

February 25-26, 2017

Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Isaiah 49:14-15

First Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

Vons/check. Wells Fargo/check. Gas from Costco/check. Haircut/check.

Awakening each day, many of us have a mental checklist of events and activities to which our attention must be given. Food needs purchasing, supplies picked up, cars needs detailing for weekend getaways....depending on whatever is occurring in the next week or so we attend to many details so that our plans can occur as envisioned. In a similar way we attend to our many relationships/friendships, sending messages, scheduling get-togethers and meals so as to maintain strong bonds with those who matter most in our lives. Anticipating eventual retirement, the wise ones among us make sure their investments are secure and productive, their plans realizable and essential paperwork in order so that their future can be reasonably trouble free. And what of our relationship with God? Have we given equal energy and time to pursuing our Jesus conversations? Have we given our DIVINE relationship premier standing in our lives or is it something we squeeze in when we can? 'Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself' says Jesus. How perfect for this final weekend before **Lent** begins to have these Scripture snippets to pique our soul: *'I will never forget you.'* **'He will bring to light what is hidden in darkness.'** *'No one can serve two masters.'* **'Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?'** **LENT** is rapidly upon us, literally mere hours away. It is a lengthy period of many weeks by which to consider the depth and genuineness of our relationship with God-Father, Son and Holy Spirit. BUT...that presumes that our relationship with God and what comes after all our earthly affairs, is of importance to us. Given our scrupulous attendance to filling the car with gas, getting our haircuts scheduled, checking on our retirement portfolios and attending to assorted relationships....how attentive are we to WHO is ultimately of greatest importance....?

THANK YOU for sharing this final February weekend with our Santa Clara community. THIS WEDNESDAY, March 1st, **Blessed Ashes are available starting at 3am** and conclude with the St. Francis School Mass (which ends at 11am.) Remember as well the Lenten DISCIPLINES of Fasting (the equivalent of one full meal spread out over the entire day) and Abstaining from meat on Ash Wednesday and the Fridays of Lent. **We continue to accept our 2017 PSA pledges from the remaining 800 registered families from whom we have not yet heard anything??** The PSA being an essential financial vehicle by which Santa Clara can respond to the needs of TODAY while also preparing and planning for our FUTURE it is of utmost importance for EVERYBODY TO DO WHAT THEY CAN (not just a few people doing a lot) so that our Santa Clara family can be strong and vibrant. THANKS to those who have pledged...thank you for your trust and belief in Santa Clara's story. Bulletins await as you depart, please take one with you. As we prepare for the great journey of Lent, please know that you are loved. FKB