

Catholic Community at Stanford P.O. Box 20301, Stanford University, Stanford, CA 94309 http://catholic.stanford.edu/ main office: 650-725-0080 For emergencies, call 650-723-8222, pager #17736

SundayMassJuly 31, 20118amMemorial Church4:30pmMemorial Church

Marriage

To arrange a Catholic Wedding, call the wedding coordinator at Memorial Church at 650-723-9531.

Infant Baptisms

Baptism is celebrated once per quarter. For more information, please visit http://catholic. stanford.edu/baptisms/eligibility.html or contact Teresa Pleins tpleins@stanford.edu.

Confessions

Daily Eucharist

by appointment only: call 725-0080

Information about Catholic liturgies in Palo Alto, call 650-494-2496 or www.paloaltocatholic.org.

M - T - W - F 12:20pm Memorial Church

no daily Mass on Thursday

Baptisms for the 2011-2012 academic year: October 16, 2011 January 29, 2012 May 20, 2012

Catholic Community Staff

- Fr. Nathan Castle, O.P. Pastor/Director (ncastle@stanford.edu) Fr. Isaiah Molano, O.P. Parochial Vicar/Associate Director (frisaiah@stanford.edu) Nancy Greenfield Chaplain/Marriage Preparation (ngreenfield875@gmail.com) Teresa Pleins Chaplain/Liturgy & Music (tpleins@stanford.edu)
- Sr. Ramona Bascom, O.P. Counselor (ramonabascom@gmail.com) Lourdes Alonso Campus Minister (lalonso@stanford.edu) M'Lis Berry Development Director (meberry@stanford.edu) Guillermo Colombetti Bulletin Editor, Property Manager (gcolombetti@yahoo.com) Iris Clark Communications Coordinator (iris.ccas@live.com)

Religious Ramblings Does God Care?

JULY 31, 2011

fr Robert Ombres invites us to work miracles.

God cares for everyone, indeed for everything, but not in the same way. Sometimes it can seem, however, that God does not care at all, though our needs can be desperate and pressing. The main thing to believe when God's care for us becomes puzzling is that it is our understanding is limited, not his love.

It could well be that our disappointment with God comes from wanting to know more than it is in fact possible for us to know. God's nature – what he is like, how he should behave, what it means for God to love – remain beyond our grasp. If we knew all that, we would be God. What we need to know is what St Paul tells us – that nothing can come between us and the love of Christ.

In today's Gospel we see God's care for us expressed in a miracle, and to learn about such extraordinary love is reassuring. But we are also shown something else, and this too is important. We go to the Bible to learn about God and also to learn about ourselves. This is why Jesus Christ, the incarnate Son of God, is such a good and complete teacher.

First the miracle: hungry people, thousands of them, were fed miraculously. Miracles are the extraordinary way God cares for us, and they are not just a distant memory of what Jesus did during his earthly life. Miracles can still happen, and do happen. It is therefore completely proper to turn to God to ask for a miracle. Holy places such as Lourdes, and causes of canonizations of saints, keep alive in us the belief that miracles do happen.

It is perhaps surprising in an age such as ours to read fairly regularly about 'miracles' happening. Usually what is meant is that something extremely unlikely has happened, often related to an accident or disaster. Only one person remains alive after a terrible crash in which everyone else has died, and this is described as a miracle. Someone survives for ages under rubble after an earthquake, and this is called a miracle. This kind of talk leaves out God and therefore tells us only a part of what miracles are - it concentrates on what is extremely unusual rather than on what God has done. A miracle can come to mean simply a statistical oddity, a freak occurrence. A miracle, in the full Christian sense of the word, is essentially God's action and brings us closer to God.

At the centre of today's Gospel is the miracle of the feeding of a huge crowd of people. But before and after Jesus does the miracle, some things are said and done which we must not neglect. As I write this sermon, and as you read it, very many people are starving. Starving in a way most of us can't even imagine happening to us. Some will die. Does God care? Do we care?

In such situations miracles can be prayed for, and we should not neglect this kind of prayer. A miraculous answer to our prayer may be granted by God. If there is no miraculous feeding on some occasion, then we should not doubt God's care but accept that this is beyond our understanding.

But what about us? Do we care? Part of our care will be expressed in praying repeatedly and fervently for miracles. But today's Gospel adds to this: when informed by the disciples about the lack of food, Jesus's first reaction was to tell the disciples that they should provide the necessary food: 'You give them something to eat'. We cannot dodge this. We cannot look away. As individuals and as societies when faced with the hunger of others, Jesus's words stand – you give them something to eat.

And there is more. After the miracle, the remaining food was collected. Organising ourselves so as to waste a lot of food is another way of depriving others in need, it throws away the possibility of caring for others. To 'enjoy' a standard of living so distant from the misery of so many others, and possibly making it worse, should be a disturbing kind of pleasure.

fr. Robert Ombres, until recently Procurator General of the Order of Preachers, now lives and teaches at Blackfriars, Oxford. During Summer daily Masses will all be in Memorial Church at 12:20 Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday.

(note: no daily Mass on Thursdays)

Summer Ministries:

Over the summer, many of our "regular" liturgical ministers are away. We always need more people to volunteer, especially during this vacation time. If you are here for a summer camp, new to campus, or just haven't had an opportunity to get involved before, we would love to have you join in. Training is provided. There are openings for lectors, eucharistic ministers, greeters, altar servers, and singers/instrumentalists for the choir. Contact Teresa, tpleins@stanford.edu.

Religious Education for Children for 2011-2012:

Our community offers a wonderful religious education program for children ages 3-13. The program is called the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a Montessori-based learning environment where children are given both instruction and the opportunity to explore their own faith with many "hands-on" materials. Included in these sessions is preparation for first reconciliation and first communion. Sessions meet on Sunday mornings, 9:15-10:20. We will take a break over the summer and begin again in the early Fall. If you are not currently in the program and would like to consider this in the fall, please contact Teresa, tpleins@stanford.edu. Your input will help in our planning for next year.

Presentation Center:

Come enjoy Presentation Center's 2011 Programs and become enlightened! The programs are as follows:

-- Spirituality and Healing: Saturday, September 24, 2011 9:30am-3:30pm. Led by Karen Van Zino, M.D. \$55.00, including lunch.

To register for programs call (408) 354-2346 or e-mail programs @presentationcenter.org. For program updates visit our website www.presentationcenter.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed at St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen:

The Catholic Community at Stanford is committed to serving the needy, elderly and homeless at St. Anthony's Soup Kitchen in Menlo Park.

If you are interested in volunteering on Saturday, August 6th or Saturday, August 27th from 8:30 until 1:00pm, please contact Michael Bova at mpbova2001@yahoo.com to have a volunteer position reserved for you. In general, the CCAS has the first and fourth Saturdays of the month reserved for us at St. Anthony's. So plan your schedules in advance and please join us in helping those in need.

Housing Available:

The second cottage at the Annex will become available to let the first week in August. Commuity members, students, staff have first priority.

Inquiries to Guillermo: gcolombetti@yahoo.com

Rosary time and place for the summer:

We begin to meet at 8pm, and pray at 8:15pm at the circular stone benches on the (Western) side of Memorial Church. We've been praying there every day. If people want to be added to the list they should email George at: vidal@stanford.edu.



YOUNG ADULTS

Disciples Sports Xhibition:

-Announcements for July 31, 2011

Sat., Aug. 6th, 10am-3pm, Ramac Park, South San José The event, sponsored by the Diocese of San José Young Adult Ministry, is a day for young adults to gather and play various sports activities such as basketball, softball, volleyball, and flag football. It will be a great opportunity to meet other Catholic Young Adults in the area. Please sign up at http:// www.dsj.org/dsx.

San José Jazz Festival and Mass:

Sat., Aug. 13th, 1pm or 4 pm, Meet at St. Joseph's Cathedral, 80 South Market Street, San José, CA

Please join other Catholic Young Adults for the San José Jazz Festival and the Jazz Mass at 4:30 pm in St. Joseph Cathedral. You can meet us at the Cathedral at 1pm if you want to attend the Festival and Mass or at 4pm if you just want to attend the Mass. The cost for the festival is \$20. Please confirm your attendance on our Facebook group or or contact Scott at scott. a.harrison@gmail.com.

Please note that we will not be holding Bible Study until September.

Young Adult Bible Study:

Tues. Sept. 6th 7:30pm, Our Lady of the Rosary, 3233 Cowper St, Palo Alto. We are planning our Fall schedule right now and will be starting a new study topic in September. Please plan on joining us this Fall!

For more info, see our website, www.YoungAdultCircle.org, check the Facebook group "Young Adult Circle", or contact Scott at: scott.a.harrison@gmail.com.

Weekly Readings

Monday, August 1
Nm 11:4b-15
Ps 81:12-13,14-15,16-17
Mt 14:22-36

Tuesday, August 2 Nm 12:1-13 Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 Mt 14:22-36

Wednesday, August 3 Nm 13:1-2, 25– 14:1, 26a-29a, 34-35 Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 Mt 15: 21-28

Thursday, August 4 Nm 20:1-13 Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 Mt16:13-23 Friday, August 5 Dt 4:32-40 Ps 77:12-13, 14-15, 16 and 21 Mt 16:24-28

Saturday, August 6 Transfiguration of the Lord Dn 7:9-10, 13-14 Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 2 Pt 1:16-19 Mt 17:1-9

Sunday, August 7 1 Kgs 19:9a, 11-13a Ps 85:9, 10, 11-12, 13-14 Rom 9:1-5 Mt 14:22-33

More Announcements –

Week at a Glance

Sunday, July 31, 2011

- 8am Memorial Church
- 4:30 pm Memorial Church

Monday, August 1 - Friday, August 5

- Office hours (Tues Fri) 10am 4pm
- Confessions by appointment only: call 725-0080

Daily Liturgy.

• M-T-W-F 12:20 - Memorial Church

(note: no daily Mass on Thursdays)

PODCASTS. Did you know that the 4:30 Mass homilies are podcasted? Please subscribe to Catholic Cardinal Reflections, hosted by Fr Isaiah. http://catholic.stanford.edu/media/podcast

HOW MANY STARS WOULD 'CATHOLIC CARDINAL REFLECTIONS' GET? We are trying to increase our listener base for CCAS' podcast, "Catholic Cardinal Reflections". One way to do this is to tell everyone how wonderful the podcast is. In addition of spreading the word, you can rate the podcast on iTunes. If you have an iTunes account, you are invited to rate the podcast on a five-star scale, and give your feedback.

Worldwide Marriage Encounter

A Get-Away Weekend!!!

Do you need a vacation? Give yourself and your spouse time away from the pressures of work and everyday responsibilities. Enjoy a chance to reconnect to that special someone who loves you! Enrich your relationship by attending a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. The next local Catholic Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend is: Nov 18-20, 2011 (Mountain View). For more information or to register, please visit our website at: http://sanjose. wwme12.org or contact Thomas & Sandy Pavick, 408 262-4061 or Email: gr8marriages@sbcglobal.net

GRADS

Grad Student Mixer at the CoHo:

Monday, Aug 1, 9pm. Come out to the CoHo for drinks and jazz. Meet other people who are here for the summertime. The CoHo is located in the downstairs of Tresidder Memorial Union. Contact Maja Falcon for more info at mfalcon@stanford.edu

Summer Rosary:

Daily at 8:15pm. All are welcome to join us as we pray the Rosary. Come to the circular stone benches on the west side of Memorial Church at 8pm, and begin prayer at 8:15pm. To be added to the summer list, email George at vidal@stanford.edu.

Grads, join CBASS

(Catholic Brothers and Sisters at Stanford)

CBASS is a new initiative that is similar to Sib families or peer mentor programs at Stanford. We are looking for students who desire to create a ministry experience that will welcome new students into a loving Catholic community. As a participant, you will be paired up with another student and be assigned a small group of incoming first year Grad students. All you need to do is build friendships with these students through regular interactions like having a meal or going to Mass. If you are interested in signing up or learning more, please contact Lourdes at lalonso@stanford.edu.

The Catholic Community at Stanford University

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 31, 2011



First Reading Isaial

Isaiah 55:1-3

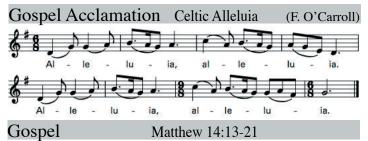
The Lord invites all who are thirsty, "Come to the water." God asks the people to take heed, that they may drink wine and milk, eat well and delight in the rich fare of the everlasting covenant.



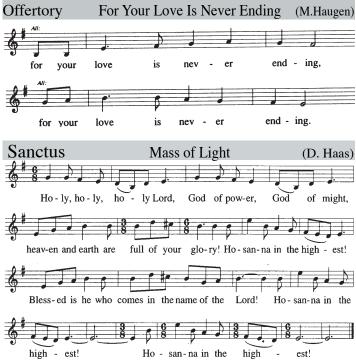


You open your hand, O Lord, and answer our needs!

	Tú, Señor, eres clemenete y compasivo Siempre juzgas lleno de justicia.	Lord, you are merciful and compassionate, You always judge filled with justice.
	Las miradas de todos en Ti esperan que les des a tiempo su alimento.	The eyes of all look hopefully to you, and you give them food in due season.
	Tú, Señor, salvas a los que te aman y aniquilas a los abusivos.	Lord, you save those that love you and destroy the wicked.
	Second Reading	Romans 8:35, 37-39
	Nothing, not even death, can separate the faithful from the love of God in Christ Jesus.	



Huge crowds followed Jesus. He felt compassion for them and healed the sick. He saw that they were hungry and, rather than send them away empty, he gave them bread and fish in abundance.





Vallombrosa Retreat Center

Vallombrosa Retreat Center in Menlo Park is offering the following retreats and events:

Vallombrosa Center Gift Shop and Bookstore:

Are you looking for a special gift for someone making their First Communion or Confirmation? The Vallombrosa Center gift shop and bookstore has many gift items to choose from, in both English and Spanish. The gift shop/bookstore is open daily (in March) from 8am – 3pm. Vallombrosa Center is conveniently located at 250 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park. Visit us at www.vallombrosa. org or phone 650.325.5614.

Vallombrosa Center Retreats and Events:

Vallombrosa Center is located at 250 Oak Grove Avenue in Menlo Park. For more information visit www.vallombrosa.org or phone 650-325-5614.

August 13: REFOCCUS for Married Couples.

Are you civilly married, that is, married outside the Catholic Church? Has your marriage been "blessed" by the Catholic Church? Are you looking for a marriage tune-up? REFOCCUS is a program especially for you. REFOCCUS is actually a dual program, intended both for marriage enrichment and as a marriage preparation tool for couples civilly married more than two years, who are seeking a Catholic wedding. The REFOCCUS program is Saturday, August 13, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm. Cost of the program is \$150 per couple which includes REFOCCUS materials and lunch. For more information or to register visit www.vallombrosa.org or phone 650.325.5614. Scholarships are available for those who need financial assistance, contact Rachel Alvelais.

August 20, 2011: Workshop for Musicians with Dan Schutte, 9:00am – 1:00pm

All are welcome to this morning of song, prayer and reflection.

Aug. 26-28, 2011: A Retreat for Family and Friends of Alcoholics with Fr. Tom Weston, S.J. This weekend will look at the tools and treasures of Al-Anon. We will have some conversations, some prayer, some quiet, and some time to rest and to share our experiences, strength, and hope. The retreat begins at 4pm on Friday and concludes on Sunday at lunch. The cost of the retreat weekend is \$285(private), \$250(shared)

Aug. 26-28, 2011: Silent Private Retreat Weekend

Announcements

More

GC-E

Vallombrosa opens its doors several weekends throughout the year to people to make a silent retreat beginning Friday afternoon and concluding midday Sunday. There will be opportunities for spiritual direction, morning and evening prayer each day. All are welcome. The cost of the Private Retreat weekend is \$226 (private), \$202(shared).

To register for a retreat or event, please visit www.vallombrosa. org or phone 650-325-5614. There are scholarships available to those in need of financial assistance, contact Jaynie Fedele.