

Our Lady of Lourdes Church and School

A Catholic Tradition in the foothills of Los Angeles since 1920



August 27, 2023

Pastor

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

Deacons

Dn. Mar Enriquez
818-802-1639

✉marciano.enriquez@yahoo.com

Dn. Ramon Villasenor
818-352-3218

✉rvillasenor10@yahoo.com

In Residence

Fr. Jiwan Kim
✉jiwankim@yahoo.com

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

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading:

Isaiah 22:15.19-23

Responsorial Psalm:

Psalm 138

—Lord, your love is eternal; do not forsake the work of your hands.

Second Reading:

Romans 11:33-36

Gospel:

Matthew 16:13-20

We have come across or heard of people in power who, instead of caring about the problems of the people, look only after their own interests, favor relatives and friends and use the money of the people to enrich themselves. It happened in many countries, and it is still happening in so many places. The same thing happened also in the time of Isaiah as we heard from the first reading.

King Hezekiah was the ruler of Israel then. His master of the palace, a certain Shebna, began putting up a marble monument using public funds. God, through Isaiah, chose Eliakim, who was good and capable, to replace him as master of the palace. The first reading describes the ceremony which went like this: the king tore off the mantle and belt from the undeserving master of the palace and put the belt and mantle on the newly appointed master. Then, he placed the keys of his palace on the shoulders of the new master. The key was put on the shoulders because in ancient times, the keys were very large and heavy and had to be carried on the shoulders.

The first reading prepares us to understand the gospel of today where we are told that Jesus gave the keys of the kingdom of heaven to Peter. This symbolizes the conferring of full power to Peter: "You are 'Rock,' and on this rock I will build my church, and the jaws of death shall not prevail against it. I will entrust to you the keys to the kingdom of heaven."

This conferring of power and authority to Peter happened after Jesus listened to Peter declare who he thought Jesus was, a contrast to what various other people were saying.

Like the apostles who lived more than two thousand years ago, we hear people talking about Jesus and their opinions are not very different from those we read in the Gospel. When Jesus asked his disciples, "who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." Even now, like the answers given by people in the past, many regard Jesus as an exceptional man, a great teacher of ethics, a revolutionary who sided with the poor and gave his life to free them from their condition. But would this be enough for Jesus to be

considered as a celebrity by his disciples, by us Christians? No. To profess like Peter that he is the Messiah is like saying that there never was and ever will be one greater than Jesus.

There are lots of turbulence rocking the church that flow from attacks on the leadership of the church. Yet, the words of Jesus said more than two thousand years ago to Peter are the same words directed to his successor, the pope: "You are 'Rock', and on this rock I will build my church."

This passage is crucial for a proper understanding of what the Church is, and our role in the Church. For this is the most explicit statement that Jesus makes in the Gospels about the Church.

First, it tells us that the Church belongs to Jesus. The Church does not belong to Peter nor to the disciples. Priests and church leaders who think and act as if they own the church are like farm workers who go posing as if the farm belongs to them. All of God's people, all of us, have been called together as co-workers in Christ's vineyard. But we do not own the Church. We belong to the Church. The owner is Christ.

Second, the gospel passage tells us that Jesus is the one who builds his Church. Our role is to listen and follow his instructions, doing our small part in the grand design of the master. Workers who stick to their own ideas of what the building should be rather than following the directives given by the master may find themselves working at cross purposes with the master. Hence, the importance of prayer.

Now, if Jesus is the owner and builder of the Church, where then do we come in? We come in precisely where Peter comes in. Together with Peter, we are the building blocks of the Church. Peter is the foundation rock, and we are the pieces of stones with which the Church is built. We are the living stones.

We must not forget that no matter how small a piece of stone may be, the master builder of the Church who is no other than Jesus, could still use our smallness to do something beautiful.❖



On June 11, the Feast of Corpus Christi, we entered the Parish level of the Eucharistic Revival. To further get into the spirit of this national movement in our parish, page 2 of our bulletin will feature reflections on the Eucharistic Revival, on Eucharist as Liturgy, and the Eucharist as Real Presence. We are inviting those who have served at OLL in the past as priests, deacons, and retreat speakers to offer their own reflection. We feel certain that we will be enriched and spiritually nourished by their reflections. For the fifth in the series, we are reprinting Fr. Rolly's reflection on the Eucharist as we celebrated the conclusion of our Centennial Year (October 17, 2021). Because we were in the midst of a raging pandemic on our Centennial Anniversary, celebrations could not occur until the conclusion of the Centennial Year.

We trace our history back to that first Eucharistic Meal on October 17, 1920, when, for the first time in Tujunga, the Mass was celebrated and Christ in the Eucharist was broken, to give life to those first 23 people, and shared. It was that first sacred seed from that life-giving meal that became who we are as a Church of Our Lady of Lourdes in the foothills of Los Angeles. That first sharing of and with Christ in the Eucharist was a life-giving event (nourishment) that continues to build our community, to this day, as one Body (Communion). I think it would be safe to guess that they had dinner together after that first Mass.



Most often, we prefer to dine with people as there is sharing of life together over a meal. There is conversation and friendship, as well as food and drink. It becomes an experience that is more than just fulfilling our need for food. It becomes An Event.

We seldom prefer to eat alone, especially at dinnertime. So, it is not by accident that the Eucharist is a meal intended by Jesus to feed us with his body and blood as true food and drink and which was instituted at the Last Supper. Old and young, men and women, boys and girls, everyone without distinction of class. But it is not an ordinary meal; it is something sacred. Anything sacred is reserved for God. The Holy Eucharist is so sacred and is the very center of our faith and no one will feel adequate to talk about it because there is so much to say about the Blessed Sacrament.

Shared experiences will tell us more. When we were opening the doors of the church to celebrate Mass after the vaccines were out, I was greeted by many who felt some calm and inner peace upon receiving the Holy Eucharist after more than a year of being home due to the corona virus. A Eucharistic Minister felt her hands shaking upon realizing who she was distributing in Holy Communion once again. Many shed a tear moved as they were that they could receive Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist in a physical and intimate way after such a long wait. The thirst, the hunger for Jesus in the Eucharist cannot be expressed perfectly; silent contemplation may just be enough.

Not only is the Holy Eucharist the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Christ. It is a relationship, a Covenant. Christ is not just in relationship with us, He offers Himself to us continually as sacrifice in an unbloody manner. Moreover, He is not just offered but received. All these elements of one and the same sacred mystery cannot be summarized nor encapsulated adequately. Are words even enough to express our longings and yearnings for Christ in the Eucharist after being deprived of Holy Communion for too long because of the stay-at-home and isolation mandates?

The human heart that is directed beyond itself has a space solely for God. It is the God-hole in us that continually yearns for the living God. Jesus, in the Eucharist fills that hole. For after receiving him, our days become better, and our nights become tranquil. And because of the tranquility we experience in receiving the Holy Eucharist, we reconnect, heal, and move ahead together. Just as those who share a meal lay down the hatchet, the Eucharist reminds us of new beginnings, that God is a God of second chances. At every Eucharistic meal, we ask God to forgive us so that "we can become worthy to celebrate the sacred mysteries," as the priest says at the beginning of the Mass.

And so, we look forward to the eternal banquet. The Eucharist prefigures this eternal banquet with the Lord in heaven. As Jesus promised, "Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life" (John 6:54) and "Whoever eats this bread will live forever (John 6:58)." Let us journey together to the eternal banquet united in the Eucharist as the People of God.

Parish News

Virtus Recertification Training on Saturday!



On Saturday October 7th, we will present: "Protecting God's Children" to anyone in the parish 18 and older who wishes to volunteer in any capacity here at OLL. This is for anyone who has not attended a Virtus session before, did not renew after 4 years, or who did not register online after they attended a session.

Please call the parish office at (818) 352-3218 to reserve a place as space is limited and other parishes are eligible to attend.

Please remember that all who serve the Church in ministry need to be Virtus-certified.. Thank you for answering God's call to ministry.

OLL Legion of Mary Invites All Auxiliary Members!



What: Annual Auxiliary Function and The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Celebration
 Where: OLL Church for the Legion Prayers Hospitality Patio for Fellowship and Refreshments (after the prayers)
 When: September 10, 2023
 After the 10:30 AM Mass
 Contact: Gloria Cunanan at 818-636-1297

2nd Collection for Maui

Thank you for your generous participation in the relief effort for Maui. We are happy to report that the donations total was \$2,455. If you were not around last weekend and would like to add your contribution, you can drop it off at the Parish Office. We will remit the contributions by the end of the month.



TOGETHER IN MISSION

Goal:	<u>a/o 8/16/23</u>
Pledged:	\$44,396.00
Paid:	\$41,582.75
Over/Under Goal:	<u>(\$ 9,989.94)</u>

If you haven't submitted your pledge, it is not too late. Pledge envelopes are in the bulletin racks. Thank you for your generosity.

Papal Prayer Intentions:

August: For World Youth Day

We pray the World Youth Day in Lisbon will help young people to live and witness the Gospel in their own lives.

September: For people living on the margins

We pray for those persons living on the margins of society, in inhumane life conditions; may they not be overlooked by institutions and never considered of lesser importance.



Registrations for Confirmation and Other Youth Ministry

Programs are still being accepted. Registration packets for 1st and 2nd year confirmation program may be picked up from the Parish Office. They are also currently accepting registrations for the youth programs for Middle School youth (Edge) and for the high school youth (Life Teen). Please see the flyers on pp 10 and 11 for more information..



Spanish Christian Initiation for Adults:

Registration for RICA is ongoing. Do you know someone who would like to complete their missing sacraments of initiation in Spanish? Please refer them to our RCIA program in Spanish (RICA). Registration is open to all adults and youth. To register and for more information, please call Armando Santiago at (747) 207-5637 or email him at lourdesrica21@gmail.com

Religious Education Program Registration

R.E. registration begins on Tuesday Sept. 5th. To register, please pick up a registration packet from the RE Office or the Parish Office.



Both 1st & 2nd year returning R.E. students must fill out a registration packet before class starts on Tuesday Sept. 26th 2023.

On Sunday Sept 10th from 8:00am-1:45pm, registration packets will also be available for pick up on the church patio

RE Office Hours: Monday through Thursday, 8am-1pm.

Parish office Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 am to 5:30 pm
 Closed for lunch from 1:00-2:00pm.

Saturday and Sunday, 8:00am-12:00pm.

Do we have your current email address?



If you are not receiving Fr. Rolly's Friday letter and other notifications from OLL, please call the parish office now and provide your email address.

Theology on Tap

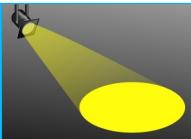


Inviting all Catholic Millennial adults ages 21 thru 40s to attend Theology on Tap - a program designed to discuss questions on your faith while enjoying the fellowship of other adults and adult refreshments (beer and wine).



Held on the last Wednesday of each month, the next one is on August 30 from 7-9pm at Our Lady Of Lourdes Parish Hall, 10275 Tujunga Canyon Blvd. in Tujunga.

Questions? Contact Chris Plance at 818-317-1542 and leave your name and cell number.



Lions Roar Back to School



Wednesday, Aug 23: Welcome back Lions. The Knights were on hand with the treats; photo ops with the First Day of ___ board. There was even a raffle for the Golden Wristband. Lucky Skylar gets to ride all the rides she wants at the Family Fun days. It was quite fun and exciting!



Friday, Aug 25:
1st School Mass of the new school year



Recommissioning
the teachers for
the new
school year



Wednesday, Aug 23: Welcome back Lions. The Knights were on hand with the treats; photo ops with the First Day of ___ board. There was even a raffle for the Golden Wristband. Lucky Skylar gets to ride all the rides she wants at the Family Fun days. It was quite fun and exciting!



FAMILY FUN DAYS

Friday, Sept 8 to
Sunday, Sept 10

Join us for a fun-filled
weekend for the entire family

Games and Rides	Food and Drink
Photobooth	Raffles and Prizes
and more...	

Check out flyer on p. 12

Don't forget to preorder your tickets to get a discount. Pre-Sale Order Forms are available in the Church Bulletin racks, at the school office, and at the Parish Office.



Virtus Certification Training



On Saturday **October 7th**, we will present: "Protecting God's Children" to anyone in the parish 18 and older who wishes to volunteer in any capacity here at OLL. This is for anyone who has not attended a Virtus session before, did not renew after 4 years, or who did not register online after they attended a session.

Please call the parish office at (818) 352-3218 to reserve a place as space is limited and other parishes are eligible to attend.

Please remember that all who serve the Church in ministry need to be Virtus-certified. Thank you for answering God's call to ministry.

The Beginning Experience



A Beginning Experience® Weekend retreat will be held **from September 8-10** at the **Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino**. Trained peer ministers will support and guide adult men and women on their grief journey after the loss of a spouse through death, separation, or divorce. For more information:

<https://familylife.lacatholics.org/beginning-experience> or www.beginningexperience.org

A \$75 deposit is required in advance. Need-based financial aid may be available.

To register, Call Maria (909) 592-0009 or
Email: beginningexp.losangeles@gmail.com

Celebrating our Saint for the Week

August 30: St. Jeanne Jugan (1792-1879): From a young age, Jeanne lived a life of service, as a shepherdess, a kitchen maid, a hospital worker, a servant. Eventually, she found herself caring for the poor and abandoned elderly women. Other people around her were attracted to the service she was providing the destitute elderly and joined her. Thus did St. Jeanne Jugan found the religious congregation that came to be known as the Little Sisters of the Poor whose mission was to assist abandoned elderly women, begging in the streets for resources. ([more about St Jeanne](#))

"We must always say: 'Blessed be God. Thank you, my God'."

"Jesus is waiting for you in the chapel. Go and find him when your strength and patience are giving out, when you feel lonely and helpless. Say to him: 'You know well what is happening, my dear Jesus. I have only you. Come to my aid....' And then go your way. And don't worry about knowing how you are going to manage. It is enough to have told our good Lord. He has an excellent memory."

Eucharistic Revival Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who promised to stay with us always, until the end of the age.

Reawaken our wonder at His presence in the Most Holy Eucharist. May our hearts burn within us as He opens the Scriptures and breaks the bread.

Give us the eyes of faith to recognize His presence in our brothers and sisters, especially in the face of the poor and the suffering.

Nourished by the Eucharist, send us forth to walk faithfully as missionary disciples, proclaiming the Gospel to every heart and extending Your kingdom to every land.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



The NCMEC CyberTipline



Online exploitation and enticement of young people is an ongoing problem, across social media, gaming platforms, and other websites. Victims can range in age and background, making it harder to prevent exploitation. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) operates the CyberTipline, a centralized system for reporting suspected cases of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation. Reports can be filed online at report.cybertip.org or via a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-843-5678. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Children (NCMEC) operates the CyberTipline, a centralized system for reporting suspected cases of technology-facilitated child sexual exploitation. Reports can be filed online at report.cybertip.org or via a 24-hour hotline at 1-800-843-5678. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Read the VIRTUS® article "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" here.

Mass Intentions August 26 to September 1, 2023



Saturday August 26 **5:00 PM**
 Julieta Tindoy Cericos † Marlena Pensanti Morigi †
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Goodman & Berces Families -- Safe Travel
 Marlon Prospero -- Healing & Recovery
 Flor & Lydia Calon -- 46 Wedding Anniversary Thanksgiving & Blessings

Sunday August 27 **7:00 AM**
 Bienvenido Venus † Juan Tubil †
 Miguel Angel Ortega -- Birthday Blessing
 Miguel Ortega -- Birthday Blessing
8:30 AM
 Cayetano Robles † -- Death Anniversary
 Perez Family -- Protection & Health
10:30 AM
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. † Caridad Velasquez †
 Celeste Jalbert--Birthday Blessing
 Ozzie Ragonig—Birthday Blessing
12:30 PM
 Angelita Cruz †

Monday August 28 **7:45 AM**
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Virginia Francisco †-- Birthday Remembrance
 Rolando Zapata †-- Birthday Remembrance
 Stevenson Lising †-- Birthday Remembrance
 Melanie de Leon -- Birthday Blessing

Tuesday August 29 **7:45 AM**
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Jose Domingo Enriquez † -- Birthday Remembrance

Wednesday August 30 **7:45 AM**
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Rosa T. Chichioco † -- Birthday Remembrance

Thursday August 31 **7:45 AM**
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Allan Dayrit -- Birthday Blessing
 Ramon Alvarez -- Birthday Blessing

Friday September 1 **8:30 AM**
 Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
 Jose Domingo Enriquez †
 Norma Famor -- Birthday Blessing

"...you are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my church..."
Mt 16:18

Readings for August 28 to September 3, 2023

8/28	1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10 / Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b / Mt 23:13-22
8/29	1 Thes 2:1-8 / Ps 139:1-3, 4-6 / Mk 6:17-29
8/30	1 Thes 2:9-13 / Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab / Mt 23:27-32
8/31	1 Thes 3:7-13 / Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 / Mt 24:42-51
9/ 1	1 Thes 4:1-8 / Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 / Mt 25:1-13
9/ 2	1 Thes 4:9-11 / Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 / Mt 25:14-30
9/ 3	Jer 20:7-9 / Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 / Rom 12:1-2 / Mt 16:21-27

From scripture to life...

Who do you say Jesus is in YOUR life?

en Nuestra Parroquia

Santa del Dia: 30 de agosto: Santa Juana Jugan (1792-1879):

Desde muy joven, Juana vivió una vida de servicio, como pastora, sirvienta de cocina, trabajadora de hospital, sirvienta. Eventualmente, se encontró cuidando a las ancianas pobres y abandonadas. Otras personas a su alrededor se sintieron atraídas por el servicio que estaba brindando a los ancianos indigentes y se unieron a ella. Así fundó Santa Juana Jugan la congregación religiosa que llegó a ser conocida como las Hermanitas de los Pobres, cuya misión era ayudar a las ancianas abandonadas, que pedían en las calles recursos. ([más sobre St Jeanne](#))

"Jesús te está esperando en la capilla. Ve y encuéntralo cuando tu fuerza y paciencia se estén agotando, cuando te sientas solo e impotente. Dile: Tú sabes bien lo que está pasando, mi querido Jesús. Solo te tengo a ti. Ven en mi ayuda....' Y luego sigue tu camino. Y no te preocunes por saber cómo te las vas a arreglar. Basta con habérselo dicho a nuestro buen Señor. Tiene una memoria excelente."

Oración del Renacimiento Eucarístico

Padre Celestial, te damos gracias por el don de tu Hijo, nuestro Señor Jesucristo, que prometió estar con nosotros siempre, hasta el final de los tiempos.

Te pedimos que vuelvas a despertar en nosotros el sentimiento de asombro ante Su presencia en la Santísima Eucaristía. Que nuestros corazones arden cuando nos da a conocer las Escrituras y comparte el pan con nosotros.

Concédenos que con los ojos de nuestra fe reconozcamos Su presencia en nuestros hermanos y hermanas, especialmente en los pobres y en los que sufren.

Alimentados por la Eucaristía, envíanos para que caminemos fielmente como discípulos misioneros, proclamando el Evangelio a todos los corazones y extendiendo Tu reino a todas las naciones.

Te lo pedimos por Cristo nuestro Señor. **Amén.**

La línea cibernética de denuncias del Centro de Niños Desaparecidos y Explotados



La explotación y la tentación en línea de los jóvenes es un problema constante en las redes sociales, en las plataformas de juegos y en otros sitios web. Las víctimas pueden variar en edad y antecedentes, lo que dificulta la prevención de la explotación. El Centro Nacional para Niños Desaparecidos y Explotados (NCMEC, por sus siglas en inglés) opera la línea cibernética para denuncias, un sistema centralizado para denunciar casos sospechosos de explotación sexual infantil que ocurren a través de la Internet. Se pueden hacer las denuncias en línea en report.cybertip.org o a través de la línea telefónica directa de 24 horas 1-800-843-5678. Para obtener más información, lea el artículo de VIRTUS® en inglés, "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" (Explotación sexual infantil en línea y la línea cibernética del NCMEC) en lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

[Lea el artículo de VIRTUS® en inglés, "Online Child Sexual Exploitation and the NCMEC CyberTipline" \(Explotación sexual infantil en línea y la línea cibernética del NCMEC\) aquí.](#)

"...eres Pedro y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia."

Mt 16,18

Rito de Iniciación Cristiana para Adultos

- ¿ Quiere conocer a Dios y experimentar su amor y misericordia?
- ¿ No ha sido bautizado? ¿ Ha sido bautizado fuera de la fe católica?
- ¿ No ha hecho la 1^a Comunión o Confirmación?
- ¿ Quiere clases en español?

Decídase y venga todos los Jueves a RICA, empezando el 7 de septiembre 2023 en el Salón Parroquial de 7:00pm a 9:30pm. Las inscripciones estarán abiertas para todos los adultos mayores de 18 años a partir del 6 de agosto.

Desarrolle una comunidad de fe. Para registrarse y más información, llame a Armando Santiago al (747) 207-5637 o envíe un correo electrónico a lourdesrica21@gmail.com



NOTICIAS BREVES

Los Programas de Confirmación y Otros Ministerios

Juveniles siguen aceptando inscripciones. Los paquetes de inscripción para el programa de confirmación de 1er y 2do año se pueden recoger en la Oficina Parroquial. Actualmente también están aceptando inscripciones para los programas juveniles para jóvenes de secundaria (Edge) y para jóvenes de secundaria (Life Teen). Consulte los folletos en las páginas 10 y 11 para obtener más información.

Inscripción al Programa de Educación Religiosa para el semestre de otoño comenzará la semana del 5 de septiembre. Todos los estudiantes deberán registrarse, tanto los de primer año como los que regresan para el segundo año. La primera clase del semestre de otoño comenzará el 26 de septiembre.

Family Fun Days: Del viernes 8 de septiembre al domingo 10 de septiembre Únase a nosotros para un fin de semana lleno de diversión para toda la familia: juegos, paseos, y más. Consulte el folleto o la página 12 para obtener más información.

Intención de oración papal:

Agosto: Para la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud

Oramos para que la Jornada Mundial de la Juventud en Lisboa ayude a los jóvenes a vivir y dar testimonio del Evangelio en sus propias vidas.



Septiembre: para las personas que viven en los márgenes

Oramos por aquellas personas que viven al margen de la sociedad, en condiciones de vida infráhumanas; que no sean pasados por alto por las instituciones y nunca considerados de menor importancia.

De las escrituras a la vida ...

¿Quién dices que es Jesús en TU vida?

XX Domingo Del Tiempo Ordinario**Primer Lectura:** Isaías 56, 1. 6-7**Salmo Responsorial:** Salmo 67

– ¡Oh Dios, que te alaben los pueblos, que todos los pueblos te alaben!

Segunda Lectura: Romanos 11, 13-15. 29-32**Evangelio:** San Mateo 15, 21-28

Hemos visto u oido hablar de personas en el poder que, en lugar de preocuparse por los problemas de la gente, solo se preocupan por sus propios intereses, favorecen a familiares y amigos y usan el dinero de la gente para enriquecerse. Sucedió en muchos países, y todavía está sucediendo en tantos lugares. Lo mismo sucedió también en el tiempo de Isaías como escuchamos en la primera lectura.



El rey Ezequías era el gobernante de Israel en ese entonces. El mayordomo de palacio, un tal Sebná, comenzó a construir un monumento de mármol con fondos públicos. Dios, a través de Isaías, eligió a Eleacín, que era bueno y capaz, para reemplazarlo como mayordomo de palacio. La primera lectura describe la ceremonia que fue así: el rey arrancó la túnica y la banda del mayordomo del palacio que no lo merecía y puso la banda y la túnica al mayordomo recién nombrado. Luego, colocó las llaves de su palacio sobre los hombros del nuevo mayordomo. La llave se ponía sobre los hombros porque en la antigüedad las llaves eran muy grandes y pesadas y había que llevarlas sobre los hombros.

La primera lectura nos prepara para comprender el evangelio de hoy donde se nos dice que Jesús entregó las llaves del reino de los cielos a Pedro. Esto simboliza el otorgamiento de pleno poder a Pedro: “Tú eres ‘Roca’ y sobre esta piedra edificaré mi Iglesia. Los poderes del infierno no prevalecerán sobre ella. Yo te daré las llaves del Reino de los cielos”.

Este otorgamiento de poder y autoridad a Pedro sucedió después de que Jesús escuchó a Pedro declarar quién pensaba que era Jesús, en contraste con lo que decían otras personas.

Como los apóstoles que vivieron hace más de dos mil años, escuchamos a la gente hablar de Jesús y sus opiniones no son muy diferentes a las que leemos en el Evangelio. Cuando Jesús preguntó a sus discípulos: “¿Quién dice la gente que es el Hijo del hombre?” Ellos respondieron: “Unos dicen que eres Juan, el Bautista; otros, que Elías; otros, que Jeremías o alguno de los profetas”. Incluso ahora, como las respuestas dadas por la gente en el pasado, muchos ven a Jesús como un hombre excepcional, un gran maestro de ética, un revolucionario que se puso del lado de los pobres y dio su vida para liberarlos de su condición. Pero, ¿será esto suficiente para que Jesús sea considerado una celebridad por sus discípulos, por nosotros los cristianos? No. Profesar como Pedro que él es el Mesías es como decir que nunca hubo ni habrá uno más grande que Jesús.

Hay mucha confusión sacudiendo a la iglesia que surge de los ataques al liderazgo de la iglesia. Sin embargo, las palabras que Jesús le dijo a Pedro hace más de dos mil años son las mismas palabras dirigidas a su sucesor, el Papa: “Tú eres ‘Roca’, y sobre esta roca edificaré mi iglesia”.

Este pasaje es crucial para una comprensión adecuada de lo que es la Iglesia y de nuestro papel en la Iglesia. Porque esta es la declaración más explícita que Jesús hace en los Evangelios sobre la Iglesia.

Primero, nos dice que la Iglesia pertenece a Jesús. La Iglesia no es de Pedro ni de los discípulos. Los sacerdotes y los líderes de la iglesia que piensan y actúan como si fueran los dueños de la iglesia son como trabajadores agrícolas que se hacen pasar por dueños de la granja. Todo el pueblo de Dios, todos nosotros, hemos sido llamados como colaboradores en la viña de Cristo. Pero no somos dueños de la Iglesia. Pertenecemos a la Iglesia. El dueño es Cristo.

En segundo lugar, el pasaje evangélico nos dice que Jesús es quien edifica su Iglesia. Nuestro papel es escuchar y seguir sus instrucciones, haciendo nuestra pequeña parte en el gran diseño del maestro. Los trabajadores que se apegan a sus propias ideas de lo que debería ser el edificio en lugar de seguir las directivas dadas por el maestro pueden encontrarse trabajando en propósitos opuestos con el maestro. De ahí la importancia de la oración.

Ahora bien, si Jesús es el dueño y constructor de la Iglesia, ¿entonces, dónde entramos nosotros? Entramos precisamente donde entra Pedro. Junto con Pedro, somos los bloques de construcción de la Iglesia. Pedro es la roca fundamental, y nosotros somos los pedazos de piedra con los que se construye la Iglesia. Somos las piedras vivas.

No debemos olvidar que por pequeño que sea un trozo de piedra, el maestro de obras de la Iglesia que no es otro que Jesús, aún podría usar nuestra pequeñez para hacer algo hermoso.❖



Avivamiento Eucarístico Pan, Partido y Compartido

Fr. Rolly Astudillo

El 11 de junio, festividad de Corpus Christi, ingresamos al nivel Parroquial del Avivamiento Eucarístico. Para profundizar en el espíritu de este movimiento nacional en nuestra parroquia, la página 2 de nuestro boletín presentará reflexiones sobre el Avivamiento Eucarístico, sobre la Eucaristía como Liturgia y la Eucaristía como Presencia Real. Estamos invitando a aquellos que han servido en OLL en el pasado como sacerdotes, diáconos y oradores de retiros para ofrecer su propia reflexión. Tenemos la certeza de que seremos enriquecidos y nutridos espiritualmente por sus reflexiones. Para el quinto de la serie, reimprimimos reflexión de P. Rolly sobre la Eucaristía mientras celebramos la conclusión de nuestro Año Centenario (17 de octubre de 2021). Debido a que estábamos en medio de una terrible pandemia en nuestro Aniversario del Centenario, las celebraciones no pudieron realizarse hasta la conclusión del Año del Centenario.

Nuestra historia se remonta a aquella primera Cena Eucarística el 17 de octubre de 1920, cuando, por primera vez en Tujunga, se celebró Misa y Cristo en la Eucaristía se partió, para dar vida a esas primeras 23 personas, y compartir. Fue esa primera semilla sagrada de esa comida dadora de vida, la que se convirtió en lo que somos como Iglesia de Nuestra Señora de Lourdes en las montañas de Los Ángeles. Ese primer compartir de y con Cristo en la Eucaristía fue un evento dador de vida (alimento) que continúa construyendo nuestra comunidad, hasta el día de hoy, como un solo Cuerpo (Comunión). Creo que sería seguro suponer que cenaron juntos después de esa primera misa.



La mayoría de las veces preferimos cenar con personas, ya que durante la comida se comparte la vida en común. Hay conversación y amistad, además de comida y bebida. Se convierte en una experiencia que va más allá de simplemente satisfacer nuestra necesidad de alimento. Se convierte en Un Evento.

Pocas veces preferimos comer solos, especialmente a la hora de cenar. Por tanto, no es casualidad que la Eucaristía sea una comida destinada por Jesús a alimentarnos con su cuerpo y su sangre como verdadero alimento y bebida y que fue instituida en la Última Cena. Viejos y jóvenes, hombres y mujeres, niños y niñas, todos sin distinción de clase. Pero no es una comida cualquiera; es algo sagrado. Todo lo sagrado está reservado para Dios. La Sagrada Eucaristía es tan sagrada y es el centro mismo de nuestra fe y nadie se sentirá adecuado para hablar de ella porque hay mucho que decir sobre el Santísimo Sacramento.

Las experiencias compartidas nos dirán más. Cuando abrimos las puertas de la iglesia para celebrar Misa después de que salieron las vacunas, fui recibido por muchos que sintieron algo de calma y paz interior al recibir la Sagrada Eucaristía después de más de un año de estar en casa debido al coronavirus. Un Ministro de Eucaristía sintió que le temblaban las manos al darse cuenta a quién estaba repartiendo en la Sagrada Comunión una vez más. Muchos derramaron una lágrima conmovidos por poder recibir a Jesucristo en la Sagrada Eucaristía de manera física e íntima después de tan larga espera. La sed, el hambre de Jesús en la Eucaristía no se puede expresar perfectamente; la contemplación silenciosa puede ser suficiente.

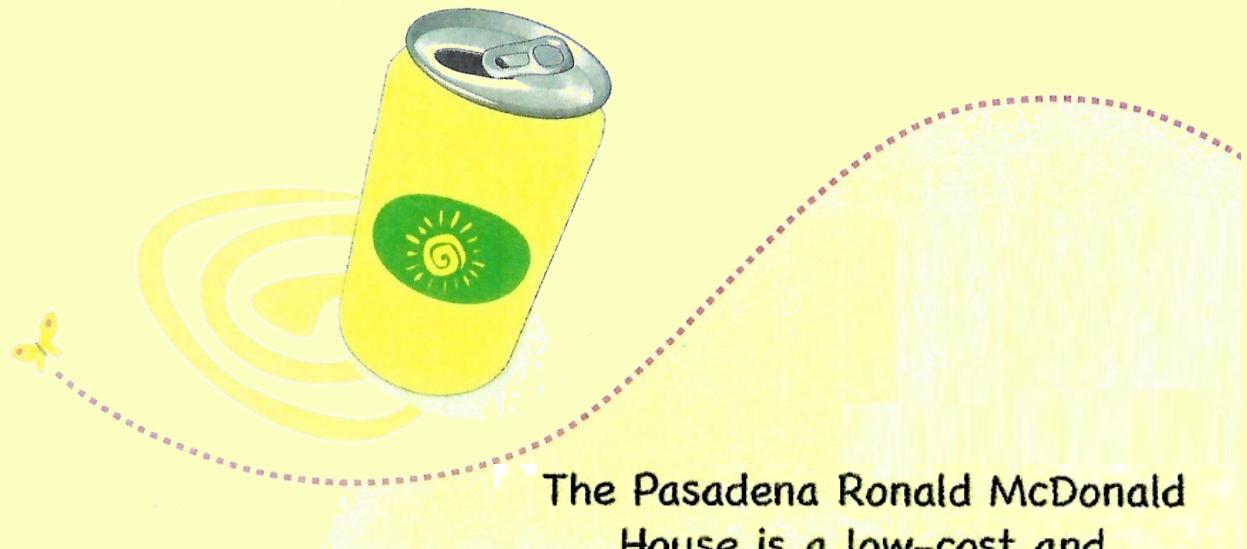
La Sagrada Eucaristía no sólo es el Cuerpo, la Sangre, el Alma y la Divinidad de Cristo. Es una relación, una Alianza. Cristo no sólo está en relación con nosotros, sino que se ofrece a nosotros continuamente como sacrificio de manera incruenta. Además, Él no sólo es ofrecido sino recibido. Todos estos elementos de un mismo misterio sagrado no pueden resumirse ni encapsularse adecuadamente. ¿Son las palabras suficientes para expresar nuestros anhelos y anhelos por Cristo en la Eucaristía, después de haber estado privados de la Sagrada Comunión durante demasiado tiempo debido a los mandatos de confinamiento y aislamiento?

El corazón humano que se dirige más allá de sí mismo tiene un espacio únicamente para Dios. Es el vacío en nosotros que continuamente anhela al Dios vivo. Jesús, en la Eucaristía llena ese vacío. Porque después de recibirla, nuestros días se vuelven mejores y nuestras noches se vuelven tranquilas. Y debido a la tranquilidad que experimentamos al recibir la Sagrada Eucaristía, nos reconnectamos, sanamos y avanzamos juntos. Así como quienes comparten una comida bajan el hacha, la Eucaristía nos recuerda los nuevos comienzos, que Dios es un Dios de segundas oportunidades. En cada comida eucarística pedimos a Dios que nos perdone para que "seamos dignos de celebrar los sagrados misterios", como dice el sacerdote al comienzo de la misa.

Y así, ansiamos el banquete eterno. La Eucaristía prefigura este banquete eterno con el Señor en el cielo. Como prometió Jesús: "El que come mi carne y bebe mi sangre tiene vida eterna" (Juan 6, 54) y "El que coma de este pan vivirá eternamente (Juan 6, 58)". Caminemos juntos hacia el banquete eterno unidos en la Eucaristía como Pueblo de Dios. ♦

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Parents Club (PTO)	Hector Ramirez			
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Spanish Choir Ministry	Rosalia Perez	rosalia0628@aol.com		818-642-9606
Spanish Eucharistic Ministry	Ma. Zoila Ezequiel Mendoza	mariazoilamendoza1960@gmail.com		818-723-7096
Spanish Lectors Ministry	Andrea Mata	matajosee@yahoo.com		818-601-2805
Ushers Ministry	Ben Menicucci			626-808-1696
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