

**For The Bulletin Of  
June 21, 2015**

**THE TWELFTH SUNDAY IN  
SUMMER'S ORDINARY TIME**

*From Father Robert*

Little children hide under their bedcovers; dogs howl; adults cringe. Violent storms frighten us, even if we are told by a weather report that the storm is too far away to cause serious damage to us. With the changing weather patterns we've been having, all too many people have found themselves in the middle of violent storms with their consequent loss of lives and property. For good reason we have a healthy respect for storms that are breaking around us. So we can readily identify with the disciples' fear of the "violent storm" reported in today's gospel – even more so since the disciples are in a boat and on a sea. Violent "waves were breaking over the boat." The boat was "already filling up." Drowning seems a real possibility. The disciples are understandably frightened. Jesus, however, is comfortably asleep "on a cushion," seemingly oblivious to the violence around Him.

At the end of the day of preaching and healing, Jesus was no doubt tired. The disciples took Him in the boat "just as he was." So, Jesus fell fast asleep. When a "violent storm" arose, the disciples thought that Jesus didn't care that they were "perishing." But Jesus did care; He came precisely to save us from perishing. The boat was filling up with water from the waves, while the disciples' hearts were empty of faith needed to be calm, to be still, to know that Jesus surely does care for them.

The disciples' faith is weak because the disciples do not yet know Who Jesus is and why He came.

The response that welled up in the disciples after Jesus calmed the storm was one of "great awe" which led them to ask about Jesus' identity. And here is the crunch of the gospel: only God has power over nature. When Jesus asked faith of the disciples, He was asking them to grow in their relationship to Him as more than a "Teacher." He was revealing further that He was the long-expected Messiah, the Son of God. When Jesus asked faith of the disciples, then, He was not asking faith in Him as their Teacher and leader. He was asking them to have faith and trust in Him as the divine One with power to save.

After Jesus commanded the sea to be quiet, "there was a great calm." We might surmise that a similar calm washed over the disciples – that their "great awe" brought them to humble silence before this Teacher Who had such extraordinary power. Calm comes out of trust. And thus is diverted the real "storm" at sea. The disciples' faith was tested, and this became an occasion for them to grow in faith and in knowing Who Jesus is. So it is with us. The "storms" of our own lives become occasions for us to grow in faith and trust that God is ever present to us, calming whatever threatens us, bringing us to a deeper relationship with the God Who cares for us. We have an advantage over the disciples in that boat on a stormy sea: we know Who Jesus is. But nevertheless we must still ask the critical question: how strong is our faith?

### ***Living The Paschal Mystery***

Faith cannot be separated from Jesus Who is the reason for our faith. To deepen our faith is to deepen our grasp of Who Jesus is for us. We constantly seek to encounter Him in others, through good works, by caring for those in need – and in all these ways we grow in our understanding of Who Jesus is.

Whatever “storms” come our way in life, if we have a deep relationship with Jesus and have faith, we know we will weather them.

What questions do today’s scriptures raise for you?

- The “violent storm” in life of which I am most afraid is...
- A “violent storm” which tested my faith in Jesus was...It also strengthened my faith in that...
- For me, Jesus is...

**The Floral Arrangement at the Altar this weekend is place to the Glory of God and honors the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Marriage of Carl and Patricia Bartholomeu. Congratulations and best wishes on this wonderful milestone in your journey of marriage and love! May God grant you many more years of happiness, the best of health, and the deepening of your love.**

### ***Father’s Day***

Today we join in honoring all fathers, grandfathers, great grandfathers, step fathers, foster fathers, and all those men who nurture and give life. A Blessing from the Book of Blessings will be given at the conclusion of each liturgy this weekend.

### ***Thank You***

...to those who arrived at the church early last Saturday morning to clean and prepare the church for the weekend and the week ahead: **Mency Osborne, Jun Bajet, and Angela Bueno.**

...to those who clean and maintain the bathrooms in the church and parish hall in preparation for the weekend as well as on Sunday afternoon following the last liturgy and all through the week:

**Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, Gino Ramos, Geri Abaya, and Harlan Young.**

### ***From Birthright of Brentwood***

Dear Kathleen (Clarke), the members of your family, and the members of your parish:

What can I say? You are amazing! Thank you, thank you...a million thanks...for starting, planning, and continuing “The Mary Project.” We are so very grateful, as are our moms and their families. You are truly a “Rock Star!” This year was insane! You have spoiled us with a wealth of diapers, clothes, wipes, and other infant needs. We really needed them. We were getting pretty low on goods...and then you and St. Ignatius of Antioch came to the rescue. It was great seeing you and your adorable children and your wonderful parents. What a blessing you are to us! You have our thanks and our gratitude.

The Staff of Birthright of Brentwood  
*Julli, Rose, Margaret, MaryAnne, Duena, Alysson, Nancy, and Jimmy*

### ***Family to Family Ministry Update***

Members of this outreach ministry serve as mentors by providing guidance and encouragement to client families. For the

past year, the St. Ignatius of Antioch team has been building a relationship with the Jablonski family. On Wednesday, June 10th, **Chip Sharpe and Vicki & Brian McCoy** were pleased to represent the F2F team at Jonathon Jablonski's graduation from Concord High School. Jonathon's mother, father and older sister were joined by several aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and friends on this joyous occasion.

After the ceremony, **Chip Sharpe** presented a \$300 scholarship to Jonathon to assist in his continuing education. A special thank you is in order for our own Knights of Columbus Council for their generous funding of this scholarship on behalf St. Ignatius of Antioch.

#### ***End of School Year BBQ for Contra Costa Interfaith Housing (CCIH)***

On June 10th and for the fourth year in a row, parishioners from St. Ignatius of Antioch hosted an end-of-year BBQ luncheon for the students in the CCIH homework club. This club serves the children residing in the Los Medanos Village Apartments in Pittsburg. The ages range from elementary school through high school. The event honors the children for their accomplishments in school during the past year and thanks the many volunteers who serve in the program as tutors.

**Dave Costanza, Tomas Lucia and Brian McCoy** cooked and served a wonderful meal of hot dogs, hamburgers, veggie burgers, chips and fresh fruit to 70 hungry adults, teenagers and children. It was a great afternoon of fun.

#### ***Stand Down On The Delta***

At our Pastoral Council meeting last Tuesday evening, **Forrest Towe**, one of our Council Members, brought up that he is a part of the team that is organizing the "Stand Down On The Delta" event September 11 – 15, for homeless veterans. The five-day event will have tents providing temporary shelter, temporary housing assistance and education, health screenings, dental care, DMV services, hair-cuts, legal aid, fresh food and pet care. The Contra Costa District Attorney's Office will be on hand to work with veterans who may have criminal records that prevent them from obtaining work. Planning for this event has been on-going for the last two years.

Forrest shared with us that there is a need for 695 sets of underwear: tee shirts, boxers/briefs, and crew sox (both black and white). He asked if we as a parish would support this need and we responded positively that we would. I have also invited our YLI members along with the Knights of Columbus, the Catholic Daughters of the Americas, and our CCISCO partner churches to join us in this effort. We will extend the invitation to participate to neighboring councils of each of the above organizations to join us in making this effort successful.

You may begin to collect the needed items now and then they may be brought to the church at the liturgies on the weekend of September 5 and 6 (or before), and then Forrest and the members of our Pastoral Council will transfer them to the Contra Costa County Fairgrounds here in Antioch for the Stand Down Event. The event is

expected to draw more than 300 homeless and at-risk veterans. Thank you for your generosity in supporting this outreach to our veterans.

*From The Diocese*

## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NEW! Youth Minister Coordinator - St. Theresa Parish, Oakland**

St. Theresa Parish in Oakland is seeking a full-time Youth Minister Coordinator to run their high school and middle school ministry programs including the Confirmation program. The Coordinator is responsible for all aspects of the above programs. The applicant must be a practicing Roman Catholic with an informed understanding of Vatican II and how it applies to the mission of the parish. Candidate must have a Bachelor's Degree with a certificate in Youth Ministry or substantial experience and coursework in theology/catechesis; strong spiritual leadership skills; excellent interpersonal, management, communications, public speaking, and presentation skills. Candidate must be able to organize and implement large, program-wide events and have flexibility in work hours. A more detailed job description can be obtained from the parish.

This position is classified as M-3 or M-4 depending on qualifications and experience.

Please email resume to:  
[keri@sttheresaokland.org](mailto:keri@sttheresaokland.org).

### **Coordinator, Life and Justice Ministry – Diocese of Oakland**

The Diocese seeks a Coordinator of Life and Justice Ministry in the Department of Faith Formation & Evangelization. This position will facilitate delivery of direct services and referrals to parishes and ethnic pastoral centers in regions, deaneries and parishes. In accord with the Church's doctrine, the Coordinator will develop and implement an evangelizing catechesis to help parishes understand and put into practice the Church's vision for greater respect for life as well as the themes of Catholic social teaching. The position is classified E-5 and is open until filled. Please send your cover letter, application and resume to:  
[application@oakdiocese.org](mailto:application@oakdiocese.org).

### **Director of Children's Faith Formation, Confirmation & Youth Ministry - St. Callistus Parish, El Sobrante**

St. Callistus Parish is seeking a Director to lead its K-8 Children's Faith Formation, Youth Confirmation and Youth Ministry Programs, including sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist; Children's Liturgy of the Word; and RCIA/C (the adaptation of RCIA for Children). The Director is responsible for all aspects of these programs.

Qualifications: Advanced education in theology, preferably D. Min., or M.A. in Pastoral Theology/Ministry; minimum two years experience in ministries, especially in Children's Faith Formation. This position classified as M-2 and is exempt, part-time (30 hours/week) with Health benefits.

Please contact the parish for a more complete job description, [st.callistus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st.callistus@sbcglobal.net). If interested, please submit resumé to the parish at that email address, or mail to:

St. Callistus Church  
Attn: Pastor  
3580 San Pablo Dam Road  
El Sobrante, CA 94803

**Assistant Principal of Institutional Advancement - St. Joseph Notre Dame High School, Alameda**

The primary purpose of the Office of the Assistant Principal of Institutional Advancement is to provide professional leadership and assistance to the Principal in leading a comprehensive institutional advancement program for Saint Joseph Notre Dame High School in order to achieve the fullest attainment of the school's unique Catholic mission. The Assistant Principal provides leadership and oversight for fundraising initiatives, endowment and scholarship management, enrollment management, communications, marketing and a comprehensive alumni relations program.

Salary is commensurate with experience and the requirements of the position. Position begins as soon as the position is filled. To apply please submit a resume, cover letter, writing sample and three professional references by email to the search committee, [hiring@sjnd.org](mailto:hiring@sjnd.org).

**Music Director – St. Clement Parish, Hayward**

St. Clement Parish in Hayward is currently seeking a part-time Music Director. The Music Director is responsible for coordinating music for all the liturgies, leading different choirs and musicians, and supervising volunteers and contract workers. Salary is based upon the Diocesan Scale classification M-2 and to be determined depending on experience and qualifications. Position begins September 1. Please submit a letter of interest and resume to Fr. Bart by July 31.

Rev. Rolando Bartolay, Parochial Administrator  
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Hayward, CA 94544  
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***From The National Association of Pastoral Musicians (NPM)***

**Two recent surveys** show some odd facts about global and U.S. Catholicism.

On June 4, the Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) issued *Global Catholicism Trends & Forecasts*, which examines seven regions of the world.

That study looked at three significant indicators of “vitality” for the Catholic Church.

The first is the number of Catholics, and the CARA survey suggests that the global Catholic population has grown by fifty-seven percent since 1980, from 7.83 million to 1.2 billion. The largest growth has come in Africa, where the Catholic population has increased by

238 percent, due more to a high birth rate than to successful evangelization.

The second indicator of vitality is the number of parishes, and here there is a different story. According to CARA, the number of parishes worldwide has increased just seven percent.

And the third indicator actually shows a decline. The overall rate per 1,000 Catholics receiving the sacraments shows an “uninterrupted decline world wide. It’s not keeping up with population growth,” according to a co-author of the report.

The reasons for this decline vary from a lack of interest in the West to a lack of access to parishes and priests in developing countries to demographics: As birthrates fall, for example, there are fewer baptisms.

The survey shows that the number of priests has doubled in Africa since 1980, but the number of priests has dropped by thirty-two percent in Europe and thirty-five percent in the United States. You can find a link to this study at CARA.

A second study—this one from the Pew Forum, released on May 12—finds that the total number of Catholics in the United States has dropped by three million people since 2007.

For every new member who joins the Church at Easter, more than six Catholics leave the Church. Further, the Catholic Church in the United States is losing more members than it gains at a higher rate than any other denomination. Nearly thirteen percent of all Americans now describe themselves as “former Catholics.”