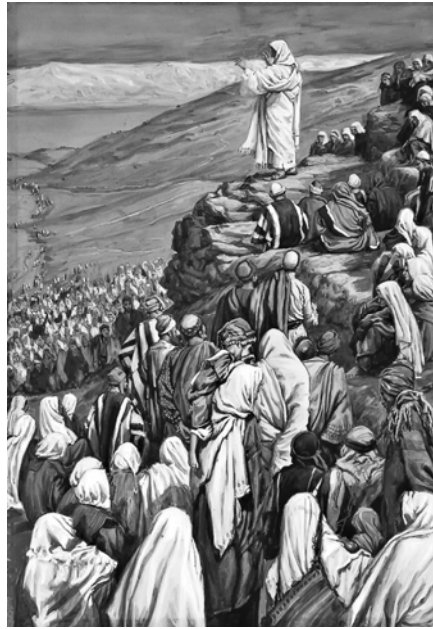


JANUARY 30, 2011

4TH Sunday in Ordinary Time

Today we celebrate the 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time. It comes spontaneous for us to rejoice in the consoling message of the Beatitudes, proclaimed in the Gospel passage and already foreshadowed in the First Reading. The Beatitudes have always had a unique attraction for so many people, even among non-Christians. They exalt virtues and attitudes which people with a worldly outlook do not appreciate. These attitudes are the fundamental conditions to belong to the Kingdom of God. But we should not just stop at the striking statements the Beatitudes contain. Instead, we should make a serious effort to understand their meaning and implications and put into practice the values they enshrine. Let this be our commitment today as we celebrate the Eucharist.



THE BEATITUDES:

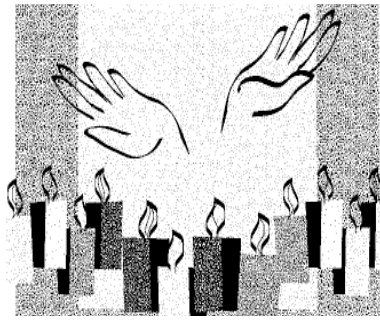
HOPE FOR THE HOPE-LESS

Mankind has always valued and exalted the strong, the beautiful, the successful. The happiness of a person has usually been measured by the degree in which one achieves good results or arouses admiration. Conversely, the absence of strength, beauty, riches, success, and the like is considered a misfortune – a source of frustration, humiliation and suffering. Such has always been the prevailing scale of values in “the kingdom of man.” When Jesus came, he challenged and rejected this earthbound standard which condemns to hopelessness and frustration the majority of mankind. With his “Sermon on the Mount,” he turned upside down this shortsighted value system and opposed to it the values of the “Kingdom of God,” the opening set of which is enshrined in “The Beatitudes.” These eight rhythmic statements extoll some of the revolutionary values of the Kingdom Jesus has come to establish. They contain a **message of hope** for all the afflicted. They are an invitation addressed to all to gaze beyond the dim horizon of human limitations, injustices, tragedies. The Beatitudes have exerted a unique *fascination* on innumerable souls, including many who do not belong to the Christian denominations. They strike the readers of today just as they must have thrilled Jesus’ listeners when he proclaimed them for the first time. And yet, for all of us there is the **danger that we take them for granted**. We have read and heard them so many times. The sound is pleasing to the ear, but their message may fail to move our wills. They do not seem to affect our attitudes and our lives. Some of us may have developed a very dangerous “immunity” against the principles enshrined in the Beatitudes. It was not so for the Christians of the first generations, as well as for the Saints of all centuries. For them, these eight simple pronouncements of Our Lord were a source of continuous *inspiration* and a **challenge** in their lives. The Beatitudes were to them what soil, rain, and sunlight are to a tree. Rooted in them and imbibed with their spirit, the Saints produced fruits of humility, mercy, purity, commitment, justice, fidelity, endurance, and hope. The Beatitudes have been for the Saints of all ages a **WAY OF LIFE**. What are they, for us, today?

Blessed



mourn comforted earth
reward merciful spirit utter
thirst merciful spirit utter
thirst merciful spirit utter
way pure prophets
children revile
persecute
hunger people
filled God glad
receive persecuted
Rejoice kingdom
evil meek heaven
inherit falsely mercy
righteousness
great called poor account
see kinds sake



Here we are... one month already gone in 2011! What did you resolve to change this year? Stewardship calls us to change the way we think about who we are, and what we possess. What changes in your life is God calling you to? Is it maybe to spend more time in prayer; are you feeling a need to share a more generous portion of your financial blessings; or maybe you sense a desire to respond to a particular call to use your gifts in the service of others.

❖ **NEW ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED !!! THINK ABOUT IT !**



To be an Altar Server is to help the Priest at the Altar to make the Mass proceed smoothly. This is a wonderfully special way for a child or adult to participate in their faith and grow in their love of God. They also can feel more a part of the parish faith community in a way that is very meaningful and important.

To be eligible to be an Altar Server, all that is required is that you must have made your First Eucharist. So people of all ages are welcome. We are actively seeking servers of all ages. Let's remember, we are trying to be a Generations

Of Faith parish. We are committed to providing an absolutely safe and nurturing environment for our children. The next Altar Servers information/training meeting will be announced soon. In the meantime, if you are interested, write your name address, and phone number on a piece of paper and give it to Rocky Unabia after our Sunday liturgies or to Ohda Foz . We need you ! THANKS !

❖ **ST. MARTHA'S CLUB NEEDS SOME MORE HANDS !!!**



What in the world would make you feel so good? We are currently in need of a few good souls who would love to serve as behind-the-scenes men and women of the St. Martha's Club whose main concern is the service to the Lord in the care and beautification of the altar. Performing assigned tasks like sewing, washing and ironing of vestments and altar linens; keeping the altar clean and beautiful at all times; arranging flowers and preparing the materials

needed for the mass , the Martha's are dedicated hands who do the important little details to make our celebrations smooth, meaningful and beautiful.

Dedicated **men, women, youth, adults (couples are also welcome)**...

who are willing to share their valuable time to take care of the altar and serve Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament are welcome to join this organization.

There will be a formal training session to be announced soon. Meanwhile, think about it and if you have decided please give your name, address and phone number to Mrs. Lorie Palisoc or to Butch Arcena. THANKS !



St. Augustine is famous for saying "those who sing, pray twice." To further augment that quote: 'singing in the FCMM Choirs is twice as nice!' We have 3 Choirs in the FCMM. Why not consider joining **THE FCMM ADULT CHOIR. THE BAGONG HIMIG CHOIR** or **THE FCMM YOUTH CHOIR**. Each group has its own rehearsal schedule. You do not need a great voice to sing in the choirs. The Choirs' mission is to make beautiful and meaningful music with one voice! If you enjoy singing and think you might like to be a part of this Ministry, please speak to **TITA ALLANA, PRECY PAVICO**, or **JOWEN SOGULON**. Thank you !

WINTER IS A MESSY SEASON ... PLEASE HELP US MAINTAIN THE CHURCH CLEAN. MAKE SURE THAT YOU LEAVE YOUR PEWS TIDY.



THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

(Also called *Candlemas*, or the 'Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.') is celebrated 40 days after Christmas Day. (Can you believe it's almost 40 days ?) In accordance with Mosaic Law, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple for circumcision and to be offered to God. Jesus is the light of the world, so this day is a feast of light. It is a custom that candles for use in the Church throughout the year are solemnly blessed. You may bring you own candles from home

to be blessed on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 2, at the 6:00 pm Mass.**

*** We will also have a blessing of throats at this Mass in commemoration of the **FEAST OF ST. BLAISE**. St. Blaise was a doctor as well as a bishop in Armenia during the fourth century. It is believed that Blaise once healed a boy who was choking on a fish bone. Because of that, he is the patron of the sick, especially people with illnesses of the throat. **ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.**

❖ **STEWARDSHIP** - "*Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*" -Matthew 5:3

One way to be poor in spirit is to realize that you really own nothing. Everything you have is a gift from God. Do not become attached to your material possessions and treasure. Rather, realize that they are yours to share and to use for the glory of God.



OFFERING

Your Offerings for the week ending January 23, 2011 totaled
\$1, 212.50

Thank you for your continuing generosity !
God bless you always!!!



The **SANCTUARY LAMP** this week is burning for the **GLORY OF GOD** and **AS THANKSGIVING** offered by **MARCY ELLASUS.**



- ❖ To the *new arrivals* from the Philippines;
- ❖ To the *visitors* from other places;
- ❖ To those who have *been away and are back*;



We join in the Thanksgiving Intentions of:

RAY, OHDA, RHEA, & RAPHY FOZ, THE LAZARO-MAGNO FAMILY, WILLIE & PHET QUIRAPAS, THE LOCQUIAO FAMILY, ANA MOJADO PAMBUAN & FAMILY, AU AQUINO.



❖ all the *sick and suffering members* of our Mission community and their loved ones, especially:
FR. ROGER BEGIN pme, SR. ELIZABETH RELACION mic, ELECITA ARACENA, JESS ALCAIDE, JULIA PERLAS-TAN,

ALFREDO PADERANGA SR., FE PADERANGA, JOSEFINA BANGALAN, JOSIE LIMLENGCO, DAWN DELA PAZ, CARMENCITA TRIVINIO, NORA ESPIRITU, ANNIE MOJADO, GREGORIO DEL MONTE, EDMOND GABA, MABEL TUVIDA.

May God bring them healing and peace.

❖ all of our *deceased relatives and friends*, especially:
DOLORES ACURANTES, ERLINDA BACOSA, FLORA JADIA-CADALIN, GLORIA CALUMPIANO, PROCOPIO GRUMO, ARTURO VELASQUEZ, ENRIQUE TABLANDA, FAUSTA TABLANDA, LIZA RIVERA, RICARDO DE JESUS, GRACE ELVAMBUENA, and those dying everyday in calamities and in battles around the world.

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.

MASS INTENTIONS

The Sacrifice of the Mass contains within it all of the graces of God and all that man can do to worship Him. Stop by or call the FCMM office (514 - 387 - 5292) during normal business hours and have a Mass offered for your intention.



Help us keep our list of the sick parishioners current. Please notify the FCMM Office if you have a name to be included in the prayer list.

