



# IMMACULATE HEART OF *M*ARY

Parish Mission + Mision Parroquial

*With Mary, we seek to know Christ better and to make him better known through our words and actions.  
Con María, deseamos conocer mejor a Cristo y darlo a conocer por medio de nuestras acciones y palabras.*

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME — OCTOBER 25, 2020



## Sts. Simon and Jude

O God,  
we thank you for the glorious  
company of the apostles,  
and especially on this day for Simon  
and Jude; and we pray that, as they  
were faithful and zealous in their  
mission, so we may with ardent  
devotion make known the love and  
mercy of our Lord and Savior Jesus  
Christ, who lives and reigns with  
you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
for ever and ever. amen.

Feast Day  
October 28

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Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00 am-3:00 pm

**Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland**

The Most Rev. Michael C. Barber, SJ

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Mon-Fri Office Hours: 9 AM - 3 PM

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**The Pastor's Page/Página del Pastor**

Dear families of the Immaculate Heart of Mary,

"You give that back right now!" How many of us have heard that line, probably more than once, as we were growing up? We come home with the trophy of what we thought was a really sweet deal, only to have our parents undo our profits by making us return the spoils. They had a different idea of what constituted a "fair trade agreement."

Justice in our dealings with others continues to be an important measure of our character, and like a good parent, ***God cares very much about how we treat each other and about how others treat us.*** God hears the cry of the poor, and answers the call of the oppressed. God's beloved children are not to behave like bullies.

Something that all of us can do is to pray for those who mistreat us, offering them to God, expressing a spiritual solidarity with them. Do we really think of how we treat others? The pandemic was a good test of responding to others, especially those in need or lonely. So many people, in fear, bought more than they needed not thinking that others needed supplies as well and caused shelves to be empty. People who were shut in due to health concerns were unable to connect with family and friends. How many people that you know did you call and see how they were doing? It is not too late. Reach out to others to let them know you care.

Immaculate Heart of Mary, pray for us

Father Quang

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Queridas familias del Corazón Inmaculado de María,

"¡Devuélvelo ahora mismo!" ¿Cuántas veces hemos escuchado esa frase, probablemente más de una vez, cuando éramos niños? Llegamos a casa con el trofeo que consideramos un dulce hallazgo, para que nuestros padres deshicieran nuestras ganancias haciéndonos devolver el botín. Ellos tenían un concepto muy diferente de lo que constituye un acuerdo "de intercambio justo".

La justicia en nuestros tratos con otros constituye una importante medida de nuestro carácter, como un buen padre de familia, ***a Dios le importa mucho cómo nos tratamos los unos a los otros y cómo los otros nos tratan a nosotros.*** Dios oye el clamor de los pobres y responde al llamado de los oprimidos. Los hijos bien amados de Dios no se han de comportar como abusadores.

Algo que todos podemos hacer es rezar por aquellos que nos maltratan, ofreciéndolos a Dios, expresando una solidaridad espiritual con ellos. ¿Pensamos realmente en cómo tratamos a los demás? La pandemia fue una buena prueba para responder a los demás, especialmente a los necesitados o solitarios. Tanta gente, con miedo, compró más de lo que necesitaba sin pensar que los demás también necesitaban suministros y provocó que los estantes estuvieran vacíos. Las personas que se quedaron encerradas por motivos de salud no pudieron comunicarse con sus familiares y amigos. ¿A cuántas personas que conoces llamaste para ver cómo estaban? No es demasiado tarde. Acérquese a los demás para hacerles saber que le importa.

Inmaculado Corazón Inmaculado de María, ruega por nosotros.

Padre Quang

**Weekday Masses/Misas Diarias**

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:00AM (English) - Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday: 8:00AM (Bilingual)

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:00PM (English)

**Sunday Mass/Domingo Misa**

7:30AM (English) - 9:00AM (English) - 10:45AM (Español) - 12:30PM (English) - 2:00PM (Español)

5:00PM - Traditional Roman Rite (Latin)

**Confessions**

Tuesdays 6:00PM - 7:00PM — Saturdays 3:30PM - 4:30PM



## Prayers & Weekly Scriptures/Oraciones y Lecturas de la Semana

### MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE WEEK INTENCIONES PARA MISAS DE LA SEMANA

#### SAT. OCT. 24TH

8:00AM Liana Felicity Sousa - Special Intention  
5:00PM † Willam and Mary Lou Murray

#### SUN. OCT. 25TH

7:30AM † Elizabeth Riego  
9:00AM Immaculate Heart of Mary  
10:45AM † Zeferino, Maria & Rafael Mendoza  
† Jonathan Sarfoli  
12:30PM Kate Friend - Health  
2:00PM Banuelos de Zesati Family  
† Miguel Jaurejui  
5:00PM † Bob Specht

#### MON. OCT. 26TH

8:00AM † Philip Rangel  
† Gil Virtusio  
† Shane Rojo

#### TUE. OCT. 27TH

8:00AM Dianna & Violeta Svilla - Thanksgiving  
† Lupe Gonzales

#### WED. OCT. 28TH

8:00AM † Thelma Carino  
Guillermo Barrios - Thanksgiving

#### THU. OCT. 29TH

8:00AM Nancy Le - Health  
† Maria Peña

#### FRI. OCT. 30TH

8:00AM † Romeo Flores Aguila  
† Mercedes Santos Amante  
Natalia Ochoa-Aragon - Birthday

### Sick Relatives & Friends Parientes y Amigos Enfermos

Ryan McCloud, Ramon Antonio Toledo, Kay Aviani, Mia Eternal, Rosa Velasquez, Giselle Honore, Gina Lilly, Mary Spinelli, Bev Casey, Stanley Etienne, Mary McCann, Jacqueline Reed, Frances Brecht, Sean Bowen, Susan Rossillon, Kathleen Hernandez, Corey Amesquita, Barbara Snider, Gloria Crabaugh, Deacon Ron Horan, Barbara Crandell, Ryan Adler, Anita and Ed Camera, Edu Sunga., Richard Grimes, Kim Wiley, Lois Valley  
\*\*\*\* Mary Jeanne and Dave Brink, Debbie Morris, Debbie Juarez, Therese Brantome, Eleanor Janson, Maria Luisa Guisara Oseguera, Maria Guadalupe Espindola, Sotico Amboy, Connie Madrid, Chris Heuer, Louise Delia, Mickey Eitner, Ida Gutierrez, Elisa Heitzmann, Troy Moncada, Marge and Larry Cragle, Romano Marchetti, James Halvorsen, Sandy Heinisch, Juanita Cruz, Rose Marie and Michael De Marzo, Greg Fasula, Arlie Blackshear, Mary and Larry Ratto, Arlie Blackshear, Michael Lopez, Peggy Scalise, Beth Camola, Catalina and Eulogio Oseguera, Chris Kamola, Jose Velez, Michelle Young, Juan and Patricia Galarza, Elena Sanchez, Jan Cooper, Kate Friend, Margarita Orosco.

If You would like a name added to the prayer list, please call the parish office at (925) 634-4154 or e-mail: [bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com](mailto:bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com). At the end of each month you must call to place the name again on the list.

Ud. quiere añadir un nombre en esta lista, por favor llame a la oficina de la parroquia al (925) 634-4154 o mande un correo electrónico al: [bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com](mailto:bulletin@ihmbrentwood.com). Al final del mes, usted debe llamar a la oficina si desea que el nombre aparezca de nuevo.

### READINGS FOR THE WEEK

#### LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Monday: 479: Eph 4:32—5:8 Ps 1:1-4, 6  
Lk 13:10-17

Tuesday: 480: Eph 5:21-33 Ps 128:1-5  
Lk 13:18-21

Wednesday: 666: Eph 2:19-22 Ps 19:2-5  
Lk 6:12-16

Thursday: 482: Eph 6:10-20 Ps 144:1b, 2, 9-10  
Lk 13:31-35

Friday: 483: Phil 1:1-11 Ps 111:1-6  
Lk 14:1-6

Saturday: 484: Phil 1:18b-26 Ps 42:2-3, 5cdef  
Lk 14:1, 7-11

Sunday: 667: Rv 7:2-4, 9-14 Ps 24:1b-4b, 5-6  
1 Jn 3:1-3 Mt 5:1-12a



Jesus replied: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'  
Matthew 22:37-39

## Lectura

### Gloria

Gloria a Dios en el cielo,  
Y en la tierra paz a los hombres  
Que ama el Señor.

Por tu inmensa Gloria te alabamos,  
te bendecimos,  
te adoramos,  
te glorificamos,  
te damos gracias,  
Señor Dios, Rey celestial,  
Dios Padre todopoderoso.

Señor, Hijo único, Jesucristo,  
Señor Dios, Cordero de Dios,  
Hijo del Padre;

Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
Ten piedad de nosotros;  
Tu que quitas el pecado del mundo,  
Atiende nuestra suplica;  
Tu que estas sentado a  
La derecha del Padre,  
Ten piedad de nosotros;  
Porque solo tu eres Santo,  
Solo tu Señor,  
Solo tu Altísimo Jesucristo.  
Con el Espíritu Santo  
En la gloria de Dios Padre.  
Amen.

### Primera lectura

Ex 22:20-26

Esto dice el Señor a su pueblo: “No hagas sufrir ni oprimas al extranjero, porque ustedes fueron extranjeros en Egipto. No explotes a las viudas ni a los huérfanos, porque si los explotas y ellos claman a mí, ciertamente oiré yo su clamor; mi ira se encenderá, te mataré a espada, tus mujeres quedarán viudas y tus hijos, huérfanos.

Cuando prestes dinero a uno de mi pueblo, al pobre que está contigo, no te portes con él como usurero, cargándole intereses.

Si tomas en prenda el manto de tu prójimo, devuélveselo antes de que se ponga el sol, porque no tiene otra cosa con qué cubrirse; su manto es su único cobertor y si no se lo devuelves, ¿cómo va a dormir? Cuando él clame a mí, yo lo escucharé, porque soy misericordioso”.

### Salmo Responsorial

Salmo 17: 2-3a. 3bc-4. 47 y 51ab

### Segunda Lectura

1 Tes 1:5-10

Hermanos: Bien saben cómo hemos actuado entre ustedes para su bien. Ustedes, por su parte, se hicieron imitadores nuestros y del Señor, pues en medio de muchas tribulaciones y con la alegría que da el Espíritu Santo, han aceptado la palabra de Dios en tal forma, que han llegado a ser ejemplo para todos los creyentes de Macedonia y Acaya, porque de ustedes partió y se ha difundido la palabra del Señor: y su fe en Dios ha llegado a ser conocida, no sólo en Macedonia y Acaya, sino en todas partes; de tal manera, que

nosotros ya no teníamos necesidad de decir nada. Porque ellos mismos cuentan de qué manera tan favorable nos acogieron ustedes y cómo, abandonando los ídolos, se convirtieron al Dios vivo y verdadero para servirlo, esperando que venga desde el cielo su Hijo, Jesús, a quien él resucitó de entre los muertos, y es quien nos libra del castigo venidero.

### Evangelio

Mt 22:34-40

En aquel tiempo, habiéndose enterado los fariseos de que Jesús había dejado callados a los saduceos, se acercaron a él. Uno de ellos, que era doctor de la ley, le preguntó para ponerlo a prueba: “Maestro, ¿cuál es el mandamiento más grande de la ley?”

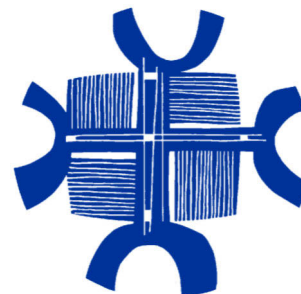
Jesús le respondió: “*Amarás al Señor, tu Dios, con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con toda tu mente. Éste es el más grande y el primero de los mandamientos. Y el segundo es semejante a éste: Amarás a tu prójimo como a ti mismo.* En estos dos mandamientos se fundan toda la ley y los profetas”.

### Credo de Nicea

Creo en un solo Dios, Padre todopoderoso, Creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo visible y lo invisible.

Creo en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios, nacido del Padre antes de todos los siglos: Dios de Dios, Luz de Luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero, engendrado, no credo, de la misma naturaleza del Padre, por quien todo fue hecho; que por nosotros, los hombres, y para nuestra salvación bajó del cielo, **y por obra del Espíritu Santo se encarnó de María, la Virgen, y se hizo hombre**; y por nuestra causa fue crucificado en tiempos de Poncio Pilato, padeció al tercer día, según las Escrituras, y subió al cielo, y está sentado a la derecha del Padre; y de nuevo vendrá con gloria. Para juzgar a vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin. Creo en el Espíritu Santo, Señor dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo, que con el Padre y el Hijo recibe una misma adoración y Gloria, y que hablo por los profetas.

Creo en una iglesia, que es santa, católica y apostólica. Confieso que hay un solo bautismo para el perdón de los pecados. Espero la resurrección de los muertos y la vida futura del mundo. Amen.



## Readings

### Gloria

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ,  
Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God,  
Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen

### First Reading

Ex 22:20-26

Thus says the LORD:  
"You shall not molest or oppress an alien,  
for you were once aliens yourselves in the land of  
Egypt. You shall not wrong any widow or orphan.  
If ever you wrong them and they cry out to me,  
I will surely hear their cry.  
My wrath will flare up, and I will kill you with the sword;  
then your own wives will be widows, and your children  
orphans. "If you lend money to one of your poor  
neighbors among my people, you shall not act like an  
extortioner toward him by demanding interest from him.  
If you take your neighbor's cloak as a pledge,  
you shall return it to him before sunset;  
for this cloak of his is the only covering he has for his  
body. What else has he to sleep in?  
If he cries out to me, I will hear him;  
for I am compassionate."

### Reponsorial Psalm

Ps 18:2-3, 3-4, 47, 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

### Second Reading

1 Thes 1:5C-10

Brothers and sisters:  
You know what sort of people we were among you for your  
sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord,  
receiving the word in great affliction, with joy from the Holy  
Spirit, so that you became a model for all the believers  
in Macedonia and in Achaia.  
For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth  
not only in Macedonia and in Achaia,  
but in every place your faith in God has gone forth,  
so that we have no need to say anything.  
For they themselves openly declare about us  
what sort of reception we had among you,

and how you turned to God from idols  
to serve the living and true God  
and to await his Son from heaven,  
whom he raised from the dead,  
Jesus, who delivers us from the coming wrath.

### Gospel

Mt 22:34-40

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced  
the Sadducees,  
they gathered together, and one of them,  
a scholar of the law tested him by asking,  
"Teacher, which commandment in the law is the  
greatest?"  
He said to him,  
"You shall love the Lord, your God,  
with all your heart,  
with all your soul,  
and with all your mind.  
This is the greatest and the first commandment.  
The second is like it:  
You shall love your neighbor as yourself.  
The whole law and the prophets depend on these two  
commandments."

### The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
**and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin  
Mary, and became man.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.





October 25, 2020

Written by  
THE  
FAITHFUL  
DISCIPLE

## Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 22:20-26 | 1 Thes 1:5C-10 | Mt 22:34-40

### GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

In today's Gospel, Jesus has just silenced one group of religious leaders, the Sadducees (which seems to be quite a feat, if we look at their behavior in the Scripture!) and is now speaking to another group of religious leaders, the Pharisees. Jesus says that the greatest commandment in all the law is actually two: love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind, and soul; and love your neighbor as yourself. These two groups of religious leaders like to test him a lot, and while I might want to tell people like them to take a hike, Jesus never does. He always speaks the truth to them, in love, even if he is frustrated with their behavior.

### GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Sometimes it's hard to see how three particular readings fit together on a Sunday, but I was struck by how well these do. The first reading, listing ways that we should *not* behave, can easily be summed up as: love your neighbor as yourself. We all are, or have been, some form of what the Lord mentions: an outsider (alien), vulnerable (widow/orphan), in financial need (loan recipient), or requiring some other assistance (needing a cloak). How do we want others to treat us in those times? Then we should behave the same. It seems like the Thessalonians understood this, for Paul praises them for being a model for other believers. They have a reputation for being truly loving; of turning to God from idols, and serving him. We can be discouraged by our human failings, as all of us living in lockdown/quarantine these recent months know. It may not take much to set us off. But this is where God's grace can help us to speak truth in love, and be a model for those around us.

**ACTIONS** Reflect on any obstacles to truly loving God with full heart, mind, and soul. Then think creatively about how to love God, and in turn, others.

- *How I can love God with my whole heart?* After spending time in prayer, write down how you see God in your family and friends. And then go tell them!
- *How I can love God with my whole mind?* Use "online time" to engage with a faith-related website such as Bishop Barron's [wordonfire.org](http://wordonfire.org), or follow Pope Francis on Twitter.
- *How I can love God with my soul?* Pray the litany of humility.

### Oracion San Miguel

San Miguel Arcángel,  
defiéndenos en la batalla.

Sé nuestro amparo contra la perversidad  
y asechanzas del demonio. Reprímale

Dios, pedimos suplicantes,  
y tú Príncipe de la Milicia Celestial,  
con el divino poder de Dios,  
arroja al infierno a Satanás  
y a todos los espíritus malignos  
que andan dispersos  
por el mundo  
para la perdición de las almas.  
Amén.



### Prayer to St. Michael

St. Michael the Archangel,  
defend us in battle,  
be our protection  
against the wickedness and  
snares of the devil.

May God  
rebuke him we humbly pray;  
and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly  
host, by the power of God,  
cast into hell Satan  
and all the evil spirits  
who prowl about the world seeking the  
ruin of souls.  
Amen



## Information/Información

### St. Vincent de Paul for Friday's Food Pantry

For the weekend of November 1, 2020, please bring peanut butter and jelly. THANK YOU!

Para el fin de semana del Primero de noviembre, 2020, por favor traigan peanut butter and jelly. GRACIAS!

### SCHEDULE OF SECOND COLLECTIONS

November 1, 2020 - Facility Improvement Fund  
November 15, 2020 - Maintenance Fund

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### FECHAS DE SEGUNDAS COLECTAS

1 de noviembre, 2020 - Fondo del Mejoramiento de las Instalaciones  
15 de noviembre, 2020 - Fondo del Mantenimiento

### Craft Donations Wanted

Help make this the biggest Holiday Boutique ever! Please consider donating some of your homemade crafts to the IHM Crafters' Holiday Boutique coming up this October 30<sup>th</sup> thru Nov 1<sup>st</sup>. All proceeds go to support the church.

Bring your items, individually priced and with your name on the back of a sales tag, to the Church between 12:00 - 1:00PM Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>. Any items not sold should be picked up by 2:00PM on Sunday, November 1<sup>st</sup>.

All types of new homemade crafts will be accepted for donation, including jewelry, paper crafts, soaps, candles, woodworking, ceramics, bonsai, etc. in addition to all sewing & knitting crafts.

Please contact Ann Galassi (925-864-3242) for more details.

## VIGIL OF LIGHTS DRIVE THROUGH

NOVEMBER 2ND | 6:00 - 9:00 PM

DUE TO COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS YOU MUST REMAIN IN YOUR CARS

## Día de los MUERTOS

JOIN US THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 26TH-30TH

Come decorate your Luminaria Memorial Bag.  
Tables will be set up outside our office locations  
everyday from 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

We will be open regular business hours for Día de los Muertos for visitation.

No BBQ's | No loud music | Social distancing | Masks required

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT ONE OF OUR LOCATIONS:

**cfcs**

Living Our Mission

CATHOLIC FUNERAL & CEMETERY SERVICES

Holy Sepulchre (510) 537-6600 | Queen of Heaven (925) 932-0900

Holy Cross (925) 757-0658 | St. Joseph (510) 234-2012

[cfsoakland.org](http://cfsoakland.org)



A MINISTRY OF THE  
DIOCESE OF OAKLAND

# FAITH DIRECT

"People rejoiced because  
they had offered so willingly,  
for they made their offering  
to the Lord with a whole heart."  
- 1 Chronicles 29:9

Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season,  
but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you  
one less thing to remember each week.  
No more envelopes to find before you go to Mass,  
no more scrambling thru your purse for your donation.

Visit [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net)

and use our church code: **CA752**.

*Thank you for your continued support.*







# Clases de Confirmación

PARA ADULTOS

COMENZANDO EN **Nov 5**

**CADA JUEVES A LAS 7:00PM**

**ESPACIO LIMITADO.**

**LLAMA A LA OFICINA**

**925634-4154**



Rev. Arturo Bazan



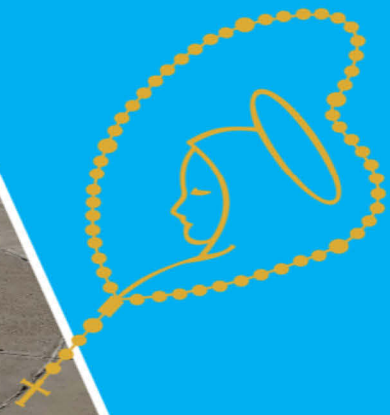
Dn. Candelario  
Jimenez



[www.ihmbrentwood.com](http://www.ihmbrentwood.com)

## Praying the Holy Rosary

### with your family





## Information/Información

### ***Live the Gospel of Life*** **Respect Life Reflection**

Twenty-five years ago, Pope St. John Paul II wrote that the Gospel of life is at the *heart* of Jesus' saving message to the world (*Evangelium vitae* 1). In taking on human flesh, dwelling among us, and sacrificing his very life for our redemption, Christ reveals the profound dignity of *every* human person. This God-given dignity does not change with our stage of life, abilities, level of independence, or any other varying circumstance.

***"to imitate Christ  
and follow in his  
footsteps"***

*The Gospel of  
Life 51*

Rather, it is rooted in the permanent fact that each of us is made in the image and likeness of God, created to share in the very life of God himself. The human person is a "manifestation of God in the world, a sign of his presence, a trace of his glory" (EV 34). And we must reflect this truth in how we act and how we treat one another.

The truth of the Gospel of life is at the foundation of who we are as followers of Christ. In his earthly life, Jesus provided the perfect model for how we are to love our neighbor and live out the Gospel call: "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (Mt. 25:40).

Jesus calls each of us to ***"care for the other as a person for whom God has made us responsible"*** (EV 87). The Gospel of life is intrinsic to the whole Christian life and foundational to the decisions we make on a daily basis. For, "the Gospel of God's love for man, the Gospel of the dignity of the person and the Gospel of life are a *single and indivisible Gospel*" (EV 2, emphasis added).

In his encyclical on the Gospel of life, Pope St. John Paul II recognizes the full range of threats against human life, from poverty and malnutrition to murder and war. He places particular emphasis, however, on threats to life at its beginning and end—precisely when it is most in need of protection. In modern times, children in their mothers' wombs and those approaching the end of their lives are certainly among the "least of these" in our world's estimation. Practices such as abortion and assisted suicide tragically reject the truth that human life is always to be cherished and defended with loving concern.

As the Church celebrates the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pope St. John Paul II's prophetic encyclical, let us reflect on how we personally live out the Gospel: *Do I talk about and act towards others as I would talk about and treat Jesus himself? Do I inform myself of the Church's teachings and engage in the civic arena as first a follower of Christ? Do I support and advocate for laws and policies that protect and defend human life? Do I help pregnant and parenting mothers in need? Am I ready to support a loved one nearing death?*

Through the intercession of Our Lady of Guadalupe, may Our Lord grant us the grace to truly and courageously live his Gospel of life.

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For more information, please call Ralph at 925-437-  
3509.

### **St. Vincent de Paul continues to serve the poor**

The mission of **all** St. Vincent de Paul Conferences is to serve the poor and Immaculate Heart of Mary continues to do just that. With Covid-19 restrictions, we now have our Food Pantry as a Drive Through, which has some challenges, but does provide food for many families in our area. The help from IHM Youth Food Drives, grants from the City of Brentwood and monetary donations from parishioners we can give even more food than before to the families who come to us for help. As usual, we offer other support to families in need, and recently have seen even more requests. We have gotten creative in contacting those we serve while still following guidelines, but we get the job done. We have helped more families during this pandemic, than in the past.

Are you recently retired and looking for ways to fill up your day? Have you always wanted to do something to serve the poor, but just haven't found a way to start? IHM St. Vincent de Paul might be the answer. We particularly need people who can help with jobs such as picking up food from the Food Bank twice a week, which does include some lifting. We are here to help, but always need more workers to share the load.

For more information call:

Dale Masino 925-308-4710 or Joyce Ohanesian 925-513-7124



## Ministry Meetings/Reuniones de Ministerios

### **Confessions / Confesiones**

Tuesday/Martes: 6:00 - 7:00PM  
Saturday/Sabado: 3:30 - 4:30PM

### **Devotions/Devociones**

Monday to Friday/Lunes a Viernes  
7:30AM

### **Holy Rosary/Santo Rosario**

Wednesday/Miércoles  
8:30AM

### **Mother of Perpetual Help Novena Novena Madre del Perpetuo Socorro**

Friday/Viernes  
8:30AM

### **Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena Coronilla a la Divina Misericordia**

### **Anointing of the Sick Unción de los Enfermos**

### **Home Communion Comunión a los Enfermos**

Contact a priest / llame a un sacerdote

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### **Funerals/Funerales**

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### Saints Simon and Jude's Story

Jude is so named by Luke and Acts. Matthew and Mark call him Thaddeus. He is not mentioned elsewhere in the Gospels, except of course where all the apostles are mentioned. Scholars hold that he is not the author of the Letter of Jude. Actually, Jude had the same name as Judas Iscariot. Evidently because of the disgrace of that name, it was shortened to "Jude" in English.

Simon is mentioned on all four lists of the apostles. On two of them he is called "the Zealot." The Zealots were a Jewish sect that represented an extreme of Jewish nationalism. For them, the messianic promise of the Old Testament meant that the Jews were to be a free and independent nation. God alone was their king, and any payment of taxes to the Romans—the very domination of the Romans—was a blasphemy against God. No doubt some of the Zealots were the spiritual heirs of the Maccabees, carrying on their ideals of religion and independence. But many were the counterparts of modern terrorists. They aided and killed, attacking both foreigners and "collaborating" Jews. They were chiefly responsible for the rebellion against Rome which ended in the destruction of Jerusalem in A.D. 70.

### **Reflection**

As in the case of all the apostles except for Peter, James and John, we are faced with men who are really unknown, and we are struck by the fact that their holiness is simply taken to be a gift of Christ. He chose some unlikely people: a former Zealot, a former (crooked) tax collector, an impetuous fisherman, two "sons of thunder," and a man named Judas Iscariot.

It is a reminder that we cannot receive too often. Holiness does not depend on human merit, culture, personality, effort, or achievement. It is entirely God's creation and gift. God needs no Zealots to bring about the kingdom by force. Jude, like all the saints, is the saint of the impossible: Only God can create his divine life in human beings. And God wills to do so, for all of us.

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