

**14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
July 5, 2020**

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.”



— Matthew 11:28

SHARE THE BURDEN

“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28). These words of our Savior seem to be in stark contrast to the previous chapter from the same Gospel, when we were told that if we do not take up our crosses, we are not worthy of Christ. Connecting these two messages might help us on our faith journeys. Being a follower of Christ surely means that we must embrace the cross, in its mystery of both suffering and triumph. This is something that we need not do alone, for the burden is often too heavy for us to carry by ourselves. Who, then, do we turn to? We can turn to the Body of Christ—the community of disciples gathered for worship. When we find the burden too heavy, let us remember that we can share that burden with our Christian sisters and brothers, who can help bring us rest.

—J. S. Paluch Co.

**SAINT MARIA GORETTI (1890-1902)
July 6**

Does anything match a mother’s pride in her children? First Communions, confirmations, graduations, weddings: how these delight a mother’s heart! Imagine, then, Assunta Goretti, the only mother ever to attend her child’s canonization! In poverty-stricken rural Italy, widowed Assunta tended fields for the Serenelli family, whose eighteen-year-old son, Alessandro, propositioned her barely twelve-year-old Maria; then, when she resisted, crying, “It is a sin! God forbids it!” he stabbed her fourteen times. As she lay dying, Maria assured the attending priest, “Yes, I forgive Alessandro! I want him to be in Paradise with me someday.” Imprisoned, unrepentant, Alessandro changed after dreaming that a radiant Maria had offered him fourteen lilies. “I’ve kept my promise,” she smiled. “You’ll be here with me someday.” Upon release, he rushed to beg Assunta’s forgiveness. “Jesus has forgiven you,” she replied, “my Maria, too. How can I refuse?” Next morning, mother and murderer walked arm in arm to church and knelt side by side for Communion.

—Peter Scagnelli, ©J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Hos 2:16, 17b-18, 21-22; Ps 145:2-9; Mt 9:18-26
 Tuesday: Hos 8:4-7, 11-13; Ps 115:3-10; Mt 9:32-38
 Wednesday: Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12; Ps 105:2-7; Mt 10:1-7
 Thursday: Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16; Mt 10:7-15
 Friday: Hos 14:2-10; Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-14, 17; Mt 10:16-23
 Saturday: Is 6:1-8; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mt 10:24-33
 Sunday: Is 55:10-11; Ps 65:10-14; Rom 8:18-23; Mt 13:1-23 [1-9]

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
 Monday: St. Maria Goretti
 Thursday: St. Augustine Zhao Rong and Companions
 Saturday: St. Benedict

FINDING PEACE

If you want peace, work for justice.

—Pope Paul VI



Finance Corner: Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!



For the month of July offerings:

PLEASE 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. *Include your offering envelope # with your donation.*

**In June: 1st Collections: \$4190. Capital Exp.: \$110.
 Add'l Oper.: \$2869. Rural Food: \$2486.**

7/5: Black & Indian Missions. 7/12: Operating Expenses.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council [PC]: TBA Zoom

Finance Council [FC]: TBA Zoom

Liturgy Committee: TBA Zoom

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: cancelled for now

Coffee & Goodies: cancelled for now

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:
 cancelled for now

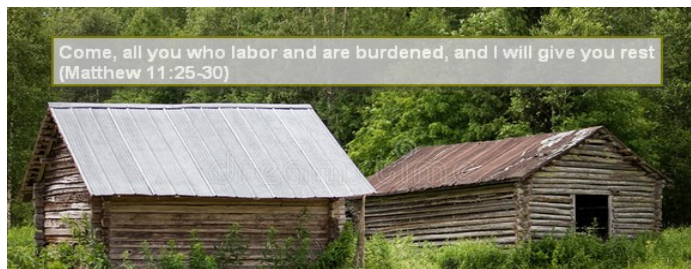
Fr. Bala is more than willing to fulfill Mass Intentions in his daily Private Mass celebration. (There is a customary \$10 stipend for any Mass Intention.) But it is left to the wish of those who have already submitted (or have yet to submit) to the office their Intentions, as to choice of a private or public Mass. Email to philip.teresa@yahoo.com Or leave a message at the alternate office number: 707-408-2650.

RE-OPENING ALERT: Welcome back! We have started the two new outdoor Masses on Sunday, July 12, one at Bodega Calvary Cemetery (at 9 am) and the other in front of St Philip’s Church (at 11:15 am). Please wear a mask and use safe social distancing. See you there!

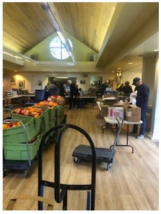
Prayer Requests: Leave a message at 707-408-2650. Teresa K., Pat K., Thomas T., Susan B., Lorri McC., Sarah, Clifford J., Terri A., Fred P., Theresa S., Sara, Mary Anne P., Barbara, Dave C., Jim P., William, Parson P., Dave, Mary O., Bill Z., Daniel, Sally T., Mary K., Michael D., Richard M., Kathleen, Peter, Rosa S., Susan B., Joyce D., Anita C., George H., Mimi H, Steve, Barry, Lorrin K., Hugh P., Robert S., Britney N., Jacque W., 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, Pat P.

"Reflections on the Liturgy"

Each week Patrick Griffith writes one or more reflections on Scripture, including the Liturgy for the coming Sunday. The objectives are to tie Scripture into our daily lives and address spiritual and moral issues of the world around us. The reflections can be found at <http://thesoulprosper.blogspot.com>. Selected reflections are also recorded and posted on the Parish website.



RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE: JUNE 2020



Eighty-six local families, including 33 children and 33 seniors received nutritional support on June 9. Recipient families were very appreciative of the fresh produce, dairy products and other much needed food which filled their vehicles as they made their way through our drive through distribution. Families who requested them also received protective masks. We will maintain our use of social distancing, hand sanitizer, gloves and masks as indicated for the next few months. This program is funded through the Rural Food Collection each month, private donations and awesome volunteers. **Thank you for your donations of time, talent, and treasure as we strive to meet the nutritional needs of all attendees at our food distributions.**

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES in Parish Hall
Saturday, July 11, 9:00-10:00am for repackaging.
Monday, July 13, 10:00am – 12:00pm to set up.
Tuesday, July 14, 8:30 – 11:00am distribution of food to clients.

Black Catholic Saints and Martyrs:



St. Anthony the Great of Thebes

St. Anthony is called the Patriarch of Monks. He was born at Aama, village south of Memphis, near Thebes. His parents were rich Christians. Shortly after inheriting his parents' fortune, he sold all his vast fortune and gave the proceeds to the poor, sent his sister to a nunnery and retired

to an old ruin of a tomb. He ate only every three or four days and spent his time at manual labor and prayer. The memorial day of St. Anthony is celebrated on January 17.



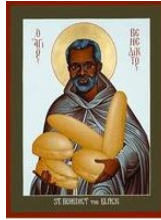
St. Monica was born in Teggaste in northern Africa in about 331. She was a devout Christian and an obedient disciple of St. Ambrose. Through her patience, gentleness and prayers, she converted her pagan husband. To her son, St. Augustine of Hippo, whom she loved dearly, she gave thorough religious training during his

boyhood, only to know the disappointment of seeing him later scorn all religion and live a life of disrepute. Before her death, Monica had the great joy of knowing that Augustine had returned to God and was using all his energies to build Christ's Church, and that her youngest daughter had become a nun. St. Monica's feast day is August 27th.



St. Antonio Vieira was an African born in Portugal. When he was fifteen years old, he became a Jesuit novice and later a professor of rhetoric and dogmatic theology. He went to Brazil where he worked to abolish discrimination against Jewish merchants, to abolish slavery, and to alleviate conditions among the

poor. On the 200th anniversary of his death in 1897, he was canonized.



St. Benedict the Moor, a lay brother, was born in Sicily in 1526. He was the son of African slave parents, but he was freed at an early age. When about twenty-one he was insulted because of his color, but his patient and dignified bearing caused a group of Franciscan hermits who witnessed the incident to invite him to join their group. He became their leader. In 1564 he joined the Franciscan friary in Palermo and worked in the kitchen until 1578, when he was chosen superior of the group. He was known for his power to read people's minds and held the nickname of the "Holy Moor". His life of austerity resembled that of St. Francis of Assisi.



St. Bessarion (also Bessarian) Bessarion was a native of Egypt, and having heard the call to perfection he went into the wilderness, where he was a disciple first of St. Antony and then of St. Macarius. Rather than live under a roof he wandered about like a bird, observing silence and subduing his flesh by mighty fasting. His neighborly charity led him to a height of perfection that was manifested by miracles: he made saltwater fresh, he several times brought rain during drought, he walked on the Nile, he overcame demons. Like so many other desert fathers, St. Bessarion lived to a great age; and he was compared by his admirers with Moses, Joshua, Elias, and John the Baptist. St. Bessarion is named in the Roman Martyrology on June 17th, but his usual date in the East is June 6th.



St. Felicitas & Perpetua

Women were persecuted for practicing Christianity at Carthage. Perpetua is recorded for having several visions that depicted her death. At death, she called out to the crowds: "Stand fast in the Faith and love one another. Do not let out suffering be a stumbling block to you..." Felicitas was Perpetua's slave. They died together. Sts. Perpetua and Felicity are the patron saints of mothers, expectant mothers, ranchers and butchers. Their feast day is celebrated on March 7.

Pastor Al™



"You watch the X-Files too much! There's no Vatican secret knowledge of the date for the Second Coming."

ST Philip/ St Teresa Rural Food Program

2019/2020 Annual Report

As we begin a new fiscal year, we want to share with you the work of the Program including its changes and challenges.

We began the year with a major change to our program. We decided it was in the best interest of our clients to provide select food products rather than distribute commodities and produce provided by government programs. This created budget, transportation and procurement challenges. We restructured our volunteer schedule for this change, revised and refined our processes and carefully managed our budget.

In March, we again restructured our processes to meet the challenges of COVID 19. Using social distancing, gloves, masks and sanitized equipment, we packaged and distributed pre-bagged food. This process reduced exposure but had the potential to increase costs. Since April we have again changed our processes to being a "drive-through" distribution. We expect to continue this touch-less distribution for the next several months.

Over the past 12 months we have served 1237 families an average of 103 families each month. We've provided over 49,000 pounds of food and over 1800 hours of volunteer time to serve these families.

The monthly collection provided \$27,643, additional donations \$5895 combined, covered 65% of our total operating expenses this year. **We are so grateful to all of our parishioners and donors for your financial support and for the many generous volunteers from St. Philip and St. Teresa who enable us to offer this critical ministry.**

A very generous donation from the Freitas Family Foundation provided funding to allow us to address the challenges and changes described above. Contributions from the family of Betty Gluch allow us to provide additional nutritional support to families with children. Over 200 "Betty Bags" were distributed. Thanks to parishioner Jack Balestreri of Coastal Hill Farm, fresh, organic, grass-fed pastured eggs are provided each month.

The Rural Food Program makes a monthly contribution to the Catholic Charities Rural Food Outreach in Sonoma and Lake Counties and to the Family Support Center which provides shelter for the homeless. We also ensure no food is wasted by sending any remaining perishables to The Palms, a permanent shelter. Additionally, The Program pays for the use and cleanup of the parish hall as well as utility usage for the freezers and refrigerators we use.

If you have any questions about the Rural Food Program, please contact either of us by leaving a message at the parish office (707-408-2650) or by emailing cmccool318@hotmail.com or mcguirks.farmhouse@gmail.com

Cathy McCool, Hal McGuirk, co-coordinators

SUNDAY MASSES FOR ST. PHILIP'S AND ST. TERESA'S CHURCHES

Sunday Mass and Communion services for our Parish will resume Sunday, July 12. For St. Teresa's, the Mass will be at 9:00 a.m. at Calvary Cemetery, and for St. Philip's, at 11:15 a.m., in the parking lot fronting the church.

It is important to remember that the bishop has extended the dispensation decree for attendance at Mass for those who are at high risk for infection or are fearful of catching or spreading the virus. Notwithstanding the measures taken to provide a safe environment, parishioners and visitors must understand that they attend mass at their own risk.

The following procedures, consistent with CDC, Sonoma County Health Department, and Diocesan guidelines, will be in place:

1. Do not come to Mass if you are sick, feeling unwell, or consider yourself to be at risk.
2. Participants are to bring their own chairs or ground covers, since no seating will be provided. Masks are required. Social distancing of six feet is to be maintained during the service. Please note, no bathroom services will be available.
3. Upon arrival, participants will sign in with a volunteer to record name and contact information. This information will be kept should Health Department contact tracing be necessary due to exposure to a possible new infection.
4. A second volunteer will conduct temperature screening and provide hand sanitizer. Participants can then move to the site for Mass.
5. Communion will be distributed after Mass. The celebrant will remain for twenty minutes to provide communion for those who are not prepared to join the Mass at this time.
6. Freestanding baskets will be available for the weekly donation.
7. For St. Teresa's, parking at the Cemetery is limited, so please consider parking at the Church or in Bodega if you are able. For St. Philip's, half of the parking lot will be used for services, so please consider parking in the lot across the street.

Please consider joining your Parish community in resuming services for our congregation. Should you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office (philip.teresa@yahoo.com) or leave a message for the Parish Office (707-408-2650).