** for inspirational talks by Dallas Carter and Tito Montes. The Conference is from **8 am to 5 pm** and includes breakfast and lunch. The conference cost is **\$25 per man** and can be paid in advance on Eventbrite, or at the door. The minimum age for this conference is 18. Contact Dewey Arakawa (808)4288543 or ddaarakawa@gmail.com.

WORD OF LIFE: "Within the "people of life and the people for life", This family has a decisive responsibility. This responsibility flows from its very nature as a community life and love, founded upon marriage, and from its mission to "guard, reveal and communicate love." (The Gospel of Life, no. 92) *Citing John Paul II, Post-Synodal Apostolic Exhortation Familiaris Consortio (22 November 1984), 17:AAS 74 (1982), 100 Excerpt from Evangelium vitae© 1995, Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with permission. All rights reserved*

WEEKLY READINGS

Aug 25 Sun: 21ST Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isa:66:18-21 ; Ps:117; Heb:12:5-7, 11-13; Lk:13:22-30:

Aug 26 Mon: Ordinary Weekday

1 The:1:1-5, 8b-10; Ps:149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a & 9b; Mt:23:13-22

Aug 27 Tue: Saint Monica

1 The:2:1-8; Ps:139:1-3, 4-6; Mt:23:23-26

Aug 28 Wed: Saint Augustine, Bishop and Doctor

1 The:2:9-13; Ps:139: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab; Mt:23:27-32

Aug 29 Thur: The Passion of St. John of the Cross

1 The:3:7-13; Ps:90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 & 17; Mt:6:17-29

Aug 30 Fri: Ordinary Weekday

1 The:4:1-8; Ps:97: 1 & 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12; Mt:25:1-13

Aug 31 Sat: Ordinary Weekday

1 The:4:9-11; Ps:98: 1, 7-8, 9; Mt:25:14-30

Live and Learn

A new school year is fast approaching. This fact presses upon all of us in one way or another, either as observers or active participants. Though our formal education may cease after a number of years, we never cease to learn. Opportunities for learning always present themselves, for life itself is our teacher. As followers of Jesus, we are invited to walk in his ways and learn from him. Copyright © 2003, World Library Publications. All rights reserved.

NOTE ON STEWARDSHIP

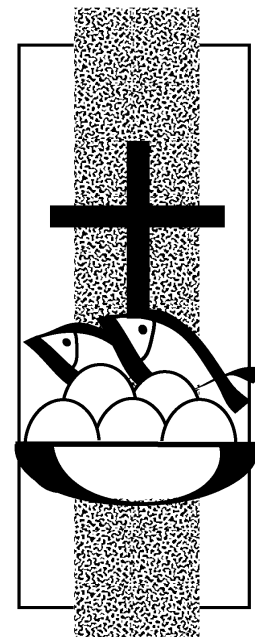
The Gospel reading today starts with a question: "Lord, will only a few people be saved? "Jesus offers only a simply reply : Strive to enter through the narrow gate. Many will try to enter and will not be able. Good stewards know there is only, narrow gate. Not everything will fit. This narrow gate has no room for our accomplishments. No room for our money. No room for our possessions. No room for anything else but those who've been good stewards of the Gospel. We can't custom build out own gates either. There is only one, narrow gate that happens to be open for a time, but for how long? What is our plan of action to get though that gate? (International Catholic Stewardship Council)

REFLECTION

Salvation is not contingent upon strenuous human effort, as if everything depends on us and heaven is ruled by a stingy God. Jesus notes that one does not reach heaven by applying the kind of effort it takes to get through an opening designed to bar human entrance. Nor is the kingdom granted to people by virtue of some privilege of birth. The kind of salvation that Jesus offers is not like that. To think so is to dilly-dally around, to waste good time, to run the risk of being too late.

God's salvation is not a matter of human effort or an accident of birth or a stroke of good luck. The entrance of God's saving power does require a human response. The response must be a free acceptance or it has no meaning, just as coerced love has no meaning. When the hand of Christ is extended, our hand must be there to grasp his. Jesus is passing though a privileged place in a special time in human history. But salvation is not just for the few at one special time and place. God's saving power is available at all times and in all places. It is up to us to accept the salvation that Jesus offers.

To grasp Jesus' welcoming and strengthening hand is the act of a disciple. The word "disciple" comes from the Latin discere, "to learn." We must learn who is standing before us with an outstretched hand. We must take on the disciple work, the discipline, that Paul urges in the second reading



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