25th August 2019 - Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time

**From the Desk of the Pastor....**

It is amazing how easily people begin to take you for granted. You begin by doing a favor for another person out of sheer goodness of your heart. For example, you volunteer to drive a neighbor's child to school. In a few short months the neighbor forgets that you are doing her a favor and apparently begins to think that her child has exclusive rights to your car. When you confront her with the facts, you find her not very receptive. What are your options......... What do you choose to do?

Jesus said there are two roads we can follow. The first is wide and easy to travel. All you have to do is yield yourself to the current and you will be carried along. In other words, - follow the crowd. It is downhill most of the way; it is the way of comfort and ease. It is well lit with glittering neon lights. Which promises to offer a traveler all kinds of fun and excitement. Many are fooled and travel down this road. But in the long run, it leads them nowhere. They die in the desert.

The second road is narrow and difficult. You will often have to go it alone. It is uphill most of the way. It is the way of sacrifice and struggle. At times you will have no light to guide you, save that of the stars. Few take this road. But they are the lucky ones. The Blessed ones. For eventually the desert sands and sun run out and one enters with joy into the Promised Land.

**PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS**

**R.C.I.A.**

The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (R.C.I.A) is a year-round process available to any adult who wishes to inquire into Catholicism. It is also an invitation for adults who have not received and would wish to receive all the three sacraments of initiation: Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation.

R.C.I.A. is a journey of faith, filled with hope and fired by love. This time is spent in discovering Jesus, to listen to his voice as he says: "Have Courage, It is I, do not be afraid".

If you are interested in learning more about the Catholic Church or in sponsoring someone who is in the process of being initiated into the Church, please call the Parish office at 415-334-4646.

**Children's Liturgy of the Word**

The Children's Liturgy of the Word is conducted during the 9:30 am and 12:30 pm masses. All school age children are invited to participate. Parents are urged to consider supporting this ministry to help our children to understand the Sunday Mass.

Readings better at their own level. If you would like your child to participate in the Children's Liturgy on Sundays, please arrive 15 minutes before the mass starts to sign up your child and for the child to stand in line at the front of the church ready to be part of the procession. The sign up material will be supplied to you before the Mass.

To sign up please talk to Sonia Urquilla, person in charge of the program.

**ST. JOHN SCHOOL**

St. John School, mindful of its mission to be witnesses to the love of Christ for all, admits students of any race, color, national and/or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students of this school. St. John School does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, and/or ethnic origin, age, gender or disability in the administration of educational policies, admissions policies, scholarship and loan programs, and athletic and other school administered programs.

**FORMED Highlights**

At the end of Mass, the priest says, "Go forth, the Mass has ended." Do you ever wonder what that looks like in our modern world?

Our mission as Catholics is to share the Good News through Evangelization, but sometimes we can get overwhelmed with the state of our world and how to truly bring Christ into it.

Catholics are challenged to take their faith outside the parish doors. With our real stories from real Catholics sharing the beauty of the Church in their communities, will inspire you to be the 'salt of the earth' and the 'light of the world' to take our Catholic Faith beyond Sundays.

**2019-2020 Respect Life Essay Contest**

Students from 1 through 12 Grades--in Catholic schools and religious education classes, as well as home-schooled students in the Archdiocese of San Francisco--are invited to participate. Winning students receive cash awards from $25 to $250, depending on grade level. More information at https://sacarchdiocese.org/essay-contest.