

**For The Bulletin Of  
July 26, 2015**

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

*From Father Robert*

Let's let a miracle be a miracle! Jesus tested Philip, who failed the test because he fixated on calculating the amount of food needed to feed the hungry crowd and its cost. He couldn't even imagine another way. Jesus, however, "knew what He was doing to do" – He gave the crowd "as much as they wanted." Amazingly, the miracle of giving them "as much as they wanted" was still less than the other miracle Jesus gave them: "the sign" of the fullness of messianic life. So much Life – even "twelve wicker baskets" more than they wanted. Calculate that!

The abundance in this multiplication account points to an eschatological sign of risen Life. The multiplication of the loaves points to a time of fulfillment when God's plan for redemption is finally realized. Even the context of today's gospel passage points to a time of fulfillment: it is Passover – Israel's annual celebration of God's mighty deeds on their behalf. The wondrous and impressive sign that Jesus works on this occasion – feeding five thousand with five loaves – points to a time when God's mighty deeds come to fulfillment – a time when all people are abundantly filled and every need is met.

The question about having food to feed the crowd is put to two particular apostles (Philip and Andrew) who traditionally are considered to be ministers to the Gentiles ("Jesus went

across the Sea of Galilee" = to Gentile territory); in the messianic reign even the Gentiles will share in the abundance and be saved. This bread is specified as barley, the grain used by the poor; in the messianic reign the poor will also share in God's abundance. Twelve baskets of bread fragments were gathered up after all had their fill; the leftovers and the number twelve point to the new Israel in its eschatological perfection.

Jesus' unprecedented miracle of abundance doesn't warrant His being made an earthly king, in spite of the crowd's understandable enthusiasm; rather, "he withdrew...alone" so that the miracle of abundance points to the establishment of a new kingdom, a new Israel. Jesus supersedes both the apostles' and the crowd's expectations of God's reign: with little He feeds many and thus reveals that He is not an earthly king, but, ironically, Jesus is a king. Jesus Himself is an eschatological sign of abundance – of God's lavish Presence.

*Living The Paschal Mystery*

Today's gospel account is far more than an interesting story about a miracle and abundance; it primes us to reflect on the great mystery of Jesus Himself as the Bread of Life (which we will hear about on the next five Sundays) and His self-giving that enables us to share in it. The challenge for us is far more than believing in Jesus' power to multiply loaves and fishes; the challenge is recognizing Jesus' self-giving as a sign of fulfillment and promise of eschatological glory that we shares even now. We Christians are to see our lives through the lens of God's lavish abundance. Do we?

It is too easy to think of God's lavish abundance primarily (maybe exclusively?) in terms of the Eucharist we share each Sunday. Truly, this is a mighty act of God on our behalf, and Eucharist is always an eschatological sign of God's abundance and a time of future fulfillment. However, we ought not to let this lull us into missing other signs of God's abundance: the abundance of family and friends, steady job, support and care for others. God's abundance is all around us! Calculate that!

As we begin with today's liturgies a six week reflection on the "Bread of Life" discourse, what thoughts and feelings are you experiencing ?

- I tend to calculate and fixate on amounts of God's gifts to me when...
- God has given me "as much...as (I) wanted" when...God gives me even more than I could possibly want when...
- I experience the fullness of the "twelve wicker baskets" of fragments left over when...

***About Liturgy: John 6 – The Bread of Life Discourse***

John's gospel is read extensively during the festal seasons, but there is no block of Sundays during these high celebration times when the beautiful Bread of Life Discourse from John's sixth chapter could be included without breaking it up. Those who compiled the Lectionary made the decision to include extensive portions of this sixth chapter from John's gospel on five consecutive Sundays during Year B as a theological commentary on the multiplication of the loaves and, by extension, on the Eucharist. It is inserted in Mark's gospel

just at the point of Mark's multiplication account (which is omitted in order to proclaim the multiplication account from John's gospel).

This decision reminds us that the Lectionary is not a Bible, but is a liturgical book with its own purpose. Since the Lectionary is a liturgical book used primarily during the celebration of Eucharist, it should come as no surprise to us that the intent is precisely to draw our attention to the Mystery of the Eucharist.

In reflection on the gospel we mentioned a number of indicators in the text that the passage is eschatological, that is, refers to the final fulfillment at the end times. The gospel for this Sunday also includes indicators that the passage is Eucharistic. For example, Jesus gives thanks; the Greek term used here is *eucharistesas*, the word from which we derive our term Eucharist. Moreover, unlike the account in Mark, in the Johannine account Jesus Himself distributes the bread to the hungry crowd, pointing to Himself as the Bread of Life. Finally, the Passover and eschatological contexts remind us that Eucharist is a sacrament related to the end times and our share in Christ's risen life.

***About Liturgical Music: Singing The Communion Music, Part I***

The proclamation of Jesus' Bread of Life discourse we begin today offers us a good opportunity to reflect on the purpose of the Music for the Communion Procession. According to the General Instruction to the Roman Missal (GIRM), No. 86, the Music for the Communion Procession has three purposes: (1) to express the communicants' unity by means of the

unity of their voices, (2) to express “gladness of heart,” and (3) to make the communal nature of the Communion Procession more evident. This week we reflect on the first purpose.

The GIRM indicates the Music for the Communion Procession is an outward expression of our inward unity in Christ. This means the music is itself sacramental. It both celebrates our communion and assists it to happen. It is never to be lightly omitted, either by the liturgy planners or by an individual member of the assembly who chooses not to sing. For music planners, this means choosing music the assembly is able to sing easily and well. For us as members of the assembly, this means choosing to enter into the communal singing even when the music is a little unfamiliar to us, or perhaps not to our liking. It means adding our singular voice, no matter what we think about its quality, to the communal voice of the assembly. It means entering into the Communion Procession with full hearts, and letting the singing transform any sense of private prayer into the shared prayer of the Body of Christ.

### *Congratulations and Welcome*

Last Saturday morning and afternoon, I had the privilege to preside for two Liturgies of Initiation. The one in the morning celebrated the Sacrament of Infant Baptism for **Roman Samson and Sawyer Santos**. The afternoon celebration welcomed **Georgeann Megoloff** into the Christian Community through the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation. Congratulations and welcome to you!

### *Wedding Congratulations*

This past Thursday, I had the privilege to preside for the Wedding Liturgy for **Mortay Mendoza and Lurna Bloxson**. Congratulations and best wishes to you for a long and happy marriage and the deepening of your love in Christ Jesus.

### *Thank You*

...to **Rich Confetti, Don Benson, and Jose Palomino** for their excellent and professional work in rebuilding the ceiling and walls in the narthex and office. As you saw last weekend, the ceiling and walls have already received new texturing and stucco and the first coat of paint. The new lighting has been installed and is working! The project should be completed shortly.

...to our wonderful, faithful, dedicated volunteer parishioners who arrive very early on Saturday morning to clean and prepare the church, the parish hall, and kitchen for the weekend and the week ahead: **Angela Bueno, Mency Osborne, Carole Miller, Jun Bajet, Reno Benasfre, and Steve Rojek**.

...and to the equally faithful, dedicated, volunteer parishioners to clean and maintain the bathrooms in the church and parish hall: **Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, Gino Ramos, Geri Abaya, and Harlan Young**.

### *“The Kid”*

Last Friday evening was a rare and unique experience for our parish as we watched the silent classic film from 1929, “The Kid,” featuring Charlie Chaplin. The film and **Don Pearson’s** brilliant and stunning accompaniment took us back to a much different and simpler time. The experience was touched by tenderness, humor, and great enjoyment by all those present.

Following the film, members of our **St. Martha's Guild, Lorraine Lohmeier, Nancy Newton, Maryann Peddicord, and assisted by Will Avitabile and Catherine Avitabile,** hosted an outstanding reception in the parish hall.

Our next concert is "The Cabaret" on August 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Tickets go on sale following each liturgy this weekend and are \$10 each. All proceeds benefit our Music Ministry program. The Cabaret will be followed by a Champagne Reception in the parish hall. You will not want to miss this!

### ***Knights of Columbus Tri-Tip Sandwich Sale***

Last weekend after each Liturgy our Knights of Columbus prepared and sold their "signature" Tri-Tip Sandwiches. We were honored with our adopted seminarian **Mario Rizzo** being with us for the Sunday Liturgies, along with his father, **Mario Sr.** At the conclusion of the 10 a.m. Eucharist, Mario was presented with a check for \$1,000, which is our contribution to his education and his eventual ordination.

And thanks to the following who worked hard this weekend, we netted **\$712** - and with the costs of meat and rolls, we did very well: **GK Bill Barbanica, Don Benson, Clem Bushman, Rich Confetti, Pat McConnell, Jose Palomino, Bob Plurkowski, Steve Rojek, Steven Rojek, Olivia Rojek, Dave Simpson, Armando Vasquez, Erika Vasquez, and Daniel Womack.**

**Mario and his dad** were both here this past Wednesday evening to receive the First Degree of the Knights of Columbus along with several others from our area. Congratulations!

### ***Congratulations Lee Oliver, YLI President***

Our parishioner, **Lee Oliver,** was recently installed as the New President of the Young Ladies Institute (YLI). Lee was born in North Carolina and when she was a child she worked in the tobacco fields, along with her cousins. She lived in Providence, Rhode Island until she was 21 years old, when she moved with her family to California. She converted to Catholicism when she was 17 years old. Lee has lived all over the West Coast and Arizona. She has two daughters, three grandchildren, and one great-grandchild, along with her pet, "Coco." Lee has worked in numerous occupations, her first job being a food server and she has worked as a Groomer for five Thoroughbred racehorses. She worked in the automotive sales business for 20 years as a Finance Manager before retiring and going into Childcare, which she says was the best six years of her working life. She moved to Antioch from Alameda in 2010 where she found YLI after trying her hand at different volunteer activities. She is looking forward to her term as President of Antioch YLI #101. Congratulations and best wishes from your parish family as you lead this wonderful organization through its next year.

### ***Police Chaplains Conference***

From July 12<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup> I attended the International Conference of Police Chaplains in Sacramento. The site for our ongoing training was the Doubletree Hotel. Classes began each morning at 8:30 a.m. and concluded at 4:30 p.m. More than 1,500 Chaplains from eight countries and the United States of America were in attendance. The courses I took included: When Is It Appropriate for Law Enforcement

Chaplains to Retire? Vicarious Trauma and Compassion Fatigue; Two Classes on Domestic Violence and Two Classes on Human Trafficking; What Is In The Heart of a Police Officer? Losing One's Soul; The Chaplain's Role in a Hostage Incident; a Plenary Discussion on Police vs. Community Tension Across America; Diversity in Religions; Tactical Thinking for Chaplains; Cross-cultural Communication in Law Enforcement Chaplaincy; Enhancing Chaplain Response to Persons With Mental Illness (Clinical and Pastoral); and Concerns of Police Survivors (When an Officer has been killed in the Line of Duty). Our week together also included a very moving Memorial Service during which all the Officers who were killed in the Line of Duty during 2014 were honored as well as K-9 Service Dogs and Law Enforcement Chaplains. Next year's conference will take place in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

***From The Diocese***  
**Assistant Controller - Chancery Office**

The Chancery Office of the Diocese of Oakland is seeking an Assistant Controller to assist in planning, directing, and coordinating the financial accounting and reporting activities of Diocesan Central Services. In addition, this position is an integral component to ensuring the parishes' compliance with various fiscal and operational policies and procedures of the Diocese of Oakland.

This position is full-time, E-7 classification, with full Diocesan benefits. Position is open until filled. If interested please submit letter of intent, resume and application to:

Helen Giuntoli, Controller  
2121 Harrison Street, Suite 100  
Oakland, CA 94612  
[hgiuntoli@oakdiocese.org](mailto:hgiuntoli@oakdiocese.org)

**Office Manager - St. Callistus Parish, El Sobrante**

St. Callistus Parish office is seeking a part-time Office Manager. The Office Manager assists the Pastor in the leadership, personnel, facility and financial management of the parish by managing the implementation and maintenance of policies and procedures required by the Diocese and by civil law. Responsibilities include but are not limited to bookkeeping; direct and supervise other employees; and attend parish staff, financial council and diocesan meetings. Good organizational and multi-tasking skills required. This position part-time, 18 hours per week, non-exempt and is classified as S-3 according to the diocesan salary guidelines.

Please send resume to:  
Pastor, St. Callistus Church, 3580 San Pablo Dam Road, El Sobrante, CA 94803 or by email: [st.callistus@sbcglobal.net](mailto:st.callistus@sbcglobal.net).

**Digital Communications Assistant (Part-Time/Temporary) - Communication Department, Chancery Office**

The Digital Communications Assistant duties include website content management and training; assistance with social media content generation and backup management; online reputation monitoring/management and online calendaring of events; production of a weekly digital newsletter; development of photo and video resources; and other general administrative duties. This position requires a very high level of attention to detail and accuracy.

Qualifications: excellent written and oral English communication skills; strong interpersonal skills; professional demeanor with internal and external constituents; customer-service driven; deadline-compliant; Microsoft Office and internet proficient; experience with CMS, social media, graphics and video editing. This is a temporary, part time (20 hours per week) position. Please submit resume

and cover letter to Jan Potts,  
[jpotts@oakdiocese.org](mailto:jpotts@oakdiocese.org) by July 24.

### **Director of Children's Catechesis – St. Jerome Parish, El Cerrito**

St. Jerome Parish in El Cerrito is searching for a coordinator for Children's Catechesis who will be responsible for implementing a religious education program to provide formation education and sacramental preparation for children in 1 grade, including Reconciliation and First Communion. Together with the Pastor, the coordinator will ensure that the curriculum, volunteers, and implementation of all aspects of the program support the teachings of the Church and the parish education goals.

Qualifications: Must be a practicing Catholic with an informed understanding of Vatican II and how it applies to the mission of the parish; BA in Religious Studies or strong minor in this field; current Master Catechist Certification; 3-5 years of experience in parish children's catechesis; an ability to generate enthusiasm and interact with a variety of groups, including parents, young children and middle school teens; flexibility in work hours as well as familiarity with computer applications including Microsoft Office, Excel, Outlook; can use email as a normal means of contact with families as well as the office phone; good management, communication and presentation skills.

This position is classified as an M-2, non-exempt, part-time, 20 hours/week.

More information and a complete job description can be obtained from the Pastor, Fr. Fernando Cortez,  
[saintjeromechurch@comcast.net](mailto:saintjeromechurch@comcast.net).

### **Ministry Coordinator – St. Augustine Parish, Oakland**

St. Augustine Parish is seeking a full-time Ministry Coordinator. Candidate must

have strong spiritual leadership skills; excellent interpersonal, management, communication, public speaking, presentation and writing skills as well as ability to multi-task. Candidate must be able to organize and implement events and have flexibility in work hours. This position requires weekend work. A more detailed job description can be obtained from the parish.

This position is classified as M-2 or M-3, depending on experience/qualifications, with benefits. Position is open until filled.

Please send your cover letter, application and resume to: Pastor, Saint Augustine Parish, 400 Alcatraz Ave, Oakland 94609 or email to [pastorachurch@comcast.net](mailto:pastorachurch@comcast.net).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:kaia.e.richards@gmail.com).

## **Funeral Assistant - Holy Angels/St. Joseph Cemetery, San Pablo**

Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Services is seeking a Catholic individual to assist with the delivery of funeral services to families. This position is part-time and includes some evening and weekend work. Candidate must be professional, detail oriented and well organized. Strong communication skills are also required; bilingual (English/Spanish) preferred. Valid driver license is required. Please email letter of interest and resume to [JoAnnaD@cfcsoakland.org](mailto:JoAnnaD@cfcsoakland.org).

## **Mission Promoter – Maryknoll Mission, San Francisco Bay Area**

The Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers share the Good News of God's love by accompanying and serving marginalized people throughout Asia, Africa and Latin America. Maryknoll serves the Roman Catholic Church locally in the U.S. by fostering a "culture of mission" and supporting "communities of missionary disciples" through its mission education programs. Maryknoll is seeking a Mission Promoter to work out of its San Lorenzo

Mission House in the San Francisco Bay Area.

This is a full-time exempt position with medical, dental and other benefits. Compensation is commensurate with experience. Target start date: October 1 or sooner.

To apply please send an email with cover letter and resume with the subject heading "San Francisco Position" to Deacon Matt Dulka, [resume@maryknoll.us](mailto:resume@maryknoll.us).

## **Associate Director for Lay Ministry Formation – Diocese of Sacramento**

The Diocese of Sacramento is looking for a driven, energetic, passionate bridge builder to supervise and coordinate programs to recruit and train the next generation of lay ministry leaders for the Diocese. Responsibilities include coordinating formation and training programs for lay ministry leaders and Master Catechists in English and Spanish, creating a campaign to promote formation opportunities to young adults, providing on-going training, orienting and supporting Catechetical leaders.

The ideal candidate will be bilingual (English/Spanish), have at least five years' experience coordinating formation programs for a diverse group of ministers, experience supervising a staff, an understanding of and ability to work well with Catholics from different cultures and ideologies, and a Master's Degree in Theology, Catechesis, Pastoral Ministry or related field (or a BA and extensive experience).

Opening is immediate, starting date is negotiable. Full time, exempt, salaried position with full benefits.

Email cover letter and resume to: Kevin Staszko, Director of Evangelization and Catechesis, Diocese of Sacramento at [kstaszko@scd.org](mailto:kstaszko@scd.org).

## **Regional Coordinator for Youth and Young Adult Ministry – Redding**

The Diocese of Sacramento is seeking a passionate, self-starter to coordinate youth and young adult ministry in the Northern Counties of the Diocese of Sacramento. Home base of position is in Redding. This position requires extensive travel and evening and weekend availability. Ideal candidate will have at least 5 years of experience in parish ministry, experience working with youth in both the Hispanic and Anglo communities, and experience working with rural parishes. A bilingual candidate (English and Spanish) is preferred, but not required.

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to:  
Kevin Staszko, Director of  
Evangelization & Catechesis, at  
[kstaszko@scd.org](mailto:kstaszko@scd.org).

## **Associate Director for North State Revitalization, Redding**

The Diocese of Sacramento seeks an enthusiastic, bilingual leader to direct the effort to revitalize the parishes in the Northern Counties of the Diocese through evangelization, lay leadership development and training, and the formation of small faith communities. Home base of position is in Redding. This position requires extensive travel and evening and weekend availability. Ideal candidate is a practicing Catholic in good standing with at least 5 years of experience in parish ministry, experience working with the Hispanic community, and experience working with rural parishes. Candidate must be bilingual (English/Spanish).

To apply, please send resume and cover letter to:  
Kevin Staszko, Director of  
Evangelization & Catechesis, at  
[kstaszko@scd.org](mailto:kstaszko@scd.org).