



OUR LADY
OF LOURDES
PARISH TUJUNGA 1920-2020

Family ~ Community ~ Church

February 12, 2023

Pastor

Fr. Rolly Astudillo
818-352-3218 x 103
✉frrolly106@gmail.com

Deacons

Dn. Mar Enriquez
818-802-1639
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Dn. Ramon Villasenor
818-352-3218
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In Residence

Fr. Jiwan Kim
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Mass Schedule

Saturday Vigil Mass
5:00 pm (English)

Sunday Mass

7:00 am (English)
8:30 am (Spanish)
10:30 am (English)
12:30 pm (English)

Daily Mass

Monday through Thursday
7:45 am
Friday: 8:30 am

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday
8:30 am - 1:00 pm
2:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Saturday and Sunday
8:00 am - 12:00 pm
✉ollenriquezy@gmail.com
818-352-3218

Church Location
7315 Apperson St
Tujunga, CA 91042

Office Location
7344 Apperson St
Tujunga, CA 91042

OLL School Office Hours

✉officemanager@olltujunga.org
818-353-1106

Adoration and Benediction
First Fridays after 8:30 am Mass

Reconciliation

Saturdays: 3:45 pm - 4:45 pm

Rosary

After Daily Mass

Baptism and Marriages
Please call the Parish Office
818-352-3218

Our Lady of Lourdes Church and School

A Catholic Tradition in the foothills of Los Angeles since 1920



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Sirach 15:15-20
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 119
— Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord.
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:6-10
Gospel: Matthew 5:17-37

Freedom is the hallmark of human life. Being responsible for the freedom we have denotes accountability over one's actions and in how we live our own lives.

The prophet Sirach (first reading) tells us that human beings are at a crossroad: "There are set before you fire and water; to whichever you choose, stretch forth your hand. Before man are life and death, whichever he chooses shall be given him."

The way of life is shown by the commandments of God; the way of death is marked by vices, passions and corruptions. Through his commandments, God just wants that we don't ruin our lives; he wants us to live life to the full, fullness of life in Him. Thus, have we responded to the Psalm: "Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord!"

Jesus tells us more in the gospel reading today. The first part of the gospel reading tells us that Jesus has not come to wipe out the Old Testament. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets." Instead, he has come to fulfill them.

And so, Jesus today reminds us that we cannot use adherence to the law as an escape from true righteousness. In other words, we must go beyond the letter of the law to the spirit of the law. His words are strong and direct when he says, "I tell you, unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven."

The kingdoms of this world operate, live, and thrive on manmade laws. The Kingdom of God also operates, lives, and thrives on manmade laws, but go beyond them. The letter of the law is exact, definite, and strict. The spirit of the law is open, grace-filled, and goes beyond any measure.

Based on this premise, Jesus then proceeds to cite four of Moses' instructions that he will not change. They are introduced by the words, "You have heard that it was said . . . but I say this to you."

The first example is the commandment, "You must not kill." There are no exceptions to this rule and Jesus condemns all types of murder. Man or woman has no power over the life of another person, even if that person is a criminal. To keep this commandment, however, it is not enough to abstain from taking away the physical life of

another person. There are cases where a person, although walking and moving around, is considered a dead person. People we swore we would never talk to again are for us dead people. Then there are those we have judged and condemned forever . . . , it is as if they do not exist anymore. In other words, Jesus tells us that the commandment, "You must not kill" has many implications that go well beyond physical aggression. Whoever uses offensive language, whoever gets angry, or harbors sentiments of hatred against another has already killed the other person. Unhappily, even within a family, we see brothers and sisters who do not greet each other anymore because of questions of money.

Jesus now passes to the problem of adultery. For the Jews, like many of us, they understood the law against adultery to refer only to the act of committing it. For Jesus, the commandment goes much deeper. There are friendships, feelings and relationships that are already adulterous. Christ's teaching about adultery in the heart may seem harsh but when we give the matter some serious thought, we see that there is a more that is needed in creating a good marriage than simply avoiding the evil of adultery.

The third case that Jesus mentions is divorce. Jesus states clearly that husband and wife cannot separate. God's plan is that marriage is indissoluble. This does not mean that the Christian community has the right to condemn or dislike those whose marriage has failed. Most often, these people had to go through great difficulties and problems that made it impossible for them to live their Christian marriage. We are called to show them love and understanding.

The fourth case concerns swearing. Sincerity should be the rule among Christ's followers. There is no need to swear. In many cases, an oath included calling God to punish those who did not keep their word. God does not bring down evil on His people. It is useless to swear.

We believe in the love of the Father and we are confident that the way He shows us is the path to life and not to death, that the decisions and judgments we make must be life-giving, not only for ourselves but also for others.

Cast into the Deep (February 12)

SHINE HIS LIGHT!

Jim Lank



Several years ago, I was a part of a “performance” ministry that travelled to parishes all over Los Angeles and Orange counties to do a presentation to children of Sacramental age (First Communion and Confirmation), young adult gatherings and even in a Diaconate formation process. We had the honor of playing to rich parishes and to poor parishes from Lancaster to San Juan Capistrano.

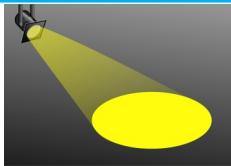
One **SHINE HIS LIGHT** parish that stands out is St. Columbkille in South Central L.A. near the intersection of Gage Ave. and Main Street. An older parish, indeed, it boasted of historically important buildings that were the pride of the pastor, who loved giving tours. The demographics in the once well-established middle class neighborhood had descended into a lower class, hardworking, immigrant community. St. Columbkille thrived on parishioners’ TIME and TALENT but lacked the community’s TREASURE. The parishioners took great pride in their historical buildings, maintaining them using their building skills and doting on the lavish landscape, pruning, fertilizing, weeding and tending to the grounds as to stand head and shoulders over some of the more ‘well-to-do’ parishes we visited. The lower income community was not able to support their school on their own, fundraisers were deficient in securing ample funds for the textbooks, school room furniture and fair pay for teachers. Forget about added security for the playgrounds and other niceties like that. The Religious Education program stretched itself to the limit to accommodate the many, many children who weren’t able to attend the school and the Sunday collections barely covered the priest’s rectory, heat and electricity for the

church and little else. But to drive by, you would have thought it to be one the very prosperous parishes in the archdiocese, given its immaculate appearance. The community truly lived **SHINE HIS LIGHT**.

Every day was a Pentecost for the staff at St. Columbkille. The Holy Spirit had truly descended upon them and they went through their days with joy, faith and gratitude that they were able to present Christ to such a hungry crowd. (One First Communion retreat we were able to be part of, the large auditorium was overflowing and there were folks in the outer hallways. We were expecting someone to be dropped in through the roof! Lk 5:19) The Holy Spirit was palpable! These are the parishes that Together in Mission caters to. Together in Mission was and is able to help the good people at St. Columbkille with expenses they wouldn’t ordinarily be able to meet – utilities, staff salaries, extraneous expenses for security and maintenance, allowing the parish, if not to thrive to at least survive giving the deserving community a spiritual home.

Together in Mission has been allowing you to **SHINE HIS LIGHT** for thirty years this year. Together in Mission discerns the needs of the Catholic communities and doles the contributions accordingly. Coupled with the fact that it is a totally restricted fund that can be used only in the support of the 65 parishes and 75 parish schools who need it, you can rest assured that your money is getting the biggest bang for the buck. All around us we can see that the need is great, and you are the answer. Go ahead and **SHINE HIS LIGHT!** Give generously to this year’s Together in Mission.❖





Homegrown Virtuoso Luke McEndarfer



Your wide eyed five-year-old has a firm grip on your index finger as you two cruise the toy-laden canyons of Toys "R" Us. Seeing the toys in person coupled with the endless ads on TV, he should be able to conjure up a list, and he does: a Pound Puppy, a Rubik's Cube, Legos, some Star War PJs and a Hot Wheels set. Reasonable and doable! Five days prior to Christmas, he asks for the list back and much to your dismay, scratches off EVERYTHING and enter one lone item: a piano. And so changes the course of Luke McEndarfer's life.



Born in Santa Monica, Luke and his family, mom Jean and dad Jerry, moved to Sunland when he was three and to Tujunga a couple years later with sister Erin. He started piano lessons at 6 years old, the same time he started school at Holy Family in Glendale while attending Sunday school at Our Lady of Lourdes. A lackadaisical student early on, as he was too interested in having fun, he took a serious turn in fifth grade, and set his academic course straight. Perhaps it was because of the time constraints he encountered in his quest to be a competitive figure skater starting at age 10. Enrolling in the Pickwick Rink in Burbank¹, Luke skated competitively for several years even winning some awards (in 51 out of 54 first place finishes and always medaling) in the Juvenile National competitions. Luke's skating career faded as his high school endeavors began, taking Honors and A/P courses at St. Francis High School², Luke flourished as a student and continued to hone his skills on the piano. At the age of 16, he was hired to play piano at Our Lady of Lourdes, where he would be an integral part of the parish music program for the next 11 years.



After the concert with proud mom, Jean

over as head of music for the parish: Children's choir, Adult Choir, O.L.L. Chamber Singers and, at

Christmas, O.L.L. Madrigals not to mention, leading the Children's Choir on a tour of Germany in 2002. But Luke's musical interests were not limited to Tujunga. While an undergraduate, Luke was a member of the UCLA Chorale under the direction of Dr. Donald Neuen⁴, the legendary conductor, composer, arranger, editor and educator. Luke's first concert at Our Lady of Lourdes was a fairly ambitious choral piece by John Rutter, *REQUIEM*⁵. Dr. Neuen caught wind of the concert, somehow found out where



Tujunga was and ventured from Westwood to enjoy Luke's efforts.

Based on that performance, and Dr. Neuen's previous knowledge of Luke when Luke sang in his Chorale, he offered Luke a scholarship for a Master's in Conducting, The Donald Neuen Scholarship. Luke waffled for a bit and then was informed that there were only two to be had and that helped our young Maestro decide.

Luke stayed with us while he earned that Master's degree and graced us with wonderful music at Mass and in concerts, with adults or children in church or at Music Center and even bringing in well known liturgical musicians like Bob Hurd. Luke could be a task master but demanded no more of others than he did of himself. He earned that Master's in 2004 and bid us farewell to take on the mantle of Artistic Director and conductor of the Paulist Choristers of California in the shadow of his alma mater, U.C.L.A.

Since Luke's departure, he has grown the parochial and very deep-rooted Paulist Choristers of California into an 800-voice children's ensemble with chapters in Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York⁶, Washington, D.C., Dallas and Austin, TX where Luke calls home. You can learn much more about this wonderful undertaking our own Luke is leading at <https://nationalchildrenschorus.com/about-us/>.

Luke asks that we convey his deepest appreciation to the good people at OLL. Find his actual words in the Endnotes⁷.

Thank you, Luke for the gifts and fond memories you left us.

~ Jim Lank

(editor's note: Spanish version and photos on pp 8 of the WEB version at www.ollchurch.us)

*(Editor's note: Reprint from June 20, 2021 issue of the OLL Bulletin)

Parish News

Schedule of Masses and Reconciliation

Confessions

Saturday at 3:45 - 4:45 pm (music room - entry by baptismal font)

Sunday Masses (all Masses are indoors)

Saturday at 5:00 pm.

Sunday at 7:00 am, 8:30 am (Spanish), 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Live Stream: Saturday at 5:00 pm and Sunday at 8:30 am (Sp)

The Link to the live streamed Masses is:

<https://www.facebook.com/106570891120663/live/>

Daily Masses

Monday - Thursday at 7:45 am; Friday at 8:30 am

Wearing a face mask in Church is not required. It is a matter of individual preference.*

Let's respect each other's preference.

*LA County Public Health

SAVE THE DATE

Bereavement Support Group

The OLL Bereavement ministry will begin a 6-session bereavement support group on April 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, and 16, 2023



Our Lady of Lourdes Masquerade Night

Friday, April 28, 2023 @ 6 pm

La Canada Country Club,

Cocktail Attire. 21 and over event

Tickets are Pre-Sale only: \$75 per person

\$800 for a reserved table for 10



Seniors 55+ Group

Join the Seniors 55+ Group (for single, separated, divorced and widowed women) on **Saturday, February 25** for the 5 p.m. Mass followed by dinner at a local restaurant. Meet at the hospitality patio at 4:50 p.m.

Call the parish office and leave your name, email and phone number before **February 23** so we know how many to expect for dinner.



RE CONGRESS COMING SOON

RE Congress is a dynamic gathering of the global church, welcoming all to meet Jesus through Connection, Learning and Worship. Expert speakers in the field of catechesis and evangelization are offering dozens of workshops in English, Spanish, and Vietnamese. This year, the RE Congress will be held on Feb 23 - 26 in person at the Anaheim Convention Center. As in the past, there will be workshops, exhibits, concerts, liturgies, Sacred Space, Keynote Addresses, and a Youth Day on Feb 23.

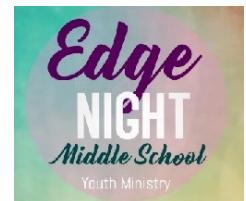
To register go to the RE Congress website at <https://recongress.org/register>. See the flyer on p. 11 of eBulletin

In the News:

CALLING ALL 6TH - 8TH GRADERS

EDGE COMES TO OLL

Edge is a Catholic middle school youth ministry program for grades 6th-8th. It provides a safe fun place for youth to find a solid Catholic community, to get answers to their questions about faith, and, most importantly, to experience Jesus in a profound and personal way.



Classes will be held every 2nd & 4th Monday, 6:00PM-8:00PM

The next class is on Monday, February 13th

Semester is from Jan. 23rd-Jun. 5th

Fee: \$30 (covers supplies, materials, and snacks)

For More Info Call (818) 606-5165 or email

lourdesconfirms@gmail.com



LENTEN RETREAT

An opportunity for reflection and prayer in the season of Lent

Date: Saturday, March 11th

Time: 8:30 am to 12:30 pm

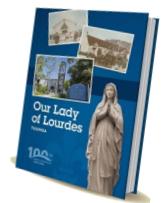
Where: OLL Church

Come and join us for fellowship, reflections, music, adoration and opportunity for confession.

To register or for more information, call the parish office at 818-352-3218 or go to the flyer on p 10 of eBulletin.

Centennial Commemorative Book

If you missed the Centennial Book Distribution on the Hospitality Patio, you may pick up your book from the Parish Office. Please be sure to sign the copy that will be included in the Time Capsule. And, if you did not take your portrait with Lifetouch Photography or you did not pre-order the book, there is a limited number available for sale for \$45.



Celebrating our Saint for the Week

February 13: St. Catherine de Ricci, Religious, Mystic: Saint Catherine was born in Florence in 1522. Her given name at Baptism was Alessandrina but she took the name Catherine at her religious profession. She grew up in a pious family and it was said that as a young child when she was missing, one would ordinarily find her on her knees, in a quiet corner, praying. She entered the Dominican convent when she was barely 14. Eight years later, she started having spiritual ecstasies of the Passion of Christ that occurred weekly starting on Thursday noon and would last until 4:00 pm on Friday. She experienced these raptures for 12 years and aside from the stigmata she received of the wound on the side the crown of thorns on her brow, she also suffered all the stages of the sufferings of Christ. She offered up all this suffering for the release of the poor souls in purgatory.

"think how much he has suffered for you! And he has done everything out of the great love he bears to his creatures, so that we may be prompted to strive to love him more"

St. Catherine's reputation for holiness and piety grew far and wide so that many would come to see her seeking counsel and prayers, among them three would be pope.

Catherine died on February 2, 1590 at the age of 68, was beatified in 1732 by Clement XII, and was canonized by Benedict XIV in 1746. She is the patron saint of sick people.

"...keeping ourselves always at God's disposal, with heart and soul at peace but also, believing, with a firm faith, that Almighty God loves us more than we love ourselves and takes more care of us, than we could take care of ourselves."

Papal Prayer Intention for February:

For Parishes

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



Know the signs of online enticement



When children are unsupervised online, it is difficult to know who they come in contact with, so knowing the warning signs that they might be talking to an online predator is important. Talk to your children about appropriate and inappropriate conversations online. Red flags of online enticement include engaging in sexual conversation, asking for sexually explicit images, or offering incentives like gift cards, free lodging, transportation, or food. For more information, visit missingkids.org/theissues/onlineenticement.

For more information about support for victim-survivors and abuse prevention and protection efforts of the Archdiocese, visit: lacatholics.org/protect.

Mass Intentions

February 11 to 17 , 2023



Saturday February 11

5:00 PM

Lupita McAlpine †
Lilibeth Calon †
Nelly Buck †—Birthday Remembrance
Sergio Esquivel—Birthday Blessing
Perry Cooley—Birthday Blessing
Sonia Lopez—Birthday Blessing

Sunday February 12

7:00 AM

OLL Community of Faith

8:30 AM

Adela Villanueva †

10:30 AM

Carmen Ofelia Soto †

12:30 PM

Osmundo T. Chichioco †
Bernadette Leyva—Healing

Monday February 13

7:45 AM

Erlinda Kuceva †—Birthday Remembrance
Sol Annenberg †

Tuesday February 14

7:45 AM

Daniel A. Calleja—Birthday Blessing

Wednesday February 15

7:45 AM

Ramon T. Chichioco †
Darrelle Fallis—Birthday Blessing
Sister Mary Paula Beierschmitt †—Birthday Remembrance
Marianne Sarne—Birthday Blessing

Thursday February 16

7:45 AM

Teofilo Onisimo M. Famor Jr. †—Birthday Remembrance

Friday February 17

8:30 AM

Evelyn Cortes—Birthday Blessing

“...if you trust in God, you too shall live...”

Sir 15:15

Readings for February 13 to 19, 2023

| | |
|------|--|
| 2/13 | Gn 4:1-15, 25 / Ps 50:1, 8, 16-17, 20-21 / Mk 8:11-13 |
| 2/14 | Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10 / Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 8, 9-10 / Mk 8:14-21 |
| 2/15 | Gn 8:6-13, 20-22 / Ps 116:12-13, 14-15, 18-19 / Mk 8:22-26 |
| 2/16 | Gn 9:1-13 / Ps 102:16-18, 19-21, 29, 22-23 / Mk 8:27-33 |
| 2/17 | Gn 11:1-9 / Ps 33:10-11, 12-13, 14-15 / Mk 8:34-9:1 |
| 2/18 | Heb 11:1-7 / Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 10-11 / Mk 9:2-13 |
| 2/19 | Lev 19:1-2, 17-18 / Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 / 1 Cor 3:16-23 / Mt 5:38-48 |

From scripture to life...

Would you consider yourself more of a ‘letter’ of the law or ‘spirit’ of the law type? Christ is asking for you to *spirit*.

en Nuestra Parroquia

Calendario de misas y reconciliación

Confesiones: Sabado a las 3:45—4:45 pm (sala de música. entrar por el área del coro)

Misa dominicales:

Sabado a las 5:00 pm

Domingo a las 7:00 am, 8:30 am (Español), 10:30 am, 12:30 pm

Misas transmisiones en vivo: a las 5:00 pm; 8:30 am (Español) <https://www.facebook.com/106570891120663/live/>

Misas diarias

de lunes a Jueves a las 7:45 am; Viernes a las 8:30 am

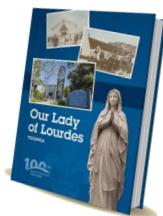
**No es obligatorio usar mascarilla en la Iglesia. Es una cuestión de preferencia individual.*
Respetemos la preferencia de cada uno.**

*LA County Public Health

Libro Conmemorativo del Centenario

Si se perdió la Distribución de Libros del Centenario en el Patio de la Hospitalidad el fin de semana pasado (3 y 4 de diciembre), puede recoger su libro en la Oficina Parroquial.

Asegúrese de firmar la copia que se incluirá en la Time Capsule.



Santo del Dia:

13 de febrero: Santa Catalina de Ricci, Religiosa, Mistica

"...manteniéndose siempre a disposición de Dios, con el corazón y el alma en paz, pero también creyendo, con fe firme, que Dios Todopoderoso nos ama más de lo que nos amamos a nosotros mismos y nos cuida más de lo que nosotros podríamos cuidar Nosotros mismos."

Conozca los signos de la tentación en línea



Cuando los niños no están supervisados en línea, es difícil saber con quién entran en contacto, por lo que es importante conocer las señales de advertencia de que podrían estar hablando con un depredador en línea. Hable con sus hijos sobre conversaciones apropiadas e inapropiadas en línea. Las señales de alerta de la tentación en línea incluyen participar en una conversación sexual, pedir imágenes sexualmente explícitas u ofrecer incentivos como tarjetas de regalo, alojamiento, transporte o comida gratis. Para obtener más información, visite missingkids.org/theissues/onlineenticement. Para obtener más información sobre el apoyo a las víctimas-sobrevivientes y los esfuerzos de protección y prevención del abuso de la Arquidiócesis, visite lacatholics.org/protect.

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"Si tú loquieres, puedes guardar los mandamientos; permanecer fiel a ellos es cosa tuya." Sir 15,16



RETIRO DE CUARESMA

Una oportunidad para la reflexión y la oración en el tiempo de Cuaresma

Fecha: sábado 11 de marzo

Hora: 8:30 am a 12:30 pm

Dónde: Iglesia OLL

Ven y únete a nosotros para el compañerismo, las reflexiones, la música, la adoración y la oportunidad de confesión.

Para registrarse o para obtener más información, llame a la oficina parroquial al 818-352-3218 o vaya al volante en la página 10 de eBulletin

Noche de Mascarada de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes

viernes, 28 de abril de 2023 a las 18:00

la canada country club,

Traje de cóctel. evento para mayores de 21 años

Los boletos son solo de preventa:

\$ 75 por persona

\$800 por una mesa reservada para 10



RE CONGRESO PRÓXIMAMENTE



RE Congress es una reunión dinámica de la iglesia mundial, que invita a todos a conocer a Jesús a través de la conexión, el aprendizaje y la adoración. Oradores expertos en el campo de la catequesis y la evangelización ofrecen decenas de talleres en inglés, español y vietnamita.

Este año, el Congreso RE se llevará a cabo del 23 al 26 de febrero en persona en el Centro de Convenciones de Anaheim. Como en el pasado, habrá talleres, exhibiciones, conciertos, liturgias, Espacio Sagrado, Discursos Principales y un Día de la Juventud el 23 de febrero. Para registrarse, visite el sitio web del Congreso RE en <https://recongress.org/register>.

Intención de oración papal para Febrero:

Para Parroquias

Oramos para que las parroquias, poniendo la comunión en el centro, se conviertan cada vez más en comunidades de fe, fraternidad y acogida hacia los más necesitados.



De las escrituras a la vida ...

¿Te considerarías más una 'letra' de la ley o un 'espíritu' del tipo de la ley? Cristo te está pidiendo espíritu.

VI Domingo Del Tiempo Ordinario**Primera Lectura: Eclesiástico (Sirácides) 15, 16-21****Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 118**— *Dichosos los que caminan en la voluntad del Señor.***Segunda Lectura: 1 Corintios 2, 6-10****Evangelio: San Mateo 5, 17-37**

La libertad es el sello distintivo de la vida humana. Ser responsable de la libertad que tenemos denota responsabilidad sobre las propias acciones y sobre cómo vivimos nuestras propias vidas.

El profeta Sirácides (primera lectura) nos dice que el ser humano se encuentra en una encrucijada: “El Señor ha puesto delante de ti fuego y agua; extiende la mano a lo que quieras. Delante del hombre están la muerte y la vida; le será dado lo que él escoja”.

El camino de la vida es mostrado por los mandamientos de Dios; el camino de la muerte está marcado por vicios, pasiones y corrupciones. A través de sus mandamientos, Dios solo quiere que no arruinemos nuestra vida; Él quiere que vivamos la vida en plenitud, plenitud de vida en Él. Así hemos respondido al Salmo: “Dichosos los que caminan en la voluntad del Señor!”

Jesús nos dice más en la lectura del evangelio de hoy. La primera parte de la lectura del evangelio nos dice que Jesús no ha venido a borrar el Antiguo Testamento. “No crean que he venido a abolir la ley o los profetas”. En cambio, ha venido a cumplirlos.

Y así, Jesús hoy nos recuerda que no podemos usar la adherencia a la ley como un escape de la verdadera justicia. En otras palabras, debemos ir más allá de la letra de la ley al espíritu de la ley. Sus palabras son fuertes y directas cuando dice: “Les aseguro que, si su justicia no es mayor que la de los escribas y fariseos, ciertamente no entrarán ustedes en el Reino de los cielos”.

Los reinos de este mundo operan, viven y prosperan con leyes hechas por el hombre. El Reino de Dios también opera, vive y prospera en las leyes hechas por el hombre, pero va más allá de ellas. La letra de la ley es exacta, definida y estricta. El espíritu de la ley es abierto, lleno de gracia y va más allá de cualquier medida.

Basado en esta premisa, Jesús luego procede a citar cuatro de las instrucciones de Moisés que no cambiará. Comienza con las palabras: “Han oído que se dijo... Pero yo les digo”.

El primer ejemplo es el mandamiento, “No matarás”. No hay excepciones a esta regla y Jesús condena todo tipo de asesinato. El hombre o la mujer no tiene poder sobre la vida de otra persona, incluso si esa persona es un criminal. Sin embargo, para guardar este mandamiento no basta con abstenerse de quitar la vida física a otra persona. Hay casos en que una persona, aunque ande y se mueva, se considera muerta. Personas con las que juramos que nunca volveríamos a hablar son para nosotros personas muertas. Luego están aquellos a quienes hemos juzgado y condenado para siempre. . . es como si ya no existieran. En otras palabras, Jesús nos dice que el mandamiento, “No matarás” tiene muchas implicaciones que van mucho más allá de la agresión física. Quien use un lenguaje ofensivo, quien se enoje o albergue sentimientos de odio contra otro, ya ha matado a la otra persona. Desgraciadamente, incluso dentro de una familia, vemos hermanos y hermanas que ya no se saludan por cuestiones de dinero.

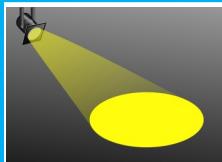
Jesús pasa ahora al problema del adulterio. Los judíos, como muchos de nosotros, entendían que la ley contra el adulterio se refería únicamente al acto de cometerlo. Para Jesús, el mandamiento es mucho más profundo. Hay amistades, sentimientos y relaciones que ya son adúlteras. La enseñanza de Cristo sobre el adulterio en el corazón puede parecer dura, pero cuando pensamos seriamente en el asunto, vemos que se necesita más para crear un buen matrimonio que simplemente evitar el mal del adulterio.

El tercer caso que menciona Jesús es el divorcio. Jesús dice claramente que el marido y la mujer no pueden separarse. El plan de Dios es que el matrimonio sea indisoluble. Esto no significa que la comunidad cristiana tenga el derecho de condenar o disgustar a aquellos cuyo matrimonio fracasó. La mayoría de las veces, estas personas tuvieron que pasar por grandes dificultades y problemas que les imposibilitaban vivir su matrimonio cristiano. Estamos llamados a mostrarles amor y comprensión.

El cuarto caso se refiere al juramento. La sinceridad debe ser la regla entre los seguidores de Cristo. No hay necesidad de jurar. En muchos casos, un juramento incluía aclamar a Dios para castigar a aquellos que no cumplían su palabra. Dios no hace descender el mal sobre su pueblo. Es inútil jurar.

Creemos en el amor del Padre y estamos seguros de que el camino que Él nos muestra es el camino de la vida y no de la muerte, que las decisiones y los juicios que hagamos deben ser vivificantes, no sólo para nosotros sino también para los demás. ♦





Virtuoso local Luke McEndarfer



Su hijo de cinco años, con los ojos muy abiertos, sujeta firmemente su dedo índice mientras caminan por los pasillos llenos de juguetes de Toys "R" Us. Al ver los juguetes en persona junto con los anuncios interminables en la televisión, se imagina una lista: un Pound Puppy, un Rubik's Cube, Legos, algunos PJ de Star War y un set de Hot Wheels. ¡Razonable y factible! Cinco días antes de Navidad, pide que le devuelvan la lista y, para su consternación, tacha TODO e ingresa un solo elemento: un piano. Y así cambia el curso de la vida de Luke McEndarfer.

Nació en Santa Mónica, Luke y su familia, su mamá Jean y su papá Jerry, se mudaron a Sunland cuando tenía tres años y a Tujunga un par de años después con su hermana Erin. Comenzó las lecciones de piano a los 6 años, al mismo tiempo que comenzó la escuela en Holy Family en Glendale mientras asistía a la escuela dominical en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes. Un estudiante despreocupado desde el principio, ya que estaba demasiado interesado en divertirse, dio un giro serio en quinto grado y enderezó su curso académico. Quizás fue debido a las limitaciones de tiempo que encontró en su búsqueda por ser un patinador artístico competitivo a partir de los 10 años. Al inscribirse en Pickwick Rink en Burbank¹, Luke patinó de manera competitiva durante varios años incluso ganando algunos premios (ganó medallas de primer lugar en 51 de 54 competencias) en las competencias Nacionales Juveniles. La carrera de patinaje de Luke se desvaneció cuando comenzaron sus esfuerzos en la escuela secundaria, tomando cursos de Honores y A / P en St. Francis High School², Luke floreció como estudiante y continuó perfeccionando sus habilidades en el piano. A la edad de 16 años, fue contratado para tocar el piano en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes, donde sería una parte integral del programa de música parroquial durante los próximos 11 años.

Después de su graduación de St. Francis, Luke comenzó en la Universidad de California en Los Ángeles (también conocida como UCLA) comenzando como un estudiante de Ciencias Políticas³, y al mismo tiempo sirvió como acompañante en Nuestra Señora de Lourdes. Cuando el Coro de Niños fue a Roma en 2000 bajo la dirección de Kevin King, Luke se unió a ellos como su pianista. Cuando Kevin dejó el cargo al año siguiente, Luke asumió el cargo de director de música de la parroquia: coro de niños, coro de adultos, O.L.L. Cantantes de cámara y, en Navidad, O.L.L. Madrigals, sin mencionar que dirigió el Coro de Niños en una gira por Alemania en 2002. Pero los intereses musicales de Luke no se limitaron a Tujunga. Mientras era estudiante, Luke fue miembro del Coro de UCLA bajo la dirección del Dr. Donald Neuen⁴, el legendario director, compositor, arreglista, editor y educador. El primer concierto de Luke en Our Lady of Lourdes fue una pieza para coro bastante ambiciosa de John Rutter, *REQUIEM*⁵. El Dr. Neuen se enteró del concierto, de alguna manera descubrió dónde estaba Tujunga y se aventuró desde Westwood para disfrutar de los esfuerzos de Luke. Basado en esa actuación, y el conocimiento previo del Dr. Neuen de Luke cuando cantó en el coro, le ofreció a Luke una beca para una Maestría en Dirección, la Beca Donald Neuen. Luke balbuceó un poco y luego se le informó que solo quedaban dos y eso ayudó a nuestro joven Maestro a decidir. Luke se quedó con nosotros mientras obtuvo su maestría y nos honró con música maravillosa en la Misa y en conciertos, con adultos o niños en la iglesia o en el Centro de Música e incluso trayendo músicos litúrgicos reconocidos como Bob Hurd. Luke podía ser un maestro exigente, pero no exigía a los demás más que a sí mismo. Obtuvo ese Máster en 2004 y se despidió para asumir el papel de Director Artístico y director de los Paulist Choristers of California a la sombra de su alma mater, U.C.L.A.

Desde la partida de Luke, ha convertido a los coristas paulistas de California muy arraigados y parroquiales en un conjunto de niños de 800 voces con secciones en Los Ángeles, San Francisco, Nueva York⁶, Washington, D.C., Dallas y Austin, TX, donde Luke llama hogar. Puede aprender mucho más sobre esta maravillosa empresa en la que está liderando nuestro propio Luke. <https://nationalchildrenschorus.com/about-us/>

Luke pide que transmitamos su más profundo agradecimiento a la buena gente de OLL. Encuentre su mensaje en las notas finales⁷.

Gracias, Luke por los regalos y los buenos recuerdos que nos dejaste. ♦

~ Jim Lank



After the concert with proud mom,
Jean



Clockwise
from left

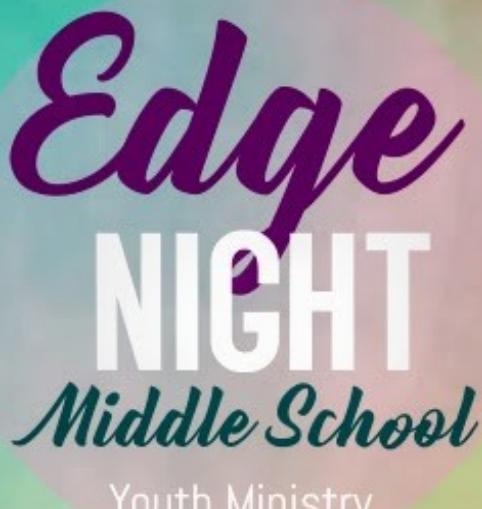
Enjoying
write-ups in
the local
paper while
he was at
OLL... Luke
gets write-
ups now on
the national
stage



- Dress Rehearsal with Adult Choir
- Mighty Oaks from little acorns grow
- Conducting the OLL Christmas Concert

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