



31st Sunday in Ordinary Time November 5, 2017

The greatest among you
must be your servant.

— Matthew 23:11

THE GREATEST AMONG US

Whom do you admire? Is it the President of the United States or a movie star or a billionaire? These are people whom the world exalts as great. Like the Pharisees in today's Gospel, they have places of honor wherever they go. Would you like to follow in their footsteps?

The scriptures for today offer different examples for us to follow. Jesus tells us that the greatest among us are the servants. These are the people we are to honor and imitate. We are called to be like Paul, who worked hard to serve the needs of his communities, and Jesus, who gave his life in service to the world.

-- © J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

What is the name of the pope's cathedral? If you said the Vatican, or St. Peter's, you were off by a few miles, since the answer is the Basilica of St. John, the Lateran, the "Mother Church" of all the churches of the world and the cathedral of the Diocese of Rome. It takes its name from the Lateran family, the Trumps of their day, who somehow ran afoul of the Emperor Nero. He seized all their property, including their vast Roman palace and estate. We don't know how Plautius displeased Nero so badly, but eventually all the Lateran property came to Constantine, the first Christian emperor, through his wife, Fausta. Early in the fourth century, when Christianity was at last legalized, Constantine gave the property to the church. Soon the great meeting halls were expanded and adapted.

Over the centuries, the church building has been sacked by armies, ruined by fire, torn down, and rebuilt. The oldest and most unchanged part of the Lateran is a vast, separate baptistery with steps leading down to a huge green basalt pool. Imagine what a triumphal moment the dedication of this public church building was for a community that had worshiped in secret for so long! This Thursday's feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica is really about the tradition of consecrating space for worship, and so by extension, a feast for your parish church building and, given the beautiful second reading, for its baptistery as well.

--Rev. James Field, © J. S. Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday:	Rom 11:29-36; Ps 69:30-31, 33-34, 36; Lk 14:12-14
Tuesday:	Rom 12:5-16b; Ps 131:1bcd-e-3; Lk 14:15-24
Wednesday:	Rom 13:8-10; Ps 112:1b-2, 4-5, 9; Lk 14:25-33
Thursday:	Ez 47:1-2, 8-12; Ps 46:2-3, 5-9; 1 Cor 3:9c-11, 16-17; Jn 2:13-22
Friday:	Rom 15:14-21; Ps 98:1-4; Lk 16:1-8
Saturday:	Rom 16:3-9, 16, 22-27; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Lk 16:9-15
Sunday:	Wis 6:12-16; Ps 63:2-8; 1 Thes 4:13-18 [13-14]; Mt 25:1-13

Prayer Requests: Sergio, Gary, Teresa Kooi, Pat Kampmann, Nino S., Pete, Thomas Tolar, Susan Brown, Felicia Gonzalez, Holly White, Kathleen, Jamie Silva, Lorri McCamen, Sarah, Clifford James, Terri Andrews, Marilyn Vitali, Fred Pisani, Theresa Spiteri, Sara, Fr. Sergott, Mary Anne Parque, Dorothy Komarek Denton, Steve, Sr. Marjorie Krusky, Barbara, Kathy Higgins, Dave Creeth, Sheila & Art Hansen, Jim Pearson, Ronald Porter, Annie Tobin, Darren and Michael, William, Parson Pfsorich, Mary O'Donnell, Bill Zandoski, Papke family

LOVE NEEDED HERE

No one needs love more than
someone who doesn't deserve it.

— Anonymous

Social Ministry



Finance Corner:

Your generosity is greatly
needed and appreciated!

For the months of **October/November** offerings:

10/29: 1st collection: \$1945. Rural Food: \$1921.

11/5: No 2nd collection. 11/12: Operating Expenses.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council: Thurs., 11/30/17, at 10:00 AM in Hall

Finance Council: Thurs., 12/14/17, at 11:00 AM in Hall

Liturgy Committee: Wed., 12/13/17, at 10:00 AM in Hall

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

St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Susan, 829-1189

Every Friday, Centering Prayer: 9:30 AM at St Philip

Coffee & Goodies: Following 8 AM Sunday Mass and
Monday/Wednesday after 9 AM Mass, at St Philip Hall

Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

All seniors welcome! (No lunch Monday before 2nd Tuesday of month)



✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., November 4, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith

Sun., November 5, 8am Mass for the People

Sun., November 5, 9:30am Mass for the Massell family

Sun., November 5, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer

Mon., November 6, 9am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo

Tues., November 7, 9am Mass Papke family special intention

Wed., November 8, 9am Communion Service

Thurs., November 9, 9am Communion Service?

Fri., November 10, 9am Communion Service

Sat., November 11, 5pm Mass ✠ Sean White

Sun., November 12, 8am Mass Sarah & Trent Smith

Sun., November 12, 9:30am Mass for the Poor Souls

Sun., November 12, 11:15am Mass ✠ Josephine Poynter

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time; National Vocation

Awareness Daylight Saving Time ends

Thursday: The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

Friday: St. Leo the Great

Saturday: St. Martin of Tours

RIGHT AND WRONG

What is morally wrong
can never be politically right.

—Anthony Ashley Cooper

Did you remember to turn your clocks
back one hour Saturday night, Nov. 4?
(the end of Daylight Savings Time)

Turn Clocks
Back



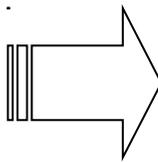
Pope Francis Tweet

"Learn from wonder; nurture astonishment. Live, love, believe. And, with the grace of God, never despair."

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adams' original photograph of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds will support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited edition has been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a tax deductible donation of \$175. Please contact restoration committee members for your limited print: Peg at 707-867-6073 or Bob at 707-875-9148.

As our hearts continue to go out to the countless families affected by the wildfires, we are encouraged by the powerful response from all people of goodwill. The Chancery reopened on Monday October 16th, but will not be fully staffed as some staff have left the area due to the evacuations. The only Chancery phone number working at present is the main number, 707-545-7610. Chancery staff do have email access but are not working. We have created a web page on our Diocesan website to donate specifically to help alleviate the incredible financial toll the fires have had on our school communities, and parish families. Please go to www.srdiocese.org/signofhope to make a donation as soon as possible. Every little bit helps! (You can also sign up to offer one hour of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament each week, as well as submit your own story of how you have experienced your own sign of hope in the midst of this trial.) Thank you! --Dave Adams, the Chancery

Featured Parish Bulletin Advertiser:



Occidental Plumbing
New Construction, Remodels, & Repairs
Tom (Snap) Gonnella
707-508-5378

Rural Food Program Alert!!!

The devastating wild fires have displaced many people and it is evident that the rebuilding process will take many months. Family and friends of our Rural Food clients and individuals relocating to temporary housing in our service area will need support. In view of this, we are suspending the residency requirement for our service area (this includes communities from Occidental to Monte Rio, Cazadero, Jenner, Bodega Bay, Bodega, and Freestone.). I will inform Catholic Charities Rural Food and the Redwood Empire Foodbank so that they can refer people to our program. I encourage our parishioners and volunteers to refer individuals and families that may be in need of food. Of course, this will place additional need for volunteers in anticipation of more requests for assistance. November, December and January have always been our busiest months so please help us with set-up and/or distribution. Please be in communication with me (roddemar@comcast.net) and/or leave messages at the parish office (874-3812) if you have any questions or suggestions.

Class: Messianic History of Ancient Israel (Understanding the Old Testament): Beginning with Abraham, the Hebrews had a Manifest Destiny to bring salvation to all nations of the world. This was ultimately completed by Jesus, the Messiah, through his disciples. God's Messianic Plan is the core to Ancient Israel's history and is the thread that connects most of the books of the Old Testament, pointing the way to Jesus, Messiah and Christ. Understanding "The Messianic History of Ancient Israel" greatly simplifies an overall understanding of the Old Testament and understanding of Jesus' fulfillment of the Messianic Plan. Pat Griffith will be conducting this class on Thursday evening, November 30th from 6:30 to 9:00 pm and on Saturday, December 2nd from 8:30 to 3:30 pm. (Lunch will be provided.) The class will be in the hall at St. Philip. This is a great way to prepare for Jesus' Nativity. Register by emailing Pat at Patrick@fairhill.com or texting him at 707-477-2971.

The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



And for this reason we too give thanks to God unceasingly, that, in receiving the word of God from hearing us, you received not a human word but, as it truly is, the word of God, which is now at work in you who believe. 1 Thes 2:13

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CELEBRATE 2018

Save the Date! Sunday, January 28, 2018

4:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Union Hotel, Occidental

Please join us at our 6th annual Celebrate event, benefitting the historic churches and facilities of our parish. This year, also benefitting fire victims in Sonoma County with greatest economic need, though targeted Catholic Charities and Saint Vincent De Paul funds.

Please note:

- 1) New day and time! We are starting earlier (at 4:00 pm) and on a Sunday (the week before Super Bowl)
- 2) Ticket price is \$90, with 1/2 the ticket sale proceeds going to fire victims (deductible!)
- 3) We need both silent and live auction items that will create lively bidding
- 4) 100% of the proceeds from this years Fund-a-Need will be earmarked for the identified fire victims funds (matching fund donors needed!)
- 5) We would love your drinkable wine contributions, for use at the event. There will be a collection basket at the back of the churches beginning November 11 and 12

You can purchase tickets or donate items after mass, through any committee member or at the parish office. THANK YOU!

Celebrate Committee: Cathy McCool, Mary Briggs, Pat Pettibone, Diane Benson, Mary Griffith, Susan Small, Jane Vitale, Barbara Gonnella

Are you interested in the possibility of becoming a volunteer Eucharistic Minister, Lector, Usher, Gardener, Choir member, or Committee member? Please leave a message at 874-3812.