

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

6 October 13

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Dear Parishioners:

Pope Francis has done it again: Just two weeks after the publication of a lengthy, detailed interview in which he expounded on his new vision for the church, he has given another interview, this time with the atheist editor of an Italian Daily. Francis had recently written an open letter to Eugenio Scalfari of La Repubblica, and then called the editor up out of the blue — as is his habit. The exchange, Scalfari wrote, went like this: “Hello, this is Pope Francis.” “Hello Your Holiness,” I say and then: “I am shocked. I did not expect you to call me.” “Why so surprised? You wrote me a letter asking to meet me in person. I had the same wish, so I’m calling to fix an appointment. Let me look at my diary: I can’t do Wednesday, nor Monday, would Tuesday suit you?” “That’s fine,” I answer. “The time is a little awkward, three in the afternoon, is that OK? Otherwise it’ll have to be another day.” “Your Holiness, the time is fine.” “So we agree: Tuesday 24 at 3 o’clock at Santa Marta. You have to come into the door at the Sant’Uffizio.”

Here are some highlights of their conversation:

On the church and politics: “I believe that Catholics involved in politics carry the values of their religion within them, but have the mature awareness and expertise to implement them. The Church will never go beyond its task of expressing and disseminating its values, at least as long as I’m here.”

On his plans to reform the church: “I’m not Francis of Assisi and I do not have his strength and his holiness. But I am the Bishop of Rome and Pope of the Catholic world. The first thing I decided was to appoint a group of eight cardinals to be my advisers. Not courtiers but wise people who share my own feelings. This is the beginning of a Church with an organization that is not just top-down but also horizontal.”

On the Roman Curia, the Vatican bureaucracy: “It sees and looks after the interests of the Vatican, which are still, for the most part, temporal interests. This Vatican-centric view neglects the world around us. I do not share this view and I’ll do everything I can to change it. The Church is or should go back to being a community of God’s people, and priests, pastors and bishops, who have the care of souls, are at the service of the people of God.”

On the obstacles he faces: “The real trouble is that those most affected by (narcissism) — which is actually a kind of mental disorder — are people who have a lot of power. Often bosses are narcissists. ... Heads of the Church have often been narcissists, flattered and thrilled by their courtiers. The court is the leprosy of the papacy.”

On careerist priests: “It also happens to me that when I meet a clericist, I suddenly become anti-clerical. Clericalism should not have anything to do with Christianity.”

On the greatest challenges for the church: “The most serious of the evils that afflict the world these days are youth unemployment and the loneliness of the old. The old need care and companionship; the young need work and hope but have neither one nor the other, and the problem is they don’t even look for them anymore. They have been crushed by the present. You tell me: Can you live crushed under the weight of the present? Without a memory of the past and without the desire to look ahead to the future by building something, a future, a family? Can you go on like this? This, to me, is the most urgent problem that the Church is facing.”

On converting others: “Proselytism is solemn nonsense, it makes no sense. We need to get to know each other, listen to each other and improve our knowledge of the world around us. Sometimes after a meeting I want to arrange another one because new ideas are born and I discover new needs. This is important: to get to know people, listen, expand the circle of ideas. The world is crisscrossed by roads that come closer together and move apart, but the important thing is that they lead towards the Good. I believe ... that our goal is not to proselytize but to listen to needs, desires and disappointments, despair, hope. We must restore hope to young people, help the old, be open to the future, spread love. Be poor among the poor. We need to include the excluded and preach peace. ... I have the humility and ambition to want to do something.”

On the essence of his belief: “I believe in God, not in a Catholic God; there is no Catholic God. There is God and I believe in Jesus Christ, his incarnation. Jesus is my teacher and my pastor, but God, the Father, Abba, is the light and the Creator. This is my Being. Each of us has a vision of good and of evil. We have to encourage people to move towards what they think is Good. ... Everyone has his own idea of good and evil and must choose to follow the good and fight evil as he conceives them. That would be enough to make the world a better place.”

On attaining salvation: “Agape, the love of each one of us for the other, from the closest to the furthest, is in fact the only way that Jesus has given us to find the way of salvation and of the Beatitudes.”

Father Michael Tang

PAPER DONATION

A Warm Thank you from Transfiguration School!

Thank you to Barbara Starks and Mable Walton for the paper donation. We truly appreciate your help! Please continue to assist us throughout our school year by donating copy paper. Contact the office at 323.292.3011.

ALL SOULS MASS

All Souls Mass will be on Sunday, November 10, 2013, the Church of the Transfiguration will offer a liturgy for the repose of the souls of those from our church family who have gone home to the Lord. This special celebration will take place at all Masses. If you have grieved the death of a loved one during the PAST 12 MONTHS FROM NOVEMBER 2012 UNTIL OCTOBER 2013, please call the rectory to give their name. Please accept our continued prayers.

COMMUNITY MEETING

"Straight Talk on Obamacare and Health Care Reform"

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2013 AT 2:30 PM

Augustus Hawkins High School~825 W. 60th Street (at the corner of Hoover) Los Angeles, CA.

The South LA Cluster of One LA is hosting a community meeting to give folks in our community the information they need to take advantage of new options for affordable health care. If you are uninsured OR if you know someone who is uninsured, we encourage you to attend. In addition to information on Covered California, residents can learn about changes in the Medi-Cal program and the county's free health program called Healthy Way LA. You can contact Yvette Roland at 213.689.7416 for more information.

ATTENTION ALL ORGANIZATION/MINISTRIES

**You are invited to attend the 31st Annual Religious Education Congress
of Our Lady of the Angels Regional
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2013**

Please sign up today with our DRE, Refugio Godinez or call 323.291.1136.

Early Registration Fee: \$25 by October 11th. On-Site Registration Fee: \$30 per person.

St. Mary's Academy ~ 701 Grace Avenue, Inglewood 90301

PETITION OF THE SICK

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Learie Apparicio, Helen Augusta, Veronica Bearce, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Manual Brule, Joyce Burnett, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Alberto Casanova, Katherine Clark, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Beryl Davidson, Nigel Dunn, Angela Dupré, Ethel Earley, Robert Evans, Connie Farlice, Dwight Fauria, Gwen Files, Anita Finie, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Marian Fussey, Mavis Gibbs, Msgr. Robert Howard, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Laretta Jackson, Robert Jordan, Anita Kennedy, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Sister Marianna, Vylfred Manor, Muriel Meyers, Yvonne Morgan, Louis Murphy, Dorothy Okoye, Dale Payne, Tina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Gerald Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Michelle Raines, Emma Rausch, Dottie Rodriguez, Reanna Semien, Lionel Smith, Sr., Darnell Stang, Barbara Starks, Michele Starks, Wilbur Starks, Alice Tenette, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Alice Vogel, Lubertha Weathers, and Lilla Williams.

Mass Intentions

Saturday October 5

5:15 PM Intentions of Mabel Walton

Sunday October 6

8:00 AM Soul of Harold Goosby

10:00 AM Intentions of all Parishioners

12:15 PM Soul of Maggie LaCour

Monday October 7

8:00 AM Intentions of Frances Martin & Family

Tuesday October 8

8:00 AM Soul of Barry Leiker

Wednesday October 9

8:00 AM Intentions of Catherine Chow

Thursday October 10

9:30 AM Intentions of the Rhodes Family

Friday October 11

8:00 AM Intentions of the Rickenbacker Family

Saturday October 12

5:15 PM Souls of Clay and Cynthia Lockett

Sunday October 13

10:00 AM Soul of Chester Keyes

12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Sacrificial Gifts

Sunday, September 30, 2012

\$3,919.82 Sacrificial Gift

345.65 Building Fund

197.51 "We Care"

Sunday, September 29, 2013

\$3,011.71 Sacrificial Gift

275.41 Building Fund

157.38 "We Care"

Attention Quilters!

**African-American Quilters Of Los Angeles present their
2013 Quilt Show Saturday, November 2nd from 10 AM to 4
PM at Carson Community Center in Carson, CA.
Admission \$7.00, Free Parking, Over 250 Quilts, Vendors,
and Demonstrations! For more info go to
www.easysite.com/AAOLA or call Sylvia Q. at
323.293.5004.**

Save the Date

You are invited to HOWLETT'S new piece, ESTHER

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13th ~ 4PM

PARK HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH

5247 OVERDALE DRIVE L.A. 90043

Free will offering