

## 21st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven. Whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven; and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." - Mt 16:19

#### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Pastor, Rev. Phi Nguyen Pastor Emeritus, Rev. James Barrett Associate Pastors, Rev. Arthur Bautista Rev. Jose Baptista, SFX Deacons, Michael Neba Francis Duc Nguyen David Pham Joseph Thuan Than Accountant, Jim Masini Religious Ed, Cynthia Splatt Music Ministry, Steve Burke & Howard Schneider

#### MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday 4:00 pm (English) 6:00 pm (Vietnamese) Sunday 10:00 am (English) 12 noon (English & Vietnamese) Weekdays Monday-Saturday 8:00 am (English)

RECONCILIATION Saturday from 3:00-3:30 pm (English) On 2nd & 4th Saturdays : (English & Vietnamese)

#### **RECTORY OFFICE**

(773) 764-0615 2324 W. Chase Hours: Monday-Thursday 9:00 am-12:00 pm & 1:00-5:00 pm **Parish Website:** www.smmchicago.org/parish

> Activity Center 7341 N. Claremont

> > Holy Hands (773) 764-0615

#### **Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A**

Today's Gospel, Matthew 16:13-20, recalls an important conversation between Jesus and the disciples in the region of Caesarea Philippi.

When Jesus and his disciples went into that region, he wanted to know what his disciples knew about him. So Jesus asked: "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" They replied: "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets" (Mt 16: 14). Jesus accepted that answer, but immediately pressed the issue with those around him. He wanted to know what his disciples had in their minds and hearts about him. He asked: "But who do you say that I am?" (Mt 16: 15)

Peter was the first disciple to confess: "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God" (Mt 16:16). No mortal being could have revealed this to Peter but God the Father. Jesus then conferred on Peter the authority to govern the church that He would build, the church that no power on earth can prevail against it. Jesus plays on Peter's name which is the same word for "rock" in both Aramaic and Greek. To call someone a "rock" is one of the greatest compliments. Through divine revelation, Peter grasped who Jesus truly was. He was the first apostle to recognize Jesus as the Messiah and the only begotten Son of God.

Like in the past when our Lord Jesus challenged his disciples on their knowledge about Him, He is asking each of us personally with the same question: **Who do you say that I am**?

Each of us without hesitation can say that Jesus is the Son of God, Jesus is our savior, Jesus is our Lord and God, Jesus is God and man. There is no wrong in our answers. However, where are these answers coming from? From our heart or our mind? Do we just get those answers from the common knowledge out there? Or are these answers rooted in our whole being with deep and strong faith?

When we profess that Jesus is our Lord and God, do we truly mean it? Do we believe what we say? Moreover, how is our relationship with Him? Is He the one we trust and love? Do we embrace and live out His teachings? Do we want always to be with Him? Are we His believers?

Once again, we ask ourselves: Who is Jesus to me?

Fr. Phi Nguyen

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION UPDATE**

Passing along our faith to our young people is one of the most important parts of our community and our faith. Whether or not we have children, we all strive to be good models in what we say and what we do. Young people watch us and learn by our example. We can also learn from them as we see the passion and purity of their faith.

As our parish continues to unify, we are bringing our Religious Education programs together. Deacon Joseph Thuan Than from the St. Henry worship site has agreed to serve as Interim Director of Religious Education. He will be aided by Cindy Shaw from the St. Timothy worship site and Cynthia Splatt from the St. Margaret Mary worship site.

Please keep them, our catechists, and our youth in your prayers.

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# RCIA and the Search for God

Are you searching for God? Do you, or someone you know, feel a calling toward the Catholic Church?

RCIA—the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults—is a program for adults who are considering entering the Catholic Church and have not been baptized, for baptized non-Catholic Christians who wish to join the Catholic Church, or for baptized Catholics who wish to complete their Sacraments of Initiation (Holy Eucharist and Confirmation). We also welcome Catholics who would like to study their faith more deeply.

In RCIA, we talk about the presence of God in our lives and in the world. We share our faith and pray. We study Scripture and how it speaks to us today. We learn about the Church, its beliefs, and its sacraments. We explore what it means to be Catholic and to live a Christian life. We learn from each other as we journey together on a pilgrimage of faith.

RCIA sessions will begin in early October. We are determining if the sessions will be in-person with social distancing, remote, or a hybrid. If you have a preference, please let us know. Your input is valuable to us.

Please consider RCIA if you have been contemplating entering the Church or completing your Sacraments of Initiation. You may know someone who has inquired about the Church or has not completed the Sacraments of Initiation. Spread the good news!

If you would like more information, please call Holy Child Jesus Parish at St. Margaret Mary Church at (773) 764-0615. You may also email Fr. Arthur Bautista at <u>arbautista@archchicago.org</u>, Art Blumberg at <u>arthurblumberg@sbcglobal.net</u>, or Cindy Shaw at <u>cshaw@archchicago.org</u>.

You may also fill out the form below and drop it off at any of the church rectories in Holy Child Jesus Parish.

Is God calling you? Welcome his presence!

RCIA 2020-2021 NAME \_\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE

## HOLY CHILD JESUS PARISH

On August 5, Cardinal Cupich announced that the unified parish of Ss. Timothy, Henry, and Margaret Mary would be renamed Child Jesus Parish.

Since this announcement, many of our parishioners have had questions about the renaming. The Unification Committee submitted four nominations to the Cardinal and the Presbyteral Council—Holy Child Jesus Parish, Holy Eucharist Parish, St. Andrew Dũng-Lạc and Companions, and St. Mary Magdalene. People wanted to know why Cardinal Cupich choose Child Jesus Parish as our new name instead of the submitted nomination of Holy Child Jesus.

Members of the Unification Committee had several conversations regarding this issue with Bishop Bartosic. The bishop then spoke to Cardinal Cupich who said that the unified parish could use Holy Child Jesus as our name.

We thank Bishop Bartosic and Cardinal Cupich for their willingness to listen to the voices of our parishioners. We look forward to working with them and each other as we journey together in the new life of Holy Child Jesus Parish.

## PARISH & COMMUNITY EVENTS

### HOLY CHILD JESUS - TOWN HALL MEETINGS

One of our key commitments throughout the unification process has been to keep all parishioners informed of our progress, to answer parishioner's questions, and to address parishioner's concerns. As part of this process, we are holding Town Hall meetings. The first took place on Tuesday, August 11 at St. Henry Church. The remaining two meetings will be held this week. Meetings are held in-person with proper social distancing and are livestreamed.

You may attend the meeting that fits your schedule at either of the churches.

Holy Child Jesus Parish at St. Margaret Mary Church Tuesday, August 25, 7:00 p.m.

Holy Child Jesus Parish at St. Timothy Church Thursday, August 27, 7:00 p.m.

The meeting at St. Margaret Mary will be held in the church.

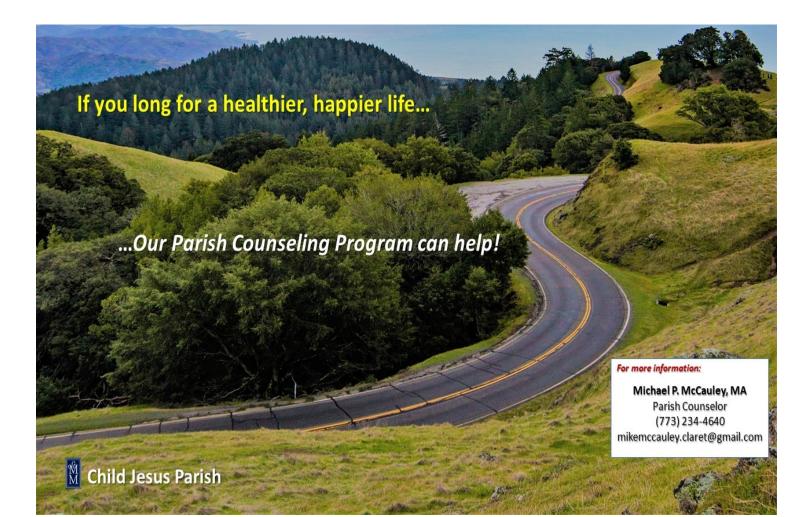
The meeting at St. Timothy will be held in the church. Please enter through the north side door. All meetings will be livestreamed.

FacebookLive:	http:// <u>www.facebook.com/childjesusparishSMMChurch</u>	
YouTube:	http://youtube.com/c/mancoichicago	
Zoom (Aug. 25 meeting)	<u>https://zoom.us/j/86479266839</u>	Passcode: 093677
Zoom (Aug. 27 meeting)	<u>https://zoom.us/j/81920518583</u>	Passcode: 585691

To attend the meeting at St. Margaret Mary, please register at <u>https://www.smmchicago.org/parish/</u> and follow the links.

To attend the meeting at St. Timothy, please register at: the link provided on the St. Timothy website: <u>www.sttimothychgo.com</u> or call the rectory at (773) 262-6600 or (773) 262-6665 during office hours.

Our parishioners are the lifeblood of Holy Child Jesus Parish. Please attend and make your voices heard.



# FOCUS ON THE WORD

#### CYCLES OF FAITH 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

The only way to know God is to love God. Our minds will never fully grasp the mystery of God, but our hearts and souls can learn to love the mystery. Years ago, when life had a more innocent quality to it, we believed what we were told or witnessed, unless there was direct evidence otherwise. This was especially true if the information came from someone in authority. In a sense, we were a bit more gullible on one hand but also more trusting on the other. The latter is an admirable quality that sadly can be eroded when we realize we have been duped. With education and technological advances, we find ourselves more skeptical and less likely to too quickly accept and believe what we see and hear.

For all of the good that social media can do, it can also easily distort reality and truth. Photoshop and a myriad other technological truths can add to, fabricate, and make even the non -existent seem real. It is amazing. How far do we allow this obviously justifiable skepticism to take us? Questioning and doubting are healthy elements of any good relationship as long as we don't allow them to turn us away from a deeper experience of love and encounter. If we cannot get our minds around something or empirically justify or prove it, we tend to declare it a hoax, untrue, or unauthentic and walk away. The very same trust that can quickly be eroded is exactly what is essential for all of our relationships, especially our relationship with God. With all things and people that make a profound claim on us, we have to trust in the absence of knowledge. Full self-investment involves plunging completely into the unknown!

Simon Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God." Peter came to this knowledge, which is not "head knowledge" because of the relationship he shared with Jesus and what God was able to reveal in and through that relationship. Peter simply "knew" because of love that this is who Jesus really is. The silent exchange of love between friends, and not an intellectual exercise of the mind, brought Peter to this place. When we stop and think about it, there are many things in life that we simply know but do not completely understand. When someone sacrifices their own well-being for another, it may not make intellectual sense when examined. But it makes a world of sense when it is carried out. The vastness of reality and an encounter with incomprehensible mystery all lead us to profound silence where we simply know something to be true. Have you trusted enough to allow your relationship with God to bring you to this place or are you still too skeptical?



#### Readings for the week of August 23, 2020

Sunday: Is 22:19-23/Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8 [8bc]/Rom 11:33-36/ Mt 16:13-20

Monday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51

Tuesday: 2 Thes 2:1-3a, 14-17/Ps 96:10, 11-12, 13 [13b]/Mt 23:23-26

Wednesday: 2 Thes 3:6-10, 16-18/Ps 128:1-2, 4-5 [1]/Mt 23:27-32

Thursday: 1 Cor 1:1-9/Ps 145:2-3, 4-5, 6-7 [1]/Mt 24:42-51

Friday: 1 Cor 1:17-25/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 10-11 [5]/Mt 25:1-13

Saturday: 1 Cor 1:26-31/Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5-6ab, 15ab and 17 [cf. 15ab]/Mk 6:17-29

Next Sunday: Jer 20:7-9/Ps 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9 [2b]/Rom 12:1-2/ Mt 16:21-27



#### SACRAMENTS

Marriage: Arrangements should be made at least three months in advance.

Baptisms: On the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month immediately following the 10:30 am mass. Please make arrangements at least one month in advance. Preparation class held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in the rectory

#### R.C.I.A

Program/Process for adults interested in the Catholic Faith (Sept.-April). Call the Rectory for information.

New Parishioners

We welcome our new parishioners and invite them to register at the rectory.

## WORSHIP CALENDAR

#### **MASS INTENTIONS**

Sunday, August 23 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time English 10:00 am Hugh Donald Ordonez **Gilbert Reynolds** Julita Trovela Rosario Louis & Josephine D'Souza **Bilingual English & Vietnamese** 12:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus Monday, August 24 St. Bartholomew 8:00 am Elaine Alimboyoguen Teodora Evangelista - anniversary Tuesday, August 25 Ss. Louis & Joseph Calasanz 8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus Wednesday, August 26 Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus 8:00 am Thursday, August 27 St. Monica Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus 8:00 am Friday, August 28 St. Augustine 8:00 am Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus Saturday, August 29 Passion of St. John the Baptist 8:00 am Mary Mahoney English 4:00 pm Irv & Eleanore Mondl Ann Donohue Vietnamese 6:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Sunday, August 30 English 10:00 am Julita Trovela Peter Justiano Wallis Bilingual English & Vietnamese 12:00 pm Deceased members of Holy Child Jesus

### **COLLECTION REPORT**

#### August 16, 2020

Sunday Envelope Budget	\$8,942.00
Sunday Envelope Actual	\$2,020.00
Loose Money	\$1,409.00
Total Collection	\$3,429.00
Variance	(\$5,513.00)
Weekly Budget Amount	
Envelopes Used	

### Holy Child Jesus Parishioner Contributions

If you currently make your contributions to Holy Child Jesus Parish at St. Timothy, St. Henry, or St. Margaret Mary, please continue to do so. Please make your contribution payable to whichever church you are currently contributing to. We are in the process of obtaining a Federal Tax ID number and will then set up our banking accounts. We will keep you informed of our progress.

Thank you for you generosity and all that you do for Holy Child Jesus Parish.

#### CLASSIFIEDS

FOR RENT: sm office spaces \$300-\$600/mo, perfect for 1-8 person office, quiet environment, 24 hr access, Neal Gallo, 773-743-6565 or Neal.gallo.gznm@statefarm.com; 3 bdrm, 1500 sq ft, 3rd fl, Peg, 773-274-7534.

#### A PLEA FOR GARDEN HELP!

There are some lovely perennials that are ready to be transplanted to the east side of the church. Would you like to help make that happen?!?

If so, please contact Dan Fifarek at 773-255-6479 for more information.

Thank you!