January 19th 2020 - 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

From the Desk of the Pastor ....

We begin Sundays in Ordinary Time of the Liturgical Calendar of the Church. These Sundays launch Jesus’ public ministry, which begins with his Baptism by John the Baptist, and leads us through an extended meditation on “the Sermon on the Mount”.

The cycle of the readings is based on the Gospel of St. Matthew, which presents Jesus as a rabbi – a teacher of the ‘new law’ – and the ‘fulfillment of the Law and the Prophets’.

However as an exception, this weekend’s gospel passage is chosen from John. A ‘new Israel’ comes to life after years of sufferings and pain. ‘Israel’ would be the light to all nations. Through Israel, God’s salvation would reach to the ends of the earth. John the Baptist is the last of the Old Testament prophets, sent to announce the coming of God’s chosen one and to prepare others to receive him. John the Baptist speaks of the event, which occurred when he baptized Jesus in the River Jordan. John confesses that he did not recognize Jesus as the fulfillment of the prophecies until he saw the Spirit descend upon Jesus and heard the voice of God the Father: ‘This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased’.

It is John the Baptist and his deep faith, which identifies his relative and fellow countryman ‘Jesus’ as the ‘Lamb of God’ who takes away the sins of the world. (Is 53:7-12)

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

2019 CONTRIBUTIONS

The Parish office issues “Individual Contribution acknowledgement letters” for the calendar year 2019 upon request only. You must be a registered parishioner using Parish envelopes in order to receive this letter. The Parish envelope number identifies your contribution records.

Please call the Parish office (415-334-4646) a week ahead before dropping by to collect this letter. Thank you.

Walk for Life 2020

The 16th annual Walk for Life West Coast Rally will be held on Saturday, January 25th. Mass will be celebrated at 9:30am at the Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption. The main celebrant will be His Excellency, Most Reverend Alexander Sample, Archbishop of Portland. The Rally starts at 12:30pm at Civic Center Plaza walking down Market Street and will end at the Ferry Building. Everyone is invited to come. See you there!

Novena For Life

Each year, the Knights of Columbus participate in the annual West Coast Walk for Life, which will be held again this year on January 25th. In preparation for this event, San Francisco Council #615 will sponsor a ‘Novena for Life’ at St. John the Evangelist Church on the preceding nine days.

The novenas began at the 9am mass on Thursday January 16th and will continue each day until Friday January 24th.

The novena on Sunday the 19th will be at the 10am mass. Light refreshments will be provided following the Sunday service. All are welcomed to participate in the novena and pray the rosary following each mass (except on Sunday).

Parishioner Survey

The Archdiocese of San Francisco is conducting a survey for all mass-goers in the Archdiocese. Your answers to the survey will help the Archdiocese better understand the experiences and needs of parishioners. Survey cards are made available on tables at the back of the church. Please fill them out and place them in the boxes provided.

Alternatively, if you prefer you can also do the survey online at: sfarch.org/parish-survey-english.

Office Closed

The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, January 20th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. The office will re-open on Tuesday, January 21st.

Last Week’s Collection

Colecta de la Semana Pasada

January 6th 2020 - January 12th 2020

Tuesday’s Spec. Coll. ........ $ 67.00
Tues. On-line Giving .......... $ 5.00
Weekend Offering.............. $ 2,234.00
Weekend On-line Giving........ $ 305.00
AAA.............................. $ 1,486.00
AAA On-line giving............... $ 135.00

Lord, I behold Your divine presence today and every day. I seek You and love You. Give me the eyes of faith to discover Your real but hidden presence at all times. You are all around me every day. Help me to rejoice in how near You always are. Jesus, I trust in You.

"Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world."

These familiar words of St. John the Baptist offer us a beautiful meditation. They are spoken every time we attend Mass when the priest holds up the Sacred Host. These words, spoken first by John as Jesus came to Him to be baptized. Think about that statement: “Behold the Lamb of God...” It’s good to start by imagining John speaking these words of Jesus. But from there, we apply them to the Eucharist and to countless other moments in our daily lives. The eyes of all present saw only an ordinary man approaching the scene. But the eyes of faith saw He who would give His life for the salvation of the world as the Sacrificial Lamb.

And when we look at the Sacred Host, as it is held up at Mass for all to see, we see Jesus, the Sacrificial Lamb, in an even more veiled way. We see, with our eyes, a piece of bread. But with the eyes of faith, once again we behold the Savior.

The Sacrificial Lamb of God is continually coming to us throughout our day. He is all around us, coming to us in veiled form, revealing Himself in faith. Do you see Him? How is it that you are being called, this day, to behold His divine and sacrificial presence? How is He present in acts of selfless charity? How does He come to you each day and how does He desire you to bring Him to others each day? Discover Him with the eyes of faith and rejoice as He draws near.

God has given each of us different gifts. For God’s plan to work, you have to do what God is calling you to do. God has given each of us a different plan! Stop comparing yourself to others. Do not let jealousy enter your life.