
THE TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

September 3, 2006

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Labor Day Weekend! Labor Day is pretty much seen as the last long weekend of summer, a time for families to gather, a time to clog the highways and fill picnic areas and backyards. But what is it really all about? Labor Day first appeared as a “worker’s holiday” planned for demonstrations by the Central Labor Union of New York City. It developed into a nationwide showcase of the strength and energy of the trade and labor organizations; then it became an annual national tribute to the contributions working people have made to the prosperity and well being of our nation. As recently as 1995 only 15% of American workers belong to unions; given a certain element of corruption (recently overshadowed by that of large corporations) unions have a bad name in some circles and seem unnecessary in others. However, nearly every American worker has benefited greatly from the victories of the Labor movement. Of the kind of things that unions fought for and made possible, do any of them apply to you today? For example: the 40 hour work week, unemployment insurance, pensions, and workman’s compensation? Some today ask if workers at Enron, WorldCom and Tyco are wondering whether there isn’t still an important place for unions while workers in our hotel and service industries are often badly in need of justice. Whether unions are the answer or not, the same old questions of justice in the workplace should haunt our Labor Day celebrations. Farmworkers in some areas of the country receive the same wage they did in 1978; immigrant workers, who pay taxes, serve in the U.S. military and work hard, live in fear of deportation with no opportunity to gain legal status; sweatshops are not a thing of the past in the U.S. today; the balance between HMO’s, Insurance Companies, large Corporations and their employees and clients seems at least occasionally well out of whack! The lists could go on; perhaps for Labor Day you could develop a list of your own. Better still we all need to develop an awareness and conscience sensitive to the demands of justice that continue in our nation, society and world.

Calling all young couples – next Sunday at 3:00 pm in the parish hall any interested young couples, especially newcomers, those with young children and those without much extended family in the Bay Area are invited to come and find out more about “**LifeWorks**” an exciting parish ministry designed for young couples with young children. Come and find out more!

Justice and Fr. Jean Juste! Next weekend at all masses there will be a brief presentation after communion on the ministry called “Just Faith”; many parishioners have participated in it and found it of tremendous benefit for themselves and for our community. In addition at the 10:45 mass we hope to welcome Fr. Jean Juste whom our parish has supported through the “What If” Foundation. Fr. Juste has developed an outstanding parish ministry to the starving children of his community in Haiti; he has been outspoken and critical of the Haiti government, has been arrested and imprisoned; only by international pressure was he recently freed to seek medical treatment here in the U.S. for his leukemia. He wishes to personally thank our parish for its support.

Your Pastor,
Brian T. Joyce

P.S. Thanks to our Knights of Columbus next weekend we host a great Pancake Breakfast after the 7, 8 and 9:15 Masses. The prices are \$2.50 for seniors/children, \$3.50 for adults and \$7/family. Good food and a great way to meet other parishioners.

WEEK AT A GLANCE**SUNDAY**

- Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time** / Summer Produce Harvest Continues
- Second Collection for School, RE and Youth Ministry
- Taize Prayer Around the Cross, Hillcrest Congregational Church (404 Gregory Lane), 7 pm

MONDAY**-Labor Day!****TUESDAY**

- Legion of Mary, Ministry Center, following 8 am Mass
- Staff Meeting, Parish House, 10:30 am
- Rosary and Mother of Perpetual Help Devotion, CVMtg Rm, 7:00 pm, Contact Andy @ 229-3038
- Spanish Prayer Group, Ministry Center (Common Rm), 7:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

- St. Vincent de Paul Mtg, Ministry Cntr (Chapel), 7pm
- RE: 6th Grade Catechist, RE Office, 7:00 pm
- Weekly Charismatic Prayer Meeting, 6 St. Lawrence Ct., 7:30 pm (for info. Call 932-0395)
- Centering Prayer, Resurrection Episcopal Church (399 Gregory Ln.), 7:30 pm

THURSDAY

- Centering Prayer, Ministry Center (Library), Following 10:00 am Mass
- RE: K Parent Meeting, Parish Hall, 7:00 pm
- Social Justice Meeting, Rooms A & B (next to Parish Hall), 7:00 pm

FRIDAY

- Catechist Appreciation, Ministry Center, 6-8 pm

SATURDAY

- Men's Fellowship Group, Ministry Center (Chapel), 7:30-8:30 am, Contact John at 372-7873
- Altar Society Meeting, Parish Hall, Following 8 am Mass

SUNDAY

- Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time** / Summer Produce Harvest Continues
 - Pancake Breakfast sponsored by Knights of Columbus, Gym, Following 7, 8 & 9:15 Masses
 - RE 3 Year Old Registration, RE Office, Following 9:15 am mass
 - Deadline for Jr/Sr Confirmation Registration Deadline, Questions? Contact Youth Ministry 676-0979
 - LifeWorks Open House, Parish Hall, 4:00 pm
-

Religious Ed 3 Year Old Registration - Registration for Sunday's 3 yr. old program will be on September 10th **ONLY**, after the 9:15 am Mass in the RE Office (facing Gregory Ln.). Children **must be** 3 years old by **September 1st**. Because of limited space we can only take 26 children. Thanks. Questions: 686-1017, Sr. Maureen.

CTK M.O.M.S. (Ministry of Mothers Sharing) will begin meeting again this fall every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 9:30-11:00 am in the Ministry Center. We invite all moms of the parish to join us at our first meeting of the school year on September 12th. We will be using the book *Bravehearts*, by Sharon A. Hersh to guide our faith sharing. Childcare is available. For more information, and if you plan to join us and would like to request a book, please call Heidi at 944-9843.

Grief Workshop – The death of a loved one is unlike any other loss. Whether the death was sudden and tragic, or one with warning and preparation, the reality of death leaves most of us shocked, confused and sad. These feelings may linger for years. Grieving people need time and space to honor their grief. Your loss may be recent or it may be years ago. There will be a Fall Grief Ministry Workshop to help you begin the healing process. Dates and times: **Friday, September 22nd , 7:00-8:30 pm through November 10th, in the Parish Hall.**

There are 40 spots available. Call Sr. Joanne or Fr. Aidan at 682-2486 to register or email Fr. Aidan at ajmcaleenan@att.net to obtain additional information. Registration is required. We are also taking names for the **Divorce Workshop**, scheduled for **Nov. 10th through Dec. 22nd in the Ministry Center.** There are now 13 spots available.

The Seventh Annual Msgr. Wade Golf Tournament will be held Friday, September 29th at Boundary Oaks Golf Course. Dinner will follow at Blake's Restaurant. For more information call Steve Murphy at 932-7608.

Junior/Senior Confirmation Registration: If you are a Junior or Senior in high school, and would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, registration forms and a calendar of classes can be found in the back of the church. Or you can download a form on our website at ctkym.org. If you have any questions, please call the Youth Ministry Office at 676-0979. Registration deadline is September 10th.

High School Youth Group – We will start off our year with a Homecoming Youth Mass on Sunday, September 17th at 7:00 pm. Youth Group meetings will begin the following Sunday, September 24th at 7:00 in the Parish Hall. Registration forms can be found in the back of the church, or you can download a form on our website at ctkym.org.

Searching for a spiritual home! If your faith journey has led you to visit and worship with us, we invite you to our “no strings” Fall Inquiry Series designed for those wishing to explore the Roman Catholic community. For information, contact Al Garrotto at 252-1008 (algarrotto@comcast.net). For a preview visit www.ctkph.org. Click on “RCIA”.

Dear Friends in Christ . . . With heart felt admiration and gratitude, we thank you all for the great tribute you showed for Dot & Frank at the Memorial Mass followed by the delicious and abundant luncheon . . . To each and every one of you, religious, friend, business associate, you gave us strength. Many thanks. May God bless you all, always. . . .

Sincerely, Bob & Delia Smith (Dot Barnes' brother)

U. S. Bishops' Annual Labor Day Statement

“The challenge of immigration today is not just at the borders, but in our labor markets. Many immigrants came because they want to live out the values we celebrate this Labor Day – hard work, providing a decent living for one’s family, contributing to the community, a life of dignity and opportunity gained through hard work. We must and we can find reasonable and responsible ways to welcome those seeking a new life and opportunity. We can help newcomers without legal status to come out from the shadows and contribute more fully to our communities. When we do this we can also increase the security of our nation and the vitality of our Church. Unfortunately, the debate sometimes has not brought out the best in us. People of good will can and do disagree over how to improve our immigration laws. Regrettably, this disagreement sometimes disintegrates into polarization, partisanship and now paralysis.

As we approach Labor Day, each of us might try to see these difficult questions through the eyes and experiences of someone very different from ourselves: a father in Mexico who cannot feed his family, or a rancher on the border whose land has become a dangerous path for desperate people, threatening their lives and his livelihood.

The simple fact is many parts of our nation’s economy have become dependent on immigrant workers. Agriculture relies heavily on seasonal workers to pick our crops. Our fruits and vegetables cannot be harvested without the backbreaking work of farmworkers. Immigrant workers are increasingly moving from fields to factories; working in meat and poultry processing plants, and large hog and cattle operations. The poultry industry, increasingly industrialized and offering some of the highest risk jobs in the U.S., has a low-paid workforce that is nearly half immigrant. Our country’s hotel and restaurant industries to a great extent rely on foreign born workers; they bus the tables, make the beds and clean up after us. The fact is we have come to depend more and more on international migrants to fill our workforce. Without them our economy would have huge gaps.

Our immigration laws have failed to keep up with the demand for labor, so the need is filled by those who come into the country without legal sanction. Over 80 percent of those who have come here illegally are working part-time or full-time contributing to the common good of our country through the work they perform and the taxes they pay. We believe most Americans recognize the need for comprehensive reform of our fundamentally flawed U.S. immigration system.

Today immigration is a human story of people yearning for work and longing for freedom. Immigrants come seeking to provide a decent living for their families, dreaming of a better life for their children, hoping to make a contribution. These are the deeply held American values we celebrate on Labor Day. The principles of our faith and the traditions of our nation call us to welcome those who share these values and hopes. They add vitality and energy, diversity and hope to our communities and our country. Together, we can build a better nation, a stronger economy and a more faithful Church.”

U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops