

“Where Two or Three are Gathered” . . .

Matthew 18:15-20

Jesus and his disciples had climbed up a quiet hillside to a flat spot from which they could look back down on the city of Capernaum. Farther up was a grove of trees, but the afternoon was cool so they sat and warmed themselves under the bright sun.

Gathered in a circle, they sat facing each other. Since Peter and Andrew had gotten into a little squabble, Jesus was talking to them about brothers fighting against each other.

Peter and his brother Andrew looked glumly across the circle at the other pair of brothers, James and John. All four of them were recalling the many times that they had quarreled. Jesus smiled at them as he settled back on the grass to share his teaching.

“If your brother should commit some wrong against you,” Jesus said, “go and point out his fault, but keep it between the two of you.” Jesus watched them earnestly. No-one said anything so Jesus continued.

“If he listens to you, you have won your brother over.”

Thomas seemed smug without having a brother present, so he posed the inevitable question.

“What if he doesn’t listen?” Thomas asked.

Jesus was quick with his reply.

“If he doesn’t listen, summon another, so that every case may stand on the word of two or three witnesses.”

The disciples continued their exchange of “what-if” questions until they expanded to include the entire church.

“And,” one of them said, “what if the brother ignores even the church? What then?”

“Treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector,” Jesus directed.

He went on to reassure them with the words he had previously spoken to Simon Peter.

“Whatever you declare bound on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you declare loosed on earth shall be held loosed in heaven.”

Just then a flock of birds flashed overhead, disappearing into the grove of trees higher up. The distraction made the disciples fall silent, leaving each with his own thoughts amid the beauty and peacefulness of the place.

Later the disciples began to wonder about how things would be after Jesus was gone. They asked many questions, thinking up all possible situations. To end their anxiety, Jesus assured them that even if he were physically absent he would still be with them.

“Again I tell you,” he said, “if two of you join your voices on earth to pray for anything whatever, it shall be granted you by my Father in heaven. Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in their midst.”

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The Gospel reminds us that whenever we gather in Jesus name, he is there! We find him in our Sunday celebration. We find him in our prayer around the family table. We also find him powerfully present in small faith-sharing and Bible study groups. Because he lives in each of us, we see him reflected in the eyes of one another.



INFORMATION FOR THE COMING WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

For September 8, 2008 September 14, 2008

Mon.	8:15 a.m. --	Communion Service
Tue.	8:15 a.m. --	Craig Manning (Health)
Wed.	8:15 a.m. --	Eustorgia Ojeda (Dec.)
Thur.	8:15 a.m. --	Lucila Case (Dec.)
Fri.	8:15 a.m. --	Ignacia M. Gonzalez (Dec.)
Sat.	9:00 a.m. --	Cesaria Perez (Dec.)
	5:00 p.m. --	Chon (Birthday) & Mary Tostado (Birthday)
Sun.	6:45 a.m. --	Jesse Ramirez (Dec.)
	8:15 a.m. --	Greg Brent (Dec.)
	9:45 a.m. --	For us, the Parishioners
	11:30 a.m.--	Roberto Rivera (Dec.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For September 8, 2008 September 13, 2008

Mon	Micah 5:1-4a / Matthew 1:1-16,18-23
Tues.	1 Corinthians 6:1-11 / Luke 6:12-19
Wed.	1 Corinthians 7:25-31 / Luke 6:20-26
Thu.	1 Corinthians 8:16-7,11-13 / Luke 6:27-38
Fri.	1 Corinthians 9:16-19,22b-27 / Luke 6:39-42
Sat.	1 Corinthians 10:14-22 / Luke 6:43-49

SUNDAY READINGS

September 14, 2008 - Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

1st Reading: Numbers 21:4b-9 / 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11 / Gospel: John 3:13-17

COLLECTIONS

For August 31, 2008

First Collection	\$6,709.50
Our budgeted goal for the First Collection	9,566.00
Second Collection: Parish Maintenance.....	2,339.00
Children's Envelopes	27.00

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

Welcome Back

Fr. José!

TODAY

BLOOD DRIVE

Alter all Masses in the Parish Hall

(Walk-ins welcome)

**FR. JOSE'S WELCOME
BACK BARBECUE
After the 11:30 a.m. Mass
in the field**

(In order to attend you must have a pre-paid ticket. Ticket sales ended last Tuesday).

NEW ARTICLES

IMPORTANT NOTICE : CHANGE IN OUR COLLECTION SCHEDULE IN THE COMING WEEKS READ CAREFULLY TO AVOID "CORN-FUSION "

Next weekend there will be a special second collection in all of the parishes (well, most of the parishes) in the diocese to give parishioners the opportunity to have a role in supporting our new Cathedral, the Cathedral of Christ the Light.

The new cathedral is located at the intersection of Harrison Street and Grand Avenue, and replaces our diocese's original cathedral, St. Francis de Sales, which suffered damage from the Loma Prieta Earthquake in October, 1989. Diocesan offices which were located on Lakeshore Avenue moved across the lake to new offices at the cathedral site about a month ago. Dedication ceremonies for the new cathedral start next weekend.

HERE ARE THE CHANGES TO THE SCHEDULE

(Tape this to your refrigerator, computer screen, or dog, so you will not forget it)

Since our collection schedule is developed a year in advance, and since our collections are scheduled according to a pattern, we will not follow the diocesan schedule of having the collection next weekend. This is what we are going to do :

NEXT WEEKEND, SEPTEMBER 14

2nd Collection for ST. VINCENT DE PAUL (no change)
Exit Collection for SUMMER UTILITIES (formerly the
second collection on September 21)

SEPTEMBER 21

2nd Collection replaced by CATHEDRAL COLLECTION
Exit Collection for HOLY FATHER (no change).

More information on the cathedral will appear in next weekend's edition of *The Bulletin*. ***Envelopes for the collection will be stuffed into next weekend's Bulletin. Be sure to write your account number on the envelope before placing it in the basket.***

EMBER 7, 2008

COFFEE AND DONUT FELLOWSHIP NEXT SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, sponsored by our Parish School. Be sure to stick around after Mass and chat with your fellow parishioners and fella parisionettes.

Remember to thank with your words and patronage **Roberto's Donuts**, located at 404 W. Harder Road (where Harder and Santa Clara meet) in Hayward. They have donated dozens and dozens of donuts to us over the years for this event.

FUNDRAISING GIFT CARDS AND CERTIFICATES, RELIGIOUS ARTICLES AND OLR CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATIVE ITEMS WILL BE SOLD AFTER MASS NEXT WEEKEND.

NEED HELP WITH YOUR E-SCRIP ENROLLMENT? THEN SEE US NEXT SUNDAY. Now through November, it is Open Enrollment for Safeway's eScrip program. It is the time for you to affirm that you still want to participate in eScrip, and that you want Our Lady of the Rosary to be the beneficiary of your eScrip earnings. **SEE US AT THE TABLE IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH NEXT WEEKEND.** We can help you renew your eScrip enrollment for **Safeway**, and even instruct you how to enroll your **Macy's** credit card for eScrip as well.

GIFT CARDS OR E-SCRIP? WHY NOT BOTH? Some people have asked "If I participate in eScrip, why should I buy Safeway Gift Cards?" The reason for this is that the gift cards you purchase from us always have a greater return to OLR than does eScrip. On the other hand, then, if you purchase gift cards, why should you participate in eScrip? The reason for this is that for those occasions where you have depleted your gift card balance, or have forgotten to bring your gift cards to the store, we will still earn *something* from your purchase as the "eScrip will kick in."

ADVANCE NOTICE ON FLU SHOT CLINIC. We have scheduled the date when the Visiting Nurses from Sutter Health will be here for their annual Flu Shot Clinic. It will be on Sunday, October 12, from 12:00 Noon to 1:30 p.m. Be sure to mark your calendar.

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 –

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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.

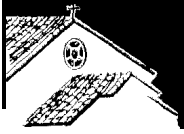
If you have any questions or concerns please call Sheryl Bartlett at 510.441.1577.

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.

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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.



***This Week
At O.L.R.***

Tuesday, September 9

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

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

Liturgy Committee Meeting, Office Room 107, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 10

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

Parish Finance Committee Meeting, Office Room 206, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 11

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

Friday, September 12

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 13

Guadalupe Society Meeting, 10:00 a.m.

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

Sunday, September 14

Second Collection for St. Vincent de Paul

Exit Collection for Summer Utilities

Coffee and Donut Fellowship, by Our Parish School

Fundraising gift cards, religious articles and centennial items sold in front of the Church