

January 15th, 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Failure The First Reading gives us something rare in Scripture: a dialogue between God the Father and the Messiah he sent. But if you look at the verse numbers of our First Reading, you will see that Verse 4 has been omitted. The preceding Verse 3 is God's line to the Messiah. My way of phrasing it would be, "You are my servant, and you will be a spectacular success; people will be able to see the glory of God by looking at you." This is a powerful expression of praise and affirmation, isn't it? But guess how the Messiah responds to God in the omitted Verse 4?

In the first of his two lines in Verse 4, the Messiah says (in my way of phrasing it), "I have labored in vain. I have used all my strength, and it has all been for nothing." This line is a powerful expression of failure, isn't it?

You can see why someone might have thought Christ's mission was a failure. The people passing by Christ on the cross certainly didn't see the glory of God in him then! And by the time of his death, the work of Christ's life had come only to this: he had a handful of disciples and a few women as hangers-on. If the goal was to bring salvation to the world, you can see that this result would look like total failure.

Here is the gist of what God says in Verses 5-6, in response to the Messiah's expression of failure in Verse 4: "You are glorious, in the sight of the Lord, and God is your strength. Just saving Israel is too small a success for you; you will bring salvation to all the ends of the earth."

The first communities of Christians and all the apostles were Jewish. By now there are Christian communities in every non-Jewish part of the earth, too. So, Christ's mission to bring salvation to the Jews and the Gentiles was a glorious success, as in the First Reading God predicted it would be. But all that success came only after the death of the Messiah.

Our success, like our glory, needs to be through God's strength, in God's sight, and in God's time. And that is why, in the second of his two lines in the omitted Verse 4, the Messiah says, "my judgment is with the Lord, and my work is with my God."
Eleonore Stump

Question: We are "called to be holy." What does "holy" mean to you? How is John the Baptist a model of holiness? Who is holy in your world?

Today's Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 49:5-6
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:1-3
Gospel: John 1:29-34

Next Week's Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 8:23 – 9:3
Reading II: 1 Corinthians 1:10-13,17
Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23

St. Joseph Church

01/14 Sat 4:00 pm Int. Erin Ford
01/15 Sun 7:30 am Mass for the People
01/17 Tue 7:30 am Helen Gierak †
01/19 Thu 7:30 am Anne Lozensky †
01/21 Sat 4:00 pm Mary Hoffman †
01/22 Sun 7:30 pm Mass for the People

St Bernard Church

01/15 Sun 10:30 am Clarence Enos †
01/16 Mon 12:15 pm Int. Alma Bonino
01/18 Wed 12:15 pm Patricia Smith †
01/20 Fri 12:15 pm Angelina DelGrande †
01/21 Sat 9:30 am Pro Life Mass
01/22 Sun 10:30 am Pat Smith †

Sacred Heart has a 4pm Sunday Eve mass

St Joseph Hospital

01/17 Tue 11:30 am Lois Gardner †
01/19 Thu 11:30 am Anita Pera †

Stewardship The collection last weekend was **\$3,578**, and Building & Maintenance was **\$1,165**. **The second collection today is for The Church in Latin America.** Catholics in Latin America and the Caribbean face many challenges when it comes to sharing their faith; yet the light always shines through and hope arises. Your contributions to **the Fund for Church in Latin America** are directed to Dioceses and Parishes there so that programs for education and faith enrichment can be made available.

No Humor/Joke this week.....Sorry!

Pray for the sick: - Abby, Mervyn Dody, Yvette Logan, Petra Cortec, Erin Ford, Ryan Pepper, Heather Walsh-Redner-Ringwald, Nancy Elgin, Allie, Evelyn Avila, Jim Avila, Nancy Brunner, Ed Dickinson, Barbara Hayes, Elizabeth McCaskill, Wayne Reed, Paul Shabata, Ashley Suthlund, Nancy Tompkins, Patricia Tritten, Victor Vellejo, Jenie Wood and John Kusters.

Please for the souls of those who have died recently and for their families: Victorina Bisio and Wayne Reed.

Parish News & Events This Week

The office is closed on Monday for the holiday

1/16 Mon 6:15 pm NO Children's Faith Formation
1/16 Mon 7:00 pm Baptismal Class /Sacred Heart
1/17 Tue Noon Knights Luncheon/Cookhouse
1/18 Wed 7:00 pm Confirmation Prep SB
1/19 Thu 1:00 pm No Bible Study
7:00 pm RCIA/Sacred Heart Rectory

Baptism/God Parent Preparation Classes Every 3rd Monday of the month, 7:00 pm, at Sacred Heart Church. Call Deacon Frank to confirm attendance at 707-442-5615.

Bereavement Support Group 3rd Wed. of the month, 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm St. Joseph Hospital Chapel. For more info please contact Deacon Frank Weber at 442-5615 or email at deaconweber@att.net

Children's Faith Formation News: BIG NEWS!

For the families with children attending the Faith Formation Classes - **We are moving** to a new facility for our Monday classes!

This will begin on January 23rd and we will now be out at Sacred Heart in the old grade school building; a letter explaining should be arriving at your homes soon. As a reminder, No class this Monday due to Dr. MLK observance. Peace in Christ, Melanie Broswick

Youth Ministry News Please keep our ministry in your prayers as we begin 2017 with Confirmation returning from break and start our Youth Group for both parishes! - in Christ, Analisa Alegria

SUPER FIESTA You are invited to join Sacred Heart Parish on February 3, 2017, for their SUPER FIESTA! This is an annual fundraiser to support Sacred Heart and it will be held at Redwood Acres from 5 – 9 p.m. and includes dinner, a no-host bar, a dessert bar and three auction areas: Dutch, Silent and Live. **A PT Cruiser is the featured Live Auction item** and there will be at least fifteen other items on which to bid. This is a family-friendly event with something for everyone and every budget! Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children/and free for 5 and younger.

Pastor's Corner: St. Bernard's is looking for a music director.

The March/Walk for Life next weekend goes back to 1974 to a peaceful protest against abortion in D.C. and is now held close to the date of January 22 marking the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*, the Supreme Court case legalizing abortion. It is a call to protect human life beginning at conception. These

walks now take place throughout the United States.

The Annual Walk for Life West Coast in San Francisco is on Jan 21st. The event draws about 50,000 participants each year. Archbishop Cordileone will begin the day with Mass at St. Mary Cathedral at 9:30am. Followed by the Walk for Life Rally at 10:45 am. There is still room for the buss that leaves Petaluma. Please look to the bulletin board in the church vestibule

Do not be confused

Later on the National Organization for Women organized a 'March For Women's Lives,' a massive rally held in Washington D.C. and now it takes place around the time of the Walk for Life. The Eureka Women's March is joining numerous Women's Marches all around the nation on the 21st of January.

Sad as it may be, even though all are called to believe in the dignity of women, this march is also a call to have women's reproductive rights upheld, a call to support the pro-choice movement, especially with a new government administration.

So both marches represent something different.

As Catholics we believe that even the unborn have a right to live and this is a major point in being pro-life. To show the dignity of human life not only at conception but through all the stages of human life to death is truly what it means to be Pro-Life. May we support the Sanctity of Human Life from womb to tomb, the true belief of what being Pro-Life, human dignity and justice is all about.

A local call for belief in the Sanctity of Human Life at conception will take place today, Sunday Jan 15th, with "Standing for Life" at the Humboldt County Courthouse from 1-2pm.

To show our solidarity with this Walk for Life and to pray for our new Government Administration we will have a mass at St Bernard on Saturday the 21st at 9:30am at the same time as the Mass for Life in S.F.

This is also the time we support the Pregnancy Care Center and J. Rophe Medical ministries through the Baby Bottle Boomerang with our generous donations. Grab a bottle and bring it back full of change at the end of the month!

If you are interested in learning **about Natural Family Planning** and it is not the old rhythm method, please come to the Newman Center on Sunday, January 29 at 7 PM. Young adults, engaged couples, and married couples are welcome. You may sign up online at ccli.org or call the Newman Center at 707-822-6057.