

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19 February 2017

Dear Parishioners,

Love your enemies. (Matthew 5:44)

Can you picture getting to heaven, and the first person you meet is the one you liked least on earth? It's possible. After all, God loves that person just as much as he loves you. We should never presume to know how he judges each person.

No one falls outside the scope of God's loving intentions, either. What God wants for you here on earth is what he also wants for your aggravating neighbor. It's also what he wants for history's worst tyrants—that they "be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

Here's another surprise: your enemy can help you move closer toward that goal of perfection. Notice that Jesus' command to be perfect appears right after he explains how to treat the people who hate us: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:44). So if you want to be perfect, you begin by loving your enemies.

Are you thinking, "This is too much"? Of course it is! It's beyond human powers—or it would be, if Jesus hadn't suffered and died for us.

Try to cooperate with the Lord today. Think about the people you should be loving more than you do—and not just your "enemies." Think too about the people you take for granted, look down on, or consider undeserving. Instead of harboring spiteful or judgmental thoughts, say a short prayer for someone who provokes you.

What if you have stronger emotions? When you find yourself dwelling on people who have hurt you or people you don't like or people with whom you have strong disagreements, stop yourself, and start praying for them.

Start with the people you live and work with. Pay attention to the thoughts that cross your mind, especially angry or hateful ones. Don't harbor them! Instead, take advantage of every invitation to love. Then the perfection of God will begin to shine out from you.

"Father, help me to love, not hate. Help me to take another step toward the perfection you want for me."

Deacon Mark Race, Administrator

HOWLETT SMITH'S "THE CARPENTER"

Noted musician/composer Howlett Smith's two-act musical concert brilliantly portrays the life of Christ through narrative and an eclectic blend of jazz, gospel, spiritual and traditional musical styles and even comedy. Performers include the 15 voice Harmony Choir and the Howlett Smith Quartet. This highly acclaimed production is a thrilling and inspirational experience that you won't soon forget. A Freewill offering is appreciated. On Sunday, February 19, 2017 at 3:30PM at First Presbyterian Church in Inglewood, 100 N Hillcrest Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90301. For more details call 310.677.5133.

UP-COMING SERVICE

Ash Wednesday Masses

March 1, 2017

8am Daily Mass

9:30am School Mass

6pm

Distribution of Ashes at all Services.



CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Sunday	Lv 19:1-18, Ps 103:1-13, Mt 5:38-48
Monday	Sir 1:1-10, Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday	Sir 2:1-11, Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday	1Pt 5:1-4, Mt 16:13-19
Thursday	Sir 5:1-8, Mk 9:41-50
Friday	Sir 6:5-17, Mk 10:1-12
Saturday	Sir 17:1-15, Mk 10:13-16
Sunday	Is 49:14-15, Ps 62:2-9, Mt 6:24-34

MASS INTENTIONS

Saturday February 18

5:15 PM Soul of Pauletta Oates

Sunday February 19

8:00 AM Soul of Slade Campbell
10:00 AM Soul of Harry Charles
12:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Saturday February 25

5:15 PM Intention of all Parishioners

Sunday February 26

8:00 AM Soul of Connie Geldback
10:00 AM Souls of Yvonne, Jackeline, Dilcia & Wilfred Morgan, Jr.
12:15 PM Intention of Tonya Ruffin

Tuesday February 28

8:00 AM Soul of Hayzetta Patterson

WEEKLY OFFERING

February 12, 2017

\$11,520.52 Tithes and Offering
297.00 Building Fund
63.00 "We Care"



PRAY FOR THE SICK

Virgie Aguilar, LaVern Agnew, Brian Argusta, Joyce Barnett, Rose Ball, Percenia Beasley, Veronica Bearce, Fr. Emile Belletty, Sister Juliet Berber, Glenda Brown, Andrei Briggs, Vivian Burgess, Barbara Butler, Brownie Cain, Sister Cecilia Calva, Mary Captain, Alberto Casanova, Jeannie Chapron, Katherine Clark, Sister Ann Paul Clare, Agnes Cooper, Rita Cormire, Edward Cousin, Juanita Davis, Beverly Colvin-Dorsey, Jayden Dunn, Nigel Dunn, Betty Eason, Gwen Files, Ferdinand Foye, Betty Flowers, Teresa Franklin, Stacy Franklin, Judy Felton-Gardner, Mavis Gibbs, Refugio Godinez, Nancy Goosby, Barbara Harris, Jacqueline Holman, Mattie Hilburn, Janie Jackson, Aaron Jittu, Robert Jordan, Aaron Katz, Briana Katz, Irwin Lagarde, Jeanne LeBlanc, Barbara Lindsey, Connie Louie, Joe McZeal, Vylfred Manor, Sister Marianna, Dorothy Okoye, Martina Peters, Daisy Pratt, Wiley R. Pugh, Dorothy Pulliam, Andrea Raggette, Michelle Raines, Basil Raymond, Dottie Rodriguez, Dana Semien, Dudley Semien, Chris Simon, George Simon, Sr., Jeremiah Skyes, Darnell Stang, Michele Starks, Annie Starks, Alice Tenette, Leila Thomas, Stephanie Thompson, Emma Thornton, Iris Turner, Frank Vidrio, Peggy Wright and Emmerson Young.

A MOMENT IN BLACK HISTORY

Barbara C. Jordan

Texas congresswoman Barbara Jordan (1936-1996) rose to the national stage from Houston's largely African-American Fifth Ward, becoming a public defender of the U.S. Constitution and a leading presence in Democratic Party politics for two decades. She was the first black woman elected to the Texas state senate and the first black Texan in Congress. As a member of the House Judiciary Committee, she gave the influential opening speech of Richard Nixon's 1974 impeachment hearings. She retired after three terms in Congress to become a professor and policy advocate.

Dn. Gregory J. Patterson, ASBS

February Virtus Recertification Training

To comply with the Archdiocese's Safeguard the Children Program, "All parish and school staff/volunteers who are alone with a child or young person or who have supervisory control over a child or young person" is required to attend a Virtus Training session. St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church will hold a Recertification session on Saturday February 25, from 10:00 to 11:30AM. The session lasts 1 hour 30 minutes. Re-Certification is required every four years. Please call Viola Gomez, 323.758.9161, to reserve a place.

Sacred Heart Retreat

Ladies, it's that time of year again to treat yourself -- or let someone else treat you -- to a peaceful, prayerful weekend. Once again, we are privileged enough to have Palm Sunday weekend (April 7th to 9th) to bask in the renewing environment of Sacred Heart Retreat House. If you're interested in learning more about our weekend, feel free to call: Sonya Robertson at 323.291.4846 or Evelyn Payne at 323.291.8325.

Lenten Bible Study

This year for Lent, Bible Study will present a 5 week contemplation of the 2011 movie "The Way". The film stars Martin Sheen as Tom with his son Emilio Estevez as Daniel. Daniel, the son, dies in Spain while on the Camino de Santiago, "The Way of St. James" pilgrimage to the Cathedral of Santiago. Tom, the father, decides to complete the pilgrimage and scatter his son's ashes along the path. We will show the 2 hour movie on Monday, February 27 at 6:45 PM. The Lenten study begins on Monday, March 6 at 7:00 PM. Study guides will be available for a donation of \$10.00. All are welcome.

Thank you

The beautiful flowers on the altar this week were donated by *Gwen Files* in memory of her beloved sister **PAULETTA OATES**. If you would like to donate flowers, please call the rectory for more details.