## NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OUR SOUL WAITS FOR THE LORD, WHO IS OUR HELP AND OUR SHIELD.—Psalm 33:20

August 11, 2013

**PREPARATION** 

Imagine the following scene: you sit down in your school desk. The teacher walks the aisle, placing the paper before you, face down. You set your watch. You will have exactly one hour to do the test. You turn the paper over. Then it hits you: you never took any notes. You never studied or did even one assignment. For a student, lack of preparation is the nightmare of nightmares. Jesus talks about the need for preparation in today's Gospel. God is pleased to give us the kingdom, Jesus says. "Gird your loins and light your lamps." See that you are prepared.

Jesus' teaching reminds us of the question once posed to St. Francis de Sales and his companions, who, according to the story, were playing billiards. "What would you do if you knew the end of the world was coming in one hour?" The friends of Francis shared various plotting of how they would get their affairs in order. Most mentioned prayer. Francis shrugged, "I would continue doing what I am doing." Are you ready to meet the Lord?

SCRC CONVENTION Aug 30-Sept 1 The 42nd Annual SCRC Catholic Renewal Convention will take place over Labor Day Weekend, August 30-September 1, 2013 at the Anaheim Convention Center. This year's theme is "TAKE COURAGE, HAVE FAITH." Over 40 speakers will be on hand including Bishop Bennett, John Michael Talbot, Fr. Stan Fortuna, CFR, Fr. Greg Bramlage, Fr. Michael Sears, Fr. Mike Barry. There will also be a John Michael Talbot Concert on August 31. A spiritually enriching weekend for all ages! For a brochure or info, please contact 818.771.1361 or email spirit@scrc.org. Online information and registration is available at www.scrc.org.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

Registration for our parish high school students Confirmation program will take place this Monday and Tuesday, August 12/13. For time and other important information, please call Uriel Castellanos, Coordinator, at 562.436.6726.

HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

This Thursday, August 15 is the Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a holy day of obligation. We will celebrate Mass at 8:00a.m. in English and at 7:15p.m. in Spanish. There will be no vigil Mass.

A MESSAGE FROM ARCHBISHOP GOMEZ REGARDING SENATE BILL 131 Friends, my brother bishops and I in the California Catholic Conference are asking all Catholics to contact their Assembly members and Senators and urge them to **vote "No"** on Senate Bill 131. SB-131 fails to protect all victims of childhood sexual abuse, discriminates against Catholic schools and other private employers, and puts the Church's social services and educational mission at risk. We have set up a website that will enable you to easily email your elected officials directly: http://bit.ly/18nEUiB. More information on the bill can be found at http://www.la-archdiocese.org/gov/Pages/SB131.aspx. It is urgent that we all act now. The State Legislature will take up SB-131 in the week of August 10th. Thank you for taking the time to communicate with your elected officials about this. Please be assured of my prayers for you and your families.

MISSION CO-OP

Next weekend we shall welcome a missionary who will visit us on behalf of Mission Co-op Plan. This annual appeal is one that helps unite the Archdiocese of L.A. with the Universal Church and to animate mission awareness among the people of the Archdiocese of L.A.

Defend Life

REFLECTIONS

Learn the Church's teaching about the right to life, and find out what you can do to defend it. Watch new episodes of "Defending Life" airing on EWTN every Wednesday at 2:30a.m. and Thursday at 11p.m., Eastern Time. More information at www.DefendingLife.tv

THE 20TH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Jeremiah 38:4-6, 8-10 Second Reading: Hebrews 12:1-4

**Gospel:** Luke 12:49-53

Jesus speaks of the division that may come when we follow him. Do I have the courage to live a life of faith? How can I grow stronger in my faith especially in times of turmoil?

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