

July 27, 2008

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday



What is the kingdom of heaven like? Jesus pulls out all the stops to find metaphors that will fit into everyday experience, to find down-to-earth images that can give his followers clues about where to glimpse God at work. God's reign is a treasure. It's a unique pearl. It's an action sequence: throw a net into the water and see what you catch. Now sort through the stuff. What's worth keeping? Is the kingdom of heaven there? Do you see it? Do you get it yet?

Where would Jesus find images for twenty-first-century parables?

Maybe the reign of God is like a new opportunity at school. Or like a new job. It might mean a transfer—a bit scary, but it could be a new start, an adventure. The presence of God can be seen in a young athlete or dancer or musician, someone staying with the practice schedule, patiently putting in the hours, with few seeing all the effort, waiting for a chance to step onto the stage and shine.

God's reign was once like a woman who swept out the whole house looking for a coin and had a party when she found it. Is that reign anywhere near her distant cousin, who fears an important file has been erased from her hard drive? God, how am I going to recover all that work?

Where does Jesus find stuff for parables today? The kingdom of heaven is like a new singing group, a good meal, a day off? Are we looking for the reign of God in clichés? This isn't about finding cute little images. It's more subtle than that.

Is God really in these simple things? What is the kingdom of heaven like?

The kingdom of heaven is where nothing is wasted.



Today's Readings

1 Kgs 3:5, 7-12

Rom 8:28-30

Mt 13:44-52 or 13:44-46

DAN FINUCANE

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Liguori

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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!

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

E-mail –
ststephencathchrch@sbcglobal.net

Gift Shop – Saturday 5:30 to 6 PM
Sunday 9:45 to 11:00 AM
Noon to 12:30 PM

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday	July 26	6:00 PM	Maribelle Stewart	<i>Ss. Joachim and Ann, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>
Sunday	July 27	8:00 AM	Robert Fronk	<i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	J. W. Wright, RIP	<i>17th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>17º Domingo Ordinario</i>
Monday	July 28	8:45 AM	Violeta Cruz, RIP	<i>Weekday</i>
Tuesday	July 29	8:45 AM	Communion Service	<i>Memorial of St. Martha</i>
Wednesday	July 30	11:00 AM	Bob & Marlene Fronk	<i>Memorial of St. Peter Chrysologus, bishop and doctor of the Church</i>
Thursday	July 31	8:45 AM	In Thanksgiving	<i>Memorial of St. Ignatius of Loyola, priest</i>
Friday	August 1	8:45 AM	Kevin McKenna, RIP	<i>Memorial of St. Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church</i>
Saturday	August 2	6:00 PM	Lucy Nevels	<i>Memorial of St. Eusebius of Vercelli, bishop</i>
Sunday	August 3	8:00 AM	J. W. Wright, RIP	<i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		10:45 AM	Our Community	<i>18th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
		12:30 PM	La Comunidad	<i>18º 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
July 19-20
\$10,556.00
SECOND
COLLECTION
August 2 & 3
Property Purchase**

*Flowers for the Altar this Weekend
Are a Gift from
Dave & Lorraine Yaniko
In Memory of Mary & Stanley Golas*



17th Sunday in Ordinary Time
God invites us to ask for what we need. Consider what Solomon requested—an understanding heart. What do you need as you seek to follow Jesus?
(1Kings 3:5, 7-12)

17º Domingo Ordinario
¿Estoy dispuesto/a a vender todo lo que poseo y seguir al Señor? ¿Qué es lo más precioso para mí?
(Mateo 13:44-52)

The Body of Christ

How is Christ present in the Eucharist?
Jesus Christ is present in the Eucharist in a unique and incomparable way. He is present in a true, real and substantial way, with his Body and his Blood, with his Soul and his Divinity. In the Eucharist, therefore, there is present in a sacramental way, that is, under the Eucharistic species of bread and wine, Christ whole and entire, God and Man.

CALL FOR CATECHISTS! The following Catechist positions are available for the 2008-09 Religious Education School Year. Training is available.

- 2nd grade (First Communion) - 3 positions
- 4th grade - 2 positions
- 5th grade - 1 position
- 6th grade - 1 position
- 8th grade - 1 position

Catechists must be willing to prepare weekly for Religious Education classes, must be reliable and on time, must have completed all Sacraments through Confirmation, be a practicing Catholic, and have completed the Diocesan requirement "*Keeping Children Safe.*" Any questions, please contact Jeanette Houle at doschicas@att.net.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES. St. Stephen will also be collecting school supplies that will be made available to our parishioners. The following is an official supply list. These items can be left in the church foyer in the pantry basket or brought to the church office. If you have questions, please call the office at 817-596-9585: #2 pencils; colored pencils; map pencils; black, blue and red pens; markers; crayons; watercolors; construction and manila paper; notebook paper; spirals notebooks; composition notebooks; solid colored plastic pocket folders with brads; erasers; glue and glue sticks; rulers; school boxes; and scissors.

BLOOD DRIVE. Although walk-ins are always welcome, we need people to sign up for the blood drive on **Monday, July 28, 4-8 PM, in the Holy Spirit Center.** Please bring your photo ID. Guidelines have changed regarding medication, tattoos, body piercing, and health related conditions. Phone 1-800-DONATE4 if you have questions. Thank you for your generosity and continued support.

DONACION DE SANGRE La proxima donacion de sangre sera el **Lunes, 28 de Julio, desde las 4PM hasta las 8PM en el Sala Holy Spirit de la Iglesia.** Necesita presentar documento de identidad. La carne roja es buena para mantener Alto el nivel de hierro. Gracias por su generosidad con los necesitados.

60 +. Please join us for Mass at **11 AM on Wednesday, July 30,** followed by a covered dish luncheon in the Parish Hall.

YOUTH GROUP. The next scheduled Youth Music Ministry practice is **Monday, July 28, 5-7 PM** in Room 1 & 2. All youth ages 13 and above are invited to participate. Any questions contact Anthony Lucia at 940-859-1449 or Jeanette Houle at doschicas@att.net.

The Divine Mercy Chaplet will continue on **Wednesday, July 30, 3 PM in the Church.** Any questions, please contact Jeanette Houle at doschicas@att.net.

Reminder: POOL PARTY; Sunday, July 27 at Cherry Park Pool; 7:45 to 9:45 PM. PERMISSION SLIPS WILL BE REQUIRED FOR ADMITTANCE. Questions? Call Mrs. Ourada at 817-596-3872.



AROUND THE DIOCESE

EMPZANDO UNA VIDA NUEVA Grupo de Apoyo para Separados, Divorciados y Viudos. "Empezando Una Vida Nueva" es un grupo de apoyo para personas que están pasando por el dolor de una separación, un divorcio, o muerte de su cónyuge. El grupo se reúne una vez por semana por diez semanas y su propósito es de compartir destrezas de superación que otras personas han aprendido, encontrar nuevos amigos/as que caminarán con usted hacia el future, perdonar, adquirir aceptación y má "Empezando Una Vida Nueva" comenzará el **lunes, 18 de agosto, 2008** de las 7 p.m. a las 9 p.m. en el Nuevo salon parroquial de la Iglesia Todos los Santos, 214 N.W. 20th St., Fort Worth. Si desea inscribirse o desea más informacion favor de hablar con Carmen Zacarias al (682) 472-8517.

This year Bishop Vann is presenting a "Family Matters" seminar on September 6 at 8:30 AM until 4:30 PM at St. Bartholomew in Fort Worth. "Family Matters" includes educational information about breast cancer and the theology, biology and psychology of family planning issues and choices. Reservation forms are available in the church office. **Reservations** are due by **September 2.** For additional information contact 817-623-2430 or 817-680-3535.

"Lighten Up!...A celebration of Faith and Family!" is coming to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Mineral Wells, TX. Nationally-known Catholic comedic character-actor, singer, storyteller, and teacher Doug Brummel and his cast of characters will lead the parish community on a unique faith journey on **Wednesday, September 10 and Thursday, September 11** with a start time of **6:47 PM.** In these busy times with everyone doing their own thing, it is a real gift to have this celebration in which all generations come together to celebrate the gift of faith and family! Everyone is welcome! Admission is free. A free-will offering will be available. Check out www.dougbrummel.com. Thank you in advance. If you need additional information, please call 940-325-8806.

WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS (All activities held at Bethel Road)

- Sunday, July 27**
- 7:45 PM Youth Group Pool Party—Cherry Park
- Monday, July 28**
- 4:00 PM Blood Drive (Parish Hall)
- 5:00 PM Youth Music Ministry (Room 1 & 2)
- 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop #72
- Tuesday, July 29**
- 9:30 AM Ladies Bible Study (Rm. 1 & 2)
- Wednesday, July 30**
- 11:00 AM Mass followed by 60+ Covered Dish Luncheon
- 3:00 PM Divine Mercy Chaplet
- 6:30 PM Choir Practice
- Thursday, July 31**
- 10:00 AM Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- 10:00 AM Quilting Group (Pro Shop)
- 7:00 PM Grupo de Oracion
- Friday, August 1**
- 7:30 PM Adoration of the Sacred Heart
- Saturday, August 2**
- 7:00 PM Cursillistas Ultreya (Bilingual))

Dear Padre

Does anointing cure illness?



My mother has cancer. If she is anointed, will she be cured?

Michael

Dear Michael,

The Church believes God can work miracles and heal people, but that is separate from the sacrament of the anointing of the sick, which is administered by a priest to anyone who is seriously or chronically ill or in danger of imminent death. The healing Jesus offers in the anointing of the sick is not the same kind of healing, probably more accurately referred to as “curing,” we find in a hospital.

It’s true that the sacrament is a prayer for physical healing, but it’s above all a prayer for *spiritual* healing, especially with respect to reconciliation with God and reaffirmation of our trust in the Lord. Healing includes accepting one’s physical limitations and allowing others to care for us when we can’t care for ourselves.

God, we believe, does not abandon us to the isolation we might feel at this stage of life; thus, the Church has strongly endorsed the hospice-program movement. Through hospice, the faith community accepts responsibility to care for its weakest and most vulnerable members by being physically present in the last months and weeks of their lives.

The sacrament of the anointing of the sick may not cure in the eyes of a doctor, but its celebration will bring your mother closer to a loving God as she approaches him in this sacrament, a God who raises us up and gives us the gift of eternal life.

Patrick Keyes, C.Ss.R.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		 			   	
July 28	July 29	July 30	July 31	August 1	August 2	August 3
<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Saint Martha</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Saint Ignatius of Loyola, priest</i>	<i>Saint Alphonsus Liguori, bishop and doctor of the Church</i>	<i>Weekday</i>	<i>Eighteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time</i>
Jer 13:1–11 Mt 13:31–35	Jer 14:17–22 Jn 11:19–27 or Lk 10:38–42	Jer 15:10, 16–21 Mt 13:44–46	Jer 18:1–6 Mt 13:47–53	Jer 26:1–9 Mt 13:54–58	Jer 26:11–16, 24 Mt 14:1–12	Is 55:1–3 Rom 8:35, 37–39 Mt 14:13–21

