

**For The Bulletin Of
July 12, 2015**

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

From Father Robert

Hospital ERs are typically very, very busy. Waits for those who are not critically ill or possibly facing death can be very long. One development that has relieved ER overload is the emergence of Urgent Care facilities all over our cities. These are for after-hours, non-appointment kinds of health care needs. The operative word is “urgent”; the needed care cannot wait until the physician office open in the morning. Something needs to be done *now*. Few things in our life carry the natural sense of urgency that serious, unexpected health care issues generate.

In today's gospel Jesus sends the Twelve out on mission, and the way He does so indicates that there is an urgency about this sending forth.

“Jesus *summoned* the Twelve.”
“Summoned” is a significant word here. This is a call that cannot be ignored because the mission is so urgent: to preach repentance. The mission is so urgent that the Twelve are not even to burden themselves with seeming necessities of life. The mission is so urgent that the Twelve are not even to stay with those who do not receive them or listen to them. The mission is so urgent because what is at stake is our relationship with God and each other. Repentance heals the wounds that separate; repentance overflows into forgiveness; repentance changes our behavior; repentance is basic to growth

in our covenantal fidelity; repentance makes us whole again.

It is an awesome sight that Jesus entrusts His mission to us. We cannot ignore Jesus' command performance to preach repentance. The mission of Jesus is so urgent that He must use others to reach out to all people at all times to bring them salvation. But the only way we can be successful is to make sure that our mission is, indeed, that of Jesus. Who Jesus is, disciples are – prophets sent on a mission. With our own power and talent, we can do little; with a deep relationship with Jesus and the realization that we continue His saving work, we can do much.

Living The Paschal Mystery

The practical instructions of Jesus to His Twelve would not serve us well today; it would be irresponsible to divest ourselves of all our possessions. At the same time this gospel does invite us to examine what it is that hinders us from fulfilling the mission on which Jesus sends all of us because of our baptism and the covenantal relationship it establishes between God and us and others and us. Each of us is a disciple who is sent. What distracts us from this urgent mission?

For most of us the greatest distractions probably don't come from our possessions, but from our interior emotions and attitudes. We don't like rejection – so it is difficult to preach an unpopular Gospel with its demands for righteousness and love. We don't like the risk of being unsuccessful – so it is easier to live our religion by saying prayers rather than by ceaseless self-giving. We don't like pushing our own faith to its limits – so it is easier to be

more concerned with “right” doctrine than with “right” living. In spite of our excuses and human weakness, Jesus is clear: “Go...to My people.” We are called to keep moving forward with His urgent mission. We are called to faithfully preach repentance, because that is how our relationships are healed and grow strong.

Do you believe that today’s Gospel is personally directed to you?

- I am summoned by Jesus to...The mission is so urgent that...
- Traveling light because of discipleship gives me freedom to...is difficult for me when...
- The authority of Jesus that I have is...I act out of this authority when...

About Liturgy: The Second Reading During Summer’s Ordinary Time

Since the Second Reading during Summer’s Ordinary Time is not chosen to align with the Gospel and First Reading, but is a semi-continuous reading from one of the Letters of the New Testament, we normally make use of the short form when given a choice, such as on this Sunday. This is not to say that all of Sacred Scripture isn’t important, for surely it is. It does remind us that the centerpiece of the Liturgy of the Word is the Gospel and that the First Reading and Responsorial Psalm are specifically selected to relate to it. During the festal seasons even the Second Reading aligns with the rest of the Liturgy of the Word, and it is often a theological commentary on the feast or season. During those seasons it is appropriate to read the long form of the Second Reading, if there is a choice.

This Sunday, we begin reading from the Letter to the Ephesians and will complete it on the Twenty-First Sunday in Summer’s Ordinary Time. This letter stresses the unity of the church and the Body of Christ as well as the church’s mission to the world and the gifts given to fulfill this mission. It is a good letter to begin reading on this Sunday when the Gospel relates to Jesus’ sending of the apostles on their mission. The Letter to the Ephesians is not without its admonitions to right living, either. This letter is a good blueprint for Summer’s Ordinary Time: the church sent on mission living rightly. This characterizes our journey with Christ.

About Liturgical Music: Singing the Mystery of Faith

The current Roman Missal not only changed the name of this part of the Eucharistic Prayer from “The Memorial Acclamation” to “Mystery of Faith,” but also gave us three revised texts:

We proclaim Your Death, O Lord, and profession Your Resurrection, until You come again.

When we eat this Bread and Drink this Cup, we proclaim Your death, O Lord, until You come again.

Save us, Savior of the world, for by Your Cross and Resurrection, You have set us free.

Prior to these changes, the most common text sung in the United States of America for the Mystery of Faith was yet another form: *Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.*

Popular as it was, this text presented two problems. First, because this text was

sung only in the United States, it separated us from the rest of the Universal Church. Second, because this text was not direct address to the person of Christ, but a didactic statement, it changed the nature of the acclamation. The importance of directly addressing the Risen Christ when we sing this acclamation cannot be overstated.

By using direct address, we acknowledge that He is truly present among us, leading our praying of the Eucharistic Prayer. We acknowledge that He is alive even though He died, and that He will come again in glory. We become the Body addressing the Head, Who in His every person brings the mystery of salvation to fulfillment in us and in the world. When we sing the Mystery of Faith, then, we address the person of Christ as the living mystery present among us and leading us to salvation.

Police Chaplain Training

This afternoon, I will drive up to Sacramento for this year's Police Chaplain's Training. I will return on Friday evening. **Deacon Gary and Peter** will preside and preach for Communion Services in my absence. Please keep us, more than 1,500 police chaplains, in your prayers this coming week. I will hold you in thought and prayer while I am away.

Our Concert Series

The next in our Summer Series of Concerts takes place this coming Friday evening, July 17th, at 8:00 p.m. when our very own **Don Pearson** accompanies the silent film classic "The Kid" featuring Charlie Chaplin. The movie runs 55 minutes. After the movie, there will be a reception in our parish hall. While there

is no charge to attend, a free will offering will be received to help defray the costs of the reception that follows. Invite your neighbors and friends to this unique concert experience!

Memorial Funeral Liturgy For Alan Young

A Memorial Funeral Liturgy will take place on Wednesday, July 22nd, at 10:30 a.m. for our parishioner, **Alan Young**. Alan was also a Member of the Pastoral Council and attended our 10:00 a.m. Sunday Eucharist. Following the Liturgy, a reception, hosted by our St. Martha's Guild, will be held in the Parish Hall. Committal of his cremated remains will follow the reception at 2:30 p.m. at Holy Cross Cemetery, Antioch.

Memorial Funeral Liturgy For Trevor Clifton

A Memorial Funeral Liturgy will be held on Friday, July 24th, at 10:30 a.m. for **Trevor Clifton**, the 23 year old grandson of **Shirley Clifton** and son of **April Clifton**. Committal will follow the Liturgy at Holy Cross Cemetery, Antioch.

Neighborhood Clean-up Day

On the First Saturday of each month, our Volunteers In Police Service (VIPS) sponsor a neighborhood clean up in one of the neighborhoods of our City. The next neighborhood clean up day is Saturday, August 1st, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Join me and other concerned citizens of Antioch as we do our part to keep our City beautiful and at the same time, meet new friends. Please watch my Insert for the location and listen for the announcement at the conclusion of Sunday liturgies.

Thank You

Even though last Saturday was a holiday, volunteer parishioners arrived early in the morning to clean and prepare the church for the weekend and this past week. Our thanks to: **Emilia Freking, Angela Bueno, Carole Miller, Jun Bajet, and Steve Rojek.** At the same time, other volunteer parishioners arrived to attend to the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall. Our thanks to: **Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, and Steve Rojek.**

...to **Steve and Frances Rojek** for sponsoring the very successful Fourth of July Bingo in our parish hall.
...to our **Knights of Columbus** for sponsoring and hosting the Coffee Hour following both Sunday Liturgies.

***From My Dear Friend and Colleague,
Father David Lawrence, S.J. From An
Article by John Pavlovitz***

We who call ourselves Christians lost a great deal over the past few days, though it's probably not in the way you might think.

1) We lost the chance to be loving.

So many professed followers of Jesus spent the last week on the attack, desperately fighting a battle long after it had already been decided. Instead of simply looking for ways to personally affirm our faith in the wake of the Supreme Court's decision, too many of us frankly just lost it. We spit out vitriol and we cursed strangers and we lamented America's demise and we threatened with Bible verses and we treated others with contempt. Our response to the LGBT community and

those who support them wasn't compassion and decency and peacemaking, it was sour grapes, damnation, and middle fingers.

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."
John 13:35

2) We lost the chance to be good neighbors.

Rather than using the events of this past week as the springboard for conversation with people around us; as a way to build relationship with those who may not share our beliefs or our worldview, we pushed them further away. We used our social media profiles and our workplaces and our *cul-de-sac* chats to create distance between us and those who disagree with us. We stood on principles and we walked all over people. We became really difficult to live with and be around.

He answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind"; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'" Luke 10:27

3) We lost the chance to be Good Samaritans.

We could have looked around at the hurt generated this past week; at the deep sadness so many LGBT people and their loved ones felt at being the center of such violent arguments and the horrible aftermath of them, and responded in love. We could have moved toward them with the mercy and gentleness of Christ, seeking to be the binders of the wounds. Instead, far too many of us felt compelled to rub salt deeply

into them. We basically walked past those who were down—and we kicked them hard on the way.

“Which of these three do you think was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of robbers?” The expert in the law replied, “The one who had mercy on him.” Jesus told him, “Go and do likewise.” Luke 10:36-37

4) We lost the opportunity to show how big God is.

With all the fatalistic *sky is falling* rhetoric and raw-throated “The End is Near” prognostications, what so many Christians did for the watching world was inadvertently paint the image of a God who is hopelessly on the ropes; not all-powerful, not all-knowing, not at all able to withstand the slightest changes in our world. We completely neutered God by horribly overstating the circumstances and crying wolf yet again.

“I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world.” John 16:33

5) We lost the chance to reflect Christ.

Let’s be honest: some of us really dropped the ball this week on both sides of the discussions. Many of us crusaded on social media or staged tirades from the pulpit or spewed hatred across dinner tables. We argued and complained and petitioned and boycotted and protested, and we did just about everything but leave people with the sweet, restful essence of Jesus. We instead left them a Christ devoid of compassion or kindness or love, and we ensured that many who previously saw

all Christians as judgmental, hypocritical jerks—felt completely correct in those assumptions. Faced with people who disagreed with us, we talked *about* them, shouted *at* them, yet failed to listen *to* them.

In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven. Matthew 5:16

6) We lost people.

We gave those who live outside of our faith tradition, very little reason to move any closer. By choosing to be rude and argumentative and hateful, we made Jesus fairly irrelevant; an option not really worth considering. Make no mistake, the eyes of the world were fully on the American Church this week, and too much of what they saw was a pretty lousy testimony to a God of love. Many people looked at the rotten fruit of our faith and simply turned away for good.

Woe to the world because of the things that cause people to stumble! Such things must come, but woe to the person through whom they come! Matthew 18:7

This stuff should simply break our collective hearts.

All of us who claim Christ need to do some honest, invasive personal reflection.

Regardless of our feelings about the Supreme Court’s decision, it’s clear that Christians lost far more valuable things than a 5 to 4 vote this week; things that we better fight like Hell to get back.

From The Diocese

NEW! Youth Ministry/Religion Coordinator – St. Joseph Basilica/ St. Joseph Elementary School, Alameda

The Youth Minister/Religion Coordinator works directly with the Pastor and Principal in providing a parish-based pastoral ministry with youth. The Youth Ministry/Religion Coordinator successfully manages the curriculum, staff and volunteers, and the implementation of programs that support the teachings of the Church and encourage opportunities for involvement in parish life. The Coordinator will plan and implement the parish's Confirmation/Youth Ministry program (8th grade through high school), including service and outreach opportunities and retreats, and coordinate Sunday Youth Mass. The Youth Minister/Religion Coordinator will also teach 7 Grade religion and plan their annual retreats; help plan the student body Masses; keep staff apprised of special feast days, traditional Catholic celebrations, etc.

Applicant must be a practicing Catholic with an understanding of Vatican II and its application. Must have strong spiritual leadership skills, good communication and presentation skills, and experience working with youth and/or classroom teaching experience. Master's Degree in Theology or related field preferred; or BA degree with certificate in Youth Ministry or substantial experience and graduate level coursework in theology/catechesis will be accepted. This position is classified as M4, full-time, 40 hours/week, and includes full diocesan benefits.

To apply please send cover letter, resume and application by July 15, 2015, to Rev. George Alengadan at: galengadan@sjbalameda.org.

Business Manager - St. Perpetua Parish, Lafayette

St. Perpetua Parish in Lafayette is seeking a full-time business manager.

Responsibilities include assisting the pastor in the leadership, personnel, facility and financial managements of the parish. Candidate must be proficient in Microsoft Office, have good organizational and multi-tasking skills and may perform some technical work such as accounting. Familiarity with Parish Data Systems program is a plus. Candidate must have good and effective communication skills and be an active, practicing Catholic.

Salary is based upon the Diocesan Scale classification M-4 and to be determined depending on experience and qualifications. This is an exempt, 40 hours/week, 12 months position. Position begins September 2015,

Send resume and cover letter to: St. Perpetua Church, 3454 Hamlin Rd. Lafayette, CA 94549, Attention: Fr. John Kasper, or e-mail to: jkasper@stperpetua.org.

Accompanist - St. James the Apostle Parish, Fremont

St. James the Apostle Parish in Fremont is seeking a part-time accompanist to play for their Youth Choir Mass each weekend, in addition to one weeknight choir rehearsal. Pianist must be comfortable playing traditional Mass settings and hymns and have good improvisational and sight-reading skills. This part-time position is classified as a Liturgical Musician according to the Diocesan Salary Guidelines and will be determined upon experience and qualifications... To submit a resume or for more information please email: Dr. Kaia Richards, kaia.e.richards@gmail.com.

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.

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. A full job description may be found [here](#). The position is classified E-5 and is open until filled. Please send your cover letter, application and resume to:
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

More information on this position can be found [here](#); please contact the parish for a more complete job description, 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