



OUR LADY
OF LOURDES
PARISH TUJUNGA 1920-2020

Family ~ Community ~ Church

September 3, 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

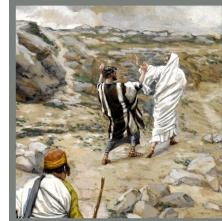
After Daily Mass

Baptism and Marriages

Please call the Parish Office
818-352-3218

Our Lady of Lourdes Church and School

A Catholic Tradition in the foothills of Los Angeles since 1920



22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Jeremiah 20:7-9
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 63
— *My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.*
Second Reading: Romans 12:1-2
Gospel: Matthew 16:21-27

When God calls a person, it would never be for something easy to do, nor would it be to an honored life. And so, we feel duped and say, "It's not fair."

The words of Jeremiah in the first reading comes from his experience of feeling abandoned by God and ending up being alone against everyone, the object of scorn and violence. Thus, he accused God, using very strong words, perhaps the most daring accusation in the whole bible: "You duped me, O Lord, and I let myself be duped; you were too strong for me and you triumphed." In common-day parlance, he was saying: "You seduced me, O Lord, and I allowed myself to be seduced."

Jeremiah was comparing his call as a prophet to the seduction of a girl who, after being deceived by the flattering words of a boyfriend, had yielded to his requests, only to soon be abandoned; by then, she can only curse the moment she believed in false love.

When God sent Jeremiah to the people, his words fell on deaf ears and even ordinary people took offence at the words of the prophet and demanded his execution. Jeremiah, who had put his trust in God and believed in His promises, was disgusted by the treatment he received from the people, and he screamed because his mission had failed and he complained: "You duped me, O Lord, and I allowed myself to be duped."

God did not promise Jeremiah an easy and honored life. He invited him just to be an announcer of his message of salvation. He responded to this call and in spite of all the suffering he had to go through, he was finally convinced that it was worthwhile.

In the Gospel, we see Peter thinking like Jeremiah. He could not accept a suffering and defeated Christ. Yet, it was only last Sunday that we read of Simon Peter recognizing and confessing Jesus to be the Christ, the Son of the Living God, a confession that earned him the name Peter, the rock on which Christ will build his Church.

Popular Jewish belief at the time of Jesus expected a Messiah that would bring instant glory to Israel in terms of military success,

wealth, and prosperity. Peter and the other disciples shared this belief. But Jesus tried to correct these wrong ideas because he did not want anyone to follow him with false expectations. Thus, when Jesus announced that he must first endure the cross, "Peter took Jesus aside and began to remonstrate with him. 'May you be spared, Master! God forbid that any such thing should ever happen to you.'"

Jesus' reply is very hard on Peter who was not making just a minor mistake but was in fact like the devil in the desert who tried to tempt Jesus, offering him power over all the kingdoms of the world. That is why Jesus said to Peter, "Get out of my sight, you Satan! You are trying to make me trip and fall. You are not judging by God's standards but by man's."

The rest of the gospel shows us Jesus giving two conditions to follow him: "If a man wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross and begin to follow in my footsteps."

Denying oneself is the first condition. Giving up personal ambitions and selfishness are asked of every Christian.

Taking up one's cross is the second condition. It does not mean that we are to bear patiently the "crosses" of life: sorrow, pain, illnesses, mishaps. It means to follow the same path as Jesus did: to live out his ideals and accept being persecuted and ignored in order to remain faithful to the gospel. It challenges us to say "no" to the very attractive but one-sided worldly gospel of instant glory, a sugar-coated gospel that offers the false promise of "all crown and no cross." Jesus did not come to take away our suffering. He showed us how to face suffering and pain in order to come out stronger and merit the crown of glory. The world is where we find a lot of crosses. The place for the crown is heaven.

To be a Christian is not to gain the whole world; it is not about the money we accumulate, nor the pleasures we enjoy, nor the triumphs we experience. It is about one thing that will remain for us: the love we are able to give over the power and prestige we gain for ourselves. ♦



Eucharistic Revival The Eucharist is Medicine Fr. Isaiah Mary Molano, OP



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 seventh in the series, Fr. Isaiah Mary Molano, OP. shares with us his theological reflection on the Eucharist. Fr. Isaiah is currently the Religious Superior of the Priory of St Dominic in Eagle Rock. He visited with us last year, on March 26, 2022 when he came to facilitate and speak at our Lenten retreat.

It takes a lot of courage to admit that there is something wrong with how I interact with my world. The way that I see things, the way that I relate to people. Most of the time, I'm a perfectly good, well-adjusted individual who can treat strangers, neighbors, and friends kindly. Yet at the same time, there are certain things that trigger me, I get angry or depressed, I shut down, I get frustrated over seemingly trivial things. There is something wrong with how I interact with my world. And to admit this takes a lot of courage.

This is where the Eucharist comes in. The Eucharist is medicine.

Yet, it is not the kind of medicine we expect. The Eucharist is the medicine that we need.

Take, for example, a cancer patient. A cancer patient is given a series of drugs, and oftentimes, a radiation treatment, to cure him of cancer. These medicines and this treatment is to restore one to health. This medicine is intended to bring the patient back to optimization. To bring normalcy to the patient's organs, and to the patient's life.

What kind of healing does the Eucharist offer? Not only does the Eucharist bring healing and optimization, the Eucharist also offers infinite sanctity. Yes indeed, by contemplating the Eucharist in Adoration, or spending thirty to sixty minutes quiet in the Church before Mass begins, the power of the Eucharist can bring healing to our past so that we can live a happy present and future. So many times have I heard stories—my own and others—of the healing that people would experience by that holy and happy hour.

The Eucharist is not merely a special wafer of bread—the Eucharist is the Infinite God. And the Infinite God not only restores your soul to optimization and normalcy, but also brings our souls and our life to flourishing happiness with the Divine. The Eucharist is a medicine insofar that, not only does it heal us of our ills, but it also brings about peace, healing, and flourishing that only God can provide.

But ultimately, St. Thomas Aquinas would remind us that the Eucharist is the medicine of immortality. The Eucharist is the perfect antidote to the very enemies of God, Sin and Death. By partaking of the Eucharist on a regular basis, we lessen the stronghold of Sin and Death, so that we can cling more fervently to who the Eucharist is, God Himself.

By taking that little wafer into yourself, you allow a reverse osmosis. You allow the Infinite God to overtake you, to overwhelm you, with His Life, His Truth, His Peace. Our bodies and souls are not merely optimized, they are given that opportunity to "proclaim the greatness of the Lord" to "rejoice in God my savior." The Eucharist gives our souls and our bodies that unique opportunity to illuminate God, so that everything that we do, everything that we say, does nothing less than reflect the comforting Light of Jesus Himself.

At Mass, the infinite God has an opportunity to enter your body. Cooperating with your open heart, the Infinite God can change and transform you into the saint you are called to be.



Parish News



The Parish Office will be closed in observance of Labor Day on Monday, Sept 4th.

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

Seniors 55+ Group

Join the Seniors 55+ Group (for single, separated, divorced and widowed women) on **Saturday, September 23** 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 **September 21** so we know how many to expect for dinner.



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.

TOGETHER IN MISSION

Goal:	a/o 9/1/23
Pledged:	\$44,396.00
Paid:	\$43,205.13
Over/Under Goal:	(\$ 8,050.84)

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

A second collection for Together In Mission will be taken up this weekend and again on the 3rd weekend of September. .

Papal Prayer Intentions for 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 are still being accepted. Registration packets for 1st- and 2nd- year confirmation programs may be picked up from the Parish Office.



Youth Ministry Programs. Registrations for the youth programs for Middle School youth (Edge) and for the high school youth (Life Teen) are ongoing. 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 who are 18 and over. 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.

Adult Religious Education

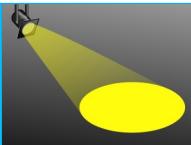
will now be offered via zoom. Classes will be on the 1st and 3rd Monday evenings from 7:00 - 8:20pm. We will focus on the catechism and will be in English.



There is no charge to attend. Please call the Parish Office for additional information. To sign up, call the Parish Office @ 818-352-3218 and provide your name, email and mobile number.

"Peace of heart - without it, no good can make us happy. With it, every trial, even the approach of death, can be borne."

~ Bl. Frederic Ozanam



Parish Pictorial Celebrations

Anniversary of Pastor Installation... August 29, 2015 -- Fr. Rolly was installed as Pastor of Our Lady of Lourdes. He was no stranger to us, of course, since he had been holding the role of Parish Administrator since 2012. But it was a celebration nevertheless. A shepherd for our Parish!

Last Sunday, to celebrate the 8th anniversary of Fr. Rolly's installation as pastor, Deacon Mar led the community in prayer, asking God to continue to pour his blessings on Fr. Rolly as he enters his 9th year as pastor of OLL.



Of course what is a celebration without cake. The celebration continued on the hospitality patio in which a vibrant parish was very much in evidence, what with the Confirmation, Youth Ministry, and RICA well represented and taking registrations for the new program year. There was even the group from the Holy Land selling Bethlehem-made articles to support Catholics in the Holy Land. They gifted Fr. Rolly with a silver Chalice and Paten.



The Choir Celebrates one of their own... the member with the most number of years in the Choir (since the early 80s), none other than **Arlene Wetzel** who turned 87-years old on Tuesday, August 23. The next day, on practice day, the choir yelled "Surprise!!" as Arlene walked through the door.



FAMILY FUN DAYS

Friday, Sept 8 to
Sunday, Sept 10

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

Games and Rides
Photobooth

Food and Drink
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

Do you wonder what being a Sister is all about? Is God Calling you to be a Sister? The Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul invite you to join us for a Religious Vocation Experience in the Bay Area, Sept 29 - Oct 1, 2023. This is for single, Catholic women, between 18-40 years of age. Any questions are welcome, just contact Sr. Lisa Laguna, D.C. (213) 210-9903 / (650) 949-8890 or email srllaguna@doc1633.org/www.Daughters-Of-Charity.com

Celebrating our Saint for the Week

September 9: Bl. Frederic Ozanam (1813-1853): Bl. Frederic was born in Milan but was raised in Lyon, France, the family hometown. He grew up to be a literary scholar, a lawyer, a journalist, an advocate for the poor and for equal rights. While still a student, together with his friends, he formed a charitable group that would later be known as the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Because of his weak constitution, Bl. Frederic died at the young age of 40. He was beatified by Pope John Paul II in August, 1997

"Let us learn, first of all, to defend our belief without hating our adversaries, to appreciate those who do not think as we do, to recognize that there are Christians in every camp, and that God can be served now as always! Let us complain less of our times and more of ourselves. Let us not be discouraged, let us be better."

"Charity is the Samaritan who pours oil on the wounds of the traveler who has been attacked. It is justice's role to prevent the attack."

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.**



How can we combat human trafficking?



Human trafficking is the forced exploitation of people — it is estimated that 27 million people are enslaved across the world. This can include sweatshop labor, sex work, forced marriage, and more. Every state in the US has documented instances of human trafficking.

Spreading awareness about the immensity and pervasiveness of this problem is the first step in fighting back. Learn about the resources available, such as the National Human Trafficking Hotline (1-888-373-7888) and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. For more information, read the VIRTUS® article "Human Trafficking Awareness" at lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

[Read the VIRTUS® article "Human Trafficking Awareness" here.](#)

Mass Intentions September 2 to 8, 2023



Saturday September 2

5:00 PM

Maragito Pena †
Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. †
Rosa Camanzo †--Birthday Remembrance
Lina Villenas †--3rd Death Anniversary
Marlon Prospero—Healing & Recovery

Sunday September 3

7:00 AM

Fajota Family—Thanksgiving
8:30 AM

Bonnie †
Teresa Anaya † --2nd Death Anniversary

10:30 AM

Ken Lance -- Healing
Fides Calasanz Garde -- Blessings, Good Health and Healing
Juliana Calasanz Lina -- 70th Birthday Blessing
Purita Calasanz Salas -- 74th Birthday Blessing

12:30 PM

Rebecca Ford—Birthday Blessing

7:45 AM

Araceli Tatlonghari †
Lupita Cueva—Birthday Blessing

7:45 AM

Juan Tubil †-- 40th Day
Efren Saul †-- 40th Day
Alfredo Velasquez †-- Death Anniversary
Thomasine Orsburn †-- Death Anniversary
Ronaldo Lising -- Birthday Blessing
Dan & Valen Gregorio -- Safe Trip
Star & Tyron Aure -- 51st Wedding Anniversary Blessing

Wednesday September 6

7:45 AM

Michael Planas Llanto †
Teofilo Onissimo Famor Jr. † -- Special Remembrance
Norma Famor -- Special Intention

7:45 AM

Malou Fajota -- Successful Procedure

8:30 AM

Luzviminda Cortez † -- 3rd Death Anniversary
Manuel Villar Jr. †-- Death Anniversary
Hernando Abadia Sr. †
Tess Zapata -- Birthday Thanksgiving

"Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me."

Mt. 16:24

Readings for September 4 to 10, 2023

9/ 4	1 Thes 4:13-18 / Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13 / Lk 4:16-30
9/ 5	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11 / Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 / Lk 4:31-37
9/ 6	Col 1:1-8 / Ps 52:10, 11 / Lk 4:38-44
9/ 7	Col 1:9-14 / Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6 / Lk 5:1-11
9/ 8	Mi 5:1-4a [or Rom 8:28-30] / Ps 13:6ab, 6c / Mt 1:18-23 [or Mt 1:1-16, 18-23]
9/ 9	Col 1:21-23 / Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8 / Lk 6:1-5
9/ 10	Ez 33:7-9 /Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 / Rom 13:8-10 / Mt 18:15-20

From scripture to life...

What may be some crosses in your life you'd rather not bear? But do.

en Nuestra Parroquia

Santo del Dia: 9 de septiembre: Bl. Federico Ozanam (1813-1853): B. Frederic nació en Milán pero se crió en Lyon, Francia, la ciudad natal de la familia. Creció y se convirtió en un estudioso de la literatura, un abogado, un periodista, un defensor de los pobres y de la igualdad de derechos. Siendo aún estudiante, formó junto con sus amigos un grupo caritativo que más tarde sería conocido como Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl. Debido a su débil constitución, el Bl. Federico murió a la temprana edad de 40 años. Fue beatificado por el Papa Juan Pablo II en agosto de 1997.

"Aprendamos, ante todo, a defender nuestra fe sin odiar a nuestros adversarios, a apreciar a quienes no piensan como nosotros, a reconocer que hay cristianos en todos los campos y que se puede servir a Dios ahora como siempre. Quejémonos menos de nuestros tiempos y más de nosotros mismos. No nos desanimemos, seamos mejores".

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.**

¿Cómo podemos acabar con el tráfico humano?



El tráfico humano es la explotación forzada de personas. Se estima que 27 millones de personas son esclavizadas en todo el mundo. Esto puede incluir trabajo clandestino, trabajo sexual, matrimonio forzado y más. Cada uno de los estados de Estados Unidos ha documentado

casos de trata de personas. Difundir la conciencia sobre la inmensidad y la presencia generalizada de este problema es el primer paso para contraatacar. Infórmese sobre los recursos disponibles, como la Línea Directa Nacional contra la Trata de Personas (1-888-373-7888) y el Centro Nacional para Niños Desaparecidos y Explotados. Para obtener más información, lea el artículo en inglés de VIRTUS® "Human Trafficking Awareness" (Concientización sobre la trata de personas) en lacatholics.org/did-you-know/.

Lea el artículo en inglés de VIRTUS® "Human Trafficking Awareness" (Concientización sobre la trata de personas) aquí.

"El que quiera venir conmigo, que renuncie a sí mismo, que tome su cruz y me siga."

Mt 16,24

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.

Programa de Educación Religiosa Comienza el 26 de septiembre. La inscripción comienza el martes 5 de septiembre. Recoja los paquetes de inscripción en la oficina de RE o en la oficina parroquial. Los paquetes de inscripción también estarán disponibles en el Hospitality Patio el domingo 10 de septiembre de 8 a.m. a 1:45 p.m. Todos los estudiantes deberán registrarse, tanto los de 1er año como los que regresan para 2do año.

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:

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 ...

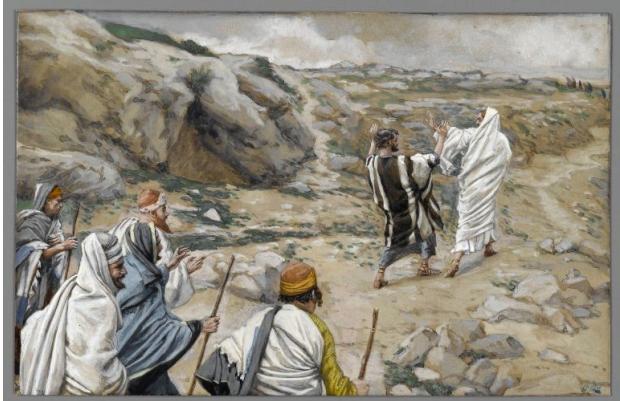
¿Cuáles podrían ser algunas cruces en tu vida que preferirías no soportar? Pero hazlo.

XXII Domingo Del Tiempo Ordinario**Primera Lectura: Jeremías 20, 7-9****Salmo Responsorial: Salmo 63**— *Mi alma está sedienta de ti, Señor, Dios mío.***Segunda Lectura: Romanos 12, 1-2****Evangelio: San Mateo 16, 21-27**

Cuando Dios llama a una persona, nunca será para algo fácil de hacer, ni tampoco para una vida de honor. Y entonces nos sentimos engañados y decimos: "No es justo".

Las palabras de Jeremías en la primera lectura provienen de su experiencia de sentirse abandonado por Dios y acabar solo frente a todos, objeto de desprecio y violencia. Así, acusó a Dios, usando palabras muy fuertes, quizás la acusación más atrevida de toda la Biblia: "Me sedujiste, Señor, y me dejé seducir; fuiste más fuerte que yo y me venciste". En el lenguaje común, decía: "Tú me engañaste, oh Señor, y yo me dejé engañar".

Jeremías comparaba su llamado de profeta con la seducción de una muchacha que, después de ser engañada por las palabras halagadoras de un novio, ha cedido a sus peticiones, para pronto ser abandonada; para entonces, sólo podrá maldecir el momento en que creyó en el falso amor.



Cuando Dios envió a Jeremías al pueblo, sus palabras cayeron en oídos sordos e incluso la gente común se ofendió por las palabras del profeta y exigió su ejecución. Jeremías, que había puesto su confianza en Dios y creía en sus promesas, se disgustó por el trato que recibió del pueblo, y gritó porque su misión había fracasado y se quejó: "Me engañaste, oh Señor, y me permití ser engañado."

Dios no le prometió a Jeremías una vida fácil y de honor. Lo invitó simplemente a ser anunciador de su mensaje de salvación. Él respondió a este llamado y a pesar de todo el sufrimiento que tuvo que pasar, finalmente se convenció de que valía la pena.

En el Evangelio vemos a Pedro pensando como Jeremías. No podía aceptar a un Cristo sufriente y derrotado. Sin embargo, fue apenas el domingo pasado que leímos que Simón Pedro reconoció y confesó que Jesús era el Cristo, el Hijo del Dios vivo, una confesión que le valió el nombre de Pedro, la roca sobre la cual Cristo construyó su Iglesia.

La creencia popular judía en la época de Jesús esperaba un Mesías que traería gloria instantánea a Israel en términos de éxito militar, riqueza y prosperidad. Pedro y los otros discípulos compartían esta creencia. Pero Jesús trató de corregir estas ideas equivocadas, porque no quería que nadie lo siguiera con falsas expectativas. Por eso, cuando Jesús anunció que primero debía soportar la cruz, "Pedro se lo llevó aparte y trató de disuadirlo, diciéndole: 'No lo permita Dios, Señor; eso no te puede suceder a tí'".

La respuesta de Jesús es muy dura para Pedro, que no estaba cometiendo un pequeño error, sino que era como el diablo en el desierto que intentó tentar a Jesús, ofreciéndole poder sobre todos los reinos del mundo. Por eso Jesús le dijo a Pedro: "¡Apártate de mí, Satanás, y no intentes hacerme tropezar en mi camino, porque tu modo de pensar no es el de Dios, sino el de los hombres!"

El resto del evangelio nos muestra a Jesús dando dos condiciones para seguirlo: "El que quiera venir conmigo, que renuncie a sí mismo, que tome su cruz y me siga".

Negarse a uno mismo es la primera condición. A todo cristiano se le pide que abandone las ambiciones personales y el egoísmo.

Tomar la cruz es la segunda condición. No significa que debamos soportar con paciencia las "cruces" de la vida: penas, dolores, enfermedades, contratiempos. Significa seguir el mismo camino que Jesús: vivir sus ideales y aceptar ser perseguido e ignorado para permanecer fiel al evangelio. Nos desafía a decir "no" al muy atractivo pero unilateral evangelio mundial de la gloria instantánea, un evangelio endulzado que ofrece la falsa promesa de "corona sin la cruz". Jesús no vino a librarnos del sufrimiento. Nos mostró cómo afrontar el sufrimiento y el dolor para salir más fuertes y merecer la corona de gloria. En el mundo es donde encontramos muchas cruces. El lugar de la corona es el cielo.

Ser cristiano no quiere decir ganarse el mundo entero; no se trata del dinero que acumulamos, ni de los placeres que disfrutamos, ni de los triunfos que experimentamos. Se trata de una cosa que permanecerá para nosotros: el amor que somos capaces de dar por encima del poder y el prestigio que ganamos para nosotros mismos. ♦



Avivamiento Eucarístico La Eucaristía es Medicina

Fr. Isaiah Mary Molano, OP



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 séptimo de la serie, el P. Isaias María Molano, OP. comparte con nosotros su reflexión teológica sobre la Eucaristía. El P. Isaiah es actualmente el Superior religioso del Priorato de Santo Domingo en Eagle Rock. Nos visitó el año pasado, el 26 de marzo de 2022, cuando vino a facilitar y hablar en nuestro retiro de Cuaresma.

Se necesita ser valiente para admitir que algo anda mal en la forma en que interactúo con mi mundo. La forma en que veo las cosas, la forma en que me relaciono con la gente. La mayor parte del tiempo soy una persona perfectamente buena y equilibrada que puede tratar amablemente a extraños, vecinos y amigos. Sin embargo, al mismo tiempo, hay ciertas cosas que me desencadenan: me enojo o me deprimo, me cierro, me frustro por cosas aparentemente triviales. Hay algo mal en la forma en que interactúo con mi mundo. Y admitir esto requiere ser valiente.

Aquí es donde entra en juego la Eucaristía. La Eucaristía es medicina.

Sin embargo, no es el tipo de medicina que esperamos. La Eucaristía es la medicina que necesitamos.

Tomemos, por ejemplo, un paciente con cáncer. A un paciente con cáncer se le administra una serie de medicamentos y, a menudo, un tratamiento de radiación, para curarlo del cáncer. Estos medicamentos y este tratamiento son para restaurar la salud. Este medicamento está destinado a que el paciente vuelva a la optimización. Traer normalidad a los órganos del paciente y a la vida del paciente.

¿Qué tipo de sanación ofrece la Eucaristía? La Eucaristía no sólo trae sanación y mejora, sino que también ofrece santidad infinita. Sí, de hecho, al contemplar la Eucaristía en Adoración, o al pasar de treinta a sesenta minutos en silencio en la Iglesia antes de que comience la Misa, el poder de la Eucaristía puede sanar nuestro pasado para que podamos vivir un presente y un futuro felices. Muchas veces he escuchado historias, mías y de otros, sobre la sanación que la gente experimenta en esa hora santa y feliz.

La Eucaristía no es simplemente una oblea especial de pan: la Eucaristía es el Dios Infinito. Y el Dios Infinito no sólo restaura tu alma al mejoramiento y la normalidad, sino que también lleva nuestras almas y nuestra vida a una felicidad floreciente con lo Divino. La Eucaristía es una medicina en la medida en que no sólo nos cura de nuestros males, sino que también produce paz, sanación y florecimiento que sólo Dios puede proporcionar.

Pero, en última instancia, Santo Tomás de Aquino nos recordaría que la Eucaristía es la medicina de la inmortalidad. La Eucaristía es el antídoto perfecto contra los mismos enemigos de Dios, el pecado y la muerte. Al participar de la Eucaristía con regularidad, disminuimos la fortaleza del pecado y la muerte, para que podamos aferrarnos más fervientemente a quién es la Eucaristía, a Dios mismo.

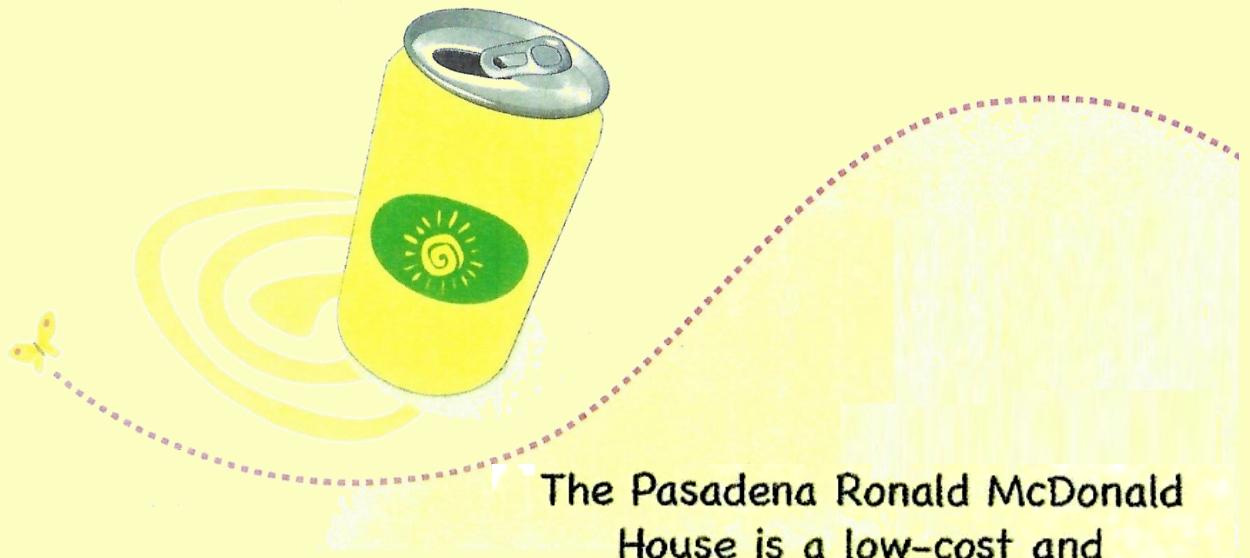
Al tomar esa pequeña oblea dentro de ti, permites una ósmosis inversa. Permites que el Dios Infinito te alcance, te abrume, con Su Vida, Su Verdad, Su Paz. Nuestros cuerpos y almas no sólo se optimizan, sino que se les da la oportunidad de "proclamar la grandeza del Señor" para "regocijarnos en Dios mi salvador". La Eucaristía da a nuestras almas y a nuestros cuerpos esa oportunidad única de iluminar a Dios, para que todo lo que hagamos, todo lo que digamos, no haga nada menos que reflejar la reconfortante Luz del mismo Jesús.

En la Misa, el Dios infinito tiene la oportunidad de entrar en tu cuerpo. Cooperando con tu corazón abierto, el Dios Infinito puede cambiarte y transformarte en el santo que estás llamado a ser. ♦



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To register for a Weekend or for more information, contact:

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Children's Liturgies & RCIA	Jackie Tanker	jitanker@gmail.com		818-383-4688
Confirmation/ Youth Ministries	Geraldo & Geraldine Salazar	lourdesconfirms@gmail.com		818-606-5165
Counters Ministry	Violet Alex	vganda.ko@gmail.com		818-353-1752
Devoción al Santo Niño	Martha Brambila	viejitachula525@gmail.com		818-517-4960
Divine Mercy	Blanca Marco	bmarcoemoll@gmail.com		818-307-0807
English Pre-Baptism Classes	Rosie Ramos		818-352-3218	
English Bereavement Ministries	Brenda Mikhall	brendamikhail@msn.com		818-352-5265
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Eucharistic Ministry	Jackie Pensanti	djpensanti@yahoo.com		818-686-2450
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Parents Club (PTO)	Hector Ramirez			
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Respect Life	Joan Noyes	joannnoyes@aol.com		818-425-6251
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Spanish Adult Prayer Group	Yolanda Oliva	yolanda@riocompany.com		818-793-9683
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Spanish Bereavement Ministries	Antonia Garcia	Tonia_62@yahoo.com		818-731-8742
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
Wedding-XV Coordinator	Jenny Aguilar	jjeragui@yahoo.com		818-470-0532
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