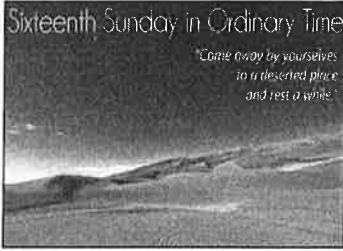


July 18th - Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



From the Desk of the Pastor

In biblical times, "Shepherd" was a traditional title for a king. After the image of the Good Shepherd, the kings, as representatives of God, were expected to shepherd the People of God.

However, the kings had not tended their flock. The sheep truly were scattered in Jeremiah's time: Babylon deported thousands of citizens of Jerusalem after their first assault against the city in 597 B.C.E. Zedekiah could have broken the cycle of infidelity to God, only if he listened to what the Prophet Jeremiah had to say. But the king chose to follow the advice of his counselors, to seek political security, rather than pursue justice and make peace.

Today's Gospel passage is a report to Jesus regarding the work of the Apostles. Jesus' response to the Apostles is very interesting. He does not encourage them to do more or to do better or even to persevere. He tells them to rest in a deserted place all by themselves. (Mk. 6:31). Jesus does not seem to be impressed with the business of life, because it is not always life-giving. He guides his apostles into the wilderness where they can rest and be restored.

Wilderness is a significant theme in the Gospel of St. Mark. It recounts the essential role of the wilderness journey, as a place of rest and restoration. It is where those on the journey, like Elijah, Moses and even Jesus, are purified. It is in the wilderness, that Israel encountered Yahweh.

It is also a place of confrontation. A confrontation with and purification from various distractions, like the demons of selfishness, attraction to evil, and addictions. It is also a place of discerning God's will: to encounter God and to listen deeply to the voice of God within us and around us.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, July 17

9:00am *St. John Parish*
4:30pm † *Rodrigo Tarantan*

Sunday, July 18

8:00am † *Estela Ubaldo Anchors*
10:00am † *Estela Ubaldo Anchors*
12:00pm *Alma Valerio (hlng)*

Monday, July 19

9:00am *YMI Brothers*

Tuesday, July 20

9:00am

Wednesday, July 21

9:00am

Thursday, July 22

9:00am *Knights of Columbus*

Friday, July 23

9:00am † *Henry & Teresa Thran*

Saturday, July 24

9:00am *Poor Souls in Purgatory*
4:30pm

PARISH COMMUNITY NEWS

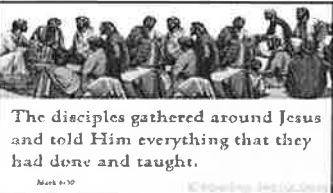
The Church is open for weekend masses

Saturday mass at 4:30pm and Sunday masses at 8am & 10am in English and 12 noon en espanol

The church is open for personal prayer and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Sundays from 7:30am to 1:00pm.

We pray the rosary at 9:30am in English and at 11:30am in Spanish. Come and join us in praying the rosary.

The Parish thanks the Knights of Columbus, Council 615 and our liturgical ministers who generously offer their time, talent and treasure in faithful stewardship every weekend, keeping watch in the church and taking care of the church



The Parish Office has moved

Effective Monday, **June 21, 2021**, our Parish Office has been relocated to the Rectory Building, at 19 St. Marys Avenue. Our telephone number (415) 334-4646 and hours of operation remain the same, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm.

In this today's Gospel, we read the report of the return of the Twelve, who were sent by Jesus to preach repentance, heal the sick, and drive out demons. When the Twelve return to Jesus, he invites them to come away from the crowds and rest. But the crowds will not give them peace. As the Twelve have shared in Jesus' ministry, they now appear to share in his popularity. The crowds continue to approach them, and Mark reports that the disciples don't even have time to eat. In an effort to get away, Jesus and his disciples board a boat in hopes of finding a deserted place. But the crowds notice this and arrive ahead of them. The crowds are so persistent that Jesus and his disciples cannot find a place to be alone. Mark's Gospel tells us that Jesus is moved with pity and begins to teach the crowds. The work of Jesus and his disciples appears to be a round-the-clock job.

It is important to have balance in our lives, and Jesus was indeed trying to teach this to the Apostles, but when they got to their intended place of repose, they encountered so many people Jesus was filled with compassion. No doubt he went about feeding them spiritually and physically; it would have been important for him to be hospitable. But at some point in time, He knew that they needed to rest. None of us is any good at our prayer, our ministries, our lives, unless we take the time to find the quiet and go back to replenish our own wells. There is no way we can give to others unless we do. That is why we return to church each week, to rest and be nourished and renewed. And none of us is so important that we can't take time away to take care of ourselves. So be gentle with yourself and with others this week.

Jesus commissioned the Twelve Apostles to lead the Church and carry on His ministry. Today we hear about their return. We can only imagine how they felt after their outreach efforts. Jesus' next step for them is significant. He calls them to "come away" and "rest awhile." They needed physical rest but they also need spiritual rest for the renewal of their souls. Jesus teaches us an important lesson here too. Sometimes we can get so busy doing things that we forget to stop and grow in relationship with God—to just be in Jesus' presence and feel his radiating for us.

**God.
Family.
Work.
in that order.**

SECOND COLLECTION

Today's second collection is for **Music Ministry of St. John the Evangelist**. We will soon reinstate the Music Ministry in our liturgies.

Thank you for your continued generous support.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

COLECTA DE LA SEMANA PASADA

July 5th - July 11th, 2021

Weekend Offering.....\$2,148.00

AAA.....\$ 893.00