

**August 12-13, 2017**  
**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
**First Kings 19:9-13          Romans 9:1-5          Matthew 14:22-33**

**'It's not what you said but HOW you said it...'**

Learning to 'read between the lines' and grasp nuance and subtleties takes time. Sometimes in our conversations we are so busy preparing our responses, presuming that we know what a person is going to say, that we do not fully LISTEN to what the other person is actually saying. A sly remark coupled with a smile or tilt of the head can speak volumes more than the precise meaning of the words being spoken. So it is with God, especially in these languid Summer days, we are offered opportunities to not be so intent on TELLING God what we want as LISTENING to what God wants us to know/understand. In our Scripture selection from Book of Kings we hear of Elijah discovering the '**tiny whispering sound**-voice of God' which could have easily been lost amid the attention-grabbing heavy winds, the mighty earthquake or the fire...but Elijah was patient in waiting for the REAL THING. How many times in recent weeks have we seen images of burned forests, destroyed homes, river drowning victims/survivors, terrorist concerns and never considered the BIGGER PICTURE? The lives of the firefighters disrupted and put at risk to fight the flames? The courage of the river rescuers or the helplessness of those who watched from shore? The prayers that were whispered as police intervened or evacuated suspected structures? In our Gospel selection from Matthew, Peter is instructed that with God, EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED...and don't overthink things by worrying about what you are not supposed to be able to do. Starting with last week's honoring of the Transfiguration and again this week, we are told to look more deeply at the person of Jesus, to see with more than our eyeballs and to hear with more than our ears. God is the master of nuance and subtlety...passwords for deeper conversation and drowning within the grace of mystery.

Summer days, summer nights, thank you for sharing portions of your Summer with our Santa Clara family. Please take a Bulletin with you as you journey home, more news and interesting articles for your consideration. **Please note that there is a 5pm Vigil Mass on Monday (the 14<sup>th</sup>) for the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary as well as the usual 8:30am Mass on Tuesday the 15<sup>th</sup>.** Enjoy your weekend and remember, you are loved.  
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