

**February 4-5, 2016**

**Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – Pastoral Services Appeal Pledge Weekend**

**Isaiah 58:7-10**

**First Corinthians 2:1-5**

**Matthew 5:13-16**

**‘Then light shall rise for you in the darkness and the gloom shall become for you like midday.’**

Our night skies are filled with pinpricks of light, a handful the reflected luminosity from nearby planets but the vast majority being STARS, like our own sun...and some of those pinpricks are entire galaxies so distant they look like a single dot. Incomprehensibly far away...yet we can see them. Santa Clara de Asis is a LIGHT set upon a mountain, a home for our parish community, the community that fills this structure with our light of faith, trust, love, acceptance, tolerance and warmth. It is this light that shines forth within the Santa Ana Canyon as a beacon for those who are lost, afraid, overwhelmed, tired, confused and hungry for what we take for granted. In the same way that our night sky is filled with light that has traveled for millions of years to reach our eyes, so our everyday actions of faith shine forth like the dawn. As we stretch our hearts and souls to enfold the people of Immaculate Heart of Mary, as we support our youth to grow in their love of Jesus within flesh and blood people, as we show others how to embrace the Cross of Jesus by embracing it ourselves, in these and countless other ways, our LIGHT pierces the darkness and offers hope to each other and those who will glimpse our light but whom we will never meet. Our Pastoral Services Appeal Pledge Weekend is the opportunity for EACH of us to fuel our LIGHT to remain bright and strong. This weekend is not about a few people doing a lot....but a LOT of people, each doing what they can, enabling our light to remain brilliant. Our written material has been sent, our STORY has been told and this weekend is our opportunity to insure that fresh chapters of the Santa Clara de Asis story will shine into the darkness.

**‘Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father.’**

Thank you for sharing this first weekend of February with our Santa Clara family. The culmination of many weeks of preparation, our PSA Pledge Weekend is finally here, thank you for having taken the time to discern your level of participation so that Santa Clara will continue to shine bright. As mentioned before, we are not looking for a few people to do a lot....but for a lot of people to each do what they can...so that our parish community will continue to thrive. Please take a copy of the Bulletin with you so that you can be up to date on assorted other events occurring ...and next weekend being just a few days shy of Valentine’s Day, make sure you wear your valentine colors. Whether you are a patriot or into falconry, please know that you are loved. FKB