

## For The Bulletin Of July 9, 2017



### THE 14<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN SUMMER'S ORDINARY TIME

#### *From Father Robert*

It is often said that when people retire they become busier than ever. Some parents say the only rest they get in a day is when they lock themselves in the bathroom. Some youngsters run from school to sport activity to another sport activity with only time to grab food on the fly. We are a busy people! Resting is a luxury. Doctors lament that few get enough sleep or follow consistent sleep habits.

Today's gospel is an invitation by Jesus to change this. If we come to Him, our burdens are lightened and we will find rest in Him.

What is our greatest labor and burden? Getting to know the Father through the Son. On our own, we labor under a chafing and unwieldy yoke. However, when we come to Jesus, He shoulders our labor by teaching us, revealing His Father to us, and sharing our burden. How do we come to Jesus? By being filled with the same meekness and humility of heart He has, emptying

ourselves of ourselves to be filled with Him. Then our yoke becomes easy and our burden light.

Heavy burdens – either in daily life or in discipleship – are not what God desires for us. God's gracious will is that we recognize divine Presence coming to us in the person of Jesus. He comes to place on our shoulders not life's burdens which we ourselves make, but His own yoke of knowledge which is not a weight or shackle but a freeing relationship of love and care. Being yoked to Jesus involves a process of deepening relationship with Him that leads to a deepening relationship with His Father. Knowing Jesus is knowing the Father.

As meek and humble of heart, Jesus is accessible to us. After all, He took on human flesh and became one with us. But if we choose to come to Him, we also share the burden that Jesus Himself carries. This burden is that of utter fidelity to doing the Father's will; it is self-giving for the sake of others; it is seeing the face of our meek and humble savior in the face of the dying and needy. Yet Jesus promises that His burden is easy and light. The burden is easy and light because Jesus shares the burden of carrying it with us who are yoked to Him. We do not shoulder the yoke or carry the burden alone. All we need to do is come to Jesus to grow in our knowledge of Him, and through Him grow in our knowledge of His Father.

#### *Living The Paschal Mystery*

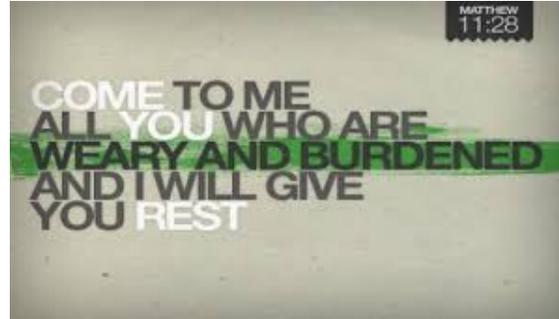
Sheer force of outside power cannot usually ease life's burdens, but the gentle breeze of a helping hand, a good listener, an unexpected bonus can. We all know how quickly a task can be accomplished when we have help. What

a relief it is for someone to come along to help us shovel our car out of a deep snowdrift, or step to share some gas if we run out on the highway, or open a door for us when our arms are full of packages. Lightened burdens are the result of sharing, of relationships that are dependable and honest, self-giving and loving.

In order to faithfully take up our mission to make God known, we must hand our lives over to Jesus such that the Risen One can dwell within us. This means that all our actions must conform to how Jesus Himself might have lived. We must be constantly open to the revelation Jesus makes to us, be open to the many ways Jesus comes to us. The “rest” Jesus offers, then, really carries great demand – to share in Jesus’ mission to make known the Father. To be yoked to Jesus means that we are yoked to His saving mission. This doesn’t mean that we all become foreign missionaries! It does mean that we make a concerted effort to live as Jesus did. Only in this way is our burden truly light.

We know this gospel passage well and it is often selected for funerals. How do we hear it in the context of our lives today?

- When I consider that my greatest labor and burden is getting to know the Father through the Son, I...
- I am drawn to Jesus when...I come to Him by...
- I yoke myself to Jesus when...by...



**The Floral Arrangement before the Altar today is place to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Joseph Bezek, on the occasion of his 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of death, by his daughter, Jennifer Bezek-Hrabchak.**

***Town Hall Meeting Update – Building Project***

As reported in the first quarter financial report:

- (1) The parish temporarily suspended our capital campaign fundraising efforts. All funds remain restricted and are NOT being used for parish operations.
- (2) A well-respected architectural firm, Loving and Campos Architects of Walnut Creek, was engaged to provide a feasibility opinion for modifying the existing facility. No campaign funds will be used to cover this cost.
- (3) A letter was sent requesting guidance from the Diocese with respect to a proposed expansion of the existing facility.

**Current Status:** As part of suspending active fundraising for the campaign, the Building Fund envelope was removed from the monthly envelope packets and all EFT transfers to the Building Fund were halted.

In May, the Diocese responded to our letter and requested a feasibility study showing that any proposed expansion could reasonably be expected to be completed with the funds already on hand. This provision was already included in our request to Loving and Campos. Further, the Diocese stated in their response that we would NOT be required to pay off the **parking lot loan** prior to beginning any construction should we move ahead with this project. This is a wonderful concession on the part of the Diocese and was granted because of our consistent \$5,000 monthly payments on the parking lot loan which will continue.

We are still awaiting a draft study from the architects.

There are additional steps necessary once we receive the feasibility study. Assuming the study contains good news, we will begin meeting again with the city planning and engineering staffs. Once all the steps are completed, the proposal will be brought to the parish for approval to move forward.



***The French Boys Choir***  
Save **Sunday, July 23rd at 7:30 pm**  
when the French Boys' Choir, Young Singers of Lambersart under the direction of Jerome Cupelli, will sing a concert at St. Ignatius of Antioch Church as part of their 2017 American Tour.

The choir consists of 30 boys, the conductor and staff. Their program will be mixed sacred and secular music with something for everyone to enjoy. Invite your family, your relatives, and friends to come to this very special concert. We want to have the choir leave Antioch after singing their concert to a packed church! There will be no tickets, but a free-will offering will be taken.

We also need housing for the choir for two nights - Saturday, July 22nd and Sunday, July 23rd. **Could you host some of the choir for those two nights?** There is a minimum of two boys that have to be hosted together and they need to stay with the same host both nights. Everyone who is hosting the choir must take the VIRTUS training online and also be finger printed, which are requirements of the Diocese of Oakland. This is not difficult and we will make this as easy as possible for you. You will find hosting some of the choir to be one of the greatest experiences to share the culture of two countries and make new friends from France. If you would like to host some members of the choir, please call the parish office at 778-0768 and speak to Maryann Peddicord.

#### ***Annual Backpack Outreach Project***

In support of Catholic education, St. Ignatius of Antioch is sponsoring our 9<sup>th</sup> annual backpack and school supplies drive for our adopted school, St. Peter Martyr. The teachers have prepared lists of supplies that each student needs to begin the new school year. **The list will be published in next week's bulletin.** You're invited to select a grade, purchase a new backpack, and fill it with the supplies listed. Donations of individual supply items included in the lists below such as packages of #2 pencils, wide-ruled binder paper, folders

(bottom-pocket type), 12” rulers, paper towels, etc. are also welcome. Please bring your donations to the weekend liturgies on August 5-6.

***Thank You***

...to those who joined me last Saturday morning for the monthly Antioch Neighborhood Clean Up sponsored by our Antioch Police Department Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS): **John and Ofelia Langhirt, Heather Hatteroth, and Maritsa Martinez.**

...to our volunteer parishioners who arrive early each Saturday morning to clean and prepare the church for the weekend and the week ahead: **Rose Salamanca, Robert Goncalves, Emilia Freking, Mency Osborne, and Heather Hatteroth.**

...to our volunteer parishioners who clean and maintain the bathrooms in both the church and parish hall: **Robert Goncalves, Mary Ewing, Virginia Noack, Patricia Britton, and Harlan Young.**

...to **Dilcia Aparacio** who does such an excellent job of washing, ironing, and caring for the Sacred Linens.

...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:

**Sofie Zimmerman, Harlan Young, Melodye Costanza, Yvette Young, Alicia Perez, 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: **Bob Carvalho, Dave Costanza, Judy Quicho and Belen Farin.**

...to our wonderful Parking Lot Security who keep watch over our vehicles during weekend liturgies: **Don Benson, Steve Rojek and Bob Goncalves.**



**Fr. Robert blessing the new Contra Costa Consolidated Fire District Rescue Vehicle at Station 82.**