



September 24, 2006 – Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

"If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all." Mark 9:35

† Servant Leader † A Time of Opportunity

Since the Pope's Regensburg address and the reaction of Muslims, so much has been said and feelings have run so high. I have spoken to a great many people and read countless reports and commentaries on this important episode. Recently Dr. Metwalli Amer and Basim Elkarra, two fine Muslims, and I participated in a very helpful talk radio show on this subject.

It is clear that this provides a great moment of challenge and opportunity. Crisis can open new doors and this may be a great opening for a new and fruitful dialogue with all faiths, especially Catholics and Muslims. It is a blessing for me as Interreligious Officer for the Diocese of Sacramento to work with the Imams and other Muslim leaders, to visit their houses of worship, and to break bread with them on many occasions.

I think many would say that Pope Benedict XVI takes a tougher line on Islam than Pope John Paul II, but this is a different time. Terrorism is a huge challenge and must not be condoned in any quarter. Also, there is a question of equal treatment where we must insist that the freedom of Muslims to worship and build mosques granted generously in Europe and other parts of the world must be likewise granted to Christians in all parts of the Muslim world. Pope Benedict clearly expressed his thanks to Muslims after they came to an interfaith service on his inauguration, "I express my appreciation for the growth of dialogue between Muslims and Christians. I assure you that the church wants to continue building bridges of friendship with the followers of all religions." Also, then Cardinal Ratzinger wrote so beautifully in 2003 on the subject of the salvation of non-Christians, "what God makes of the poor, broken pieces of our attempts at good - at approaching him - remains his secret, which we ought not presume to work out."

Now it is time to move on in honesty and respect for each other in a great dialogue. I truly believe this is what the Holy Father had in mind. If we do not do this, it will only be a victory for those who do not wish to see Muslims and Christians work together at one table to improve the human family. The Pope's statement, given in his characteristic bluntness, when read in its entirety and with his apology for any misunderstanding one part of it created, must surely rank as one of the most important statements concerning interfaith and intercultural dialogue. It is unfortunate that many have not read it completely and objectively. Also, the Western and Arabic media can be justly accused of bias and unethical reporting. This is particularly galling since so many have forgotten or have chosen to ignore that the Vatican opposed the war in Iraq, and indeed the Holy See has been quite supportive of Arab and Muslim positions in matters of justice.

I believe people will eventually see the gracious gesture of the Pope's apology for any misunderstanding of his

address. His main point must be clearly understood - the close relationship between reason and belief. Without the right balance between these two, he states, the human race will be condemned to the "pathologies and life-threatening diseases associated with religion and reason." The Pope offers a clear and beautiful request for dialogue with only one condition - that anyone at the table reject the irrationality of religiously motivated violence. He maintains that any spreading of faith through violence is unreasonable. Violence is incompatible with the nature of God, and not acting reasonably is contrary to God's nature. Faith is born of the soul, not the body. Whoever would lead someone to faith needs to speak well and to reason properly without violence and threats. To convince a reasonable soul one does not need a strong arm or weapons of any kind.

The negative reaction of many Muslims is understandable and must be seen in the context of where they are coming from. At present, because of 9/11 and other acts of terrorism perpetrated by Muslim extremists who are not representative of the vast majority of peace-loving Muslims, the Islamic faith has been associated with violence, and many Muslims have become objects of suspicion as possible terrorists and violent people. While there are texts in the Koran about Holy War (as there are in the Bible about war and conquest) Islam is not a religion of violence but a religion of peace, though, of course, individuals or Muslim groups may be violent as were groups from Christian countries in history.

For the future, we need to learn from this episode which illustrates how important it is for us to sit down regularly and really learn about each other's traditions to understand each other so fewer situations like this will erupt. We already, over the years, have built an atmosphere jointly that has been tremendously cooperative and greatly appreciated. We know that religion is the spiritual side of the human being, the angelic side which helps overcome the tendency toward violence. My work and experience through the years with interreligious dialogue have taught me that a situation like this can lead to a great step forward. This has been true also in ecumenical and Jewish relations.

To conclude, I pray that we can really listen to our Muslim partners in dialogue, who really care, and hear what they are saying. All of us surely want this to end well, not badly. We must have serious reflection on this - which is, beneath the surface, the effects of centuries of hostility, arguments and some violence - as to why the effects of bitterness and suspicion so quickly arise and what we can do about it. We surely realize that God is in charge of all the world, sees and knows all the faiths, and is concerned for every human being, even non-believers. We must trust in God and see our beloved Benedict's complete message as the call of a gentle, humble servant to promote a true dialogue built on reason, faith and love. May God inspire all the world to this and promote unity, peace and justice in the human family.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon: Prv 3:27-34; Lk 8:16-18
 Tue: Prv 21:1-6, 10-13; Lk 8:19-21
 Wed: St. Vincent de Paul: Prv 30:5-9; Lk 9:1-6
 Thu: Eccl 1:2-11; Lk 9:7-9
 Fri: Sts. Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael:
 Dn 7:9-10, 13-14; Jn 1:47-51
 Sat: Eccl 11:9 - 12:8; Lk 9:43b-45
 Sun: Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Nm 11:25-19; Jas 5:1-6; Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Questions of the Week:

For Adults: Is the role of being a servant for others easy or difficult for you to embrace?

For Children: Why do you want to be first in line at school or first to do fun things at home? Why is it good to let others be first at something?

MASS INTENTIONS

Monday: Brian Geronimo +
 Katherine France +
 Tom France +
 Tuesday: Mark Jordan -Int.
 Thanksgiving -Int.
 Ted C. Pallach +
 Wednesday: Holy Family Conference of
 St. Vincent de Paul -Int,
 Thursday: Shirley Love +
 Jane Ferrari +
 Friday: Jonathon Geronimo -Int
 Saturday: 4:30 pm Mass - Oswaldo Diaz +
 Sunday: 10:30 am Mass - Maria Hernandez +
 12:30 pm Mass - Pro Populo

PRAYER CORNER

Please remember in your prayers:
 Barbie Adorno, Peter Alvarez, Marcel Arnal, Mary Avila,
 Jack Barca, Pam Bardwil, Cody Bartley, Teresa Bennett Smith,
 Charles Black, Jill Boyd, Shirley Bryant, Bernard Burke,
 Marge Caron, Joe Celeya, Bob Cleveland, Sue Cotner, Darren
 Crose, James Crutcher, Julie Desrochers, Maria Dixon, John
 Dooney, Bonnie Eldridge, Andrew Flores, Loretta Francescon,
 Frances & Leo Girard, Evelyn Gonsalves, Robert Gonzaga,
 Manuel Guerra, Max Guerra, Charlene Gutierrez, Rick Gutierrez,
 Eric Hayes, Jason Hayes, Stanley Hayes, Eddie Hoffman,
 Glean & Kathryn Hollier, Randy Kennedy, Kimberly Kolodzie,
 Jonnie Kuenner, Ian Larmore, Annette Lawler, Maria Mamauog,
 Maria Martinez, Earl Mattingly, Luke McCord, Jenine Michilena,
 Paul Moran Jr., Paul Moran Sr., Mary Nekrassoff, Eleanor Obmann,
 Betty O'Neil, Lee Ann Parrott, Nita Parrott, Bud Phelps,
 Tom Poeschl, Sr. Mary Porter, Bud Powers, Christine Regan,
 Raymond Remick, Zan Rockett, Nikelle Schafer, Charles
 Schneider, Katherine Schottgen, Marylyn Smith, Lisa Stamps,
 Jardee Stanley, Phyllis Steele, Jo Ster, Laura & Paul Studer, Simon
 Sucharski, Clement Sweeney, D. Sweeney, Maureena Sutton,
 Elise Taylor, I. Thompson, X. Thompson, Jean Villanueva, Frank
 Vogel, Marvin Webster, Bishop Weigand, Mike Williams, Lani
 Zacherson, Ken Zebroski, Claudette Zompetta

Stewardship
 ~ a way of life ~

HURRICANE RECOVERY COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND

After hearing from the Hurricane Recovery Task Force and several bishops still reeling from the catastrophic devastation caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, the bishops' conference has approved a second national collection for those two dioceses.

The original national collection raised more than \$130,000,000, largely for humanitarian relief. However, the needs for diocesan recovery in the Archdiocese of New Orleans and the Diocese of Biloxi are as great now as they were immediately after the storms. These costs place even greater burdens on people already overwhelmed by grief, dislocation and discouragement.

This second collection is intended to help meet the Church's recovery and rebuilding needs. 60% of the collection will be provided to the Archdiocese of New Orleans and 40% to the Diocese of Biloxi. Holy Family will help in this effort with a second collection this weekend.

STEWARDSHIP – TREASURE	
GENERAL COLLECTION	
Weekly Goal	\$ 11,000.00
Aug 27	\$ 10,088.00
Sep 3	\$ 11,165.00
Sep 10	\$ 9,883.00
Sep 17	\$ 10,259.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 118,486.00
Goal-to-Date (12 Weeks)	\$ 132,000.00
% of Goal Collected	89.76 %
Annual Goal	\$ 572,000.00
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN COLLECTION	
Weekly Goal	\$ 3,750.00
Aug 27	\$ 1,055.00
Sep 3	\$ 2,252.00
Sep 10	\$ 1,154.00
Sep 17	\$ 3,700.00
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 22,559.50
Goal-to-Date (12 Weeks)	\$ 45,000.00
% of Goal Collected	50.13 %
Annual Goal	\$ 195,000.00

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

Priests' Retirement Submitted Uncounted

Today's second reading warns that a heart consumed with avarice and envy leads to jealousy, strife, conflicts and disputes. A giving heart, in contrast, can sing instead with the psalmist, "Freely will I offer you sacrifice; I will praise your name, O Lord, for its goodness."



HOLY FAMILY SCHOOL students are proud that they not only reached but also exceeded the goal of the year's first major fundraiser, the Magazine Sale. The schoolwide prize for this is a holiday, Wednesday, November 22! Now all grades are preparing for the FESTIVAL, next weekend, September 30 - October 1. All children in kindergarten through fourth grade will perform on Sunday afternoon at 1:30, and each grade will have a game booth staffed by class parents. Saturday afternoon at four the junior high students will once again attempt to beat the faculty and staff in that game of skill, Broom Hockey. The faculty and staff hope to win one way or another, as they did last year. Come to the Festival both days to eat, meet friends, and support our parish school!

HOLY FAMILY PRESCHOOL

Open 7 am to 6 pm, serving students ages 2 (potty trained) through 5 years old. Experienced teachers present a Literature Based program that is age appropriate, offers kindergarten preparedness skills and a hands-on curriculum experience. Gymnastics program, daily snack, Bible stories, Christmas Program, Graduation Celebration and much more! Childcare available! Call Lucy Eberhardt at 722-4620 for a school tour!

SAINTS GO MARCHING WALKATHON FOR BGMH

The third annual SAINTS GO MARCHING WALKATHON will be held Saturday, October 14, 2006, between 8:30 and 11 :30 a.m. and will start at the Cathedral with a 2-mile walk around Capitol Park. Last year several priests, nuns, deacons, parish leaders, Knights of Columbus and laity walked for life and helped raise money for Bishop Gallegos Maternity Home in Sacramento.

This is a sponsored walk, and we have Deacon Mark Holt participating – please consider sponsoring him. On the weekend of October 7-8, the Knights of Columbus and other parishioners will be manning tables outside the church after all Masses to accept your sponsorships.

Please support our priests and your parish representatives by sending a donation to BGMH, P.O. Box 305, Fair Oaks, CA 95628. Every donation, small or big, would mean so much to the home. For more information, please contact Sally Fisher at 780-5305.



National Make a Difference Day is October 28th! Youth & young adult members of our community will be participating in a day of service in our parish and community. Do you know an elderly parishioner who may need a visit? Do you know someone who is shut-in and may need some light work done around the house? Please contact Jen Yearwood immediately with this information so service projects can be determined. 721-8329 or email: holyfamilycym@yahoo.com

YOUTH MINISTRY



CONFIRMATION CLASSES WILL START ON SUNDAY, OCT. 8TH!

***** OCTOBER YOUTH MASS & MEETING *****

The Youth Mass & CYM meeting for October 1st have been changed to Sunday, Oct. 8th at 6pm. All high school youth are invited to join us for youth mass at 6pm and for a gathering afterward.

YOUTH MINISTRY AT THE FESTIVAL

Don't miss the special Youth Ministry Booth at the festival this coming weekend....representatives from the English and Spanish youth ministries will be on hand to answer questions and meet you! The youth ministry will be running the "Holy Waters" Dunk Tank this year. (Stop by - you might even get a chance to dunk one of our priests!)

CALLING ALL YOUTH LECTORS

Holy Family CYM is looking for high school youth who are interested in being lectors (readers) at mass. Please contact the youth ministry office to sign up.



NEWS FROM THE KNIGHTS



MONTHLY BREAKFAST NEXT WEEK!!!

Going to the parish festival? Why cook and clean-up after a breakfast? The Knights of Columbus will be serving a hot, good, nutritious and affordable breakfast next week following the 7:30 and 9 AM masses. Cost is \$4.00 for adults and \$3.00 Dollars for children. See you there?

MEMBERSHIP BLITZ WEEKEND FOR YOUR KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS!!!!

This weekend Infant Mary Council of the Knights of Columbus will be at the exit doors following mass. We are looking for Catholic men to join the largest Catholic Men's organization in the world, The Knights of Columbus. You know us, we are your friends, your neighbors, your co-workers and your fellow Catholics. We perform good works for the church and the community and have fellowship and fun doing it. So stop and leave your name with a Knight. In the coming weeks we will hold a spaghetti dinner for all prospective members who wish to learn more about us. Why not come and at least take a look? Any questions please feel free to contact me, Ed Clark, at 916-725-3371.

PARISH FESTIVAL NEWS

THE PARISH FESTIVAL IS NEXT WEEKEND!

The Parish Festival is next weekend - Saturday September 30th and Sunday October 1st. Please join us for food and fun! Thank you for your generosity; to date we have sold \$10,000 in raffle tickets! Our goal this year is \$25,000 so if you haven't yet donated/sold your tickets please consider picking up a sheet of tickets at the doors on your way out of church today. Tickets and money can be returned to the collection basket or the parish or school offices. \$4500.00 will be given away in prizes!! You need not be present to win. Good Luck and we hope to see you at the Festival!

Parish Festival EARLY BIRD DRAWING!! The five lucky winners of \$100 are: Mr. & Mrs. Desrochers, Mr. Roger Johnson, Elicia Lopez, Raymond Olmedo, and Patrick Posuniak. Congratulations and thanks for your support!!

LECTORS:

New schedules for October thru December are available. Please pick up your copy in the hallway to the sacristy. A huge thank you to all the lectors that attended the meeting on September 21st. For anyone unable to attend that meeting, we will be scheduling another meeting soon.

SACRAMENTO LIFE CHAIN

October 1st is Life Chain Sunday and Holy Family will be joining hundreds of faith-filled people from many other churches for an hour of silent, prayerful witness to our community from 2:00 to 3:00 in the afternoon. Come, let us seek God's divine intervention for the healing of our community and nation and for an end to abortion.

We will meet at Greenback Lane and Sunrise Blvd., with signs available at the southeast corner. Please arrive at least 15 minutes early to allow time to get a sign and walk to your place in the life Chain. This is not a political demonstration. Bring the whole family, including a chair for elderly or infirm relatives. For more information, please contact Sally Fisher at 780-5305.

YOU'RE INVITED TO AN OPEN HOUSE

The Sacramento Life Center's Roseville clinic's open house on Tuesday, October 3 from 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm at our new location: 151 N. Sunrise Ave. Suite 1302, Roseville, CA 95661. Our suite is located on the second floor of building 1300, facing the courtyard. Come join us for refreshments and a chance to tour our new clinic with our staff and board members. Please RSVP by Friday, September 29 to Sara or Lina at (916) 451-4357.



Outdoor Mass

9:00 am Mass next week,
Sunday, October 1, 2006
will be celebrated outdoors!

Join your parish family to celebrate the Eucharist in a special setting. We will gather behind the parish school for Mass which will conclude just as the Parish Festival opens for the day. Kick off a day of fun and fellowship with true joy in the presence of Christ!

Prayer Opportunities



WORLD APOSTOLATE OF FATIMA:

Pope Benedict XVI has elevated the World Apostolate of Fatima (The Blue Army.) It is now officially associated with the Pontifical Council for the Laity in Rome. We are happy to offer these prayers here at Holy Family.

All are welcome to join us Mondays after the 8:30 am Mass in St. Mary's Hall. For information, please call Phyllis, 725-0218 or Phyllis, 725-5358.

VOCATIONS CROSS



Each week a parish family is presented with the Vocations Cross to take home for the week and asked to pray daily for an increase in vocations to the priesthood and religious life. The next Sunday, the family returns the cross and another family is presented the cross to pray for vocations. If you are interested in taking the Vocation Cross home, please contact Young Stewart at 332- 8732.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:

Jesus stays with us day and night in the Blessed Sacrament, blessing us with the grace that encourages us, consoles us, strengthens us, guides us and inspires us to place our trust in Him. We stay with the Real Presence of Jesus in Eucharistic Adoration to be more personally involved with Him and to keep the Eucharist central in our lives. Spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist enables us to build a truly personal relationship with Him. Come into His presence in our beautiful chapel - He is looking forward to your visit!



BLESSED SACRAMENT CHAPEL VISITING HOURS:

Monday - Friday	9:00 am - 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Sunday	1:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Also in the chapel:

Each day at 9:00 am a community Rosary and Chaplet of Mercy are prayed, and at 3:00 pm the Chaplet of Mercy is prayed.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE DIOCESE - AND BEYOND

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND

"God has called us through the Gospel to possess the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ," Let Worldwide Marriage Encounter help your marriage radiate the glory of Christ. For more information, Call Raul & Gayla Ponce: 866-825-2046/ email: srsregistrar@sbcglobal.net. Upcoming Dates: Stockton, Sept 29-Oct 1/ Reno, Oct 20-22.

SINGLE CATHOLIC ADULTS

A 'Meet & Mingle' gathering will be held Sunday, October 1 st, 5:00 pm at Coco's, 1830 Arden Way, Sacramento Call the Catholic Alumni Club hotline: (916) 962-6107 or visit our website at www.cacsacramento.org.

PARABLES

Stories told by Christ to describe the coming of God's Kingdom

Presented by: William Breault, SJ Ph.L (philosophy);
St.L (Theology); M.A. (Drama); M.A. (Art)
When: Tuesdays, October 3, 10, 17 & 24, 2006
from 7:00-9:00 PM
Where: St. Ignatius Parish- Garden Room
Cost: \$5.00 per session/\$20.00 for the series

This course qualifies for Diocesan Catechist Certification credits (8 hours) under the category "Scripture." Call (916) 482-9666 ext. 238 for more information.

SPIRITUAL LIFE INSTITUTE AT CHRIST THE KING

It Takes A Village:

Understanding Youth and Young Adults Today

Presenter: Joyce Hansen, Youth Retreat Director
Thursday Evenings 7-9 pm in La Casa
October 5 and 12, 2006
Cost: \$20. Adults; \$14. Seniors (60+)
For further information call: 725- 4720

Evenings With Thomas Merton

Merton's Spiritual Journey Is Our Own

Presenters: John Berger and Fr. Art Wehr, SJ
Tuesday Evenings 7-9 pm in La Casa
October 17, 24, 31, and November 7, 2006
Cost: \$40 Adults; \$28 Seniors (60+)
For Further Information call: 725-4720

Ecumenical Evening of Prayer for Peace
Wednesday Evening, 7-9 pm in the Quinn Room
December 13, 2006
No Charge.

For Further Information call: 725-4720



**Christ the King
Passionist Retreat Center**

SACRAMENTO CURSILLO

The women's weekend will take place October 19-22, 2006. Cursillo is a short course in Christianity. There are talks, discussions, sharing, singing, laughter, and prayer. It will take place at Our Lady of the Oaks Retreat Center in Applegate, CA. For more information, please visit www.sacramentocursillo.org or contact Wendy Raemaeker, Pre-Cursillo Coordinator, at 972-1794 or Maureen Poeschl, Rectora, at 780-0254.

RETREAT FOR SINGLE ADULTS

The Diocese of Sacramento Department Evangelization & Catechesis & its Single Adult Ministry are sponsoring an upcoming Retreat for Single Adults entitled, "A Single Sound of Soul," facilitated by Victoria MacDonald. This weekend, take time to be still... to listen and recognize the unique sound of your soul's voice.

Site: Mercy Retreat Center
535 Sacramento Street in Auburn
Date: Fri. October 20th - Sun. October 22nd
Time: 6:00 pm Friday to after lunch, Sunday
Cost: 175 for overnight retreatants & \$130 for commuters
INFO: Contact Marylee at (916) 419-9845
or email marylee_barcelona@earthlink.net

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS HIGH SCHOOL will hold its annual OPEN HOUSE for prospective students and parents Sunday, October 8th from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to visit the campus as well as meet the students, faculty and staff of a community that has provided young men and women with an excellent Catholic, college preparatory education since 1876. Informational presentations will be given at 1:30 and 2:30 in the school gymnasium. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL THE ADMISSIONS OFFICE, 733-3690 or log onto our website @ cbhs-sacramento.org.

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL will be hosting their annual open house on Sunday, October 22, 2006 from 1 :00 to 4:00 PM at St. Francis High School, 5900 Elms A venue in Sacramento. The open house is for all prospective students and their families. Please join us! For more information please call our Admissions Office at 452-3461, ext. 240.

COPING WITH LIFE ALONE

The "Beginning Experience of Sacramento" support group is offering its "Coping With Life Alone" program of healing, hope and encouragement for divorced, separated or widowed persons of all faiths. This 6 week program starts on October 5, 2006 at St. Michael's Episcopal Church 2140 Mission Ave., Carmichael. The meetings are held from 7:15-8:45 P.M. There is a onetime registration fee of \$10.00 and a \$5.00 weekly fee. For more information please call (916) 835-2282 or visit our website at: www.sacramentobe.org.