

July 14-15, 2018
Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Deacon Daniel Seo's First Santa Clara de Asis Diaconal Mass
Amos 7:12-15 **Ephesians 1:3-10** **Mark 6:7-13**

Since pre-Christian times, there has been conflict between those who seek to proclaim 'the word of God' and the assorted authorities, kings, queens, emperors, presidents, legislators, dons, Czars, of the different eras. Some of the supposed 'seers of divine things' have admittedly been outright frauds, quacks and seriously sick people: David Koresh, Jim Jones and even some of the contemporary 'get-rich-quick Gospel of Prosperity' versions of variants on Christianity (not to mention some of the priests and bishops who committed or hid the sexual abuse of children within our own Catholic communities.) In our first Reading from Amos we hear of the Old Testament prophet, Amos, being expelled from the 'King's Sanctuary' for challenging the King's laws and teachings. In the Gospel of Mark we hear of the Apostles being sent off to preach 'repentance' while anointing the sick and driving out demons. Elsewhere in Scripture, Jesus clearly reminds his disciples that they 'will be hated by all' and that they 'will be given over to death.' In our contemporary times we hear of Religious Sisters, assorted Priests and Missionaries being killed for the simple reason that they were educating people to read, empowering them to think for themselves, to form collective bargaining organizations to improve their lives, to cast off the shackles of cartels, human trafficking/slavery and other corruptions of human existence. Within our American landscape, GOD is invoked to feed the dissolute and homeless, to urge people to see others as PEOPLE first and not through the lens of protectionist laws, to establish Health Care Systems (ie. Sisters of St. Joseph) so as to provide healing and hope, educational opportunities such as Notre Dame, Loyola, Georgetown and others by which to open people's minds to the merciful application of faith so as to ENRICH people's dignity and provide opportunities....and GOD is equally invoked to wage war, to encourage discrimination between 'us and them', to drive wedges between varying people of faith, to be used when it is convenient and dismissed when in the way of real-politick, to be the supposed deal-breaker when common sense is prevailing over control-minded group desires. With the leisure of Summer unfolding before us, how do you WEIGH the teachings of the Church within your own lives? How many of your day-to-day decisions are reached by the application of faith? When has there been conflict between what the Catholic Church is urging and what your heart wants to do and your mind believes? How do you resolve these interactions...or not?

The languid days of Summer are unfolding, thank you for choosing to come and celebrate your Catholic Faith with our Santa Clara community. We welcome the return of Deacon Daniel Seo for his celebration of his recent Ordination to the Diaconate...please join with Deacon Daniel after the 10am Mass for food and beverage. **NEXT SATURDAY is our first LA CENA...**and reservations are required for you to enjoy the evening of food, beverage, music and conversation ...everything starting immediately after the 5pm Mass. RESERVATION/PAYMENT FORMS are available on the table beneath the La Cena Poster or online at SCDAYL.org. Cut-off is THIS WEDNESDAY. **Walk-ins are not available next**

Saturday. For other news and events please take a Bulletin home as you depart....and remember...autumn, winter, spring or SUMMER, you are loved. FKB