

SEPTEMBER 21, 2008 – 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME***Those Who are Last Will be First***

The disciples were down by the lake with Jesus and the afternoon's discussion was full of revelation. Jesus had just told them that they would one day sit on thrones to rule the twelve tribes of Israel. He promised eternal life but warned that many that are now first, will be last; and many that are now last will be first.

Thaddeus asked Jesus: "How can those who are now last, be the first? What about those of us who have followed you from the very beginning? Surely we, who were the first, will always be so honored."

Thomas started to join Thaddeus in his argument, but a

dark realization stopped him. It suddenly occurred to him that his own faith could be lost, his own promises might be broken. Things are not always the same. People change for better or for worse.

Jesus tossed a pebble out onto the water and watched the wave rings widen. The rings spread from the center where the pebble had broken the water's surface. The rings were like his idea which was widening and growing. Jesus turned back to his group and sat down on the ground, preparing to tell them a story. He leaned back against a tree.

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like this," Jesus began. "Once there was a man who went out early in the morning to hire some men to work in his vineyard..."

When Jesus ended the story he emphasized that the employer's generosity was like that of God. He went on to clarify: "...those who are last will be first and those who are first will be last."

The disciples were fascinated by the strange twist of Jesus' clever tale—all except Thaddeus who was still struggling with the concept. Eventually the rings of understanding would encircle him and he too would know the wisdom that God's ways are not the ways of men. All of the disciples would realize that everyone is called to unselfishly rejoice in God's wonderful generosity to his creation.

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The parable of the vineyard workers teaches the lesson that all we really have is God's generosity. If we really got what we deserve we might not be such sticklers for justice. It might be a much different story. There is really nothing we can do to "deserve"

eternal other gift from God. All we can do is stand in wonder as God patiently forgives us for our weakness, loves us anyway, and still surrounds us with the gifts from his immense generosity.

-- Deacon Dick Folger

INFORMATION FOR THE COMING WEEK

MASS INTENTIONS

For September 22, 2008 September 28, 2008

- Mon. 8:15 a.m. -- Communion Service
- Tue. 8:15 a.m. -- For us, the Parishioners
- Wed. 8:15 a.m. -- Marta Estrella (Health)
- Thur. 8:15 a.m. -- Cleofas Tostado (Dec.)
- Fri. 8:15 a.m. -- Maria Concepcion (Dec.) & Agustin Michel (Dec.)
- Sat. 9:00 a.m. -- Pedro Gonzalez (Intentions)
- 5:00 p.m. -- Ernest (Dec.) & Adelene Quadros (Dec.); Joseph (Dec.) & Adeline Enos (Dec.)
- Sun. 6:45 a.m. -- Zacarias I. Arciniaga (Dec.)
- 8:15 a.m. -- John Pitta (Dec.)
- 9:45 a.m. -- Osvel Alberto Rodriguez (Birthday)
- 11:30 a.m.-- Lilly Vand der Henst (Dec.)

WEEKDAY READINGS

For September 22, 2008 September 27, 2008

- Mon Proverbs 3:27-34 / Luke 8:16-18
- Tues Proverbs 21:1-6,10-13 / Luke 8:19-31
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- Wed. Proverbs 30:5-9 / Luke 9:1-6
- Thu. Ecclesiastes 1:2-11 / Luke 9:7-9
- Fri. Ecclesiastes 3:1-11 / Luke 9:18-22
- Sat. Ecclesiastes 11:9-12:8 / Luke 9:43b-45

SUNDAY READINGS

September 28, 2008 - 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28 / 2nd Reading: Philipians 2:1-11 /
Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

COLLECTIONS

For September 14, 2008

First Collection	\$6,861.50
Our budgeted goal for the First Collection	9,566.00
Second Collection: St. Vincent De Paul.....	2,414.50
Children's Envelopes	16.25

Thank you very much! We appreciate your support.

TODAY: MEETING FOR 7TH THROUGH 12TH GRADERS NEEDING THEIR BAPTISM AND FIRST COMMUNION. 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, and attend the informational meeting for students and parents being held today, September 21, at 7:30 p.m. in the Upper Room of the Parish Hall. If you have any questions or concerns please call Sheryl Bartlett at 510.441.1577.

TODAY

PANCAKE / MENUDO BREAKFAST

Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus
After Mass in the Parish Hall

WORKSHOP ON CATHOLIC FUNERALS

After Mass in the Dobrec Room

NEW ARTICLES

THIS WEEKEND

SPECIAL COLLECTION / PLEDGE DRIVE FOR THE CATHEDRAL OF CHRIST THE LIGHT

The second collection this weekend is for the Cathedral of Christ the Light, our diocese's new mother church.

Hopefully you received a donation and pledge envelope in last weekend's bulletin or in the pews at Mass this weekend. If you have not yet turned in your envelope you may do so at any time. You may mail it to the Cathedral office (it is self-addressed and stamped) or place it in the collection at Mass at any time in the coming weeks.

This drive is much like the Bishop's Appeal: you may make a one-time donation or a pledge on a monthly, quarterly or annual basis. You may also make your payments automatically using your checking account or credit card. If you return your envelope by placing it in the collection, be sure to write your account number on this envelope. If you choose to mail your envelope to the Cathedral office, be sure to include the name of our parish in the space provided so OLR will get the credit for your donation.

We highly encourage your support of the Cathedral, as it is truly the mother church of our Diocese. The Diocese has ensured that each parish truly a part of the Cathedral.

The name of our parish is engraved in glass at the Cathedral as are the names of all the other parishes, and the ceremony of each Oakland parish contributing the water of their Baptismal fonts to the font of the Cathedral is another manifestation of this. In the future, there will be a number of ways where members of all parishes will worship and celebrate at the Cathedral, one example being our parish's celebration of the Sacrament of Confirmation at the Cathedral.

In last weekend's Bulletin we included a flyer with some information about the Cathedral. In coming weeks you will find other flyers – be sure to look for them, as they are quite informative.

FESTIVAL NEWS

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. . . THAT'S HOW MANY WEEKS ARE LEFT UNTIL THE PARISH FESTIVAL.
HERE'S THE LATEST!

WHAT ARE THE DATES OF THE PARISH FESTIVAL?

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 AND SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5.

WHAT IS THE FESTIVAL GOING TO BE LIKE? This year's festival will be pretty much the same as last year's.

FLEA MARKET PICK-UPS. For those of you who have items at home that you want to donate to the Festival Flea Market and have no way to get them here, we offer a pick up service. The pick-ups will be done this coming Saturday, September 27, from 10:00 a.m. to "whenever." In order to schedule a pick-up, please call the Parish Office at 510.471.2609 before Friday and leave the following information: your name, phone number, address, and a brief description of the items to be picked up.

THE ONE, THE ONLY, THE BIGGEST AND THE BEST – BIG FESTIVAL MEETING THIS WEEK!

This coming Wednesday, September 24, we will have a BIG FESTIVAL MEETING. This meeting is for the following people:

- Anyone who is a chairperson of a booth, or was a chairperson last year and is returning.
- Anyone who is working in a booth.
- Anyone who wants to help out at the Festival, but has not told us about this yet.

The meeting will be held in the portable building cluster of the school. Actually, there will be three meetings. People should attend the meeting that most closely meets what they will be doing at the Festival:

- **FOOD BOOTHS:** Go to the room with the RED sign
- **GAME BOOTHS:** Go to the room with the BLUE sign
- **ALL OTHER BOOTHS AND PEOPLE:** Go to the room with the YELLOW sign.

All necessary instructions will be given at this meeting, so we hope to see everyone who will have a role in the Festival at this meeting.

JOLLY GOOD CARSHOW! If you are a car enthusiast, our festival is going to put on a “jolly good show” for you. The East Bay Chapter of the Bay Bombs Car Club will be here on Sunday, October 5, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the field to show their cars. The cars will be from the model years 1940 through 1964. We hope that you will enjoy this added attraction.

NEXT WEEKEND – SALE OF FUNDRAISING GIFT CARDS, RELIGIOUS ARTICLES AND CENTENNIAL ITEMS AFTER MASS.

MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING OF COR’S OLR-LOC WILL BE THIS WEDNESDAY, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. in the first floor Office Conference Room. The main topic of discussion is working on our campaign to promote the “yes” vote on city Measure UU – the initiative which will continue the current parcel tax which supports police, fire, and youth services. We will also have updates on Logan High School and Cesar Chavez middle school. Everyone is welcome to attend.

ARTICLES FROM OUTSIDE THE PARISH

YOU ARE INVITED TO MAKE A CURSILLO WEEKEND. The Cursillo weekend is a three-day sharing experience of living in a Christian Community. The word “Cursillo” in Spanish means “a little course.” During the three days of the weekend a person not only hears what it really means to be Christian but actually gets to experience the joy of building and being part of a genuine Christian Community. Find someone in your parish who has made the weekend in the past, and enroll their help to sign you up now! For Candidate applications and Sponsor forms please visit www.oakdiocesecursillo.org. The next men’s weekend will be October 23 – 26 at Holy Redeemer Center in Oakland. The next women’s weekend will be November 6 – 9 at Holy Redeemer Center. For details contact Nita Volker at 925.838.9442 or Carolyn Steele at 925.648.4890. ¡De Colores!

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO JOIN ST. JOSEPH’S CHURCH IN FREMONT TO GET TO KNOW PAUL BETTER. On Monday nights from September 29 through October 13 St. Joseph’s Church will have a series on Paul at Holy Family Motherhouse, 159 Washington Blvd. in Fremont. The sessions will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. For more information contact Jo Ann Miller at 510.656.2364.



*This Week
At O.L.R.*

Tuesday, September 23

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 24

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

General Festival Meeting, School Portables, 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 25

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

Friday, September 26

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 27

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

Sunday, September 28

Second Collection for The Catholic Voice & El Heraldo Católico

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