

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 29, 2021

Humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls.

— James 1:21b

EVERY *Good and Perfect* GIFT comes from above
James 1:7

DOERS OF THE WORD

The second reading for today begins a five-week series of selections from James, a letter that is classified among the so-called “catholic” (or universal) epistles because they are addressed to a general audience rather than to one particular community. Today’s text offers important advice for Christians of every generation. God is first cited as the author of all gifts, and in particular, reference is made to the gift of baptism by which we have been made the “first fruits” of the new creation. What follows is advice based on a very Jewish understanding of the “word” as an active force, operative in the world. We are reminded that unless we, too, become “doers” of the word, our claim to faith is empty. Today and in subsequent weeks the author reminds us that it is equally important to do the “works” of love, for example, by caring for the “orphans and widows in their affliction.”

—J. S. Paluch Co.

FEAST OF FAITH

What Jesus Did, What Jesus Said

The oldest account of what happened at the Last Supper comes to us not from the Gospels but from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians: “I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over, took bread, and, after he had given thanks, broke it and said, ‘This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me’ ” (11:23–24). In our celebrations of the Eucharist, we are obedient to Christ’s command to “do this.” The priest, acting in the person of Christ, does what Jesus did and says what Jesus said. He takes bread, gives thanks, breaks it, and gives it to the Lord’s disciples. He takes wine, gives thanks, shares it with us. We believe that the entire Eucharistic Prayer is consecratory, but we continue to hold these words of Jesus in special reverence. They are called the words of consecration, and the elevations of the host and chalice, the genuflections of the priest, and the optional ringing of a bell and use of incense remind us that we are in the presence of the Lord.

—Corinna Laughlin, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Thes 4:13-18; Ps 96:1, 3-5, 11-13; Lk 4:16-30
 Tuesday: 1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11; Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14; Lk 4:31-37
 Wednesday: Col 1:1-8; Ps 52:10-11; Lk 4:38-44
 Thursday: Col 1:9-14; Ps 98:2-6; Lk 5:1-11
 Friday: Col 1:15-20; Ps 100:1b-5; Lk 5:33-39
 Saturday: Col 1:21-23; Ps 54:3-4, 6, 8; Lk 6:1-5
 Sunday: Is 35:4-7a; Ps 146:7-10; Jas 2:1-5; Mk 7:31-37

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Wednesday: World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation
 Friday: St. Gregory the Great ; First Friday
 Saturday: Blessed Virgin Mary; First Saturday

Current Mass Schedule:

St. Philip, *Occidental*: 8am Sun.; 9am Wed. & Fri.
 St. Teresa, *Bodega*: 5pm Sat.; 9:30am Sun.; 9am Tues. & Thurs.

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated! For the month of August offerings: PLEASE put in Mass collection box or mail to St. Philip/St. Teresa Parish, P. O. Box 339, Occidental CA 95465. Or donate at our website www.stphilipstteresa.org via Paypal or card. Please include your offering envelope # [if you have one] with your donation. Bless you!



8/15: 1st collection: \$708. 2nd collection: \$470. Assumption: \$165.
8/22: 1st collection: \$857. Haiti Disaster Relief: \$1248.

8/29: *Rural Food.* 9/05: *Diocesan Seminarian.*

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA
Finance Council [FC]: Tues., 9/7/21, at 3pm on Zoom:: call Jim to RSVP at 707-292-6092
Liturgy Committee [LC]: TBA
St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

8/28 Sat. 5pm Mass ✠ Liz Watson
 8/29 Sun. 8am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo
 8/29 Sun. 9:30am Mass for the People

9/04 Sat. 5pm Mass for Art & Sheila Hansen anniversary
 9/05 Sun. 8am Mass for the People
 9/05 Sun. 9:30am Mass ✠ Elaine Joyce

ALERT: NO MASSES 9/7 - 9/10 while pastor on vacation.

Prayer Requests: Please leave a message at 707-408-2650.

Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H., Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Chuck, Rebecca A., April K., Jacinta G., Leo A., Ed C. family, Kathy R., Donna W., Jim K., Sherry S., Papke family., Gail F., Marie N., Christine, James G., Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., Janet K., River M.; Nikkie; Christian A., Samantha S., Gary E., and for repose of the soul of Claudia Munoz’s mother.

Mission San Juan Capistrano (link)



REMINDER: Please do not remove items from the hall without first contacting us for permission, availability, and the necessary sign-out process: 874-3304 or 874-3812

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for August 2021

On Tuesday, August 10, 46 families, 114 individuals received nutritional support during our modified distribution at the St Philips Parking lot and parish hall.

We will continue to look at a variety of ways to distribute food as the COVID pandemic restrictions change. If you are aware of a family which needs nutritional assistance, please let them know about our program. Leave a message at the parish office, (707) 408-2650 to get a call back with additional information.

This program is funded through monthly Rural Food Collection, private donations and the dedicated, awesome volunteers. Thank you for your generous donations as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in the Parish

Hall and parking area:

Saturday, September 11, 9-10:00 am repackaging;

Monday, Sept 13, 9 –11:00am set up; and

Tuesday, September 14, 7:30a – 11:00a to distribute food to clients.



Detail of *The Great Red Dragon and the Woman Clothed with the Sun* by William Blake
(Source: [Wikimedia Commons](#))

The world reenchanted

by [Benjamin Boivin](#)

Last week, I reviewed *The Religion of the Apostles: Orthodox Christianity in the First Century*, a recent book by Father Stephen De Young, a priest of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. This week, I would like to share some thoughts about the impact that this book and other related works have had on my life.

I discovered this book and its author through a podcast that Fr. De Young co-hosts, called *The Lord of Spirits*. In this live radio show, the hosts take calls from listeners and generally discuss the realities of the "invisible world". If you are interested in saints, angels, demons, gods, giants, and in-depth discussions of the Book of Enoch, this is the show for you.

The program showcases the extraordinary erudition of Father Stephen De Young, whose knowledge of biblical and para-biblical literature and languages is, to say the least, unusual. Along with his co-host, Father Andrew Stephen Damick – well known as the host of the *Amon Sûl* podcast, which discusses Tolkien's *Legendarium* in light of the Orthodox Christian faith – Father De Young introduces the audience to a rich cosmological

understanding of the Christian faith, which he believes has been preserved in the Orthodox Church.

Although there are certain religious differences between the Catholic and Eastern Orthodox Churches, there remains much relevance for Catholics in paying attention to what the latter tradition has to offer. The deepest divisions between Catholicism and Orthodoxy generally revolve around ecclesiology rather than different understandings of the foundations of the Christian faith. Indeed, the hope of a future reunion between Catholicism and Orthodoxy seems to be rooted in the relative closeness – at least a perceived one – of the faith as expressed in these two separate institutions, whose disunity is determined in particular by a different understanding of the authority of the Bishop of Rome over the mystical body of Christ.

I also believe that in a society like the one we live in, good arguments about the authenticity of the Christian faith in general are never out of place.

Most of all, I would like to share the experience I have had in exposing my mind to the work of these two priests. Coming, like many of us, from a dry materialistic background and living, like all of us, in an individualistic and liberal society, I was seduced by the remarkable complexity, richness, and depth of what an authentically Christian understanding of the cosmos can be, in all its beautifully ornamented hierarchy of material, hybrid, and spiritual beings and realities. In this sense, the works of Fathers De Young and Damick enriched my understanding of some of the more mythic aspects of Scriptures, without reducing their meaning to poetical or allegorical purposes.

In its infinite wisdom, the Latin and Western tradition of Christianity has, from its beginnings, sought to understand the faith and to develop ways, through philosophy, to improve and refine our ways of contemplating and speaking about God. At its best, this is the practice of some of our greatest mystics, such as St. Thomas Aquinas and many others.

Yet in our modern context, and often despite the Church's warnings, we have been tempted to separate this practice from the cosmic vision it was intended to reflect, and we have, in some cases, isolated ourselves before God and deprived ourselves of the whole of Creation. This, in itself, is not the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, although we may be tempted to act as if it were.

As Christians, we are not called to blindly acquiesce to the pale and superficial materialism often characteristic of our time, content to confess our friendship with Jesus amidst the apparent ruins of His Kingdom. Yes, we are called to a spirit of hope and a joyful attitude, but to truly achieve this and to make sense of the faith we confess to the full extent of its implications, we must be witnesses to the profound "weirdness" of our faith for the world in which we have been called to live.

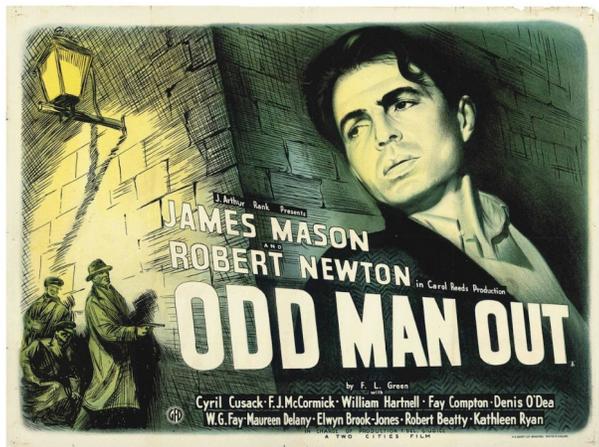
This feeling of weirdness, which can be felt when we unabashedly discuss angels, demons, giants, and gods, would have been foreign to the first witnesses of Christ, Father Stephen De Young insists. In fact, from a historical perspective, it is today's materialistic normalcy that is deeply unusual.

I don't pretend to have absorbed everything that Fathers De Young and Damick have to say in their respective books and podcasts. I leave the theology of it all to further investigation,

discussion, and in-depth study. But insofar as they help us move beyond the "buffered self" – a concept developed by Charles Taylor, the famous Canadian Catholic philosopher, in particular to talk about the impoverishment of our perspective on spiritual realities – I think their work is very valuable and well worth listening to and reading. I would like to see more Catholics trying to do the same. I think we have everything in our Tradition to do so in a way that would be faithful, beautiful, good, and truthful.

who, when he telephoned or visited Authority on behalf of the poor and wayward was accorded the respect due to princes. Because he was old and gentle? Because he belonged to God? . . . This old man, when all was said and done, was merely a being who loved his fellow men.

Father Tom also wants to bring Johnny in but Shell finds our exhausted Johnny first and escorts him to the loft of a failed artist. The latter insists on doing his portrait. He wants to depict the soul of a dying man. Other portraits cover his walls, their features Picasso-like in disarray. They seemed to symbolize our crazy world of deadly wars; how distorted human nature had become. Indeed as Johnny – delirious - sits as a model, the portraits gather before him like an audience and among them appears the transparent image of Father Tom as if giving a lesson. *I can't hear you, Father, he says. What are you saying? What was it you used to tell us? About: when I was a boy? A boy? Then after a pause he says: Now I remember . . . 'When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child! But when I became a man, I put away childish things.'* The image of Father Tom nods affirmatively. And then Johnny rises, his eyes far reaching, and proclaims: *'And though I speak with the tongues of men and angels. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have faith so as to move mountains – and HAVE NOT CHARITY! – I am NOTHING!'* Thereupon Johnny collapses into the chair.



[film link](#)

When?

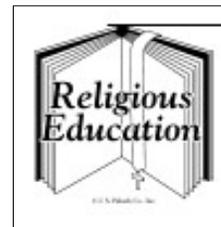
Occasionally we Graymoor seminarians up on the Hudson River were given a day off to visit nearby locations like West Point or Garrison. Usually we were packed into the back of an open truck. And so one morning we were transported to Ossining for an afternoon – the location of the penitentiary known as Sing Sing. So what do 25 teenagers left standing in the exhaust of a truck do? They fan out along Main Street, stroll through a park; buy a cheap lunch at a diner. Three of us decided to spend our change at the local movie theater, which advertised a British film called *Odd Man Out*, starring James Mason. There were no more than ten people in the seats.

How thrilled I was by that scene at a mere 19 years of age. What a memorable afternoon in Ossining! The movie, of course, came to an end tragically – as life has come to an end tragically for so many in our contentious world. But its point was clear: WHEN WILL THE HUMAN RACE GROW UP? When will each of us finally recall (as Johnny did) Father Tom's simple lesson and begin to live it? When?

--Geoff Wood, 8/22/2021

The movie was set in Belfast. A robbery was underway with four men entering a linen factory to steal its payroll. The men were members of the "Organization" (the IRA?). The stolen money would support its insurgent activities. Well the job was bungled. Guns went off. The group leader, Johnny, was wounded and left behind. Thus began his effort, handicapped by loss of blood, to evade a police cordon around Belfast's inner city. The "Organization" tries to find him, as does a fellow named Shell whose intent was merely to reap a reward from either the insurgents or the police.

In the film we also meet an old priest named Father Tom, who had no use for this violence that had plagued Ireland for decades. Of him the original novel says: *He was reputed to have performed miracles - a singular old man*



NEWSFLASH!

Parish Religious Education Program

We are happy to announce the return of our Religious Education [CCD] K-12 program in early Fall 2021. It is time now to enroll the children. You can get more information and also register by going online to www.stphilipstteresa.org or by contacting Religious Education Director Jolene Corcoran at jolene@lunardielectric.com.

Diocese of Santa Rosa - Department of Religious Education

Presents its annual

Religious Education Congress: *"Praying Always"*

Saturday, September 25, 2021 9am - 4pm

Held at Cardinal Newman School, 50 Ursuline Rd., Santa Rosa

On Saturday, September 25th, the Diocese of Santa Rosa will present a day of prayer and fellowship for all adults in the Diocese. This year's theme, *"Praying Always"*.

The variety of workshops and keynotes available throughout the day are excellent resources for formation and enrichment for you and for your communities faith. The opportunity to listen and be renewed by the wisdom offered truly a gift and a blessing.

WE ARE PLEASED TO PRESENT SOME OF OUR SPEAKERS:

- Rev. Robert McTeigue, S.J., Ph.D - *"Spiritual Alertness-Learning to pay attention with St. Ignatius Loyola"*
- Rev. John Plass - *"Adoring Me Eucharist Lord"*
- Rev. Jeffrey Keyes - *"Lectio Divina"*
- Very Rev. Moses Brown, V.G, J.C.L - *"Praying with the Psalms"*
- Rev. John Marie Bingham, O.P. - *"The Hail Mary: Holy Door & Threshold of Grace"* and *"The Father Heart of St. Joseph"*
- Sister Serena Deters, M.S. - *"Prayer as an expression of God's love for us & our love for him"*
- Mother Ann Marie Zierke, M.S. - *"Prayer: How to model it, encourage it & include it your day"*
- Mother Teresa Christe, M.S.S.R - *"Common obstacles to prayer & How to overcome them"*
- Deacon Dance Farrell - *"Bringing meaningful prayer into hustle & bustle of daily life"*

Registration:

- Registration opens in August 2021
- Variety of topics
- Brochure with workshop descriptions and Registration Form available August 2021.
- **Due to limited seating please register early, workshops fill up quickly.**
- If you have not attended SR Congress in the past you can request a brochure by email.

Schedule

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM
9:00 AM
10:10 AM - 11:20 AM
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
2:45 PM - 3:45 PM
4:00 PM

Saturday, September 25, 2021

On site Registration & Program book pickup
Holy Mass (gym)
Keynote Address
Session 1
Lunch/Visit Exhibits
Session 2
Plenary session
Closing Prayer and Raffle (gym)

Information:

Location:

SR Congress is held at Cardinal Newman High School Campus, located in Santa Rosa. The gym is one of the main locations of congress events, including opening liturgy and the keynotes. The gym is located at 4300 Old Redwood Hwy, Santa Rosa.

Cost: This is a one time offer due to the state COVID 19 restrictions this 2021 event will be free.

Registration is FREE. You must register to guarantee a seat. The Free Admission covers all workshops (**tickets are required**), liturgies and exhibits.

Early bird registration by **September 5th - deadline guarantees a seat at the event.**

After the deadline and on the day of event it will be first come first serve. If no seats no entry to event and/or workshops.

Registrations received after the deadline is at risk of not being processed.

Facility:

Classrooms are **air-conditioned**.

Coffee, & doughnuts will be provided. Bottled water will be available.

There will be Ministries & Exhibitors showcasing Books & Gifts.



TO REGISTER VISIT OUR WEBSITE OR CONTACT:

Carmen Perez Aanenson, Diocese of Santa Rosa, Department of Religious Education

dre@srdiocese.org (707) 566-3366 New Fax (707) 791-7495 www.santarosacatholic.org