

September 21, 2008

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday



Fairness is an idea we seem to understand pretty early. Young children are good at “fair.” Actually, more specifically, they are good at “It *isn't* fair!”

Ever set up a birthday party for little kids? They can tell if someone got more French fries or a bigger piece of cake. Are you decorating the kids’ chairs? They can tell if one balloon is better than another. A red balloon might be better than a blue balloon, so make sure you get the right child the right balloon, so it will be *fair*. How do you know which balloon is better for each kid? I don’t know. *They* will, though. Actually, you’d better make it blue balloon, blue balloon, blue balloon—all the way around the table. And don’t make one blue balloon bigger than the others. (Unless it’s the guest of honor’s. But then when the next brother or sister has a birthday, make sure you do it that way again.) Putting jelly beans on the plate? Better count them. The kids will.

Which of us in school or at work has not felt cheated?

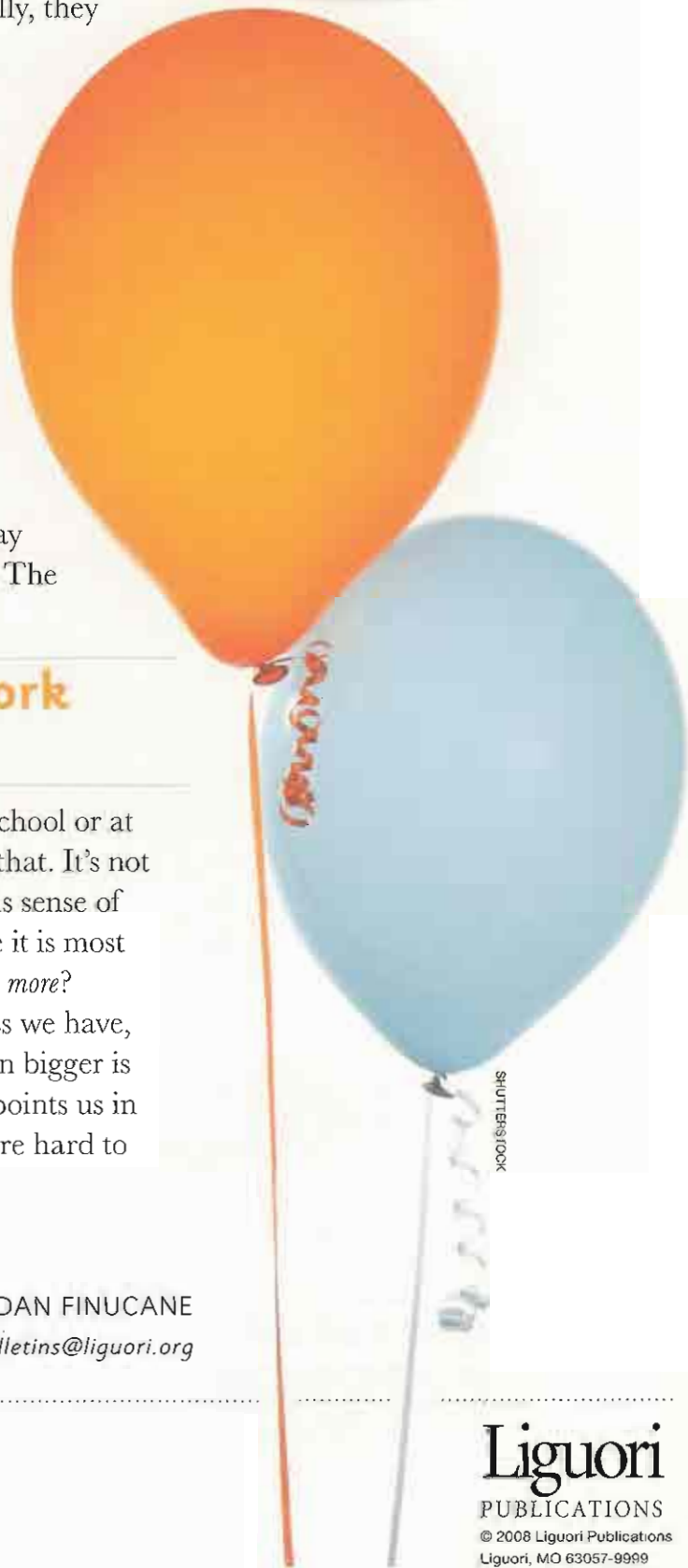
As we grow older, the stakes are higher. Which of us in school or at work has not felt cheated? Actually, there’s more to it than that. It’s not just a *feeling*. Who *hasn't* been cheated? It is good to have this sense of justice. It is good to work for justice and to recognize where it is most needed. And yet, the Gospel asks, should we recognize *even more*?

Today’s passage in Matthew takes up the sense of fairness we have, but it also seems to take it out of our hands. Something even bigger is operating. We are called to be more than fair. Jesus’ story points us in a direction past what is due us. He makes two points that are hard to accept:

1. God’s justice is smarter than our justice.
2. We are offered a second chance. It is *never* too late.

DAN FINUCANE

sundaybulletins@liguori.org



Today’s Readings

Is 55:6–9

Phil 1:20c–24, 27a

Mt 20:1–16a

Liguori

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St. Stephen Catholic Church

Pastor: Rev. Fr. John Casey, SAC

Deacon: Carlos Frias (817-307-8332)

Office – 1802 Bethel Road

Weatherford TX 76086

817-596-9585

Fax 817-613-0808

Office Hours – Monday through Friday

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Rectory – 1904 Bethel Road

817-596-9586

Web Page – www.ss-cc.org

Gift Shop – Saturday 5:30 to 6 PM

Sunday 9:45 to 11:00 AM

Noon to 12:30 PM

Club House—817-599-8423

Pro Shop—817-599-8431

Pastoral Assistant—

Sister Mildred Gordon, SHSp.

817-596-9587

Director of Religious Education –

Jeanette Houle-817-613-8008

doschicas@att.net

Secretary – Dorothy Mendolia

Accountant – Ron Westendorf

Parish Interfaith Ecumenical

Representative—

LaVerne Cardwell 817-594-3805

Choir Director – Dave Mees

817-596-5097

Parish Pastoral Council President—

Chuck Schabow 817-599-6644

MASS SCHEDULE

All Masses are held at the Church on Bethel Road unless otherwise noted

Saturday 6:00 PM ♦ Confessions Saturday 5:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM & 10:45 AM (English) ♦ 12:30 PM (Spanish)

Holy Days 7:00 AM & 7:00 PM

Daily Mass 8:45 AM

WELCOME NEW FAMILIES AND VISITORS

Please complete a registration card at the Welcome Table in the church foyer and return it at your earliest convenience. Thank You!

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	September 20	6:00 PM	Phil Nixon, RIP	<i>Memorial of Ss. Andrew Kim Taegon, priest and martyr, Paul Chong Hasang, martyr, and their companions, martyrs</i>
Sunday	September 21	8:00 AM	Isabel Valentini, RIP	<i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Patrick Rooney, RIP	<i>25th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>25° Domingo Ordinario</i>
Monday	September 22	8:45 AM	Communion Service	<i>Weekday</i>
Tuesday	September 23	8:45 AM	Communion Service	<i>Memorial of St. Pio of Pietrelcina, priest</i>
Wednesday	September 24	11:00 AM	Communion Service	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday	September 25	8:45 AM	Communion Service	<i>Weekday</i>
Friday	September 26	8:45 AM	Communion Service	<i>Memorial of Ss. Cosmas and Damian, martyrs</i>
Saturday	September 27	6:00 PM	Our Community	<i>Memorial of St. Vincent de Paul, priest</i>
Sunday	September 28	8:00 AM	J. W. Wright, RIP	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Winnie Jones, RIP	<i>26th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>26° Domingo Ordinario</i>

Marriage – six months notice required – please see Fr. Casey. **Aviso para el Matrimonio** – seis meses es necesaria

Baptism Instruction—English (1st Thursday of each month); Spanish (1st Monday of each month)

Quinceañera – three month notice required – girl must be attending CCD and Mass *regularly* – please see Fr. Casey

Prayer Chain Coordinators—Ann Allen (817-594-8637) Bette Binzer (817-599-0454) LaVerne Cardwell (817-594-3805)

Weekly Visitation of the Sick & Shut-Ins. Contact the church office to be on the schedule.

Census Information—Please notify the church office if you are new to our Parish, have a change of address or phone number, or move to another Parish.

Bulletin Notices are to be written or typed and in the office at least one week prior to event – notices may be e-mailed – deadline for bulletin is Noon on Tuesday – your cooperation is greatly appreciated – Thank You!

**REGULAR
COLLECTION
September 13 & 14
\$11,041.00**

*Flowers for the Altar this Weekend
Are A Gift From Mary Reyes
In Honor of
Wonderful Blessing Gabi Reyes, 13th Birthday*



*Welcome back Fr. Frances Fernández
of the Cursillo Center
to celebrate Mass
while Fr. Casey is on vacation.*

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

God calls people at different times and in various ways.
You're never too old or too late to give your life to God.
Generosity is his hallmark.
(Matthew 20:1-16)

26° Domingo Ordinario

La vida al servicio del Señor no es aburrida pero siempre
desafiante. Considera el sacerdocio o la vida religiosa.
(Marcos 9:30-37)

WELCOME TO ALL, INCLUDING VISITORS AND NEW PARISHIONERS.

Please join us this Sunday between Masses for breakfast in
the parish hall, provided by the Hispanic Group.

Changing Our Hearts

"While we have the opportunity,
let us do good to all." Galatians 6:10

As we hear from our Lay Presenters this weekend, we are reminded of how personal *Sharing in Ministry* can be. Your pledge to the appeal truly benefits the ministries and programs throughout North Texas. Next weekend is Commitment Weekend. This will be a chance for you to make a commitment to the 2008-2009 *Sharing in Ministry* appeal if you have not already done so. Please give generously towards the appeal and know that you can truly make a difference.

El Cambo en Nuestros Corazones

"Por lo tanto, siempre que tengamos la oportunidad, hagamos bien a todos, y en especial a los de la familia de la fe". Gálatas 6:10

Como lo escucharemos de nuestros presentadores seculares este fin de semana, se nos recordará lo personal que *Compartir en Ministerio* puede ser. Su promesa de donativo al llamado verdaderamente beneficia los ministerios y los programas en todo el norte de Texas. El próximo fin de semana es el Fin de Semana del Compromiso. Esto presentará una oportunidad para que haga un compromiso con el llamado *Compartir en Ministerio* 2008-2009 si no lo ha hecho ya. Por favor done generosamente al llamado y sepa que puede en verdad crear una diferencia.

FIRST COMMUNION PARENTS: Mandatory meeting on **Sunday, September 28 during regular RE class time in room 16.** Contact Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

PADRES DE NIÑOS QUE TOMARAN LA PRIMERA COMUNION: Es obligatoria su asistencia a la reunion del Domingo, Septiembre 28 en la Sala 16, durante la hora regular de las Clases de Religion. Si tiene alguna pregunta, contacte a Jeanette Houle al 817-613-8008 o doschicas@att.net.

CALLED TO PROTECT: Keeping Children & Youth Safe, Saturday, October 4 at 2 PM in English; 1 PM in Spanish. All volunteers who work with children in our Parish are required to attend this training. Please RSVP to Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

CLASE:MANTENIENDO A LOS NIÑOS SEGUROS.- Sábado, Octubre 4 de 1:00 a 4:00 pm. Todos los voluntarios que están trabajando con los niños en nuestra Iglesia, se requiere que tomen este entrenamiento. Para mas información comunicarse con Jeanette Houle 817-613-8008 o email a doschicas@att.net.

YOUNG ADULT BIBLE STUDY STARTING. A 6-week study of The Eucharist beginning the first week in October. "Look to deepen your understanding of this sacrament as well as your appreciation of the great gift it is. Through meditation on the gospels and the Old and New Testament, we will learn to cultivate a Eucharistic life of prayer and active commitment in the world." Set to meet evenings, day is negotiable. Contact Jeanette Houle at 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

CENTER OF HOPE. I would like to thank everyone that donated food and service at the Center of Hope September 2-4. St. Stephen has wonderful, caring people shown by your generosity for those in need. It would not be possible without all of you! Thank you again and God Bless. *Norma Gonzales.*

St. Stephen Church—Thank you for You for Your Ministry!! What a blessing it was to have your congregation serve at the Center of Hope. So many lives are blessed and enriched daily here at the Center. The love of God is shown through people such as yourselves either through the smiles on your faces, the prayers you offer on behalf of the clients, or the good food you serve to the hungry people that come through our doors. You served approximately 270 hot meals and your congregation gave a total of 90 hours of service. A special thank you to Norma Gonzales for coordinating your efforts at the Center of Hope as you all worked together to do an amazing work!

Denise Dean/Churches of Hope Coordinator

AROUND THE DIOCESE

The Diocese of Fort Worth seeks a Part-time Administrative Assistant to help primarily in the Vocation Office at the Catholic Center. For a full job description and application, visit www.fwdioc.org. E-mail a resume and completed job application to msimeroth@fwdioc.org or fax to 817-244-8839 to the attention of Mark Simeroth, Director of Human Resources. **Application due date is September 30.** Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview.

13th Annual Lebanese Food Festival. October 3, 4, & 5; Friday 11 AM to 10:30 PM; Saturday 11 AM to 10:30 PM; Sunday 10:30 AM to 4 PM; Our Lady of Lebanon Maronite Catholic Church, 719 University Place, Lewisville, TX; Free admission and parking; 24 hour information 972-436-7617; www.ourladylebonon.com.

Young Adult Theology on Tap. Theology on Tap is a four-part series with dynamic speakers and engaging discussions on topical faith issues. Join young adults (21-30s), from around the Diocese of Fort Worth for a fun evening of fellowship. Our next dates are October 7, 14, 21, 28 at Los Vaqueros Restaurant. For more information, www.fwdioc.org/default.asp?ID=906

Spiritual Speaker, Mathew Kelly coming to St. Maria Goretti Parish in Arlington, Saturday, October 18, 7 PM; and St. Vincent DePaul, Sunday, October 19, 7 PM. For more information contact jcox@smgparish.org.

TEEN CORNER

Youth Group: Please join us each **Wednesday 6-8 PM** for Youth Group. **Dinner is served weekly at 6 PM.** For those who have not been to Youth Group this year, a parent/guardian will be needed to complete appropriate paperwork. Any questions call Susan Ourada at 817-596-3872. Everyone is invited to join the Youth Group each Wednesday for the Divine Mercy Chaplet at approximately 6:45 PM.

St. Stephen Youth will be holding a **T-Shirt Fundraiser** the weekends of **October 5th and 12th after all Masses.** Proceeds will benefit our Youth 2000 trip in April. Any questions, please contact Jeanette Houle 817-613-8008 or doschicas@att.net.

All youth ages 13 and above are invited to participate in the **Youth Music Ministry.** Any questions contact Anthony Lucia at 940-859-1449 or Jeanette Houle at doschicas@att.net.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

(All activities held at Bethel Road)

Sunday, September 21

9:15 AM Religious Education Classes (English)
9:15 AM Adult Catechism (Room 19)
11:15 AM Religious Education Classes (Spanish)

Monday, September 22

7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #72
7:00 PM RCIA
7:00 PM Citizenship Classes

Tuesday, September 23

9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (Rm. 1 & 2)

Wednesday, September 24

11:00 AM Communion Service
followed by 60+ Covered Dish Luncheon
6:00 PM Youth Group
6:30 PM Choir Practice

Thursday, September 25

10:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
10:00 AM Quilting Group (Pro Shop)
7:00 PM Hora Española Santa

Saturday, September 27

7:00 PM Cursillistas Ultreya (Spanish)

Dear Padre

Why are there so many new saints?

Q Why has the Church canonized so many people in recent years? I thought becoming a saint was a rarity and that most of us are struggling sinners.

Alice

Dear Alice,

Becoming a saint was especially rare after the 1200s, when formal canonization became more centralized under the pope. So, for instance, during the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries each pope canonized an average of fewer than ten saints. The number of saints increased significantly in the twentieth century: Pope John Paul II alone canonized 482 people.

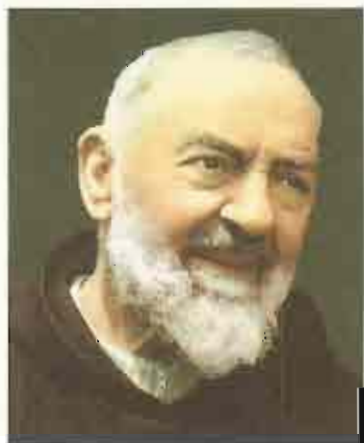
People who "struggle" with their faith are the ones most in need of so many saintly role models. In *Making Saints: How the Catholic Church*

Determines Who Becomes a Saint, Who Doesn't, and Why, Kenneth L. Woodward wrote, "One might even say that the church exists to make saints of all its members, if by saint we mean those who become true imitators of Christ."

The universal call to imitate Christ comes first with baptism; canonization recognizes that one's baptismal call was carried out to a heroic degree. Holiness, then, is not reserved for a privileged and elite corps, but is intended for everyone. Pope Benedict XVI said recently that recognition given to saints "paves the way to true spiritual resurrection, to lasting

conversions and to the blossoming of new saints." In other words, saints encourage more saints among us. Sanctity loves company! "For this is the will of God, your sanctification" (1 Thessalonians 4:3).

Byron Miller, C.Ss.R.



St. Pio of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio) was canonized by Pope John Paul II on June 16, 2002.

Monday



September 22

Weekday

Prv 3:27-34 • Lk 8:16-18

Tuesday



September 23

Saint Pio of Pietrelcina, priest

Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 • Lk 8:19-21

Wednesday



September 24

Weekday

Prv 30:5-9 • Lk 9:1-6

Thursday



September 25

Weekday

Ecl 1:2-11 • Lk 9:7-9

Friday



September 26

Weekday

Ecl 3:1-11 • Lk 9:18-22

Saturday



September 27

Saint Vincent de Paul, priest

Ecl 11:9-12:8 • Lk 9:43b-45

Sunday



September 28

Twenty-sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ez 18:25-28

Phil 2:1-11 or 2:1-5

Mt 21:28-32

