



MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK

July 14 - July 20

Mon.	8:30	Emile Dufault †
Wed.	8:30	Lou Romanello †
Thurs.	8:30	Emile Dufault †
Fri.	6:30	Pietro Caturegli †
	8:30	Cynthia Schulz †
Sat.	8:30	Edward Zamiska †
	5:00	Anna T. Callan †
Sun.	7:30	Catherine Murray †
	5:00	Henry Dingli †

Rest in Peace

John Quinn

Sick Relatives and Friends

Please remember in your prayers: Christine Zika, Stan Mitchell, Trish Barrett, Yolanda Plut, Carmella Chellemi, Zina Colombo, Jim Mason, Betty Cirigliano, Louise DeBarbrie, and Carmen Esquivel.

Are you are ill or homebound and would you like members of the parish to pray for you? Do you know of someone who is, and would like to receive the Eucharist? Contact Kathy Fagliano at 591-7349 ext. 28.



Rides needed to Mass....Can you help?

If you are available to offer a ride to and from Mass to a fellow parishioner, please contact Kathy Fagliano at 591-7349 ext. 28.

Sacramental Giving

Offertory Collection - \$11,263.50

Parish Education - \$2,467

Thank you!

SPECIAL MISSION COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

"...And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that you may always have enough of everything and may provide in abundance for every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:8

Stewardship by the Book: May our stewardship of time, talent, and treasure show us to be among those who have heard the message of Christ and taken it in, yielding a hundred – or sixty – or thirty-fold!

Will you be traveling during the Summer?

Check out "Mass Times for Travelers" at 1-410-676-6000 or go to www.masstimes.org.

Faith Formation

CCD? RELIGIOUS EDUCATION? NO!

We now refer to it as *Catechesis*. Which means to *Echo God's Word*. It's not just about education, it's about being formed into the faith and we do that by "echoing the Word of God". **CATECHISTS! We need you!** We have several of our catechists who will be taking a leave this year. Our program for the children's religious formation depends on you. We have several openings in all grades. We have information and DVD's for you to take home over the summer so you can begin to have training right in your own home. There are also four workshops being offered in August. (*see below*) The catechists really enjoyed last summer's workshops. For more information please call Nancy Farrant, 591-7349 ex. 27 or email NFarrant@stcharlesparish.org. All catechists will tell you that they receive more out of it than they ever give. Watch your own faith develop through this process.

Finally, we will offer catechetical workshops on September 14th, 21st and 28th for all who are interested...specifically to prepare for and share about the upcoming year.

BASIC CATECHIST FORMATION

The Parish Catechetical Leaders of Deanery 11 (Southern San Mateo County) are pleased to present four workshops for new and experienced catechists. These sessions offer credit for certification and recertification. The sessions will be held two different days and at different locations to accommodate busy schedules.

SCHEDULE

Saturday 10 - 11:30am	Topic/Presenter	Tuesday 7 - 8:30pm
8/2/08 St. Denis, Menlo Park	What is the Big Deal about Mass & Liturgy and How we Worship? (Sr. Celeste Arbuckle, SSS)	8/5/08 St. Matthias RWC
8/9/08 St. Denis, Menlo Park	Scripture & Spirituality in our Sessions (Victor Valdez)	8/12/08 St. Matthias RWC
8/16/08 St. Charles San Carlos	Lesson Planning 101: For Beginners and Advanced Catechists (Laurie Coulter & Sabrina Spence)	8/19/08 St. Pius RWC
8/23/08 St. Charles San Carlos	Feast Days and Prayers with Children of All Ages (Nancy Farrant)	8/26/08 St. Pius RWC

Contact Nancy Farrant at 591-7349 ext. 27 or e-mail NFarrant@stcharlesparish.org

Thank You ^{©3}

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Thank-You to all our Scripture Campers and families for another wonderful week of camp! You sang and prayed from your hearts and I loved being a part your camp experience. I also want to say a big THANK-YOU for your generous gift. My family and I will think of you all when we go to Fresh Choice and of how God gave YOU the POWER to GIVE TO OTHERS of how God gives US the POWER to BE THANKFUL...A-HA!



Outreach to Our Sister Parish

We will be collecting donations of non-perishable foods, paper products and toiletries at the Saturday evening & Sunday morning Masses next weekend in continuing outreach to our sister parish community, St. Francis of Assisi. Thank you for helping to meet their needs of our East Palo Alto neighbors.

St. Charles Men's Silent Retreat The Saints of Summer August 15 - 17 2008

The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos

Retreat Director is Fr. Gerald F. Hudson, SJ.

Saint Thomas More (June 22): Saints Peter and Paul (June 29): Saint Thomas the Apostle (July 3): Saint Benedict (July 11): Saint Ignatius of Loyola (July 31). Even today these saints of the past have much to say to us. This retreat will focus on the lessons that we can learn from their lives.

For more information on this silent retreat for the men of St. Charles contact Bob McMahon at 591-1822.

Women's Catholic Scripture Study starts again Sept 11, 2008

Women from parishes all around the Bay Area meet Thursdays from 10 am to noon at St. Mark's Parish in Belmont (ending in late May with holiday breaks for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter). We'll be doing an overview of Scripture using the book, **Understanding the Scriptures: A Complete Course in Bible Study** by Dr. Scott Hahn. This will be the perfect study for those new to Bible study as well as those who would like a deeper understanding of the "overall picture" of salvation history. This book is being used in Catholic high schools, seminaries, and parish Bible study groups. A high school teacher from Denver commented, "I have taught for twenty-two years in a variety of subject areas and have never had such an excellent textbook. This is Dr. Hahn's covenant-based perspective on salvation history with copious quotes from Scripture, the Catechism, and various Church documents. The layout is beautiful and the text is interspersed with some of the most beautiful religious art ever created." Registration fee is \$10. and there is an additional fee for the book and workbook. We'll also be studying select Scripture passages, so you'll need your Bible, too. The study involves home study questions, small group discussions, and a live wrap-up lecture. To learn more or to register, contact

Tami Palladino: tami@stcharlesparish.org or 591-7349 x31 or Christine Fenwick: cssbelmont@gmail.com or 704-7881.

TRANSFORMING GRIEF is a day of spiritual retreat for those grieving the death of a loved one. It is being offered by Barbara Elordi, Ministry of Consolation Coordinator for the Archdiocese of San Francisco, on Saturday, July 26th at the St. Gabriel Church from 9:30am - 2:30pm. Contact Barbara to register: 415-614-5506 or ElordiB@sfarchdiocese.org.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A Get-Away Weekend!!! Do you need a vacation? Give yourself and your spouse time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. Enjoy a chance to talk and listen to that special someone who loves you! Enrich your life by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Go to www.sflovemoredeeply.org or call Paul & Yvonne at 650-366-7093.

Next SF - WWME Weekend: November 7 - 9, San Mateo.



Ordinary Time: Summer A Sense of the Season

What do the words Ordinary Time mean? Dorothy Day said, "The words 'Ordinary Time' in our prayer books put me in a state of confusion and irritation. To me, no time is ordinary." She was right. The Ordinary in "Ordinary Time" refers to ordinal—counted—time, not to a lack of something to celebrate. The Roman document, General Norms for the Liturgical Year and Calendar, says: "Apart from those seasons having their own distinctive character [Advent, Christmastime, Lent, Triduum and Eastertime], 33 or 34 weeks remain in the yearly cycle that do not celebrate a specific aspect of the mystery of Christ. Rather, especially on the Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its aspects."

How do we celebrate "the mystery of Christ in all its aspects"? We gather every Sunday. Sunday is our original feast day. Christians have gathered every Sunday—the day of Christ's resurrection, the first day of the week—ever since there were Christians.

When we gather on Sundays in Ordinary Time, as always, we hear the scriptures proclaimed. The church reads straight through "the gospel of the year," either Matthew, Mark or Luke, each week often picking up where we left off last week. (We read John during Lent and Easter, and on feasts.) The first readings, from the first testament of the Bible, have been chosen for their relationship to the gospel passages. Many voices are heard throughout summer Ordinary Time. We also read through some of the letters of the second testament of the Bible. The mystery of Christ "in all its aspects" unfolds.

What is the heart of our Sunday celebration? We do our Eucharist; that is, we do our thanksgiving. We praise and thank God for all creation; we pray for the whole world, as we remember Christ's life, death and resurrection. We share the bread and wine, the body and blood. We are sent forth to be the body and blood of Christ in our homes, our workplaces, our neighborhoods, our towns, our cities, our country, our world.

"What happens in our churches every Sunday is the fruit of our week. What happens as the fruit of the week past is the beginning of the week to come. Sunday is simultaneously a point of arrival and departure for Christians on their way to the fullness of the kingdom. This is not ordinary at all. This is the fabric of Christian living."

(Saint Andrew Bible Missal [Brooklyn: William J. Hirten Co., 1982.])
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Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading - My word will not return to me void, but will achieve the end for which it was sent (*Isaiah 55:10-11*).

Psalm - The seed that falls on good ground will yield a fruitful harvest (*Psalm 65*).

Second Reading - We, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan within ourselves awaiting the redemption of our bodies (*Romans 8:18-23*).

Gospel - Some seed fell on the path, some on rocky ground, and some among thorns. But some also fell on rich soil and produced fruit (*Matthew 13:1-23 [1-9]*).



THE WORD SHALL DO MY WILL

The Word of God is caught up in metaphors and parables. The image of seed that falls on different kinds of ground helps us understand how to listen creatively.

Jesus, the Word, bears fruit in all of creation, but best in our lives and hearts. When you hear this parable of the sower and the seed, do you wonder which you are? Sometimes it seems that we are one, and sometimes another. Like all metaphors, this parable must be understood intuitively, "with the heart," in order for it to work God's healing grace in us.

Jesus is careful to say that we see with our eyes and hear with our ears, but we understand, not with our head, but with our *heart*.

CREATION AWAITS

It is easy to get discouraged. It is easy to be distracted by difficulties and duties in our daily lives. It is possible for the Word to be snatched away, even as we struggle to understand. Distractions of every kind prevent the Word from being heard. But Isaiah and Paul underline the important point that the Word of God is effective in all of creation, including us. Just as the rain waters the earth and will not return to the heavens until it does its intended work, the earth yields its rich harvest and rejoices. Our sufferings, distractions, and wearying work will not prevent us from hearing the Word of God and doing God's work if we see with our eyes the beauty of creation, hear with our ears the music of the universe, and understand with our heart that God has made all of this to help us. God heals every ill, calls us back from distraction, protects us from evil, and gives us the grace to hear the Word with joy.

It is God's grace that prepares the ground for the seed, watering it, breaking up the clods, making even untilled ground fruitful. When we understand with our heart that this is God's work in us, then even without understanding with our head, we can receive the word of God with the same joyful song of creation in bloom.

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