

Dear Parishioners,

I mentioned in my homily last weekend that I was away for two weeks of vacation at the beginning of the month. It is rare for me to be gone that long. I normally take a week here or a few days there, but never two weeks consecutively. This year, however, I felt the wages of years of work taking their toll on me, so I was determined to get away for a longer period. Even so, I still came back in the middle of my vacation to accompany our parish's altar servers to Fiesta Texas, and used the following day to go over a few work related things. I guess I can never fully relax. Despite the brief interruption though, I thoroughly enjoyed the time off that I had.

I spent my vacation out of town and did a lot of nothing. I slept, watched some TV, visited a couple of touristy spots, and avoided people. It is amazing how refreshing it was to do virtually nothing! I didn't realize how wound-up I had become. It took a few days, but the stress eventually seeped out of my muscles and bones and was replaced by calm and quiet.

Contemporary society is so absorbed in work and occupying time with all kinds of distractions. This is perhaps even more true than it was prior to the economic upheaval our nation has been experiencing. Many are worrying about jobs, others are putting in an abundance of hours working, others are running from one activity to the next with their kids. It is no wonder people look for escape in all kinds of destructive behavior. Many addictions that people have could probably be traced to the stress and strain of everyday life. Conversely, the stress and strain of everyday life could also be caused by addictions.

Whatever the case may be, the daily struggles we have can be likened to the violent squall and the waves that were breaking over the boat in today's Gospel. With all the stress, the addictive behaviors, the financial struggles, the marital or relational problems, the tragedies, and any number of other events that crop up in our lives, it is no wonder we feel at times like God doesn't care. This feeling of alienation can lead us to question God's love for us. Then we go searching for God. Amazingly, God is present the whole time, but through all the ruckus, we don't sense his presence. One might think that, through all this noise that filters out God's voice, that God would have to shout even louder to get through to us. Many religious denominations try to get people to hear God's voice by shouting even louder or by doing things that are more and more spectacular. In some instances they might even get through.

The Gospel today, though, shows us that Jesus is Lord of all storms. He commands the violent waves and wind to stop. He says, "Quiet! Be still!" Everything calms down and the disciples are filled with awe. In a way, Jesus is saying to us, "Quiet! Be still!" Yes, the storms of our lives lap up against us, but Jesus' power commands the storms to cease. Nevertheless, we too must stop and be quiet so that God can break through to our hearts and bring calm to our spirit. In this stillness, God's love can be experienced in a more profound way than He can through all the hubbub of our tempestuous lives. Though I experience this in daily prayer, my vacation of doing nothing clarified this in an even more graphic way. I encourage all of you to take full advantage of your vacation time. Be quiet. Still your heart. Break free from all the "to do's". You might be surprised at how deeply God speaks in your life. God bless!

Fr. Paul



Saturday, June 20, 2009

8:00 AM In Thanksgiving to St. Anthony
by Paulita Barrera
4:30 PM +Brandon Angel Castillo
by Josie & Ramon Castillo

Sunday, June 21, 2009

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM +Pedro Amador
by The Amador & Rivera Family
11:00AM Father's Day Novena
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

Monday, June 22, 2009

8:00 AM Father's Day Novena

Tuesday, June 23, 2009

8:00 AM +Father's Day Novena

Wednesday, June 24, 2009

The Nativity of John the Baptist

6:00 PM +Father's Day Novena

Thursday, June 25, 2009

8:00 AM +Father's Day Novena

Friday, June 26, 2009

8:00 AM +Father's Day Novena

Next Saturday, June 27, 2009

8:00 AM +Father's Day Novena
4:30 PM +Robert Marion Black
by Mr & Mrs Dan Burkhardt

Next Sunday, June 28, 2009

Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:30 AM Father's Day Novena
11:00 AM +Juan Gilberto Garcia
by Wife & Family
6:00 PM Parishioners & Benefactors

Readings for the Week of June 21, 2009

Sunday Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jb 38:1, 8-11; Ps 107; 2 Cor 5:14-17; Mk 4:35-41
Monday Saints Paulinus of Nola, bishop; John Fisher, bishop, martyr; Thomas More, martyr
Gn 12:1-9; Ps 33; Mt 7:1-5
Tuesday Gn 13:2, 5-18; Ps 15; Mt 7:6, 12-14
Vigil: Jer 1:4-10; Ps 71; 1 Pt 1:8-12; Lk 1:5-17
Wednesday The Nativity of Saint John the Baptist
Day: Is 49:1-6; Ps 139; Acts 13:22-26; Lk 1:57-66, 80
Thursday Gn 16:1-12, 15-16 or 16:6b-12, 15-16; Ps 106; Mt 7:21-29
Friday Gn 17:1, 9-10, 15-22; Ps 128; Mt 8:1-4
Saturday Saint Cyril of Alexandria, bishop, doctor
Gn 18:1-15; Lk 1:46-50, 53-55; Mt 8:5-17
Sunday Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Wis 1:13-15; 2:23-24; Ps 30; 2 Cor 8:7, 9, 13-15;
Mk 5:21-43 or 5:21-24, 35b-43
Vigil: Acts 3:1-10; Ps 19; Gal 1:11-20; Jn 21:15-19

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH ...



Paul Koehler, Elizabeth Eicher, Chris Perez, Marlin McMorrow, Beatrice Ferrell, Joseph A. Eicher, Agnes Parker, Bernie Broyles, Edward Nemecek, Elodina M. Flores, Sgt. William McAbee, Erica Bush, Oscar Soliz, Gus Blomquist, Jimmy Alvarez, Jesse Buentello, Florence Fuertez, John Kelly, Sharon Reeves, Phyllis Stubbs, Susan Bletz, Nicole Roberts, Cameron Marshall, Elena Marshall, Patty Cash, Felicita Moreno, Alyssa Smith, Eddie Rivera, John Cariaga, Mary Ann Broyles.

Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Please Pray For Our Troops



Sgt. Roger Elkins, Glen Turner Jr., Sgt Matt Maufin, Aaron Philipchuck, Dwayne Solis, Charles Krohn Jr., Oscar Rossi Billy Swatzell, James O'Donnell, Paul Adame, Brandon Felton, Zicorian Coleman, Wendy Hand, D'Aldo Alaniz, Paul Walton, Joseph Yglesias, Jaime Robles, Rudy Hoyt, Roseann Guerrero, Sr. Airman Charlie Stevens, Sr. Airman Patrick Scheuter, Matt Hettinger, Mike Brown, Erik Garza, Damian Saldivar, Maj. Chuck Taylor, Alex Saucedo, Jay Alvarez, John Rodriguez, Jr., Jimmy Karjian, Orlando Rodriguez, Ken Demick, Yvette T. Demick, Scott Nielsen, Timothy Johnson, Mr. Rogers, Lt. jg John Dolby III, Michael Nelson, Michael A. Berry, Gabriel Reza, Mike Llamas, Manny Olvalle, Luis Martinez, Lt. Hector Jude Garcia, Lt. jg Kristopher McAbee, Capt. John A. Malley, Chris Hesse, Natalie Manzano, Capt. Cristian Alejandro Pinzon, David D. Ruiz, Melissa Davila, Ramon Panganiban, Jr., Sgt. Carlos Torres, Jr.

Ministry Schedules

This Week's Lectors:	Next Week' Lectors
4:30 pm Annisa Hernandez	4:30 pm Anita Joya
8:30am Brenda Garcia	8:30am Mary Jones
11:00am Melinda Gomez	11:00am Cat Longoria

This Week's EM's:	Next Week's EM's:
4:30 pm Luz Bernardo, Patty & Richard Dolan	4:30pm Mary Mora, Samantha Mora, Tracy Mora
8:30am Connie Salas, Roland & Leila Longoria	8:30am Mary De La Garza, Judy & Gerald Beckman
11:00am Marlene King, Rene & Janie Esquivel	11:00 am Norma Huerta, Richard & Catalina Longoria

This Week's Ushers:	Next Week's Ushers:
4:30pm Don Fettig, Arnold Barrera, Richard Dolan, James Colburn	4:30pm Don Fettig, James Coburn, Virginia Haasl, Gene Gonzalez
8:30am Jane Cheesman, Bill Cheesman, Lou Medina, Al Medina	8:30am Roland Longoria, Leila Longoria, Jane Cheesman, Bill Cheesman
11:00am Henry Lamb, David Garcia, Roberto Moreno, Mike Nevada	11:00am David Garcia, Mike O'Flynn, Robert Moreno, Raul Treviño

Sunday Collection



Envelope & Loose Vines & Branches June 14, 2009 \$ 7,579.94 265.00

**Give thanks to the Lord,
His love is everlasting.**

St. John's Parish Dates to Remember

June 20 – Mission Appeal – All Masses
 June 23 – 6:30 PM – Knights of Columbus Installation of Officers & Dinner @ Silverado
 June 24 – 6:00 PM – Feast of St. John's Mass & Dinner
 June 27 – 9:00 AM – CMSE Class Room #4

Pictures



Parents, if your child took a First Communion or Confirmation picture, please pick it up at the parish office. Thank you.

A Loss in Our Parish Family



In your prayers please remember **Frances Garcia** who passed away last week. Our parish would like to extend our deepest condolences to her family. May her soul and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

Father's Day Novena



May God Bless Give your Father a priceless gift this **Father's Day, Sunday June 21st**. What better way to honor and remember your father than with a Novena of Masses. You may pick up a card from the entrance of the church. Take the card with you and return the envelope to the parish office or place it in the collection basket by Father's Day.

Catholic Daughters 6th Annual Fundraiser



The Catholic Daughters will hold their annual Father's Day raffle and bake sale on **June 20 and 21**. Tickets for the raffle will be sold after each Mass (\$1.00 a ticket or \$5.00 for 6 tickets). The grand prize is a beautiful 37" LCD wide-screen TV, plus other fantastic prizes. Proceeds will be used for scholarships and charitable projects. Thank you!

Paris Feast Day Celebration



You're invited to our annual Parish Feast to celebrate the nativity of St. John the Baptist. on **Wednesday, June 24th**. Mass at 6:00 pm followed by dinner. Please RSVP to the parish office or email mcmoran@stjohnthebaptistcc.org

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament



Have you spent any time in the presence of the Lord lately? Please join us for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday morning following the 8:00 AM Mass. Adoration lasts for approximately one hour.

Youth Ministry Announcements

HIGH SCHOOLERS: "GET FED" every Tuesday morning. Mass at 8am then breakfast after!
MIDDLE SCHOOL: Monday, June 22nd come for SUMMER CHILL! What is it? Come find out! 6pm – 8pm.
THANK YOU! To all those who donated for the Steubenville Raffle. 1st prize \$100 Visa Gift Card donated by **Allstate/Paulette Guajardo** (winner Jake Sanchez). 2nd prize *Mary Kay* Satin Hands & perfume donated by **Amy Anderson** (winner Nilda Pena). 3rd prize 40 qt Coleman Ice Chest donated by **Andrews Distributing/Bea Cisneros** (winner Cora Magdadar). 4th prize \$50 Visa Gift Card donated by **Allstate/Paulette Guajardo** (winner Stephanie Wenzler).