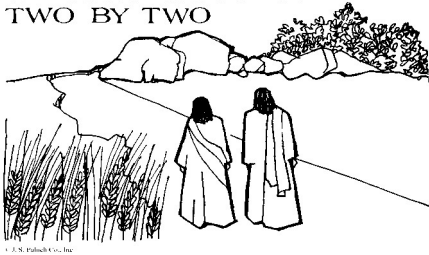


HE SENT THEM OUT
TWO BY TWO



Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 14, 2024

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

-- Psalm 85:12



Daily Mass

Week of July 15th – 19th

Monday: 8:00 Special Intentions
 Tuesday: 8:00 Zelda & Owen Burns+
 Wednesday: 8:00 Lenore McCracken+
 Thursday: 8:00 Charles Elsenius+
 Friday: 8:00 Betty Thornally+



Please remember the sick in our Parish, especially Mike Abell, Mark Lutz, Michael Carter, Rufus Smith, Peggy Delson-Rini, Frank Rini and Cecilia Uyeda.

Weekly Collection	Plate
July 7, 2024	\$8,776.00
Rainy Day Fund	\$852.00

Treasures From Our Tradition!

Many marriage customs stand in tension with modern American attitudes and values, notably "giving away the bride," which is no longer in the Catholic liturgy, and reminds us of a time when marriage was a contract between men (the groom and the bride's father). A Mexican custom, now approved for use in the United States, has a very different message.

An ancient Roman custom called for smashing pieces of gold and silver so that bride and groom could each keep half. This is the origin of today's Mexican practice of the groom giving thirteen gold coins to the bride, symbolically placing all his worldly goods into her care, and a sign of his unconditional trust. The coins are often given in beautiful gift boxes and are retained as an heirloom. Why thirteen? The standard explanation is that they represent Jesus and the apostles. The priest blesses the coins and pours them into the bride's cupped hands. Then she entrusts them to the groom, who later pours them back into her hands. This enduring ritual is in such harmony with our tradition's view of marriage that it is now increasingly performed by English-speaking Hispanic Catholics at weddings in the United States.

Individual Attention!

God loves each one of us as if there were only one of us.

-- St. Augustine

From
Father Leo



My Dear Brothers and Sisters,

The season of special feasts and celebrations has come to an end. Three weeks ago, we returned to ordinary time. For the next twenty weeks, with few exceptions, the gospel reading that we will hear at Mass will come to us from the evangelist Mark.

Although it is listed second in the canon of gospels, scripture scholars believe that Mark's gospel was written first. It is the shortest of the gospels and focuses exclusively on Jesus' public ministry. Two-thirds of Mark's gospel gives us a detailed accounting of our Lord's passion and death.

The theme of the good news according to Mark is very clear. The price that Jesus had to pay to be our Messiah included suffering and death. The call to discipleship requires us to accept a similar cross of self-sacrifice.

The hard-edged words of Mark don't sit well with many of us today. We prefer to reflect on more pleasant aspects of the good news. But the truth of Mark's message should not be denied or ignored. To try to live and love as Jesus lived and loved will sometimes lead to pain and suffering.

During the next twenty weeks, we will have ample time to reflect on Mark's hard truth, but we need not feel depressed. His accounting of the Messiah's mission of salvation ends happily. The moral of Mark's gospel is clear: if we follow Jesus to the end of our days, resurrection and not death will be our reward. Now that's GOOD NEWS!

Love, Fr. Leo

Sent by God!

In Amos' time, the vocation of prophet had achieved a very formal status in Israel. The prophets had arisen, originally, to act as God's voice when Israel was no longer led by the spiritual/civil figures known as "judges," but by monarchs. Over time, the monarchy had appropriated the offices of priest and prophet, established them into companies, and reserved the right to appoint courtly prophets. Then, as now, when those in power also got to chose who would act as their official conscience, things sometimes went awry. At such times, God raised up prophets from unlikely places and this is how Amos received his vocation as prophet. In last week's Gospel, we heard how Jesus was raised up as God's anointed from a place many viewed as unlikely. As we continue to discern our own vocation as baptized disciples, we can be assured that we are, in Paul's words, "chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who accomplishes all things according to the intentions of his will" (Ephesians 1:11).

Father's Day Spiritual Bouquets!

Spiritual Bouquets were offered in memory of the following: Lawrence Jurin, Michael McBride, Ray Wilson Van Deusen, Charles A. Elsenius, Albert M. Elsenius, Paul M. Elsenius, Gerald Auzenne, Edgar J. Reed, Milland Ling, Lily Cruz, Leo Loh, Ted Almeida, Hugo da Silva, Wellington Loh, Gerry Cruz, Harry J. Czarnowski, Charles C. Mechem, Mark A. Curran, John Gallagher, Richard Dick Daum, Denis Willens, Robert Gross, Fred Wight, Jack Tedder, Poon Tak, Tarlochan Dhillon, Gary Rinehart, Ray Rinehart, Al Duffy, Tom Phelps, Gregory Pimentel, Harold Roberts, Jerry O'Connor, Robert Hill, Joseph Patrick Lane, Roy Johnson, Michael Mastracci, Johnny Jin, Jack DeMent, James Tominaga, Fathers of Mangini & Casazza Families, Umberto Mancini, Kunzie Deramo, Frank Deramo, Wiggles DiMatteo, Nick Scarpitti, John Jurczak, John Boothman, Jose B. Pedroza, Donald Mockel, John Nelligan O'Shea, John Martinez, Joe Mojer, Ying-Yuen Soo, Bill Murphy, Anthony Zdeb, Robery Lafferty, William Lafferty, Daniel Lafferty, Wayne Bradbury, Ken Serviss, Jack Holidan, Larry Soletti, Fred Carboni, Carl Alamao, Jerome Kerr, Stephen Kalmon, Jack Kralj, Joseph Heinemann, George Dimnic, Steve Kralj and Edward Heinemann.

Spiritual Bouquets were offered in honor of the following: Jack Costello, Maynard Mendoza, Mark Mendoza, Stephen Joseph Dell, Rick Daum, Ronald Dirito, Bernard Roizman, Alfred Poon, Leo Yin, Lawrence Fung, Paul Schneider, Daryl Grace, Robert Grace, Joe Lane, Jim Green, Ted Kearns, Rick Da Silva, Anthony Brown, Casey Klein, Michael Loh, Oliver Ternate, John Loh, George Loh, Ivo Spalatin, Zac Endress, Dr. Zachary Endress, Paul Boothman, James Anthony, Dennis Mockel, Larry Moore, Michael O'Shea, Sean O'Shea, John O'Shea, David Goldweber, Stan Bradbury, Rich Kozlowski, Tom Serviss, Paul Loh, Patrick Greene, Roy Greene, Robert Greene, Tom Greene, Jeffry Kalmon, Gabriel Kalmon, Kerry Richburg, David Kalmon and to all the fathers of our Parish, both living and deceased.

Summer Silent Retreat Opportunity!

Ann Naffziger will be co-leading a silent retreat at San Damiano Retreat in Walnut Creek from Sunday, July 21st to Friday, July 26th. It is designed for both people with little to know experience on silent retreats as well as those with previous experience. Visit: <https://sandamiano.org/events/6day-silent-retreat-following-the-footprints-of-contemplative-prayer> for more information.



Does the scene of the disciples being sent out two by two bring to mind any other scripture? After the flood, Noah opens the door of the ark and sends his passengers out to renew the face of the earth. Certainly, Jesus has the same purpose. The purpose is fulfilled in your communion in the Body of

Christ today and in your being sent from the Eucharist into the world. The sending is so important that our word "Mass" derives from it. In Latin, the last words of worship are *ite, missa est*, which means "Go, you are sent." From that, people began to call Catholic worship the *missa* or in English, the "Mass." Our English words dismissal, missal, emissary and mission are all related. We are not sent into the workaday world alone, but in relationship to one another.

Some people have acquired the unhappy habit of leaving worship as soon as they receive Communion and therefore miss the prayer, the dismissal and the solemn blessing that are essential parts of the Mass. The dismissal is a seal on our Communion and reveals its purpose. Thanks be to God!

A Magical Effect!

Patience and perseverance have a magical effect before which difficulties disappear and obstacles vanish.

-- John Quincy Adams

Readings For The Week

July 15th -- 20th

Monday: First Reading Isaiah 1:10-17;
Psalm 50;
Gospel Matthew 10:34-11:1

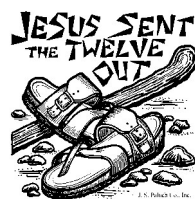
Tuesday: First Reading Isaiah 7:1-9;
Psalm 48;
Gospel Matthew 11:20-24

Wednesday: First Reading Isaiah 10:5-7, 13b-16;
Psalm 94;
Gospel Matthew 11:25-27

Thursday: First Reading Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19;
Psalm 102;
Gospel Matthew 11:28-30

Friday: First Reading Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8;
Responsorial Psalm Isaiah 38:10, 11, 12a, 16;
Gospel Matthew 12:1-8

Saturday: First Reading Micah 2:1-5;
Psalm 10;
Gospel Matthew 12:14-21



Today's Readings!

First Reading -- Amos said, "The Lord took me from following the flock, and said to me, Go, prophesy to my people" (Amos 7:12-15).

Psalm -- Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation (Psalm 85).

Second Reading -- The God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing (Ephesians 1:3-14[3-10]).

Gospel -- Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out two by two (Mark 6:7-13).