



33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time November 17, 2019

Sing praise to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and melodious song.
— Psalm 98:5

LIFE IS HARD, BUT HAVE NO FEAR

Today's readings take a fearless look at reality and reach a conclusion that we all know: life is hard. The prophet Malachi preaches fire and brimstone, warning us that evildoers will perish in flames. Saint Paul offers his own warning to the Thessalonians: keep busy, but never become a busybody. He reminds Christians that the apostles themselves worked in "toil and drudgery" as a model for how we ought to contribute to our community. The Gospel returns to the apocalyptic tone of Malachi, describing the utter chaos of the end-times. We will know the end is near when violence, catastrophe, and hatred dominate the earth. But we must not fear! God's saving plan brings peace to our hearts. Malachi speaks of the sun's "healing rays," and Jesus himself promises to protect every hair on our heads.

—© J. S. Paluch Co.

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

We are faced with strong and disturbing readings today that hold a certain fascination, since they seem at first glance to be blueprints for future inevitable wars and hardship. A fundamentalist interpretation focuses on this aspect. Yet we hear them at our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist, which infuses them with hope and optimism. Rather than dreading the future, today's liturgy assures us that God is with us in all of life's inevitable trials, and that we have a role in shaping the outcome of human history. Occasionally, some Christians have attempted to decode these readings for an exact measure of the world's end, but they have thus far been disappointed.

"Nothing lasts forever" is a lyric from a Broadway show. Stars fall from the sky, leaves wither and fall, mountains wash into the sea, human projects and governments totter and collapse with great regularity. Today's liturgy opposes this idea as incomplete, reminding us that Christ has made a permanent change in human history, and that life in him is life forever. Rather than inviting us to throw in the towel, today's liturgy strengthens us for acts of goodness and grace in our families, communities, and world.

—Rev. James Field, @ Paluch Co.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: 1 Mc 1:10-15, 41-43, 54-57, 62-63; Ps 119:53, 61, 134, 50, 155, 158; Lk 18:35-43
Tuesday: 2 Mc 6:18-31; Ps 3:2-7; Lk 19:1-10
Wednesday: 2 Mc 7:1, 20-31; Ps 17:1bcd, 5-6, 8b, 15; Lk 19:11-28
Thursday: 1 Mc 2:15-29; Ps 50:1b-2, 5-6, 14-15; Lk 19:41-44
Friday: 1 Mc 4:36-37, 52-59; 1 Chr 29:10bcd, 11-12; Lk 19:45-48
Saturday: 1 Mc 6:1-13; Ps 9:2-4, 6, 16, 19; Lk 20:27-40
Sunday: 2 Sm 5:1-3; Ps 122:1-5; Col 1:12-20; Lk 23:35-43

Requests: Call office to add/remove names: 874-3812.

Fr. Logan, 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., Columbina A., 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 Adams, April K., Jacinta G., Gen B., Donald T.



Finance Corner:



Your generosity is greatly needed and appreciated!

For the month of **November** offerings:

11/10 1st Collection: \$1585. Operating Expenses: \$1114.
11/17: Capital Expenditures. 11/24: Rural Food.

Mark your Calendar for Future Events & Meetings:

Parish Council: Wed., 12/4/19, at 11AM in Hall
Finance Council: Tues., 12/10/19, at 2PM in Hall
Liturgy Committee: TBA

St. Teresa Ladies Guild: Contact Diane, 823-6044
St. Philip Ladies Guild: Contact Penny, 559-367-7403

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

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



Mondays & Wednesdays-Seniors Lunch at 12noon:

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

✠ ♥ ✠ Mass Intentions ✠ ♥ ✠ Schedule

Sat., Nov. 16, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
Sun., Nov. 17, 8am Mass for the People
Sun., Nov. 17, 9:30am Mass for the healing and support of all victims of clergy sexual abuse
Sun., Nov. 17, 11:15am Mass ✠ Emily & Joe Palmer
Mon., Nov. 18, 9am Prayer Service
Tues., Nov. 19, 9am Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
Wed., Nov. 20, 9am Mass ✠ Tina Bartolo
Thurs., Nov. 21, 9am Mass ✠ Bob Tiller
Fri., Nov. 22, 9am Mass
Sat., Nov. 23, 5pm Mass ✠ Brendan Smith
Sun., Nov. 24, 8am Mass for the conversion & just punishment of the perpetrators and concealers of sexual abuse
Sun., Nov. 24, 9:30am Mass for the People
Sun., Nov. 24, 11:15am Mass ✠ Al Gerhardt

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Monday: The Dedication of the Basilicas of Ss. Peter and Paul; St. Rose Philippine Duchesne
Thursday: The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Friday: St. Cecilia
Saturday: St. Clement I; St. Columban; Blessed Miguel Agustín Pro; Blessed Virgin Mary

A Star Child Giving Tree is now here in the church. Thank you for participating in this Christmas project.

RESEMBLANCE

The dignity of resembling the Almighty is common to all people; we should then love them all as ourselves, as living images of the Deity. It is in this that we belong to God. —St. Francis de Sales

As announced at previous weekend Masses, let us renew our good tradition of Praying for All the Departed of our two communities, Bodega and Occidental, during this month of November. You can find envelopes at the church entry table to fill out and put in the collection basket for the altar in November.

RURAL FOOD PROGRAM UPDATE for NOVEMBER 2019

"I feel like I matter here" a Rural Food client told one of our volunteers as he helped her to her car. A volunteer offered assistance to a woman standing in the middle of the hall during food distribution this week. The woman explained she was a local resident, had heard about the Rural Food Program and came by to see what it was all about. With a smile she said " I'm just feeling all the love in this room."

Over 100 warm blankets, quilts, comforters and sleeping bags were distributed to our clients this month. Thank you to all who donated to this endeavor.

On November 12, we welcomed 122 families who received nutritional support. Our clients continue to express appreciation for our service and we expect that Rural Food will continue to serve more clients in the coming months. The

Program is able to continue efforts to end hunger in our area because of funds received from the Rural Food Collection on the last Sunday of each month, private donations and the very generous support of our dedicated volunteers.

Please continue to collect paper grocery bags with handles and clean egg cartons for use during food distribution.

Thank you for your continued generous support of this program.

RURAL FOOD VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Saturday, December 7, from 9-10:00 am repackaging -- Parish Hall
 Monday, December 8, from 10a -12noon to set up the Parish Hall
 Tuesday, December 10, from 8:30 - 11:00am to distribute food and assist clients.

Exclusive Limited Print of Ansel Adam's original picture of St. Teresa Church from 1953: All proceeds support needed restoration of St. Teresa of Avila Mission. A limited number of prints have been printed from Ansel's original negative. Each reprint is individually numbered. Prints are available for a donation of \$175. Please contact Peg Duffy for a limited print: 707-867-6073.

SAVE THE DATE!

CELEBRATE 2020 --January 26, 2020

Tickets on sale beginning December 7, 2019

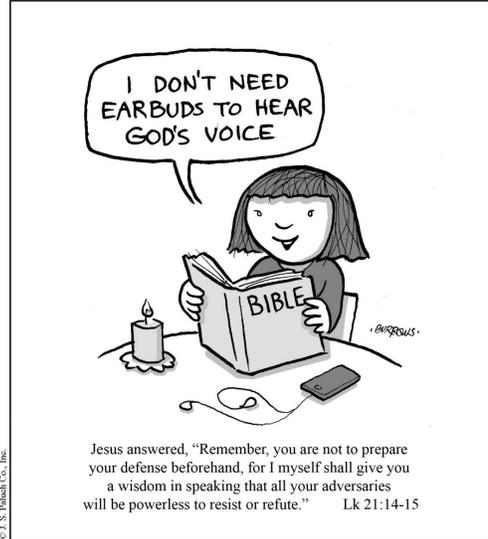
Flowers for the Altar throughout the Year



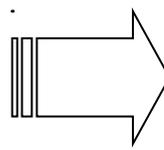
Flowers for the altar are a spiritual investment for a loved one, to celebrate any occasion, or just to express gratitude for your blessings. Flowers are also a gift to all of us as we enter and see the glorious display around the altar and experience the liturgy framed by such exquisite beauty. We appreciate your donations! To contribute for St. Philip Church flowers, please call 874-6072.

Advent/Christmas preparation: Copies of *The Little Blue Book* will be available at the entrance table of each church at the end of November. A voluntary \$1 donation is appreciated.

The Little Ones Jim Burrow



Featured Parish Bulletin Advertiser:



Union Hotel restaurant

locations in Occidental & Santa Rosa
 banquets ~ orders to go ~ open daily
 707-874-3555

Our Advent Mission is coming up the first week of December. We have an opportunity for evening sessions for parishioners who cannot attend the morning sessions. Signup clipboards are in the entrance of the church, and the determination to hold or not hold evening sessions will be made based on parishioner interest. So please sign up if you are interested in an evening time (6 pm).

Gentle reminders from our Pastor:

- Please remember to turn off your cell phone before Mass to avoid interrupting the liturgy.
- As a courtesy, always speak quietly in church, so as not to disturb fellow parishioners trying to pray before and after Mass.
- St. Philip Church in Occidental will be open daily from 8:30am to sunset starting this month, on a trial basis until further notice.
- Pray for all departed souls in November. (See first page of this bulletin for details.)

saint snippets

November 22

St. Cecilia

Noble lady of Rome beheaded for her faith in the year 230; patron saint of musicians because during her wedding she sang from her heart to the Lord

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Arise, soldiers of Christ, throw away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.