



**Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time
July 10, 2022**

*Christ Jesus . . . is the head
of the body,
the church.*

— *Colossians 1:15, 18*

RIGHT RELATIONSHIPS

Our God is about relationships. In the first reading, Moses reminds the Israelites that the laws, which are already in their hearts, keep them in right relationship with the God who loves them so much that they always find forgiveness. Centuries later, along comes Jesus, whom Paul describes to the Colossians as “the image of the invisible God,” the very embodiment of this God of love. In his parable about the good Samaritan, Jesus explains how the law of love overrules the letter of the law. Instead of answering the question “Who is my neighbor?” Jesus demonstrates that it is not about who is worthy of being loved, but rather loving as God loves—about *being* neighbor, about being the good Samaritan. Jesus wants us to continue his work as images of this God of love by loving *all* people, even those who seem to be our enemies.

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PRAYER OF THE WEEK

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

Reflection question:

How do I live up to being called Christian? Are there ways that I can do better?

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READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 1:10-17; Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21, 23; Mt 10:34 — 11:1
Tuesday: Is 7:1-9; Ps 48:2-8; Mt 11:20-24
Wednesday: Is 10:5-7, 13b-16; Ps 94:5-10, 14-15; Mt 11:25-27
Thursday: Is 26:7-9, 12, 16-19; Ps 102:13-14ab, 15-21; Mt 11:28-30
Friday: Is 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8; Is 38:10-12abcd, 16; Mt 12:1-8
Saturday: Mi 2:1-5; Ps 10:1-4, 7-8, 14; Mt 12:14-21
Sunday: Gen 18:1-10a; Ps 15:2-5; Col 1:24-28; Lk 10:38-42

Note: The special collection on July 23-24 will be this year’s Missions Appeal, for missions at home and abroad, as needs are determined by the diocese office.

Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of July offerings: PLEASE put in Mass collection basket 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].



7/03: provided soon.

7/10: Operating Expenses. 7/17: Capital Expenditures.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

- Parish Council [PC]:** TBA
- Finance Council [FC]:** TBD
- Liturgy Committee [LC]:** TBA
- St. Teresa Ladies Guild:** Contact Diane, 823-6044
- St. Philip Ladies Guild:** Every 3rd Friday. Details TBA

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule 2022

7/09 Sat.	5pm Mass
7/10 Sun.	8am Mass Casey Tolar
7/10 Sun.	9:30am Mass for the People
7/10 Sun.	11:15am Mass ✠ Deborah Marcelius
7/12 Tues.	9am Mass for Papke family special intention
7/13 Wed.	9am Mass for James Geving
7/15 Fri.	9am Mass for Larry Steiner
7/16 Sat.	5pm Mass
7/17 Sun.	8am Mass
7/17 Sun.	9:30am Mass
7/17 Sun.	11:15am Mass for the People

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

Gary S., Peter R., Gerry N., Diane K., River M.; Nikkie; Mr. C., Michelle, Christian A., Peter B., Samantha S., Gary E., Frederick K., John Geving, Donna L., James Geving, Larry Steiner



RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE JUNE 2022

On Tuesday, June 14, our very efficient volunteers welcomed 59 families, (143 individuals) with lots of smiles as well as a wide variety of fresh produce, proteins, commodities, fresh milk which they prepared on Saturday and Monday.

We saw a significant increase in the number of clients who chose to return to shopping inside our hall rather than drive through so, we are considering using reusable cloth bags to reduce our cost for paper bags. More details in future bulletins. If you have extra reusable bags you are not reusing, please drop them off at the parish hall.

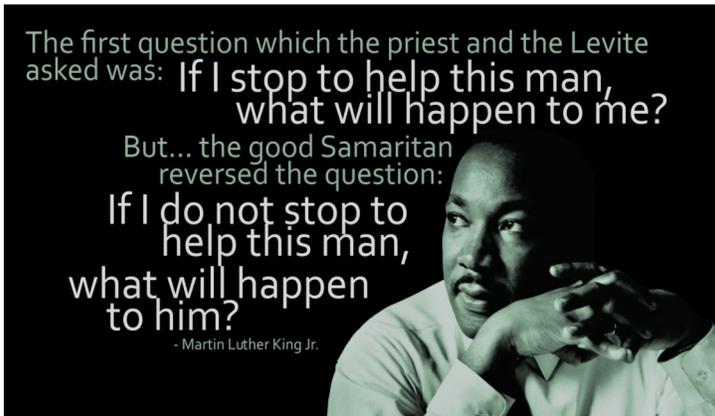
In the interim, please save your clean egg cartons and handled paper bags for donation to our program by dropping them off at the parish hall. We thank you in advance.

Our program is open to all who are in need. 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 and to answer your questions.

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, July 9, 9:00 - 10:00am repackaging;
Monday, July 11, 9:00 - 11:00am set-up; and
Tuesday, July 12, 7:30 - 11:00am distribution to clients.



He is before all things and in him all things hold together. Colossians 1:17

The start of today's Gospel reading might have been staged in some Law school classroom. A legal expert wants to test the intelligence of Jesus whose popularity is growing in the market place. After all, Jesus is only a carpenter's son – has he had any education in the complexities of biblical Law?

One way to find out is to toss him a leading question (which lawyers are good at): *Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?* How do you answer that question on the spur of the moment? How avoid pausing long enough to allow the lawyer to cut in and say: *Ah, I see you are not sure. But Jesus does not pause nor does he answer. Rather he tosses back a question at the expert: what does the law say? You should know. You tell me!* The lawyer is caught off guard. To save face; to show he knows what the law says, he rapidly quotes the summation contained in the Torah: *You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, all your being . . . and your neighbor as yourself.* To which - their roles having been reversed - Jesus grades him: *Correct! Behave that way and you will live.*

But still not wanting the leave the field embarrassed, the expert tosses Jesus another leading question: *And who is my neighbor?* And Jesus might have said at this point: *Ah, thank you so much – but in response to that question let's leave this classroom and cross over into an experience of the world as it is and as it ought to be:*

"A man en route from Jerusalem to Jericho was assaulted by robbers, beaten, stripped, left half dead by the road. To the robbers he was nothing but an object, a thing to be exploited. Now watch! Along comes a Temple priest. He recoils. He, too, sees an object and distances himself. Then comes a Levite, also associated with the Temple. He gives the victim wide berth; also sees him (as did the robbers) as an object, a curiosity, a distasteful distraction, road-kill."

Is this not a description of the way so many see the world in modern times? We live among millions of beings separated by "empty" space – when in fact it is not empty but full of the very air we breathe; we are in a "swim" of air like fish in water. We are connected, contiguous. As also with trees, birds, rocks, earth, sky, microbes, celestial bodies that affect us seasonally, illuminate our day and night, indeed transfigure our night with stars that also help us to navigate! We are a community of beings that issue from a Source our Hebrew tradition dares not name – that ineffable Depth who calls our universe into being everyday as at the opening of Genesis. Everyone, everything is your neighbor.

And more marvelous still: as human beings we can behold all creation the way no other creature can. We see it, can touch it, praise it, love it, probe it, especially care for it whole heartedly, gracefully as does **an unorthodox Samaritan:** *moved with compassion, approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds, bandaged them, conveyed him to shelter, paid the costs, followed up his condition . . . loving to Be! with all his heart and being and strength and mind – and loving his neighbor as himself!*

--Geoff Wood, 7/10/2022

The Apple Tree Project: School Supplies for the Children in Our Rural Food Program

School will be starting in August, and with it, the need for costly school supplies for the children in our program. You can help!

Beginning June 25, there are collection jars in St. Philip and St. Teresa Churches. Please support our program with your personal donation.

Backpacks and school supplies will be purchased by parish volunteers and given to the families at the August Rural Food Distribution. Questions? Please Contact Diane at 707-823-6044. Thank you for helping our children.



Women's voices: Pope says he'll add women to Dicastery for Bishops

by [Cindy Wooden, Catholic News Service](#)

VATICAN CITY (CNS) -- Pope Francis said he plans to name two women to the committee that helps him choose bishops for the world's Latin-rite dioceses.

In an interview July 2 with the Reuters news agency, the pope seemed to indicate the women would be members, not consultants or staff members, of the Dicastery for Bishops, which currently has only cardinals and bishops as members and five bishops and two priests as consultants.

"Two women will be appointed for the first time in the committee to elect bishops in the Congregation for Bishops," Pope Francis told Philip Pullella, the Reuters' Vatican correspondent.

"This way, things are opening up a bit," the pope said when asked about expanding the role of women in church decision making.

Reuters published the pope's remarks about women's positions July 6.

Preparing nominations for the office of bishops is a long, multistep process. For most Latin-rite dioceses that are not in mission territories, the process begins with bishops submitting to their local archbishop the names of priests they think would be good bishops; once a year the bishops of the province discuss the names submitted and forward recommendations to the nuncio.

The nuncio studies the lists, investigates further, solicits feedback from people who know the candidate and forwards his recommendations to the Dicastery for Bishops.

The prefect of the dicastery, currently Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet, can make recommendations directly to the pope about transferring a bishop from one diocese to another or to an archdiocese. But if the candidate is still a priest, the members of the dicastery -- currently 17 cardinals and six bishops -- must review the dossiers and vote on the names to recommend to the pope. Although many of the members do not live in Rome, they usually meet twice a month on Thursdays to deliberate.

The prefect presents the nominations to the pope, who makes the final decision.

Pope Francis did not give Reuters the names of the women he intends to name to the dicastery, nor did he say when they would be announced.

The pope's new apostolic constitution on the Roman Curia said, "The dicastery deals with all matters concerning the appointment of diocesan and titular bishops, apostolic administrators and, in general, the provision of the particular churches. It does so by considering the proposals presented by the particular churches, the episcopal conferences and the papal representations, and after having consulted the executive officers of the respective episcopal conference and the metropolitan (archbishop)."

"In appropriate ways, it also engages in this process the members of the people of God of the dioceses in question," the document added.

While the constitution opened almost all roles in the Roman Curia to lay men and women, it also reserved a special place for cardinals as the members of dicasteries.

"The members of curial institutions are appointed from among the cardinals living in Rome or outside the city, to whom are added some bishops, especially diocesan or eparchial ones, insofar as they have expertise in the particular matters involved," it said. "Depending on the nature of the dicastery, priests, deacons, those in institutes of consecrated life and societies of apostolic life and lay faithful may also be appointed members."

"I am open to giving (women) an opportunity" to lead Vatican offices, the pope told Reuters. "There is now a woman deputy governor" of Vatican City State, Sister Raffaella Petrini, a member of the Franciscan Sisters of the Eucharist, whom he appointed in November.

"As heads of dicasteries," the pope continued, it is possible that women could lead the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, the Dicastery for Culture and Education or the Vatican Library, "which is almost a dicastery."

Coincidentally, Cardinal Kevin J. Farrell, prefect of the Dicastery for Laity, the Family and Life, told the Jesuit-run *America Magazine* in late June, "I believe I could be the last cleric in charge of this dicastery."

While the current secretary of the dicastery is a priest, the two undersecretaries are women: Linda Ghisoni, who heads the section for laity; and Gabriella Gambino, who heads the section for family and life.

Other female leaders at the Vatican include: Salesian Sister Alessandra Smerilli, secretary of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development; Barbara Jatta, director of the Vatican Museums; Xavière Missionary Sister Nathalie Becquart, undersecretary of the Synod of Bishops; Sister Carmen Ros Nortes, a member of the Sisters of Our Lady of Consolation, who serves as an undersecretary at the Dicastery for Institutes of Consecrated Life and Societies of Apostolic Life; Natasa Govekar, director of the theological-pastoral department of the Dicastery for Communication; and Cristiane Murray, vice director of the Vatican press office.

JUNE Update AMA 2022: Thank you to all who have together paid a total of \$16,301 - moving us past our goal as a parish community of \$13,754. Since our parish has reached its goal in paid pledges, 100 percent of the additional funds received [\$2,547] will be returned to our parish for its use.