

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 2010

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with all my heart, for you have heard the words of my mouth.

~ Psalm 138:1

GOD'S CALL

In today's scriptures we hear three instances of people receiving and responding to a call from God. These accounts follow the pattern of most scriptural call narratives: a divine presence appears and speaks; the person expresses fear or unworthiness, receives encouragement, and finally responds to God's call. Today's first reading shows an unworthy Isaiah responding to the Lord's call, "Here I am; send me!" (Isaiah 6:8). In the second reading Paul tells us that, even though he had persecuted the church, he was called to be an apostle. In the Gospel, despite Simon Peter's protest that he is a sinner, Jesus calls James, John, and Simon to follow him. They leave everything they have and follow Jesus—that is, they become Jesus' disciples. These scriptures can challenge us to take stock of our lives. How do we experience Jesus' call to discipleship in our lives? How well and faithfully are we responding?



© Copyright, J. S. Paluch Co.

We are His Hands

Submitted by Greg De Cristofaro

We are called as Jesus commanded, "go forth and serve one another as I have served you" with our God given gifts of time, talents and treasures. Each week one or more parish ministries will host the coffee and donuts after the 8 am and 10:30 am masses. This would be an opportunity for you to investigate if that particular ministry is a way for you to serve our parish community with your God given gifts.



Next week, February 14th, the **Knights of Columbus** will be serving our **Valentine's Day Pancake Breakfast**. The profits from the pancake breakfast will be used to purchase a wheelchair through the **Knights Wheelchair Foundation**.

The **Knights of Columbus** is dedicated to the ideals of Charity, Unity, Fraternity and Patriotism. This Catholic men's organization provides for the spiritual enrichment of its members and through its programs, serves the parish of St. Thomas More, the poor, the suffering, the aged and the disadvantaged.

If you are interested in learning more about the **Knights of Columbus** and feel called to serve in this ministry, please contact Greg DeCristofaro at 873-4132.

Readings for the Week

Monday: 1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday: 1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday: 1 Kgs 10:1-10; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday: 1 Kgs 11:4-13; Mk 7:24-30
Friday: 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday: 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday: Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

Table Reserved

New and returning Catholics have a table reserved in the Main Hall for coffee and donuts after the 8am and 10:30am Masses each Sunday.

There will be information provided for the upcoming series of Catholics Come Home and answers for any questions you might have.



**SEE NEW OFFICE HOURS
ON PAGE 5!**

**Missal reading for February 7th is
located on page 71.**

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, February 7

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day for Consecrated Life
Second Collection: Building Repair/Maint. & Youth

Coffee & Donuts: Acolytes and Altar Servers
Noon-3pm Haiti Soup Fundraiser, Parking Lot

Monday, February 8

Noon Hot Lunch Provided by Methodist Church, main hall

7:00pm RCIA Inquiry, church conf. room

Tuesday, February 9

9:15am Legion of Mary, church conf. Room

1:00pm Ladies Guild Meeting, main hall

Wednesday, February 10

9:30am Mothers and Others, small hall

11:00am Catholics Come Home, church conf. room

Noon Wednesday Hot Lunch, main hall

1:00pm 50+ Singles, main hall

1:00pm St. Vincent de Paul Meeting, church conf. room

2:00pm Shawl Ministry, church conf. room

5:30pm KOC Officers Meeting, small hall

6:30pm KOC Rosary, small hall

7:00pm KOC Business Meeting, small hall

7:00pm Breath of the Spirit Prayer Group, church conf. Room

Thursday, February 11

Our Lady of Lourdes

World Day of the Sick

7:00pm Adult Faith Formation, small hall



Our Lady of Lourdes

Friday, February 12

Lincoln's Birthday

9:00am Building/Finance Committee, church conf. room

10:30am Table of Plenty Food Distribution, garage

7:00pm Rosary Rex Funk

Saturday, February 13

Blessed Virgin Mary

8:30am Census, small hall

11:00am Funeral for Rex Funk

3:00pm Sacrament of Reconciliation, church

5:00pm Vigil Mass



Sunday, February 14

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Valentines Day, World Marriage Day

Pancake Breakfast sponsored by KOC,



“Table of Plenty” Food Ministry

Since the cold winter weather is settling in; Table of Plenty is in need of **soup, stew, chili, hot cereal, canned meat (ie:tuna, chicken).**

Please donate all non-perishable food items in the baskets in the vestibule. Please consider bringing a donation with you to Mass next week.

“For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink...I assure you, as often as you did it for one of my brothers, you did it for me.”

Matthew 25:35, 40

Please offer your prayers for our brothers & sisters in Christ

Tille Baca	Betty Pompermayer
Klair Baranek	Jeff Read
Joell Curcuru	John Read
Pietra Duffy	Guillermo Rueda
Darren Elliott	Charles Schuster
Mark Ferguson	Janet Smith
Mark & Diena Finn	Allen Snyder
Ann Fry	Mary Sparks
Robert Leonardo Gelardi	Margarite Speegle
Ernie & Elaine Guerrero	Sally Stansfield
Priscilla Hein	Jeff Sullivan
Judith Hicks	Bonnie Thibault
Isabella Huckins	Gertrude Valentine
Helen Huddleston	Marilyn Van Neil
Dan & Mimi Johnson	Margaret Vandergrift
Phil Kelly	Sarah Watson
Debbie Miley	Taylor Watson
Rose Mitag	Debbie Wilson
Fran Nunes	Selberg Family

Please pray for the recently deceased:

Maurice Selberg and Rex Funk

The great thing in this world is not so much where we are, but in what direction we are going.

~Oliver Wendell Holmes

Pilgrim of Our Lady of Fatima

The Pilgrim Virgin Statue is circulating in the parish, staying two weeks in each home. Free rosaries, brown scapulars and Miraculous Medals are available.

Please contact Peter or Carmelisa at 876.1048

Ave Maria

Get Involved in the Census Earn Extra Income

Our Bishop of Sacramento, Jamie Soto and the U.S. Bishops encourage Catholics to respond to the 2010 census and to be involved. The census is important as the government uses this to distribute benefits and support to programs, including public schools. The more accurate the count is, the better the distribution of these funds match actual need.

As pastor I have agreed to allow our facilities be used as a training site for census workers. During the week testing is done at the Veterans Hall and on Saturdays the testing is done here at St. Thomas More. Currently and for the next few months this Saturday testing will be for census workers. At the end of the census taking period there will be a 4 day training period for those workers following up on non-response locations.

It is our hope that some parishioners will take advantage of this opportunity to earn extra funds. During these times many parishioners have seen a decrease in income and other hardships. Census workers pay begins at \$11.50 per hour, from the time you leave your house. It also pays mileage for the use of your vehicle, at 50 cents per mile.

Hours are flexible and the Census Office likes to hire people to work in the area in which they live. The flexible hours are to allow you to meet people when they are home. With so many retired people, many homes and businesses can be canvassed during daylight hours while evening hours and weekends will be required for those who work during the day.

The Census Office works out of Redding but the work and supervision is here in Paradise. Contact information follows.

**Redding Census Office
Knollcrest Drive
Redding California 96002
(530) 510-4548**

On the web go to <http://2010census.gov/2010census/>

This web site includes more information on jobs and sample tests required of those hired. Retirees are encouraged to apply.

You have to call the Redding office to get scheduled for testing and training here in Paradise.

We hope that in being a testing center we not only contribute to the community by cooperating with the Census but also are providing an opportunity for parishioners to take advantage of this income source and be involved themselves in ensuring that all are counted.

Father Steven Foppiano, Pastor.

Welcoming Home Catholics and a Wake-up Call for All

It is with great joy that we experience many of our brothers and sisters returning to the Church after varying periods of absence. We understand that we are witnessing God at work in their hearts and His intervention in our own lives. Many of us have had periods of absence in our lives. I myself had over a decade of absence before returning and finding my vocation to be a priest.

As one who was absent from the Church for many years, I understand some of the feelings that come with returning. There is the fear of doing something wrong, the anxiety of relearning the Mass, and for many there is some anxiety in becoming part of a group. At the same time there is a great excitement when we begin to realize what is possible, that a relationship with God is available to us and that God is involved in our return. It is a time of change, a time of some anxiety, but also a time of great joy and excitement.

Unity in Our Need:

What I want to emphasize is that those who are returning after an absence need not feel uncomfortable. God is at work within us and He will have His will. When we return to the Church we do so with many questions and a great enthusiasm.

All are called to service. Jesus says to those who have received much, much will be expected. None should feel content in what they have accomplished in their faith for unless we have accomplished perfection, God has much more for us to do. (We tend to crucify those who do not reach perfection.)

A Lifelong Journey:

Whether we are 8, 19, 38 or 88 years of age, God is calling us down a path of conversion. We can never be content and sit back on our laurels. Priests included, we are always called to give ourselves over to God and allow Him to continue His work in us. When we say, "I've already done that" and stand aside, we are turning our backs on God as much as those who simply say "no" to God and never respond to His call.

Perfection a Goal, Our Lives Remain Messy:

When Catholics return to the Church they are often excited by what God is doing in their lives but also may be disappointed when the "old timers" or those they return to don't appear to be as perfectly converted as they hoped. People are not always as joyful as they should be, sometimes ministers make mistakes, and perhaps some gaps are visible in the work we do. We are not perfect. We are on the journey towards perfection.

A Call to Action:

It is important that none become disillusioned as it is important that none be content. We are all a work in progress. Those new to the faith or returning to us bring a new perspec-

tive and enthusiasm that should enliven all in the Church. Those who welcome them can be joyful at the fruits of their ministry while at the same time recognizing God's gentle nudge to move away from our self satisfaction and to understand that God has more to accomplish in us as well.

When we see a need, it is important not to sit back and criticize. We need to get involved, learn about the issue and see if we can help. We are a Church of volunteers, each contributing as they are called. The limited staff works with volunteers so they can accomplish their ministry. They are called to help all in their response to God so together we can truly be, The People of God, the Body of Christ on earth!

All of us need to have patience and understanding with each other and ourselves. As the Body of Christ we work to make Jesus visible in the world through our worship, prayers, ministries and charities. We have to remember that we are the Church. It is not a well oiled corporation, not structures or buildings and not a hierarchy of experts. The Church is all of us working together; Pope, bishops, priests, deacons, brothers, sisters and laity. We together make up the Body of Christ.

We are imperfect, sometimes messy and we make mistakes but no other organization in the world does more to feed the poor, care for the sick and bring salvation to the world. When we do this for others, we do it for ourselves as well. In our ministry God is also continuing His creative process in us, forming us to truly be Children of God. Christ is our leader and despite our imperfections, His perfection will see us through.

Those new to the Church, those returning after an absence and those who have been here for many years all share the fact that we are imperfect, that Christ is perfect, and that we are on a journey together to join Him in His perfection. We will not reach it until we are called from this world and should not rest until we are. God is at work and He is working through us.



The reality is that we each have a role to play and much to give. Whether we are new to the Church, returning after an absence, have a few years of activity or a lifetime of service; we all are important, all have gifts to give and all are called to respond to God's love and grace in our lives.

The Time of Our Lives in the History of Salvation!

This is an exciting time. It is our time to respond to God. From a 2,000 year long line of saints and faithful, and from our Lord Jesus Christ, we have received this call to be the Church, a Holy, Prophetic and Priestly people.

Nothing else is as important as this call. It should be our priority in life for it will give us salvation, happiness and peace for all time.

History in Perspective:

We should not believe the Church was better before or the faithful more true before. All ages have struggled. In "The City of God," Saint Augustine worries for the very existence of the Church. The world seems to be closing in and collapsing around him. Whole territories of Christianity are succumbing and being overrun. Yet today we see Him as a saint and doctor of the Church, one who we have looked to for guidance and in thanks giving for what he accomplished.



The Future We Form:

Future generations will look to us. How will we measure up? What saints are being formed right now in our midst? What examples of faithfulness and action will future generations look back on and be thankful for? This is the time we are living. It is no less important than the time of the early Church with the original apostles. God will judge us on our response.

How Blessed We Are!

This is not a time to be fearful or timid. This is a time to be joyful, full of anticipation and bold in our faith. God has given us this life and these opportunities. This is our time! With God at our side we have nothing to fear. He is active here, in our Church and in our parish. We need only to say "yes" and allow God to be active in us as well. Wonderful things will happen and perhaps one day others will look back at our time and see the beginning of a new era when God is alive in the world.

The Kingdom of God:

Some may think we are just a small parish in a small town but in fact here one finds the Kingdom of God! It is found in our Church, locally, diocesan wide and world wide; in our attitudes, acts of love, charity and ministry. Here we become brothers and sisters to Christ, Children of God. Here we hear the Word made flesh, act on that Word, receive His flesh and blood in the Eucharist and His body so that through our actions Jesus Christ is alive in the world. There is nothing small about that! It is more than enough to make a life exciting and redemptive.

Father Steven Foppiano

Hatred does more damage to the person in whom it is stored than to the person on whom it is poured.

~Anonymous

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Isaiah 6: 1-2a, 3-8

Second Reading: Corinthians 15: 1-11

Gospel: Luke 5: 1-11



Theme: We are continually invited to follow Jesus.

Question for Children: What is a way that you can follow Jesus?

Question for Youth: Following Jesus can mean leaving some things behind. What do you need to let go of to follow Jesus more fully in your life?

Question for Adults: When recently did God call you to do something that was difficult?

Adult Faith Formation takes place each

CATHOLICS COME HOME

~An invitation to ALL Catholics~
Practicing and Non-Practicing

Were you raised Catholic but do not come or seldom come to church anymore?

Are you a Catholic who now feels separated from the church ?

Would you like to know more about the Catholic church as it is today ?

Would you like to feel at home in the Catholic church again ?

No matter how long you have been away and no matter the reason, we invite you to consider renewing your relationship with the Catholic church.

Please join us for informational listening sessions and an update of the Catholic faith.

These sessions are held at Saint Thomas Moore Catholic Church, starting Wednesday evening February 3rd, 2010 at 7pm and continues for 6 weeks.

For more information please call 530-877-4501, leave your name and phone number and a parish coordinator will return your call.



Weekly Sacrificial Donations

For the week of January 23-24, 2009

Our Regular Collection Weekly Goal is \$6,000.00

Regular Collection	\$ 3,711.50
Catholic Relief Services	\$ 180.00
Table of Plenty	\$ 210.00

Total Collections ~~\$ 4,101.50~~

Thank You for your generosity!

Mass Intentions

~ February 6-14, 2010 ~

Sat.	8:30am	All workers at Feather River Hospital
	5:00pm	Josephine Mc Carthy †
Sun.	8:00am	People of STM
	10:30am	Bob Wagner †
	5:00pm	Steven Brown †
Mon.	8:30am	Intentions of Noelle Ferguson
Tue.	8:30am	Joel King †
Wed	8:30am	Intentions of Scott Vizenor
Thur.	8:30am	Living and Deceased Members of STM Ladies Guild
Fri.	8:30am	Bob Hess †
Sat.	8:30am	Intentions of Maura & David Brown
	5:00pm	Frances Domiguez †
Sun.	8:00am	Josephine Mc Carthy †
	10:30am	John Lusar †
	5:00pm	Bob Wagner †

† Denotes deceased

NEW OFFICE HOURS

To solve communication problems with our all volunteer minister office staff, better utilize our key ministers and reduce the number of ministers required, we have reduced the daily hours the office is open. Typically the same volunteer will open as closes, one at the desk each day instead of two.

Monday: 11:00am to 6:00pm

Tuesday—Friday 11:00am to 4:00pm

Full time staff is on campus from Mass at 8:30 to 5:00 but will not be keeping public office hours.

For better access by parishioners we are now open until 6:00pm on Mondays and will remain open through lunch time every day!