

**For The Bulletin Of  
October 9, 2016**

**THE 28<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

***From Father Robert***

In today's gospel, Jesus tells the one leper who returns to give Him thanks for being healed that "your faith has saved you." What amazing words to speak to a leper, one who is removed from family and community, one who is an outcast! The ten lepers were all outcasts. Jesus, on His journey to Jerusalem which would end in salvation for all, healed them all. For Jesus, there are no outcasts. Yet only one of the ten demonstrates that being saved is being healed, is returning to the Healer, is glorifying God, is falling at the feet of Jesus, is giving thanks. Only one shows us how faith saves. Faith is not static; it is dynamic, unfolding in various movements.

**Being healed:** In our woundedness we must cry out, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!" Our crying out establishes a relationship with Jesus. We must admit our need for Him, our need for healing. WE must trust that He will respond. We must surrender ourselves into Jesus' care, risk overturning our outcast status to become a vital member of family and community.

**Returning to the Healer:** After receiving Jesus' healing touch, our returning to Him to encounter Him in a new way expresses that we have a new relationship with Him. We are indebted to Him, not just for healing, but for the restoration that enables us to see life through different lenses, live life through

different experiences, appreciate life through different postures. Returning to the Healer helps us "Stand up and go," helps us go forth as a new Presence.

**Glorifying God:** More than in the quiet of our hearts, after a healing encounter with Jesus we are "glorifying God in a loud voice." We cannot contain our joy, our enthusiasm, our relief at breaking free from limiting wounds. Our freedom brings us to a new expression of our relationship with Jesus whereby we exalt God for mercy and care and proclaim God's power to save.

**Falling at the feet of Jesus:** A healing relationship brings us to our knees in the deepest humility. On our knees we acknowledge our need, our dependence, our creatureliness. On our own we are unable to sustain life's journey. IN humble relationship to Jesus, we are able to grow into an intimate relationship with Jesus, one that raises us up to new Life.

**Giving Thanks:** thankfulness can only happen when two are present, can only happen in relationship. Giving thanks binds two together in an experience of self-giving. Healer and healed become one.

The grateful leper, through his actions, teaches us much. We learn that salvation is not freedom from disease, but a new relationship with Jesus. We learn how faith saves: by being in intimate relationship with Jesus, our Healer.

***Living The Paschal Mystery***

The leper was healed while "Jesus continued His journey to Jerusalem." This is what happens to us when by

paschal mystery living we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem: on the way we are healed of our infirmities. Gratitude is an expression of paschal mystery living because by giving thanks we acknowledge our own indebtedness – we are poor and everything we are and are becoming is because God has raised us up.

By living Jesus' dying and rising in our own simple everyday tasks, we render God the greatest thanks and worship because our lives become like that of the divine Son. Our thanks is manifestation of God's salvation.

What thoughts and feelings are running through my mind and heart as I hear these readings today?

- I feel like an outcast when...because...Jesus heals me by...
- The one leper who returns to Jesus teaches me that...
- My faith leads me to...

***About Liturgy: Faithfulness and Thankfulness***

Eucharist defines Catholic worship and even Christians themselves because in Christ God has given us the most profound gift of sharing in divine Life. Our only response can be faithfulness and thankfulness.

*Faithfulness:* The divine gift of Eucharist calls us to be faithful in its celebration. Faithfulness means that we rejoice in God's most gracious gift and make every effort to participate fully, actively, and consciously. Faithful celebration, in turn, strengthens us for faithful discipleship. The Word and food and drink of Eucharist are a

continual renewal of God's presence that invites us to an encounter with the One Who heals and saves.

*Thankfulness:* Gratitude in face of God's great gifts to us is a recognition of indebtedness that can only be adequately expressed in worship. Each celebration of Eucharist is a profound acknowledgement that all we have is from God and that God still gives us even more. Without an attitude of thankfulness we cannot continually open up the capacity within ourselves to receive God's gifts. Thankfulness, then, is more than saying "thanks." It is opening ourselves to God by worship and self-surrender. Ultimately, gratitude also includes encounter.

Eucharist defines Catholic worship and Christian living because this is the only way we can adequately express what God desire of us – salvation in Christ. Eucharist not only changes the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Christ, but **it also changes us into being more perfect members of the Body of Christ.** This is how we are saved – by encountering Jesus and being transformed.

**The Floral Arrangement at the Crucifix today is placed to the Glory of God and In Loving Memory of Georgene Duarte from Betty, Gary, and Andrew Duarte.**

***October Ministry Faire***

As we have been announcing for the last several weeks, today is our Annual Ministry Faire, not just of the ministries of the parish, but also of outreach ministries in the wider community. I hope you will visit the tent to meet with the representatives of our ministries as

well as those of the outreach ministries who have come especially today to share information with us as to how we can become involved, offer our time, talent, and resources to make a difference in the lives of others.

### ***The Gala Dinner and Parish Feast Day***

Next weekend, October 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate the Gala Dinner on Saturday evening at the Pittsburg Yacht Club and then our parish patronal saint – St. Ignatius of Antioch. The color for the day is **RED** to honor the shedding of his blood for the sake of Jesus and the Gospel. I invite everyone to wear Red to enhance our liturgies and contribute to the spirit of the day. The music will celebrate St. Ignatius of Antioch's feast day while the readings will be from the Ordinary Time Sunday. The Festival takes place beginning immediately following the 8:00 a.m. Liturgy with breakfast and then moves into the games and activities, food booths that are a hallmark of this event. The Grand Raffle Drawing will take place at 3:00 p.m. and conclude the day. I hope you will plan to join us for this special occasion in the life of our faith community.

### ***October Is Commitment Month***

Next weekend, the fourth weekend of October, is **Commitment Sunday** when every member will come forward in a great procession to bring their Commitment Card to the Altar as an indication of how each one of us will use our gifts, talents, abilities, and financial resources to support the building of God's kingdom here in our parish.

Then, on the fifth and last Sunday of the month, the proceeds from our festival

and gala will be formally presented to the congregation at each liturgy.

### ***Our Concert Series***

This Friday evening, October 21<sup>st</sup>, the first in the Series of Concerts for the Fall will take place in the church with the World Premiere of a new Children's Opera composed by our very own **Nancy Bachmann**. The concert/opera begins at 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by a reception in our parish hall. A free-will offering will be received to help cover the costs of the reception and provide a modest stipend to the performers. Please join us for this historic event!

### ***Antioch Shelter Update***

The emergency shelter project is **SUSPENDED** pending action by the City of Antioch to rezone the property that the city has chosen as the site and to provide an acceptable land agreement.

ASP continues to work with the Antioch Unified School district regarding homeless students. Two or three families contact ASP each week seeking shelter.

Complete information is available at [www.antiochcasshelter.org](http://www.antiochcasshelter.org).

### ***Thank You***

Each week we acknowledge all those who contribute their time and talent to assist with the mission and ministries of our parish without whom we would not accomplish as much as we do. Our thanks to: **those who clean and maintain the church: Jun Bajet, Mency Osborne, Angela Bueno, Rose Salamanca, Cathy Romeo, and Carole Miller.**

...those who clean and maintain the bathrooms: **Steve Rojek, Mary Ewing, Patricia Britton, and Harlan Young.**

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who washes and irons all the sacred linens each week.

...to our Sacristans and Altar Guild who prepare the sanctuary for the celebration of Eucharist each week: **Peter**

**Degl'Innocenti, Pam and Rich Confetti, Vincent Rodriguez, Harlan Young, Rowena Cayaban, Monika Kauer, Cynthia Enrique, Belen Farin, Nancy Santos and Rose Salamanca.**

...to our **counting teams** who are here every week to count the weekly collections.

...to our volunteers who assisted in the parish office last week: **Melodye**

**Costanza, Harlan Young, Karen Oliver, Alicia Perez, Rowena Cayaban, Joe Fanfa and Bev Iacona.**

...to our St. Vincent de Paul and Mobile Mall volunteers who transported last week's donations: **Bob Carvalho and Barbara Jackson.**

...to our faithful weekly bulletin assembly team: **Carole Miller, Dave Costanza, Judy Quicho, Vangie Parrilla and Belen Farin.**

**Contra Costa County**  
**2016 Anonymous Gun Buyback Program**  
Contra Costa County Residents can anonymously turn in guns  
**Saturday, October 22, 2016**  
**9:00 am – 3:00 pm**  
Contra Costa County Fairgrounds  
(Main Entrance)  
1201 W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Antioch  
Funds are limited and subject to availability. Proof of Contra Costa County residence is enquired (Driver's License, utility bill, etc.). Please transport all guns UNLOADED and in the trunk of your car.

For more information, call (925) 779-6977