

AUGUST 31, 2008 – 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Whoever Loses His Life for My Sake Will Find It”

Matthew 16:21-27

During the past weeks, wandering in the north country of Phoenicia and Caesarea Philippi, Jesus experienced the bigger world outside his own Jewish lands of Galilee and Judea. Here he encountered the strange religions and gods of the Greeks, Romans and Syrians. Here Jesus was a stranger so he found it a retreat from the crowds of Jews that pursued him in Galilee. But whatever peace this interlude might have offered was destroyed by the nagging storms that raged in his mind whenever he thought about going to Jerusalem. Jesus knew he was a man with a death sentence upon him and time was fast running out.



On the morning that they were finally leaving to start south again, Jesus called the disciples to him. He wanted them to know that each step he took was a step closer to Jerusalem and the suffering he must endure. A dark anxiety gnawed at him like a hungry beast that wouldn't let go.

He explained: "I must go to Jerusalem and suffer much from the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the Law. I will be put to death, but three days later I will be raised to life."

Peter studied Jesus intently. He could not understand the statement because Jesus was the Messiah. How could anything bad happen to him? Peter walked up to Jesus. "I need to talk to you alone."

Jesus turned to walk down the path that led to the main road. Close behind, Peter pleaded, "God forbid it, Lord! That must never happen to you."

Jesus whirled around to face him and the rest of the astonished disciples. "Get away from me, Satan," he snarled, pushing Peter away in protest.

Making the decision to go to Jerusalem was difficult enough without Peter trying to talk him out of it.

Jesus told Peter that his evil thoughts did not come from God, but from man. To not accept God's plan was the same as an attempt to destroy it.

Then Jesus told the disciples that if they wanted to follow him they would have to quit thinking about themselves and take up their crosses. Then he said: "Whoever wants to save his own life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it."

They all stood in silence, thinking about what he had just said to them. Jesus turned and began to march resolutely down the road that he would follow all the

way to Jerusalem. Peter watched him for a moment, then hurried after. The rest of the disciples soon followed.

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The Gospel invites us to pick up our own cross each day and follow Jesus. We are told that by living a selfish life on our terms we will lose the life that God would give us. We are told that following Jesus can cost us our imagined life; but if we have the courage to follow him anyway, we will receive the real life he offers along with his rewards for our good deeds.

-- Deacon Dick Folger

INFORMATION FOR THE COMING WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

For September 1, 2008 September 7, 2008

Mon.	8:15 a.m. --	Communion Service
Tue.	8:15 a.m. --	Fr. José M. León (Intentions)
Wed.	8:15 a.m. --	Felimon Perez (Dec.)
Thur.	8:15 a.m. --	Maria Pita (Dec.)
Fri.	8:15 a.m. --	Frank Sanchez (Dec.)
Sat.	9:00 a.m. --	Reyes (Dec.) & Carmen Garcia (Dec.)
	5:00 p.m. --	For the Faithful Departed in Need of Prayer (Dec.)
Sun.	6:45 a.m. --	Carlos de Jesus Lopez (Dec.)
	8:15 a.m. --	Melvin Jansen (6 th Anniv. Dec.)
	9:45 a.m. --	Simona (Dec.), Mercedes (Dec) & Gaudelia Martinez (Dec.)
	11:30 a.m.--	Claude Balugo (Dec.); Salvacion Saldivia (Dec.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For September 1, 2008 September 6, 2008

Mon	1 Corinthians 2:1-5 / Luke 4:16-30
Tues.	1 Corinthians 2:10b-16 / Luke 4:31-37
Wed.	1 Corinthians 3:1-9 / Luke 4:38-44
Thu.	1 Corinthians 3:18-23 / Luke 5:1-11
Fri.	1 Corinthians 4:1-5 / Luke 5:33-39
Sat.	1 Corinthians 4:6b-15 / Luke 6:1-5

SUNDAY READINGS

September 7, 2008 - 23th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-9 / 2nd Reading: Romans 13:8-10 / Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20

COLLECTIONS

For August 24, 2008

First Collection

\$6,433.50

..... Our budgeted goal for the First Collection (updated)	9,566.00
Second Collection: Parish School.....	2,116.50
Children's Envelopes	54.00

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

BLOOD DRIVE NEXT SUNDAY. There will be a Blood Drive next Sunday, September 7, in the Parish Hall. If you wish to donate blood and have not signed up yet, you may do the following:

- **Contact the Parish Office** at 510.471.2609.
- **Sign up online.** Visit www.bloodheroes.com, and use group code "rosary."

If you are not sure when you will be available, remember that **"walk-ins" are still welcome.**

A GIFT OF BLOOD IS A GIFT OF LIFE. Blood is always in short supply, and only a small fraction of those who can donate blood actually do so.

NEW ARTICLES

AT LAST COMING TO OLR NEXT WEEKEND THE NEW, INSPIRED, REFRESHED AND RELAXED . . . FR. JOSE!

Yes! Fr. José will be returning to OLR next Saturday, September 6, after having been away for the last three months.

We encourage you to attend the "Welcome Back" Barbecue being held for him on Sunday, September 7, after the 11:30 Mass (around 1:00 p.m.). The event is a chicken and rib meal prepared by Texas Roadhouse Restaurant, and tickets are being sold at \$10.00 per person. Desserts and soft drinks will be sold separately. Music is being provided by Nova Edicao.

TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED IN ADVANCE. TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3. This deadline is necessary in order to assist Texas Roadhouse in preparing for the event.

IF YOU HAVE NOT PURCHASED YOUR TICKETS YET, you may do so at the Parish Office this coming Tuesday, September 2, during regular office hours (9:30 a.m. – 3:30 pm. or 6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.).

If you miss this one, you'll be sorry.

A Letter from Fr. Jeff:

Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of the Rosary:

In May, the Pastor of St. Joseph Parish in Mission San José asked me to help with Sunday Masses on a weekly basis after the loss of the priest who was helping on weekends. I decided to say “yes” to his request. I live right behind St. Joseph Parish and I would only have to walk a very short distance to the parish. Presently I am driving 16 miles round trip between Mission San José and Union City, sometimes three to four times a week. I find myself rushing from Union City back to Mission San José, and it is tiring me out. This way there would be no commute and no rushing.

As I said in the introduction to this letter I was needed at St. Joseph in May, but made a commitment to Fr. José and OLR that I would do my best to cover the parish in Fr. José’s absence. So, upon Fr. José’s return, I am beginning my duties at St. Joseph.

I want to thank Fr. José for the opportunity to minister at OLR when I had no place else to celebrate Mass four years ago. Fr. José and I worked well together and he always included me in all the parish’s functions. I want to especially thank you, the parishioners and staff, for accepting me from the very beginning of my time at OLR. You truly made me feel part of the parish family.

This is not a goodbye letter. I will continue to celebrate Tuesday morning Mass and will help Fr. José out whenever he is in a bind. I am not leaving – just cutting back.

Thank you again for your love, support and kindness to me.

Sincerely,

Fr. Jeff Finley, C.P.P.S.

EXPOSITION AND ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT THIS FRIDAY. As this Friday, September 5, 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.

CCD REGISTRATIONS: If you have not registered yet, your opportunities are lessening. This weekend is the last weekend that we are registering students in our CCD program in front of the Church after Masses. Remember that all CCD students in grades 1 – 6, whether new or returning students must register before classes start in September. **IF YOU HAVE NOT REGISTERED YET, WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU VISIT THE CCD OFFICE NEXT WEEKEND.** Registrations will be accepted on Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. or on Sunday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **Register now before classes fill up!**

ONE MORE OPPORTUNITY FOR CYO REGISTRATION. Sign-ups for our CYO Basketball Program for new participants in grades 3 through 8 will take place

NEXT SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, from 9:00 a.m. to Noon in the Dobrec Room. Second graders wanting to participate will be placed on a waiting list.

Participants must bring a current utility bill (dated within the last 30 days) as proof of residency, as well as a copy of their birth certificate. The cost of participating is \$110.00 for the first child and \$60.00 for each additional child in the same family. Fee waivers are available for those who qualify.

For more information, call Randy Gonzales at (510) 796-3048.

ARTICLES FROM PREVIOUS WEEKS

JOLLY IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT: IT'S TIME TO SIGN UP FOR YOUTH GROUP AND CONFIRMATION

7TH AND 8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP: We will be taking sign-ups for the 7th and 8th Grade Youth Group after all of the Masses in front of the Church on the weekend of September 6 and 7. All 7th and 8th graders from any school are invited to come join us. We will be meeting on Tuesday evenings from 7:30 – 8:30 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Parish Hall starting on September 16. The fee is \$40.00

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: We will be taking sign-ups for the High School Youth Group after all of the Masses in front of the Church on the weekend of September 6 and 7. All students in grades 9 through 12 are invited to join us. We will be meeting on Sunday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall starting on September 14. The fee is \$40.00.

CONFIRMATION: Juniors and Seniors in High School who have participated in the High School Youth Group for at least one year may sign up for start their preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Sign ups will be taken after all the Masses in front of the Church on the weekend of September 6 and 7. There will be an informational meeting with a review of the program for students and their parents on Sunday, September 14 at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The fee for the program is \$40.00. If you are a high school senior and have not completed one year of High School Youth Group but wish to be Confirmed, please call Sheryl at 510.441.1577.

BAPTISM AND FIRST COMMUNION FOR 7TH THROUGH 12TH GRADERS. If you are in grades 7 through 12 and need to receive the sacraments of Baptism or First Communion, please sign up for either the 7th and 8th Grade Youth Group or the High School Youth Group. There will be an informational meeting for those needing these sacraments and their parents on Sunday, September 21, at 7:30 p.m.

SIGN UPS WILL ALSO BE TAKEN FOR ALL OF THESE PROGRAMS AT THE FIRST MEETING NIGHT.

If you have any questions or concerns please call Sheryl Bartlett at 510.441.1577.

CCD WANTS A “TOUCH OF GLASS.” Our CCD program runs the Dime Toss Booth at the Parish Festival. In order to make this booth the success that it is, the CCD program accepts donations of glassware, such as shot glasses, all types of clear glasses, small bowls, etc. We have had a back stock of these items for a number of years, but last year’s festival depleted the supply that we had in storage. As a result, we are appealing to you for donations of glassware. If you can help, please drop it by the Parish Office. Thank you.

LITTLE ROCK SCRIPTURE STUDY TO START NEW UNIT. Join us for the fall sessions of the Little Rock scripture study. The subject of our study will be “Israel’s Story – Part One.” We will explore Israel’s history and theology from the creation story in Genesis to the fall of the Northern Kingdom. The unit will start on Thursday, September 4, 2008 and will run for seven consecutive weeks. Sessions will be held from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. in the Downstairs Conference Room in the Parish Office Building. The fee will be \$12.50 which will cover the cost of the commentary and study guide. For more information, contact Stella or Deacon Gus Roemers at 510.471.5883.

Tuesday, September 2

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

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

School Board Meeting, Office Room 107, 7:00 p.m.

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

Wednesday, September 3

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

Thursday, September 4

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

Friday, September 5

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

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

Spanish Choir Practice, Church, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 6

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

Sunday, September 7

Second Collection for Church Renovation

Sign ups for Youth Groups and Confirmation in front of the Church after Mass

Blood Drive after Mass in the Parish Hall

Fr. José’s Welcome Back Barbecue, 1:00 p.m.