

REFLECTION



The threats from the loggers and ranchers and their hired gunmen were coming more frequently. Some urged her to leave or to desist her relentless outcry against the devastation of the Brazilian rainforest. But Dorothy Stang, S.N.D., would not leave the poor farmers whose homes and livelihood were in peril. She forged on through almost impassable muddy roads to reach them, to read the Scriptures

and pray together, to bolster their courage to stand up against injustice and to urge them to live in harmony with the rainforest, with God and with one another. Her resolute journey ended when she was gunned down on February 12, 2005.

In today's Gospel we see the same resolute determination on the part of Jesus not to deviate from the path on which he has set out, to advocate for life for the most vulnerable. The opposition against him is mounting, and he knows it. He chooses not to turn back. There were still many ancient hatreds that needed healing, one of which was the enmity between his people and Samaritans. He tries to meet them in their own territory, but they will not receive him. The infuriated disciples want to do as Elijah did (2 Kgs 1:10) and call down on them fire from heaven. Jesus instead urges them to peaceably journey on to another village with him.

En route Jesus encounters three potential followers. Many commentators understand these as people who are initially enthusiastic but are not able to embrace the serious demands of discipleship once Jesus articulates these. But each encounter is left open-ended, and we are not told whether or not the person does ultimately follow Jesus. They all pose questions to us about our own commitment to follow Jesus all the way to Jerusalem.

The first person approaches Jesus, expressing a desire to follow him. With words akin to Ruth's profession of loyalty to Naomi (Ru 1:16), the first says, "I will follow you wherever you go." This potential disciple rightly voices that following Jesus requires whole-hearted dedication to him. In reply Jesus warns that his is an itinerant mission that demands mobility to go where the needs are and a letting go of any possessiveness, even of a bed of one's own.

In the second encounter, Jesus initiates the call to follow. This person wants to take care first of filial obligations to his parents. Jesus invites him to embrace a larger family obligation: to extend his concern for life to all God's family as his kin and to proclaim well-being for all in God's realm.

The third person, like the first, initiates the encounter and expresses a desire to follow Jesus, asking to bid farewell first to his family, as did Elisha when called by Elijah. Jesus warns that any who come with him will not be able to return to what was before. They are forever changed and must proclaim the reign of God. Just as Dorothy Stang could not leave the people she had come to love in her 40 years of ministry in the Amazon rainforest, so disciples must follow the path of Jesus until their own moment of being "taken up" in death and resurrection.

REFLECTION (cont.)

We do not know whether the three would-be disciples accepted these sobering challenges and continued on the way with Jesus. If the conditions Jesus sets forth seem daunting, Paul reminds us that this is not a yoke of slavery we take up, but a freeing power to live by the Spirit. Just as Elijah clothed Elisha with the mantle of his prophetic power, so Jesus' disciples are wrapped in the protective cloak of his loving spirit.

—America Magazine, June 2010

NEW PASTOR

We will soon welcome our new pastor!
FR. MATHEW M. MARANKULAM
will be joining our Parish
on Friday, July 9, 2010.



PARISH SECRETARY/OFFICE MANAGER

The Parish is seeking a full-time Parish Secretary/Office Manager beginning in August. The hours are from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Friday. Job responsibilities would include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Perform secretarial duties for the pastor, or other designated staff; receives and places phone calls; types written communications and processes mail. Greets and refers to visitors in the parish office. Prepares bulk mailing.
- Maintain office record-keeping and filing systems. Attend staff meetings and other meetings as required.
- Schedule parish facilities for weddings, funerals, and other parish events. Maintain calendar of events and facilities use, coordinate the use of keys for facilities.
- Oversee office supply inventory and maintenance of office machines.
- Prepare and produce weekly bulletin. Coordinate outside vendors and advertisements for bulletins.
- Maintain sacramental record keeping system. Maintain parish database.
- Maintain parish offering envelope system. Update data and post contributions on a weekly basis. Prepares and mails contribution and pledge statements.
- Maintain religious education registration records and tuition payments.

Skills/Abilities: Typing at 50 WPM; strong computer skills including the use of Word, Excel, Outlook Powerpoint and Quickbooks; ability to set priorities and organize work efficiently, ability to compose correspondence, minutes and/or reports; ability to represent the parish to those who call, write, or visit; ability to honor and maintain confidentiality; supervisory and office management experience preferred.

Please mail, fax, or e-mail resume to: St. Joseph Church, 1791 Marshall Road, Vacaville, CA 95687, (707) 447-9322 (fax) or djones@stjoseph-vacaville.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Save the Date - Fabulous 50's "Bowl-A-Thon" to benefit Notre Dame School's Scholarship Fund. Friday, August 13, 2010 at Stars Recreation Center from 1-4. Contact Emma McDonald at 448-7318 or Ernestine Esparza at 448-0213 for more information.

Notre Dame School is now closed for the summer and will re-open on Wednesday, August 4th. The Dennis Uniform sale will be from 2:00 to 5:00 PM on Wednesday, August 4th. Have a great summer!



Lifeline - Losing a job, the loss of a loved one or family struggles can be overwhelming for many of us. Sometimes talking about our difficulties can ease our troubles and help us move beyond our pain and relieve our stress. We at the Lifeline Ministry can help you during this difficult time. We offer one-on-one confidential meetings with you which are a free service offered through the parish. Please contact the Lifeline Ministry at 447-2354.

Married Couples Retreat - "Sacred Conversation: Discovering the Unopened Gift" presented by Fr. David Colhour, CP and Talib and Olivia Huff. July 16-18, 2010 at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center, 6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Requested fee is \$275 per couple. For more information and reservations, contact Margaret Hinshaw at (916) 725-4720, ext. 302 or mhinshaw@passionist.org.

FAMILY RETREAT - "From Being Squeezed to Being Embraced" presented by the Christ the King Retreat Team. August 13-15, 2010 at Christ the King Passionist Retreat Center, 6520 Van Maren Lane, Citrus Heights, CA 95621. Requested fee: \$115 per adult, \$55 per child (ages 6-16), ages 5 & under free. For reservations and more information, contact Jane Oliver at (916) 725-4720, ext. 303 or joliver@passionist.org.



FOOD COLLECTION - The next monthly food collection for St. Mary's Food Locker will take place the weekend of July 10-11. Items needed include: boxed cereals, individual packaged oatmeal, peanut butter, "meal in a can" canned goods such as canned chili, ravioli or soups. Please no glass containers. Please remember those less fortunate in our community.

Prayer Line - If you have a prayer request, please contact the Parish Office at 447-2354.



SECOND COLLECTION

Today we support the Holy Father in his charitable works. The Peter's Pence Collection is taken up worldwide in an effort of solidarity to support the most disadvantaged: victims of war, oppression, and natural disaster and others in need of emergency assistance. Pope Benedict XVI has said, "God's love . . . Gives us the courage to continue seeking and working for the benefit of all" (*Caritas in Veritate*, no. 78). Cast the love of Christ upon the world—please be generous in today's Collection.



FAITH FORMATION



Faith Formation Open Enrollment for new students, Kindergarten through 8th Grade begins July 1st through September 15th. Avoid the rush and register early before classes are filled. Call the Parish Office if you have questions.

Youth Group will resume in August. We will be preparing for the next Diocesan Youth Rally "On Fire" to be held on Saturday, 10/16 at Six Flags Discovery Kingdom, Vallejo. More info will be available when the date draws near. A special thanks to all youths that helped serve dinner and make luminarias during the Relay for Life. Together we can make a difference.

Love working with children? We are always looking for enthusiastic and dedicated Catechists willing to learn and deepen their faith. Faith Formation classes are held just once a week for about an hour. If interested in answering God's call, please contact Josephine at 447-2354 x 833. Ongoing training will be provided.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time - Week of June 27, 2010



Step One: Listen to the Word - As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your memory?

Theme: We are all invited to "come follow."
Step Two: Look into Your Life

Question for Children: To follow Jesus means to do what is right. Name a time this past week when you followed Jesus by doing the right thing you were asked to do, the first time, without an excuse.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Mon. Am 2:6-10,13-16; Ps 50:16-23; Mt 8:18-22
Tues. Acts 12:1-11; Ps 34:2-9; Mt 16:13-19
Wed. Am 5:14-15,21-24; Ps 50:7-13,16-17; Mt 8:28-34
Thurs. Am 7:10-17; Ps 19:8-11; Mt 9:1-8
Fri. Am 8:4-6,9-12; Ps 119:2,10,20,30,40,131; Mt 9:9-13
Sat. Eph 2:19-22; Ps 117:1,2; Mt Jn 20:24-29
Sun. Is 66:10-14; Ps 66:1-7,16,20; Gal 6:14-18; Lk 10:1-12,17-20

MASS INTENTIONS

Mon. 7:00 AM-----Josephine Zenda James, R.I.P.
Tues. 7:00 AM ----- Jay Winters, R.I.P.
Wed. 8:15 AM-----Josephine Zenda James, R.I.P.
Thurs. 7:00 AM ----- Bernard Gomez, R.I.P.
Fri. 7:00 AM -----Dennis Newstead, R.I.P.
Sat. 8:15 AM -----Jose M. Vibandor, R.I.P.
Sat. 5:00 PM ----- Frank Andrews, R.I.P.
Sun. 7:00 AM ----- Members of the Parish
Sun. 8:30 AM -----Sick Members of the Parish
Sun. 10:00 AM-----Peace
Sun. 12:00 PM-----Vocations to the Priesthood