

*August 23-August 29 2015*  
*Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time*

*Reflections for the Week*

*'I was born poor; I lived poor; I wish to die poor.'*  
*Pope St. Pius X*

[click  
here](#)

**Today's Readings**

**First Reading** — Joshua challenges the Israelites to serve either the Lord or other gods. They choose the Lord (Joshua 24:1-2a, 15-17, 18b).

**Psalm** — Taste and see the goodness of the Lord (Psalm 34).

**Second Reading** — Paul reflects on how husbands and wives should reverence and love each other (Ephesians 5:21-32 [2a, 25-32]).

**Gospel** — Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life (John 6:60-69).

**Readings this Week**

- Monday: Rv 21:9b-14; Ps 145:10-13, 17-18;  
Jn 1:45-51
- Tuesday: 1 Thes 2:1-8; Ps 139:1-6; Mt 23:23-26
- Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13; Ps 139:7-12ab; Mt  
23:27-32
- Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13; Ps 90:3-5a, 12-14, 17;  
Mt 24:42-51
- Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8; Ps 97:1, 2b, 5-6, 10-12;  
Mt 25:1-13
- Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11; Ps 98:1, 7-9; Mk 6:17-  
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**Please pray for the healing of  
Our parishioners and extended family:**

Fr. Tom Seagrave, Maureen and Don Francis,  
Mary Dunn, Mike and Gabriel Marty, Patrick Lee, Judy  
and Charlie Liteky, Jim and Nancy McDonald, Jose-  
phine Small, , Teresa Hyatt, Pat Hoffman, Dorla  
Gross, Dalia & Estela Becerra and all our members  
who reside in assisted living and care facilities.

This list and additional prayer requests may be found  
on the "Circle of Prayer" link on our Website  
www.sjog.net; it is also available through email.  
To request prayers for someone and/or receive the  
"Circle of Prayer" by email please contact  
Judy Laxen at judithfl@aol.com

*It's always great to hear from friends ~ why not send a  
card or place a call to let them know you're thinking  
and praying for God's healing. Mass requests also  
available..*

**Mass Intentions:  
August 14-20, 2015 (Fri-Thurs.)**

|        |  |         |
|--------|--|---------|
| Fri.   | Pauline Picchi (God's Healing)         | 12:10pm |
| Sat .  | Aquilina Yumul (RIP Anniversary)       | 4:15pm  |
| Sun.   | Kristy & John Ward (Rest in Peace)     | 9:30am  |
| Sun.   | John O'Niell (Rest in Peace)           | 11:30am |
| Mon    | Claire Hackett (Get Well Blessing)     | 12:10pm |
| Tues.  | Elton Barney Cobeen (Rest in Peace)    | 12:10pm |
| Weds.  | Bobby Jo Culmer Viksne (God's Healing) | 12:10pm |
| Thurs. | John Hedberg ((Blessing)               | 12:10pm |

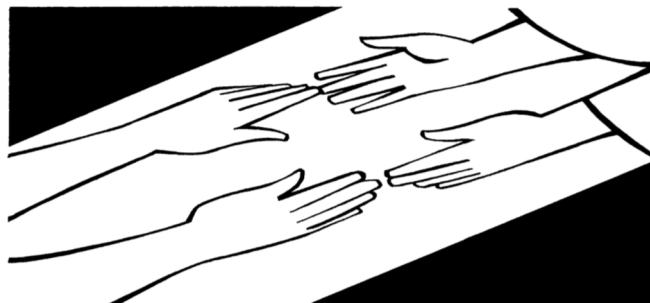
*Give the gift of a Mass Intention ~Life Blessings, RIP,  
Anniversary, Happy Birthday! Contact the office.*

**Saints and Special Observances**

|           |                                      |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday:   | Twenty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time |
| Monday:   | St. Bartholomew                      |
| Tuesday:  | St. Louis; St. Joseph Calasanz       |
| Thursday: | St. Monica                           |
| Friday:   | St. Augustine                        |
| Saturday: | The Passion of St. John the Baptist  |

**Prayer to St. Monica**

*In Your mercy, Lord, you received the tears of  
St. Monica as she wept for her son.  
At the intercession of both mother and son, give us  
grace to weep for sin and obtain Your forgiveness.  
Amen.*



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**The Saint John of God Prayer**  
*Dear God, through the intercession  
of St. John of God, patron of the poor  
and the sick,*

*grant me the grace this day  
to greet every person that I meet  
with understanding and compassion.  
Reveal to me their needs and give me the  
means and inspire in my heart the humility and  
generosity of St. John so that I might be to  
them revelation of Christ's love. Amen*

*~ Rev. Thomas L. Seagrave*

## Around the Community, City and the Bay

### The Annual Community Weekend Sept. 11, 12 & 13

A 3-day weekend in the beautiful redwoods. Hiking, biking, swimming, campfires each night, music and dancing! 2 night lodging, 5 quality prepared meals, outdoor Mass on Sunday. A great time to have fun, relax and enjoy community spirit in the outdoors with friends!" **SAVE THE DATE! YOU DO NOT WANT TO MISS THIS WEEKEND EXPERIENCE! No one turned away!**

**September 8, 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m. ~ Sing the Music of Hildegard of Bingen** as contemplative practice, through the Ear to the Heart. This gentle, contemplative practice of listening and singing the music of Hildegard together is led by **Devi Mathieu** and requires no previous experience with the music of Hildegard or with medieval music. Suggested offering, \$10-20. Santa Sabina Center, 25 Magnolia Avenue, San Rafael, 415-457-7727; info@santasabinacenter.org.

### The Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola 19th Annotation Retreat

Do you want to find God's will in your life and enjoy the freedom to follow it? Saint Ignatius designed a retreat, known as the Spiritual Exercises, to help people deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ and grow in the inner freedom they need to discern where God is truly calling them. Though he envisioned it as a 30-day silent retreat, Ignatius realized that not everyone could step away from their responsibilities for an extended time and so he wrote into the Exercises a provision (the 19th Annotation) for busy people who wanted to make "the retreat in daily life". The 19th Annotation is experienced through a one-on-one relationship with a spiritual director. You meet weekly and make a commitment to in-depth daily prayer. Over the course of about nine months, you make your way through the retreat at your own pace. Though it is for busy people, it is a very significant undertaking and a richly worthwhile one! Please contact the Coordinator of the Spiritual Exercises at St. Agnes' Ignatian Spiritual Life Center, Barbara Nelson, at barbarajnelson3@gmail.com or 415-728-8939 to discern if this retreat may be right for you.



**Sundays after 9:30 and 11:30 mass  
approx. 10:30 in Collins Hall  
approx. 12:30 in Ben's Room  
coffee, pastry and friendship**

**Bring a Friend ~ or two!**

At St. John of God, we all meet each other with compassion and respect.

## Community Calendar

**August 24**

**Choir Rehearsal 7-10PM**

**UPCOMING SECOND COLLECTIONS:  
September 20 Priest's Retirement Fund**

### Lights and Shadows

Welcome to our new Eucharistic ministers in the hospital: Deborah Dacumos, MaryAnn Ring and Robert "Bob" Gajewski. We thank them for their support and commitment to the infirm. They are now also active parishioners of St. John of God Church.

We are likewise blessed to be given another catholic priest hospital chaplain in the person of Fr. Hoang Trinh. He is very youthful and energetic in his ministry.

Martina, a sick 15 year old young girl suffering from ALL leukemia was chatting with me:

Martina: What is your breakfast Fr. Norman?

Me: Oh, just salad.

Martina: Only that?

Me: Yes. I have no other food.

Martina: Why is that so?

Me: No one gave me food except some bread.

Martina: Yes that's good. Jesus is the bread of life!

Coming from a sick girl who is in desperate need of health hoping to have a positive result from a bone marrow transplant soon, she could still affirm this reality. Wow!

When she could have all the reasons to complain about how she was robbed of her youth and her spirit. By her words, she is not riveted on what she lacks, but on what suffices her. The BREAD of LIFE.

As I try to recall the rich man in the gospel who asked Jesus on what he still lacks in following him, and after satisfying all the commandments, he went away sad because Jesus asked him to sell what he has and give to the hapless. But then he went away sad...

Martina may not be happy with her condition. She trusts to get well of course. Only she doesn't frown and fret in life. She never complains either. She gives up not because she is resigned but because she leaves up everything to God. As if telling God, my life is yours not mine.

The rich man seemingly had it all. Goodness and kindness. Richness too. Only he couldn't feel contented because he couldn't sell his wealth. He is more concerned about the bread of the world than the bread of life. As if telling God, this is my life not yours.

At the end of the day, it is not what we receive in excess or what we lack in life that counts. It is our willingness to give up on things we either receive or not.

To look beyond what is not there...

To be grateful, eternally grateful for what is and what is not.

~ Fr. Norman