

**August 31 – September 1, 2019**

**Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time – Labor Day Weekend**

**Sirach 3:17-29**

**Hebrews 12:18-24**

**Luke 14:1-14**

True humility is not something one puts on, like a jacket. Things that are donned, can just as easily be taken off, like a costume or mask. True humility comes from within an individual's soul, nurtured and encouraged by imparted wisdom, not even noticed by those possessing it and never seen as anything out of the ordinary but noticed, valued and appreciated by those encountering it. In the same way that parents attempt to impart wisdom, manners and life-instructions to their children (especially those heading off to University/College), as our Summer season begins to dwindle, Jesus reminds us that God (and others) takes note of how genuine we are in the living of our lives. Pretentiousness, laziness, shallowness, all are easily seen by everyone except those who have falsely embraced them as their life-crutches. In today's Gospel Jesus instructs those coveting choice positions of favor and honor at the dinner table to not embarrass themselves by over-reaching. In our Orange County culture, much value is placed on the cars, homes (and vacation homes), play-toys, schools, athletic clubs, technology and recreational choices of those dwelling within the Land of Gracious Living. Regrettably, ample possessions or high-priced purchases frequently have little to do with the authenticity of a person's life or the quality of their Jesus-relationship. All it takes is one devastating wild-fire or 8.0 earthquake and everyone in our neighborhoods will suddenly be equal in need of water, food and hope. Granted, we live in a culture that requires us to play the game of life according to certain rules...but there is a difference between playing the game...and actually slipping into thinking that the game is real. How about you? Can you walk away from everything you think you have accomplished, possessed, owned and accumulated? What would you still have?

Thank you for sharing another Labor Day holiday with our Santa Clara community. While this weekend is the un-official ENDING of the Summer Season (in the same way Memorial Day is the un-official START of the Summer romp), our Santa Clara celebration of Summer's end is approaching in two weeks, on **Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>...LA CENA**. Please make your reservations for you and your family to enjoy a languorous night of food, beverage and song among friends and family here on our own property. One price gets you all the food and beverage your stomachs can hold...one price gets you an evening beneath the last Full Moon of the Summer...one price allows you to linger as the day fades to night and the music plays and the children romp...one price...but you need to make your RESERVATIONS now...so that we set adequate space and prepare sufficient food because this is NOT a drop-in/last minute event. Please note that the weekend of September 21-22 is our next **St. Vincent de Paul BUNDLE SUNDAY**...a chance to clean out your garages, closets, homes, offices of extraneous equipment and donate them to the St. Vincent de Paul Society to help support them in their charitable outreaches. Start combing your homes/offices now! Please take a Bulletin with you for other news of parish life and as you rest from your many Labors this weekend, remember, you are loved. FKB