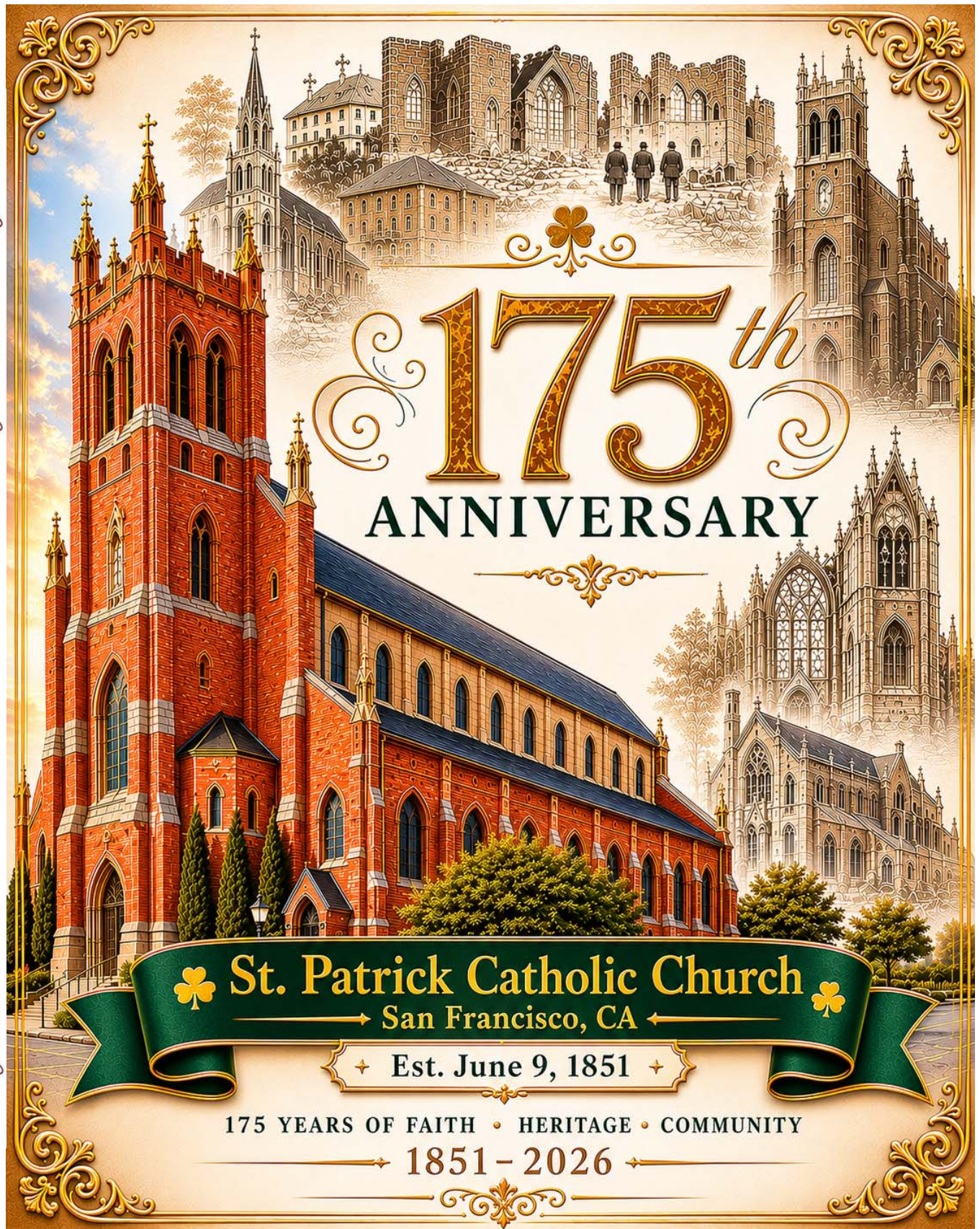


August 16, 2026 • Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time



San Francisco's HISTORIC LANDMARK #4

756 Mission St. (between 3rd and 4th Streets) | San Francisco, CA 94103 | (415) 421-3730 | www.stpatricksf.org

Pastoral Staff

Rev. Andrew Spyrow - *Pastor*
Rev. Celestine Tyowua - *Parochial Vicar*
Rev. Bonifacio "Boie" Espeleta - *Parochial Vicar*
Deacon Ferdinand Mariano - *OCIA Coordinator*

Parish Staff

Charles Corpus - *Music Coordinator*
Nora Regaspi - *Office Manager*
Camelle Sudario - *Parish Receptionist*

Mass Times

Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Saturday: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m. Vigil Mass
Sunday: 7:30 a.m., 9:30 a.m., 12:00 p.m., 5:15 p.m.
Tagalog Mass: 1st Sunday at 2:00 p.m.
Family Mass: 2nd Sunday at 12:00 p.m.
Charismatic & Healing Mass: 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Parish Schedule

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (in the church)

Monday through Friday
11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

Every Tuesday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Sacred Heart

First Friday of the month at 4:00 p.m..

Sto. Niño Devotion

Every Friday after the 12:00 p.m. Mass

Our Lady of Fatima

First Saturday of the month at 11:30 a.m.

The Power of Prayer

Much prayer, much power!

Little prayer, little power!

No prayer, no power!

~ Anonymous

A Good Prayer

A good prayer, though often used, is still fresh and fair in the eyes and ears of heaven.

~ Thomas Fuller

Happy Birthday!!

Happy Birthday to our Parishioners
celebrating a birthday this week.

Charity Achas	08/16	Rianne Caitlin Pascua	08/20
Caitlin Dabatos	08/16	Roxanne Real	08/20
Gilbert Laga	08/16	Maximiliano Diaz	08/21
Bessie Marcos	08/16	Caryl Anne Vergara	08/21
Bradley Melody	08/16	Robert Julian	08/22
Rowena Nangca	08/17	Ahmet Kara	08/22

Voice of a Prophet

We reflect upon the voice of the prophet in this Sunday's readings. We hear of the suffering and the rescue of Jeremiah. We hear how Jesus anticipates his suffering and death. As with Jeremiah and Jesus, the prophets were sent by God to the leaders and people of Israel. A prophet is one who speaks truth to the powerful, exposing their darker hidden motives and injustices. The prophet presents a way forward that aligns with God's purposes. A prophet can force people away from a comfortable neutrality or indifference. The prophet creates an urgency to make a choice: Are we content with the status quo, or are we to change our ways and pursue a new and better path? Today, we may also ask, how do we identify and respond to prophets of our time? How might we provide a prophetic voice in our Church and in our world?

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Our Fascinating Faith

The Documents of Vatican II—Church Meets World

While the entire Second Vatican Council was convened precisely to bring the Church into conversation with the contemporary world, the Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (*Gaudium et Spes*) explicitly addresses the subject. Ratified by a vote of 2,309 to 75 and promulgated on December 7, 1965, this document was not foreseen by the planners of the Council. Instead, it grew out of the deliberations on the floor of the first session, and is the only Vatican II document originally drafted in a modern language (French). It is also the first document issued by such a council to address the entire world.

Gaudium et Spes sets out to describe the condition of the peoples of the world, and then recommends ways that the Church can address the issues that confront them. In establishing this dialog between world and Church, it outlines the mission of the Church. If the Church is to fulfill its mission, we must recognize that there is no division between the sacred and the secular. We must make the joys, hopes, sorrows, and anxieties of all peoples our own; we must overcome every type of discrimination; we must heal the rift between science and faith. The hopeful vision of the Constitution on the Church in the Modern World is not the Church *against* the world, but the Church *with* the world. Especially in our own divisive days, we must reclaim this hopeful vision and make it our own.

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Damaged Blessed Items

If you have any damaged blessed items, including statues and Bibles, as well as sacramentals, such as crucifixes and rosaries, please feel free to drop them off in our gift shop. We'll make sure they are disposed of properly and respectfully.

Gratitude

O Thou who has given us so much, mercifully grant us one thing more—a grateful heart.

~ George Herbert

AAA Update **(as of 04 August 2026)**

2026 AAA Goal	\$43,252
Received	\$21,472
Amount Remaining	\$21,780
% of Goal	50%

St. Patrick Church Lifetime Donors

You can still make a donation by going to our parish website: www.stpatricksf.org. On our homepage scroll down and click Online Giving. Create an account if you don't have one. Once you have created an account, please choose the Lifetime Donor option. We are asking a Lifetime Donor to donate a minimum of \$20 a week or \$80 a month. Your privacy and financial information are safe with us. And we recommend that you use your credit card for an easier and faster transaction.

Thank you for your generosity and support.

For more information,
email us at information@stpatricksf.org
or call us at 415-421-3730

We have 85 Lifetime Donors as of 16 July 2026

In Memory of Nicomedes & Juanita Abello	Dan And Annie Lacap
Cristina Agbayani	Eleanor Lawsin
Marilou Alegre	Felicitas Locsin
Roberto Andrey	Merly Lorete
Kristen Ayer	Fe Macatangay
Joy, Jen & Jackie Bandelaria	Beltran C Marces
Eufemia Barcelona	Corazon Mariano
Evelyn Bird	Loren Masangcay
Dr. Beverly Lynn Bolinger	† Dionisio Mendaros, Si Cora Cuison
Maria Bravo	Evelyn Mendoza
Mercedita Cadiz	Rachelle Morales
Mamerto (Mc) Canlas	Jeff & Nenette Murata
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Sandra Cea	Florentina Palacio
Max & Josephine Chin	Jesus & Marilu Paningbatan
Felix Chang	Jun & Emy Pasion
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In Memory Of William Cotter, Jr.	Estrellita Perez
Thelma Dancel	Naomi Quioco
Evangeline Viray De Leon	Vince Ramirez
† Rosalinda Del Rosario	Lolita Ramos
Brian Dela Pena	Alma Raymundo
Jiasmin Delago	Hersie Rosales
Justin Edwards	Matthew Rothschild
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Conchita Fabros	Mario, Nelly, & Tracy Sarmiento
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Josefa Gonzales	Precious & Ryan Tizon
Rodil, Ruby Gonzales & Children	Victoriano & Carmen Uchi & Family
Alvin Gonzalez	Laura Vanmunching
Therese Guintu	Boying & Rosie Vasquez
Norma Gumawid	Alden, Mercy Ventigan & Kids
Ina Howard	Vida Ventura
† Ponciano & Marlene Icatar	Josephine Villa
Georgina Jose	Rianty Winarta
Kaiser Permanentesf, 4Center & Oncology	Edwin, Rosalie, Krista, Ezra & Juliana
Agnes Kumi	Cielito Littaua Yoma
Judy Neri Labaria	† Charlie A. Yparraquierre
Tita Labaria	

The God Squad Catholic TV Mass

FATHER HARRY

God Squad
PRODUCTIONS

The God Squad Catholic TV Mass, aired every Sunday, provides inclusion for those who are homebound, hospitalized, incarcerated and/or unable to attend Sunday Mass. Monsignor Harry Schlitt began broadcasting the TV Mass in the late 1970s and it has been airing ever since. Please watch the TV Mass on Sunday mornings on the following stations:

In San Francisco

KTSF (CH 26) at 6:00 a.m.; KRON (CH 4) at 5:30 a.m.;

and in Sacramento

KTXL (Fox 40) at 5:30 a.m.

You may also view the Mass at any time by going to *Father-Harry.org*. You may also find the program beneficial to you, someone in your family, or a friend.

We need your participation and support to continue this valuable ministry.

Catholic Prayer Corner

Hail, Holy Queen (Salve, Regina)

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy:

our life, our sweetness, and our hope!

To you do we cry, poor banished children of Eve;

to you do we send up our sighs,

mourning and weeping in this valley of tears.

Turn then, most gracious advocate,

your eyes of mercy toward us;

and after this our exile

show us the blessed fruit of your womb, Jesus.

O clement, O loving, O sweet Virgin Mary.

V. Pray for us, O Holy Mother of God

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

God's Word Today

"My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples." The prophet Isaiah's words signal the theme running through all three readings today. Today's Gospel is one of the most difficult to understand because it seems to portray Jesus as remote and unfeeling. If we look deeper, we see that what the Canaanite woman did was to challenge the boundaries of the day. Her persistence was based on the most fundamental of human life situations. Her daughter was ill. When illness strikes, we care not whether someone who can offer healing is within our established boundaries. In healing the woman's daughter, Jesus, for his part, also broke down the social barriers of the day. As we prepare to listen to God's word today, let's first examine our own established boundaries. What boundaries might God be challenging us to break down?

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Living Stewardship Now

People come to the Church because God calls them. Try volunteering in the parish ministry for people seeking to become Catholic (RCIA), or in a ministry welcoming Catholics who left the Church and want to come home.

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Good Example

A faithful Christian, illumined by the rays of grace like a crystal, ought to illumine his neighbor with the light of good example, through word and deed.

~ St. Anthony

**An expanded color version of our
printed bulletin, with online-only
content, is available on our website:
www.stpatricksf.org**

Mass Intentions for Aug 16 - 22

Date	Time	Intention
Sunday 16	7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 12:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Myla Zafra † Asterio Navasca SI All Parishioners Of St. Patrick SI Jeremy Luares SI Kenneth Kirby
Monday 17	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Ryan, Alicia, & Luna † Ponciano Mauricio SI Kenneth Kirby
Tuesday 18	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Marilyn & Lorenzo Sumulong SI Jeff Byrson SI Kenneth Kirby
Wednesday 19	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	† Luis & Trinidad Platero SI Jeff Byrson SI Kenneth Kirby
Thursday 20	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	BD Joel Ancheta BD Cherry V. Daulat SI Kenneth Kirby
Friday 21	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Ryan, Alicia & Luna BD Chris & Matt Jereza BD Raymond Jereza
Saturday 22	7:30 a.m. 12:10 p.m. 5:15 p.m.	SI Ryan, Alicia, & Luna SI Jeff Byrson SI Kenneth Kirby

Religious Education Classes

The staff and catechists of St. Patrick Church are dedicated to helping your children grow in faith and be closer to God. As parents, you are the primary educators of your children and are their best teachers. Your children learn the most from the example you set when you pray together and actively participate in Mass and the sacraments as a family.

Our Religious Education Program is designed to assist you in the faith formation of your children. First-time students must provide a valid baptismal certificate. Classes begin on Saturday, September 12th and run through May. Class hours are from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.

Are You Someone or Do You Know Someone Who...

- ...has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic?
- ...has a child over the age of seven who has not been baptized?
- ...was baptized Catholic as a child, but has not celebrated the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist?

The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is an opportunity for you to come together in a small group to learn more about the Catholic faith. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Church and prepare individuals to celebrate the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist during the Easter season. You are welcome to participate in the process with your questions, your insights, and your faith story in a warm accepting setting. For information please contact the parish office during normal business hours.

A Clever Woman of Faith



The first reading reminds us that even though the Jews are God's chosen people, foreigners who love the Lord will be accepted into God's house. So why is Jesus being so difficult with the Canaanite woman?

At first he seems to be putting her off. He doesn't answer her, but tells the disciples that he came only for lost sheep of Israel, adding the remark about food going to the dogs. He does this not to

discourage her, but to draw a response of faith. He wants to see how persistent she is in her request.

We can tell ourselves that we are people of faith, but how easily are we discouraged? Do we think God has forgotten us when we experience trouble? Sometimes it is our childish belief that everything has to go our way. We may not be selfish about it; we may be discouraged by the suffering of someone we love. The woman's clever reply to Jesus reminds us that she trusted in Jesus' power and willingness to help.

Jesus was also teaching his disciples that faith is more important than nationality. They were all Jews and wanted Jesus to send the Canaanite woman away. Long after Jesus' resurrection, the church struggled with the question of non-Jewish believers. Today, we may be doing the same thing in reverse. Some people think that only Catholics can be saved and that there is no hope for Protestants, much less for Jews. God's covenant with the chosen people cannot be rescinded. Paul says that the rejection of Jesus by Jewish leaders led to salvation for the rest of the world. But though some rejected Jesus, God never rejected the Jews.

Finally, Jesus responded to her persistence. Like the woman who wouldn't go away, we can keep praying till we get an answer to our prayer. While sometimes our request is granted, sometimes God has a good reason to delay or even say no. The more time we spend in prayer, the more likely we are to listen to God's answer. Prayer can help us come to the peaceful acceptance that God only does what is best for us.

~ Tom Schmidt, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

St. Pius X (1835-1914)

August 21

Presidential vetoes we understand. But imagine vetoing a papal election! Yet in the conclave of 1903, the Archbishop of Cracow (ironically, a predecessor in that office of Karol Wojtyla, the future John Paul II) vetoed the leading candidate on the order of the Austro-Hungarian emperor. Instead, the cardinals elected Giuseppe Sarto of Venice as Pius X, the first pope, after a succession of nobles and diplomats, to hail from humble origins. Nor did the papacy alter his endearing simplicity. Tailors eventually made his cassock cuffs detachable because he absentmindedly wiped his fountain pen on them, forgetting that his old black cassock had been replaced by papal white! Taking as his motto "To restore all things in Christ" (Ephesians 1:10), Pius condemned the theological innovations called "modernism," yet dramatically altered the then-common practice whereby people rarely received Communion for fear of unworthiness, mandating early First Communion and urging everyone to frequent reception. Refusing to bless troops assembled in Saint Peter's Square—"I bless peace, not war!"—he died brokenhearted as World War I engulfed Christian Europe despite his peacemaking efforts.

~ Peter Scagnelli, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

LEGION OF MARY

— ST. PATRICK CHURCH —

JOIN THE LEGION OF MARY, OUR LADY OF MT. CARMEL PRAESIDIUM

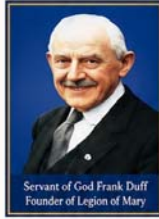


Meeting - Sunday at 1:30 p.m. in Bitanga Hall



The Legion Family Worldwide

- On all continents
- In over 170 countries
- 4 million active members
- 5 million auxiliary members



Servant of God Frank Duff
Founder of Legion of Mary
1889 - 1980



LEGION OF MARY'S HISTORY

The Legion of Mary was founded in Dublin, Ireland on the 7th of September in 1921. It is a lay Catholic organization giving service to the Church on a voluntary basis in almost every country.



LEGION OF MARY'S AIM

The object of the Legion of Mary is the glory of God through the holiness of its members developed by prayer and active co-operation in Mary's and the Church's works.



LEGION OF MARY'S UNIT

The unit of a Legion of Mary is called a praesidium, which holds a weekly meeting where prayer is intermingled with reports and discussions. Persons who wish to join the Legion must apply for membership in a praesidium.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE WORKS

The Legion sees as its priority the spiritual and social welfare of everyone. The members participate in the life of the parish through visitation of families, the sick, both in homes and hospitals and through collaboration in every apostolate and missionary undertakings sponsored by the parish. The works are more of spiritual works of mercy.



LEGION OF MARY'S ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

This membership is open to all faithfully practicing Catholics. Members attend weekly meetings and engage in prayers and active works. Candidates under 18 years of age can be received in a Junior Praesidium.

"Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee."

— ST. CATHERINE LABOURÉ —

AUGUST 16, 2026

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

O WOMAN,
GREAT IS YOUR
Faith!

MATTHEW 15:28

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Letters from Heaven



Start with the letter in the shaded square. Draw a path from letter to letter to complete the Biblical statement. Move one square at a time, up, down, right, left and diagonally until all letters are used once. Ignore any black squares.

Jesus said, "Unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the ..."

K	O	F	E
M	I	A	H
D	O	N	V
G	N	E	

K _ _ _ _ _ "

Answer: *kingdom of heaven*

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saint snippets

Faith is a beam radiating from the face of God.

St. John Eudes

17th-century French priest, sought-out preacher, confessor, and zealous promoter of devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

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August 19

saint snippets

Jesus to me is honey in the mouth, music in the ear, a song in the heart.

St. Bernard of Clairvaux

12th-century French abbot who combatted heresy; patron saint of the Cistercian Order

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August 20

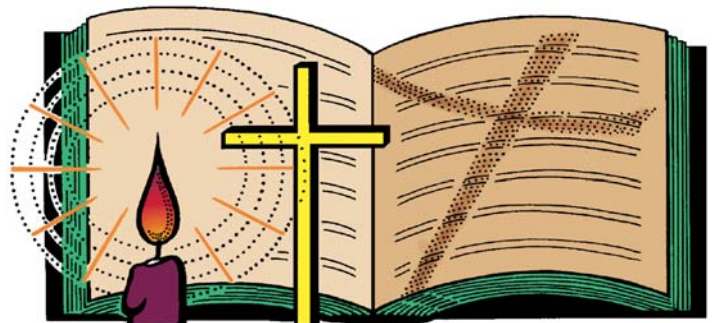


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Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 16, 2026

Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven.

— Psalm 85:1



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CATHOLIC CORNER

LET THE CHILDREN COME

August 21 is the feast day of a pope who became a saint, St. Pius X. Born Giuseppe Sarto, he became known as "The Pope of the Eucharist" because the changes he made in the celebration of this sacrament helped everyone draw closer to Jesus in the Eucharist.

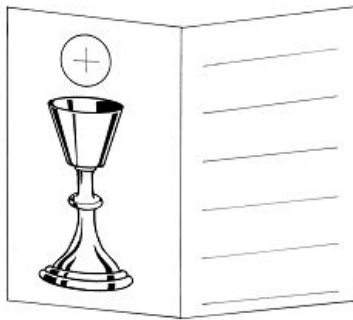


In the early 1900s children could not receive Communion until they had passed many tests, usually when they were about thirteen years old. Many adults did not receive Communion very often either, because they didn't believe they were worthy or good enough to receive Jesus. Pius X encouraged people to receive Communion often because he believed people are good and should humbly accept this great gift of Jesus. He taught that receiving the Eucharist often was the surest way to get to heaven.

Pope Pius especially wanted young children to be prepared to receive Jesus in Holy Communion. He believed that these little ones could understand what Jesus taught about following God's law of love, and that the bread and wine of Eucharist are not just ordinary food and drink. Today, children as young as seven years of age receive their First Communion.

School and religious education programs are about to begin. Are you preparing to receive your own First Holy Communion this year? Do you know someone who is? On this list, write the names of everyone you know who will receive Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time this year. Keep the list where you can see it. Each day say a prayer for them and for yourself.

Jesus, you said,
"Let the children come to me."
You invite us to your table.
Make our hearts ready
to receive you.
Fill us with your love
and make us ready to
bring your love to others.
Come, Lord Jesus, come.



The Little Ones

Jim Burrows



Scripture from the New American Bible, rev. ed. © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970, CCID. Used with permission.

August 16, 2026

*O woman,
great is
your faith!*

MATTHEW 15:28



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TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Pastor Al™



"No, Masao, as far as I know, they don't make
a raisin-bread version of the hosts."

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Why Pray?

The “foreigners” as Isaiah calls them, the “Gentiles” as Paul calls them, or the “Canaanites” as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today’s readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely “knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend,” but also to “break, blow, burn, and make me new” (*Holy Sonnets*, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, “Knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today’s Gospel, the results will follow.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

In recent weeks, we have looked at the evolution of how Roman Catholics initiate children into the life of the Church. How did customs evolve in the Eastern Church? At one time, Christians in both East and West preferred to celebrate baptism in a community setting, with large numbers of adults and children initiated at Easter. The two branches of Christianity began to split on the proper time to do this.

In the East, water was blessed in abundance on the feast of the Epiphany, which marked, among other things, the baptism of the Lord. Once infant baptism was fixed on that day, local customs marking a birth began to evolve. One celebration was the giving of a name on the eighth day, another was the “purification” of the mother on the fortieth day after birth. In that blessing, re-enacting Mary and Joseph’s journey to the temple, the priest took the baby in his arms and placed the child before the altar. Just as Simeon received the child Jesus, so the priest received the new Christian while chanting Simeon’s prayer. Later, normally on Epiphany, the priest would baptize, chrismate (confirm), and give a few drops of the Precious Blood to the child in a joyous celebration of the whole community.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.



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Treasures From Our Tradition

In many church buildings constructed in the early twentieth century, there is a window or statue of Pope St. Pius X. Often, these windows were purchased with coins collected by grateful children, since in 1910 a decree admitted much younger children to First Communion. Before then, only teenagers were customarily confirmed and then admitted to the Eucharist. What we often think is ancient practice in fact sometimes has fairly shallow roots, in this case only ten decades. For centuries, Communion had marked the end of formal religious education, but a hundred years ago, Pius X located it at the point at which a child could express a desire for the sacrament and receive it with understanding. In 1917 a new code of canon law determined that age to be about seven, and this practice was observed almost everywhere until the beginning of the Second Vatican Council forty years ago.

In a growing number of dioceses, recent practice has restored the sacramental order that Pius X’s generous decree upset, and increasingly confirmation is celebrated before First Communion. But the gift Pius gave to the children of the Roman Church remains firm: everywhere we admit children to the Lord’s table. Where the traditional order has been restored, seven-year-old children are confirmed before First Communion.

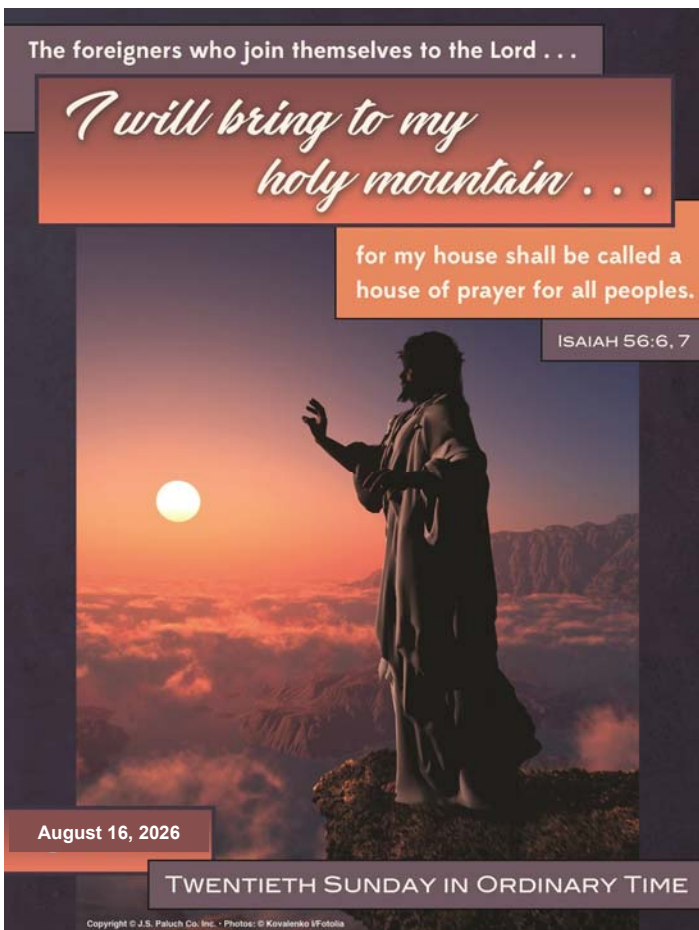
~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 16, 2026

Observe what is right, do what is just;
for my salvation is about to come,
my justice, about to be revealed.

~ Isaiah 56:1



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Our Lectionary readings today invite us to consider both the human tendency to build boundaries between people, and God's tendency to cross and even to break these boundaries. Isaiah and Paul speak of God's ongoing desire to bring all of humanity under divine care. The scene in Matthew's Gospel alludes to the long-standing distrust between foreigners and the Jewish people. Though Jesus initially resists, he then celebrates the faith of the Canaanite woman and heals her daughter. Those who are given the gift of faith can be tempted to believe that God is present only to them, implicitly creating barriers against others. But the gift of faith is meant to serve God's larger purpose, so that everyone might be united with God. By his act of healing, Jesus breaks the boundary between Jew and Gentile, and invites both to be a part of God's people.

Standing Fast

Matthew opens the scene in today's Gospel by setting up a conflict. Unlike the parallel story in Mark (7:24), the woman is described as "a Canaanite." This label serves to evoke the ancient animosity between Jews and other peoples in the region. The woman, who is never named, begs for help for her daughter. The disciples are actively dismissive of her, as a woman and a foreigner, and deem her to be unworthy of their attention. The text suggests that Jesus initially sided with the disciples. But then he recognized the strength of her faith.

Many women, foreigners, or marginalized persons might identify with this woman's story. Sometimes faith means standing fast, in care for others or in fidelity to truth, even when it seems that no one supports you. Somehow, the woman recognized God's power and God's care within Jesus. And Jesus recognized that God was active within her, manifested in her commitment to her daughter. Jesus saw his Father's larger horizon of care for everyone, Jew and Gentile, within this faith-filled woman.

A New Temple

Isaiah articulates the vision that it is God's deep desire that all human beings will respond to God in prayer and thanksgiving. God will summon everyone to "my holy mountain," that is, the temple Mount. The temple was the primary symbol of God's presence among the people. The Temple was where communal worship and sacrifice took place. Worship served to give thanks for God's blessings on the people. Sacrifice served to help heal relationships between God and Israel, and within the community, when sin had damaged or broken them.

The early church reflected upon this vision and saw Jesus as a new temple. The person of Jesus is to be worshiped as God's active presence within human life. Jesus is to be worshiped in prayer and thanksgiving, and Jesus is where relationships are healed and renewed. In Jesus, God invites the whole world into God's loving care.

~ Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.



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Called to Act in God's Name

"Let all the nations praise you!" (Psalm 67:4) today's psalm response exclaims. In the psalms and other Hebrew scriptures, this kind of invocation is actually an invitation to God to act, to intervene in human lives in a manner that will cause everyone—not just the Chosen People—to give praise. Stated a bit more strongly, it is something of a "put up or shut up" challenge to God, the sort of strong statement the psalmists of Israel, trusting in their intimate and loving relationship with God, were not afraid to make.

The Gospel has its own exclamation, announcing the appearance of the Canaanite woman with "Behold!" (Matthew 15:22) "Behold!" is a scriptural flag that tells us that God is about to act or announce something through an individual or a situation. In the case of Jesus, God was going to act through this woman, whom nobody among Jesus' followers would have believed to be an agent of the divine will. Like the psalmists, we might passively inform or perhaps even actively challenge God to do something so that everyone will come to belief, but God will always turn the tables on us. It becomes our calling, our duty (as it was for Jesus) to behold the situations and persons of our daily lives so that God can act through us, so the Kingdom can be announced through our living.

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Treasures From Our Tradition

Once the way was cleared for additional Eucharistic Prayers, those who were appointed to compose them had to look deep within the tradition for sources. One of the prescriptions for new prayers was that they be "unencumbered by useless repetition." From the start, therefore, the writers knew that the old Roman Canon, which had the priest bowing and crossing himself many times in a long, complex prayer, was not a model of simplicity.

Aside from the prayers treasured by Eastern Christians, there is an obvious model from ancient Rome. For about a hundred years now, the historical text "Apostolic Tradition" has shed some light for us on the shadowy shape of worship in the early church. In it, its author, Hippolytus, took care to record the actual texts of worship used at the time. He himself has a shadow side, since he was so ardently conservative in his tastes that he broke ties with the Bishop of Rome and became first in the line of history's anti-popes. At the eleventh hour, however, he reconciled with his enemies and actually died a martyr. In fact, he was shipped off to the Sardinian mines as a slave with the true pope as his companion in chains. Because his tussle with the pope was over theological innovations and not liturgical texts, we are sure that his account of the style of Eucharistic Prayer in the third century is accurate. It forms the core of today's Eucharistic Prayer II.

~ Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Travelers Alert

Mass times and locations of Catholic Churches throughout the country are available at www.Masstimes.org.



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Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

All of us who ache to be accepted find lavish comfort in today's readings. Rich in mercy, the Lord welcomes all of us—no exceptions. Isaiah extends God's invitation to all nations, even to foreigners who often arouse suspicion from the "in crowd." Saint Paul takes advantage of these fearful suspicions by provoking the Israelites' jealousy: if even Gentiles can offer acceptable worship to the one true God, then God's chosen people should surely do the same. In a similar way, Jesus provokes his disciples in today's Gospel from Matthew. Bantering with a Canaanite woman, Jesus draws out her tremendous faith, which endures despite the typical rejection she faces from scornful Israelites. Whether we identify more with the privileged disciples or the marginalized Canaanite woman, we cannot mistake God's universal invitation to believe in the One who saves us.

Rejected

At one time or another, we have all been rejected or ridiculed, left out of a conversation, or not invited to a party. It hurts to be excluded. God makes all things new, though, and our scriptures today invite us to turn over our aching hearts to the Lord. Some of us might feel reluctant to give our hearts to the Lord, especially if our suffering somehow involves God or the Church. Why pour out hearts to God, after all, if God seems to be the cause of our troubles? A tragic loss, a painful death, or an unavoidable catastrophe can disrupt or destroy our life plans. When people clumsily console us then, saying, "It's God's will," we can easily become suspicious of God and the almighty will. If we suffer from the sinful structures or actions of God's representatives and ministers in the Church, we might look with skepticism at the prayers of that same Church.

Even so, our Canaanite woman today persuades us not to lose hope. The disciples scorn her, complaining that she "keeps calling" out for help. Like irritable children, the disciples ask Jesus to "send her away." And just when we might expect Jesus to take her side, to scold the disciples and reward the woman's persistence, he shocks us by implying she is a dog. Undaunted, the woman accepts Jesus' remark and parlays its aggression into her own forceful plea: "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters."

Accepted

The woman's faith is irresistible—to Jesus, and to us. Jesus grants her heart's desire, healing her daughter from that very moment. We too are won over by her indomitable confidence in the Lord. Truly, this woman is one of the heroes of the New Testament. When difficulties suffocate us and we feel turned away like a stray dog, we can recall the Canaanite woman's simple words: "Lord, help me."

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Called to Act in God's Name

"Let all the nations praise you!" (Psalm 67:4) today's psalm response exclaims. In the psalms and other Hebrew scriptures, this kind of invocation is actually an invitation to God to act, to intervene in human lives in a manner that will cause everyone—not just the Chosen People—to give praise. Stated a bit more strongly, it is something of a "put up or shut up" challenge to God, the sort of strong statement the psalmists of Israel, trusting in their intimate and loving relationship with God, were not afraid to make.

The Gospel has its own exclamation, announcing the appearance of the Canaanite woman with "Behold!" (Matthew 15:22) "Behold!" is a scriptural flag that tells us that God is about to act or announce something through an individual or a situation. In the case of Jesus, God was going to act through this woman, whom nobody among Jesus' followers would have believed to be an agent of the divine will. Like the psalmists, we might passively inform or perhaps even actively challenge God to do something so that everyone will come to belief, but God will always turn the tables on us. It becomes our calling, our duty (as it was for Jesus) to behold the situations and persons of our daily lives so that God can act through us, so the Kingdom can be announced through our living.

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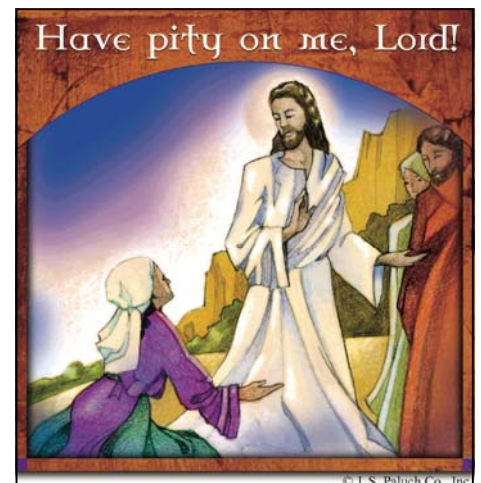
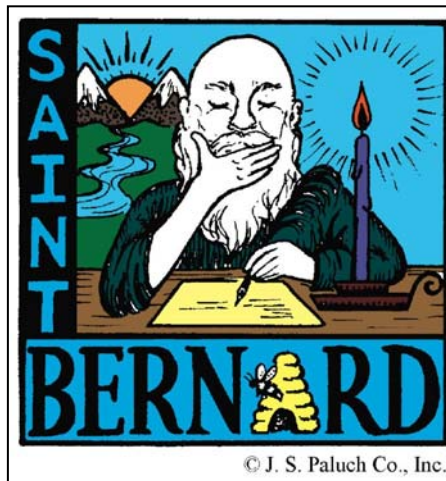
Reflecting on God's Word

"Beggars can't be choosers!" we might say to a child who asks for a different candy bar from the one we have handed him. "Beggars can't be choosers!" we might think as we watch a struggling mother sort through hand-me-downs at the free store. "Beggars can't be choosers!" we might tell ourselves when we are mistreated by someone we rely on to supply our needs. Those four little words may seem logical and harmless. Yet, how many children, unemployed, elderly, sick, or otherwise vulnerable people have lost their self-respect and stopped voicing their needs because they believe those four little words!

Today's scriptures challenge us to stop using, or even thinking, those four words. They invite us to see that, yes, beggars *can and should* be choosers. The first and second readings seem directed to those who feel they deserve better than others. They show God's mercy extending to all who call on and love the name of the Lord, and remind us that all of us have disobeyed, thus all of us are beggars. The Gospel speaks to those who feel they deserve worse than others. The Canaanite woman is held up as a model to imitate, not someone to be scorned and rejected. We are encouraged never again to let feelings of unworthiness convince us that our needs don't deserve a hearing, respect, and a response.

~ Virginia Stilwell

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Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

The “foreigners” as Isaiah calls them, the “Gentiles” as Paul calls them, or the “Canaanites” as Matthew calls them are called to worship the one true God in prayer. As we listen to today’s readings, perhaps we are tempted to ask: Why pray? The question is rhetorical; it is tantamount to asking why should friends talk to one another or people in love kiss one another. Prayer is a way of relating to God, a way of talking to God. The apostles had the opportunity to talk to Jesus in the flesh. We have the opportunity to talk to Jesus Christ in prayer. Our relationship with him must be enthusiastic; it cannot be faint-hearted. John Donne, a fifteenth-century poet, knew what the qualities of good prayer were. Donne asks God to treat him differently from most Christians. The poet does not want God to merely “knock, breathe, shine, and seek to mend,” but also to “break, blow, burn, and make me new” (*Holy Sonnets*, XIV).

It takes a dynamic faith on our part to come to God in prayer. As Jesus once said, “Knock and the door will be opened to you” (Matthew 7:7). It may take pounding the door down, but if we are as persistent as the woman in today’s Gospel, the results will follow.

Persevering Prayer

Perseverance often equals success. No one will ever know how many experiments Thomas Edison undertook before he finally created a light bulb that would actually work. It is perseverance, too, that pays off for the Canaanite woman who pleads for a cure for her demon-possessed daughter. Only after repeated appeals does Jesus grant her request because of her deep faith.

The Prayer of Jesus

The best example of perseverance in prayer in the New Testament can be seen in the life of Jesus. At the Mount of Olives, Jesus prays repeatedly to be spared his suffering and death on the cross. Each time he returns from prayer, Jesus finds the apostles asleep. Yet he continues to pray earnestly. One might judge from the way things initially turned out that the Father did not answer his prayer, but the fact remains that the Father did listen to Jesus’ requests. The Father heard Jesus’ prayers, not by preventing his death, but by raising him from the dead on the third day.

Perseverance in prayer is clearly seen not only in the example on the Mount of Olives, but also throughout Jesus’ entire life. He is frequently seen praying. Sometimes he prays all night. Even though Jesus was occupied with healing and preaching, he took time out for prayer. Prayer wasn’t something he just sandwiched in during a busy day; it formed an integral part of his life.

From today’s Gospel, then, we can learn about the perseverance that we should have in prayer, the familiarity and intimacy that we should feel in our relationship with God when we pray, and that God always hears our prayers.

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God’s Love For All People

Following their exile to Babylon, the people of Israel came home to find other banished people living in Israel. It was, therefore, not uncommon for foreigners to attempt to come to the Temple to worship. In the reading from Isaiah, the Jewish people are urged to welcome the foreigners and encourage their worship, for it was clearly the understanding of the author of Isaiah that everyone would be redeemed. The Jewish people had a strong sense of what was right and wrong and how to live just lives. This did not mean they had to embrace the religions of others, only to accept the people themselves and recognize that they and all people were entitled to God’s salvation.

Paul’s Epistle to the Romans is equally evangelizing. He states that his ministry and God’s love stretch out to all people, not just the Israelites. Frustrated at times with the Jewish people’s rejection and refusal to listen, Paul turned to the Gentiles. All people, Paul explains, have sinned against God. Only because of our disobedience can God show love and mercy for all people. God loves us, and without exclusion each human being can claim the gift of salvation.

Salvation For All

More severe than the other readings, the Gospel nonetheless asserts that salvation is for all people. It is the amazing and intense faith of the Canaanite woman that catches our attention in the Gospel. The disciples saw her as a nuisance and someone to remove from Jesus’ presence. Jesus clearly considered his mission at this point particularly to the Israelites. Yet the woman knew that Jesus could heal her daughter and God’s healing is, indeed, for all of us. The woman was so sure of Jesus and God’s love that she recognized that something greater than crumbs would come someday to those outside the Jewish faith. Each of us in our own calling is challenged to multiply and supplement the crumbs generously, making a nourishing meal to show all people of the world God’s great love.

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Called to Act in God’s Name

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Relevant Radio

Tune your radio to 1260 AM or 101.7 FM for 24-hour broadcasts concerning Catholic teachings and prayers.

Why Pray?

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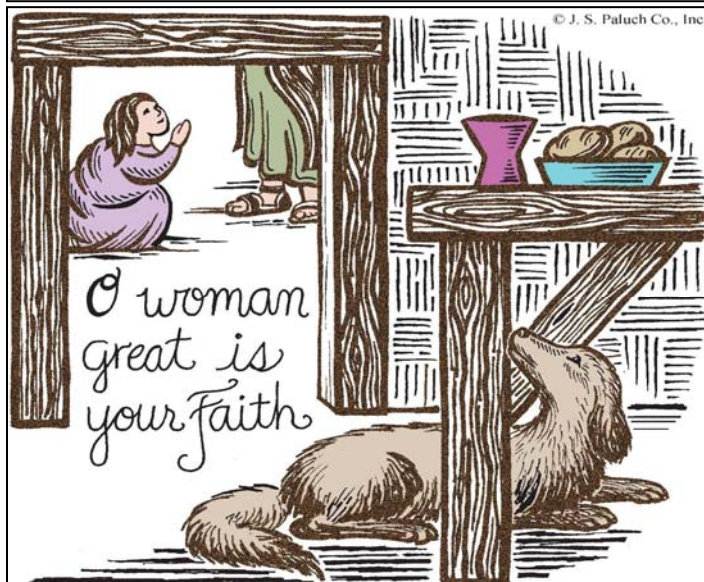
Feast of Faith

The Shape of the Eucharistic Prayer

Our Eucharistic Prayers originated in the traditional Jewish meal prayers known as *berakah*, which were prayers of thanksgiving used at meals. Over the centuries, the Christian thanksgiving, or Eucharist, gradually took shape. While in the East the Eucharistic Prayers (called *anaphora*) took many forms, in the Roman Church there was for many centuries just one Eucharistic Prayer, called the Roman Canon (now known as Eucharistic Prayer I). Almost all Eucharistic Prayers include the same basic elements. They begin with thanksgiving and acclamation. Then there is an *epiclesis*, as the priest calls down the Holy Spirit upon the gifts. Then follows the institution narrative and consecration, as the words that Jesus spoke at the Last Supper are repeated. After the consecration, we remember in an explicit way all that Christ has done for us—this is the *anamnesis*, or remembering. The prayer concludes with the offering, the intercessions—prayers for the Church, our leaders, ourselves—and a final doxology of praise.

The reforms of the Second Vatican Council enriched our liturgy with additional Eucharistic Prayers, including both ancient texts (Eucharistic Prayer II is based on the most ancient of all existing Eucharistic Prayers) and new compositions.

Corinna Laughlin, © Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.



Inside or Outside?

The Jesus we meet in today’s Gospel seems a bit standoffish. He appears at first to ignore the Canaanite woman’s pleas to heal her child! Matthew seems to be suggesting that, until this point in his ministry, Jesus himself thought that his mission was only to the Jewish people. When he is confronted by a Canaanite, and a woman at that, he seems baffled. Her sheer determination to make him listen ensures that he cannot continue to ignore her. More importantly, Jesus acknowledges that her faith in him is equal to that of any of the Jewish people he has met so far. In the end, Jesus praises her faith and heals her daughter. Matthew was writing his Gospel for a community of Jewish Christians who had identified Jesus as the Messiah—the One promised by God to generations of the Jewish people. They were aware, however, that the Christian faith was attracting people of other races and other religions. They would, inevitably, have been struggling to work out how this fit with all the prophecies of the Hebrew scriptures that foretold a Messiah who was destined to save Israel. The meeting between Jesus and the Canaanite woman offers them a clue about how to understand this situation. When Jesus is challenged to heal the outsider, his initial reaction is to refuse; but then he sees her great faith, and this far outweighs the fact that she does not belong to the people he primarily came to save. In this story the new Jewish Christian community must have found help to see that their initial reluctance to admit outsiders was understandable, and then to recognize that God plants faith in others too—and that it is faith rather than background that opens the doors into the Kingdom.

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God’s Word Today

“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples.” The prophet Isaiah’s words signal the theme running through all three readings today. Today’s Gospel is one of the most difficult to understand because it seems to portray Jesus as remote and unfeeling. If we look deeper, we see that what the Canaanite woman did was to challenge the boundaries of the day. Her persistence was based on the most fundamental of human life situations. Her daughter was ill. When illness strikes, we care not whether someone who can offer healing is within our established boundaries. In healing the woman’s daughter, Jesus, for his part, also broke down the social barriers of the day. As we prepare to listen to God’s word today, let’s first examine our own established boundaries. What boundaries might God be challenging us to break down?

From Saint Margaret Sunday Missal, copyright © J. S. Paluch Company

Living God’s Word

The Canaanite woman seems to convert Jesus by expressing faith in him and faith in herself. How might you express your faith in God, in others, and in yourself? How might God use your faith to convert others?

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Good Example

A faithful Christian, illumined by the rays of grace like a crystal, ought to illumine his neighbor with the light of good example, through word and deed.

~ St. Anthony

Criticism

Usually our criticism of others is not because they have faults, but because their faults are different than ours.

~ Roger Eastman

Everyone is invited
to the monthly

Charismatic and Healing Mass

ST. PATRICK
CATHOLIC CHURCH

756 Mission St.
San Francisco, CA
All are welcome



Every Third Sunday
of the Month
at 2:00 p.m.

IMMIGRANT KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

IN THIS COUNTRY, EVERY INDIVIDUAL HAS RIGHTS, REGARDLESS OF THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN, RACE, LEGAL STATUS, NATIVE LANGUAGE, RELIGION, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OR GENDER IDENTITY.

1. THE RIGHT TO NOT OPEN THE DOOR

Ask for warrant under the door; verify details first.

2. THE RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT

Give only your name; speak with an attorney present.

3. THE RIGHT TO MAKE A PHONE CALL

Call your attorney or family; keep a number ready.

4. THE RIGHT TO A HEARING BEFORE A JUDGE

You can ask for a judge to hear your case.

5. THE RIGHT TO HAVE YOUR PHYSICAL INTEGRITY RESPECTED

No one can abuse you physically or verbally.

6. THE RIGHT TO NOT SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS

Only sign documents with attorney approval.

7. THE RIGHT TO EVALUATE WHETHER YOU QUALIFY FOR ANY IMMIGRATION PROCESS

Ask an attorney if you qualify for relief program.

ADDITIONAL RIGHTS

There are additional laws and policies in place for Immigrant Tenants and Workers in CA. To learn more, please contact us!



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MORE ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AND
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YOUNG ADULT MARIAN ENCOUNTER

The Legion of Mary,
Carlo Acutis Young Adult Ministry
of Mater Dolorosa

Cordially Invite You



SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2026
9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



Mater Dolorosa Catholic Church
1040 Miller Avenue • South San Francisco, CA



Holy Sacrifice of the Mass (9:00 a.m.)
(Traditional Latin Mass)
Celebrant: Reverend Fr. Vito Perrone, COSJ



Marian Reflections & Talks

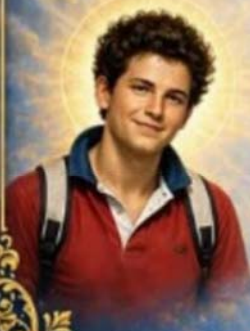
- The Life of the Blessed Virgin Mary
- Mary's Virtues, Joys, and Sorrows
- Marian Apparitions
- The Holy Rosary
- Marian Doctrines
- True Devotion to Mary
- Act of Consecration to Mary
- Marian Sacramentals



**Recitation of the Holy Rosary, Exposition,
Benediction and Consecration**



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For Young Adults in the Archdiocese of San Francisco

29th Annual Holy Spirit Conference

God's Transforming Mercy

Isaiah 55:6-9

Save the Date

September 12, 2026

8 AM - 5 PM

Featured Speakers



Fr. Daniel
Klimek, MIC



Fr. Raymund
Reyes

Talks in English, Spanish, & Vietnamese

Contacts

Danny Garza

Sally Yeo

(650)270-8065

(650)773-8145

Doors Open

8 AM

Holy Mass

4 PM (Vigil)

Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

1111 Gough St. Patrons Hall,
San Francisco, CA 94109

Recitation of the Holy Rosary, Praise &
Worship, Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, Confession, Baptism in the Holy
Spirit, Healing Service, Holy Mass

Registration

\$35

Lunch
Included

More Info On
sfspirit.com



Archdiocese of San Francisco Catholic Charismatic Renewal

sfspirit.com



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ARCHDIOCESE OF

SAN FRANCISCO

Filipino Ministry

C O R D I A L L Y I N V I T E Y O U T O

**The 31st Annual
Celebration of**

**THE FEAST OF
SAN LORENZO
RUIZ
& COMPANION MARTYRS**

**SEPTEMBER 25, 2026
FRIDAY**

**Holy Mass & Procession 5:00 PM
Reception 6:15 PM**



Principal Celebrant:
**HIS EXCELLENCY, THE MOST REVEREND
ANDRES "ANDY" C. LIGOT, JCD**
Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of San Jose



The Mass and reception will be held at
ST. PATRICK SEMINARY & UNIVERSITY

320 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025

To RSVP, please contact 415.595.9248 or email: filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



Save ^{the} Date

FILIPINO MINISTRY

14th Annual Gala

Honoring the Filipino Priests and Deacons
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

October 4, 2026
4:00 PM

**Cathedral of
St. Mary of the Assumption**

1111 Gough Street
San Francisco, CA 94109



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

Stay tuned for additional information.
www.filipinoministrsf.org | filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO
FILIPINO MINISTRY

14th ANNUAL GALA

Honoring the Filipino Priests & Deacons
of the Archdiocese of San Francisco

ONE FAITH | ONE PEOPLE | ONE MISSION



Sunday | October 4, 2026 | 4:00 PM

Patrons Hall, Cathedral of St. Mary of the Assumption

Join us for an unforgettable evening of live music,
dancing, and exciting fundraising activities,
including a silent auction and raffle!



**Dinner & Dance
Ticket: \$150**

Preferred Attire:
Formal or Filipiniana

Raffle Ticket: \$25

1st Prize: \$5,000

2nd Prize: \$3,000 | 3rd Prize: \$2,000



Proceeds from this event to benefit: Filipino Ministry of ADSF and NAFFP-USA.
Scan the QR code for details on the event and
how to support the 14th Annual Gala fundraising.

www.filipinoministrsf.org | email: filipinoministrsf1@gmail.com

RESPECT LIFE ESSAY CONTEST 2027

St. Joseph PROTECTOR OF THE HOLY CHILD

ESSAYS DUE FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND, 2027

For all students in grades K-12 in public school, Catholic school, and home school in the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

For Essay instructions, visit
sfarch.org/essay-contest



ARCHDIOCESE OF
SAN FRANCISCO

Office of
Human Life & Dignity



***Sto. Niño
Devotion***
(every Friday
after the
12:10 p.m. Mass)

*Judy Labaria
Alma Raymundo
Cathy Bohol
Sheila Montemayor
Anonymous*



***Black
Nazarene***
**Feast Day
January 9**

*Rosie Drapiza
Lydia Cagampan
Rene & Elsa Tuazon
Celia & Paul Gravador*



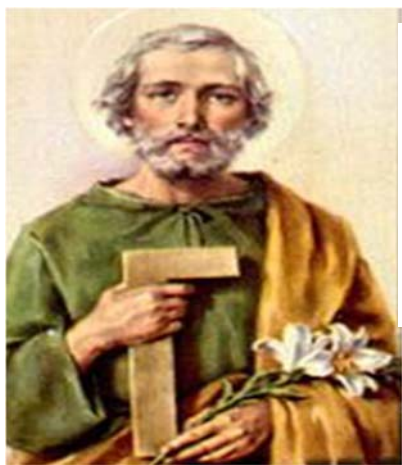
***Our Lady of
Perpetual Help
Devotion***
(every Tuesday
after the
12:10 Mass)

*Raya & Gamboa
Families*



San Lorenzo Ruiz
**First
Filipino Saint
(Sep 28)**

*Fe Macatangay
Jeanette Chafe
John & Gemma O'Donnell
Evelyn Grande
Mely Saavedra*



***Saint
Joseph***

***Feast Day
March 19***

Xenia Villamejor

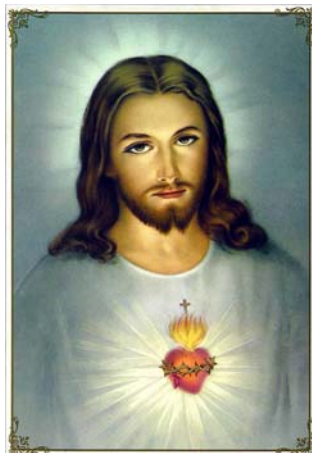
St. Anne
***Feast Day
July 26***



***Sacred
Heart***

***First Friday
Schedule***

***4pm Holy Hour
5:15 Mass***



***OUR
LADY
OF
FATIMA***

***Pray the
rosary***



The Graceful Chapter

Psalm 23

1 The LORD is my shepherd, I lack nothing.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters,

3 He refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

The Graceful Chapter

Yap Family



St. Patrick Charismatic Prayer Group

Charismatic & Healing Mass:
Every 3rd Sunday at 2:00 p.m.

Matt Dorsey
SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR

I'm proud to represent you in City Hall — and grateful for the faith community we share at St. Patrick's. For help with city matters, feel free to call my office at (415) 554-7970 or email Matt.Dorsey@sfgov.org.

Best,

Matt Dorsey

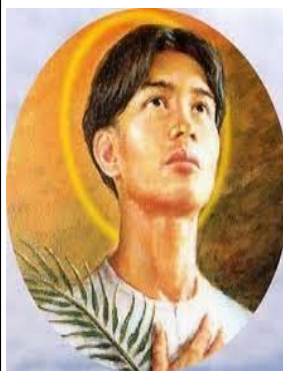


Our Lady of Guadalupe

**Feast Day
December 12**



**St. Pedro Calungsod
2nd Filipino Saint (October 21)**



Elena & Mark Ramoran Gayapa Family,
Romeo & Antonina Real Family,
Dan & Annie Lacap Family,
Jesus, Jr. & Malou Paningbatan,
Vida Ventura,
Nenette Murata,
Cristin Salangang