

“Whoever Loses Their Life for My Sake, Will Gain it.”

matthew 10: 37-42

Jesus had heard enough of the disciples’ stupid talk! He finished his wine with two large swallows and tossed his cup aside. Then, he abruptly got up to leave.

“Teacher, where are you going” one of them called after him. But Jesus was too frustrated to answer. He stalked up the hillside until the disciples were far enough away for their voices to be muffled by the wind. Jesus looked down on them, reclining on the grass, still gabbing and gesturing as they finished their meal.

A wave of hopelessness swamped Jesus. His disciples still didn’t seem to have the faintest notion of what he had been trying to teach them all these months. They were still selfishly thinking about what they could get for themselves. They enjoyed the respect people showed them because they were members of Jesus’ party. Some expected “the kingdom” was going to bring worldly power and wealth to them. They seemed to just be following Jesus for the money.

Jesus bowed his head and prayed. After a moment, a new energy and deep peace began to flow into him. He realized that his frustration with his disciples was partly his own fear of the future when he must take up his cross and lose his own life for them. Jesus’ thoughts turned to face down the lurking death-beast that haunted him. He did not want to leave these sweet hills of home—these love-filled faces of his friends.

Quickly, he opened his eyes and saw that the disciples had all risen to their feet and were gazing back at him. Jesus waded through the grass, hurrying back to them. He was ready to resume the difficult teaching.

Young Thaddeus was standing by his father, James. Jesus looked directly at Thaddeus, “Whoever loves his father or mother more than me is not fit to be my disciple;” then turning his eyes to James, Jesus went on: “whoever loves his son or daughter more than me is not fit to be my disciple.”

Then, taking them all in his gaze, he said “Whoever does not take up his cross and follow in my steps is not fit to be my disciple.” Jesus knew these were harsh words. but they were necessary for what he was going to say next.

“Whoever tries to gain his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake will gain it.” The disciples fell silent, trying to understand.

John was the first to smile. Suddenly the proposition made sense to him and he began to nod his head in agreement.

“Amen, teacher, Amen!” he said.

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Giving up our life for Jesus means more than just “to die.” We must be willing to give up our worldly things, like money. It means we must give up bad habits that can destroy us.. It means we have to give up time doing things we like in order to spend time with Jesus. But, like balancing the scales, it is in giving that we receive. When we give we usually get something in return. With Jesus the gift is new life. As Christians we not only enjoy a new life here in the present world, we also receive the promise of new life in the world to come.

-- Deacon Dick Folger

INFORMATION FOR THE COMING WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

For June 30, 2008 to July 6, 2008

Mon. 8:15 a.m. -- Communion Service
Tue. 8:15 a.m. -- Gumaro Rubalcava (Dec.)

Wed.	8:15 a.m. --	Fr. José Leon (Intention)
Thur.	8:15 a.m. --	For Us, The Parishioners
Fri.	8:15 a.m. --	Jesus Guadalupe (2 nd Anniversary, Dec.)
Sat.	9:00 a.m. --	Chuy Ornelas (67 th Birthday)
	5:00 p.m. --	For the Faithful Departed in need of Prayer (Dec.)
Sun.	6:45 a.m. --	Tony Ponce (Dec.)
	8:15 a.m. --	James Fayette (Dec.)
	9:45 a.m. --	Abel Rodriguez (Birthday); Cesar Padilla (Birthday)
	11:30 a.m.--	Aurora (Dec.) & Jesus Ramirez (Dec.); Elena Canio (40 day Anniv.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For June 30, 2008 to July 5, 2008

Mon	Amos 2:6-10,13-16 / Matthew 8:18-22
Tues.	Amos 3:1-8; 4:11-12 / Matthew 8:23-27
Wed.	Amos 5:14-15,21-24 / Matthew 8:28-34
Thu.	Ephesians 2:19-22 / John 20:24-29
Fri.	Amos 8:4-6,9-12 / Matthew 9:9-13
Sat.	Amos 9:11-15 / Matthew 9:14-17

SUNDAY READINGS

July 6, 2008 - 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Zechariah 9:9-10 / 2nd Reading: Romans 8:9,11-13 / Gospel: Matthew 11:25-30

COLLECTIONS

For June 22, 2008

First Collection	\$6,634.42
Our budgeted goal for the First Collection (updated)	9,566.00
Second Collection: Summer Utility Air Conditioning.....	2,074.00
Children's Envelopes	33.50

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

NEW ARTICLES

PARISH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED NEXT FRIDAY. Next Friday is July 4, which is Independence Day in the United States. The offices of the parish, school, and our religious education department will be closed. The side Chapel of the Church, which normally closes at 9:00 p.m., will close promptly after the Benediction Service, which is held at 7:00 p.m. The Friday night dinners for the needy, elderly and lonely will take place as usual. Should you have an emergency, please call the Parish Office at (510) 471-2609, and press "2" when called for during the announcement. We hope that you enjoy the day – have a "blast!"

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS FRIDAY. As this Friday, July 4 is a First Friday, we will have the Exposition and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. It will be held in the Chapel from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the chapel with one hour time slots. Please sign up in advance so that we can be assured that someone will be present with the Blessed Sacrament.

KEEPING HIM IN YOUR PRAYERS, PART 2. As you know, Fr. José is currently away on his "Mini-Sabbatical." A major part of this sabbatical is a retreat. He started the retreat last week, but this

coming week the focus of the retreat is changing. Last week there were directed sessions and group sessions, but this week Father's real work begins. He will be entering four weeks of relative silence and deep reflection.

We encourage all of our parishioners to keep Fr. José in their prayers during his sabbatical, and particularly during the next four weeks when his study and reflection will be most profound. Here is a couple of other ways that we hope to support Fr. José by our prayers:

- We will include a special "Our Father" at the end of Mass for Fr. José
- We ask that all parish groups – organizations, prayer groups, committees, etc. – include a prayer for Fr. José at their regular meetings.

We hope that all of us praying together may make the retreat and sabbatical an experience of spiritual growth and refreshment for Father so that his strength will make our parish stronger as well.

THE "OTHER BOOK." If the History Book we were passing out the last few weeks after Mass was "The AT&T Smart Yellow Pages," the Parish Photo Directory would be known as the "Other Book." Lately we have heard some "corn-fusion" about these books, as when we were handing out the History Book, some people asked "Where are the family portraits." The family portraits are in the Photo Directory, which should be coming out in the course of the next month. We have just completed proofreading the photo directory for the second time, and just found a few errors. As a result, it is pretty much ready to print. We will let you know when we will start distribution of the "other book." Every family or individual that had a portrait taken will get a free copy of the book, and there will also be copies available for purchase for those who do not appear in the book.

SOME THINGS SHOULD NOT GO UNNOTICED – HERE'S ONE OF THEM. If you have attended the 5:00 or 8:15 Masses the last couple of weeks you would have noticed that something is different. There is an absence of organ music. This is because there has also been an absence of our long-time Organist, Miss Margaret Williams.

Despite her young age, Margaret has played the organ at Our Lady of the Rosary for over 60 years: we figure that she must have started playing around the age of 4. In those days she played a reed organ in our original church at 13th and "H" streets. She has played every organ owned by our parish since. She has decided that after 60 years it is time for her to "retire." 60 years was a personal goal for her to achieve. Now that she has reached this goal, she announced her retirement to us on short notice. This is because she wanted to retire humbly, with no fanfare or special recognition.

However, despite the fact that she is shy and is trying to deflect attention and praise away from herself, her contribution to our parish cannot go unnoticed. The dedication she has demonstrated to her ministry and our parish is unparalleled. We thank Margaret for being a key part of our worship at Our Lady of the Rosary for most of the parish's history. It is because of her we were able to lift our voices up more beautifully.

Our other musicians will cover the Masses at which Margaret played. Most modern-day church musicians play the piano and not the organ, as the piano is preferred in contemporary worship. However, some of us like some tradition as well. So, if there happens to be any parishioners who are capable of playing the organ, or "The Monkey," as Margaret affectionately called it, please call our office, as a little organ music would be nice from time to time.

Should you want to send greetings with thanks or retirement congratulations to Margaret, simply send them to our Office or drop them by.

Once again, thanks Margaret, for your dedicated and unselfish service to Our Lady of the Rosary.

FESTIVAL FLEA MARKET: There ain't no bugs on me! That's why we need your fleas. As you probably noticed, the cargo container is now in place next to the Parish Office. This means that **WE ARE NOW ACCEPTING FLEA MARKET ITEMS.**

Remember our guidelines of the donations we can accept:

We can use:

Household items, such as kitchen pots and utensils; furniture; knick knacks; tools; appliances

Please do not bring:

Clothing and shoes; paints and cleaning products; furniture or appliances in need of repair

The Festival can use the following items:

Books for the book booth; new hand-crafted boutique items; glassware for the dime toss booth

If the container is open, place your items at the front end of the container, in front of the container. If the container is locked, place your donations near the door of the container between the Office and the container.

Thank you in advance for your support.

FESTIVAL DATES: Saturday and Sunday, October 4 and 5.

PRAYERS

KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS those in our parish and families who are ill or homebound: Susana Alcaraz, Tony Baligaya, Gladis Borges, Lindy C., Paul Cabrera, Alan Cady, Rebecca Cady, Maria Camarillo, Grace Caminada, Dionesio Campos, Daniel Canales, Rose Canales, Grace Carr, Grace Continelli, Cindy Davis, Chealsy Davis, Courtney Davis, Jennie DeCosta, Marc DelBianco, Irene Drouin, Joseph Dunbar, Ed Fiala, Rita Fregoso, Frank Gallegos, Sobeida Gallegos, Gene Garcia, Deanna Graves, Emilio Gudino, Keith Gunter, Ethel Guerrero, Jesús Gutierrez, Anne Guzman, Herm Henderson, Carne Hernandez, Eduardo Hernandez, Henry Hernandez, Margaret K., Mark Kamakea, Ermelinda Lopez, Francisco Lozano, Miguel Luviano, Sara Maas, Antonio Maciel, Catalina Manasala, Craig Manning, Ismael Martinez, Jess Martinez, Richard M. Martinez, Florence Mederios, Philip Molina, Joe Morales, Josephine Nava, Richard Nelson, Ysidro Nieves, Mirta Orellana, Mario Perales, Luz Perez, Ehren Perkins, Marcella Roderigues, Lydia Rodríguez, Joe Romero, Conor Rosado, Macca Savage, Letty Serrano, Clarence Souza, Nelly Stewart, Myron Tejada, Vivianlee Tonry, Casandra Valadez, Concepción Valencia, Isabel Villarina.

Tuesday, July 1

Bible Study, English, Eddie Dobrec Room, 10:00 a.m.

Rosary Night, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.

Knights of Columbus Meeting, Eddie Dobrec Room, 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 2

Rosary Night, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.

Stewardship Committee Meeting, Office Room 206, 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, July 3

Rosary Night, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.

Friday, July 4

Independence Day (USA)

Parish and School Offices Closed

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Chapel, 9:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Dinner for those in need, Eddie Dobrec Room, 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 5

Rosary Night, Spanish, 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, July 6

Second Collection for Church Renovation

